



St Brigid's School Newsletter

7 February 2018



www.stbrigids.school.nz

Phone: 478 6516

Dear Parents/Caregivers

Tena koutou, e hoa ma. Nga mihi nui kia koutou.

A very warm welcome to the 2018 school year.

We have been blessed with a glorious summer and hope that it will continue now that our children are back at school. It is wonderful to see children arrive each morning looking relaxed, happy and ready for the school day. I know that children have settled well into their new classes; friendships are being formed, expectations set and classroom cultures developed. Enthusiasm for learning is evident in the classrooms.

We had a lovely whakatau on Monday morning to welcome the new children and families to the school.

This Friday we will continue with the theme of "Welcome", with a Mass to start our school year. The Mass will not only be an opportunity to welcome new families into the Parish of St Francis of Assisi but to welcome six of our students into the Catholic Faith through Baptism. Our Mass starts at 11.30am and we hope that parents, who are able, can join us for this.

Throughout this year we will continue to develop and promote a harmonious school with positive relationships. One of the ways we will be doing this is by building a collective culture of Respect across the school. We made a start with this last Thursday, with a number of parents joining their children in classrooms to discuss and document what the understanding of respect were and what it might look like in our school.

The school community also celebrated St Brigid's Feast Day on Thursday 1 February.

God Bless

Linda Birch

Welcome

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

Sophia Fouhy in Year 7,
Jasmine Daniels in Year 6,
Carey Chen and Ty Nguyen in Year 5,
Javien Dechavez and Zachary Doblis in Year 4,
Madison Nguyen in Year 3,
John Mabuti, Emily Hamdan and William Hamdam in Year 2,
and new entrants **Gabe Bernardo, Kate Medina, Caspian Lasmarias, Evita Di Maio, Manaaki Cole, and Lucas Hutchinson** who have all started in Room 2.

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

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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 11.30am on Friday 9 February.

2018 School Term Dates

Term 1 Wednesday 31 Jan - Friday 13 Apr

Term 2 Monday 30 Apr - Friday 6 July

Term 3 Monday 23 July - Friday 28 Sept

Term 4 Monday 15 Oct - Friday 14 Dec



Sacramental Programme 2018

The programme for this year will begin with a Parent Evening next week **on Tuesday 13 February 2018 at 7.30pm in the St Peter & Paul's Church hall.**

The programme covers the sacraments of:

- *Reconciliation* in Term One,
- *Confirmation* in Term Two
- *Holy Communion* in Term Three.

This programme is for children in **Year 4 or over**. Registration forms are available from the school office.

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.stbrigidsschool.nz/?page_id=420

Team Tahī	Mon 12 Feb - Thurs 22 Feb	Swimming Lessons
	Thursday 15 February	Meet the Teacher
Team Rua		
Team Toru	Mon 19 Feb - Fri 22 Feb	Year 8 Camp
Other Events	Friday 9 February	School Mass
	Thursday 22 February	Board of Trustees Meeting

Board of Trustees

Our first Board of Trustees meeting will be held on Thursday 22 February at 7.00pm in the staffroom. Parents are always welcome to attend.



Team Tahi - Meet-the-teacher

Team Tahi (**Rooms 1, 2, 3 & 4**) invites parents to come along to your child's classroom on **Thursday 15 February** to meet the teacher and hear about how things run in the classroom, routines and expectations.

Rooms 1, 3 & 4 meet from **5.00 – 5.30pm**

Room 2 meet from **5.00 – 6.00pm**

Please note: Team Rua and Team Toru will hold goal setting meetings later in the term. These meetings will allow the opportunity to meet the teacher and talk with more personalised information discussed.

2018 Contact Forms and Cybersafety Agreements

Contact Forms and **Emergency Contact Forms** will be sent home with all students this week (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 will also be 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.

Attendance

If your child is unable to come to school due to illness, appointments etc, could you please contact the school in the morning (before 9am if possible) and leave a clear message on the school answerphone. The number is 478 6516. Your message needs to contain your child's name, room number and the reason why they are away.



Please note

- if your child is unwell for a number of days we would appreciate you letting us know **each day** that they are absent
- if your child is unwell for **more than three days**, we require a medical certificate.

The first task carried out by the office every morning is to check the absence line. If children are not in class by 9am and there is no message on the phone, this is a cause for concern and is followed up by a phone call to parents. We want to ensure that all our children have arrived at school safely and communicating your child's absence in a timely manner, really helps us with this.

If your child arrives at school **after the bell** has rung (whether they are running late, or arriving after an appointment) they are **required to visit the office** to collect a late pass. The office will then update the attendance register.





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).

Menu's are available on the school website - http://www.stbrigids.school.nz/?page_id=76.

- Lunches Unlimited (Monday) - Please place in the green box in each classroom on Monday morning.
- Pita Pit (Friday) - Please place in the box in the office before 9.00am on Friday morning.



Road Patrol Parent Helpers Needed

We are **desperate to hear** from any parents who are able to volunteer 20 minutes for one morning or afternoon each week for the rest of the term to go on a roster to help with road patrol supervision.

