Welcome to our May Newsletter

I am very busy these days with enrolment interviews and very often prospective parents ask about the preponderance of bullying in the school. Malice and bullying within the student body are for the greater part the result of the girls’ ignorance of their own feelings and therefore the feelings of others. Those memorable words “Forgive them Father, they know not what they do” was not Jesus being nice, but another sign of His connectedness to reality. He could see that those who harmed him (mortal) had no comprehension of what was really happening. In my experience, comprehending the pain of the other is something that is learnt by those, young and old, whose heart is whole enough to be open to experience rather than to systemic thinking. This parable makes an interesting insight about love.

“A Rabbi, renowned for his piety was unexpectedly confronted one day by one of his devoted youthful disciples. In a burst of feeling, the young disciple exclaimed ‘Master I love you!’ The ancient teacher looked up from his books and asked his fervent disciple ‘Do you know what hurts me, my son?’ The young man was puzzled. Composing himself, he stuttered, ‘I don’t understand your question, Rabbi. I am trying to tell you how much you mean to me, and you confuse me with irrelevant questions.’

‘My question is neither confusing or irrelevant,’ rejoined the Rabbi, ‘for if you do not know what hurts me, how can you truly love me?’
STUDENTS ARRIVAL TIME

Brigidine girls are expected to be at school by 8.30am. This is not new and has always been the case. Our longer day is the result of our course of study in Religious Education and the extra time that goes into the pastoral care program. Classes are underway by 8.45 am so being late to school means being late for class. The older the girls are the greater the chance that they will be late. A parent can quite rightly believe that their daughter in Year Eleven or Twelve is quite capable of getting to school on time and leave her to it. It is this age group that is coming late. Girls who come to school with a parental note about why they are late are always allowed to go to their locker and then go to class. Girls who are late, especially those who wander in with a hot coffee or chocolate in hand are not allowed to disturb their teacher and class and are supervised for the lesson. Fifteen minutes late for school is too late. In Western culture, the human family has always used punctuality as a sign of respect for a person or an occasion. Apart from the importance of being in class and focused on the lesson, this respect is what we are trying to teach the girls. We all learn respect through its giving and receiving in action; not by imagining that we are respectful.

DEBATING

In the last Newsletter I wrote to you about the beginning of the Debating season. Ms Mansfield organizes the process beautifully and the girls are very focused and enthusiastic. On Friday 6th May, Brigidine debated Waverley College and won every debate. Last Friday (13th May), we visited OLSH Kensington and Brigidine won four out of six debates. I proudly watched our senior team argue their case from a very ambiguous topic; each girl was speaking fluently and thinking on her feet. It is wonderful to see the important skill of public speaking developing in our students. Debating this Friday night is here at Brigidine. Girls who are members of the debating teams are to bring a substantial contribution for supper.

P & F MEETING

Thank you to the parents who attended the P & F Meeting last week. The minutes from the meeting are informative and will be available on the College website.

May Brigid bless the house wherein you dwell.

Ms Kate Edmondson
Principal

A reminder to parents that no parking is allowed in BUS ZONES, NO PARKING ZONES or NO STANDING ZONES. Some parents are parking illegally and causing danger to other students. Parents have been booked in the past. Please do the right thing to ensure the safety of your daughters and other students.
ATHLETICS CARNIVAL
THE ANNUAL ATHLETICS CARNIVAL WILL BE HELD ON FRIDAY 27 May 2011
at E.S. Marks Field Kensington. Enter via Boronia Avenue.

- Students are expected to make their own way to and from the Carnival.
- Roll Call will commence at 8.00am sharp.
- We are expecting to finish the Carnival between 1.00pm and 1.30pm with all supervision concluding at 1.30pm. Students who have not made arrangements to leave by this time will be asked to return to school until 3.20pm.
- Students may dress up in House Colours to support their team. If not dressing up you wear your full sports uniform.
- Students cannot wear dress up with the school 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.
- If it is raining early on the morning of the Carnival a message will be left on the infoline as to the procedure of the day.
- Listed below is a step by step guide for you to access the infoline.

The infoline.com.au

How to listen to a new message:
1. Competitors dial 1902 262 019. This call costs a maximum of $1.40 per minute, including GST (higher from mobile and pay phones).
2. They will be asked to enter your infocode – 1076.
3. They will then hear a message telling them that they have called the infoline for ‘Brigidine College’.
4. Select No. 1 on the options (1) Cancellations and Weather Announcements;
5. The messages they hear will also include the date and time. The most recent messages are always played first.

Ms Kate Emerson
Sports Coordinator
Year 9 COMMERCE SMALL BUSINESS DAY
After studying Running a Small Business, the girls had to plan, set up and run their own small business either as a partnership or sole trader. This was done with amazing success on Friday 6 May.

A variety of small business were conducted varying from food businesses selling milk shakes, fairy floss, cold rock type ice cream, cup cakes, lolly sticks, cookie dough, chocolate pizza, jelly cups to businesses selling beaded jewellery, lip gloss, anklets, cards and even drawing portraits.

This was a fabulous learning experience for all involved looking at marketing including promotion and target market, location, operations and most of all finance. It was very pleasing that all businesses made a profit on the day. A big thank you to all the students and staff who supported this activity and of course the parents of these girls.

Mrs Rowena Dawson