

Brigidine College Newsletter

February 2012

#002

Welcome to our February Newsletter

Dear Parents,

The school gathered last Wednesday to mark Ash Wednesday and the beginning of Lent 2012. Lent is an Old English word for Spring. The 1st February, the feast of St Brigid, we celebrated our opening Eucharist and the beginning of Spring in the Celtic calendar of ancient Ireland. In earlier times we said on Ash Wednesday "Remember that you are dust and unto dust you will return". The background to this profound thought is that dust does not have to stay as dust. Dust watered and fertilized becomes the good soil that supports life. Jesus, his life and resurrection, is our Spring.....change, new life does come.

We should take notice of how these customs of the Northern hemisphere have continued here in Australia as it shows that our immersion in them is much more than unthinking habit. As human beings we need a life structure which puts before our eyes the things we say are our deepest values. Our Ash Wednesday liturgy gave all of us the opportunity to have a reality check about who we are in the grand scheme of things. Mrs Day organised a DVD prepared by Caritas about its work in East Timor to be a part of the liturgy. Brigidine supports Project Compassion throughout Lent and the money raised goes to Caritas. While we give money when disasters strike, an organization like Caritas knows where the areas of deprivation are which do not gain media attention. When your family, through your daughter at Brigidine, gives money to Caritas then you know that ordinary people who are caught up in a systemised poverty and deprivation are being helped.

The girls will be encouraged to bring in money for their class Project Compassion box. This does not mean that they ask Mum and Dad for the money although you may well decide that you want to give family money to Project Compassion. The youngest Year Seven girl is quite capable of thinking through how much money she has and putting some aside for Project Compassion rather than buy something which is not really a necessity. The girls will be told throughout Lent to "have less so that someone else might have more".

Brigidine News

29 February 2012

Vaccinations Years 7 & 10

7 March 2012

College Open Day

2.30pm to 6.00pm

Principal's Address

3.00pm, 4.00pm &

5.30pm

Brigidine Basics

- The hem of a student's uniform touches the floor when kneeling.
- Every girl is to be at school by 8.30am at least. Teaching commences at 8.40am
- We have Homeroom at 10.30am.
- Parents should not drop and pick up daughters in Aeolia Street.



Start Again

*You are the One who has brought our Lord Jesus Christ
again to life from the dead;
You are the One who by your summoning imperative
has caused the worlds to be;
You are the One who by your faithfulness
has given a son to our vexed mother Hannah;
You are the One who has the will and power to begin again,
to start anew.
You are the only self-starter whose name we know.
And so we bid you, start again,
start here, start now,
start with us and with our school,
start with your mercy,
and with your justice,
and with your compassion,
and with your peace.
Make the world new again, and young again, and innocent again.....
Start.....before it is too late. Amen.*

Prayers of Walter Brueggemann

May Brigid bless the house wherein you dwell.

Ms Kate Edmondson
Principal

FROM THE ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

Can you believe that it is the end of week 4 already? Where does the time go? It just seems that every year simply gets busier and busier and this is certainly no different. I am looking forward to meeting as many of our new parents at the Annual Meet & Greet to be held on Friday 24 February at 6.00pm.

GENERAL REMINDERS

Just a reminder of some important expectations of students and implications for parents:

- The school day commences at 8.35 am when the first bell rings. The girls are expected to go to their Period 1 lesson at this time. The class roll is called at 8.40 am. **Please make sure your daughters arrive at school on time.** Students should arrive before 8.30am to ensure they are ready for Period 1.
- Girls who arrive late for any reason should report to the Office immediately and have their diaries signed before going to Tullow for Supervision. A note of explanation from parents in the diary is sufficient to explain the lateness and to allow entry in their Period 1 lesson. Two unexplained *lates* will incur 20 minutes of detention during lunchtime and three lunchtime detentions will incur one hour detention on a Friday afternoon.



- If it is necessary for girls to leave early, parents must provide a note. The girls need to take this note to the Office in the morning to have it signed, and then it should be shown to the class teacher at the time of departure. They need to notify the Office of their department by signing out before leaving the school premises.
- Both Informal and Formal Assessments are critical to the learning of all students. **ALL** assessments count towards their final reports.
- Every student should have homework, revision and preparation to do **EVERY NIGHT**. If this is not possible on a specific occasion, then extra time should be set aside on the next night to compensate.
- Bus and train passes are a privilege. Students are required to meet the conditions set out by the transport authorities. These authorities actually have the right to withdraw passes if used incorrectly. **Students are required to catch the bus for which the pass has been issued. Also students are not permitted to lend their passes to anyone.**
- If your daughter is absent from school, please ring. A note of explanation is required on the first day of her return.
- All students should be in their Summer Uniform. **No makeup is to be worn. One** earring in each ear (studs or sleepers). Hair tied back with ribbons in uniform colours. White ankle school length socks. **Black leather low heeled shoes - lace up only.** Variations to the uniform are not permitted. **The PE uniform is ONLY to be worn to school when the student has sport.** Refer to pages 15 & 16 of the school diary for more details.

