Launch of the History of the New South Wales Province of the Congregation of St Brigid.

COMING EVENTS
Monday 13 May 2013
P & F Meeting
Meeting Room 7.00pm

14, 15 & 16 May 2013
NAPLAN Years 7 & 9

Friday 17 May 2013
Athletics Carnival

Monday 20 May 2013
Year 8 & 10 Exams commence

Wednesday 22 May 2013
Year 12 Parent Teacher Interviews

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. This causes dangerous traffic for the students.
Dear Parents,

We have started off at a great pace here at Brigidine this term. On Wednesday 1 May we had the school looking its best for the launch of the history of the NSW province of the Congregation of St Brigid. The Brigidine Sisters lease the grounds and buildings of Brigidine College Randwick to the Sydney Catholic Education Office; Brigidine College St Ives and Brigidine College Indooroopilly are independent schools with governing boards responsible to the Brigidines. Nevertheless it is Brigidine Randwick which was chosen by the Brigidines for the launch, as it was Randwick that was the central convent for many years last century, and is described in Providence Provides as the “homeland” for the Sisters. So many sisters went to school here and spent their training as young nuns here.

The cocktail party for the launch was held in Synan Hall; our hall built in the 1930’s and named after the great pioneer Brigidine Mother John Synan who was in charge of the little band of six sisters which came from Ireland to Coonamble in 1883. I had story boards made about their journey and about Mother John Synan and in the images which begin this newsletter, School Captain Hannah Denney and Year Seven student Mollie Plenzich are telling Governor Professor Marie Bashir about the Brigidine History. The parents of the Brigidine girls would have been very proud of their daughters; the courtesy and natural grace with which they greeted the Governor and the professional way that our Year Twelve Hospitality girls offered refreshments to the guests.

Governor Professor Bashir was her usual inclusive and intelligent self and clearly had a strong hold on the contents of Providence Provides. Author of the book, Janice Garaty also spoke to the assembled guests and received many messages of congratulations for her writing. It was a wonderful evening and I was deeply touched to be a part of this exciting night for the Brigidines who have so much of which to be proud. The photos chosen for the book are fascinating; the front cover is a glorious photo of four Brigidines in the back of an old Ford in about 1920, but my favourite is of three of them, garbed in their medieval robes, fishing in a creek outside Cooma. Guests at the launch quickly took up Providence Provides and went off to find a spot to sit and look through the photos before getting down to the reading.

My great thanks to the assistance given by Ms Sue Horne for her care of our students on the night; to Mrs Donna Ginzburg and her Year Twelve Hospitality class who made and served some of the refreshments for the launch and to Mrs Louise Smyth for her photography.
New Outdoor Furniture
The girls raised $11000 in the walkathon last year and we have purchased picnic tables and attached seats for the Year Twelve area. All girls will eventually receive the benefit of their fundraising. All girls love to sit around in circles at lunch and have a good talk.

The Australian Curriculum
Our staff development day 29 April centred on the new Australian Curriculum which will be taught to junior secondary students in English, Maths, History and Science from next year. This curriculum is strongly values and attitudes based with the personal development of a student as its focus. Because of this, Brigidine, like all Catholic schools, has a strong foundation to authentically establish the new curriculum. The Coordinators responsible for writing the programs are well set up to have their task completed by the end of this year.

Ms Kate Edmondson
Principal

FROM THE ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL
Upcoming Events (weeks three and four)
13 – 17 May      Year 12 Hospitality Work Placement
13 May            Year 9 Visual Arts Excursion
14, 15 & 16 May   NAPLAN (Years 7 & 9)
14 May            Year 11 Music Recital Night in Synan Hall from 7 pm
15 May            Year 11 Visual Arts Excursion
17 May            Athletics Carnival at E.S. Marks Athletics Field
17 May            Debating versus St. Clare’s at St. Clare’s Waverley
19 May            Pentecost Sunday
20 May            Year 11 English Incursion in Synan Hall (period 1)
20 – 24 May       Years 8 and 10 Assessment Week
21 May            Year 12 Awards Assembly in Synan Hall (period 4)
22 May            Year 12 Parent/Teacher Interviews from 2.30 pm
22 May            CGSSSA Basketball
23 May            CGSSSA Cross Country Carnival
24 May            Debating versus St. Ursula’s at St. Ursula’s Kingsgrove
24 May            Year 11 Legal Studies Excursion

