LEADERSHIP NEWS
Thursday October 16th 2014 / Issue 17

DIARY DATES TO REMEMBER

Week 2
- Monday 20th October 7:00pm School Board Meeting
- Wednesday 22nd October 11:40am Grandparents Liturgy
- Friday 24th October 9:15am Community Prayer

Week 3
- Mon 27th - Wed 29th October 7:00pm School Board Meeting
- Monday 27th October 11:40am Reception Nicolai Liturgy
- Tuesday 28th October 9:15am Parent Team Meeting
- Wednesday 29th October 8:15pm ICT Meeting
- Thursday 30th October 9:15am Parent Team Meeting
- Friday 29th October 11:40am Reception Nicolai Liturgy
- Friday 31st October 7:00pm School Board Meeting

Environmental focus: This term we are working with our children to focus on the ‘Care For Our Environment’ element of our Personal Responsibility Expectations. Each classroom will have a designated area of the school to maintain to a high standard. We look forward to witnessing our children undertaking their roles enthusiastically and being proud of the environment that they create.

Catholic Schools Music Festival: Congratulations to our Festival Choir for their fantastic performance as part of the 2014 Catholic Schools Music Festival. It was an amazing showcase of the gifts and talents of our young people in Catholic schools over four nights at the Adelaide Festival Theatre. Thanks again to Mrs Megan Isaacson for preparing our children so well. Preparations for next year’s festival have begun in earnest. Photos of the event can be viewed at the Festival website http://musicfestival.cesa.catholic.edu.au

PAT Testing: In week 3 we will be undertaking our own annual whole school assessment utilising the Progressive Achievement Tests in Reading and Mathematics. This tool designed by the Australian Council Educational Research enables our staff to observe growth and areas of continued development for our children from Year 2 to Year 7.

CESA Re-imagining Childhood 0-18: We continue to explore this concept of the way we re consider our understanding of the needs, hopes, dreams, and challenges of our children. Among the many challenges we face as teachers and parents is to question and review the way we teach so that we can provide the best possible educational experience for our children. The educational experience most of us are familiar with stems from the industrial revolution model established some 200 years ago! While we may say it has served us well, consider this; what other critical area of life as we know it today uses systems or approaches that are 200 years old? We are grateful of the developments in medicine for example or the efficiency provided by the technological age. Therefore, like the changes we have seen that have made our lives healthier or easier, we ought to consider the possibilities of how we can re-imagine new ways of teaching, learning and discovery of knowledge not yet considered.

Should you wish to discover more about such possibilities, the Parents Federation is holding a workshop for families and educators alike entitled Re-imagining an education worth having What kind of school, what kind of educator and what kind of me for what image of the child? A presentation and workshop for parents/carers, students and educators. Keynote and Workshop with David Price. Further information is available from the flyer attached.

TERRIFIC Kids: This Friday we acknowledge the young people who have demonstrated the qualities associated with being a ‘TERRIFIC’ kid. We are grateful for the support of the Gawler Kiwan’s in promoting this initiative and to the Giannitto Family Hotel Group for the sponsorship of books. We are blessed to have many wonderful children at St Brigid’s who display these vital talents.

Staff Professional Development: We continue to admire and value the professional approach that our staff adopt in relation to their professional formation. Our Staff undertake our rigorous Professional Development Program with high levels of enthusiasm and an eagerness to reflect, review and respond to new opportunities which will support the learning of our children. In particular, staff continue to access learning in their own time and at their own cost and continually work collaboratively with their colleagues to share best practice. We are grateful to have such a committed team of educators responsible for the learning program at St Brigid’s.

ADMINISTRATIVE DIMENSION

New Lawn: Over the holiday break 300 m² of turf was laid on our oval to cover the remaining dirt patches. We are grateful for the diligence of Mr Richard Linsell who is our grounds contractor and has maintained our oval to a high standard for many years. We thank our children for their understanding in avoiding fenced off areas as we consolidate the growth of the new turf and anticipate that full access to our oval should be available in February 2015.

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LEARNING DIMENSION

Friday 31st October
9:15am Year 1/2SP Assembly
9:15am Parent Team Meeting
11:40am Reception Nicolai Liturgy
11:40am Community Prayer
7:00pm School Board Meeting

Monday 20th October
7:00pm School Board Meeting
11:40am Grandparents Liturgy
9:15am Community Prayer

Tuesday 28th October
8:15pm ICT Meeting
9:15am Parent Team Meeting

Wednesday 29th October
11:40am Reception Nicolai Liturgy
Canteen Puppets

Thursday 30th October
9:15am Parent Team Meeting

Friday 31st October
9:15am Year 1/2SP Assembly
Daniel Morcombe Day
ADMINISTRATIVE DIMENSION cont.

Satisfaction Surveys: One of our registration requirements is that we survey our school community each year to identify our strengths, areas of concern and possible opportunities for growth. Next week we will issue our families, children and staff with the 2014 Satisfaction Survey. Please consider participating in this process so that we can strengthen our practices to ensure St Brigid’s Catholic School continues to provide our students with a quality education experience.

