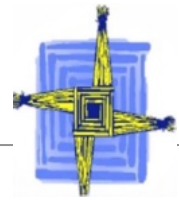


ST BRIDE'S BUZZ!



News & Celebrations | @StBridesPS1 | www.stbridesps.org.uk

Keeping everyone safe...

As we approach typical flu season, with COVID-19 still with us alongside other respiratory infections and seasonal illnesses, we continue to ask parents to carefully consider your child's health and fitness for school. Schools are very vulnerable to the rapid spread of bugs and viruses due to the sheer number of people on our premises daily. St Bride's whole school community want our staff, children and families to be able to stay safe and well - **so we need your help!**

Please ensure you:

- **inform school** immediately of any suspected/confirmed COVID, chickenpox or other illnesses
- **Keep any sick children at home**
- Promote good hand hygiene
- Complete any necessary periods of isolation to stop spread
- **Once a week, take a peek!**
Please ensure that you treat any cases of headlice to prevent spread.

Health Guidance...

Do I need to keep my child off school?

HSC Public Health Agency

Chicken Pox Unilateral lesions Isolation: 1 week	Conjunctivitis Unilateral or bilateral Isolation: 1 week	Dermatitis & Venereal Disease No isolation Isolation: 1 week	Hand, Foot & Mouth No isolation Isolation: 1 week	Impetigo No isolation Isolation: 1 week
Measles No isolation Isolation: 1 week	Mumps No isolation Isolation: 1 week	Scabies No isolation Isolation: 1 week	Scarlet Fever No isolation Isolation: 1 week	Strep Throat No isolation Isolation: 1 week
Ru No isolation Isolation: 1 week	Head Lice No isolation Isolation: 1 week	Throat Infection No isolation Isolation: 1 week	Tonsillitis No isolation Isolation: 1 week	Whooping Cough No isolation Isolation: 1 week



Congratulations again to November's monthly **'Hot Chocolate Friday'** winners chosen for their kindness and **FRIENDSHIP** to others.



In **December**, we turn our attention to **CARING**. Thinking of others and showing our love, kindness and appreciation for all the people in our lives who look after us, care for us and those who need our help at this challenging time of year.



Who will be enjoying a Christmas hot chocolate and cookies this month?





Birthdays so far...

Happy birthday with love from everyone at **St Bride's PS, Belfast**



Birthdays (28th Nov - 4th Dec)

- Giovianni (P5LW). Catherine (P7MM)
- Sheila (P2KP). Senan (P6CK)
- Nuha (P4Mcl). Ioan (P2MOP)
- Darragh (P6CK). Daithi (P2IM)
- Vincent (P2IM). Meara (P7MC).
- Niya (P5BY). Caleb (P5LGH)
- Sienna (P5BY). Daniel (P1MW)
- Ibrahim Ahmed (P1KS).
- Noah (P2ODG). Paniz (P2MOP)
- Flynn (P1AM). Orla (P3McD)
- Donal (P5BY).

P5-7 families are cordially invited to our annual Carol Service on Fri 16th Dec at 11am in St Brigid's Church. Two adult seats per child available.



#SeasonOfGoodwill

Open Enrolment Information Sessions for prospective parents to apply for Nursery and Primary One places for September 2023 will be held as follows;

Nursery Applicants - Wed 14th December 1.15pm on our **Derryvolgie** Site. Enter via main front doors.

Primary One Applicants - Fri 16th December 2.15pm on our **Ashleigh** Site on Windsor Avenue.



