

Brigidine College Newsletter

October 2012
Issue # 0017

COMING EVENTS

Tuesday 13 November 2012
Year 7, 2013
Parent Information Evening

Wednesday 14 November 2012
Year 7, 2013
Orientation Day



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
- Supervision of girls begins at 8.20am. Girls should be in either the Main Quad or the Canteen Quad.
- Parents should not drop and pick up daughters in Aeolia Street

Welcome to our November Newsletter

"Consider the lilies, how they grow, they neither toil nor spin; yet I tell you not even Solomon in all his glory was not clothed like one of these"

The American poet Emily Dickenson said of herself that "Consider the lilies" was the only commandment that she kept. This week Jesus says, "consider the storm". Who could not watch the vision of the storm of the US eastern seaboard in recent days and not meditate on how feeble humans are in the midst of nature and how fantastical our attempts at permanence can be. I started to count the number of times I heard the President and Governor Romney use the word "resilience" to call the American people to the thoughtful, patient, disciplined behaviours that the storm's destruction was going to ask of everyone so that the nation could best pass through the time of devastation and displacement of services. I heard on the news this morning that a casino in Atlantic City is now highly critical of the evacuation policy in place because it is losing so much money. The casino stands in a ruined landscape still holding fast to another kind of belief in human weakness and the money to be made from it.

This little parable puts humanity firmly in its place in the big scheme of nature, time and the universe

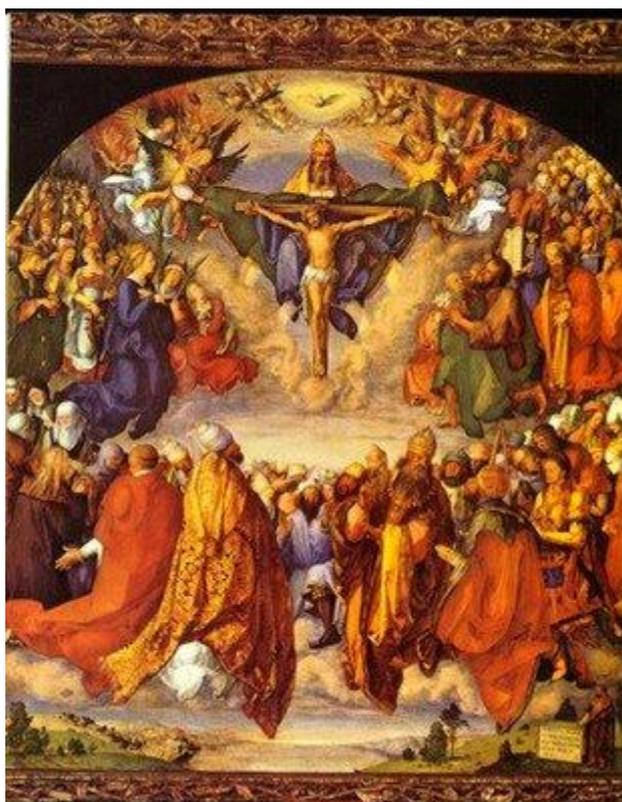
"A woman walking on the beach reaches down and picks up a pebble. Looking at the small stone in her hand she feels very powerful and thinks of how with one stroke she has taken control of the stone. "How many years have you been here, and now I place you in my hand." The pebble said back to her, "Though to you, I am only a grain of sand in your hand, you, to me, are but a passing breeze." (Lowenthal and Short in **Opening the Heart of Compassion**).

It is natural, healthy and eternally rewarding to relax into our littleness and impermanence. This wisdom is the gift of the storms of life.

Ms Kate Edmondson
Principal



PRAYER FOR ALL SOULS DAY



All Souls Day was started in 998. It's a Catholic Feast day of remembrance for friends and loved one who have passed away. All Souls Day is on 2nd November, following All Saints Day on 1st November.

God our Father

We ask that you hear our prayers and bring us some consolation in our lives. As we remember in our prayers all of our loved ones who have died, we pray that they will receive the promise of eternal life and that they are with you in experiencing the joy of heaven.

We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever.