Finally, a reminder to parents that there is **NO PARKING** in Aeolia Street. Collection and drop offs should happen on Coogee Bay Road in the designated areas provided by council. The worst times to collect and drop off your daughters are between 8.25 am—8.35 am and 3.15 pm—3.40 pm. Perhaps you might consider arriving and departing outside these times. Double parking is also not permitted and **IT ONLY TAKES A MINUTE TO CREATE AN ACCIDENT.**

Thank you for your continued cooperation and support.

Mrs Antoinette McGahan

VOCATIONAL EDUCATION AND TRAINING.

Last year, 8 of our Year 11 Hospitality students had the opportunity to attend Southern Cross Vocational College at Burwood, with their teacher, Miss Alley to train for their Responsible Service of Alcohol Certificate. The course was run by St Patrick's Business College and it is with great pleasure to announce all of the following students passed this certificate.

Congratulations go to: *Kori Banks, Sheridan Paine, Lucia O'Keefe, Grace Deacon, Alyssa Chezzi, Monique Bryson, Brontley Price and Natalie Hill.*

Mrs Dawson
VET Teacher



CONGRATULATIONS to *Hannah Denney, Molly Blakey and Jessica Thornton*, who competed at the Athletics NSW Junior Championships. All girls have qualified to compete in March at the Australian Junior Championships. Good luck girls

CGSSA TOUCH

Squads have been selected in the 15 years and Open Teams for the CGSSA Championships to be held at Doyle Ground Parramatta on 7 March 2012.

Teams will be training in the lead up to this and details are as follows:

Venue: *Queens Park, opposite Moriah College*

15 Years: 22 February 4.00pm to 5.00pm
23 February 4.00pm to 5.00pm
29 February 4.00pm to 5.00pm
1 March 4.00pm to 5.00pm

Opens: 21 February 6.00pm to 6.45pm
23 February 4.00pm to 5.00pm
28 February 6.00pm to 6.45pm
1 March 4.00pm to 5.00pm

Ms Kate Emerson
Sports Coordinator

YEAR 12 REFLECTION DAY

When year 12 started this year, we never thought we would have a day dedicated for singing and dancing, at least not until the end of our HSC! But last Friday year 12 did exactly that!

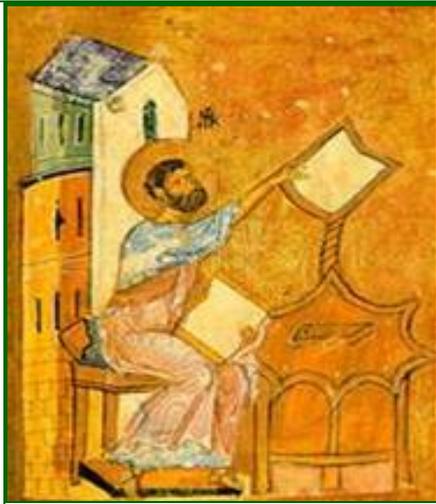


We all met at the Chevalier centre in Kensington ready for our day of 'reflection', usually a very frightening word for teenagers, But with the help of the sensational Chris Doyle, we had a seriously fun time! After a few dance offs, massages, advice from our peers, amazing singing from the many talents in our grade, stories and an intense limbo session, we all treated ourselves to a well earned picnic lunch. The day was ended with Mass celebrated by Father Peter msc, and assisted by Brigidine's very own liturgy committee, where we prayed for our busy but memorable year ahead. It was the perfect way to start our weekend. Thanks Mrs Day for another amazing reflection day!

Jordann Crawford Ash – Year 12



BIBLE STUDY ON MARK'S GOSPEL



Parents and students are invited to participate in this year's bible study at Our Lady of the Sacred Heart church at Randwick.

The study will be on the Gospel of Mark and will run for nine weeks during term two, commencing on the 1 May 2012.

The session runs for two hours per week and there is a choice of times:

- ... Tuesday 7:30 to 9:30 pm
- ... Wednesday 7:30 to 9:30 pm
- ... Friday 9:30 to 11:30 am

The fee is \$30 which covers the cost of the books and refreshments.

The format of the program is to prepare answers to questions of the week's readings which are then discussed in small groups at the following week's meeting. The discussion groups are followed by tea and an explanatory video of the week's reading.

To register:

- email Michael Zador at mzador@hotmail.com
- phone Faye Lawrence on 9665 2580

State the day you would like to attend and provide a contact number or email address.



WAYS Youth Services are offering a free course run weekly over six, 2 hour sessions. Run by experienced clinicians specialising in adolescent development.

this is a skills building and educational program only, and not designed to deal with parenting of extreme behavioural problems.

