

Brigidine College Newsletter

FEBRUARY 2016

Issue # 2

UPCOMING EVENTS

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 23
Yr 11 Leadership Day

THURSDAY, MARCH 3
College Open Afternoon
2.30 – 6.00pm
(School day finishes at
1.05pm)

FRIDAY, MARCH 4
College
Swimming Carnival

MARCH 14-15
Year 7 Camp

BRIGIDINE BASICS

- Girls leave class at 3pm but the School reserves the right to require the girls to stay until 3.20pm
- 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,

I saw this morning on breakfast television that Pope Francis had spoken during a press conference about the kinds of utterances which are and are not Christian. I have also come across an interesting quote from Pope Paul VI in 1966 as he established the Vatican Secretariat for Non Christians. In responding to his need at that time to define what "catholic" means, Pope Paul said:

"Usefulness and prestige govern people's hearts, not to speak of the drive to dominate others and to use them for our own purposes. But when the name 'catholic' becomes an interior reality, all egoism is overcome, all class struggle develops into full social solidarity, all nationalism is reconciled with the good of the world community, all racism is condemned, and all totalitarianism is unmasked in its inhumanity. The small heart has been broken open. It acquires a completely new capacity to expand. As Saint Augustine said, 'Let the space for love be widened'.

Paul VI continues: 'A catholic heart means a heart with universal dimensions: a heart that has overcome the basic narrowness that prevents us listening to our calling towards supreme love. It means a magnanimous heart, an ecumenical heart, a heart capable of embracing the whole world. This does not make it a heart that is indifferent to the truth of things or to sincerity of words. It does not mistake goodness for weakness, nor does it confuse peace with cowardice or apathy. It lives the marvellous synthesis of St. Paul: "Doing the truth in love"(Ephesians 4:15)'." (quoted from a homily by Father Michael Fallon MSC)

Reading this quote made me feel nostalgic as it is the vision of Church that was gifted to me as an adolescent in the years after Vatican Two. These are still mighty words to set our sails by and gives deepening detail to Pope Francis' most recent remarks about lived Christianity.

May Brigid bless all you do to make good things happen in our world

Ms K Edmondson - Principal



FROM THE ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

USE OF SENTRAL

All parents and students have access to the College's *SENTRAL Student/Parent Portal*. Please ensure you utilise this resource on a weekly basis. The girls **MUST** access SENTRAL on a daily basis. School bulletins will be posted on SENTRAL as well as the girls' timetable and attendance. If you do not yet have access to the SENTRAL portal please email michael.rawlings@syd.catholic.edu.au

If you have already registered for SENTRAL remember to use your email and password to access the portal. You can access the portal via our College website or via the following link <http://sentral.bcrandwick.catholic.edu.au/portal/login>

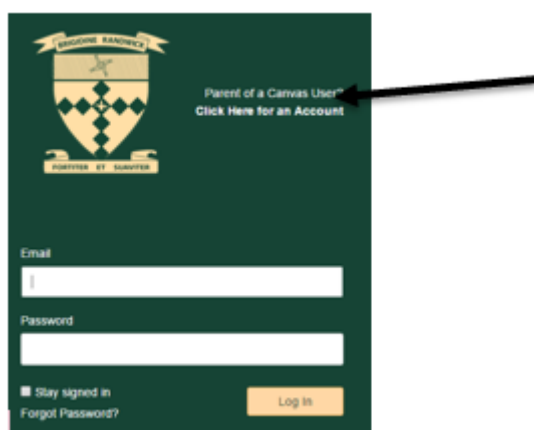
PLEASE ACT NOW – PLEASE REGISTER NOW SO THAT YOU HAVE AN ACCOUNT BEFORE ANY ROUND OF PARENT TEACHER INTERVIEWS COMMENCES. BOOKINGS WILL BE DONE VIA THE SENTRAL PARENT PORTAL

CANVAS – LEARNING MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

Parents can register as an observer on Canvas via the Canvas homepage <https://bcrandwick.instructure.com>. You will be instructed to fill in your details along with your daughter's login details. Once you have done this you can change your password. If you have several daughters at the College you will need to complete this process for each daughter so that it registers you with each individual daughter. Once completed you will have only one login and password for each of your daughters.

If you have any questions regarding logging on please email michael.rawlings@syd.catholic.edu.au

Click on the link



N.B. Please note that both staff and students are new to using Canvas in 2016 and you will not find a significant amount of work on it for each subject. What you will find this year is that all your daughters' assessment tasks will be uploaded and will come through the calendar thus providing calendar and SMS notifications if this has been set up by your daughter.

OPEN DAY

We will have our annual Open Day on Thursday the 3rd March from 2:30pm to 6:00pm. School will finish at 1:05pm on this Thursday. Supervision of students is available at the College for those who need to stay at school until 3:20pm. School Special Buses will not be operating at 1:05pm; however, students remaining at school until 3:20pm can catch their usual School Special bus. The canteen will be open until 1:40pm for students staying at school. If your daughter remains at school she will be required to assist with the setting up of Open Day.

