St Brigid’s Catholic School

The ‘BRIGITISER’

DIARY DATES TO REMEMBER

WEEK 6
- Monday 16th November: 7:00pm Annual General Meeting
- Wednesday 18th November: 9:00am Reception Transition Morning, 11:40am Year 1/2DN Liturgy
- Thursday 19th November: Children’s University Graduation
- Friday 20th November: Loud Shirt Day

WEEK 7
- Wednesday 25th November: 9:00am New Student Transition Morning, 11:40am Year 5WT Liturgy
- Thursday 26th November: Choir and Band Evening

REMEMBRANCE DAY: On Friday we will gather as a whole school to commemorate Remembrance Day. You are all welcome to join the students and staff in the SAMMAT at 9.15am for a Prayer Service of Remembrance and the recognition of our ANZAC commemoration mural.

Washing of Prayer Cloths: We are looking for volunteers to launder the prayer cloths used for Liturgies and Masses. The cloths vary in size and colour and over time have become quite dirty. If you are able to take a tub or two home to wash that would be greatly appreciated. Please contact Andrea White andreawhite@stbrigids.catholic.edu.au if you are able to assist.

Advent: Even though Advent does not begin until Sunday November 29th in the Church calendar, as a school community we begin preparing for the birth of Jesus a little earlier. Advent is the 4 weeks leading up to Christmas, the birth of Jesus. Advent is a time of waiting for Jesus to come. It is an exciting time. We are filled with anticipation and we prepare for God coming near to us in a special way. When we have a party, we prepare by sending out invitations, preparing games and food and songs so that when the party happens everyone has a wonderful time. We prepare for Jesus coming at Christmas during Advent. It is a time when we prepare our hearts, by looking inside ourselves and working out how to be the best version of ourselves that we can be. During Advent, we often give more of ourselves to others. We reach out as a reminder that God reaches out to us in Jesus. So, we might give money or things to those who don’t have as much as we do, or we might take extra special care of those we know and love, or we might simply try to be a better friend. Preparing can be as exciting as the actual event we are preparing for, if we really get into the spirit of it. While we reflect on God being near us, let us take a moment to think about how we can get ready for Jesus’ birthday.

ADMINISTRATION DIMENSION

School Board: Next week we will be holding our 2016 Annual General Meeting on Monday 16th November at 7pm in the School Chapel adjacent to the Front Office. This is an opportunity to review the highlights from the year and to identify the future directions of our school. It also enables us to seek nominations from our school community to volunteer their time, skills and knowledge for the benefit of our school family as a School Board member.

We meet on the third Monday of each month with meetings held between 7pm – 9pm. Membership on the School Board requires people to be willing to represent the views and opinions of our wider school community and discern the best direction to enable our children to access the best learning environment in Gawler. It is a two year term and board members are able to have a maximum of three terms (Total of 6 years).

If you would like to nominate yourself for the School Board I ask that you please complete the Nomination Form and return it to school by next Monday. Please consider how you can share your talents for the benefit of your child’s school. You are also invited to pass on questions with notice for the School Board to address at the AGM.

Water Retention Dam: The School Board has committed funds to modify our existing water retention dam over the Christmas holiday break. When the dam was constructed eight years ago, water was pumped into storage tanks adjacent the library and used in flushing our toilets. Over the course of these years the Creative Play Space was developed and subsequently the dam has become a ball magnet and potential safety risk for our children. Also, the liner has been damaged and the quality of the water has diminished. Therefore, we are constructing a 156,000 litre underground concrete tank. This will improve the quality of the water and increase the lawn space for our Early Years children. Over the coming weeks you will witness a temporary safety fence and initial earthworks preparing the base for the concrete tank. It is our aim that by next February we should see the new lawn area being established.

St Brigid’s Catholic School acknowledges the Kaurna people as the traditional custodians of the land upon which our school is situated.

Friday 13th November 2015 / Issue 19

LEADERSHIP NEWS

RELIGIOUS DIMENSION

Sacramental Program 2016: Enrolment forms are now available from Sr Peter and Paul’s weekend Masses and St Brigid’s Catholic School Front Office for those families wanting their children to participate in the Sacraments of Reconciliation, Confirmation and First Eucharist within the Gawler 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 25th November at 7.00pm. This night is compulsory for parents only of the sacramental candidates.

Any queries please contact Father Germano on 8522 1089 or Andrea White at andreawhite@stbrigids.catholic.edu.au.
LEADERSHIP NEWS  cont.

ADMINISTRATION DIMENSION

School Stream: Last newsletter we informed our community that we will be accessing the School Stream App to maximise opportunities to communicate between home and school. We are sending home further information regarding how to set up the app on your smart phone or device. I remind families that this app has the capacity to grow and develop over the coming years as we maximise its potential. Initially it will be useful to disseminate our newsletter, contact families via alerts and access our online canteen. Gradually, it is our intention to enable families to access class newsletters, reply to forms online, purchase uniforms online, receive information about relevant areas of interest for your child ie Instrumental Lessons, Sports News etc. Please see the attached flyer on how to download the app onto your mobile device. Feel welcome to contact Jasmine at the Front Office should you require assistance with accessing the School Stream App.

LEARNING DIMENSION

Transition Program: This week we welcomed the Reception children that will be joining our school community in 2016. It is always a heartening experience to view the trust that our families place in our school as they commence their association with St Brigid's. We encourage our existing children and families to make our new families feel welcome to our school. We trust that they will have a long and productive association with St Brigid's.

