Dear Parents,

BRIGIDINE STRATEGIC PLAN
2014-2016
PARENT CONSULTATION
TUESDAY 22 OCTOBER 2013 at 7PM
IN TULLOW ROOM (OFF SYNAN HALL)
If you go to no other parent meeting, during the year, please come to this one. This meeting gives all parents a chance to voice their ideas about the development of our school over the next three years.

Staff Day Tuesday 8th October
Our final term started off on a very positive note with a day of learning for the staff which was conducted by Josephite Sister Michelle Connolly. Michelle is a Biblical scholar and using the stories of Zacchaeus and Jesus at Mary and Martha’s home, unpacked for us the historical and cultural understandings of these texts. One of the Brigidine values is Hospitality and not only did Michelle speak about the hospitality of Zacchaeus, Mary and Martha but also Jesus’ hospitality towards them and God’s hospitality to the human family and all of creation. It was a most energising day. Brigidine teaching staff will have their final session of professional learning in regard to the implementation of the National Curriculum on the evening of Oct 24.
Burrendong Camp Over The Spring Holidays

On behalf of our community I thank Mr Burg for organising this camp; you can read about it in this Newsletter. The girls and staff left Brigidine on the last Thursday of term and came home on the first Tuesday of the holidays. I went out on the Monday and found a group of very happy girls and teachers. Can parents imagine 17 teenage girls weeding, mulching and planting for days and not a complaint from anyone? That is probably because the evidence of their work was so obvious as is the need for the work. The Arboretum exists only through donations and volunteering so our Brigidine people are proudly a part of that. One volunteer drove 100ks to teach the girls how to best photograph plants. Thanks to all the girls and also to Ms Smith and Mr Milanov who attended and gave great support to Mr Burg. Here is a letter I received from the Parish Priest at Wellington about our girls.

Visit by your school to Wellington Sunday Mass 22nd September (via email)

To the Principal and all the staff and students of your school.

I would like on behalf of my parish and myself to express to your community my appreciation for your students and teachers coming and being involved in our local Sunday Mass at Wellington NSW. They made a wonderful contribution to our celebration and they were much appreciated by our locals. The girls sang, were involved in Mass (they were noticed by the locals) and were positive about being there. We had a large number of visitors in our parish for a family reunion and the school added to the occasion in a powerful and good way.

The work they do in our local community in caring for the earth is also valued. I wish on behalf of our community that our best wishes could go through your school newsletter or assembly process. It was a good celebration of the Eucharist your school shared but in a friendly way and I would say as the parish priest the best Sunday Mass here for three years.

Often catholic schools can be attacked for their poor values and standards but on this occasion your school set a wonderful standard. I therefore have taken this step of formally thanking and praising your school.

Yours faithfully

Fr. Tony Hennessy
Parish Priest of Wellington Parish

Australian Catholic Youth Festival 5-7th December 2013.

This is a great opportunity for our Year Ten students. This Festival is to be held in Melbourne and students attending will be supervised by staff of the Catholic Education Office. The details for travel and accommodation to the Festival are at the end of this newsletter.

Gabrielle Upton MP.

Before Ms Upton was the member for Vaucluse and Minister for Sport and recreation she was a student at Brigidine Randwick. Ms Battley who is charge of Year Nine Brigid, thought that it would be nice to send Ms Upton a letter congratulating her on her political success. Ms Upton’s reply to the class is printed in this newsletter.

Ms Kate Edmondson
Principal
FROM THE ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL
Upcoming Events (weeks 2 & 3)

14 October  Higher School Certificate Commences
            Year 7 & 8 Vaccinations

15 October  Libby Gleeson Talk for Years 7 & 8

16 October  Night Patrol

17 October  Year 11 Retreat at “The Tops”
            Streamwatch Training

18 October  Year 11 Retreat at “The Tops”

21 October  Year 9 Design & Tech Day with Whitehouse

23 October  Elective Music Excursion
            First Reconciliation (periods 3 & 4)

24 October  Twilight Staff Meeting on National Curriculum

Upcoming Events

1 November  All Saints Day
            Eastern Suburbs Netball Gala day

4 November  Modern History Lecture Day

5 November  School Leaders Assembly

8 November  Year 8 Sculptures By the Sea (periods 3-6)

The Higher School Certificate begins on Monday 14 October. I have been very pleased to see so many of our students (and teachers) coming in for tutorials and revision lessons over the last week, I even saw some here during the holidays. While best practice is a study program over a full year, never underestimate the benefits of “cramming”. As a school community we wish all our students the best of luck for the exams. Any of our students in the Main Quad or Kilbride area will need to keep as quiet as possible during the exams.

