Dear Families

We welcome you to St Brigid’s Catholic School for 2016. It has been a productive holiday with the installation of a 160,000 litre concrete tank (Replacing the old retention dam) and the establishment of our OSHC facility. Likewise, our regular annual maintenance work has been undertaken and all classroom carpets have been steam cleaned and windows washed. We seek your support in four weeks’ time to assist us in planting lawn over the new concrete tank. This will ensure our junior students have greater oval space in Term 2.

We also take this opportunity to welcome the following children and their families to St Brigid’s: Isabella A, Rylan, Lilly, Lucas, Philippa, Thomas B, Madison B, Ruby, Alexis, Dakoda, Jemison, Lilah, Charlotte, Mahlia, Noah, Zayne, Makennah, Siena, Matilda, Samuel, Kira, Noah, Lily, Travis, Arlen, Lachlan, Samuel G, Brooklyn, Mackenzie, Serena, Lara, Cooper, Abigail, Calvin, Izzabella, Makayla, Jackson, Nathan, Indianna, Angelina, Noah L, Charles, Lili, Jayda, James, Joshua, Kaylee, Rylie, Harper, James M, Liana, Miyuki, Adriana, Jake, Memphis, Amos, Harriet, Abbie, Lilly S, Dina, Ivy, Lachlan S, Tayla, Sienna S, Sienna Sz, Xavier, Domenique, Emme, Christopher, Sarah, Maddison and Gabriel.

We also introduce the following staff members to our school:

Teachers: Mrs Cameron (3B), Mrs Brammy (6/7A), Mr DeIeso (Studies of Asia, 4/5B & 4/5C) and Mrs Radomski (6/7C).

Education Support Officers: Mrs Kuzniecow and Mrs Vandermyle

OSHC Staff: Miss Anders, Mrs Brooke, Miss Cole, Mrs Dos Santos, Mrs Folland, Miss Hemmerling and Miss Patterson.

We trust that you will make them feel welcome and quickly immerse them in the wonderful spirit of the St Brigid community.

LEARNING DIMENSION

Studies of Asia & Music

Whilst Ibu Cammiss remains on leave for a further 12 months, students will be participating in Studies of Asia in 2016. There is a small language component within this curriculum area with a major focus on culture. Our Year 4 - 7 students will have 2 lessons a week for a semester whilst our Reception - Year 3 children will have 1 lesson per week for the whole year. This same structure will apply to our Music classes.

Learning to Learn

Over the first three weeks of the term, class teachers will be focussing on a program of getting to know their children and helping children learn the habits of effective learning. We are calling this Learning to Learn “Habits of Learners”. The three week process will entail focussing on our school vision theme of connected, collaborative and creative learners.

Week 1 - Will focus on the Connected Learner

Teachers will look at potential topics of Brain Neuroplasticity, Fixed and Growth Mindset, Positive Education-strengths, Health &PE, What’s the Buzz Care for Self, Care for Environment, MITIOG-Being Human. An important aim will be, how do we encourage our children to feel and become so connected to the idea of learning that they come to acknowledge their role in creating and maintaining a positive learning environment?

Week 2 - Collaborative Learner – How do I get along with others? How do I contribute to a community? Using examples of the wider community emphasising the importance of collaboration in the quest of the common good.

Week 3 - Creative Learner- looking at, what is creativity? What kind of learner am I? Potential topics can include DeBonos Thinking Hats, Thinkers Keys, Blooms, Learning Style Profiles. We will discuss that a creative learner is not only someone who is good at the arts but emphasise the concept that creativity is demonstrated in every aspect of learning activity. “Creativity is an original idea that has value....” Professor Ken Robinson. The three weeks will conclude with a ‘Grow your Mind Day’ where children will spend a day experiencing activities that are new or out of their comfort zone. More details will follow.

ADMINISTRATION DIMENSION

OSHC SERVICE: As many of you would be aware, this week saw the start of our new St. Brigid’s Catholic School Out of School Hours Care / Vacation Care service. After a thorough and detailed process we are pleased to announce the opening of the service to families in our community. Ms Rachel Brooke is the OSHC Director who will lead a team of dedicated staff to ensure quality care for your children. For enrolment and further details please contact the service on 0466516979.
ADMINISTRATIVE DIMENSION cont.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION: Early School arrival and late pick up: We remind families that the normal school supervision time begins at 8.25am and that after school supervision concludes at 3.40pm. If your child arrives at school before 8.25am or is not collected after 3.40pm then they will be taken to the OSHC service until normal supervision begins in the morning and you collect your child in the afternoon. A ‘short stay’ fee of $5 will be charged to families for this service commencing from the start of Week 3. This is to ensure that costs for correct supervision ratios are met.

