



St Brigid's School Newsletter

05 February 2019



www.stbrigids.school.nz

Phone: 478 6516

Dear Parents/Caregivers

A very warm welcome to the 2019 school year and a very special welcome to those families new to our school community. It is always exciting to start a new year, with all the hopes, dreams and possibilities it holds. There was an air of excitement yesterday with our children (and relief with our parents!) as they settled into their new classes, re-established old friendships, started making new ones and got to know their teacher. It was a very positive way to start the year.

As part of the first week children will discuss what it means to be part of a positive classroom environment. This includes the way we show respect towards others and our environment, expectations about work ethic and coming up with a "class treaty" (a set of shared guidelines and understandings) for all to work under.

This first newsletter is also a good time to remind parents of a couple of things that make the school day a more positive experience for everyone:

- **School starts at 8.55am**; children who are frequently late miss the morning routines and information, touching base with friends before school and for older children there is often a sense of embarrassment (not a good way to start the day)
- Children **should not be at school** before 8am or still at school after 3.30pm (unless a phone call has been made to make a one-off arrangement). After school, teachers are in meetings (sometimes off site) and are not able to supervise children. We would appreciate parents working with us on this.
- **Street parking** is a continuing problem around our school and can cause a great deal of stress for parents. There are three areas parents can park in when collecting and dropping off children Sts Peter and Paul Church on Dr Taylor Tce and two on Philip St, The Softball Clubrooms (down by the dairy) and the Masonic Lodge. The Masonic Lodge is only 50m from the school, on the same side of the street and is very safe for children to walk from independently.
- It is great to see children coming to school on **scooters** and occasionally bikes. Once they have arrived at school scooters and bikes remain in designated areas around the school until the end of the day. They are not to be ridden in the grounds during the day.
- As part of establishing shared expectations teachers across the school will be revising the **3R's** (respect for self, others and the environment). You may like to talk to your children about what they are discussing in classrooms and reinforce the importance of respect and kindness at school.
- Parents are welcome to contact their child's teacher by email. Please remember that you will not get a response during the day (as they will be teaching your child) and that teachers also have families and a life out of school. If you have concerns or need to pass on information about your child, their classroom teacher is the first port of call, before contact with the team leader or principal is made. Teachers also appreciate those positive, 'good news' emails!

Strength of character and gentleness of heart



We are very grateful to two of our parents, **Chia Rubio**, (mother of Ryu) and **Mike Javier**, (father of Nicholas), who spent a number of hours painting a wonderful mural along the fence behind the sandpit. It is a very colourful depiction of some of our native birds and really brightens up that area. The light wasn't too good so come down for the "Eat, Meet and Greet" and have a look on Thursday



Chia and Mike, thank you so much for donating your time and talent so generously for our whole school community to enjoy. I would also like to thank **Men in White** who painted part of the school during the holidays. Bruce and his team kindly sponsored the mural by providing all the paint.

God Bless

Linda Birch

Welcome

We warmly welcome all our new students who joined us this week:

Jesslyn Zhen in Year 8, **Aeryn Lao and Gia De Leon** in Year 7, **Shevinka Fonseka** in Year 6,
Jamilah Yalong in Year 4, **Junwoo Lee** in Year 2,

and new entrants **Georgia Sharland, Alexandra Trendle, Tanatswa Mbona, Ariana Wharakura, Adriel Banlawi, Mila Ahern, Zoe Robinson, Saoirse Cooper, Silmary Soeryoputro, Leo McMurtrie, Mason Orduna, Nathan Wong and Mason Tan** who have all started in Room 2.

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

We also welcome **Mrs Denise Govind** to the school office. Denise has been a wonderful part of our school for many years as teacher-aide, but has now joined Lynne in the office as the school secretary. Denise will continue her teacher-aide sessions in the afternoons.





School Assembly

(Hui-a-kura)

There will be **NO assembly** this week.
 Parents are invited to join us for Mass at St Peter & Paul's Church at 1.45pm on Friday 8 February.

2019 School Term Dates

Term 1 Monday 4 February - Friday 12 Apr

Term 2 Monday 29 Apr - Friday 5 July

Term 3 Monday 22 July - Friday 27 Sept

Term 4 Monday 14 Oct - Friday 18 Dec

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		
Team Rua		
Team Toru		
Other Events		
	Wednesday 6 February	Waitangi Day Public Holiday
	Monday 11 Feb – Fri 15 Feb	Year 8 Camp
	Thursday 7 February	New Entrant Parent Information Meeting Eat, Meet and Greet

Save the Date - EAT, MEET AND GREET

This Thursday evening we are having an informal gathering at school for families to visit their children's classrooms and say hello to their teachers. It is also a good opportunity for parents to get to know each other. **It's a 5.30pm start** and we invite families to bring a picnic, takeaways or use the school BBQ to cook on.

At about 6.15pm teachers will go to their rooms and be available for a quick chat. These are not formal meetings and are just a chance to introduce yourself to your child's teacher, rather than have a formal conversation about learning.