Annual General Meeting: At our 2014 AGM we indicated that we would be holding our future AGM’s in November of each year. The aim is that this will enable us to review the current year in a timely manner and allow us to confirm community representation so that we commence each school year ready to work on our Strategic Direction. Amazingly, the time has quickly arrived for our next AGM which will be held on Monday 17th November in our School Chapel at 7pm. If you would like to offer your services as a School Board representative or you would like to nominate a person to represent you at this management level of the school, please use the attached form and return it to the Front Office by Monday 10th November. Please feel welcome to contact Mr Paul Bennett if you would like to discuss what the role entails and the commitment required to work with a group of dedicated parents, staff and Parish Priest to seek continual improvement at St Brigid’s Catholic School.

2015 School Board Nomination - Return to the Front Office by Monday 10th November.

I would like to nominate __________________________ for a 2015 School Board position.

I __________________________ accept this Board nomination.

______________________ Signature Nominator

______________________ Signature Nominee

Date

COMMUNITY DIMENSION

88Keys Appeal: Thank you to our ongoing supporters of this appeal. We are well on the way to reaching our minimum target with just under $6000 raised so far. Please share with your friends or contacts that may wish to contribute to this worthy cause. Keys can be purchased for $150 with donor’s names being permanently displayed in the MacKillop Arts Theatre foyer.

Brigid’s Bargains: Thank you to our team of parent volunteers for supporting our second hand uniform sales. Your support in assisting families find an alternative uniform solution is much appreciated. For new items please continue to see Leonie in the Uniform Office.

RELIGIOUS DIMENSION

Grandparents Day Liturgy: On Wednesday October 22 we will gather as a whole school in the SAMMAT to give thanks for our Grandparents. You are all invited to join us in celebrating the Liturgy at 11.40am followed by classroom visits. The students are extremely excited about showing their Grandparents all their wonderful classroom work. Prior to the Liturgy you are invited to join the staff for morning tea in the SAMMAT at 11am. An attendance slip can be found later in the newsletter and it would be appreciated if you could complete and return to your child’s class teacher by Monday October 20. We look forward to seeing as many Grandparents as possible attend.

Sacramental Program: Enrolment forms are now available from St Peter and Paul’s weekend Masses and St Brigid Catholic School Front Office for those wanting their children to participate in the Sacraments of Reconciliation, Confirmation and First Eucharist within the Gawler Catholic Parish. Children must be 7 years or older and be Baptised in the Catholic Faith.

An information night for Parents will be held in the chapel at St Brigid’s Catholic School on Wednesday 19th November at 7.00pm. Any queries please contact Andrea White 85222099 or Father Germano on 8522 1089.

Biannual Advent Carols: This year we celebrate our Biannual Advent Carols Evening on Friday November 28 beginning at 7pm. This is a compulsory school event and it is an expectation that all students attend. Over the coming weeks Class Teachers will inform you of costume /prop requirements and more formalities concerning where children are required to meet on the evening. Each class will be presenting a Christmas Carol and we look forward to viewing the creativity and talents of our students.

SCHOOL FEES

This week you would have received your final Fee Statement for the 2014 school year. If you are paying by the term, fees for this term should be paid by then end of week 2 (24th October). All accounts are to be finalized by FRIDAY 28th NOVEMBER, unless you have an alternative arrangement in place. If you would like to discuss your account please contact Jayne Clarke.
MADD WEEK: MADD (Music Arts Dance Drama) Week is fast approaching and will take place in Week 4 of Term 4. Students are invited to audition in music lessons during week 2 of Term 4. We will record each performance and the top 12 performances will be chosen to compete in The BRIGID Factor in Week 4. If your child is in year 3-7 and loves performing please encourage them to audition.

Dance Troupe: As mentioned in a previous newsletter, Ella Bria (Performing Arts Leader) and Lauren Sweet have choreographed a song, which is being taught to some year 5/6s. Our inaugural St Brigid’s Dance Troupe they will be special guests at our BRIGID Factor. If your child loves dancing they are very welcome to join us in the music room during recess on Tuesdays.

CSMF Choir: Congratulations to our Catholic Schools Music Festival Choir. They performed at the Festival theatre Monday 22nd September to a crowd of about 1500 people. I am extremely proud of both their performance and the way they have carried themselves throughout the whole experience.

Parental Support: We are looking to create a bank of parents who are skilled in areas that would support The Arts: musicians, actors, visual artists, make-up technicians, sound technicians and many others. In particular, parents who would be willing to use their skills to support our classroom music program and/or our yearly performances. If you would like to support our Performing Arts program please email me misaacson@stbrigids.catholic.edu.au and we can start the ball rolling.

Yours in music,
Megan Isaacson
Performing Arts Co-ordinator

Congratulations to Natalie and Imogen from Year 7T for being selected in the Gawler and District SAPSASA tennis team. They will be competing against other districts in Week 4 this Term.
We wish them both the best of luck.

