



St Brigid's School Newsletter

16 October 2018



www.stbrigids.school.nz

Phone: 478 6516

Dear Parents/Caregivers



The last term of 2018 has come around at an alarming rate, at least it means that summer is on its way!

Over the holidays more work was done on our playground. We have had the grass area behind rooms 5 and 6 covered with artificial turf and decking built out from the sandpit to create usable space on the sloped area. There are two more projects that will be completed this term in the junior area of the school. Watch this space!



What's coming up

- Next Wednesday evening (24 October) we are holding a parent information evening from 6.30 – 7.30pm. We will be sharing both our schools curriculum and Seesaw - the electronic platform we are using to share student progress and achievement. This will be a great opportunity for parents to get a better idea about how Seesaw can be used and to ask questions. **Could parents please RSVP** so we have an idea about numbers for the venue and resources to linda@stbrigids.school.nz or lynne@stbrigids.school.nz.
- The other event that is coming up shortly is the Food Festival. We have a wonderful team of around 20 parents who are organising various food stalls and entertainment as well as shoulder tapping parents from within their communities to help with this. Thank you so much to all those involved in this event. The idea is to have some performances on the day to entertain, while people have lunch. We have a few groups from within the school who have taken up the challenge eg, Pasifika, Kapa Haka. Are there any groups within our community that would like to showcase their culture through a dance, song etc? It would be wonderful to have greater diversity of performance.

On the day, Sunday (November 11), there will be an 11am start for our school children and families, as Room 13 lead us through a service to commemorate the 100 year anniversary of Armistice Day. Food stalls will open at 11.30am and we hope to have an hour of entertainment from 12 until 1pm, with a finishing time of 1.30pm for the Food Festival itself. Please keep this day free.

God Bless,
Linda Birch

Strength of character and gentleness of heart



Parish Buildings – Using Our Assets Wisely

Fr Peter has written a position paper with information about our Parish buildings.

There is also a questionnaire for people interested in responding.

This information can be found on the Parish website <http://stfrancisohariu.nz/Future.html>.



School Assembly

(Hui-a-kura)

Our school assembly will be held this week
on Friday 19 October at 2.15pm at the
Johnsonville Community Centre.

Assembly will be taken by **Room 9**.

Parents are most welcome to join us.

Welcome

We warmly welcome new entrant student
Julian Estrada to St Brigid's School.

We hope your new friends in Room2 are
helping you settle in happily into school life.

We also welcome **Maria Walters** to our staff,
joining our teacher aide team.

KEY DATES TO NOTE ON YOUR CALENDAR

Further details about these and other events can be found on the school calendar on the website

http://www.stbrigids.school.nz/?page_id=420

Team Tahī	Tuesday 23 October	Games Afternoon
	Thursday 1 November	Zoo Trip
	Wednesday 7 & Thursday 8 November	Year 0-2 Parent Interviews
Team Rua		
Team Toru	Wednesday 17 - Friday 19 October	Year 6 Camp
	Thursday 18 October	Year 5/6 Epr8 Challenge
	Wednesday 7 & Tuesday 13 November	Rooms 13 & 14 Snorkelling
Other Events	Monday 22 October	LABOUR DAY - SCHOOL CLOSED
	Tuesday 23 October	Year 4-8 School Athletics
	Wednesday 24 October	Parent Information Evening
	Thursday 25 October	School Talent Quest
	Friday 26 October	Andrew Chinn Concert
	Thursday 1 November	RNZB Performance of The Nutcracker
	Monday 5 November	Northern Zone Athletics
	Thursday 8 November	Board of Trustees Meeting
	Sunday 11 November	Food Fair & Festival



School Photos

A reminder to place your order for any class / individual / sibling / sport team photos online, or return to the school office the envelope that was sent home with each child last term **by this Thursday - 18 October**.

