LEADERSHIP TEAM REFLECTIONS

Each fortnight our Leadership Team will share our thoughts with you in relation to the religious, academic, administrative and community elements of our school.

Technology News: What a tremendous response by our school community last Wednesday evening at our Online Smarts – Responsible Digital Citizens session. It was extremely heartening to receive positive feedback from a wide cross section of our families and students. As we launch our 1 to 1 Digital Devices program this week we seek continual feedback from our families as we work together to support the learning of our children.

Based on requests from our families please note the following Technology sessions:

- **Edmodo**
  - Thursday 21st February, 3:15pm, ICT Room

- **iPad**
  - Tuesday 12th March, 7:00pm (after AGM), SAMMAT

**Cyber Smart:** Our presenter Tony Williams provided students, staff and parents with a comprehensive view of what we all need to do to ensure our online safety. While no doubt you went away determined to ensure that your children follow these safety protocols, there can never be too many reminders and checks about your child’s online communication. It seems that for some children the message has not yet sunk in. A simple test reminder for young people when posting something online can be, “what would my mum or dad think of this” or “what would Grandma/Grandpa think? “Am I breaking the Law?”, “If I received this message would I like it?” It is important for children to realise that the language used in a face to face conversation has an ‘end life’ while something posted online can be there forever and cannot be taken back. A simple motto might be, “BE KIND, BE SMART, BE SAFE – BE CYBER COOL”

ADMINISTRATIVE DIMENSION

**School Board:** A reminder that we are seeking nominations for our School Board for 2013. Our Annual General Meeting will be held on Tuesday 12th March at 7pm and will incorporate an iPad Learning Session and Edmodo (Online network between St Brigid’s and students/parents).

**Child Protection:** A reminder that if you wish to be involved as a volunteer at St Brigid’s you are required to obtain a police clearance and undertake an online training session ‘Responding To Abuse and Neglect’. If you would like to undertake this training at school we are offering a session on Tuesday 19th February at 9am. It will take approximately 30 minutes. If you would prefer to undertake this at home you can view the training video, a link can be found on the school’s website (Community Tab - Ran Volunteer– Responding to Abuse and Neglect). Once completed you are required to present your certificate at the front office.

**Electronic Communication:** We are aware that many of our families prefer to receive their copy of the Brigitiser via email. Not only does this guarantee their access to our main form of communication with our families, it also reduces the carbon footprint of our school. We also acknowledge that a number of families are blended and a paper copy is not always received by both parents. Please feel welcome to contact the school to rectify this situation so that all members of our school community are able to feel connected. Please complete the reply slip in today’s Brigitiser if you would like to receive an electronic copy of our fortnightly newsletter.
Leadership Team Reflections cont.

First Aid/ Medical Issues: Our responsibility to care for your children is a high priority. In an emergency situation, it is critical that we are able to contact you or a nominated person immediately. Please ensure the school has the correct medical information and contact details for your child. It would be tragic for a situation to become critical or even catastrophic because information had not been sent to our school. Next week you will receive the existing data we have for you and your child. Please check and make any necessary modifications to ensure the wellbeing of your child at St Brigid’s Catholic School is able to be maintained. You will also be asked to complete the student details summary form with information which will assist your child’s teacher in ensuring the safety of your son/daughter. It is imperative that this information is returned by Monday 25th February.

Car Parking: We remind families that the school carpark in the morning is a 2 MINUTES KISS AND DROP ZONE. Parking long term places students at risk. Please be vigilant in complying with these rules.

Afternoon Student Safety: In the interest of child safety we encourage families not to arrive to collect their children before 2:45pm. People arriving prior to 2:45pm will be expected to sign in and out to comply with WHS regulations.

COMMUNITY DIMENSION

Working Bee: We would love to start the school year spreading mulch, tidying up garden beds, and establishing an environmental trail. We seek your support on Saturday 6th April from 7:30am -- noon. If you are able to assist us at this time please complete the reply slip attached in this week’s edition of the Brigitiser.

You may be aware that our main courtyard has been transformed with 6 additional planter boxes and all of our garden beds have been enclosed with a short block wall. It is our aim to plant these areas later in the term with the onset of autumn. We look forward to this area being transformed by the end of 2013.

