



St Brigid's School Newsletter

19 October 2021



www.stbrigids.school.nz

Dear Parents and Caregivers

Term 4 has started with some wonderful news for our Senior Leader, **Amanda Prowse**. Amanda has won the position of Deputy Principal at Newlands Primary School and will be starting at the beginning of next year.

Amanda has been at St Brigid's for 15 years and has been a skilled, passionate, and creative teacher for many, many children who have passed through our school. She has played an important role in Senior Management and is currently the staff rep on the board of trustees. We wish Amanda the very best on her new position.



In the email sent to parents on Sunday I expressed the fact that the Ministry of Education has asked schools to keep events to a minimum and ensure the Ministry of Health guidelines for gatherings are followed. This does mean that, at this stage, a number of our regular whole school events will not be happening this term. **Please ensure that you check the calendar to see what is happening (or not happening!)**

Last term the **Catholic Character** of the school was reviewed by a small team from the Archdiocese. They very positively affirmed the work being done on our Catholic Character, the ethos and culture of the school which was evident and the collaborative and inclusive way in which our community operates. We have four recommendations that we will be addressing through our annual and strategic planning. We will be consulting with groups within our community, hopefully before the end of this year.

It was great to see our children arrive back to school yesterday, looking rested and enthusiastic to start the last term. A reminder that:

- **sunhats and summer uniform** are to be **worn after Labour Weekend** and
- that we have a **staff only day** on **Monday November 15**.

God bless

Linda

Children's Safety



Johnsonville Library - At the end of last term one of our families was in the Johnsonville library with her three children, two of whom are at school. Her Year 1 daughter had a concerning experience being followed and stared at by a very strange man in the library. This was reported to the librarians and has also been followed up by the school. It is concerning to think that even when children are with a parent, they can still experience this sort of behaviour. **Please ensure that your children are not spending long periods of time after school, in the library by themselves.**

Learning together with strength of character and gentleness of heart



Roads - We have ongoing issues with traffic on the roads around our school. Some of it is caused by our parent community dropping off and collecting children, but much of it is caused by the design of our streets and the speed of the cars.



On the last day of term, one of our grandparents was hit by a car when she was putting her moko in a car seat. The car that passed her, hit her car door causing it to crush her hand. The driver of the car did not stop. The injury required medical treatment at A&E. If anyone saw this happen could they please come and have a word with the office staff or principal.

Planning for 2022

We are starting to plan for next year and would like to get an idea of numbers of children at each year level.

Could you please let the office know if your family is moving out of the area or will be attending another school. Thanks - Linda



We warmly welcome our new students who joined us this week in Room 2:

Skyler Gunawardana, Sophia Torralba, Aria Cosue, Jacqueline Lam, Joan Sharland, Jonah Bancolita and Jacintha Outa.

Skyler, Sophia and Aria are new to our school.

Jacqueline joins her older brother Jason, Joan joins her older sister Georgia, Jonah joins his older brother Noah and Jacintha joins her older brother Jordan.

We hope you will all be very happy at St Brigid's.

KEY DATES TO NOTE ON YOUR CALENDAR

Further details can be found on the website (www.stbrigids.school.nz)

Team Rua	Wed 3 Nov	Performance Joseph and his Amazing Technicolour Dreamcoat
Team Toru	Mon 8 Nov	Room 5 - ASB Sports Centre
	Mon 15 Nov	Rooms 6 & 7 - ASB Sports Centre
Team Wha	Tues 2 Nov	Wellington Museum and Matiu Somes Island
	Mon 8 Nov	Rooms 12 & 14 - ASB Sports Centre
	Mon 15 Nov	Room 13 - ASB Sports Centre
Other Events	Tues 26 Oct	BOT meeting - 6.00pm
	Tues 2 Nov – Fri 5 Nov	School Photos
	Sat 6 Nov – Sun 7 Nov	Confirmation Masses
	Mon 15 Nov	Teacher Only Day – School Closed
	Sun 28 Nov	Kapa Haka Festival, Raroa Normal Intermediate School
	Mon 29 Nov	BOT meeting 6.00pm



Important information for all parents: Digital Safety Corner - Squid Game

What you need to know if your child is watching "**Squid Game**" on Netflix/Tik Tok.

