



### 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](http://www.stbrigids.school.nz/?page_id=420)

<b>Team Tahi</b>	<b>Tues 12 March</b>	Trip to Khandallah Park
	<b>Wed 13 March</b>	Postponement date for trip to Khandallah Park.
	<b>Tues 26 March</b>	The Pond Performance 11.30am
<b>Team Rua</b>	<b>Tues 26 Mar – Thurs 28 Mar</b>	Visit Johnsonville Library
<b>Team Toru</b>	<b>Tues 26 February</b>	Yr 5/6 Cricket Tournament
<b>Other Events</b>	<b>Friday 15 March</b>	Wear Green for South Sudan
	<b>Mon 18 Mar – Fri 22 Mar</b>	Scholastic Book Fair 3pm – 3.30pm
	<b>Fri 22 March</b>	Dress Up Day
	<b>Fri 22 March</b>	Family Takeaway Night 5.30pm

### Wear GREEN for South Sudan on Friday 15<sup>th</sup> March!

As Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> March is St. Patrick's Day, and we're supporting CARITAS in the awesome work they're doing in South Sudan this Lent, we thought it would be a good idea to combine the two!

Come to school on **Friday, March 15** wearing **GREEN** and bring a gold coin donation for the South Sudan Appeal.



## School newsletter update from NZEI – It's Time/Kua Tae Te Wā



In the week of 18 March, primary teachers and principals around the country who are NZEI Te Riu Roa members are heading to meetings to vote on whether to accept or reject the latest collective agreement offers from the government.

They will also be voting on whether to take strike action should the offers be rejected.

***These meetings have been organised in a way that will have minimum impact on your children. The school will be open as usual with half our teachers attending on the Tuesday afternoon and half on the Thursday afternoon. Classes will be 'buddied' for these two afternoons.***

These meetings are a crucial part of the 'Kua Tae Te Wā - It's Time' campaign. They're an opportunity for teachers and principals to come together to discuss the offer and decide next steps.

We want to ensure teaching is an attractive profession for people to join and stay in, and we have asked that the government provide for better staffing to reduce class sizes and give us more time to teach and time to lead.

The offers received are only minimally different from what was offered (and rejected) last year. This is because the government has refused to increase the amount of money available.

Already, many schools are having to make sacrifices because of the difficulty in recruiting teachers and relievers, and we must take bold steps to turn this around. We really appreciate your continued support. If these offers are rejected, it is the voices of parents and the wider public that will be key to forcing the government to listen as we continue our campaign to ensure every child gets the best possible education. For more information, please go to <http://campaigns.nzei.org.nz/time/> or talk with your child's teacher.

### **Board Elections**

2019 is an election year for school trustees, and St Brigid's parents and caregivers will be eligible to vote for five parent representatives who they would like to be members of the School's Board of Trustees. The election process will take place in May/early June.

As part of encouraging more parents to stand for election, the New Zealand School Trustees Association, has organized a number of facilitated discussions to help potential new trustees find out what it really means to serve on a school board.

There are a number of these being held in Wellington, including:

**6.30pm, Tuesday, 19 March** at Newlands Primary School

**6.00pm, Tuesday, 2 April** at Crofton Downs Primary School

If you are interested in standing for election as a parent representative, you may like to attend one of these meetings. Our existing Board members are also happy to discuss with you our role and how we serve our school, and answer any questions you may have. We can also provide more information about the NZSTA meetings (including other dates/times). For further information, contact Carol Winter at [carolwinter26@gmail.com](mailto:carolwinter26@gmail.com).



## Friends and Family Meeting

First meeting for the year is on **Monday March 18 at 3.15pm.**

Do we want a name change?

What do we want to achieve this year?

Come and join us for half an hour in the staff room, cup of tea and biscuits provided, just a chat about what we might achieve this year and a possible "rebranding".

We would love some of our new parents to come along and find out what it's all about. Looking forward to seeing you all on the 18<sup>th</sup>.

*The Awesome ~~FUN~~ Fund Raising Team.*

## 2019 Great Kiwi English, Science and Mathematics Competitions



This year parents may enter their Year 5-8 children into online competitions called Kiwi Science, Kiwi Maths and Kiwi English. These competitions were launched last year and received great feedback. They are organised by the University of Canterbury and will replace the ICAS tests that our school has previously participated in.



The New Zealand competitions are written by New Zealand teachers and are based on the New Zealand Curriculum. They will be run in the last three weeks of Term 2 and the first week of Term 3, and the cost is **\$9.00 per examination**. All participating students will be awarded a certificate and prizes will be awarded to top students in each year group.