We are entering NAPLAN season and our Year 7 and Year 9 girls are very prepared. Since last term our Literacy Support Teacher, Mrs Anne Moldrich, has been working through past papers with all classes and the girls have been doing NAPLAN preparation in their English and Maths classes as well. The tests are meant to be a snapshot of the students’ skills at a particular point in time and aid us in identifying who may need support or extension. However, they are just one tool that schools use for this identification. Please ensure that if your daughter is going to be absent on any day that the tests are held that you ring the college so that we can organise a time to sit a catch-up test.

Year 12 Semester 1 exams finished in the final week of term 1 and students should now be receiving their corrected papers. The reports they are issued will show their exam mark as well as their cumulative rank each course so far. It is extremely important that parents and students both attend the Parent/Teacher interviews. Please make sure that interviews are booked through the SOBS (school online booking system) at www.sobs.com.au
Year 11 exams have been taking place all week and students will be receiving their returned papers shortly. It is important at this time of the year that students begin to consider what pattern of study they will take through into Year 12. Extra work now will pay off later as no marks from Year 11 are taken into account for the HSC. There is no rush to “drop” subjects and it is often advisable that students carry their Year 11 pattern of study into Year 12.

Any students from Years 10 or 11 that are considering leaving school and wish to undertake the ROSA literacy and numeracy tests need to see Mr Morgan so that he can arrange the time that the tests will be held.

Mr Anthony Morgan
Acting Assistant Principal

ATHLETICS CARNIVAL
THE ANNUAL ATHLETICS CARNIVAL WILL BE HELD ON FRIDAY 17 May 2013
E.S. Marks Field Kensington. (Enter via Boronia Avenue)

- Students are expected to make their own way to the carnival and home.
- Roll call will commence at 8.30am sharp.
- We are expecting to finish the Carnival around 2.00pm.
- Students may dress up in House Colours to support their team. If not dressing up you wear your full sports uniform.
- Canteen facilities will be available on the day.
- We insist that all students come prepared for all weather conditions including sunscreen, hats and plenty of water in case of warm weather.
- All family members are most welcome to attend and support your daughters.

WET WEATHER
If it is raining early in the morning a message will be left on our BOUNCE BACK system. If you are still not sure about the weather conditions, or if the carnival will go ahead, SMS ‘Brigidine’ on 19922767. This will send you a message regarding the carnival.

The message will be available at 7.00am on the day

Congratulations to Liana McMorrow, Gabrielle Raymond and Charlotte Wilson who have been selected into the CGSSSA Swim Team and will be swimming at the NSW Combined Catholic Colleges Meet. Best of luck girls.

Congratulations to the following girls who have been selected into the CGSSSA OPENS FOOTBALL SQUAD: Sarah Karaoglu, Tara Hayes, Amelia Rubio and Christine Lucantoni.

Mrs Kate Elder
Sports Coordinator
CGSSSA SOCCER 2013
A week after the original date was postponed due to a torrential downpour, the CGSSSA Soccer Competition took place on Wednesday, 10 April, 2013 at Meadowbank Fields. Under sunny, warm conditions then, the girls did a fantastic job of supporting each other, both on and off the field.

The Junior team played 4 round games - they won one, lost two and drew one. Unfortunately, this meant they did not go through to the next level. The Senior team won two, lost two and drew one of their round games and advanced to the Semi Finals. A close game ensued which resulted in extended time, followed by a nail-biting, penalty shoot-out. It could have gone either way but, unfortunately, it was not our day.

Congratulations to all the girls on displaying great competitive spirit and admirable sportsmanship. Special commendation for four of our girls who were selected for the CGSSSA Representative Team: Amelia Rubio, Christine Lucantonio, Sarah Karaoglu and Tara Hayes. This is a great result for Brigidine and shows the calibre of our soccer teams. Well done, girls!