Amen



FROM THE ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

Brigidine College Randwick is a very busy place with many different and wonderful opportunities provided by dedicated and generous staff. Students are either currently doing or about to do their final assessments for 2012. HSC exams will conclude on 8 November.

It is rewarding to hear from staff that the majority of the girls have been working hard in preparation for their assessments. As I always tell my students – ‘you can still make a difference in your performance if you really want to, you just have to be prepared to work extremely hard.’

It is worth remembering following points:-

- Both Informal and Formal Assessments are critical to the learning of all students. **ALL** assessments count towards a student’s final report.
- Every student should have homework, revision and/or 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.

Housekeeping Reminders

Brigidine has always been a site that presents difficulty for those parents electing to drop off and pick up their daughters. To ensure a safety at all times, parents are reminded of the following arrangements:

- The best place to drop off and pick up your child would be on Coogee Bay Rd away from the Bus Zone
- There is **NO PARKING** in Aeolia Street.
- The worst times to collect and drop off your children are between 8.25 am—8.35 am and 3.20 pm – 3.30 pm. Perhaps you might consider arriving and departing outside these times.
- Double parking is also not permitted.
- **IT ONLY TAKES A MINUTE TO CREATE AN ACCIDENT.**

Students are always reminded to remain focused, think positively and strive for their personal best in all they do.

Thank you for your continued cooperation and support.

Mrs Antoinette McGahan



WORLD YOUTH DAY FUNDRAISER

On Sunday 21 October, students, parents and staff from Brigidine made a pilgrimage to Bondi Beach Public school for our second fundraising BBQ. The day was another success with plenty of customers (Sculptures by the Sea was a bonus in this area) and dry weather.



Our two WYD pilgrims Brenna Riley Year 10 and Jennifer Hoe Year 9 were on hand all day along with their mums Liz Riley and Catherine Hoe.

We raised close to \$1800.00 and I would like to thank the following members of staff for giving their time to assist on the day;

Ms Kate Edmondson , Mrs Christina Day, Mrs Jo Battley, Ms Isabella Catanzariti, Mrs Stepanie Tita, Ms Phyllis Tapp and Mrs Deborah Tonks.

Our WYD pilgrims are currently selling raffle tickets to help fund their trip and also to contribute to pre-WYD mission projects that they will be involved in during their time in Rio. If you would like to purchase tickets they will be available through the WYD students and Mrs Ross.

Mrs Robyn Ross
Youth Ministry Co-ordinator

YEARS 7-10 PAINTING IN THE VISUAL ARTS

Year 8 will shortly commence painting their dog sculptures in class. There are aprons in the art rooms and every girl is responsible to wear an apron to protect her school uniform. If a student gets paint on the uniform the manufacturer states it can be removed with just hot water. I have found the water needs to be very hot and I suggest you wear thick rubber gloves and use a nail brush. Blue seems to be the most difficult colour to remove. *Sards Wondersoap* can be purchased as a bar of soap and used just on the stain.

The Visual Arts Department is keen for the girls to enjoy painting while still protecting their uniforms.

Ms Deirdre Brennan
Visual Arts Coordinator



STREAMWATCH NEWS

GOOD NEWS – FUTURE OF STREAMWATCH NOW SECURE

After a year of uncertainty about the future of Streamwatch, we have recently received the good news that the future is now secure. In January 2013 The Australian Museum will officially take over from Sydney Water the responsibility for the management and administration of Streamwatch.

For us here at Brigidine, it means that we will be able to continue our monitoring of the water quality in the Coogee Catchment into our second decade. We will be certain that the data we continue to gather will contribute to developing a better picture of the changes in local water quality across the entire Sydney region.

We have been regularly checking the water quality of the storm-water outlet at the northern end of Coogee Beach since November 2003. Many Brigidine students have been involved and have contributed to our ever-growing database of over 260 samples.

We have decided to make monthly reports on the results of our water testing.