The Canteen is urgently in need of more Volunteers.
If you have a current Catholic Police Clearance and are able to help out please contact Kathy on 8522 2801 or at koreilly@stbrigids.catholic.edu.au

Grandparents Day Liturgy

Child’s Name ................................................................. Class .................
Number of Grandparents attending ............

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<tr>
<th>Week 2</th>
<th>Week 3</th>
<th>Week 4</th>
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<tr>
<td>Monday 20th October - Volunteer Required</td>
<td>Monday 27th October - Volunteer Required</td>
<td>Monday 3rd November - Kylie Pellizzari</td>
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<td>Tuesday 21st October - Terri Banner</td>
<td>Tuesday 28th October - Volunteer Required</td>
<td>Tuesday 4th November - Jess Blown</td>
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<td>Wednesday 22nd October - Canteen Closed</td>
<td>Wednesday 29th October - Canteen Closed</td>
<td>Wednesday 5th November - Canteen Closed</td>
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<td>Thursday 23rd October - Charmaine Dos Santos</td>
<td>Thursday 30th October - Charmaine Dos Santos</td>
<td>Thursday 6th November - Megan Nagai</td>
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<td>Friday 24th October - Volunteer Required</td>
<td>Friday 31st October - Helen Agius</td>
<td>Friday 7th November - Natalie Damiani</td>
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Re-imagining an education worth having

What kind of school, what kind of educator and what kind of me for what image of the child?
A presentation and workshop for parents/carers, students and educators

Keynote and Workshop with David Price OBE

David Price OBE is a Senior Associate at the Innovation Unit, in England and internationally acclaimed Education Futurist.

David has led ground-breaking, education programs that have successfully re-engaged learners in thousands of schools in many countries including UK, Canada, Singapore and Australia. David has given keynote presentations all over the world and created hugely popular teaching resources.

In 2009, David was awarded the OBE, for services to education. His book “Open” has sold millions of copies around the world and highlights how we will live, work and learn in the future. He is currently in Australia working with AITSL on their learning frontiers program on practical strategies and tools to increase student engagement.

Twitter: @educationalarts @davidpriceoobe
Blog: Engaged Learning Blog

Presentation:

David will challenge us to re-think the way we interact, teach, and use social, formal and informal learning to engage children and young people in an education worth having.

We will explore the opportunities our ‘connected’ and ‘open’ world offers to best prepare children and young people for a future we cannot predict.

Workshop:

Partnerships between educators and parents and young people must be strong if we are to support children and young people to be engaged, successful and lifelong learners so they may experience the fullness of life in all its dimensions.

The workshop will explore:

❖ Our image of the child or young person as a learner?
❖ What young people consider is an education worth having?
❖ What learning looks like in schools today and how might it look in the future?
❖ How do we challenge attitudes, beliefs and behaviours that inhibit effective partnerships between parents and teachers and young people in learning and schooling?
❖ Ways and strategies of connecting to achieve the best outcomes for children and young people.

Details:

When: Monday 3rd November 2014
Time: 5.30pm to 8.30pm (light supper included)
Where: Catholic Education Conference Centre, 116 George Street, Thebarton SA
Cost: Educators, school & sector leaders: $50
Parents/carers & students Free

To book: Eventbrite

For more information call:

The Federation of Catholic School Parent Communities on telephone (08) 8301 6685
parentfederation.catholic.edu.au
ST AUGUSTINES PARISH SCHOOL
60th ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION
FRIDAY 24TH OCTOBER

ALL CURRENT AND OLD SCHOLARS, FAMILIES & STAFF
TOGETHER WITH THE SALISBURY CATHOLIC COMMUNITY
ARE INVITED AND WELCOME

From 2 pm: Hall open - historical journey of the school - come and view memorabilia - afternoon tea

2 pm - 3.15 pm: School Open - Tours available

6.00 pm: Whole School Mass followed by free Sausage Sizzle and celebrations on the oval, including Jumping Castle, Face Painting, etc

*** If you have any memorabilia to share, please contact Chris Ferrell at the school office (safe return assured) at abursar@saps.catholic.edu.au

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ROTARY CLUB OF GAWLER

YOUTH ART EXHIBITION

GAWLER VILLAGE FAIR
PIONEER PARK, GAWLER
SATURDAY 1ST NOVEMBER 2014

Open to all youth aged 5yrs to 18yrs

PRIZES:
President’s Choice................. $50

Each Age Section (5-9yrs, 10-14yrs & 15-18yrs)
First Prize................. $50
Second Prize.............. $25
Third Prize........ $10

Free entry!

ENTRIES CLOSE 5PM FRIDAY 24TH OCTOBER 2014
Due to space restrictions a limited number of entries will be accepted, so please submit your entry form early!

Entry forms available from:
- The Rotary Club of Gawler, PO Box 584, Gawler SA 5118
- Your School Reception Desk
- Country Office National Gawler / Gawler Library / Kornacraft
- jacqui.tye0886@schools.sa.edu.au phone: 0408891255
- davomo@bigpond.com phone: 0417827350