Mission Together Advent Calendar 2022



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1st Sunday of Advent What is the promise the prophet Isaiah speaks of in today's first reading? Isaiah 2:1-5 27	An Advent wreath's candles are a symbol of Christ's light. Think of ways you can share it with others today. 28	Learn our Advent Carol We are waiting* and sing it as a class. Why not film your singing and share it with us @MissioUK 29	Today is the feast of St Andrew, one of the twelve disciples. Find out which country he is the patron saint of. 30	Make a Star of Hope and think about how you can bring hope to others this Advent.* 1	Tomorrow is the feast of St Francis Xavier. Find out why he is the patron saint of mission.* 2	Write an Advent prayer. Try to include the words: hope, wait, light, God, Jesus. Or create an artwork expressing these words. 3
2nd Sunday of Advent In today's Gospel reading, John the Baptist tells the people to prepare for Jesus. How can we do this too? Matthew 3:1-12 4	One way we can prepare for Jesus is by building peace. Make a peace paper-chain and think about how you can build peace in school this week.* 5	Today is the feast of St Nicholas. Find out what St Nicholas did to bring hope to poor people.* 6	Say the Mission Together Prayer for children living in war zones. May all children in the world, share love, share friendship and live in the peace of God's love. Now and forever. Amen. 7	As a class, sing Silent Night* Listen carefully to the words and think about what they mean. 8	Make peace today. Say sorry to someone you may have upset this week. Or forgive someone who has upset you. 9	Find somewhere peaceful to sit and thank God for the people who love and care for you. 10
3rd Sunday of Advent The prophet Isaiah predicts great joy in today's first reading. How can we share God's joy this week? Isaiah 35:1-10 11	Yesterday was Gaudete Sunday. Find out what Gaudete means. 12	Find out how Advent & Christmas are celebrated in another country. 13	Make a Joyful Angel and think about how you can share the joy of Jesus today.* 14	Joy is easy to pass on! Look out for people who are lonely today and invite them to play. 15	As a class sing Joy to the World* Why not film your singing and share it with us @MissioUK 16	Say a prayer for all children who are upset, sad, or lonely. Ask God to help us share his joy with them. 17
4th Sunday of Advent In today's Gospel, an angel visits Joseph and says, 'Do not be afraid. Ask God to help you with your worries.' Matthew 1:18-24 18	Imagine you are the donkey carrying Mary to Bethlehem. Write a poem or carol about your special task. 19	Sing your favourite carol to a family member today. Think about the words and tell someone what they mean. 20	Create a Gift for the World decoration and think about the gifts God has given you to share.* 21	Be an Advent light today: make a Christmas card for an elderly relative or neighbour.* 22	Today pray for people who have no home. Ask God to keep them safe this Christmas, and for us to find ways to help them. 23	Rejoice! Jesus is born! Remember to thank God and your family for all the gifts their love brings. 24 & 25



Congratulations to this future Wimbledon star on his recent Junior Tennis wins! Fantastic!



Looking ahead... Dates for your diaries



P3 Sacrament of First Penance:

Tuesday 7th March 4pm: P3 McNamee & Lynn

Wednesday 8th March 4pm: P3 McDermott & Leggett



P7 Sacrament of Confirmation

Tuesday 21st March 4pm: P7 Maguire & Cunningham

Tuesday 21st March 6pm: P7 Marttila & Montague



P4 Sacrament of First Holy Communion

Saturday 13th May 10am: P4 Gray & McIlroy

Saturday 13th May 12noon: P4 McCloskey & McMahon



Charitable Works & Social Justice... CARING

P3 classes are in the process of putting together a 'shoebox collection' of essential hygiene & other items to help support Belfast's homeless community this Christmas.

Huge thanks to Ciaran from Belfast Welcome Organisation for chatting to P3 to help them understand the issues and to Ms Hickey for the contact.

We will be collecting 'loose change' donations for **SVDP** at all of our Christmas performances to support the work of our local Conference and those in need. Please give what you can.

Keeping warm on PE Days.. Families, there have been a few enquiries about the possibility of purchasing St Bride's hoodies for wear as part of PE uniform. Conscious of the pressures on families in this cost of living crisis, I'm happy that families make a decision which best suits their circumstances. You may wish to purchase the branded hoodie from Niblocks, the St Bride's sports hoodie from Bourke Sports or a plain, unbranded navy hoodie from any supermarket or retailer. The important issue is that our children are comfortable and warm. Thank you for your support and understanding. Reminder: please ensure all items of uniform are clearly marked with the child's name.

Thank you!



St Bride's PS staff are always **here to help and support** all families.

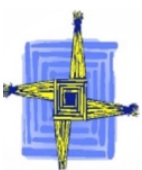
If you, or a family you know, are in need of our support, please get in touch to speak to us in confidence. The local Conference of St Vincent dePaul have been in contact with school to offer support to any family at St Bride's that may be in need of their support. In confidence, and with the promise of our discretion and sensitivity, if you, or any family you

know, may be struggling and could benefit from some financial or resource support, please get in touch with Miss Joyce or Ms Hunter via the school office. Tel: 02890 381700 or contact SVdP directly.

We will be collecting 'loose change' donations for **SVDP** at all of our Christmas performances to support the work of our local Conference and those in need. Please give what you can.

