

# St Bride's Primary School

## October News sheet

Congratulations to all our pupils who are walking, scooting or cycling to school during our Sustrans 'Autumn Active Challenge' fortnight and to all the parents who are supporting this venture. Remember our 'Ditch the Dark' non uniform day on **Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> October**, the brighter the better!

Our **Mid Term Break** will begin on this day with the school closing on at **2pm** for all pupils (**1.45pm** for Nursery). School will re-open on **Monday 3rd November**.

### Important dates for you diary

**Parent Teacher interviews** will take place for Years 1 - 7 during the week of Monday 17th - 21st November. The majority of the interviews will take place on an Exceptional Closure Day on **Monday 17th Nov.** (*Parents will be informed of their actual date and time of the interview about two weeks in advance and details will be sent home with your child.*)

**Nursery Curriculum Meeting** for all parents will take place on Tuesday 21st October at 1.00pm in the Assembly Hall

**An Open Day** for prospective Nursery & Year 1 Parents will take place on Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> December when you can learn about St Bride's and visit the classrooms

### **Prayer Services for**

**Year 3** on **Wednesday 22nd October** in the Assembly Hall at 1.15 pm

**Year 2** on **Thursday 23rd October** in the Assembly Hall at 1.15 pm

**First Penance** for Year 3 pupils will be on **Sunday 22nd March, 2015 at 4pm** in St Brigid's Church. Pupils should wear their school uniform.

**First Holy Communion** for Year 4 pupils will be held on **Saturday 16th May 2015 at 10 am**. More details later.

We have not yet received the date for **Confirmation** from the Bishop's office but will inform Year 7 parents as soon as we know.

### Dates for Christmas concerts

- Year 1            Wednesday    10th December at 1.15pm.
- Year 2            Thursday      11th December at 1.15pm.
- Year 3            Friday         12th December at 1.15pm.
- Nursery        Tuesday       16th December at 12.45pm & 1.15pm.
- Year 4            Wednesday    17th December at 1.45pm.
- Year 5 - 7 Carol Service    Friday 19th December at 11am (in St. Brigid's church)
- Orchestra Recital Monday    22nd December at 2 pm

Visit our new school website which will keep you up to date with events occurring in the school. You can also access Key Policies such as Child Protection, Pastoral Care & Discipline and Special Educational Needs & Inclusion Policies which will help keep you informed of St Bride's procedures & routines. Should you wish hard copies of any policies you may request them from the school offices.

**[www.stbridesps.org.uk](http://www.stbridesps.org.uk)**

## PTA News

To support our Sustrans project there will be a 'Ditch the Dark' Non Uniform Day on Tuesday 28th October. A suggested donation is £1 per child or £2 per family. The PTA Halloween Disco will also take place on this day in St Bride's Parish Hall from 5 -7pm. Admission, by ticket only, is £5 including a drink and a hotdog. Tickets will be on sale from the Front foyer (Derryvolgie) on Friday 17<sup>th</sup> & Friday 24<sup>th</sup> October @9.00am & 2.00pm

## Our thanks to St. Bride's PTA for funding

- **Sleeping Beauty, a Halloween treat for our Years 1 - 7 children which will take place on 24 October.**
- **The Year 6 Viking Workshop as part of the World Around Us curriculum**
- **Their contribution to funding the Year 7 retreat in November as part of the children's preparation for Confirmation**
- **Their contribution to transport and swimming costs**

As you can see the funds raised by the PTA go to helping the pupils' school experiences. The members work enthusiastically and are always looking for volunteers, so if you can spare a couple of hours on an evening each month to join the committee or are able to volunteer to help at events, please leave your details with Jackie or Christina in the school office or by e mail at [stbridespta@gmail.com](mailto:stbridespta@gmail.com)

## Internet Safety

This is some advice for children and parents on internet safety and cyber bullying. We ask you to discuss this with your child.

### **Safety tips for children on internet and mobile phone bullying - cyber bullying**

- Always respect others - be careful what you say online and what images you send.
- Think before you send - whatever you send can be made public very quickly and could stay online forever.
- Treat your password like your toothbrush - keep it to yourself. Only give your mobile number or personal website address to trusted friends.
- Don't retaliate or reply!
- Save the evidence - learn how to keep records of offending messages, pictures or online conversations.
- Make sure you tell -
  - your parents, an adult you trust, or call a helpline like ChildLine on 0800 1111 in confidence;
  - your school - your teacher or other teachers can help you or use the "Worry Box".
- Finally, don't just stand there - if you are aware of cyber bullying going on, support the victim and report the bullying. How would you feel if no one stood up for you?

### **Safety tips for parents and carers**

- Be alert to your child seeming upset after using the internet or their mobile phone. This might involve subtle comments or changes in relationships with friends. They might be unwilling to talk or be secretive about their online activities and mobile phone use.
- Talk with your children and understand the ways in which they are using the internet and their mobile phone.
- See the seven key messages for children (above) to get you started.
- Use the tools on the service and turn on in-built internet safety features.
- Remind your child not to retaliate.
- Keep the evidence of offending e-mails, text messages or online conversations.
- Report it! Contact the school if it involves another pupil, so that we can take appropriate action.
- Contact the service provider. If the cyber bullying is serious and a potential criminal offence has been committed, you should consider contacting the police.