RELIGIOUS DIMENSION

Shrove Tuesday

The students enjoyed the pancakes prepared and cooked by the Parent Teams on Tuesday. A huge thank you to all the parents who gave up their time to help organise, cook, serve and clean up. Without the generosity of these parents who so kindly donate their time we would not be able to provide these fun activities for the students. It was great to see the Playgroup children and their parents join in with the pancake festivities! Thank you to Michael Dunkeld and Café Primo Munno Para/Lyndoch Bakery for donating the pancake mix once again this year. Your generosity is greatly appreciated.

Ash Wednesday

Wednesday marked the beginning of the Church’s’ season of Lent with our Ash Wednesday Liturgy and Mass. Lent begins with the signing of the ashes and ends with a celebration at Easter. On Ash Wednesday we remember the time Jesus entered the desert for 40 days to fast and to pray. Lent is a time when we are called to pray, to change our hearts and to grow closer to God. You are invited to take time during this season of Lent to reflect on how you can work towards making better choices at school and home. The liturgical colour for Lent is purple.

Parent Teams

The first Parent Team get together for 2013 is on Wednesday February 20 in the meeting room at 9.15am. EVERYONE is welcome as are toddlers and babies. (Entertainment provided for the children). The aim of the get together is to plan 2013 activities and fund raising events for items such as Advertising Boards for the outskirts of the school and other items identified by students, parents and staff which will benefit the growth of the school. New faces and new ideas are VERY welcome!

Year 7 Retreat:

Last Friday the year 7 students and teachers gathered at Faith Lutheran School in beautiful surroundings to begin the student’s final year at St Brigid’s with their School Retreat. We were blessed with beautiful weather and the presences of Dr Rupert Thorne who spoke to the students about what it is like to be a well-respected leader and the qualities needed. The students were engaged by Dr Thorne and we would like to sincerely thank him for his generosity and time spent talking to the students and staying for morning tea. Fr Brian Ahern also spent time talking to the students and working with a small group on one of the activities. The students had an opportunity to pray, reflect and build upon the relationships already established with their class peers and teachers. Thanks to the year 7 teachers for their dedication and organisation of the day.

The Year 7’s went on their first excursion for the year which was our retreat. We went to Faith College in Tanunda. We had a lot of speeches from Mr Bennett, Father Brian, Mrs White, Doctor Thorne and a few of the teachers. We also read a letter that someone in our family had written. Some people started getting emotional. We also had a prayer service. At the end we began to make rock mandalas

Zoe May and Connor Bennett (School Leaders) on behalf of Year 7 students.
Welcome Back.

The Resource Centre encompasses: the ICT/Computer Room; Library; Annexe; Literacy Centre; Teacher Resource Compactors; Adult Area and a small kitchenette.

Within these rooms wonders abound – computers, laptops; lexile readers; fiction & non-fiction areas; junior non-fiction; reference items; boxed books; graphic novels; new books; games and parent section.

Couches, cushions and chairs are provided for the comfort of all those who enter.

The library is a quiet, restful, relaxing, resourceful and safe place, where anyone and everyone is welcome - to read, study, dream, plan, talk, reflect, discuss, work, learn, imagine, collaborate, monitor, write, type, draw or just plain sit.

Please come and check out the exciting world at your Resource Centre.

Parent/Student Reading Challenge:
All that’s needed =
- come to library during non-class open hours (Monday - Thursday 8.30-8.50am, lunch + 3.00-3.40pm & Fridays 8.30-8.50am)
- read for 15 minutes with your child
- sign next to your child’s name in the Reading Challenge book
- complete this for twenty times during the year

Each child receives a Reading Challenge Certificate, at the End of School Assembly, with the chance to win a $50.00 book voucher.

Combine this with the Premier’s Reading Challenge.

Last year’s winner of the $50.00 book voucher was young Isaac Hillier - CoNGRaTU拉萨ioNS

Thank You very much to the wonderful
Jane Everett, who has been taking my classes for a few weeks. Her efforts have been very much appreciated.