Our new Year 12 (although sometimes we refer to them as Year 11) have begun their role as school leaders with gusto. They ran the Brigidine’s Got Talent show extremely well on the last day of Term 3. While the jury may still be out on the talent I think we can say that the leaders’ organisation and presentation were wonderful. All of Year 12 students are on “Retreat” on 17 & 18 October. This time is extremely valuable in allowing them to reflect on where they have been, where they are going and how they are going to get there. It also is the last time that as a full Year group they will spend time together away from the college.

Speaking of Year 11, this term they begin their HSC. They are now the HSC class of 2014. Term 4 for the rest of the school is Term 1 for the HSC. This
term they will sit assessments that go towards their Higher School Certificate in 2014. Now is the
time to start working. While I might say that there are benefits in “cramming” it is no substitute for
an organised and prolonged study program. The work you put in now will pay off in the future.

Mr Anthony Morgan
Acting Assistant Principal

SPORTS NEWS

Tuesday Touch
www.eaststouch.com.au
Touch football will commence on Tuesday 22 October. Thank you to all the parents who have
volunteered to assist as team managers. We will be having a meeting with all these parents, five
minutes prior to your first game. If all the managers would meet at the sign on area five minutes
prior to the game and I will be able to pass on some important information.
All team captains will receive their team singlets, ball and draw in a meeting next week. Good luck to
everyone for a safe and competitive season

Mrs Elder

CGSSSA DANCE CHAMPIONSHIPS 2013
On Wednesday 11th September, Brigidine College participated in the CGSSSA Dance Championships
held at Santa Sabina College, Strathfield. We entered teams, consisting of students from year 7-12, in
the Tap, Hip Hop, Jazz and (inaugural) Contemporary categories.

All of the girls involved put in many hours of rehearsal time to make the routines come together,
including lunchtime practices, Friday afternoon rehearsals and Sunday rehearsals. All of their hard
work and preparation was certainly worth the effort. On the day, the girls were energetic,
professional and sharp. Despite the tough competition, all of our girls remained positive and focused.

The standard at the Championships was very high and, unfortunately, we missed out on a place this
year. The enthusiasm and energy of our performers was remarkable and they all looked amazing in
their make-up and costumes. The students are to be commended for their performances, focus and
dedication. We all enjoyed the day immensely.

Special thanks to Shelley Bays, who choreographed and coached our girls at lunchtimes, on Friday
afternoons and Sundays, at no cost to the College. Your dedication as an ex-Brigidine student and
enthusiasm for developing Dance at Brigidine is greatly appreciated. Your time and expertise has put
us up there with the best at the CGSSSA Championships.

Thank you, also, to Bronte Courtney for all of your time and encouragement with the Dance
rehearsals - another ex-Brigidine student we couldn’t do without! And thank you to Leora
for your assistance. Mrs Kate Elder – we very much appreciate your dedication
and the time you spend in the lead up to the event over the past
term. Thank you to all of the wonderful parents who
came to support the teams on the day.
Finally, thank you to all of the CGSSSA Dance girls.

**CONTEMPORARY SQUAD:** Madeline Lane, Lowie Funnell, Sally Walker, Caroline Faloto, Lauren Wilson, Grace Ackary, Estelle Davis

**TAP SQUAD:** Chiara Harbutt, Belinda Banks, Madeline Lane, Maddy Gillard, Monique DeGiovanni, Rebecca Wilson, Melanie Brennan, Beth Meldrum

**HIP HOP SQUAD:** Erika Vallejera, Chiara Harbutt, Kyra Mc Morrow, Belinda Banks, Maddy Gillard, Olivia O’Brien, Monique DeGiovanni, Ruby Breen, Rebecca Wilson, Melanie Brennan, Rachel Soden

**JAZZ SQUAD:** Kyra Mc Morrow, Madeline Lane, Michaela Inglis, Maddy Gillard, Lowri Funnell, Sally Walker, Caroline Faloto, Lauren Wilson

Well done! We are very proud of your efforts and enthusiasm.

