



St Brigid's School Newsletter

16 March 2021



www.stbrigid's.school.nz

Dear Parents and Caregivers

Near the beginning of each year the school invites parents, careers and students to meet with their child's teacher to discuss how children can be supported to realise their potential as a learner.

Learning occurs throughout life and is NOT a passive activity. To be a learner you must bring with you a set of skills and dispositions that empower you to absorb information, change thinking and behaviours and increase skills and knowledge.

Before formal, academic learning can take place children need to be in a place of 'readiness'. The key competencies, which are a huge focus in a child's first seven years, build the foundations for learning.

The key competencies are -

- Thinking
- Understanding Language, Symbols and Texts
- Managing Self
- Participating and Contributing
- Relating to Others

Whakawhiti Korereore (Communicating/Make Conversation) will be happening next week on Wednesday and Thursday evenings to talk about how your child can be supported to become an active and effective learner. These meetings are similar to the goal setting meetings but will have a bigger focus on the Key Competencies and Learning Dispositions.

Whakawhiti Korereore (Communicating/Make Conversation)

Parent/teacher/student Whakawhiti Korereore are being held on **Wednesday 24 and Thursday 25 March.**

The online booking system is now open at www.schoolinterviews.co.nz and the code to use is **bsy5m**

Please select a time that is convenient for **you and your child** to meet with their teacher. The online **booking system will be closed at 8.00am on Wednesday 24 March.**

If you need to make an appointment after this time, please call the office on 478 6516.

God Bless

Linda



St Brigid's Annual Plan

Below is our schools vision statement (and an explanation of what it means) and a summary of our Annual Plan Goals that link to the vision

"Learning together with strength of character and gentleness of heart"

A vision statement gives our school a clear and common purpose under which to grow and flourish. It reflects the ethos of the school and underpins decisions and goals.

St Brigid was known for her **strength of character and gentleness of heart**. These are qualities that we know are important for all of us to develop and 'live'. They encompass our values of love, faith, courage and inclusiveness and grow in children integrity (strength of character) and kindness (gentleness of heart). They are the focus for developing the 'whole person'

The key purpose of school is **learning** – not just academic learning, but learning how to relate positively to others, learning about the world around us and our place in it, learning to take risks, persevere, develop courage and resilience. We learn about our spiritual selves and how God, through the life modelled by Jesus, helps us become our best selves. In our community we are all learners. We build a positive learner mindset for students and adults at St Brigid's School.

Our vision is for us to be a collaborative community where we work **together**, in partnership, for the good of ALL our children. We know that we are all stronger when we work together, than trying to achieve things on our own.

<p>Goal 1 Our Learners</p>	<p>Teachers will improve consistency and collaboration in how we work together</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Developing an "our children" mindset<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Planned cross school programmes➤ Whole school moderation➤ Cross teams within our school QLC twice a term● Ensuring that team structures are strengthened to meet the needs across the school<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Review and align existing Team structures <p>Review Meeting structures to ensure they align with Team structures and the vision of the school.</p>
<p>Goal 2 Our Community</p>	<p>To understand and consistently model the St Brigid's School vision</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Develop links with Iwi, particularly manawhenua, to ensure that our vision is sound<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Board engaged with appropriate representative of Te Ati Awa➤ Broaden opportunities for students to learn, participate and understand about our dual culture● Actively engaged community who are empowered, valued and with a strong sense of belonging<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Building strong communication processes for sharing information about the school and student achievement➤ Providing opportunities for us to learn as a community about things important to us.



<p>Goal 3</p> <p>Our Curriculum</p>	<p>Embed the St Brigid’s curriculum that provides students with rich learning opportunities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Continue to design, imbed and review our localised curriculum, developing learning pathways for all akonga <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Create shared understanding of our local curriculum with stakeholders ➤ Further develop appropriate student agency across the school ➤ Ensure our Catholic Character is highly visible within our curriculum ➤ Strong relationships with transition partners eg ECE, colleges ➤ Cultural, sporting and arts programmes that enrich learning ➤ Monitoring the introduction of cohort entry.
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KEY DATES TO NOTE ON YOUR CALENDAR		
Further details can be found through this link School Calendar on the website (www.stBrigid’s.school.nz)		
Team Tahi	Fri 26 Mar	Team Tahi Assembly Johnsonville Community Centre 2.00pm
Team Rua	Fri 19 Mar	Team Rua Assembly Johnsonville Community Centre 2.00pm
Other Events	Wed 24 & Thurs 25 Mar	Whakawhiti Korereo (Communicating/Make Conversation)
	Mon 29 Mar	BOT meeting 6.00pm
	Thurs 1 April	Holy Week Liturgy Ss Peter & Paul’s Church
	Fri 2 Apr – Tues 6 Apr	Good Friday – Easter Tuesday School Closed
	Wed 7 Apr	Teacher Only Day School Closed
	Thurs 8 Apr	Easter/Resurrection Liturgy Ss Peter & Paul’s Church
	Fri 16 Apr	End of Term 1 – School finishes at 2.00pm