- ... *Understanding adolescent development*
- ... *Evidence based practice relating to parenting styles*
- ... *Clear guidance on how to build a positive and healthy relationship with your child*
- ... *Setting limits and boundaries that stick!*
- ... *Effective communication and conflict resolution*
- ... *Managing at risk behaviour (drugs, alcohol and sex)*
- ... *Mental health issues and building resilience*

2012 Dates: 21/5, 28/5, 4/6, 12/6, 18/6, & 26/6

Time: 6.00pm to 8.00pm

Location: WAYS Youth Services, 63A Wairoa Avenue, Bondi Beach

To register or for more information contact Dr Terri Said or Mariel Twvnam on 9365 2500



Message from the Hon. Peter Garrett MP (Member for Kingsford Smith)

As some of you may be aware, the Gillard Government released the independent review of school funding conducted by eminent businessman David Gonski on Monday 20 February. I believe that all Australian parents should be confident their child will get a world-class education. This should be the case no matter where they live or the school they attend. But this isn't always happening at the moment. While we have a great education system, some students are falling behind. We need to do more to lift performance.

Since 2007, Labor has driven a strong national school reform agenda to do this. The Federal Government has invested in teacher quality, giving more powers to local principals, and building new classrooms and science labs in schools across the country. The next important step is to make sure schools have the funding they need to teach our children. That is why we have done the first full review of school funding in almost 40 years. We said when we started the review that no school would lose a dollar of funding per student as a result of any changes. That is a rock solid promise. Indexation will also be a feature of any new system. The Government wants to be sure that any change will deliver the best result for our schools. We want to hear from parents, schools and the community about what you think works.

I will be in contact with your school over the coming months to get thoughts and feedback on how we can improve our schools. We want all of our students to get the best start in life. If you would like any further information please do not hesitate to contact me at peter.garrett.mp@aph.gov.au or visit www.schoolfunding.gov.au.

NIGHT PATROL

What do you do to help others in your life? As some of you may know, our main social justice support, Mr Zilich, has sadly left our school community, leaving some of our previous activities such as night patrol needing some assistance and... WE NEED YOU!

The Saint Vincent de Paul's Night Patrol is a life altering experience. This service gives the opportunity to get out and experience the life of our disadvantaged members of society. We need dads for a couple of hours, on a Wednesday night to help takeout the vans. You get the opportunity to spend more time with your daughter (which is becoming even harder to do in the busy world we live in) and get a real experience opportunity to interact with the people who use the service.

After one evening training session with Saint Vincent de Paul, you can take part in as many Night patrol outings, as your schedule will allow. This opportunity adored by all the girls depends on you!

Please help Brigidine help others. If you are interested contact Mr Baldwin at the College mark_baldwin@bcrandwick.catholic.edu.au Thank you!

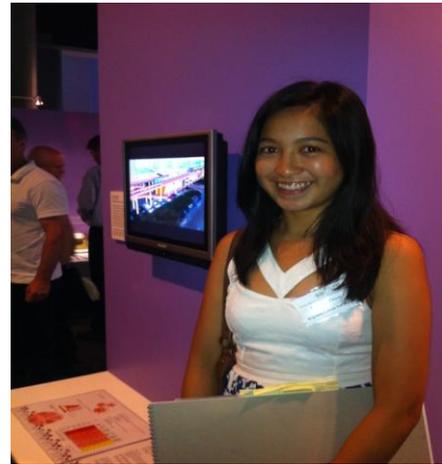
Jordann Crawford-Ash
Social Justice Leader



TAS NEWS



Congratulations to Caroline Cham who this week featured in the Official Opening of the DesignTech exhibition at the Powerhouse Museum. Caroline was one of just 22 students selected across the state to be involved in this exhibition. Her project, Anzac Express, is an elevated light rail system that doesn't stop at each station but slows down to pick up a carriage of waiting commuters, while simultaneously dropping off a carriage of disembarking commuters. Caroline created both a model of the Express and a digital animation demonstrating her concept.



Visit the link below to view Caroline's work.

<http://www.powerhousemuseum.com/exhibitions/destek11.php>

Mrs Donna Ginzburg
TAS Coordinator



MOCK TRIAL COMPETITION



Our first Mock Trial for the year will be held on Tuesday 6th March at 4.30pm at Randwick Boys High School. Family and friends wishing to attend to support the team are most welcome. Good luck girls!

Ms J Nicolas
HSIE Coordinator

CGSSSA VOLLEYBALL 2012

Brigidine entered their first CGSSSA Volleyball Competition on Tuesday, 21 February 2012. We fielded a team of 12 very enthusiastic senior girls.

The team played 5 round games and won 4 out of their 5 games, finishing second in their pool. The girls then advanced into the semis but were defeated by the reigning champions, Santa Sabina. Our girls played brilliantly as a team and represented Brigidine with pride.



Brigidine Opens Volleyball Team 2012

Congratulations to all the girls on a very enjoyable and successful day and I look forward to next year's competition where we will hopefully field an U16's team as well.

Ms Jennifer Michaels
PDHPE Department