Should you find that you require the use of the service on a more regular basis, we ask you to enrol your child by completing the relevant forms. Thank you for your understanding and anticipated support in following these procedures.

School Drop Off/ After School Pick Up: We encourage our new and existing families to familiarise yourself with the attached parking maps as to the correct procedures for drop off and pick up in our two zones. It is imperative for the safety of all concerned, but especially our children, that you follow the procedures outlined. Every school has to contend with the busyness of drop off and pick up and we encourage parents to be patient and gracious while dropping off or waiting to collect children. In brief;

Car Park: Parents are to park their vehicle walk to collect children. PLEASE do not ask children to come unsupervised to your vehicle as this places your child at risk. Do not park in the slip way lane and leave your vehicle as buses use this to collect children. In the morning this area becomes a ‘kiss and drop’ and parents must not leave vehicles.

Pick up zone: Parents collecting children on the school side of Para Road must line up and move to the RED collection zone where duty teachers will direct children to vehicles. Please be mindful of moving as far along this zone as you can and not park in front of the pickup gate, especially at peak times. Parking and leaving your vehicle is only permitted on the southern side of Para Road.

PLEASE NOTE: Parking along the Gawler Park Shopping Centre Service road is allowed by the generosity of the Centre management. We ask that you please respect this space and be mindful of delivery vehicles servicing these businesses. Ensure that you keep access clear for these vehicles. Under the private parking regulations, the management may choose to disallow us the use of their parking space.

It is crucial that parents pass on this information to family members ie grandparents, so that they do not receive a parking infringment notice from Gawler Council due to parking incorrectly.

School Hats: Please be aware that your child’s Christian name can be embroidered on the outside of their hat at Impress Promotions in Gawler Park Shopping Centre at an additional cost of $8.00 per hat. Parents will need to arrange this embroidery.

School Stream App: It is pleasing to hear that many families are accessing the School Stream app. One of the reasons for accessing the app is to reduce our reliance on paper and to ensure efficient communication with our families. Can you please indicate via email to Jasmine jzawitkowski@stbrigids.catholic.edu.au that you are utilising the app so that we can determine the best way to contact our families. Attached to this newsletter is a document highlighting how to download the app and how to modify notifications so that you only receive alerts for the aspects that relate to your child’s learning ie if you are not a DSTA family/ or are not involved in the Playgroup you can turn off notifications related to these areas. If you are unsure please contact Jasmine on 8522 2099.

RELIGIOUS DIMENSION

May the mantle of your peace cover those who are troubled and anxious, and may peace be firmly rooted in our hearts and in our world. Inspire us to act justly and to reverence all God has made.

Brigid you were a voice for the wounded and the weary. Strengthen what is weak within us.

Calm us into a quietness that heals and listens. May we grow each day into greater wholeness in mind, body and spirit.

Amen.

St. Brigid’s Feast Day is February 1st.

Family Mass: This Sunday is the first Family Mass at Ss Peter & Paul Catholic Church for the year. All families are invited to attend and celebrate the Eucharist with the Parish Community. Mass begins at 10am. Hope to see you there.

Ash Wednesday: This Wednesday is Ash Wednesday. While not a day of obligation, Mass and the Imposition of Ashes will be at 11.40am in the SAMMAT. You are all welcome to join in this Eucharist Celebration which will be the first whole school gathering for 2016.

Food tree: We are once again inviting families to become involved in our school community Food Tree. The Food Tree has been established to assist and support families who may find themselves in need of meals due to illness in the family or other unforeseen circumstances. If you would like to become involved in the 2016 Food Tree group please email Andrea White andrewwhite@stbrigids.catholic.edu.au indicating your willingness to prepare meals for families in need within our school community. Your involvement is confidential and once you have indicated your interest in being involved you will be notified when food is needed. In anticipation of your support, thankyou. In the past we have had several families experience trauma in some way and it has been the support of the Food Tree Group that has assisted in these times of grief or sadness.

Sacramental candidates: Just a reminder that the next Sacramental Meeting for the Sacramental Candidates and their families is on Wednesday February 17 at 7pm in the chapel.
COMMUNITY DIMENSION

Shrove Tuesday: We are grateful to our Parent Team for coordinating student pancakes next Tuesday 9th February. If you are available to assist with cooking and distributing pancakes to classes next Tuesday between 9am - 11am and have a current police clearance please contact Mr Gennaro Mannella to indicate your availability and willingness to assist. If you do not wish your child to receive a pancake could you please inform your child’s class teacher.

