



St Brigid's School Newsletter

19 February 2019



www.stbrigids.school.nz

Phone: 478 6516

Dear Parents/Caregivers

The first two weeks of the school year have flown by; the weather has been awesome and already children have participated in a Whakatau, School Mass, camp, swimming, whole school singing and first aid training as well as getting to grips with the more formal learning in the classrooms. There is lots of wonderful art being done across the school and this is brightening up classrooms and corridors.

One of the things that will be slightly different for us this year is finding our place in the new structure of the Parish of St Francis of Assisi. With the retirement of Father Peter and the transfer of Father Doug to the Cathedral our parish is developing a new approach to parish leadership and ministry. Father Peter Roe is a part time parish administrator, one of twelve in the governance group and it was our pleasure to welcome him on February 7, along with members of Challenge 2000, with whom we will be working closely with this year.

It is an exciting time for us, being part of this change and helping to build a vibrant Christ and people centred community joined in faith. One of the events planned to build community is a **Children's Mass celebrating World Children's Day:**

Date: Sunday March 3

Time: 12.00pm

Venue: St Andrews Church in Newlands

Families are invited to bring a picnic lunch to have after Mass and Challenge 2000 will be organising games and activities.

Looking forward to seeing lots of you there.

God Bless

Linda Birch

Strength of character and gentleness of heart





Welcome

School Assembly (Hui-a-kura)

Our school assembly will be held this week at **2.15pm on Friday 22 February** at the Johnsonville Community Centre.

Assembly will be taken by our Year 8 students.

We warmly welcome new entrant students:

John Yalong and Ruby Chambers who have joined Room 2.

John joins his sister Jamilah. and Ruby joins her siblings Amelie, Olivia and Zac.

We hope you will both be very happy at St Brigid's.

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 Tahi	Mon 18 Feb – Thurs 28 Feb	Swimming Lessons
Team Rua		
Team Toru	Wed 20 February	Yr 7/8 Immunisation Education Sessions
	Tues 26 February	Yr 5/6 Cricket Tournament
	Wed 27 February	Yr 5/6 Cricket Postponement Date
Other Events	Wednesday 27 Feb – Thurs 28 Feb	Parent/Student Goal Setting Meetings
	Thursday 28 February	Board of Trustees Meeting

Board of Trustees

Our Board of Trustees meeting will be held next week on Thursday 28 February at 7.00pm in the staffroom. Parents are always welcome to attend.

Goal Setting Meetings

Due to the size of some senior classes, we have decided to do it differently this year. The school will be closed from 2 pm on Wednesday. These parent/teacher/student meetings are happening on **Wednesday 27 February - 2.15pm till 7.45pm** and **Thursday 28 February 3.15pm till 5.45pm**.

Any student who is booked into Kelly Club on Wednesday will be supervised at school until Kelly Club starts.

The online booking system is open at www.schoolinterviews.co.nz and the code to use is **np56r**. Please select a time that is convenient for **you and your child** to meet with their teacher. The online **booking system will be closed at 8.00am Tuesday 26 February**. If you need to make an appointment after this time, please call the office on 478 6516.



Paid Union Meeting

You may remember that teachers and principals took strike action twice last year to send a message to the Government that more needed to be done to fix the teacher shortage and make teaching a more sustainable and attractive profession.

After conversations with government in January, our union, NZEI Te Riu Roa, has agreed to return to formal negotiations with the Ministry. The Government has continued to state that there is no more money to settle the agreements but we are continuing to campaign for a quality public education for every child. We believe that winning more time to teach, a significant pay jolt to attract and keep people in teaching, and better resourcing for children with additional learning needs is as important as ever.

Any progress in negotiations will be reported to teachers and principals at paid union meetings around the country in the week of March 18-22nd. These meetings will be held during school time and will not impact on the school community as we will spread teachers across the meetings and will cover classes with remaining staff.

Public polling has showed continued strong support for what we are trying to achieve for our students and the future of the teaching profession. Parents in particular see the struggles we already face in hiring teachers and finding relievers when teachers are sick.

We greatly appreciate your continued support as we continue our campaign to ensure every child gets the best possible teaching and learning.



Johnsonville & Newlands Sacramental Programme

Parents who would like to enrol their in the child (Year 4 or above) in this year's Sacramental Programme are asked to return the enrolment form to the **school office by Friday 22 February** as the first parent meeting is next Tuesday 26 February at 7pm. Mrs Eastwood delivered forms to children this morning so please check school bags or pick up a form from the school office.

Congratulations to our new Library Leaders

Introducing our Library Leaders for this year:

Back row: Peter Nalder, Nathan Webber, Naomi Tull, and Rylee-Hope Bolstad'Faletolu,

Front row: Olive McCauley-Stutter and Amelie Chambers.

They will assist Mrs Nguon with the running of the library, keeping shelves tidy, ensuring there are student Librarians on duty at lunchtime and filling in if necessary.



New fundraising co-ordinator needed

The friends and family fundraising committee is looking for a new fundraising co-ordinator this year. This person will help organise our fundraising events during the year including the Fair. They will organise meetings, update school newsletters and liaise with other members of the committee. If you're great with people and love to organise contact Linda on linda@stbrigids.school.nz or come into the office for more information.

Scholastic Lucky Book Club - Issue 1

Copies of Issue 1 2019 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.

Visit <https://mybookclub.scholastic.co.nz/Parent/ClubManagement.aspx> type in the postcode 6037 and find St Brigid's School on the drop down list. Any orders need to be submitted online **by Wednesday 27 February 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.



LOST – Madison Nguyen from Room 12, has lost her named school jersey. If found, could you please return to her or drop off to us in the school office. Thank you.

Community News

Children's Choir at Wellington Cathedral of St Paul

My name is Michael Stewart and I direct the music at Wellington Cathedral of St Paul, opposite Parliament on Molesworth Street.

I am writing to you to let you know about the opportunity for children to gain a free music education and singing tuition at the Cathedral, an acknowledged centre of musical excellence.

We offer two choirs at the Cathedral: the first, the Children's Choir, is for children aged 5-8. In the Children's Choir members are taught basic musicianship and singing technique in a weekly rehearsal, and join with the Cathedral Choristers for a monthly Thursday evening service.

The Cathedral Choristers are a robed choir of 8-15 year old children, whose skills are developed in singing technique, music theory, public speaking and teamwork through two weekly rehearsals. They lead the weekly Thursday evening Evensong service, with choristers reciting the readings as well as leading all the sung components.

Please see the this [video](#) which illustrates a week in the life of a Cathedral Chorister presented by Archie Taylor, one of our graduates who has proceeded on to the NZSSC.

We currently have vacancies in both of these choirs. If you are interested in finding out more, please do not hesitate to contact me on 021 477 257 or at dom@wellingtoncathedral.org.nz.

