

Autumn Term 2025/26

<https://stbrigidsprimary.co.uk/>

Safeguarding/Child Protection Officer—Mrs R Tyler

Dear Parents / Carers,

Welcome back! Time is really flying by already and you won't be surprised to hear that our children have settled in beautifully. It is always wonderful to see how quickly and responsibly our children adapt to their new class routines—this is due to careful transition, teamwork between home and school, consistent routines, meticulous organisation and the high expectations we have of everyone at St Brigid's. Thank you for all that you do—your support really does matter and makes a huge difference to our work.

Trusting in God - we love, believe and achieve...TOGETHER.

Last week, we celebrated together with a beautiful Mass and we were so pleased to be joined by some of our regular St Albert's parishioners; they love coming into school on Wednesdays for our Class Masses...please join us if you can (see overview for dates and times).

Religious Education—In class, the children have started their first unit of work which focusses on 'Creation & Covenant'. Please talk to your child about what they have been learning and use the 'Learning at Home' newsletter which has lots of ideas of things to do at home (see website). Just a reminder that, alongside our daily prayers, we have allocated a traditional prayer to each class and will be saying these regularly—please support your child's faith by sharing these prayers at home:

Reception Class—Oh, Angel of God

Y1—Our Father (The Lord's Prayer)

Y2—Hail Mary

Y3&4—Glory Be to the Father, Son & Holy Spirit

Y5&6—Eternal Rest



The full prayers are available to view on our school website via the RE & Catholic Life—Newsletter for Parents/Carers tabs.

Parish News—Just before we broke up for summer, Father wrote to families of all pupils who are eligible to make their First Confession & Holy Communion this year. Please make sure that you collect an enrolment form from Fr David as soon as you can—these are available to collect on Sundays (straight after Mass) and will only be given to parents (or official carers/guardians) so please do not ask someone else to collect a form on your behalf. The deadline for returning forms is **FRIDAY 3rd October**. *For further information about events that are taking place in our community, the parish newsletters are available from church every week (at Mass on Sundays) and they are also uploaded to our school website.

Staffing—Last week, both Mrs Collins and Mr Bell said 'farewell' to the children and families of St Brigid's. We marked their departure by celebrating their commitment to school and the service they have given during Mass on Wednesday. Mrs Collins, in particular, will be sorely missed as she has worked here for so long and is a valued member of the local community. Thank you to the many of you who have been into school to pass on your best wishes—your kindness is much appreciated. The current staffing arrangements are as follows:

Assistant Headteachers:	Mrs Richards & Mrs Hunter
Nursery:	Mrs Gilchrist, Miss Barrow, Mrs Clays, Miss Jones, Mrs Nelson, Mrs Newton, Miss Rice, Miss Haskayne (apprentice)
RECEPTION:	Miss Dailey (class teacher), Mrs Usher, Miss Clew, Miss Hackett (apprentice)
YEAR 1:	Miss Taylor (class teacher), Miss O'Donovan, Miss McEvoy (apprentice) and Miss Gill (apprentice)
YEAR 2:	Mrs McKay (class teacher), Miss Flannery (additional teacher Y2&Y6), Miss Cronin and Miss Kelly (apprentice)
YEAR 3:	Miss Tully (class teacher), Mrs Bowland, Miss Ross (apprentice)
YEAR 4:	Mr Owen (class teacher), Miss Butler and Miss Woods (apprentice)
YEAR 5:	Mrs Quinton, Miss Williams (apprentice) and Miss Burrell (apprentice)
YEAR 6:	Mrs North (class teacher), Miss Noon, Miss Baker (apprentice) and Miss Langley (apprentice)

IQM Inclusive School & Centre of Excellence Awards—Following rigorous assessment, many of you will be aware that in July we were awarded our Inclusive School & Centre of Excellence Awards. A massive THANK YOU goes to our children, you (our parents/carers) and our staff for persistently and unwaveringly supporting each other. A special mention also goes to both Mrs Richards and Mrs Hunter for the sterling work that they do in relation to their role as Special Educational Needs Co-ordinators (SENCo); their work underpins all aspects of inclusion and ensures that our children, families and staff are well equipped and supported. Some of the wonderful quotes which filter through the report include the following: *'Inclusive practice at St Brigid's Catholic Primary School permeates all aspects of school life, from leadership and curriculum design to pastoral support and community partnerships....Parents are welcomed as equal partners in the life of the school. Engagement is proactive and responsive, and families report high levels of trust in the staff and leadership.'* If you haven't already done so, please take some time to read through the report which is available to view on our website by using the following tabs: Information-Inspection Reports & External Reviews.

NEURODIVERSITY: we are all different but never less!—We are all unique and precious in our own right and, in school, we teach our children this on a daily basis by celebrating our differences. Many of our children are neurodiverse, this means that they process the world differently to neurotypical pupils. We take care to be acutely aware of this in our planning and provision and, as a staff, we prioritise training in this area so that we are well equipped to support the ranging needs of our pupils. If you would like to find out more about neurodiversity or would like additional support, please keep a look out for the links that are frequently sent out from our school accounts (T2P and X). There are also some really good films, books and blogs out there which I have found really useful (and entertaining) - why not give them a watch or a read...Temple Grandin (film—biography of Dr Temple Grandin), Out of my mind (film/book), Professor Simon Baron Cohen (Director of Autism Research Centre, Cambridge—books and blogs).