Mrs Kim Cook
PDHPE Department
BERRY INTERSCHOOLS RESULTS-HORSE RIDING

Congratulations to Maddy, Natalie, Stef and Zoe who participated in the Berry interschool's horse riding competition which took place on 5, 6 and 7 October. They enjoyed themselves immensely and achieved the following impressive results:

Maddison Taylor:
4th novice best presented  
4th novice bareback rider  
5th 45cm superphase showjumping

Natalie Melis:
Overall Reserve Champion year 9  
Overall champion Gamblers Stakes  
1st 60cm superphase Showjumping  
1st 75cm Am7 Showjumping  
1st Scudahoe  
2nd Long Flag  
3rd 75cm Hunter  
5th Bend bar aft

Stefanie Cass:
1st intermediate Bareback Rider  
1st novice Hack over 15hh  
4th intermediate Hacking pairs (with Zoe)  
4th 75cm superphase showjumping  
7th 60cm superphase showjumping

Zoe Cass:
1st 75cm superphase showjumping  
1st intermediate hack over 15hh  
1st intermediate Best Educated  
1st intermediate Bareback Rider  
2nd intermediate year 9 rider  
4th intermediate Hacking pairs (with Stefanie)  
8th 60cm superphase Showjumping
YEAR 10 DESIGN AND TECHNOLOGY
In collaboration with Ms Kennedy, the girls have been re-upholstering the once dowdy blue library chairs into what will be soon, bright beautiful works of design! There have been weeks of banging, spraying, cutting and sewing. Staples have painstakingly been removed, frames sprayed, foam detached, foam re-attached, patterns cut and fabric positioned. We look forward to publishing photos when all is finished.

Mrs McCarthy

And from the students......
“Patterns have been a challenge, but working with friends in a group has been enjoyable” Miriam and Stephanie
“Designing when having to take on someone else’s ideas has been interesting, but it has also been difficult to work within someone else’s boundaries. It has been an eye opener of the real designing world-Ms Kennedy is our client and we need to take her input and ideas into account-as we would if designers in the ‘real world’!” Kayte and Katie

Zoe on Bobby, Stef and Millie, Natalie on Moonlight, Maddy and Willow

Mrs Laura Melis
EXCURSION TO BURRENDONG ARBORETUM

Thursday morning, bright and early, on the bus and away! Battling the traffic out of Sydney, then across the Blue Mountains and onwards – our destination, The Burrendong Arboretum and Botanic Gardens, near Wellington. Our intrepid adventures, led by Mr Burg, with Miss Smith and Mrs Burg, were on a mission – to use the native gardening skills they had acquired with the Brigidine Bush Haven Club, to assist the volunteers at Burrendong Arboretum.

Our first stop was Wellington Caves, for some lunch and an interesting and informative tour of the caves. Then it was on to our accommodation – the luxurious Lakeside Cottages at the Burrendong Sport and Recreation Camp.

Friday morning, and our first encounter with the arboretum volunteers – their organiser, Marion Jarrett made us feel very welcome, and soon we were organised into two groups: one getting into the dirt and beginning to weed a patch of ground that was going to become a new planting bed; the other group being given an introductory tour of the Arboretum, including the nursery, glasshouse, and some of the specific planting areas. After a sumptuous morning tea, the groups swapped around and the weeding and introductions continued until lunch.

In the afternoon, we were introduced to Netta, a botanist, who taught us how to identify the major plant families, and even taught us how to say “Myrtaceae” and “Proteaceae”. Marion also taught us about the scientific naming of plants and what those seemingly incomprehensible names, like Leptospermum grandiflora really mean! During the afternoon, Mr. Milanov arrived, to complete the numbers!

Saturday – We had a lesson from Graham, a professional photographer, and Bev, about how to take high quality close up photographs; and lots of time to practice our skills and compare our photos. Another yummy morning tea was kindly provided by Marion.

Another volunteer, Pat, travelled 100km to teach us how to propagate plants, from seeds and from cuttings; then we all had the opportunity to take cuttings and prepare them for planting. These will become part of the arboretum’s collection.

After lunch we had more opportunities to practise our new-found photography skills, before returning to doing more weeding in some of the plant beds.

