**Information for Parents – Return to School 2025-26**

I hope that everyone is enjoying the summer break and that everyone is keeping safe and well.

**The school will reopen on Friday 29 August for a half day (9.00 – 12 noon).**

This is to facilitate Child Protection and Safeguarding Training for all staff in the afternoon. There will be no Breakfast or After School Clubs on Friday 29 August. School meals and transport will begin on Monday 1 September.

**A full school day for all children will commence on Monday 1 September. All after school facilities will be available from this day.**

All the new children in Year 1 and Class A will have been issued with a specific start date. If you cannot find this, please contact the school.

**Arrival Times:**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Year Group | Arrival |
| All children | Gates open 8.45 amChildren in playground until bell rings at 9.00 am |

**Departure Times:**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Year Group | Departure Times |
| Year 2, 3 & CA (including CB every Monday & Wednesday) | 2.00 pm |
| Year CB, 4, 5, 6 & 7 | 3.00 pm |
| Year 1 | 12.00 noon until Friday 19 SeptemberMonday 22 September onwards 2.00 pm |

**Procedures for arrival and departure:**

* All arrivals and departures via the chapel car park and gate.

**Exceptions:** (arrival and departure via the front door)

* Children arriving by bus and taxi.
* Anyone requiring disabled access.
* Children in Class A & Class B (will be greeted by a member of staff from CA/CB)
* The children will go directly to the playground – with no stopping in toilets, cloakrooms or other classrooms.

**Teaching Structure 2025-26**

Year 1: Mrs McKay

Year 2: Mrs McShannock

Year 3: Mrs Hickey

Year 4: Mrs Kelly

Year 5: Mrs McMullan

Year 6: Ms McCormick

Year 7: Mrs Campbell

Class A: Mrs McIlroy

Class B: Mrs O’Mullan

**Bringing items to and from school:**

* **A school bag**.
* **Year 1 and 2 children do not need a school bag as book bags will be provided.**
* **Packed lunches** should be brought in a **lunch box**.
* Any **money** for dinners must be in a **small plastic bag or envelope** (clearly marked with the child’s name)
* A **water bottle** (clearly marked with your child’s name) **can be** brought into school. Please do not send in juice for the children to drink during the day – water only.
* A **list of personal resources** that each child will need to bring to school on the first day and then remain in school is listed on a table in this document. These items will be for the child’s own use to avoid sharing of resources.
* A coat may be worn into school.
* **School uniform** will be worn as normal – regular washing of school uniform will be important.
* **Footwear –** children should wear comfortable shoes/trainers as there will be no changing of footwear throughout the day. Younger children should have footwear with velcro fastenings as normal.

**Access to/Contacting school:**

Anyone requiring access to school or needing to contact the school must do so in the following ways:-

* Access to main office via front door only.
* Any urgent messages for the school or class teacher:

School phone No. 028 27662664

School email: info@stbrigidsps.ballymoney.ni.sch.uk

School website contact form: http://www.stbrigidspsballymoney.com/contact-us

**What to do if your child is unwell:**

* If your child is unwell with any illness, it is always best practice to keep the child at home.
* If your child becomes unwell in school, we will contact you to arrange for them to be picked up from school.
* A prompt pick-up from school is necessary if your child is unwell.

**School Year 2025/26 -** Resources required for personal use.

To help with knowing what to get for your child’s return to school please follow the list as a guide below.