Anna CTM White – Teacher/Librarian
Mandy Kennedy – Library Assistant

"Google can bring you back 100,00 answers, a librarian can bring you back the right one.”
Neil Gaiman

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Dear St Brigid’s Families,

New Price Lists/menu:
You should by now have received these, which were sent home with your eldest child on Friday. We are pleased that prices have not increased from 2012. Please note that we are offering two new food items, - Vegetarian Spring Rolls, and Chicken kebabs (Tandoori or Sweet Chilli), as well as a new carbonated Fruit Juice called “L.O.L.” which has the approval of the Canteen Association.

If you need any information on items sold please contact us and we will be happy to answer any questions. Likewise, if your child has any health issues related to food please advise us.

Canteen Volunteers urgently needed - If you are able to volunteer any time in assisting us to provide recess snacks and lunches to our students, please contact either Reception or Canteen staff. A current C.E.O. Police check is required and forms may be obtained from the office. Coffee/tea and a lunch of your choice is free for all volunteers. Help on Thursdays and Fridays is particularly needed.

Thank you
Kathy O’Reilly
Canteen Manager

Week 4                  Week 5                   Week 6
Monday 18th February - Alison Needham  Monday 25th February - Kylie Pellizzari  Monday 4th March - VOLUNTEER REQUIRED
Tuesday 19th February - Lani Childs     Tuesday 26th February - Jayne Fazzari    Tuesday 5th March - VOLUNTEER REQUIRED
Wednesday 20th February - CANTEEN CLOSED Wednesday 27th February - CANTEEN CLOSED Wednesday 6th March - CANTEEN CLOSED
Thursday 21st February - Brenda Cufone  Thursday 28th February - Lani Childs     Thursday 7th March—Jess O’Sullivan
Friday 22nd February - Karin Tiller     Friday 1st March - Liz Ninnes             Friday 8th March—PUPIL FREE DAY
St Brigid's Playgroup

Dear Families

My name is Franca Hall and I am the playgroup co-ordinator for St Brigid’s Catholic School. I am a qualified early childhood educator with 10 years experience working with children.

I would like to extend a warm invitation to families with young children to come to playgroup where I will provide a fun and safe learning environment that promotes personal growth and self esteem through play. It is also a good opportunity for parents and carers to meet other families.

When: Tuesdays
Time: 9.15 - 11.15
Where: St Brigid’s Community Centre (near the front office)

Cost: $3.00 per family - per visit
Age: 0 - 5
What to bring: Hat and a snack box
Tel: 85222099
fhall@stbrigidscatholic.edu.au

Xavier Saints Netball Club Registration Night

Thursday, March 7th 2013, 4pm to 7pm
at Gawler & Districts Netball Courts

Registration Fees to be paid on the night (can be negotiated if in writing)

Uniforms can be purchased with full payment required

Fees for Winter 2013 TBA

President: Daniel Roe - 0412155435
Vice-President: Brooke Chammen - 0431143051

Edmodo Parent Workshop

Thursday 21st February - 3:15pm
ICT Room
Facilitators: Dave Taylor and Brett Wood

This year our Middle School Classes are using Edmodo as an online learning platform.

Edmodo allows students to submit their work online, class teachers set projects, due dates and keep families up to date with assessment tasks. Edmodo also allows for communication between students, teachers and parents.

If you would like to learn more about this or would like an opportunity to set up your Edmodo account and ask some questions please come along.

RSVP: bwood@stbrigidscatholic.edu.au by Tuesday 19th February
ST BRIDGID’S CATHOLIC SCHOOL BOARD NOMINATION 2013

I ………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………
(Print name)

Would like to nominate ……………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………
(Nominee’s name)

For St Bridig’s Catholic School Board who has agreed to stand for election.

Signed: …………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………
(Nominee’s signature)

Signed: ………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………
(Your signature)

RECEIVING BRIGITISER ELECTRONICALLY

I ………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………
(Print name)

Would like to receive the Brigitzer electronically.

Email Address: ………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………

Signed: ………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………

Date: ……………………………

ST BRIDGID’S CATHOLIC SCHOOL WORKING BEE TERM 1 2013

I ………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………
(Print name)

Am able to assist with the school’s working bee on Saturday 6th April.

Parent’s Name: ………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………

Contact Number: ……………………………………………