



St Brigid's School Newsletter

28 May 2019



www.stbrigids.school.nz

Phone: 478 6516

Dear Parents/Caregivers

Tomorrow St Brigid's School will be closed due to strike action around our pay and conditions. It is not clear what the outcome will be, however the fact that both secondary and primary teachers are striking together, sends a strong message to the government.

Our concerns are not just about the here and now but about the future of our education system. Attracting young, creative, vibrant and passionate people into teaching is becoming harder and harder; retaining them (when they see their peers earning more and having less stressful jobs) is even harder.

The challenges that teachers face with the hugely diverse range of children entering school is also troubling. The government needs to adequately resource schools so that all children are supported to reach their potential.

For me, personally, these are the two issues that most strongly underpin the claim that is being made. Thank you for the support our parent community are giving us with our strike day tomorrow.

God Bless

Linda



School Assembly (Hui-a-kura)

Our school assembly will be held this week at **2.15pm on Friday 31 May** at the Johnsonville Community Centre.

Assembly will be taken by **the Enviro Group**.

Parents are most welcome to join us.

Welcome

We warmly welcome new entrant students:

Xavier Ezekwo, Israel Mudaliar, Sebastian Ureta and Caius Firmin-Rima who have joined Room 2.

We hope you will all thoroughly enjoy being part of the St Brigid's family.

Before School Concerns

It has come to my attention that a few children are going to the Broderick Road Dairy (and possibly others) before school and are buying lollies to bring to school. Fuelling up on very sugary food is not the way that a young brain prepares for learning.

Please ensure that if your child walks to school, they are coming straight here. Linda



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	Thursday 20 June	Team Tahī Dance
Team Rua	Thursday 30 May	Year 4-8 School Cross Country
	Thursday 30 May	Year 3-8 School Cross Country
	Mon 10 June – Fri 21 June	Swimming Sessions Room 6,7 & 9
	Thursday 6 June	Northern Zone Cross Country
	Tues 11 June	Year 3 Junior Cross Country
	Thursday 13 June	Northern Zone Cross Country Postponement date
	Thursday 20 June	Team Rua Dance
Team Toru	Thursday 30 May	Year 8 boys Taste of St Pats Day
	Thursday 30 May	Year 4-8 School Cross Country
	Thursday 13 June	St Mary's College Open Day
	Mon 10 June – Thurs 4 July	Swimming Sessions (as per schedule on website)
	Thursday 27 June	Team Toru Dance
Other Events	Wednesday 29 May	Teacher Strike – School Closed
	Thursday 6 June	Northern Zone Cross Country
	Sunday 9 June	Open Day for St Pats College
	Thursday 13 June	Northern Zone Cross Country postponement
	Thursday 20 June	Parent Information Evening – Keeping Ourselves Safe
	Thursday 27 June	Board of Trustees Meeting

School Vision – have your say!

The school is currently in the process of reviewing and rewriting our vision statement. The school motto (strength of character, gentleness of heart) seems to have the biggest impact and the greatest association with St Brigid's School. A good vision should easily be recognised as 'belonging' to a specific organisation. Our current vision statement is "Our school vision is to provide a high quality education where our special character permeates through all we do". It is hard to specifically see us in this statement

Three draft visions have been developed and it is your turn to have a say:

"Learning together with strength of character and gentleness of heart"

"Life-long learners with strength of character and gentleness of heart"

"Learning together for life with strength of character and gentleness of heart"

From 4 - 14 June there will be areas set up around the school that will give you an opportunity to vote on a vision statement and to add any comments/thoughts that you have. These areas will be:

- in the library
- in the office foyer

Strength of character and gentleness of heart



- in the parent notices area (junior school corridor)

Thank you for your participation
Staff and Board of St Brigid's School

News from the Board

Board elections

Nominations for parent representatives and a teacher representative for our school board closed on Friday, 17 May. As the number of nominations was equal to the number of available positions, the 6 nominees were automatically elected to the board, and there is no requirement for a board election. Cardinal John has also approved nominations for Proprietor's Representatives. This means our school board trustees for the next 3 year term of office are:

Linda Birch - Principal
Amanda Prowse - Teacher Representative
Greg Archer - Proprietor's Representative
Ferdie Gomes - Proprietor's Representative
Agnes Kisteria - Proprietor's Representative
Meg Davies - Parent Representative
Chris Elliott - Parent Representative
Fiona Fouhy - Parent Representative
Dean O'Shaughnessy - Parent Representative
Carol Winter - Parent Representative

We're very sad to see **Pauline Whitney** leave the Board. Pauline has been a member for over 7 years, and we'll really miss her knowledge and experience. We're very grateful for all the governance work she has done over the years.

