



Dear Parents and Caregivers

This is the final newsletter of the year and there is quite a lot of information pertaining to this year and the beginning of next year. Please read it carefully.



Firstly, I would like to thank our wonderful parent community for all the support that you have given St Brigid's School over 2021. Even though parts of the year have been challenging, it has been wonderful to see parents participate in events and opportunities when they can. We are so grateful that parents have been able to support school trips, camps, sports coaching, the sacramental programme and volunteer for jobs, such as road patrol. It is such a help. A special thank you to Friends and Whanau who 'deconstructed' our fair and held a number of mini events that were well supported by our community.

2021

- **School closes** at **1.00pm** tomorrow (**Wednesday 15 December**)
- **Reports** are going out electronically today, shortly after **3.00pm**. This is the first time we have sent them home electronically, so we are hoping that it all goes well. They have all been set up to go out at the same time to individual parent email addresses. Fingers crossed. Rooms 1,2 and 4 will have their reports go out on Seesaw :)
- **Stationery lists** will be available on the school website by the end of the week, under Parent Zone and the Stationery tab.
- **Lost property** will be in **room 11 from this afternoon** - we have a lot of it including a number of jerseys.

2022

We are beginning the school year with **Whanau Conferences** to support a seamless and positive start to the year. The school will open on **Thursday 3 February**, with this day and the following day, **Friday 4 February**, used as conference days for teachers and families.

Every family will book a 25minute slot with each child's teacher.

The purpose of the conference is for the teacher/family to meet and discuss:

- Parent/student ideas about areas of strength and interest
- Possible areas of challenge or concern for your child in their learning, behaviour or social/emotional needs
- Any worries or anxiety around starting a new year with a new class and teacher
- Class routines and expectations (going through the school wide expectations, behaviour management document)
- Initial goal ideas for the first term
- Shared expectations about Responsible Use of Devices = going through the agreement and signing off by students and parents.
- Consent forms for photos, appearing on the facebook page etc



- Our schools home learning procedures and our distance learning programmes. This would also include gathering information about the need for devices should another lockdown occur.
- Ensuring that stationery has been purchased and is ready for the first day
- Any other topics that will assist a positive start to the school year

A number of schools are now starting with individual family meetings as a positive way to set up the year for children, families and teachers. It means that parents will not be required to fill out mountains of forms over the first few weeks, children will have access to devices from the first day of school (as Responsible Use Agreements will be signed) and we will not be asking parents to attend a separate goal setting meeting.

Around **24 January**, parents will be sent a form titled **Ko wai ahau/Who I am**. This needs to be completed by the child and their family before they come to the Whanau Conference and will be shared with the teacher.

The booking sheets for the Conferences on 3 and 4 February will also be open, for parents to book a time.

The first weekend in February is Waitangi weekend, with **Waitangi Day being celebrated on Monday 7 February** and the **first full school day being Tuesday 8 February**.



Holiday plans may look a bit different this year for some families - I know being unable to visit family overseas is disappointing. But whatever your plans are, I wish you all a joyful and holy Christmas and look forward to seeing everyone at the beginning of February.

God bless

Linda

KEY DATES TO NOTE ON YOUR CALENDAR

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

Other Events	Wed 15 Dec	End of Term 4 School Finishes at 1.00pm
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Student Celebrations

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



Nico Maaau from Room 13- Nico was the 2021 St Brigid's winner of the Northern Suburb's Citizenship Award. He shows our school values strength of character and gentleness of heart in action every day. Such a worthy recipient. Nico received an overwhelming number of nominations from both kaiako and akonga.

Well done Nico- we know your good work and quiet leadership will continue.





Intermediate Writer's Award winners. This competition runs nationally each year. The IWA promotes the idea of a writer's voice/platform where writers are engaged in a nationwide conversation with an essay starter and compose an argument with a genuine audience in mind.

St Brigid's is delighted to announce that **Keisha Balayo** from Room 14 and **Maddie Guerrero** from Room 13 both received **highly commended awards** for their essays on Cancel Culture (Keisha) and Asian Beauty Standards (Maddie.) Only 26 of these were awarded.