If you are able to help we would very much appreciate it. Please email Janet Valentine on janetv@stbrigids.school.nz.

Urgent Plea: Save Our Monarch Caterpillars

The Monarch butterflies have been busy laying eggs on the swan plants in the school grounds.



We now have a large number of caterpillars eating voraciously!

Unfortunately our supply of swan plants is not sufficient and we are asking for your help. **If you have a swan plant** at home or in your neighbourhood that does not have caterpillars on it please bring a jar with a lid to school. You can take caterpillars home and transfer them to swan plants that have leaves.

Thank you
Lorna Webb, Room 10

Johnsonville Combined Churches Op Shop - St. Brigid's Fundraiser

Welcome to all the new parents.

The Johnsonville Combined Churches Op Shop is based in the Community Centre in Johnsonville.

St Brigid's is one of the four groups that run the shop which is staffed by volunteers. All the proceeds from the shop go back into the community and the school has benefitted from this for the last 30 years. We have volunteers from the school, parish and community and would love to have some new volunteers from the school to replace the parents whose children have moved onto college.

We only need you for two hours once a month, as our volunteers work in two hour shifts.

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The shop hours are
Tuesday and Wednesday - 10.00 to 2.00.
Friday - 11.30 to 4.00, and
Saturday - 9.30 to 12.00

St. Brigid's are on duty at the op shop this week from Wednesday 7th to Saturday 10th Feb.
We are always looking for new volunteers, and as of the end of Feb we need someone to volunteer to do the roster. Please contact Yvette on 938 7372, 021 605 754 or ycelliston@gmail.com if you are available to help.

Scholastic Lucky Book Club - Issue 1

Copies of Issue 1 2018 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 **by Friday 16 February 2018**.



Lost

Dylan Glass of Room 13 left his Black and Blue MGP scooter at school on the last day of school last year. If anyone picked it up, could you please return it to the office or to Dylan.

Community News

Piano And Keyboard Lessons

One 10 minute lesson a week in school time. \$65 a term + lesson book (\$20.50)
Pupils should be 7 years or over and have daily access to a keyboard. Longer lessons out of school time, at teachers home, also available. Please ring Anne Megget on 4788573 or email ammegget@gmail.com. KEYBOARDS FOR HIRE - \$30 per term - ring Anne on 4788573.

Guitar Tuition

Eileen Brown offers weekly guitar lessons during lunch times at school. If your child is interested in learning this instrument please contact Eileen on 232-1921, 027 3396943 or email eileen.v.brown11@gmail.com. Students should be at least 7 years old to start learning the instrument. Styles taught include Pop & Rock, Traditional, Classical, Notation and theory. Lessons are fun and enjoyable! Visit www.drumorguitar.com for more information.

Kelly Club - After School Care

Our Aftercare Programme is focused around various activities including cooking, games, art and craft as well as structured 'free-time' after a busy day at school. These activities are incorporated into themes each week that give



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children the opportunity to extend their learning outside of the school classroom.

Children will be collected from St Brigid's School and taken to the programme at Uniting Church, which is at the rear of the school in Dr Taylor Terrace.

We offer full sessions (3.00-6.00pm - \$18.00) and a half session option (3.00-4.30pm - \$11.00) and are happy to accept both permanent and casual bookings. For full details and to enrol into our programmes visit www.kellyclub.co.nz, email stbrigidids@kellysports.co.nz or call [022 010 9984](tel:0220109984).

Young Angel Voices

Singing for children aged 8 - 12 years. Held at St Mary of the Angels Parish Hall, 17 Boulcott Street, Wellington City. No Auditions. Thursdays at 4.30 for an hour, resuming on Thursday 15 February 2018. Young Angel Voices was started in 2009 and sings in concerts and at Mass in St Mary of the Angels. Contact Robert Oliver on 021 0257 4375, email chant4robert@gmail.com, www.smoa.org.nz.

Weet-bix Kids TRYathlon



The Wellington event, which will be held on **Sunday 18 March 2018** at Kilbirnie Park, has reached 80% capacity and will be sold out soon.

The TRYathlon is open to children aged between 7 and 15 years.

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

<https://registration.tryathlon.co.nz/Home/Event/29/Package/0/Wave/0/Sequence/0/School/4d6a2d0a-be74-4782-97d0-3e0b8d0fd902>.

Tap Dancing

Brand new Kids Tap classes in Johnsonville on Wednesday afternoons! It's the perfect time to start as all students will be new to Tap and will start their Tappity-Tap-Tap journey together.

We also have classes in Jazz, Hip Hop, Ballet, Contemporary and for pre-schoolers held in Churton Park. Visit www.leaping-lizards.co.nz or email leapinglizardsdance@outlook.com to sign up and get more info.

Dance Classes - Angela Goodall Dance Academy

Angela Goodall Dance Academy offers classes in Jazz, Tap, Ballet, Contemporary, Hip Hop and Pre School Dance. Fun and friendly learning environment in Newlands.