Sunday – A day of great surprises! We loaded ourselves on the bus to head up to the Western Plains Zoo, at Dubbo. On the way we stopped in Wellington to attend Mass. Father Tony, the parish priest, was so excited to have so many people in the church (“more than we get at Christmas!”), that he had photos taken of the congregation from the altar, and got everyone in the church to do a Mexican Wave! We were certainly made to feel very welcome, and invited to stay for some morning tea after mass. Many girls said it was one of best masses they had ever been to!

The afternoon at the zoo, gave us the chance to ride bikes, see the animals and generally have a great time, before heading back to Wellington for a Chinese Banquet at the Soldier’s Memorial Club Restaurant. So much food!

Monday – our final day. A little lesson about record-keeping. The arboretum is a scientific research resource, and so every plant has to be tagged, recorded and catalogued! The curator, Jim, showed us how this was done.

Then the culmination of the trip – the planting out of the “Brigidine Bed”. Firstly, a small team had the task of planning which plants would be planted and how
they would be arranged. The rest of the group continued weeding in various parts of the gardens. Finally, after lunch, the plants were all assembled, placed in their allocated positions, according to the plan, and planting began: dig the hole; pour in the “Seasol” solution; throw in a small spoonful of fertiliser; carefully tip the seedling out of its pot, tease out the roots, and into the hole with it; pack the soil around it and water with more Seasol solution; finally put up the protective plastic barrier around it to protect from wind and animals! Then repeat until all had been planted.

The final (and most labour-intensive) task was spreading mulch over the whole bed. But as the afternoon was drawing to a close, the work was done, and it was time to say good-bye, and thank-you to our hosts, especially Marion, who had made the whole excursion possible (and for her incredibly yummy cakes and scones), and Jim, for allowing us access to the many different areas of the aboretum.

We had come to Burrendong with the idea that we could do something to help the volunteers, but it had turned out that we gained so much from them – so many new skills, and so much new knowledge. And we had such a great time; not one grumble or complaint (well almost none) was heard on the entire trip! The girls were fabulous, and left the people at Burrendong with a very positive image of Brigidine! Thanks girls!

Also, a very big thanks to Miss Smith and Mr. Milanov, for giving up part of their holidays; to Mrs. Burg, for generously agreeing to come along and for helping in so many ways; to Ms Edmondson, and her sister, Jill, who came all the way to Wellington to be with us on the last night; to all of the girls for chipping in and doing the food preparation, cooking, sandwich-making, washing up and generally keeping the cottages clean and tidy (well at least by the time we left!).

The Burrendong Garden Warriors were: Jess Lee; Vivienne Deng; Erica Soon; Carina Lam; Lulu Lyons; Corrine Lawrence; Olivia cannon; Carmen El-Sayed; Alex McManus; Adeline Ho; Sarah Quilligan; Jamie Shepherd; Katie Regan; Heather Abrahams; Teebana Balakumar; Christie Chandra and Natalie Chandra.
Mr Kevin Burg
40 HOUR FAMINE 2013
On the weekend of the 16-18th of August a group of 55 Brigidine Girls ranging from Year 7 to 11 decided to give up something that was important to them for 40 Hours in order to raise money to help others in less fortunate situations. Participants gave up a variety of things including food, technology, speaking and even social media! These girls did an incredible job and raised an amazing $10,492!

The 40 Hour Famine is one of Australia’s biggest youth events raising community awareness and much needed funds to help fight global hunger. The girls who participated were inspired to help break the cycle of poverty.

The UN reports that one out of every eight people in the world is chronically hungry. This year, the 40 Hour Famine’s focus was on Malawi, in southern Africa, where around 1.9 million people are impacted by drought, failing crops and dramatically rising food prices. World Vision states that $40 can feed a family of 6 for a whole month, which theoretically means that these 55 girls have helped over 260 families in their dedication to this event.

A big thank you to Ms McColl, the Food Technology teacher who braved 40 hours without food and raised over $600! Also thank you to all in the wider school community who participated in the fundraising events that the girls held at Brigidine throughout August.

Our 55 Brigidine girls should be extremely proud of themselves and their selfless commitment to the project and to the unknown faces they understand are out there and struggling.

The next big school fundraiser will be Project Compassion 2014 and it is exciting to think what can be achieved if the whole school community gets behind it, given the achievement of 55 girls in the 40 Hour Famine!
18 September 2013

Year 9 Brigid
Brigidine College
Locked Bag 11
St Paul’s PO
RANDWICK NSW 2031

Dear Girls,

Thank you for your warm congratulations on my appointment to Minister for Sport and Recreation.