If you would like your child to take part in these competitions, please complete the entry form attached to the newsletter, and return to the school office with money included. Entry forms are also available at the school office. **Entries will be accepted until Tuesday 21 May.**

Please contact **Fiona Kearns** at [fiona@stbrigid.school.nz](mailto:fiona@stbrigid.school.nz) if you require further information.



## Message from the Attendance Dues Team

Statements have been sent out in the post to all accounts that have an outstanding balance. If you do not receive your statement by 15 March 2019 and believe you have an outstanding balance, please contact our office on 0800 462 725 or email [dues@wn.catholic.org.nz](mailto:dues@wn.catholic.org.nz).

You can pay attendance dues in the following ways:

**Mastercard or Visa Debit/Credit Card** - One off payments using your credit card can be made at [www.wn.catholic.org.nz/attendance-dues](http://www.wn.catholic.org.nz/attendance-dues). If you would like to set up monthly recurring payments from your card, please contact our office.

**Internet Banking Payments** - You can process a one-off or regular payment yourself through internet banking. If you **do not** use internet banking please contact our office or your school for an automatic payment form to take to your bank.



**Cash** - You can pay in cash at any Westpac branch or in person at our office at 22 Hill St, Thorndon.

**Cheque** - Make out to Archdiocese of Wellington Attendance Dues Collection Fund. These can be posted to PO Box 1937 Thorndon, Wellington, 6140 or dropped off in person at our office.

**Phone: 0800 462 725 Email: [dues@wn.catholic.org.nz](mailto:dues@wn.catholic.org.nz) Text: 021 0890 7902**  
[www.wn.catholic.org.nz/attendance-dues](http://www.wn.catholic.org.nz/attendance-dues).

**Please note** that any families who would like to talk about receiving assistance with attendance dues, are invited to contact Linda Birch at school or Paul Alsford or Sr Jude through the parish office.

### **Scholastic "Enchanted Forest" Book Fair**

The Library will be open **Monday 18 March to Friday 22 March 3pm- 3.30pm**. There will be lots of books and posters for sale at great prices and every book sold earns points that our school can use towards buying more beautiful books for our school library.



- **Dress Up Day – Friday 22 March**

Come along to school dressed up in the Enchanted Forest theme or your favourite book character.

**...and then later bring your family to our...**

- **Family Takeaway Night 5.30pm**

Come and join other families with your Friday night takeaways and have a fun and relaxing evening catching up with other parents while the kids play. At the same time, pop into the Library and check out our Enchanted Forest Book Fair. The Book Fair will be open from 5.30 until 7pm.

### **SPORTS NOTICES**

#### **Basketball and Miniball for Term 2**

There is an opportunity for Year 3-4 and year 5-6 girls and boys to take part in miniball at Nairnville Recreation Centre in Term 2.

Year 7 and 8 girls and boys will play full court basketball.

#### **Details:**

Year 3-4 - Term 2 - Monday 3.20pm - 6pm - Cost is \$180 per team, for 8 weeks of games.

Year 5-6 - Term 2 - Tuesday 3.20pm - 6pm - Cost is \$203.50 per team, for 9 weeks of games.

Year 7-8 - Term 2 - Friday 3.30pm - 9pm - Cost is \$252 per team, for 9 weeks of games.

The cost per player will be worked out closer to the time once the number of players in each team is confirmed.



In order for these teams to participate, we **must have** a parent/parents to help supervise and manage the teams.



**Thank you**, Gino who has already volunteered to coach and manage a Year 7/8 team.

Depending on the number of students and coaches/managers available will determine the teams we can enter. It also has an impact on the cost for each player as well.

**If your child is interested in joining a team**, please contact Fiona Kearns at [fiona@stbrigids.school.nz](mailto:fiona@stbrigids.school.nz)

**We need your support.**



Andrew Tempongko has lost his named school jersey. If found, could you please return to him or drop off to us in the school office. Thank you.

## **Community News**

### **West Park School's Annual Gala - West Fest**

**This month! Saturday 16 March 2018, 11 – 2pm (Broderick Road, Johnsonville)**

Come along to West Fest 2019 – this fabulous annual school gala has something for everyone!

There will be all the traditional gala highlights including fantastic food, great entertainment, second hand goods for sale, face painting and crafts. A great range of activities will also be on offer to entertain the whole family. Highlights include ride on mini jeeps, a bouncy castle, quiddich and jousting activities, the famous toilet roll catapult and a dirt track remote control monster truck!

### **Newlands Junior Rugby Club registration night**

Our main registration event is on Wed 20 March, 5.30-7.00pm at Newlands Primary School hall.

All players aged 4-13 welcome. We'll have some Hurricanes players joining us for some fun on the night!

Full event details on our Facebook page: [www.facebook.com/newlandsrugbyclub](http://www.facebook.com/newlandsrugbyclub)