News from the Board

The Board met at the end of last term on 20 September and discussed the following:

- The E-asTTle reading results for September 2018 show that reading continues to be a strength for our students with 85% currently at or above where they need to be at year end, and another 8% likely to be there by the end of the year. A wide range of measures are in place to support all students with their reading.
- We are looking to complete further enhancements around the playground, now focusing on the junior playground (in consultation with our Team Tahī teachers).
- St Brigid's has been successful in an application for Ministry funded professional learning development in Digital Technologies which is a new curriculum area that needs to be implemented by 2020. The funding will be used for a facilitator to work with our teachers in 2019.
- Linda and team have drafted a new St Brigid's School curriculum document which summarises the seven main areas which are at the heart of our curriculum (such as Catholic Character and our values). This is part of a project to review our curriculum, its documentation and receive feedback from parents on the curriculum.
- We are mindful of the demographics of our school, and have discussed the fact that the relatively large junior year groups are now starting to move up the school. This affects plans for classrooms and team structures.
- We welcome the two recently introduced ways of communicating with parents: the Seesaw platform for sharing students' classroom work with parents, and the St Brigid's Facebook group for sharing general news.

Scholastic Lucky Book Club - Issue 7

Issue 7 of the Lucky Book Club brochure will be sent home with students this week. To purchase any books just note the 3 digit code next to the title. Then visit <https://mybookclub.scholastic.co.nz/Parent/ClubManagement.aspx> type in St Brig and find St Brigid's School on the drop down list. Any orders need to be submitted **by Friday 2 November 2018**.



If you are purchasing any books as gifts and would rather they were not sent home with your children, please message office@stbrigids.school.nz to let us know. We will contact you when the books arrive, so you can collect them from us.





2019 School Roll

Enrolments for next year have been closed for a while now and we have a waiting list of Catholic children. In light of this, we need to know if there are **any children who will not be returning to St Brigid's next year** (other than our Year 8 leavers). **Please advise the school office ASAP.**

Andrew Chinn Concert

On **Friday 26 October**, Australian religious songwriter and singer, Andrew Chinn, will be visiting our school to share his songs with our children. Andrew's songs, such as "These Hands", "Rainbow" and "An African Blessing" are used in classrooms and liturgies around Australia, New Zealand, USA and Canada. Parents/parishioners are warmly invited to be a part of the celebration of faith and fun. There is no charge for adults. The concert will take place at **St Peter & Paul's Church at 1.40pm**. We look forward to seeing you there.

SPORTS NOTICES

Year 4 - 8 Athletics

This is being held next week on Tuesday 23 October at Nairnville Park in Khandallah. Please remember your PE gear, morning tea and lunch, drink bottle, sunscreen and sunhats. Postponement date is Wednesday 31 October.

Tennis



On Friday 28 September **Amber Dano** took part in the Wellington Primary School's Tennis Tournament at the Renouf Tennis Centre. We congratulate her on winning this event. She played really well and is going to represent St Brigid's School at Regional Primary School's Tennis Tournament on 31 October. We wish her all the very best for this event.

Total Touch Rugby

Last term a number of students took part in a coaching session for Touch Rugby after school. There is an opportunity for your child to be involved. It is held on Mondays from 4pm at Alex Moore Park. In order for this to go ahead we do need parents to manage the teams as teachers are involved in meetings on Mondays. The season runs from 29 October until 3 December 2018. The cost is \$165 per team and each team needs at least 5 players. There are Year 1/2 (boys and girls) or Year 3/4 (mixed or boys) or Year 5/6 or Year 7/8 (boys or girls or mixed). Please contact me if your child is interested and if you can supervise a team - fiona@stbrigids.school.nz.



Student Celebrations

This column is to acknowledge and congratulate any of our students who have achieved in other pursuits outside of school.

Congratulations to:

Ethan Gempesaw who was awarded Most Valuable Player of his Grade 7 team at the recent Onslow Junior Football Club prize giving.



LOST - Tavonga Mbona from Room 9 left his school bag in the playground after school on the last day of term 3. If found, could you please return this to him or drop off to us in the school office. Thank you.