	<p style="text-align: center;">We warmly welcome our new entrant students</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Gemma Schrafft, Sheraiah Thomas and Catalina Ureta who have started in Room 2.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Gemma’s family is new to our school, Sheraiah joins her older sisters Shemaiah and Shenaiah and Catalina joins her older brother Sebastian at St Brigid’s.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">We hope you will be very happy at St Brigid’s.</p>
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FROM THE BOARD

Through 2021 the Board of Trustees will be providing additional segments in the school newsletter & on the school website for all parents and members of the wider community.

These updates will focus on various forward-looking subject items and aspects of what the Trustees and Principal consider are key communication points for all parents and staff.

Your Board of Trustees are made up of:

Parent representatives: Joe Robins, Chris Elliott, Carol Winter, Dean O'Shaughnessy (Chair), Meg Davies.

Proprietor representatives: Greg Archer, Helen Sligo, Ferdie Gomes, Vacant.

Staff Representatives: Linda Birch (Principal), Amanda Prowse (Teacher representative).

If you wish to ask any questions about the Board or the Board activities, feel free to introduce yourself as any of the Trustees will be happy to answer any questions or point you in the best direction to receive an answer.

In December 2020 the Board approved the 2021 calendar year Budget along with the Capital Expenditure programme on the replacement of prioritised school Assets.

The annual Budget is the financial tool the Board uses to monitor where the various School cash funding comes from (predominately from the Ministry of Education) is spent and the allocations within the school such as implementation of the curriculum, class trips, activities & the running costs of the School through the year.

Key aspects of this year's Budget & Asset spend that the Board has approved, include:

- The decision to NOT seek/request from parents for the annual Family donation due to the difficult year everyone went through financially in 2020. This has not affected any programs or initiatives for the 2021 year,
- School contributions in addition to parent contributions towards; Sports, Camps & Tech fees in excess of \$5,000,
- School contributions towards the Arts, Chess Club, Pasifika, Tikanga Maori programs in excess of \$5,000,
- An Asset replacement program of over \$60,000 towards;
 - Computer Equipment \$25,500
 - Other equipment (*incl Security cameras & school signs*) \$22,400
 - Furniture & Fittings, \$8,500
 - Library Books, \$4,000

Finally, the Trustees in conjunction with Linda's management team will continue to work in the best interests of all the children at St Brigid's.

Kind regards, nga mihi, Taos-pusong sumasainyo

Dean O'Shaughnessy

Chair, The Board of Trustees.



Our Lenten Journey - Raising money for Caritas

The Young Christian Leadership team is wanting to raise money for Caritas (Catholic Agency for Justice Peace and Development).

We will be selling raffle tickets from **Wednesday 24 March until Wednesday 31 March at morning tea**. We will have a presentation to the winners for each class and this will be drawn and prizes handed out on **Thursday 1 April**.

Tickets for Rooms 1-4: will be collected first thing in the morning.

Tickets for Rooms 5-14: will be sold outside Room 12/Library.

The cost is 1 ticket for \$1.00 or 3 tickets for \$2.00.

Team Toru & Wha Students - We need your help...



As part of our Lenten journey, we are asked to think of ways to help others and be more like Jesus.

We are asking **each student from Teams Toru (3) and Wha (4)** to bring an Easter Egg to school. To earn an Easter Egg, you may offer to do a chore or something helpful in your home as part of your journey to grow closer to God. Bring your Easter Egg into class from 22 March and a Young Christian Leader member will come around and collect.

Donations to Support Class Trips and Activities

We know that some of our families will be continuing to feel the effects from the lockdown last year, so the school, with support from the board, have decided **NOT** to ask for a family donation this year. We will still be requesting a **donation** from families to support trips and activities. This is used to provide opportunities for children to experience activities outside of the school, including gymnastics, class trips planned throughout the year and covers the whole year.

Donations are as follows - Team Tahī - \$55, Team Rua - \$65, Teams Toru and Wha - \$75

As this is a donation, a receipt will be issued for the amount paid and then a third can be claimed back in your tax return. Donations can be made to our account - **12 3041 0341681 00 Ref: Trips**.