Kyra Sharma from Room 12 (YouTube) and **Nico Muaau** from Room 13 (Dawn Raids) also **received commended awards**. Only 45 of these were given out.

AMAZING results!

Jeremiah Fogava'a from Room 13 - SINGout4JUSTICE competition earlier in the year. Jeremiah finished in the top 10 of the competition for his theme 'A new way forward'. It was a reflection on the challenges we face with Covid.

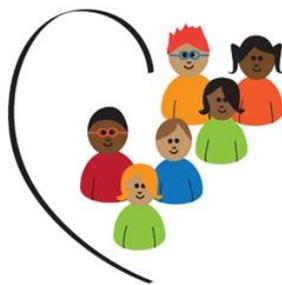
There is a real need for love, justice, and peace to be at the heart of any change as we have come to see so clearly that we are all part of the one global family.

Well done Jeremiah!



Antonia Leilua from Room 8 has won the Ray White Christmas Colouring-In Competition.

Well done Antonia!



Friends & Whanau Fundraising
St Brigid's School

Silent Auction

A big thank you to **Melissa McMurtrie** and **Meg Davies** for getting the prizes and organising the Silent Auction.

We raised \$1,631.

A big and grateful thank you to all our sponsors who supported our Silent Auctions this year, we appreciate their prize donations! Please support the following companies:



2021 Silent Auction



FIX & FOGG



**QUEENSGATE
SHOPPING CENTRE**



Driving
Miss Daisy®
We're There For You

In-School Fun Day

A huge thank you to **Ange Morris & Driving Miss Daisy Wellington North** for sponsoring a Super Hero Bouncy Castle.

<https://drivingmissdaisy.co.nz/franchise/wellington-north/>

<https://www.facebook.com/Driving-Miss-Daisy-Wellington-North-454292771438667>



Advent Liturgy for the Youth & families

Advent is a special time in our Catholic faith as we prepare for the birth of Jesus. It is a time of Reflection, Waiting, Praying and wondering.

On Sunday 5 December and **Sunday 19 December** there will be two additional Liturgies at **5.00pm** at SS Peter and Pauls Johnsonville, organised by the Youth Ministry Team and Challenge 2000. These are not the usual Sunday Masses. Instead, there will be input and times of personal and community prayer. The Liturgies will also include a space for children to create Advent art and we will have a Children's liturgy during the reflection.



On **Sunday 19 December**, we will focus on Mary, her faithfulness and her passion for bringing Jesus into the world and what she has to say to each one of us.

If you would like to have any further information about these Liturgies or be involved in some way, please call Kitty 021491459 or Sio 02108160396. Special guidelines may apply relating to Covid. Watch this space over the next few weeks!

Christmas Holiday Programme for children aged 5-12;

Monday December 20th December from 10am-3pm in the Church Hall at SS Peter and Pauls, Johnsonville.

Organised by the Youth Ministry Team and parish volunteers: come along and make Christmas Cards, act out the Christmas story, paint, sing, make, cook. It will be a wonderful time together.

Please register by calling or email: Sio on pelasio@challenge2000.org.nz / 02108160396, or email the Parish Office. Numbers limited to 30.

Please bring your own lunch. Cost \$5.00 per child or by donation
Come along and have fun!



Olivia Chin has lost her reversible bucket hat. It looks similar to the one pictured here. If found, please return to Olivia in Room 14 or drop off to the school office.



Ethan Wardle-Rundlett has lost his named school jersey. If found, please return to Ethan in Room 4, or drop off to the school office.

Thank you



Community News

Dance Pointe

Academy New Zealand

Wishes everyone a Merry Christmas and looks forward to a wonderful 2022. Enrollments are now open for Term one classes in Ballet, Jazz and Tap lessons after-school at St Peter & Pauls Church Hall and Saturday mornings at St Johns Church Hall to give your child the opportunity to learn the joy of dance. Beginners welcome of all ages from 3.5 years old. Adult beginners Ballet classes also available, fitness with the delight of movement for all on Monday and Wednesday evenings. Contact Sharon dancepointenz@gmail.com, www.dancepointe.co.nz, mobile 021-2151222.