Food Fair & Festival - Sunday 11 November

Signs / Advertising

We are looking for families to offer their front lawn or front fence for temporary advertising for our upcoming Food Fair. There are new Wellington City Council restrictions that only allow us to have signage in very specific locations and not many are in our local school area. We are keen to advertise more widely than the Council will allow, so if you or anyone you know lives on a busy road and would be happy for us to put a sign up, please get in touch. Please email office@stbrigids.school.nz and we will pass your contact details onto the Friends & Family team.



Community News

Priest and Celebrity Chef to speak in Conference for Families

Come and listen to Priest and Celebrity Chef Fr. Leo Patalinghug who will be the keynote Speaker at the Family Banquet Conference organised by the Centre for Marriage and Family. A 3rd degree Black Belt Martial Arts Instructor and Best-selling Author, Fr. Leo is also the host of Savoring Our Faith on EWTN, and Founder of PLATING GRACE, a movement to bring families back to the dinner table. Fr. Leo will be speaking on the importance of the Family Meal complete with a live cooking demonstration, and provide tools to get your Family to Heaven. The Family Banquet will be held on 10 Nov starting with Mass at 9am at Our Lady of Fatima Church followed by Conference Presentations at St. Christopher's Church, Main Road, Tawa. To register and get tickets, go to www.eventbrite.co.nz. For enquiries and group discounts available, contact 0220289737 or email patricia@marriageandfamily.org.nz.

Mini Triathlon

Mini Triathlon at Johnsonville School on Saturday 3rd November 2018. All children welcome aged 5 to 12 years. For a registration form email johnsonvilletri@gmail.com or visit the notice board at Johnsonville School website www.johnsonville.school.nz.

Weet-Bix Kids TRYathlon



Entries are now open for the 2019 Weetbix Kids Tryathlon which will be held on **Sunday 17 March** at Kilbirnie Park. The event is open to children aged between 7 and 15 years, on the day of the event.

To register your child for the TRYathlon and link them to the St Brigids school group, click on the link:

<https://www.registernow.com.au/secure/Register.aspx?E=31847&G=68736>.

Kids can enter the TRYathlon as an individual completing all three legs by themselves, or they can enter as a team of two where one team member does the swimming leg, one member does the cycling leg and both members complete the run section.

If you have any queries on the TRYathlon, there is lots of useful information on the [Sanitarium Weetbix Tryathlon website](#) or feel free to contact Christine Glass our school co-ordinator on cglass9@outlook.com.

Registrations close in mid-February but the Wellington event is always filled before closing date so it would be a good idea to register your child before the end of this year so as not to miss out on the event.

Yoga Classes

Kula Kids Yoga classes improve strength, flexibility and balance. They teach important mindfulness practices to improve concentration and reduce anxiety and stress. But we know, kids want it to be fun! After school classes for Term 4 in Newlands, Lower Hutt and Eastbourne 23 October through 10 December. Find timetables at <http://kula-yoga.co.nz>.

Hockey - 2018 Have A GO!

Have a Go! is a 6-week hockey programme designed for children aged 7 – 13 years. An introduction to hockey with an emphasis on having fun. An opportunity to learn by self exploration. A positive and quality coaching environment. Full involvement for all participants. Regular changes of activities to maintain enthusiasm and interest. A safe environment for all

Strength of character and gentleness of heart



activities. Equipment provided required to play hockey - Stick & Ball.

Where - National Hockey Stadium (NHS), Wellington = Sundays 2pm - 3pm or Northern United Junior Club Turf (26 Black Rock Road, Newlands) = Mondays 5pm-6pm.

Registration information - The cost for the 6 week programme is \$80. If children just want to have a go then they can join in for a few sessions and only need to pay \$15 per session (pay coach on arrival). The Have A GO! programme runs for 6 weeks and starts on Monday 15 October or Sunday 21 October.