Some students will be required to remain at the College to assist with the Open Day activities in different curriculum areas and as tour guides. The involvement of students in a day such as this is crucial. It gives the girls an excellent opportunity to showcase their school and their work.

Students are expected at school in their Summer Uniform. They will require books and equipment for Periods 1 to 4. Please ensure you have signed the permission slip indicating if your daughter requires supervision until 3:20pm or is assisting with Open Day.

SWIMMING CARNIVAL

Details will follow in this newsletter. Could all parents ensure that if you are **picking your daughters up from the pool that you arrive at 2:00pm**. Girls will be put on a bus back to school if they have not been picked up by 2:25pm.

Dates to Note:

Date	Event
23/2/2016	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Year 11 Leadership Day
26/2/2016	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Public Speaking – Round 1
29/2/2016	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Cape York Immersion Parent Information Evening (6:30pm) St Anne's• Year 12 Hospitality Restaurant take over - Pinocchio's
3/3/2016	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• College Open Afternoon (2:30 - 6:00pm) – Girls dismissed at 1:05pm



4/3/2016	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> College Swimming Carnival – Botany Pool (8am)
14/3 – 15/3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Year 7 Camp
18/3 – 1/4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Year 12 Exams
25/3-28/3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Easter Long Weekend
8/4/2016	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Final Day Term 1

2016 CAPE YORK PENINSULA IMMERSION

The College is offering all girls in **Year 10/11** the opportunity to travel to the Cape York Peninsula and live and work on a remote Aboriginal Homeland during the September school holidays.

The experience is about providing the girls with the opportunity to extend their education in the hope of inspiring them to learn about our country and its traditional owners. Likewise, it aims to enable the girls to learn more about poverty within our own country, so we can use our education not for becoming rich and having the power to dominate, but to form the ideal of loving and preparing oneself to 'be more' and serve the poorest in our country.



An information evening will be held for parents on **Monday 29th February at 6:30pm in St Anne's.**

Brigid Taylor
Assistant Principal



SPORTS DEPARTMENT NEWS

SWIMMING CARNIVAL

The Annual Swimming Carnival will be held on Friday 4th March at Botany Pool.

Students in Year 7 will be transported by bus to the pool and back to school at the end of the day. Year 7 must arrive at school for 8.00 Roll Call. It is estimated that students will be back at school between 2.30-3.00pm

Students in Years 8 to 12 must make their own way to the pool and home. Roll Call will be at the pool at 8.30am. If any student in Year 8 to 12 needs to catch the organised school bus they must fill in the permission note and return this to their roll teacher. If catching the bus you need to be in the Main Quad at 8.00am. The carnival will commence at 9.00am and finish at approximately 2.00pm.

All student supervision will conclude at 2.15pm. **Therefore, could all parents/carers please ensure that your daughter has made adequate arrangements for her return home at the conclusion of the carnival. Pool authorities do not permit children to remain at the pool and they must leave at the conclusion of the carnival.**

Please note that the Swimming Carnival is a compulsory College event. If your daughter is absent on the day of the carnival due to illness, please contact the school and inform them of her absence either by leaving your message on voicemail or contacting the office at 8.00am. On her return to school she must present a doctor's certificate to her roll call teacher.

The carnival will be held regardless of weather.

All students must come prepared with hats, sunscreen and drink bottles. If it is wet weather you are advised to bring appropriate clothing.

If the Carnival must be postponed a message will be placed on SENTRAL

If there is no message then the Carnival is on!

Canteen facilities **will be available from 10.30am.**

Dress for the Carnival

Students may dress up in their House Colours for the carnival but they must make sure they are in appropriate clothing to travel in. **NO PAINT IS TO BE USED AT ANY TIME AS DRESS UP.** If you do not wish to dress up you are to wear correct PE uniform.

All students must be aware of sun safety and wear appropriate clothing to prevent sunburn as well as using sunscreen and wearing a hat. Stay hydrated and drink plenty of water.



Parents and family members are all welcome to attend on the day but a reminder that all students are expected to sit in the stands with their house.

We hope to see lots of participation from all girls and great team spirit. Good luck to all teams and all swimmers.



CONGRATULATIONS TO ANNALISE

Congratulations to Annalise Sutherland YR 12. Annalise competed in the NSW Junior and Youth Athletics Championships and came first in the High Jump with a Gold Medal performance earning selection for the NSW team to compete at the Australian Junior and Youth Championships at Perth in March. Good luck Annalise and we will follow your performance with great interest.

Ms Kate Elder – Sports Coordinator



SCIENCE DEPARTMENT NEWS

Are you interested in robotics or designing and programming your own video game???

