Welcome to our April Newsletter

O Holy St Brigid, our Model and Mother
To your intercessions great blessings we owe
Lead us to Christ with your Strength and your Gentleness
Grant us the peace that His love can bestow
Protect us and pray for us now, dearest patroness
Kindle in us an unquenchable fire
Teach us to love with your courage and confidence
Lead us at last to the Christ we desire

Sr Clare Keagy csb

Sr Margaret Daniels csb edits our school Year Book and she has finished the 2010 edition. Your daughter will be given a copy on CD and I am sure that it will be seen by all as a most attractive visual and text record of our school in 2010. Sr Margaret has included Sr Clare’s prayer to St Brigid in our Year Book. There are lots of prayers to St Brigid; this was one I had not read and I liked it very much.

On Monday of last week I attended a meeting of Australian Brigidine Principals at Clonard College in Geelong. The Brigidine Sisters who are responsible for policy development in the schools also attend these meetings. These are very happy and productive occasions and I enjoy very much seeing another Brigidine school; I love the sense of connection to a wider ministry that I experience and also the creative things that each school does to express the Brigid/Brigidine story and ethos. On Sunday 1st May our Ex students Association will hold its annual luncheon and afterwards the statue of Brigid which they have had created as a tribute to the work of the Brigidine Sisters will be installed. Our Brigid statue will be installed against the brick wall at the western end of the Canteen Quad. As I save the money, we will then work at landscaping that area and I would dearly love to recreate something of the atmosphere of Brigid’s Well in Kildare Ireland. It is such a joy for me to plan making spaces around the school to be more pleasant and relaxing for the girls and the staff. Surely beautiful spaces assist the mind to expand and open to new ideas and attitudes. Parents who are ex students might like to attend the installation of the statue on 1st May and I sincerely thank any ex students who made a contribution to the creation of the statue.
POLICE MEETING
Twice a year I attend meetings that the Eastern Area Command has for principals of schools. This time I was alarmed by the information they had about growth in adolescents sniffing aerosol. This was the in thing when I started teaching in the 1970’s. It is called D.O.ing now because it is usually deodorant that is used. We watched a ghastly video about a girl who spends her free time inhaling computer duster. All I could think about was that this, like all substance abuse, is no way to spend the gift of our life. The reasons for all abuse are very complex and have always been so, I know, however responsible, supervision of children seems to make a difference. Times change but I don’t think this does.

THERE IS GOING TO BE AN ACCIDENT!!!
For a very long time the school has been asking parents not to drop and pick up their daughters in Aeolia Street. Perhaps it has become a tradition for parents to ignore us. It is amazing that in my time at Brigidine there has not been an accident as parents turn around in the narrow space created by the lane running down the school wall and a mini traffic jam is created while other cars zip into Aeolia Street. It was particularly dangerous yesterday when a storm hit us right on 3.20pm and teachers were trying to keep the girls from running helter skelter through the many cars arriving and waiting to pick up daughters in Aeolia Street. The girls are not babies and are quite capable of walking from another point near the school where they can be safely dropped. If your daughter is insisting that she be dropped close to the school gate then simply say “no” because the school has asked for the area near the gate to be safe. Your daughter may not like hearing “no” but the safety of all is more important than her desire not to walk a hundred metres.

Parents are reminded that students are to be at school by 8.30am each day.

There are some wonderful individual performances by our students in this newsletter. I proudly watched Lauren Edwards in her final of the Public Speaking. Lauren had written her speech herself and delivered it with grace and commitment to what she was saying. If your daughter is going through an unhappy patch at school ask her about her levels of participation in the activities that are on offer at school and in the community. Talking on Facebook, shopping and going to movies with friends won’t develop the kind of personal creativity and confidence needed to build a happy and productive life in the 21st Century. Participation in a range of activities is exactly the risk that a girl needs to take to assist her with the development of a strong and healthy sense of self.

May Brigid bless the house wherein you dwell,

Ms K Edmondson
Principal

MESSAGE TO PAST PARENTS FROM St AIDAN’S PRIMARY MAROUBRA JUNCTION
Mr Bernard Carey, Principal of St Aidan’s Maroubra Junction, will be leaving St Aidans next Friday. As from Term 2, Mr Carey will be Principal of St Joan of Arc Primary at Haberfield. Past parents are invited to attend Mr Carey’s Farewell Liturgy at 9.10am Wednesday 6 April at the Holy Family Church Maroubra.

MOCK TRIAL
Our next Trial will be held Wednesday 6 April 2011 at Brigidine College in CU1. The team will be competing against Kambala. Good luck girls

Ms Jennifer Nicolas
**NOTIFICATION OF NEW CHILDREN’S CLINIC**

The Children’s Clinic located in Grosvenor Street, Woollahra is to open on 4 April 2011. The clinic includes both Doctors and Allied Health Professionals, all paediatric trained. They are a team of well respected paediatric health professionals specialising in caring for the health of children.

