Sports News...

We have commenced our sporting year energetically with our Year 3-6 students engaging in cricket development, through games and skill instruction, whilst our PP-Year 2 students have been busily focussing on the fundamental movement skills of locomotion and balance. This term sees us heading to our new pool for our swimming carnivals, as well as travelling to Balingup to defend our Super 8s Cricket Shield, (please refer to term calendar for dates). We have commenced our whole-school fitness program which is being implemented on Tuesdays, Wednesday and Friday each week. These sessions will involve a variety of games and activities generally designed to improve strength and overall fitness. We will be running various versions of cricket during our whole-school sport sessions on Fridays, where our eager cricketers can put their Phys Ed skills into action! Finally, our after-school sport will continue on Wednesdays from 3:10pm-4pm depending on weather conditions. I would like to extend an invitation to any parents who would like further information or would like to volunteer for events or just to have a chat about our sporting plans for this year, to come and see me. I am excited to see what our amazing students will achieve this year in St Brigid’s sporting endeavours. Mr T

P&F News...

Another week races ahead towards our School & Parish Fete to be held on the 19th of March. The P&F will meet this coming Monday (15th February, 2pm in the staff room) to discuss ideas to make this a fantastic fun day! Make sure it’s on your calendar; we look forward to welcoming new parent volunteers to help us out before and on the day. More information to come.

Last weekend’s Dart Association weekend was a resounding success! The P&F volunteers raised over $1000; a big, big thank you to Helen Christie for her amazing organisation skills. It was such a joy to see parents who had never met working together, laughing and sharing stories. These events really do make our school community. Thank you to those who came throughout the weekend and to those who helped. Your time and generosity is so valued. A special mention to the Christie girls, Sienna & Em who were a big help over both days, particularly with clean up on Sunday. We are grateful for your willingness! Thought for the week - ‘Volunteers are not paid… not because they are worthless, but because they are priceless” Cheeroo, Sharon 0417902096

Community News...

DjembeMoves Dance Classes
Music and Dance for Kids
Ages 6—8 Thursdays 3.30—4.30pm $50 for a 10 class pass valid for 2 terms
Jazz, Afro, HipHop Fusion
Aged 2—5 Mondays 4.00—4.30pm
Ages 9 and over
$100 per term
West African Drumming for Adults
Mondays 6.00—8.00pm
All enquiries to Norma 0487 335 695 www.djembemoves.com.au

Music News

Tuesday music classes have begun in earnest, and this year I have the delight of the Kindy group included in weekly music, which has been a whole lot of fun. In the younger years we are exploring music: how music helps to tell a story and how different instruments and sounds make us feel. In the upper years we have begun to investigate the importance of The Beatles in contemporary music.

We also had a great liturgical singing session in preparation for yesterday’s Ash Wednesday Mass, and they sounded fantastic in the church.

Choir begins next week under the guidance of Mrs Michelle Donaldson - I am very much looking forward to this, and I know many parents and students are too. Singing in general is great for the soul, but singing in a choir is a particularly uplifting experience: I can’t wait.

Finally, private music tuition has begun again. Thank you to all the parents and students who are so enthusiastically involved with learning their instruments this year. There are a limited number of places still available in group guitar and group ukulele - please contact me via email parkinson.dan@cathednet.wa.edu.au if your son/daughter is interested.

From the Principal...

St Brigid’s School acknowledges the Bibbulmun people as the traditional custodians of the land upon which our school is situated.

Dear Parents, Caregivers and Community Members,

Shrove Tuesday: Shrove Tuesday occurs the first Tuesday before Ash Wednesday. It officially ends the season of Epiphany and is the vigil for the beginning of Lent. It’s a day of penitence, to clean the soul and a day of celebration as the last chance to feast before Lent begins.

Ash Wednesday: Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of the Season of Lent. It is a season of penance, reflection and fasting which prepares us for Christ’s Resurrection on Easter Sunday. The liturgical colour for Lent is purple and continues for 40 days until Holy Week. Yesterday Yrs 3-6 gathered in the Church for Mass to mark the beginning of this significant liturgical season. After Mass Fr Wally then distributed ashes to all children in PP-2. “ASPIRE NOT TO HAVE MORE . . . BUT TO BE MORE!”

Sacramental Program: In preparation for the Sacrament of Reconciliation, parents are invited to meet with Fr Wally Next Wednesday, 17 February at 3.15pm in our library. Children who are not Baptised can start Reconciliation but must also be Baptised before receiving the Sacrament. We ask that you keep these children in your prayers as they begin the Sacramental Program for 2016.

School Captains and House Captains completed their speeches earlier this week in front of Yrs 3-6 and staff. After their peers and staff have voted, we will announce the school leaders at our School Assembly next Wednesday at 2.30pm. I wish to congratulate all the Yr 6 children who presented their speeches with confidence, clarity and even flair!

Parent Information Evening: The Parent Information Meetings will take place Thursday, 18 February starting at 5.30pm for K-2. I will address all families at 6.00pm in the hall and then Years 3-6 at 6.30pm. These sessions really help to support an informed community and also support our students, your children, in their learning during the year. If you are unable to attend, please organise a time to meet with your child’s teacher, for information about procedures and expectations for this year.

Stargazing Night: Astronomy Field Night - Starting at 7pm (straight after the parent meetings on Thursday 18 Feb). We will have Mr Richard Tonello from the Stargazers Club WA, hosting an Astronomy Field Night for students and parents on our school oval. Richard will bring telescopes to view the night stars, he will do a laser point constellation tour and present an informative Universe talk. Hot Dogs, hamburgers and soft drink will be available for purchase from the school canteen. Please complete the pre-order form to help us with catering.