We are looking forward to seeing lots of you there.

In the interest of being smart with time - Angela Sheldon will be hosting a meeting in Room 2 from 4.30 for the parents of Room 2 children.

Year 8 teachers (Janet Valentine and Tania Fransen) will be running a Year 8 parent camp meeting in Room 13 at 6.30pm



School Facebook Updated

The Facebook page has been updated for 2019 and can be accessed through this link:
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/1428952763904874/?source=unknown>



Lunch Orders

Lunch can be purchased at school twice a week.



Please write your name, classroom and the order on an envelope, enclose payment and place in the appropriate box (details below). Menus are available on the school website.

- Lunches Unlimited (Monday) - Please place in the green box in each classroom on Monday morning.
- Pita Pit (**every Friday from 8 Feb** and **Sushi** (every **Friday from 15 Feb sushi**). Register at www.lunchonline.co.nz.

2019 Contact Forms and Cybersafety Agreements

Contact Forms and **Emergency Contact Forms** have been sent home with all students today (however **only one per family is required** to be completed).

We would appreciate your prompt attention completing and returning the above forms **to the school office**. It is a Ministry of Education requirement that we obtain current contact details from every family each year.

Cybersafety Forms have also been sent home for completion - **one to be completed for each child**. Once completed, please return **to the classroom teacher**, to enable your child access to the school computers.

Please keep an eye out for these forms in your children's school bags.

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.

Community News

Cindy Hutchins Dance Academy

Johnsonville classes in ballet, jazz and tap. Pre-schoolers – teenagers. Please phone Cindy on 479 6671 or email cindyhutchins@xtra.co.nz.

Strength of character and gentleness of heart



Raroa Music Centre Enrolments For 2019

Raroa Music Centre offers Saturday morning group music lessons for primary school children at low cost. We still have availability for students in music basics, choir, recorder, ukulele, cello, clarinet, flute, drums, and orchestra. To enrol for 2019 visit our website at www.raroamusic.org.nz and enrol online. Enrolments close 9 February 2019.

Easyswim Swim School Ltd

Easyswim Swim School Ltd is now taking bookings for Term One. To book call: 234 7946, email: book@easyswim.co.nz or visit www.easyswim.co.nz.

Northern United Junior Hockey Club

The Northern Suburbs' home of hockey for school Years 3-8

2019 Details

Years 3-6: 6-a-side

Years 7-8: 11-a-side

Have a Go Hockey: 3x weekly no-obligation sessions for beginners all ages, starting Monday 18, February 2019.

Pre-season training: Starting Monday 18 February, 2019

2018 Registrations (Online): Opens 1 February, 2019

11-a-side Trials (For kids in years 7 & 8 in 2019):

- Sunday 10th March 2 – 5pm
- Saturday 16th March 2 – 5pm
- Sunday 24th March 2 - 5 pm

Official 2019 Season runs from start of Term 2

For more information:

- Web: www.nujhc.org.nz
- Email: info@nujhc.org.nz
- FB: <https://www.facebook.com/NUJHC>

Bigair Gym Tawa

Children in Tawa are learning how to Cartwheel, Round-off, Handspring and Flip at BIGAIR Gymnastics classes! Children develop strength, flexibility, balance, proprioception, plus pride and self-confidence as they achieve new skills.

We are currently taking new members into our 2019 competitive teams! To find out more, please call Bigair Gym Tawa on 2323508 or email <mailto:wgtn@bigairgym.co.nz> office@bigairgym.co.nz

Leaping Lizards School of Dance

Fun, friendly classes for girls and boys aged 2 years and up.
Jazz, Hip-Hop, Ballet, Contemporary, Tap and Pre-School Dance.
Amesbury Hall, Churton Park and Johnsonville Scout Hall.

Email leapinglizardsdance@outlook.com, visit www.leaping-lizards.co.nz or call Lorna on 021 1770685.



Paparangi School Gully Gutbuster

31 March 2019, Seton Nossiter Park

Fun for the whole family! 5k/10k run/walk and kids' challenges.

Register now by searching Gully Gutbuster on Facebook or www.enteronline.co.nz

Te Māhuri Charitable Trust

Te Māhuri is an after school group for tamariki and their whānau to learn and practise te reo Māori in a relaxed and fun environment, learning through games, waiata and other activities. Everyone is welcome, from complete beginners to fluent speakers, and we'd love to see you there!

When: Tuesdays 3.30-4.30pm at Newlands Community Centre; or Wednesdays 3.30-4.30pm at Linden Social Centre (During school term time only). For more information or to join, please email meganmvant@gmail.com.

DancePointe Academy

Enrolments for Term 1 are open for you to give your child the opportunity to learn dance and a free trial class is available for either Ballet from 4 years of age or Tap from 6 years of age. Classes are after school and either at St Peter & Pauls or St Johns church halls.

Contact Sharon dancepointenz@gmail.com, www.dancepointe.co.nz, mobile 021-2151222

