



St Brigid's School Newsletter

03 February 2021



www.stbrigid's.school.nz

Dear Parents and Caregivers

A very warm welcome to the 2021 school year and a very special welcome to those families new to our school community. It is always exciting to start a new year, with all the hopes, dreams and possibilities it holds. There was an air of excitement this morning with our children (and relief with our parents!) as they settled into their new classes, re-established old friendships, started making new ones and got to know their teacher. It was a very positive way to start the year.

Organisation - This year we have no new staff members. The school will be organised as follows:

Team Tahī/1 – Year 0/2 - Chantal Keene, Angela Sheldon (Team Leader), Nicky James, and Christine Strawbridge (Rooms 1 – 4)

Team Rua/2 – Year 3/4 - Lorna Webb (Team Leader), Erin Brennan and Monika Goel (Rooms 8 – 10)

Team Toru/3 – Year 5/6 - Amanda Prowse (Team Leader), Fiona D'Souza and Bryony Waterman (Rooms 5 – 7)

Team Wha/4 – Year 7/8 – Tania Fransen, Janet Valentine (Team Leader) and Ben Stokes (Rooms 12 – 14)

Part time teachers who do release across the school are Sarah Mayo and Bianca de Leon (maligayang pagdating Bianca)

SENCO - Pauline Sharp will continue to support our students with diverse needs and will be working three days a week in this role

We are very fortunate to have a brilliant team of support staff who work alongside teachers to support students and programmes of learning.

Student Support Team are:

Bridget Laws, Giselle Gomes, Suzanne Dobbs, Debbie McGrail, Maria Walters and Mary-Therese Nalder who work mostly with individuals in Teams Tahī and Rua

Learning Support Team are:

Jordyn O'Keefe (Team Rua) Pilar Lannon (Team Toru/Wha)

Administration Team are:

Lynne Candiliotis (Mrs C), Denise Govind and Debbie Nguon (Librarian)

Senior Management Team are:

Linda Birch (Principal), Fiona Kearns (DP and Curriculum Leader) and Amanda Prowse (Senior Leader)

We are very fortunate to have Matt Witty back with us for the first few weeks of the year teaching in Room 12. Tania Fransen will be rejoining us in March.

Please make sure you read the rest of this newsletter as there are some important dates and information.

Let us pray for a more settled and positive year than we had last year.

God Bless

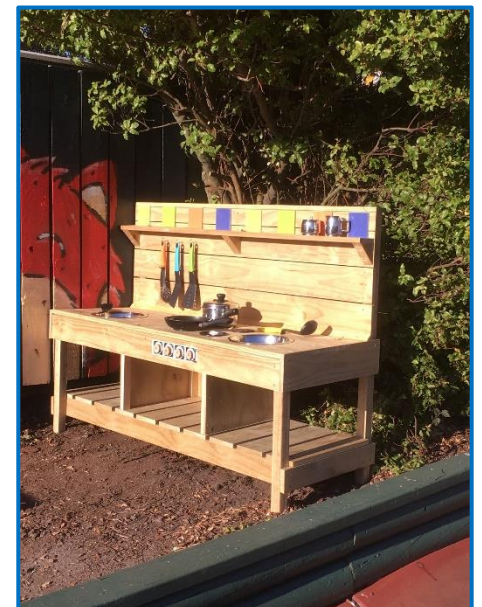
Linda

Learning together with strength of character and gentleness of heart



What's New - A few people commented at the end of last year, that the school was looking a bit 'tired' and I would have to agree. So, over the holidays it had a bit of a face lift!

Below are pictures of some of the work that has been done. This has included a repaint of all our fences, seats, steps etc; the painting of our two storey block so that all our buildings look the same; an amazing mural by the junior playground that really brightens it up; a face lift for the house frame to make it more child friendly; a new mud kitchen for our juniors to use during play based learning (takaro ako), a really good garden pruning, the sail cloth installed, sand put in the sandpit and a temporary cover put on it.



Still to come is a proper sandpit cover, line marking of our courts, a new basketball hoop and of course the new area of playground/fitness equipment that is due to be installed in April.

Learning together with strength of character and gentleness of heart





Sadly, we also had some damage done over the holiday. Johnsonville had a large amount of tagging right across our community, including severe tagging/graffiti at the other local schools. We have painted over some of it, washed off some of it and sanded other bits.

There is a small amount remaining and we are getting advice from the WCC's dedicated graffiti unit on how to remove this.

We also had a mystery that someone may be able to enlighten us about. The padlock to the main gate on Dr Taylor Drive was hacksawed off and left hanging, but then a new padlock was put on the chain.

Unfortunately, the new one was locked, and no one knows who has the key (presumably the person who put the new padlock on!). If you are able to shed any light on this, we would be grateful.

Thank you to the parents and neighbours who kept an eye on the school and alerted us when there was a problem.

Thank you also to the people who donated drop sheets for the fence painting, they were really appreciated. They are currently all in the medical room. If you would like yours back, please call in and pick them up. Remaining sheets will be stored for any future work.

KEY DATES TO NOTE ON YOUR CALENDAR

Further details can be found through this link [School Calendar](http://www.stBrigid's.school.nz) on the website (www.stBrigid's.school.nz)

Team Wha	Tues 16 Feb Fri 19 Feb	Year 8 Camp
Other Events	Fri 5 Feb	Welcome Liturgy Sts Peter & Paul Church 2.15pm
	Mon 8 Feb	Waitangi Day – no school
	Mon 22 Feb	BOT meeting 6.00pm
	Thurs 25 Feb	Meet Eat & Greet 5.00 – 7.00pm at St Brigid's School

St Brigid's Welcome Liturgy



You are warmly invited to our Beginning of the Year Welcome Liturgy at Sts Peter & Paul Church this **Friday 5 February** at **2.15pm**

Meet, Eat and Greet

On **Thursday 25 February** we are having a **community picnic/BBQ at school**. Bring your dinner along, have a chat to teachers, pop in and see your child's classroom and catch up with other school families. It is also a good opportunity for parents to meet and welcome new families into our school.

It's a **5.00pm start** and we invite families to bring a picnic, takeaways or use the school BBQ to cook on.



Road Patrol Parent Helpers Needed

The roads around school just keep getting busier and we really want to keep our students safe as they arrive and leave school each day. Our student road patrollers do a fantastic job and give their time willingly, but they have to be supervised by an adult while on road patrol duty.

We operate 2 road patrols each morning from 8:40-9:00am (Phillip Street and Frankmoore Ave) and 3 in the afternoon from 2:55-3:15pm (Phillip St, Frankmoore Ave and Dr Taylor Tce).

We would love to hear from any parents who are able to volunteer 20 minutes for one morning or afternoon each week for the rest of the term to go on a roster to help with road patrol supervision. If you are able to help, we would very much appreciate it.

Please email Amanda Prowse on amanda@stbrigids.school.nz if you would like to find out more or are able to help us out. Thanks heaps!

St Brigid's Facebook Group

We have a school Facebook group, 'St Brigid's School, Johnsonville 2021' for parents and caregivers to join as another way of keeping people informed of news and events at school, It is a private group so if you would like to join please click on this link

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/1428952763904874>



Dental Van at St Brigid's Term 1

The Dental van will be at school this term. Once your child has been seen they will be given a letter that may include details of another appointment which will be mailed to your home address.

Monday School Lunch Orders Currently Unavailable

Monday school lunch orders are currently unavailable as we do not have a lunch order provider.

We will keep you updated if this service becomes available again.