Meeting on 23 May

The Board met and discussed the following:

- Term 1 writing results - overall performance is slightly higher than it was last year. For those students who are currently below the expected level, it is expected at this time of year, and it is expected that they will make the necessary progress to be where they need to be at year end. Various types of interventions continue to be used for those students who need extra support.
- Mid-year report format - this has been revamped to make it more concise and relevant. The board also discussed student voice and in particular, the fact that students now attend parent interviews. We'd like to remind parents that they are always welcome to contact their child's teacher to organize a time to speak to them without their child present.
- Renovations - we are planning renovations for Rooms 12, 13 and 14, and the stairwell to be completed over the 2019/2020 summer holidays.
- Digital learning devices - the Board is considering its short and long term plans for the school's use of and resourcing DLDs. This is timely with the mandatory introduction of the digital technology curriculum from next year. As part of this, we will be seeking feedback from our parents/caregivers regarding their views on the use of DLDs at school, the impact of technology on learning, bring your own device schemes, etc.



2020 Term Dates:	
Term One:	Monday 3 February – Thursday 9 April
Term Two:	Tuesday 28 April – Friday 3 July

Cross Country

Year 3-8 Cross Country will now be held on **Thursday 30 May** at Alex Moore Park (a change from tomorrow due to the teacher strike). The event will begin at 11.15am and run until 12.30pm. If the weather is wet, the park will be closed so it will be held in the school grounds.



The Year 8 boys who are attending the St Patrick's Open Day will run the following day on Friday 31 May in their own event.

For the children who make it into Northern Zones Cross Country (Years 4-8), this will take place on Thursday 6 June at Grenada North. We are also taking ten Year 3 children to the Junior Cross Country at Amesbury School on Tuesday 11 June. This event starts at 9.30am and will conclude about 11.00am.

A reminder for all events, that children should bring a change of clothes, including shoes and socks and plenty to eat and drink. We are praying for fine weather. A notice will come home for all students who have made it past the School Cross Country event.

This week is Samoan Language Week

The image shows a group of children and an adult male teacher sitting around a table, looking at a book. The text on the image includes: "LALAGA LE SI'OSI'OMAGA MO SE LUMANAI MANUIA", "Pacific Peoples", "VAIASO O LE GAGANA SAMOA 2019", and "Samoan Language Week".

The Ministry for Pacific Peoples lists some useful Samoan phrases on its [website](#) including:

A malu i fale, e malu i fafo

Respect yourself and others will



Absentees

Thank you to everyone who calls the absence line to notify the school of your child's absence – it really saves us a lot of time in the office.

Request: Occasionally however, it can be difficult to hear the messages that have been left because of background noise or the message being relayed quite fast. We ask if you could please leave



- a **clear** message
- include your child's **name, room** number
- and most importantly the **reason** for the absence. This is very important as we are required to use the correct Ministry code to explain the absence.

Many thanks – Denise & Lynne

Marrzipan

Is your child shy? Do they feel intimidated by the idea of public speaking and performance? Do they sometimes find it difficult to make eye contact? Do they just need dedicated time per week to just be CRAZY?!

Come and join the revolutionary self-confidence programme - **Marrzipan!**

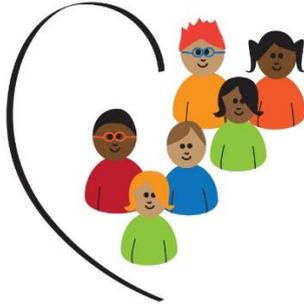
We run awesome classes at schools, which focus on key life skills and public speaking ability. We play fun engaging games and perform at the end of term once to parents and once to the school. All scripts are original, engaging, educational and HILARIOUS.

If you are interested please contact the school office.



Found – Pink sparkly bunny ears found after Pink Shirt day. If they belong to you, they can be collected from the school office.





Friends & Whanau Fundraising St Brigid's School

Roti Bread Fundraiser Term 2

Last day for orders to be received at the school office is this **Friday, 31 May**. Forms are available from the school office if you need one.

2019/20 Entertainment Book

The 2019 | 2020 Entertainment Memberships are here, with exclusive offers for everything you love to do. It's our best Membership yet, packed with amazing offers for activities, attractions, shopping, travel and all kinds of tasty treats - from cool cafes to fabulous fine dining. **With Entertainment there are thousands of experiences you can enjoy, while raising funds for the things you care about.**

**[CLICK HERE TO
SUPPORT US NOW!](#)**

In the lead up to **18|19 Memberships expiring on Saturday June 1st**, Entertainment Membership are running a **gift with purchase campaign to help give our fundraising an extra push!**

Every **purchase through the Online Order Page** From 12am Tuesday 28 May to Saturday 1 June 11:59 pm NZST will **receive a \$10 Caltex StarCash Gift Card**.

They are also running a separate **\$1,000 Countdown Gift Card** competition for anyone who purchases a new 19|20 Membership by 11:59pm June 1, 2019

Please note that this year we will not be sending a book home to every family - so you will need to use the link above if you would like to order a book.

Community News

200L emergency water tanks and Safer Plates

Northern Ward city councillors will be selling 200L emergency water tanks outside Churton Park New World from 11am to 12 noon on Saturday 8 June. And get your "Safer Plates" for \$5 from North Wellington Community Patrol 10am to 2pm at the same venue.

Pre-order and pre-pay if you'd like us to reserve a water tank for you. \$110 each.

Email malcolm.sparrow@wcc.govt.nz to order. \$10 from each water tank sale will be donated to the community patrol.

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