I am thrilled to have the opportunity to contribute in that portfolio in the NSW Government especially since Sport and Recreation have many benefits for everyone.

My days at Brigidine College have provided me with wonderful memories and helped prepare me for my life’s endeavours.

I do wish you all the very best with your studies.

Yours sincerely,

Hon. Gabrielle Upton MP
Member for Vaucluse
Minister for Sport and Transport

Phone: (02) 9326 1856 Fax: (02) 9326 1132 Mail: PO Box 593 Double Bay NSW 1560
Electorate Office: 330 New South Head Road, Double Bay NSW 2028 Email: vaucluse@parliament.nsw.gov.au
Website: www.gabrielleupton.com.au
Australian Catholic Youth Festival 2013
Melbourne – December 5th-7th

What is the Festival?
The Australian Catholic Youth Festival is a national gathering of Catholic youth people established by the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference. It exists to provide young people with opportunities to deepen their relationship with Jesus, be empowered to be disciples in the world today and encounter and celebrate the vitality of the Church in Australia.

Who is the Festival for?
Young people from Year 9 (in 2013) to young adults 25 years of age are invited to the event. Young people under the age of 18 must be accompanied and supervised by an adult (see registration conditions).
The Festival is aiming to gather over 3000 young people from around Australia.

When is the Festival?
The Festival will take place from Thursday December 5th until Saturday December 7th, 2013.

Where will the Festival be?
The Festival will be held in Melbourne. The majority of the Festival will be held at the Australian Catholic University (ACU) St Patrick’s Campus (115 Victoria Parade, Fitzroy VIC). The University is one block away from Melbourne’s St Patrick’s Cathedral, across the road from the birthplace of Saint Mary of the Cross MacKillop and around the corner from the Mary MacKillop Heritage Centre (a museum and centre for St Mary MacKillop).

Theme:
The Australian Catholic Youth Festival has taken a scriptural verse as its theme - “The Spirit of the Lord is upon me” Luke 4:18. This theme echoes the Australian Bishops vision for youth and youth ministry in Australia.

Costs:
- Air travel and transfers + dorm style accommodation* (inc. Breakfasts)
  $544.60
- Youth Festival Registration (inc. public transport)
  $170 (before Sep 20) or $195 (after Sep 20)
- Meals
  $75 (two lunches and three dinners)

Total price per participant: $789.60

With coach transport (adds extra night accommodation and an extra day from school)
Total price per participant: $995 (approx)

* CEO currently has 300 rooms on standby, along with 300 seats on flights.
Package Quote

Flights
Unable to fit all 300 on 1 aircraft so have split up between 4 different times in each direction. Currently based von 75 ppl on each flight - naturally we could adjust numbers slightly to ensure you get certain groups on each flight.

Flights to Melbourne (5th)
Depart: 7:15am, 7:30am, 7:45am and 8am
* 1 hour and 25 minute flight time (approx)

Flights to Sydney (6th)
Depart: 5pm, 6pm, 4:30pm & 5pm
* 1 hour and 20 minute flight time (approx)

(5)

Transfers
Return private bus transfers with "Skybus", will meet flights in each direction

(6)

Accommodation
Melbourne Discovery
Check in: 5th December
Check out: 8th December
No nights: 3
* Included of breakfast daily
Room configuration: mixture (as per floor plans sent previously)
- 306 beds currently on hold

Cost: $518.60 per person

Conditions
10% deposit required within 10 days of booking
- Full payment required 35 days before departure

Accommodation
- Names, can be done at any stage but the sooner the better
- Cancellations, must be done 32 days before arrival or full payment forfeited

Flights
- Full payment, 30 days before departure
- Names, must be provided prior to final payment
- Changes allowed once paid, $50 fee plus fare difference
- Cancellation not allowed once fully paid

Transfer
- flexible change and cancellation up until 3 weeks before booked transfer

Note: C/O, Second Floor, 9th Division Road, South Melbourne VIC 3205.
T: 61 3 9668 3105, F: 61 3 9668 3107. 
www.traveldesigninternational.com.au
GROUP DISCOVERIES WITH A DIFFERENCE!