STEM club has started!! If you are interested please come and visit us in DL2 on Wednesday's from 3pm-4pm. Email k.watsonjones@syd.catholic.edu.au for a permission letter.

Calling on science student VOLUNTEERS for open day. Please see any science teacher to sign up.

Year 11 Biology Field Trip

This year the 80 Year 11 Biology students visited the rock platform in Kamay Botany Bay National



Park. As part of their first assessment task, they collected data on the biotic and abiotic factors of the rock platform ecosystem. Searching for different plant and animal species, students discussed animal adaptations to their environment and measured the abundance and distribution of certain species.



ENGLISH DEPARTMENT NEWS

The English Department would like to welcome Ms Anita Playoust and Ms Kathleen Bowers to Brigidine. Both teachers have already made a positive impact upon their students with their enthusiasm for English and their dedication to pastoral care. They have also contributed behind the scenes: Ms Playoust is helping us all adjust to CANVAS and Ms Bowers is providing opportunities for our budding writers.

Here are a few words from each teacher:

Ms Playoust:

It's hard for me to name a favourite author but I love reading Indian writers like Rohinton Mistry (*A Fine Balance* bring one of my favourite novels).. I love non-fiction and the controversy of Helen Garner's work (perhaps because she often delves into legal issues which is another passion of mine) and confronts taboo issues. But I love the classics too like Austen. I absolutely love drama/theatre - especially Williams and Miller plays. Also like Australian contemporary writers like Tsolkas.

In terms of reasons for teaching - I guess you could say that I found my true calling in teaching. It took me a while to get there with my academic background and professional career taking twists and turns from journalism and practising law but I feel teaching is the only profession that truly allows me to be involved in all my favourite pursuits in the one job: social justice, helping others and giving back, language, literature, legal studies, pastoral care, drama, debating and musicals.

There is nothing more rewarding than being part of a student's journey - watching them grow intellectually and emotionally. When the penny finally drops and they understand the nuances and eccentricities of language and actually say they didn't mind studying Shakespeare; or when they feel empowered to express their ideas and take risks in their writing. I love the dynamic of a classroom - a place full of opportunities.

Indeed it was my passionate Year 11 English teacher who sowed the seed when he introduced me to the poetry of Robert Frost and the poem 'The Road Not Taken'. He made me see the world through a different lens, giving me guidance and comfort in the idea that it was ok not to always take the conventional path.

I am truly excited to return to the Catholic system and look forward to teaching females only (a breath of fresh air from having taught boys). I am excited to be part of a school community that is inclusive and places value on pastoral care. I am excited to be teaching across all stages and particularly the challenge of Extension 1 and Advanced English:



developing my knowledge and skills further. And finally working with other members of the English team in a collaborative fashion.

Ms Bowers:

I would like to extend a huge hello to everyone in the Brigidine community. I have included a few pieces of information about myself to help you get an idea of who I am and what I hope to bring to the school. I grew up with books; firstly, as an eager reader during coveted “story time” with my father, and then (later than I’d care to admit) on my own by the dim light of a toy glow worm. In books I found a parallel universe that stayed with me long after I’d put the book to rest. I became a teacher because I wanted to help students access that space that I’d found; as a place that they could not only visit but contribute to. I have always enjoyed the honesty and authenticity of young people so it’s a great joy to help them find and express their voice through writing and composition. It is also a privilege to pass on a message that a teacher once told me after I had (fairly demonstratively) expressed my disappointment following a result in a maths test. This teacher said to me “this too will end”, and she was right. Transient failures can feel definitive when you’re only young, so I consider it my responsibility to model to students that things can and will get better and that disappointment will pass so that resilience can take its place.

It is always a somewhat daunting prospect to be new in an established place, however my experiences of Brigidine girls have been so positive that I am already (a mere three weeks in) beginning to feel like I belong. The overarching ethos of effort and respect is easily accessible in the ideas that students have contributed in class and I am very excited to be working with such insightful young women. During my time at Brigidine I hope to contribute to the extra-curricular creative writing initiatives and help students make connections between writing and social justice.



Public Speaking

Public speaking trials were held on Tuesday 9 February. Congratulations to all those girls who tried out.

The following is a speech given by Lily Miranda of Year 7. It is a wonderful affirmation of the good that can come from a positive spirit. It also sounds very much like some of the advice Lucy Kelley gave the school in her speech as Dux for 2015:

Do you like change? Do you like trying new things? Because I'm always nervous about change. You know when you get the feeling of butterflies in your tummy? That's me.

This year I've had some very big changes. I started high school this year. I've had to adjust in many ways. For example, catching a bus to school, having my own laptop, moving classrooms and more.

But you know what, I've made new friends, I'm still in touch with my old ones, there's lots of new subjects and teachers here, I haven't gotten lost, the buses aren't late and I like having my own laptop.