COOGEE CATCHMENT REPORT OCTOBER 2012

Two samplings have been done during October, on the 15th and 25th. On both occasions the water quality, based on our chemical analyses, was good. Turbidity = 10NTU (very clear); Oxygen saturation = 85 – 90% (high); pH = 6.5 – 7.0 (close to neutral); Phosphate concentration = 0.03 – 0.07ppm (low); Electrical conductivity (a measure of saltiness) = 0.50 – 1.20 mS/cm (low). Small fish fingerlings were present on both occasions.

These results brought to you by Stephanie McGregor, Anna McDonald, Amanda Liem and Tara Tjandra (Yr 11) and Olivia Cannon, Jeslyne Fung and Leoni Suniary (Yr 10).

NOTE: WE DO NOT TEST FOR THE PRESENCE OF BACTERIA OR OTHER MICROORGANISMS, SO OUR RESULTS ALONE CANNOT GUARANTEE THAT THE WATER IS SAFE.

Mr Kevin Burg
Science Department



LINK TO CAREERS BULLETIN

For up-to-date Career's Information go to [Link to Bulletin No.15](#)
[Careers Bulletin 15](#)

CONGRATULATIONS to *Jessica Thornton* who won gold in the NSW All Schools Athletics in the 100m 200m and 400m. Jessica will now travel to Hobart in December for the Australian Championships and we wish her the best of luck.

Mrs Kate Elder
Sports Coordinato



ST BRIGID'S FIRE

Congratulations

Congratulations to Paige Holland who is our Social Justice Captain for 2013. Paige's aim is to get everyone in the school involved in St Brigid's Fire. Meetings this term have been packed with a committed number of Year 11 students who are keen to build the programme, and develop activities across all the years.

We are looking forward to a more dynamic St Brigid's Fire for all students in 2013!

HEALTHY TREATS

Students from Year 7-10 once again gave up their time to prepare food for Night Patrol. Whilst the senior students are able to attend Night Patrol, students from the younger years are encouraged to contribute to this mission to the homeless by preparing healthy food for the older girls to distribute.



Maddy White from Year 9 provided us with recipes for our savoury muffins. Whilst we are really grateful for the more experienced cooks amongst our volunteers, we do have participants who are not home cooks but want to help out. So everyone is invited to join in the next two sessions for November and December.

We would like to thank the Brigidine Sisters for their support of this work through their generous donation of a substantial amount of money to fund our cooking supplies.

MOBILE PHONE COLLECTION CAMPAIGN

Towards the end of last term we had a quick collection of old mobile phones to send away to CanTeen. CanTeen, which supports young people with cancer, has a partnership with Sony to swap donated mobile phones for money for CanTeen. We managed to collect 22 old phones. If you have any, please give them to me to send away for you.

Visit the website: <http://www.canteen.org.au/default.asp?menuid=439>



TIMOR LESTE

During the September holidays eight staff from CEO schools across Sydney visited Timor Leste as part of a CEO-Caritas Australia programme. I was fortunate enough to be a part of this programme. Before visiting Timor Leste we spent some time learning about the work of Caritas and its implementation of Catholic Social Teaching principles, considering distinctions between aid and development, as well as charity and social justice and learning about the history of Timor Leste.

Timor Leste has a very complicated history in which Australia has been involved. Timor was colonised by the Portuguese in the 16th century and then invaded by the Indonesians from 1975-1999. Indonesian influence is still present in the school system: textbooks are in Bahasa Indonesian, teachers speak Indonesian and yet the national languages are Portuguese and Tetun, an indigenous language. And everyone wants to learn English.

In the space of 24 hours in the district of Baucau we met three amazing women who represent the incredible achievements of the Timorese people. Domingas runs a women's refuge in a culture and legal system that discourages women from challenging abusive and violent men; Margie of the Marist Brothers' teacher training college is so pleased with the hundreds of Timorese teachers who have graduated with an internationally-recognised Bachelor's degree in the past few years; Madre Ligaya is such an inspiration to her students at the vocational training centre she guides that former students have returned to the faculty whilst others are setting up similar institutions in their own districts.