This might sound like a cute app for young children, but that couldn't be further from the truth. Squid Game is neither a game nor for children. If your child has a social media account like TikTok, or access to a Netflix account without restrictions, there's a good chance they have already seen Squid Game, or at least potentially disturbing scenes from it. Trending videos from Squid Game on TikTok's "For You" pages are showing teens and tweens graphic images that you do not want them to see.

Netflix describes the South Korean drama as a series in which 'hundreds of cash-strapped players accept a strange invitation to compete in children's games.' The scenes are graphic, and features threats of violence, sexual content, murder and torture.

Some key ideas to help discussion about this:

1. Talk with your child about trends and challenges on TikTok - Mitigating negative effects of student well-being
2. Consider the age ratings on social media apps - [Social Media apps](#)
3. Monitor what your child watches on television, netflix and streaming platforms - [Common Sense Media Review](#)
4. Preview shows and movies you're questioning before you let your child watch them.

It is critical that you monitor what your child is being exposed to. As Parents it is vital you know that the level of violence in Squid Game is intense.

We are wanting to help ensure that students at St Brigid's School are kept safe and know you do too. Your help with this helps both the mental and emotional well-being of your child.

Sharing Images of Students - Timely reminder as Team Tahī students start their swimming programme



St Brigid's School follows guidelines to protect students' privacy and safety at school when we publish student information. This includes sharing photos of our students. We encourage our school community to also consider privacy issues when sharing photos and videos taken at school events.

We are happy for parents to take photos/videos of their children at sports day, cultural day, or other public school events. If copyright issues apply, such as at a school play, which forbid photos or videos to be taken, the school makes this known. St Brigid's School requires that no photos are taken of children when at the swimming pool unless there is parental consent.

If parents want to share photos/videos on social media, they should consider the following:

- Show the images to your children and discuss them before posting them on social media. This will help your children understand that they should always think about what goes out to the public on the internet.
- If the images have pictures of other students, think about editing to remove them.
- Make sure that other students are not named in any online posts.
- Parents should remember that posting photos of other people can amount to harassment and they should take care to ensure photos are fair to other people.





An Update from the Confirmation Programme Team

At this stage we will be going ahead with Confirmation Masses on the weekend of 6 and 7 November. Times for these masses may change slightly depending on the covid level that Wellington is in. If you have any questions at all, please contact Kitty or Sio.

Scholastic Lucky Book Club - Issue 7

A Copy of Issue 7 of the Lucky Book Club brochure will be sent home today with students. 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 dropdown list. Orders are to be made **online by Wednesday 27 October.**

Student Celebrations

This column is to acknowledge and congratulate any of our students who have achieved in other pursuits outside of school.

Danny Adamson from Room 14, along with some other children in the Wellington Region, had the opportunity to display an artwork at Te Papa in the weekend.



The artwork was to be made from Lego. Danny's art is called "Rainbow Guitar" and represents his love of music and the colours he sees when playing a musical instrument.



Well done Danny!

Piano Keyboards - Does anyone have an old piano keyboard lying around unused and unloved? Miss Anne would like to hear from you - ammegget@gmail.com

Community News

FREE GENERAL ADMISSION

SAT 23 OCT | 4.35PM | PORIRUA PARK

GET YOUR FREE TICKETS AT WELLINGTONLIONS.FLICKET.CO.NZ

Logos for NZCIS, Rutherford & Bond, TOYOTA, Dulux, STONEWOOD, and the Wellington Lions and RBSY Southland teams are visible.

Johnsonville Community Association

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The Johnsonville Community Association is planning a Wellbeing survey of our suburb along-side the resident associations of Newlands/Paparangi and Khandallah in late October 2021. The purpose of the survey is to try to get a measure of how well people in our communities are doing and anyone who lives in the community will be welcome to participate. We will provide details on how to take part in our survey later this term.