Need to chat to us or raise a concern... We will always be happy to help! Most often **class teachers** are the best person to speak to. They can be contacted via the school email address or landline. Email: info@stbrides.belfast.ni.sch.uk or Telephone 02890 381700. If, after speaking with class teachers, the matter remains unresolved, it may be further raised to the Head of Key Stage, SENCo, Senior Leadership Team, VPs and then the Principal.

St Bride's PS staff are **here to help and support** all families. If you, or a family you know, are in need of our support, please get in touch to speak to us in confidence. The local Conference of St Vincent dePaul have been in contact with school to offer support to any family at St Bride's that may be in need of their support. In confidence, and with the promise of our discretion and sensitivity, if you, or any family you know, may be struggling and could benefit from some financial or resource support, please get in touch with Miss Joyce or Ms Hunter via the school office. Tel: 02890 381700 or contact SVdP directly.



Keeping up with St Bride's... I'd encourage all adults to follow St Bride's PS on **Twitter** to get a glimpse into all that goes on in our school. Check us out **@StBridesPS1**.

We are now also on **Instagram @stbridesps**... please give us a follow if you can!



Have you moved house, changed telephone number or email address?

Please ensure that you update the School Office Team with any change of details to ensure that you have continued access to our SchoolComms & Gateway App for important information and payments. **Thank you!**



Safeguarding our premises...

Families, unfortunately adults are still 'hanging around' on our school premises between school pickups, despite our pleas to vacate the areas. We cannot facilitate parent, grandparent or childminding waiting areas. Anyone arriving before 1.50pm or

remaining on site after 2.10pm and before 2.50pm will be asked to leave in adherence with safeguarding procedures. Respectfully families, once you have collected your children, you are politely requested to leave school premises. **Thank you for your co-operation.**

Other Reminders:

- **Parking:** I appreciate and have witnessed the difficulties associated to traffic management, however, I respectfully request that parents adhere to road markings, **avoid using staff carpark areas, refrain from blocking school or residents' gates**, zigzag crossing lines etc and instead park **responsibly**, with **respect** for local residents and of course, children's safety.
- We will call the **police** in respect of any **illegal parking or dangerous driving**.

- **Our only concern is the safety of our school community.** Parking convenience is not a priority.
- **Abuse towards school staff will also not be tolerated** and could result in further action taking place.



- **Safer School Premises:**
- Families, you may be aware that we have a number of children with severe, often life-threatening, allergies, others with mobility issues and many who have experienced trauma which can be easily triggered. With that in mind, as the children's safety and well-being is my paramount concern, I respectfully ask that ALL food coming into school is nut-free, adults refrain from smoking on school premises and that dogs are not brought on to our school sites.

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
WEEK 1	Breast of Chicken Curry & Rice Naan Bread Garden peas Jam & Coconut sponge & Custard	Breaded Fish Fingers Baked Beans Mixed Vegetables Mashed Potato Fresh fruit selection & yogurt	Breaded Chicken Goujons Sweetcorn, Mashed potatoes Sauté Selection Vanilla ice cream, Oranges, and chocolate sauce	Roast Beef Traditional Stuffing, Gravy Fresh Baton Carrots Broccoli Florets Oven Dry Roast & Mashed Potatoes Frozen yogurt & Fresh Fruit Selection	Steak burger with bag Tossed Salad/Coleslaw Chips Baked Potato Flake meal Biscuits & Fresh Fruit Chunks
WEEK 2	Spaghetti Bolognaise Crusty bread Tossed salad Melon, cheese, and crackers	Breast of Chicken Curry with Boiled Rice Naan Bread Garden Peas Chocolate Sponge & Custard	Breaded Fish Goujons Sweetcorn Mashed Potato Flake meal Biscuits and fresh fruit	Roast Pork Traditional Stuffing Gravy Cauliflower Cheese Fresh Diced Carrots Oven Dry Roast & Mashed Potato Fresh fruit selection & yogurt	Breaded Chicken Bites Beans Chips Baked Potato Coleslaw Jelly, Ice Cream and Fresh Fruit
WEEK 3	Pasta Bolognaise Crusty bread Sweetcorn Raspberry ripple ice cream & Fresh fruit Chunks	Roast Breast of Chicken Traditional stuffing Gravy Carrot & Parsnip Oven Dry Roast & Mashed Potato Popcorn cookies and watermelon chunks	Breast of Chicken Curry with Boiled Rice Naan Bread Garden Peas Fruit sponge & custard	Salmon Fillets Baked Beans Mashed Potato Frozen smoothies & fresh fruit	Burger in a Bag Coleslaw Tossed Salad Chips Baked Potato Fresh fruit selection & yoghurts
WEEK 4	Oven Baked Sausages Baked Beans Mashed potatoes Arctic roll & selection of fresh fruit	Breaded Fish Fillets Sweetcorn & Peas Mashed Potato Melon, cheese, and crackers	Breast of Chicken Curry with Boiled Rice Naan Bread Garden Peas Baked Potato Fruit sponge & custard	Roast Gammon Traditional stuffing Gravy Savory cabbage Oven Roast Dry & Mashed potato Fresh Fruit Selection and yogurt	Margarita Pizza Chips Baked Potato Tossed Salad Coleslaw Flake meal biscuit & Fruit Chunks