World Teacher’s Day: Last week World Teacher’s Day was celebrated. We are fortunate that we have a dedicated and hardworking team of teachers who are deeply committed to the children at St Brigid’s and their families. I regularly witness staff arriving early, leaving late and going above and beyond in their vocation to make a positive difference in the lives of their students. They are highly professional in their approach to their ongoing development and work collaboratively to enable the children to access a learning program which is engaging and meaningful. We thank God for our staff and are grateful that they are employed at our school. It is pleasing to hear affirming comments from families who appreciate their children’s teacher. I encourage you to take a moment to pat your child’s teacher on the back!

Reggio Conversations:

The following information relates specifically to the work carried out in infant toddler centres in Reggio Emilia. While the research of Lella Gandini focusses on the young child, it will help clarify the basic concepts and understandings of what a Reggio Inspired approach to learning looks like. Over the next three newsletters we will provide you with descriptions of these principles in short, easy to read chunks.

“The Image of the Child: All children have preparedness, potential, curiosity; they have interest in relationship, in constructing their own learning, and in negotiating with everything the environment brings to them. Children should be considered as active citizens with rights, as contributing members, with their families, of their local community. Children with special rights (rather than using the term special needs) have precedence in becoming part of an infant/toddler centre or preschool.”

“Children’s relationship and interactions within a system: Education has to focus on each child, not considered in isolation, but seen in relation with family, with other children, with teachers, with the environment of the school, with community and with the wider society. Each school is viewed as a system in which all these relationships, which are all interconnected and reciprocal, are activated and supported.

Documentation/Research Display:
From Wednesday 25th November of Week 7, there will be a display of our whole school research project findings as well as the research done by individual teachers as they explored the Reggio approach to learning in their classrooms this year. The display will be in place in the Chapel through to Friday 27th. We encourage you to take some time to view the work done together by teachers and children during 2015.

Performing Arts: Congratulations to all the children who performed in the MADD Week events last week. We certainly have some very talented young people in our midst. We should never take for granted the courage and the confidence required to put yourself out there in front of your peers. We acknowledge the effort of all contestants, and pay particular tribute to Will from Year 4 who won the Brigid’s Got Talent with a powerful rendition of “Let Me Entertain You”. We are encouraging children to take advantage of the opportunities presented to them and especially with the proposed programs in choir, vocal ensembles, band, drum corps and dance for 2016.

COMMUNITY DIMENSION

Parent Teams: We extend a big thankyou to the Parent Teams for their wonderful organisation and work that went into making the Quiz Night a great success. We also thank the parents and staff who attended. Without them we would not have raised $3559.34 that will go towards providing shade for our playground areas. A terrific community effort!

Don’t forget
Loud Shirt Day next
Friday 20th November
**Gold coin donation**

2015 School Fees
Just a reminder that 2015 school fees are due by Friday 27th November.
For any further information please contact Jayne Clarke on 8522 2099
**St Brigid's Canteen Volunteer Roster**

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<td>Monday 16th Nov</td>
<td>Monday 23rd Nov</td>
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<td>Volunteer Needed</td>
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<td>Tuesday 17th Nov</td>
<td>Tuesday 24th Nov</td>
<td>Tuesday 1st Dec</td>
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<tr>
<td>Terri Banner</td>
<td>Tina Ridenti</td>
<td>Charmaine Dos Santos</td>
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<td>Wednesday 18th Nov</td>
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<td>Wednesday 2nd Dec</td>
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<td>Canteen Closed</td>
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<td>Thursday 19th Nov</td>
<td>Thursday 26th Nov</td>
<td>Thursday 3rd Dec</td>
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<td>Natalie Damiani</td>
<td>Leanne Cotter</td>
<td>Charmaine Dos Santos</td>
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<td>Friday 20th Nov</td>
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<td>Volunteer Needed</td>
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**2016 School Board Nomination - Return to the Front Office by Monday 16th November.**

I would like to nominate _____________________________________________________ for a 2016 School Board position.

I ________________________________________________________ accept this Board nomination.

______________________________             ______________________________
Signature Nominator            Signature Nominee

**Questions with notice for AGM**

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____________________________________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________________________________

Name: __________________________

**Sports News Apology**: Last edition of the newsletter, I reported SAPSASA Athletics News and missed out Charlie B. Charlie finished second in the relay contributing to Gawler & Districts overall win.

**Keep your kids smiling**

Dental care is FREE for most school-aged children and ALL preschool children at the School Dental Service. All babies, children and young people 0-17 years are welcome to attend. School Dental Service clinics are open during the Christmas school holiday break. Phone your local School Dental Service clinic now for an appointment.


**Open Door Christian Community Bookshop**

Christmas stock is now arriving at the Open Door Christian Community Bookshop in the Gawler Arcade. Affordable cards, calendars, nativity sets, gifts and decorations which reflect the true meaning of Christmas. Please come in and browse. Thank you and Merry Christmas to all who have
St Brigid’s ANZAC Commemoration Mural

St Brigid’s Got Talent
Your school now has a **FREE** app

Receive school information, instantly and directly to your smartphone

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**How to download your FREE app**

1. From your mobile device go to the **App Store (iPhone/iPad)** OR **Google Play (Android)** search for **School Stream** and download the app to your phone

2. Make sure you agree to **push notifications**

3. Once School Stream has finished installing, open the app, type your school name into the search **THEN** select your school