Melbourne Discovery Groups is Victoria’s premier group accommodation provider and hosting over 400 groups each year, we really are Australia’s group accommodation specialists. We are ideally located in the heart of the CBD, right on the doorstep to everything Melbourne has to offer. We cater to every type of group, of all ages, and sizes from 11 to 350 people. So whether you are organising group travel for a university, school camp, sports camp, youth group or even just a group of friends coming to Melbourne on holiday, Melbourne Discovery Groups offer you specialised service and group discoveries with a difference!

MELBOURNEEXPLORERGROUPS.COM | BOOKINGS@MELBOURNEEXPLORERGROUPS.COM
FACILITIES - clean, safe & secure with heaps of space

ROOMS
We have a wide range of room options, from 4 bed dorms, 6 - 8 bed dorms and also 10 - 16 bed dorms. If you want some privacy we also have basic double, twin & family rooms for 1-5 people. All rooms have shared bathroom facilities, swipe card access, heating and linen.

LOUNGES
We have private lounges on every floor that group leaders can make use of as well as other common areas throughout the property.

BATHROOMS
Each floor has a set of male and female showers and a set of male and female toilets for your convenience. We understand how important cleanliness is so our housekeeping team work hard around the clock to make sure they are nice and clean any time of the day or night.

ROOFTOP & BBQ AREA
Our rooftop is equipped with BBQ’s, sun lounges and has heaps of space for your group to use! This is the ideal place to relax, cook a BBQ or play some games, all while you soak up the amazing views of Melbourne. Be sure to think about a rooftop event for your group!

CINEMA
Here at Discovery we have our very own cinema that fits up to 50 people and is filled with bean bags or bench seats, depending on your requirements. This space is often used by groups for not only movie nights but for classroom sessions.

OTHER FACILITIES INCLUDE
- Free Wi-Fi & Internet Cafe
- Kitchen & Dining Services
- Laundry & Guest Laundry

SERVICES
We understand that arranging accommodation for a group of people can be a challenging task so here at Discovery Melbourne Groups we offer you a range of services including 24 hour reception, overnight security staff, itineraries planning and booking, luggage storage, catering, conference and events facilities and swipe card access to all rooms and levels.
ITINERARY PLANNING - free, easy & uncomplicated

TAking THE STRESS OUT OF YOUR PLANNING!
Planning a group travel experience can be a very challenging task! Here at Melbourne Discovery we have great staff to do the hard work for you! Our Program Coordinator can plan and book everything from the moment you arrive to the moment you depart, including attractions, catering and events. Best of all, this service is free!

EASY AS 1, 2, 3
1. Make your deposit.
2. We send you attractions & events calendar + meal options.
3. You make your choices & we plan your itinerary for your full stay in Melbourne.

TRAVELLING SMART
Melbourne is known for its great public transportation. Be sure to ask us about travel subsidies and discounts! You can save your group money with special programs and group travel options.

WHY MELBOURNE IS A GREAT DESTINATION
Melbourne is a great choice for your group travel experience as not only does it have some of the country’s best attractions, it has countless free activities and we know how and where to find them to keep your costs down! Our planning, combined with extensive local knowledge and partnerships with attractions, will maximise your Melbourne experience within your budget.
SECONDARY SCHOOL - consider the future

SECONDARY SCHOOL GROUPS & SCHOOL CAMPS
Combine education with fun to make your secondary school excursion an adventure! We provide 24 hour reception, overnight security, swipe card access, CCTV, strict house rules and great teachers lounges for your own private space to plan and unwind.

EDUCATIONAL & FUN
We give secondary school students the chance to explore decisions for their future through University and TAFE programs and tours all within the great city of Melbourne. Plus, with countless attractions such as the Old Melbourne Gaol, the Melbourne Aquarium, and Melbourne Museum, your stay will not only be educational, it will be fun!

ITINERARY PLANNING SERVICE
Our Program Coordinator can cater an experience to suit your needs whilst sticking to your budget constraints. Many of these items are free including our own Scavenger Hunt around the DBS, career planning tours to Melbourne University or a trip to the NGV, State Library, Shrine or the fantastic Queen Victoria Market.