Andrew Kelly
Principal

Date 11 Feb 2016
Term 1 Week 2

Notices Accompanying this Newsletter

Canteen Roster
Australian Catholics Magazine
Pre Order Dinner Form
Stargazing Evening
Article from School Nurse

All families
All families
All families
All families
Please pray for the members of our community who are sick and in need of our prayerful support at this time.
Year 5 News
Firstly I would like to extend a welcome to our new Year 5s and their families to the new school year. My name is Jamie Ternent and along with Ms Emma Lynas and Mr Andrew Kelly, will be involved in the education of your child this year. We have got off to an enthusiastic and high energy start and I am super impressed with the way in which our Year 5s have settled into their new roles. Our focus in English this term will be looking at developing skills in the persuasive writing framework, completing daily activities in spelling, punctuation and grammar, and vocabulary development. Also, reading will focus on the improvement/consolidation of comprehension skills as well as regular home reading responsibilities. In Mathematics, we have commenced a review of the place value system with students reading and writing numbers into the hundreds of thousands. A strong focus on mental calculation skills will feature as well as many maths games and tables development. In Geography, we will be studying life on the Amazon River, looking at how people have utilised the environment to sustain life. Other topics and subjects we will be covering this term will be looking at life in Australia, including the history behind Australia Day, our states and territories, and popular natural elements of our beautiful country, such as the Great Barrier Reef.

BRIDGETOWN YOUTH THEATRE
Have fun and learn acting skills!
Year 3—6 Thursday 4.00—5.00pm
Year 7—12 Wednesdays 4.30—6.00pm
Starts Wed 17th Feb & Thurs 18 Feb
AT THE BRIDGETOWN THEATRE
$30 for 3 Terms @ $7.00 membership fee
For Details—Meegan 0421 665 573 meeg71@yahoo.com
Anthony 0409 171 664 antsongs@yahoo.com

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MATILDA PATTERSON
EMIR ERKINOV
GABRIELLA WARD

Year Six News
With a fresh new look in the classroom, and 15 wonderful year six students, our 2016 school leaders have had a great start to the new school year. They’ve hit the ground running, so to speak, and are working hard across all subject areas. One of the first important tasks as senior students they’ve had to undertake, has been the nominations for students leaders. Each student this year has nominated for a leadership role. The roles are Environment Captain, ICT/Events Captain, Sports Captain and School Captain (who also takes the role of Ministry leader). The students wrote some wonderful speeches and presented them to the teachers and students from years 3, 4, 5 and 6— as well as Mr Kelly, Mrs Williams and Father Wally—who then voted. All who heard and saw these presentations agree that there were some very strong candidates, and voting was not easy at all. The winners of these leadership positions will be announced at next Wednesday’s assembly. Mr Dan Parkinson & Ms Emma Lynas

Kindy News
Welcome to all our Kindy children and their families! This term we are focusing on the children becoming independent, and settling in to their classroom. This means carrying their own bags, putting on their own shoes and socks, and being able to open all of the things in their lunch boxes by themselves. We want to give them the best start to their schooling as possible, so we will be building the physical, social, and emotional skills they will need in the coming years.
We’ve had a great start to Kindy, Sue, Elizabeth and I look forward to a terrific term.
Mrs Nova Dodson

Year Two News
In Year Two we have been learning about how God created each of us to be unique and special. We have been discussing our differences and why these are so important. This week we discussed Shrove Tuesday and we ate some yummy pancakes! We discussed what Lent is and made our own Lenten promises on Ash Wednesday. During English we are examining the difference between Fiction and Non Fiction texts and we are learning how to make predictions about a text before, during and after reading. The Year Two Class will be learning how to read, write and represent numbers into the thousands and exploring how to measure the length of items using both informal and formal units. We have also been discussing what bullying is and actions we can take if we are being bullied.
Mrs Teagan Thresher

Year One News
Welcome to our first exciting term in Year 1! Our Religious Education focus for this term is Penance, which will be celebrated with the Sacrament of Reconciliation, as well as Lent and Easter. In English, we are focusing on narrative writing, to be followed by persuasive writing. We will be reading a number of texts to assist our understanding of how a good narrative is written, in order to help us prepare our own entertaining texts! We are currently investigating four digit numbers in Mathematics and will be learning a number of mental maths games from Dr Paul Swan, to assist us with learning and developing new mathematical strategies. Our integrated program is focusing on Australia, including the history behind Australia Day, our states and territories, and popular natural elements of our beautiful country, such as the Great Barrier Reef.
Miss Chloe Bennison

Year Four News
The Year 4’s have made a wonderful start to the year by busying themselves with a Summer Holiday Project. They have written about their Summer break adventures, designed a diagram ready to make in Technology and Enterprise inspired by their holiday destinations and they have also mapped where they went. Next week we hope to calculate how far Bridgetown is from our holiday destinations, with the use of our new Chrome Books! We have made a good start to Lent and the count down to Easter by starting with a discussion about Shrove Tuesday, its meaning and history. We thoroughly enjoyed making and eating pancakes and working out the correct measurements when following the recipe.
Mrs Emily Royce & Mrs Cressida Mitchell

Year Three News
Welcome to our first exciting term in Year 3! Our Religious Education focus for this term is Penance, which will be celebrated with the Sacrament of Reconciliation, as well as Lent and Easter. In English, we are focusing on narrative writing, to be followed by persuasive writing. We will be reading a number of texts to assist our understanding of how a good narrative is written, in order to help us prepare our own entertaining texts! We are currently investigating four digit numbers in Mathematics and will be learning a number of mental maths games from Dr Paul Swan, to assist us with learning and developing new mathematical strategies. Our integrated program is focusing on Australia, including the history behind Australia Day, our states and territories, and popular natural elements of our beautiful country, such as the Great Barrier Reef.
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