Studio - 3 McMillan Court, Newlands. Please contact Angela angelagoodalldance@xtra.co.nz or 021 174 3500.

Wellington Synchronised Swimming club

For term 1 the Club is welcoming new members to join the team. Get started 3 week programme on Sunday February 11th, 18th and 25th from 2:00- 3:30pm at Wellington Regional Aquatic Centre, Kilbirnie. Fee: \$30 with this deducted from term fees if your swimmer continues. Email Genevieve at wellysynchro@gmail.com to sign up. For more details, please visit the following website <http://www.wellingtonsynchro.org.nz/>.

Bigair Gymsports Tawa

If you have a child who loves doing handstands, cartwheels, walkovers, flips, or cheerleading, then they will love Bigair Gym! At Bigair Gymsports, kids love Gymnastics, Trampolining, Tumbling, Parkour, and Cheerleading! We have classes to support children of all levels and interests. As children learn new gym skills they will increase their flexibility, balance, coordination, strength,

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and fitness. The benefit for our children is that they learn extensive personal skills from Gym, which includes; increased self-confidence, self-reflection, listening skills, persistence, self-pride, and so much more! Did you know that Bigair Gym also offer Birthday Parties? To find out more, please call Bigair Gym Tawa on 2323508 or email office@bigairgym.co.nz.

Northern United Junior Hockey Club

The Northern Suburbs' home of hockey for school years 3-8. Years 3-6 play 6-a-side and Years 7-8 play 11-a-side. 2018 Registrations (online) open 1 Feb - www.nujhc.org.nz. Official 2018 season runs from start of term 2.

11-a-side trials: 3x 1.5-hour trials between 2-5 pm, Sun 11 Mar, Sat 17 Mar and Sun 25 Mar.

Pre-season training: Mon afternoon/evening, 19 Feb to 26 Mar.

Have a Go Hockey: 3x weekly no-obligation sessions for beginners all ages, 3-4 pm, Mon 19 Feb, 26 Feb, 5 Mar.

Khandallah Arts Theatre

WHAT: Beauty and the Beast - a fun interactive retelling of the story with a fairy godmother and a witch. WHEN: weekends: 17 and 18; 24 and 25 February at 2.30pm and 4.30pm each day.

WHERE: Khandallah Park, Woodmancote Rd. COST: gold coin to help cover expenses.

BAD WEATHER: Cashmere Ave School hall. Ring 499 4444 two hours before.

Yoga

Kids and Teen Yoga classes for Term 1 begin in February in Johnsonville. Come along to one of our 'Taster' classes and give it a go!

Yoga is a form of movement that can be gentle or athletic and is non-competitive. It builds strength of body and mind, balance and flexibility. The yoga teachings include principles of compassion for self and others, discipline and self-study. Kula Kids Yoga classes are playful, imaginative and weave games, song, and story into the practice of the poses. Yoga for older students fosters positive self-awareness and teaches tools to safely manage stress.

Contact Jeanne of Kula Kids Yoga with questions or to book kulakidsyoga@yahoo.com.

Easyswim Swim School Term One Lessons

Term one lessons have started, however it's not too late to book. Early Childhood from 3 months to 3 years, Pre-School and School age lessons are all go. We have waiting lists on some levels, times and days but also the odd space here and there.

Easyswim's Splash Attack - a fun, non-contact water polo programme which involves learning and developing game sense plus passing & catching skills. Splash Attack is starting soon at the Plimmerton School pool on 14 February and Johnsonville School pool on 9 February.

To book, call 234 7946, email book@easyswim.co.nz or visit www.easyswim.co.nz for more info.

Fantastic Music Classes At Encore! School Of Music

Join us for music learning and heaps of fun in Johnsonville and Churton Park! We offer a wide variety of individual and group music classes including piano, keyboard, singing, violin, drums, guitar, ukulele, flute, recorder, band, music theory and others. All ages welcome! We also have classes for toddlers & preschoolers and are always delighted to welcome adult students too! You will love your music classes with us! Sign up now for the new term! Check out

www.encoreschoolofmusic.co.nz, email info@encoreschoolofmusic.co.nz or phone 976 8742.

Wellington Curtain Bank

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Wellington Curtain Bank, supported by Sustainability Trust, upcycles good quality donated curtains for the homes of people with Community Services Cards. Lined curtains keep in the heat, keep out the cold, and offer people privacy (and a little coolness during the summer season too!). More details here: <https://sustaintrust.org.nz/pages/free-curtains>. Wellington Curtain Bank is located at 2 Forresters Lane (off Tory St), Wellington City.

Arts a Go Go!

Arts a Go Go! Performing Arts School for Kids is celebrating its 10th birthday! Limited places still available in term 1. Tawa classes on Saturdays for drama, dance and singing combo classes for students aged 6 – teenagers. For more details about Arts a Go Go! please see www.artsagogo.co.nz and contact rachel@artsagogo.co.nz, ph 021 144 1641.