EXAMPLE ITINERARY - fun & educational career planning experience

DAY 1
- Arrive at Discovery
- Luggage Storage
- RMIT Tour
- Melbourne University Tour
- Lunch at The Langham Hotel
- Langham Hotel Tour
- William Angliss Tour
- Dinner at Lygon Street
- Laser Skirmish and Bowling at Galactic Circus

DAY 2
- Breakfast at Discovery
- Big Issue Classroom Session
- National Gallery of Victoria
- Packed Lunch at Alexandra Gardens
- Art Centre Tour
- ACMI
- BBQ self-catered Dinner at Discovery
- Eureka Skydeck

DAY 3
- Breakfast at Discovery
- Luggage Storage
- Scavenger Hunt (Discovery to Federation Square)
- Westin Hotel Tour
- Packed Lunch at State Library of Victoria
- Research Skills Workshop at State Library
- Travel Home
Information for Parents and Carers
Nationally Consistent Approach to the Collection of Information for Students with Disability-Phase 1 2013

All Australian governments have agreed to work together to implement a new annual national data collection on school students with disability. This data collection process is being phased in over a three year period in 2013-2015. Brigidine College has been selected, as one of 6 schools in to our Region, to participate in Phase 1.

All Australian governments agree that every child in an Australian school, regardless of his or her circumstances, has the right to a high quality and inclusive education that meets his or her needs.

Better information about school students with disability will assist teachers, principals and education authorities to support their participation in schooling on the same basis as students without disability.

This new data collection will reinforce the actions required of schools under the national disability Discrimination Act 1992 and the Disability Standards for Education 2005.

The Disability Discrimination Act 1992 definition of disability is as follows:

- total or partial loss of the person’s bodily or mental functions; or
- total or partial loss of a part of the body; or
- the presence in the body of organisms causing disease or illness; or
- the presence in the body of organisms capable of causing disease or illness; or
- the malfunction, malformation or disfigurement of a part of the person’s body; or
- a disorder or malfunction that results in the person learning differently from a person without the disorder or malfunction; or
- a disorder, illness or disease that affects a person’s thought processes, perceptions of reality, emotions or judgement or that results in disturbed behaviour and includes a disability that:
  - presently exists; or
  - previously existed but no longer exists; or
  - may exist in the future (including because of a genetic predisposition to that disability); or
  - is imputed to a person

To avoid doubt, a disability that is otherwise covered by this definition includes behaviour that is a system or manifestation of the disability.

This definition includes a wider group of students previously identified and funded under the federal Integration Funding for Students with Disability (SWD).

These laws mean that schools and education systems are required to make, where needed, reasonable adjustments for students with disability.

An adjustment is a measure or action taken to assist a student with disability to participate in education on the same basis as other students. Adjustments can be made across the whole school setting, in the classroom and at the individual level.

Determining the type and level of support needed for an individual student is not a new activity for Brigidine. We have pastoral care and learning support programs that cater to the diverse needs of students in our school.
However, currently there is only limited and inconsistent information at a national level about school students with disability, their educational needs and the support provided to them.

The information provided by this new national data collection will enable all Australian governments to better target support and resources. That will assist students with disability in government and non-government schools across Australia to complete school and go on to further education or find employment.

The following information will be collected annually at the school level:

- The level of adjustment provided;
- The number of students receiving each level of adjustment to enable them to participate in education on the same basis as other students; and
- Where known, the student’s type of disability.

School teams will collect evidence based on:

- Consultation with parent/carers;
- Their observations and professional judgements; and
- Any medical diagnosis.

The evidence will be collected over at least a 10 week period. Principals and school teams will be supported with training to assist them to make accurate judgements. In line with good teaching practice and the requirements of the Disability Standards for Education 2005, parents will continue to be provided with opportunities to discuss ways to assist their child to overcome barriers and the adjustments that could be made to support their child.

A student will only be included in the data collection if he/she meets the definition of disability under the Disability Discrimination Act 1992 and the school has evidence of this. A parent will decide whether their child’s information will be included or not in the national reporting activity.

Protecting the privacy and confidentiality of all children and their families is a key priority. Authorised staff will manage the information to ensure that personal or confidential information is not disclosed. Transmission of data will be done in such a way that no individual student will be able to be identified in the data collection.

It is intended that the data collected about students with disability will be published on the My Schools website and in other national reports on schooling from 2016 onwards. Public reporting will mean more is known about how all Australian schools and education authorities support students with disability.

Australian schools and education will use these data as evidence to improve their support for students with disability. Brigidine is supportive of this initiative to address the diverse needs of all our students.

For further information about the national collection of data on Australian schools students with disability and how you can support it, please visit www.deewr.gov.au/students-disability

Ms Deborah Tonks