Further information about the clinic is on the website [www.thechildrensclinic.com.au](http://www.thechildrensclinic.com.au)
Telephone numbers are: (02) 9369 5757, (02) 9369-5679 Fax: (02) 9387-784

**VISUAL ARTS REPORT**

Brigidine College girls are encouraged to enter some art competitions. The role of the artist and audience as they relate to the art world through prizes and exhibitions is a component of our syllabus.

This term we are pleased to report that **Bronte Goodieson** in Year 12 entered the Randwick City Council’s 2011 International Women’s Day Art Competition and gained 1st place with a prize of $500.

Bronte was also one of three students who represented Brigidine College in the 2011 Australian Catholic University’s Clancy Prize. The HSC submissions of Kirby Stathis and Holly Julian from Year 12 2010 were also entered. This is a very prestigious exhibition and all three girls’ artwork made the final cut for exhibition.

**Holly Julian** was awarded the Arts and Science Faculty award which celebrates risk taking and originality in the interpretation of the theme “There Where You Are You Will Find God”.

Further to the HSC Visual candidates of 2010, information recently released indicating their performance at regional and state levels confirmed that **Brigidine girls were significantly above State, Eastern Region and Archdiocese VA trends with our students achieving the top result for the Eastern Region.**

**Mrs Sandra Routh**
Visual Arts Coordinator
**CGSSSA SWIMMING**

Our 2011 Swimming Squad competed in the CGSSSA Carnival at Ryde Aquatic Centre on Monday 14 March. This year our squad competed in DIVISION 2 and gained some outstanding individual results. The relay teams were also successful in all age groups.

The final results were:

- 1st in DIVISION 2
- 6th OVERALL

Congratulations to all the girls and in particular to the following girls who have been selected in the Combined Catholic Colleges team: *Hannah Denney, Gabrielle Raymond, Stephanie Thornton, Natalie Watts and Lily Wilson*. We wish them the very best when they compete at this next level.

**2011 Swimming Squad**

Olivia Gooch
Jessica Thornton
Emma Smith
Jacqueline Fiala
Stephanie Thornton
Grace Bambridge
Natalie Watts
Gabrielle Raymond
Ruby Breen
Natalie Murphy
Lily Wilson
Allish Mead
Hayley King
Kelly Cremen
Sally Walker
Hanna Denney
Brooke Emerson
Erika Williamson
Shannon Cleary
Kate Murphy

Ms Kathy Mazzeri & Mrs Karen Atkins
PDHPE Department

**Congratulations** to the following students on their outstanding sporting achievements:

- **Stephanie Thornton** (Year 12) Gold Medal at the NSW Surf Life Saving Championships in the U19’s Rescue and Resuscitation and a Silver Medal in the under 19’s competing in the Opens.
- **Jessica Thornton** (Year 8) Gold Medal at the NSW Surf Life Saving Championships in the Beach Sprint and 7th place in the Flags. Jessica also competed in the State Little Athletics Championships and got Bronze in 100m and 200m and 4th place in the Long Jump and 9th place in the Triple Jump.
- **Molly Blakey** (Year 8) Selected as a member of the 2011 NSW Little Athletics State Team. Molly was selected as a result of successful performances at the LANSW State Track & Field Championships held at The Sydney Olympic Park Athletic Centre. As a member of NSW Team, Molly will compete in Sydney at the 2011 ASICS Australian Little Athletics Championships in the 100m and 400m. Good luck Molly
- **Shannon Cleary** (Year 12) Selected into the NSW Combined Catholic Colleges Tennis Team. Shannon will now compete at the NSW All Schools Championships. Good luck Shannon.

Ms Kate Emerson
Sports Coordinator
PUBLIC SPEAKING

The Catholic Schools Public Speaking competition is held in Term 1 each year with entry being open to up to two students from each of years 7 – 10 and up to four students from the senior years from any Catholic School in NSW.

The competition is run in 3 rounds, selecting the best students to compete in the Finals (round 3). The speeches are prepared and the topics are varied and changed for each round.

In any given year approximately 1000 people, including student participants, volunteer adjudicators and debating teachers are involved in the Public Speaking Competition.

Brigidine had a number of students who competed in the competition for 2011. The girls who participated in round one of the competition were -

- Saskia West
- Kiara Franich
- Louisa Garcia-Dolnik
- Tara Hayes
- Nyana Waters
- Jasmine Lawerence

The girls who made it through to the zone finals were -

- Kaitlan Galvin-Sullivan
- Stephanie Beshara
- Olivia Kilponen
- Lucy Bracken

And the girls who were successful to making it through to the final were -

- Lauren Edwards
- Paloma Siles

Congratulations to all the girls who were successful in each of these rounds, particularly Lauren Edwards of year 7 who made it through to the final and Paloma Siles who also made it through to the final and came 3rd overall for the senior division. This is an outstanding achievement for both of these students!

For more information on public speaking and the upcoming debating competition you can go to the CSDA website located at http://www.csda.nsw.edu.au

Ms Andrea Mansfield