**Child Friendly Scissors**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Year Group** | **Resources Required** |
| 1 & 2 | Colouring pencils (Pref. twistables no need to sharpen) CrayonsA pencil case for colouring pencils and crayonsGlue Stick (Pritt)EraserChild Friendly Scissors  |
| 3, 4, 5 and CB | HB pencilsColouring pencils (Pref. twistables no need to sharpen) CrayonsA pencil case for colouring pencils and crayonsGlue Stick (Pritt)EraserChild Friendly Scissors 30 cm rulerSharpenerHighlighters |
| Year 6 & 7 | Berol Handwriting pens – Blue/BlackBiro type pens – Blue/BlackHB pencilsColouring pencils Coloured Markers CrayonsA pencil case for colouring pencils and crayonsGlue Stick (Pritt)EraserChild Friendly Scissors 30 cm rulerSharpenerHighlightersPost itsProtractor |

**School Dinners will commence on Monday 1 September**

* All children entitled to a FSM will receive a meal from this date.
* The school dinner menu will be available on the school website.
* Week 1 will start on September

**Paying for school dinners**

* Please send dinner money into school in a small envelope
* The envelope should be clearly marked with the information below

Dinner Money Payment

Name:                         Class:

Week Beginning:  \_\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_\_

Tick Days Required:

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| M | T | W | Th | F |
|  |  |  |  |  |

Amount Enclosed

|  |
| --- |
| £ |

* Dinner money preferably should be sent in weekly at the beginning of the week, with the days indicated and the **correct amount enclosed.**
* Daily dinner money should still be sent in an envelope clearly marked as above.
* If more than one child, please indicate all names and classes on the envelope.
* Dinner money may be paid weekly or monthly by bank transfer, please contact the school for details on how to do this.
* **Dinner Cost (may be subject to an increase by EA)**

£2.60 per day or £13.00 per week

**Packed lunches**

This should be in either a disposable bag or a lunch box. The children can also bring a water bottle for class and a drink for lunch time. All items should be clearly labelled with your child’s name.

**Breakfast Club 8.00-8.45 am, 2-3 Club and Sunshine Club (3.00 – 5.30 pm)**

**Reopens on Monday 2 September**

All contracts must be signed as usual. This information will be uploaded to the website.

All places for the 3-5.30 pm Sunshine Club must be pre-booked in advance, on a monthly basis, as usual.

Breakfast Club and the 2-3 pm ‘One Stop Club’ can be pre-booked or used as a drop in facility as well.

Bookings will commence during week beginning 26 August 2024.

Booking forms will be available on the school website and can be sent into school or emailed.

**Cost 2025/26**

Breakfast Club £2.00 per day

2-3 Club £2.00 per day

Sunshine Club 3.00 – 5.30 pm £2.00 per hour/or part thereof

**Pledge of support from St Vincent de Paul Ballymoney Branch**

SVP offers a confidential support service. SVP is willing to provide some support to the school to aid those that may be struggling to buy school uniforms this year.

If you are struggling either with uniforms or financially in general and could do with some help, **contact SVP on their helpline** (07860455549) and they will do what they can to help.

Contact for support with uniforms can also be made through the school.

**2025-2026 – Holiday List**

**School re-opens on Friday 29 August with an early closure on this day of 12 noon.**

**First Term: Friday 29 August 2025 – Friday 19th December 2025 [inclusive]**

First Day - Friday 29th August – School Closes 12 noon

Staff Development Day: Friday 26th September

Halloween - Monday 27th October – Friday 31st October **[inclusive]**

Christmas - Monday 22nd December – Friday 2nd January **[inclusive]**

**Second Term: Monday 5th January – Thursday 2nd April 2026 [inclusive]**

Mid-Term Break - Monday 9th – Friday 13th February **[inclusive]**

St Patrick’s Day Holiday - Tuesday 17th March **[inclusive]**

Easter Break - Friday 3rd April – Monday 13th April **[inclusive]**

**Third Term: Tuesday 14th April – Tuesday 30th June 2026 [inclusive]**

May Bank Holiday - Friday 1st May & Monday 5th May **[inclusive]**

End May Bank Holiday - Monday 25th May & Tuesday 26th May **[inclusive]**

I know there is a lot of information to take on board again, however, most of the information shared is much the same as how things were operating at the end of June.

Enjoy the rest of the summer break and we look forward to seeing you all again for the new school year.

Regards

Mr O’Neill