Menu choices subject to deliveries

Fresh Fish May Contain Bones

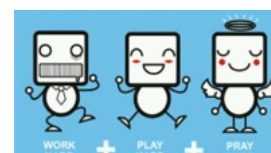
ea Education Authority




Breakfast, Milk, Water
A Choice of Fresh Fruit & Yogurt
Available Daily

If You Require Any Additional Information on Allergens or Special Diets
Please Contact the School to complete a Special Diets Application Form

- **School Meals Menu - 5th -9th December is Week Three**
- **Thank you for your co-operation in protecting and safeguarding our children.**

Now for a summary of **what's on next week...**



Day & Date 📅	Events 🧑🎓	Points to note 📌
Monday 5th December	<p>🕒 Early Morning Drop-off 8.30am</p> <p>🧑🎓 Mandarin Lessons</p> <p>🎵 Clarinet Lessons</p> <p>🧑🎓 Miniversity - Ashleigh Site</p> <p>🎭 Drama (Many Faces)</p> <p>👯 Irish Dancing - DV Hall</p> <p>🏀 Girls' Gaelic - Ashleigh</p>	<p>📌 Remember to book school meals by Sunday for the week ahead.</p>
Tuesday 6th December	<p>🕒 Early Morning Drop-off 8.30am</p> <p>🙏 Mass P4KG & P4McC</p> <p>☀️ P6 Superhero Gaelic Coaching</p> <p>🧑🎓 Mandarin Lessons</p> <p>🎵 Brass & Cello Lessons</p> <p>🎄 P2M & P2OP Nativity 1.15pm DV Hall</p> <p>🎨 Arts & Crafts Club - DV Site</p> <p>🇫🇷 French (Derryvolgie Front Entrance)</p> <p>🤸 Gymnastics MR Sports - DV Hall</p> <p>🏀 Playball After-School Club - Ashleigh</p> <p>🎵 Orchestra & Brass Ensemble 🎷🎺</p>	<div>  <p>Follow us on twitter</p> <p>@StBridesPS1</p> <p>to keep up with all that goes on in our school!</p> <p>INSTAGRAM</p> <p>@stbridesps</p> </div>
Wednesday 7th December	<p>🕒 Early Morning Drop-off 8.30am</p> <p>🎵 Violin Lessons</p> <p>🏊 P7 Swimming - Queens PEC</p> <p>🎄 P2ODG & P2P Nativity 1.15pm DV Hall</p> <p>🏏 Hurling & Camogie - St Brigid's</p> <p>⚽ Soccer MR Sports - DV Hall</p> <p>🇫🇷 French (Derryvolgie Front Entrance)</p>	<p>📌 As the weather changes, please ensure that all pupils have coats for outdoor play in all weathers and that all items of uniform are clearly labelled with names. 🌧️☔</p>
Thursday 8th December	<p>🕒 Early Morning Drop-off 8.30am</p> <p>🎵 Viola & Percussion lessons</p> <p>🏀 Basketball Coaching</p> <p>🎄 P3L & P3McD Nativity 1.15pm DV Hall</p> <p>🗣️ School Counsellor Sessions</p> <p>🏀 Basketball Club - Ashleigh Hall</p> <p>🏃 Cross-Country Training</p>	<div>  <p>REMEMBER ONCE A WEEK, TAKE A PEEK</p> </div>
Holy Day: Feast of the Immaculate Conception		
Friday 9th December	<p>🕒 Early Morning Drop-off 8.30am</p> <p>🎵 Flute lessons</p> <p>🎄 P3RL & P3McD Nativity 1.15pm DV Hall</p> <p>🥋 Judo DV Hall</p> <p>🧘 Yoga (Ashleigh Hall)</p> <p>🇮🇪 Irish Lessons (DV Front Entrance)</p>	<div>  </div>