Parent Teams: We encourage all parents to become involved in the life of the school in whatever way they can. The school Parent Team would welcome your generosity of time to support various events throughout the year. The team meets twice a term on Thursdays in weeks 3 and 7 from 9am – 10am in the Meeting Room. Attendance at meetings is not essential, however your indication of support can be provided through the front office. This is a great way to become involved in our school community and get to know other families across the school while supporting the fund and fun raising efforts of the school. The first meeting for the year is on Thursday 18 February.

School Fee Statements/School Card Applications
Families will receive this year’s school fee accounts for Semester One by post. If you have not received your account by next Tuesday would you please contact the school to confirm that we have your correct postal address. You will be provided with an ANNUAL STATEMENT as well as a SEMESTER ONE INVOICE. If paying by the term (quarterly) or by the Semester, fees are due to be paid by Friday 12th February. FEES ARE TO BE PAID IN FULL BY FRIDAY 25TH NOVEMBER 2016.

Applications are now available for families to apply for School Card. Please note that school fees cannot be credited until we receive notification of your eligibility from DECS. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions regarding school fees.

Jayne Clarke - Bursar

DIARY DATES TO REMEMBER

WEEK 2
Sunday 7th February 10:00am Family Mass
Tuesday 9th February Shrove Tuesday
Wednesday 10th February 11:40am Ash Wednesday Mass
Friday 12th February Year 7 Retreat

WEEK 3
Mon 15th - Wed 17th February 3 Way Learning Conference
Monday 15th February 7:00pm School Board Meeting
Thursday 18th February 9:00am Parent Team Meeting
Friday 19th February Grow Your Mind Day

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St Brigid's Canteen Volunteer Roster

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<td>Monday 8th Feb</td>
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<td>Monday 22nd Feb - Volunteer Needed</td>
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<td>Tuesday 9th Feb</td>
<td>Tuesday 16th Feb - Volunteer Needed</td>
<td>Tuesday 23rd Feb - Corinne Dwyer</td>
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<td>Wednesday 10th</td>
<td>Wednesday 17th Feb - Canteen Closed</td>
<td>Wednesday 24th Feb - Canteen Closed</td>
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<td>February</td>
<td>Thursday 18th Feb - Leanne Cotter</td>
<td>Thursday 25th Feb - Angela O’Connell</td>
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<td>Friday 12th Feb</td>
<td>Friday 19th Feb - Volunteer Needed</td>
<td>Friday 26th Feb - Helen Agius</td>
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Second Hand Uniform Shop

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Dear Families,

Parking spaces around schools are always at a premium. The 20 minute traffic bottleneck in the morning and afternoon are periods of extreme caution for road users and pedestrians. **We urge you to be patient during these times.**

Our priority must be the **safety** of our children and family members. We also have an obligation to follow road laws and to adopt a **courteous** approach to other road users and local residents. As a valued member of our school community I seek your support of the parking regulations around our school in order to maintain the highest standard of **safety**. Together we need to ensure that the signs and symbols located around our school site are adhered to. Parking on footpaths is against the law. We have added a ‘**15 Minute Only**’ park to support families during the day to quickly access the Front Office.

**Please consider the role you can play in promoting a ‘Safe School’ at St Brigid’s Catholic School.**

Kind regards,

Paul Bennett
PRINCIPAL
‘Kiss & Collect’ Parking Expectations

- Please keep moving slowly forward
- Children will only enter vehicles:
  - from the kerb side
  - from the ‘red’ footpath zone

Please do not queue to enter the ‘Kiss & Collect Zone’. This blocks traffic!
Proceed forward and enter the ‘turn around zone’ on the Shopping Centre side and proceed back around the roundabout to collect your child/ren.

Thank you for driving safely to protect our children.
This Workshop is a priority for all families who allow their children to bring an ipad to school as part of our BYOD program. We can not stress highly enough how important it is for families to attend this Workshop. A morning and evening workshop have been provided to ensure the maximum number of families can attend. The feedback from our previous workshop 3 years ago highlighted how vital it is for families and staff to closely monitor children’s access to online communities. **It is our expectation that over 95% of families would attend.** Please rsvp to Jasmine at jzawitkowski@stbrigids.catholic.edu.au

**PARENTS & CARERS TALK:**
Protecting young people online

**BRENT HEDLEY**
Monday 22 February, 9.00am (90min) or 7.00pm (90min)
St Brigid’s Catholic School, Evanston

*Brent Hedley is a trusted online safety specialist who works with school communities to offer practical, positive and evidenced-based strategies to parent and carers.*

Themes covered on this evening will include:

- Increasing community awareness about contemporary safety online issues/ new social media matters
- Skills to establish settings on devices to increase safety/self-protection
- Strategies to handle unsafe online situations
- Practical ways to ensure children can keep themselves safe whilst online
- How to maintain open dialogue between families, children, school re positive digital behaviours

Please join us for an evening of insight and relevant, practical information, with Q&A opportunities to conclude.