I sort of knew that coming to Brigidine wouldn't be too bad because my mum and two of my aunts went here.

I'm sure they got used to all the changes that high school brings because one of them ended up being school captain and the other one dux. I wonder if they had the feeling of butterflies in their tummy too.

Well, you know what? If those butterflies ever come back, they'll just be reminding me that this change will be full of opportunity and amazing.

Many thanks to our Public Speaking Coordinator Ms Mohamed for organising the trials. Competition starts on Friday 26 February

Ms Jarman



CAREERS NEWS

QS World University Rankings 2015/16

The QS World University Rankings for 2015/2016 have been released, with the Australian National University, ranked 19th globally, being first in Australia. The top 10 universities in Australia according to these rankings are:

1. Australian National University (19)
2. The University of Melbourne (42)
3. The University of Sydney (45)
4. The University of New South Wales (46)
5. The University of Queensland (46)
6. Monash University (67)
7. The University of Western Australia (98)
8. The University of Adelaide (113)
9. University of Technology, Sydney (218)
10. Macquarie University (229)

<http://www.topuniversities.com/university-rankings/world-university-rankings/2015>

Quality Indicators for Learning and Teaching (QILT)

This website helps prospective university students make informed choices about their future. QILT provides students with a broad range of information about Australian universities including graduate job prospects and student satisfaction and retention rates.

<http://myuniversity.gov.au/>

TAFE Career Quiz

The quiz uses brief multiple choice questions to determine prominent characteristics and then which career paths might suit these.

<https://www.tafensw.edu.au/careers/career-quiz>

Australian Apprenticeship Pathways Course Finder

The course finder allows students to search for pre-apprenticeship courses, with the option to search for those that also have work experience included.

<http://www.aapathways.com.au/Search/Preapprenticeships/Course-Finder>

Careers in Maths

Visit the Australian Mathematical Sciences Institute's website to view a range of career profiles from apprentice chefs to Electricians to Nurses where mathematics is a necessary part of their everyday jobs. <http://www.mathscareers.org.au/>



TSMX Free HSC Survival Guide

The School for Excellence (TSMX) have put together a 36 page guide to help year 12 students achieve the best possible marks in end of school exams. The guide has advice about goal setting, managing stress and procrastination, time management skills, effective learning techniques, planning study timetables and more.

Download it here: <http://www.tsmx.com.au/hsc-survival-guide-edge-teachers>

YFU Student Exchange Online Information Session

The online information sessions provide those interested in exchange with the opportunity to learn about the programs on offer from the comfort of their couch. Sessions start at 6pm (AEDT) on the following dates:

- Monday 29th February
- Monday 21st March
- Monday 11th April
- Monday 2nd May
- Monday 23rd May

Email yfuaus@yfu.com.au or phone 1800 654 947 to register.

<http://www.yfu.com.au/quest/connect/information-sessions/>

Discover Your Career

An online career resource developed by the National Tourism Alliance with the support of the Federal Government to promote tourism and hospitality career pathways.

<http://www.discoveryyourcareer.com.au/>

Young People and Barriers to Study and Employment

Mission Australia has released the results of its annual *Youth Survey* report, providing valuable insight into the lives of young Australians. The 2015 survey focuses specifically on the barriers faced in reaching work and study goals, exploring young people's concerns about their post-school plans. Review the key facts online:

<http://www.australiancareersservice.com.au/young-people-and-barriers-to-study-and-employment/>

AFS Open Days

Find out whether going on exchange or hosting an exchange student with AFS is right for you and your family at an Open Day.

<http://www.afs.org.au/news-and-events/open-days>

[Ms J Nicolas](#)

[Careers Adviser](#)

SECOND HAND UNIFORMS FOR SALE



Senior Uniform

Size 6 Kilt \$20

Size 12 Blazer \$50

Both in good condition and have been dry cleaned.

Contact Monica 0401 701 111

Senior items for Sale in excellent condition

1x Senior Blazer Size 16 \$50

1x Senior Pullover Size 10-12 \$35

1x Senior Skirt Size 10-12 \$40

Please contact: Stephanie Fenech on 0422071618

Brigidine Blazer

Brigidine Blazer Size 8 \$50

Great condition. Dry Cleaned

Contact: Monica on 0420 975 960



UNIFORM NEED ALTERING?

Too long, too tight, elastic not right? I have over 50 years of experience in sewing and doing alterations and now I do them for my Grandson's uniforms! If you need prompt, affordable help with making those uniforms fit just right, please call me. I can also come to the uniform shop if you need help with fitting. Tina 9399 8009 or 0410 540 084



WORLD YOUTH DAY FUNDRAISER



Please come along and support our students!

BUNNINGS
warehouse

28th Feb 2016

Bunnings BBQ
Euston Road, Alexandria