Special thanks to Jim Hayes (our Senior Team coach) and Rachael Aston for their invaluable support. Brigidine Sport could not be as successful without the enthusiasm and help of our parents.

Ms Michaels and Mrs Cook
PDHPE Department
In this edition I would like to extend a very special thank you to the Ex-student’s Association for their generous donation that will help financially assist our World Youth Day pilgrim Brenna Riley Year 11 on her journey to Rio de Janeiro.

The Saints of Lima Pilgrimage will see Brenna and other students visiting Lima (Peru), Cusco and Machu Pichhu, Rio De Janeiro and Iguaza Falls. The pilgrimage will not just be about sight-seeing but will entail students working with some of the poorer children in Brazil. This is part of the mission projects being planned for our students and staff before the actual WYD week begins.

The entire Brigidine Community wish Brenna a very safe and faith-filled journey and look forward to hearing about her experiences and adventures on her return.

On Sunday 7 April Brigidine Music Ministry Group assisted at the Sunday evening OLSH Mass. Our music group was enthusiastically supported by staff, parents and ex-students. Also in attendance were families and WYD pilgrims from our deanery schools celebrating with us.

On May 17 at 10.00am at St Mary’s Cathedral, Brenna, her family and the rest of the WYD cohort from schools in the Sydney Archdiocese will attend a Commissioning Mass.
If any student is interested in being involved in our Music Ministry group please see Mrs Ross.

Robyn Ross Youth Ministry Co-ordinator
MOCK TRIAL
Brigidine v Kincoppal Rose Bay
Last Wednesday night our Mock Trial team competed in their 2nd trial for the year against Kincoppal Rose Bay.

Brigidine acted for the defence, where the defendant was accused of arson. In a closely fought trial our team was able to convince the judge, beyond reasonable doubt, that the defendant was guilty. However, regarding the overall trial, Brigidine was defeated by only 6 points. The team managed to present an excellent trial despite having to learn very long witness statements and be subjected to intense cross examination by the prosecution.

Congratulations and well done girls. The team consisted of:
   Barristers:     Grace Kane and Tirza Luwia
   Solicitor:      Carina Lam
   Witnesses:      Jess Lee and Kate Williamson.
   Court Officer:  Sarah Burgess.

Jennifer Nicolas
HSIE (Commercial) Coordinator.

HELPING LEARNER DRIVERS BECOME SAFE DRIVERS

Teaching Someone To Drive Can Be A Happy Experience.
You can learn all the simple steps on how to teach a learner driver at a FREE two hour workshop.
The next workshop will be held:
Wednesday 15 May 2013 at 6.30pm at 30 Frances Street Randwick. Book now on 9399 0786
ANZAC DAY
Brigidine was very ably represented at the Coogee Diggers' Club Anzac Day March and Commemorative Ceremony on 21 April 2013.

Despite this date falling during the holidays, Grace Bambridge, Courtney Limbert, Jasmine Lawrence, Monique Hoareau and Tanya Balakumar (all in Year 12) gave up their time to represent the College in this important community event.

All the girls took part in the March to the club, with Grace carrying the Union Jack in the flag party.

Jasmine wrote and delivered a very thought provoking and moving Occasional Address which received hearty applause, and congratulations from various people after the ceremony.

It was a pleasure to be with these impeccably groomed young ladies who demonstrated such poise and maturity on this special occasion.

Mrs Kerry Giuffre and Miss Sarah Chaloner
History Department
LIBRARY NEWS
AFTER THE BOMB EXHIBITION
The current library display for ‘After the Bomb’ (an exploration of Cold War texts in their context), assembled for Ms Bassil’s Year 12 Extension 1 English class, has been enriched through the addition of cultural artefacts from our collection. Before their engagement with the curriculum, the Cold War, for many students, was most typically evoked through reruns of Get Smart or James Bond – not that popular culture doesn’t provide valuable windows into the past. A prezi (multi-media presentation) I created to support the exhibition, involves some blasts from the past for our generation: the Mickey Mouse Club signature song, Natasha and Boris from Rocky and Bullwinkle, Roger Ramjet and his pluton energy pill, the German 1970s disco group Boney M and their hit Rasputin, a song that incensed the Russian government, and Sting’s The Russians – yes, ‘the Russians love their children too.’ See: http://prezi.com/ehdeqr3yupld/the-cold-war-and-popular-culture/