This event is free and open to anyone who would like to attend. Contact the school to confirm attendance.

To learn more about Brent, including his professional experiences, visit wellbeingplustechology.com.au
Dear Parents/Caregivers

Children’s University Australia

We would like to invite any students in Years 3-7 to be involved in ‘Children’s University Australia’. In partnership with The University of Adelaide, we aim to raise aspirations and develop a life-long love of learning whereby students can appreciate that learning happens anywhere, any time and anyhow. Last year we ran the program successfully with 30 students and this year with parental support we are offering it to primary students. Children’s University provides enrichment and extension opportunities for your child whilst at St Brigid’s Catholic School.

The aim of Children’s University Australia is to engage with the wider community as learning partners, providing high quality out of school activities. An important principle of The Children’s University is that participation is voluntary and it is intentionally something other than school. Activities must take place outside the normal school day ie, during recess, lunch, after school, weekends and holidays. St Brigid’s will offer a number of opportunities for students during the school year. They should also take advantage of the many outside school validated activities such as museum, art gallery programs and more.

Students participating will be issued with a ‘Passport to Learning’ which records their individual learning journey. They accumulate hours of learning and are rewarded for their participation with certificates at a full graduation ceremony to be held at the University of Adelaide in November.

The cost of joining Children’s University is $25 which covers the passport, cost of activities provided at school and the graduation ceremony and BBQ. If your child is interested in being involved in this exciting partnership please fill in the permission slip below and return to the office with $25 by Friday 19th of February. The children will be welcomed during the Week 5 assembly on Friday March 4th.

An information session for students who want to find out more or who are interested will be offered on Monday 15th February at 1.00pm in the library. The website with more details is https://www.adelaide.edu.au/childrensuniversity/

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me on Mondays or Tuesdays at school.

Yours sincerely

Julie Hancock
Learning Coach/Children’s Uni Coordinator
jhancock@stbrigidscatholic.edu.au

Attention: Julie Hancock

I __________________________ give permission for __________________________ to be involved in Children’s University for 2016. I understand that this is a voluntary program offered in partnership with St Brigid’s Catholic School. I have included $25 to cover the cost of the program.

Contact email for Children’s Uni communication: __________________________

Signed: __________________________
St Brigid's Playgroup

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. The children will have the opportunity to experience a range of table top and outdoor activities as well as stories and songs. Playgroup is a great place for parents, grandparents, carers and children to meet new families and form great friendships.

Commencing Dates
Tuesday the 9th February (Week 2)

All welcome

St Brigid's Catholic School
Para Road, Evanston
South Australia 5116

Further information
Franca Hall: fhall@stbrigidscatholic.edu.au

Where
St Brigid's Community Centre
(across from the Front Office)

What to bring
Hat, drink flask and a snack box

Cost
$4.00 per family - per visit

Time
9.00 - 11.00am

Age
0 - 5
FREE school app
Receive school information, instantly and directly to your smartphone

How to get the School Stream app on your mobile device

1. From your mobile device go to the App Store (iPhone/iPad) or Play Store (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. For more detailed instructions go to schoolstream.com.au/download
4. Are your children attending different schools? Tap the school selector, select add a school, type the school name into the search then add. Jump between your children's schools by touching the school name/logo in the top blue bar, or switch schools from the slide-in menu.

Choose what notifications you receive

1. Open the School Stream app on your mobile device
2. From the slide-in menu, go to Settings
3. Under Edit/Alerts select My Schools and select your School to open the Notifications page
4. Toggle notifications on or off individually (e.g. Alerts, Events, Newsletters, etc.)
5. When you have finished, use the Back button to return to the Settings page, then select Done to return to your School

Return at any time to change the notifications you receive.

Don't have a smartphone?

If you don't have access to a smartphone and require information to be delivered via traditional methods (printed notices & email), please fill out the form below and submit it to the school office.

Family name: ____________________________

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Please indicate the reason:

☐ I don't have access to a smartphone (e.g. iPhone, Android, etc.)
☐ I prefer not to receive information from the school on my smartphone
☐ Other (please specify) ____________________________