We visited schools in the Oe-cussi district that greeted us with singing and dancing, sumptuous food and proud displays of their facilities and work. Some children walk several kilometres every day to attend school, carrying water to pour on the plants that beautify their grounds and that also form part of their learning about how to care for a sustainable environment. In Nefomtasa village, where we stayed over-night, children demonstrated their newly learnt hand washing skills and showed off their new water pump.

The young staff of Caritas Australia in Timor Leste has lived through incredible times of division yet still work with hope for a harmonious and successful future for their country. We spoke with Caritas workers who experienced despair in the late twentieth century and who are now leaders, devising and implementing successful peace-building programmes that seek to prevent violence and provide models of resolution in domestic and legal situations. The Caritas Australia workers in Timor Leste epitomise resilience, compassion and good humour and I am so grateful to them for the time they spent with us, but more significantly, the stories they shared.

Timor is a beautiful country with an amazing coast line – clear, calm waters and spectacular mountains that come right down to the sand. I can tell you that the money raised by our schools for Project Compassion is needed but is also wisely and well spent.

Please look at the following websites for further information.

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WHT9lctSIQ8&list=UUSrosdJLRR72TBlgB_npp_g&index=6&feature=plcp - Fabiana's story from Project Compassion 2012

<http://www.caritas.org.au/act/walk-as-one-indigenous-peoples-campaign/watch-feature-film> - follow the Walk as One links

<http://www.tourdetimor.com> – watch the video for fantastic scenery of Timor Leste

<http://www.abc.net.au/am/content/2012/s3610018.htm> - a recent report on attempts to wipe out parasitic diseases in Timor Leste <http://www.abc.net.au/iview/#/news> - 'Taxing Times in Timor', 1 October 2012 – a Four Corners report on oil and gas in the Timor Sea; including an Australian connection

<http://www.quarterlyessay.com/issue/appeasing-jakarta-australias-complicity-east-timor-tragedy> - Quarterly Essay 2: Appeasing Jakarta by John Birmingham

Ms Monica Jarman





View over Dili on the way to Oe-cussi, an enclave of Timor Leste situated on the coast of West Timor.



Visiting Fatubena Primary School in Oe-cussi



Flabiana and her family, now the proud owners of a car. Flabiana was featured this year in Caritas' story for Project Compassion



Washing our hands in Nefomtasa village in Oe-cussi.



The nursery at the Caritas office in Oe-cussi supplies plants to the villages with which Caritas works. These plants will provide food, nutritional supplements, form part of the education programmes Caritas runs about environmental sustainability and create business opportunities.



T's TEXTBOOKS

We at T's Textbooks have been selling second-hand and new textbooks for over 25 years; we do all the guesswork and legwork in obtaining and supplying the correct textbooks for each student.

Ordering

- Online - The booklist will be available on our website www.tstextbooks.com.au please select Brigidine College, Randwick and the year from the drop down menu and follow the prompts to complete your online order.
- In person – All buying and selling of textbooks is only done at warehouse/shop 13/77-79 Bourke Road Alexandria NSW 2015 (near Bunnings, closest crossroad Gardeners Road).

Textbook Orders

With regards to second-hand textbook orders we operate on a “first come, first served” basis. So the earlier the student places their order, the more likely they are to receive second-hand textbooks. Where a second-hand textbook is unavailable we can supply new at the RRP.

Payments

- Credit Card (Mastercard/Visa/Eftpos) – the payment will only be deducted as each book is allocated to the student and if shipping is selected this will be deducted when the order is complete and ready for dispatch.
- Cash – payment to be made in person.

Collection

- The student is welcome to pick up their books from our warehouse/shop,
or
- We can organise a courier (a \$10.00 shipping surcharge is applicable) to deliver the books directly to the student's address in Metropolitan Sydney, (someone must be present for collection and signature).

Buying textbooks – The “buy-back system”

We only buy current edition good condition textbooks. The student is welcome to bring their books to our warehouse/shop for inspection or they can email us a list of books for sale and we will let them know which ones are of interest.

- Cash - The student may choose to receive a cash payment;
or
- **Credit** – The student may choose to receive credit towards their textbook order which is calculated at a higher rate than a cash payment

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