Netball registrations 2021

Enrolment:



Enrolments will be done online this year. Please fill out ALL details on the registration form available on this link [2021 Netball Enrolment Form](#)

- Please ensure the form is completed by **Wednesday 17 March**. No late registrations can be taken, so please ensure your child's form is back on time. If you require a hard copy of the file please email stbrigids.netball@gmail.com.

A hard copy of the full netball information is attached to the newsletter email.



2021 Kiwi English, Mathematics and Science Competitions Yr 5-8

The University of Canterbury is offering your child the opportunity to participate in the KIWI English, Mathematics and Science competitions. These competitions take place annually and are designed by New Zealand teachers for New Zealand students based on the New Zealand Curriculum. For further information, please consult the CAM website www.canterbury.ac.nz/cam. The competitions are open to all Year 5-8 students in English, Mathematics and Science. Students can enter in one or more subjects.

The competition will provide parents/caregivers with an Individual Pupil Report of a student's performance. The supervised online tests will take place in the last 3 weeks of Term 2 and the first week of Term 3.

An entry form can be sent to you if you email fiona@stbrigids.school.nz.

Entries close on Friday 14 May. The cost is **\$9.50 per competition.**

Payment must be made online into:

Account Name: St Brigid's Operations Account

Account No: 12-3041-0341681-00

Ref: Kiwi Comp

No cash payments

Scholastic Lucky Book Club - Issue 2

A Copy of Issue 2 of the Lucky Book Club brochure was sent home with students last week. To purchase any books just note the 3-digit code next to the title.

Visit <https://mybookclub.scholastic.co.nz/Parent/ClubManagement.aspx> type in the postcode 6037 and find St Brigid's School on the drop down list. Orders are to be made **online by Friday 19 March.**



Friends & Whanau Fundraising
St Brigid's School

Fundraising 2021 – Planning Meeting

It's time to start planning our fundraising for 2021. **We want to see if there is enough support for a Fair this year.**

We have scheduled a meeting for **Tuesday 23 March, 7pm in the staff room.** Linda will give an overview of what we're fundraising for and we will discuss what we want to do this year.

We need lots of parent's support if we want to do a Fair. So please try and make the meeting.

Tentative Fair date is Sunday 14 November. Please RSVP to robinsfamilynz@gmail.com so we know if we will get some parents there. If you would like to Zoom into the meeting let me know. Thanks, Tracey



Community News

Weetbix Tryathlon Parking Available

St Catherine's College, Kilbirnie, is offering parking for the Weetbix Tryathlon on Sunday 21 March.

St Catherine's College is a short walk to Kilbirnie park, parking will be available from 7.00am and will cost \$10 per car.

Entry is off Upper Burke Street, Kilbirnie.

Onslow Athletics Club are hosting a one-off cross country event on Monday 29 March - the Hot Cross Country!

The event is at Nairnville Park and races start at 6pm. Entry is free and there'll be a sausage sizzle and Hot Cross buns for all participants.

It's a great opportunity to participate in a cross country event in a relaxed, fun environment before the school cross country season gets under way.

To find out more and register, visit <https://www.sporty.co.nz/onslowaac/Hot-Cross-Country/Registration-1> or contact Phil on 022 310 4246.

Registrations close on Friday 25 March.

Northern United Junior Hockey Club

The Northern Suburbs' home of hockey for school years 3-8

2021 Season

Online registrations are now open (Closing end of March 2021)

Have a Go Hockey

3 free no-obligation sessions for beginners (Years 3 - 8) at NUJHC clubrooms, Blackrock Road, Newlands. Hockey sticks and balls provided.

(Shin guards and mouth guard recommended).

- Tuesday 9 March 2021, 4pm – 5pm
- Tuesday 16 March 2021, 4pm – 5pm
- Tuesday 23 March 2021, 4pm – 5pm

Pre-season training – open to any players who want to participate.

Years 3–6

- Tuesday 23 March 5-6pm
- Tuesday 30 March 5-6pm
- Tuesday 6 April 5-6pm

Years 7-8

- Wednesday 24 March 5-6pm
- Wednesday 31 March 5-6pm
- Wednesday 7 April 5-6pm



Club tournament day

Sunday 11 April – The new teams play each other in a club tournament day at Newlands College.

Season starts Saturday 8 May

For more information:

- Web: www.nujhc.org.nz
- Email: info@nujhc.org.nz
- FB: <https://www.facebook.com/NUJHC>

ZEALANDIA's Easter Weekend Event

From Friday 2 April until Tuesday 6 April, kids get free entry at ZEALANDIA ecosanctuary and can participate in a special Easter treasure hunt. This event is fun for the whole family and allows children to connect with nature and native wildlife. As well as an entertaining day out, families also have the chance to win some cool prizes on the day, including one year of ZEALANDIA membership!