ELKAN Early Years Communication Friendly Status—As you know, we are really proud of our ‘outstanding’ Early Years Provision. The team is forward thinking and innovative, always looking for ways of further developing practice to ensure the best possible outcomes for pupils. With this in mind, you won’t be surprised to hear that we have been awarded ELKAN status for our work on creating a communication friendly environment which makes our setting a ‘**better place for children with speech, language & communication needs to learn and develop.**’ Thank you to Miss Dailey

and Mrs Gilchrist for leading and supporting staff on this aspect of our work.

Our next challenge is to achieve both the **Live Simply & Pupil Resilience Awards**. Mrs McKay and Mrs Quinton are currently working hard to co-ordinate all of our evidence to ensure that we are well prepared for the assessment visits which will take place later on this term. More information will follow so please keep a look out for texts/emails and notifications on our X account.

Cashless School—We are working hard at the moment to become a cashless school but this is taking time (and a lot of patience). If your child accesses Breakfast Club or After-School Club, you will be asked to make payments via the Parent Pay App in advance; however, you will probably be aware that we are having some teething problems with Parent Pay so please do bear with us over the coming days as we try to rectify the issues.

Y1–Y6 Meetings—We will be holding our annual Parent/Carer Meetings in the school hall over the next few days. These meetings are really important and will give you the opportunity to liaise with your child’s new teacher. We will be sharing a good deal of information about the coming year and outline ways in which you can support your child in their new class. All meetings will start at 8.50am (school hall).

WEDNESDAY	10th Sept	Y6	Mrs North	THURSDAY	11th Sept	Y2	Mrs McKay
FRIDAY	12th Sept	Y1	Miss Taylor	MONDAY	15th Sept	Y3	Miss Tully
TUESDAY	16th Sept	Y4	Mr Owen	WEDNESDAY	17th Sept	Y5	Mrs Quinton



PE Kits—As you know, children are expected to come to school dressed in their PE kit (plain white t-shirt/royal blue shorts) and trainers on the day that they have PE. If the weather is cool, they should wear their school tracksuit (royal blue hoodie/tracksuit bottoms). The children have PE on the following days:

Monday—Y5 Tuesday—Y6 Wednesday—Y1 & Y4 Thursday—Y2 Friday—Y3

Y1–Y6 SPORTS CLUBS—Miss Anderson will be running our multi-sports clubs from the week beginning 15th September. A form will be going out and a place in the club will be confirmed via text **prior to any children starting**. Please be aware that safety is our priority and so we need to keep our numbers manageable. If your child is not allocated a place this half term, they will be prioritised in the next round.



Mondays	Y5/6	Football with LFC (girls this half term / boys next half term)	Tuesdays	Y3/4	(25 places max)
Wednesdays	Y1	(15 places max)	Thursdays	Y2	(15 places max)

Other Clubs—Mrs North will be in touch regarding Choir for children in KS2 and Miss Tully will be resuming Art Club later this half term. Further details will be sent out via ‘forms’ to all those eligible to take part.

Scholastic Book Fayre—The Book Fayre will be making its annual visit to school at the end of the month and you will all be welcome to come and join us. Please make a note of the dates and join us if you can—please see the overview for dates and times.

Secondary Admissions for September 2026—For those who have a Liverpool address, the application process is already open. The process in Knowsley will open on the 12th September. All applications should be completed via the online systems in your respective Local Authority.

Liverpool <https://liverpool.gov.uk/schools-and-learning/school-admissions/> Knowsley <https://www.knowsley.gov.uk/education-and-schools/school-admissions>

For anyone who needs support, I have booked a drop-in session for Y6 parents/carers and will go through the application procedures with you (Tuesday 30th September between 8.50–9.30am). In the meantime, please call school or send me a message if you need any advice/support and I will be happy to help. ***The deadline for all secondary applications is 31st October 2025.**

Admission to Reception Class 2026—If your child is due to start Reception Class next year, you must complete the online form via your Local Authority. Please understand that a place in our school nursery does not guarantee a place in the main school. ***The deadline is 15th January 2026.**

Holiday dates 25/26 and beyond—For anyone who is looking to plan a holiday, our dates for this year are set and can be found on our website. Please make sure that holidays are booked ONLY during school holiday time. We purposely have two weeks at Easter and at Whit (end of May) so that our parents/carers can make the most of the ‘cheaper’ week when booking their holidays as we know how extortionate the prices can be. Governors will be ratifying dates for 26/27 and 27/28 at the end of September and these will then go up on our website.

Attendance Evidence—Just a reminder that we have an email address which is specifically for parents/carers who have supporting evidence in relation to their child’s absence (attendance@stbrigidprimary.co.uk) Please use this account to forward any correspondence relating to medical evidence, appointment details and/or to address any attendance queries. We ask that you do not use this email to notify us of pupil absence but continue to contact school via telephone in the event your child cannot attend.

Escape the Control—We work closely with other services to support families (men and women) who are suffering from issues relating to domestic abuse. If you, or anyone you know, are affected by this issue and would like support, please contact Mrs Lodge or myself, or visit www.escapethecontrol.co.uk. Free emotional and practical support is also available from The First Step, The Old School House, Huyton (0151 548 3333) - <https://thefirststep.org.uk>. Alternatively, **Bright Sky** is a free to download mobile app providing support and information for anyone who may be in an abusive relationship or those concerned about someone they know. The app is available to use in a number of other languages, including Polish, Punjabi and Urdu. <https://www.england.nhs.uk/supporting-our-nhs-people/support-now/wellbeing-apps/bright-sky/>



Autumn Overview—please keep a copy of this handy so that you don’t miss out on events planned for this term (copy sent via email and on website).

As always, if you need to get in touch, you can contact me at school on 0151 477 8150 or via email (rachael.tyler@knowsley.gov.uk).

With best wishes and many thanks for your ongoing support. **Mrs R Tyler** (Headteacher)