One of the most interesting books amongst the cultural artefacts is Surviving the Holocaust by Mell Stockwell (1982). How lucky we were back then, with that trigger-happy actor Ronald Reagan at the helm, to have Stockwell assuring us: ‘It must be noted that NOT EVERYONE WILL BE KILLED FROM THE EXPLOSION OF A NUCLEAR WEAPON. [Stockwell’s capitalisation]. In fact only a small percentage of the nearby population would die from the explosion itself. Most destruction would come from heat and blast, as with conventional explosives.’ I remember being pregnant in 1985 and fearing that my unborn baby would be wiped out in a nuclear holocaust – but not sharing that fear with too many people. However, recently I’ve discovered that quite a few women I know felt just the same way – such was our lack of faith in the power of MAD – or mutually assured destruction. Were we justified in our fears?

Reflect on this gem from T. K. Jones, Reagan’s Deputy Undersecretary of Defence, in 1981: ‘The United States could recover from an all-out nuclear war with the Soviet Union in just two to four years... Nuclear war is not nearly as devastating as we have had to believe. If there are enough shovels to go around, everybody’s going to make it. Dig a hole in the ground, cover it with a couple of doors, and then cover the doors with three feet of dirt. It’s the dirt that does it.’ Yeah, Jones – you gotta trust that dirt!
PROVIDENCE PROVIDES
Congratulations to the Brigidine Sisters on the publication of their book ‘Providence Provides’ (2013), recently launched by the NSW Governor Marie Bashir. Janice Geraty’s recount of the achievements and struggles of the Brigidine Sisters is clear, detailed and engaging, and well supported by a rich selection of fascinating photographs.

To quote from Sister Anita Murray’s forward: ‘The author helps us to touch a relic of the past and from that we experience the chain of life unbroken with all its stumbles and mistakes as well as with its high moments and promises of a future unknown… We have much to learn from the story of these personable and capable women and from the personalities and places they encountered on their journey.’ This substantive history, printed on high quality paper, is selling for $45. Please contact the Brigidine Sisters for details.

Ms Patricia Kennedy
Teacher Librarian

UNIFORMS FOR SALE
2 SUMMER DRESSES for sale $50 each excellent condition, (worn one term only), size 8.
SCHOOL JUMPER in good condition, size 14 - $20.
Call Wen - 0410606072

BLAZER for sale, size 16, excellent condition, as new $80
Phone Vilya on 0415368527, or 93434058, pickup Bondi
THE DUKE OF EDINBURGH AWARD PROGRAM

Brigidine College has been running the Duke of Edinburgh Award Program for quite a number of years and the number of students participating in the program has grown immensely. In the April holidays we had 11 girls who attended Somerset Camp to complete their practice and/or qualifying journey. Here is a recount and some photos from one of our students:

During the April school holidays some students from Brigidine College Randwick completed their Duke of Edinburgh practice and/or qualifying adventurous journey. The Duke of Edinburgh is a program aimed at young people aged 15-25 years of age and ranges in awards starting from Bronze to Silver and to Gold. These adventurous journeys consisted of days and nights away from home, camping, away from luxuries, such as showers which many take for granted. We participated in activities such canoeing and hiking, learnt how navigate through the bush, build camp fires and orienteer a map. Personally I found the Duke of Edinburgh camp exciting, challenging and fun. I made many friends, challenged myself and achieved things that I initially believed I could not do. The Duke of Edinburgh is a great, enriching award and I encourage everyone to participate in this program.

(Tanya Balakumar)

Any student interested in joining the program should attend the meeting held every Tuesday 1:00pm in DC4.

Mrs Maria Harbutt
Duke of Edinburgh Coordinator
Happy Mother’s Day to

Happy Mother’s Day to

all Brigidine Mothers

all Brigidine Mothers