Hello to all in the St Brigid’s community,

Term 1, Week 5

This Sunday

This Sunday is the Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time.

In the First Reading Isaiah reminds us that God’s love for us is like the unbreakable bond that a mother has for her child. The Second Reading St Paul rebukes the Corinthians for making judgments about his fellow teachers. Paul declares that the teachers are to act and be treated like God’s servants; servants who have the trust of the Lord. In the Gospel Jesus reminds us that material possessions don’t really matter when he says ‘Set your hearts on God’s Kingdom … and all those other things will be given to you also’. In a roundabout way the readings are reminding us that God loves us unconditionally, God trusts us and gives us all that we need to respond to God’s call of love.

What’s On Over The Coming Week

Don’t forget the Start of Year Mass at 6pm and followed by a picnic on the oval on Friday evening.

The Season of Lent will commence next Wednesday, March 5 with Ash Wednesday.

The monthly School Board meeting will also be held on next Wednesday.

Assembly prayer this week was led by Year 4B whilst 4C will lead next week’s.

Global Megatrends

The beginning of a new year is a time to look ahead to trends that are likely to affect government policy and social change into 2030. Schools cannot flourish in a vacuum. By studying global megatrends we can narrow down to the decisions we make in our schools that will take our students into their future.

1. Demographics: Longer life expectancy and falling birth rates will nearly double the number of elderly while challenging our ability to find jobs for our young people and fund social welfare provisions like pensions.

   • 15-24 year-olds make up 40% of the world’s unemployed.
   • 90% of the global youth population lives in developing countries.
   • One million young people will enter the labour force in India every month for the next 20 years.

2. Rise of the individual: Advances in education, health and technology have empowered the individual as never before, leading to increased demands for transparency and participation in decision-making.

   • The global literacy rate is 84% and the rates for girls and women are improving.
   • 60% of the world will be middle class by 2030 and 80% of the global middle class will live in developing countries.
75% will have access to a mobile phone and by 2030 half the world's population will have access to the internet with social pressure enabling organised protests shaping the narrative and putting pressure on governments.

3. Enabling technology: ICT is transforming society and a new wave of technological advances is creating new opportunities which will take our students into jobs we have not yet dreamed of. Skills and knowledge must stay flexible and able to be updated.

- 90% of the digital data in the world today was created in the last two years.
- The global value of the 'app' economy is projected to be US$151 billion by 2017.
- Company survival is less certain in a technologically-enabled world.
- One major Chinese electronics manufacturer plans to introduce 1 million robots into its manufacturing processes in just three years.
- The Head of Technology in any organisation will be key.

4. Economic interconnectedness: The interconnected global economy will see increased international trade and competition which will bring enormous benefits if we can ensure government policy will help us compete and keep our population skilled and competitive.

- Asia's share of global exports is expected to double to 39% by 2030.
- Global growth in trade will continue at 5% annually through to 2030.
- International co-operation and relationships will be increasingly complex and important.
- Education will be vital to ensuring high end skills and a skilled labour force, research, innovation and new technologies.

More next week.

Acknowledgement: Future State 2030, KPMG and the Mowat Centre, University of Toronto.

**SWPBS**

This week we will be expanding on Rule #3: Respect for Learning by focussing on being on time and making sure you have all the tools you need to engage in the learning experience.

**Parish News**

*Next Sunday 2nd March* the Parish Pastoral Council invites everyone to stay after *8.30am Mass* and enjoy pancakes.

"Have life and have it to the full" John 10:10 is the motto of the Project Compassion 2014 organised by Caritas Australia. There are three ways of contributing: box, weekly envelopes or one off donation. Please choose your preferred way and leaving the church take home with you : box, set of weekly envelopes or the form for one off donation. Please be generous in supporting Caritas Australia.

March 5th is Ash Wednesday. Masses at St Brigid's will be at 7am, 9.15am (School) and 6pm.

**SAMOAN MASS** The Samoan Community of the Gold Coast have organised Mass to be said in the Samoan language with Samoan music to be celebrated by Father Epati Tamati at St Brigid's Catholic Church Nerang on Sunday 2nd March 2014 at 1.30pm. Everyone is most welcome. For further information please phone Maina on 0438 256 297.
Click [here](#) to access this week’s Parish Newsletter.

**P&F News**

**P&F AGM**

Congratulations to the new Parents and Friend’s Executive elected at last week’s AGM

President:  Melanie Keegan

Vice president:  Sheridan Ranger

Secretary:  Kim Lillis

Treasurer:  Amanda Adamson

Thank you to the outgoing Executive Committee members for your commitment to St Brigid’s during 2013.

**The Qld P&F Federation Annual Conference**

The P&F Federation Parent Conference is on in Cairns from 25 to 27 April 2014.

The theme is RELATIONSHIPS, RELATIONSHIPS, RELATIONSHIPS. It will be a very special learning and networking event for anyone associated with parenting and educating children in a Catholic environment. Previous conferences have received great reviews and this one looks like being even better.

More information is available on the Parent Portal under Forms and Documents - Other

If you have any questions at all please call Jane or John or Carmel of the Qld Federation of P&F Organisations on 33369242.

Have a good week.

**Kevin Bianchi**

**Principal**

**APRE NEWS**

Please come along to Mass with us on Friday night to celebrate the beginning of another school year! The focus of our celebration is ‘We Come Together As One’.

I am currently looking over all of the wonderful suggestions made by our students for an appropriate design for a hand-painted school cross to be used in celebrations. There are many excellent ideas that express why St Brigid is our patron and I look forward to putting these ideas to good use. Some of the suggested designs can be seen in our office foyer.

**Year 6 and 7 parents**

Have you applied for a place for your child for high school in 2015 or 2016? If your child is in Year 6 or 7 you need to do so as a matter of priority – St Michael’s still has places for year 8 next year but the Year 7 classes for
2015 are almost full! There are a few enrolment packages for St Michael’s in our office if you need one. I’m not sure of the availability of places at Aquinas, Assisi or other local high schools, but they will already be focussing on the current Year 5 enrolments for Year 7 in 2016. Don’t leave it until it is too late to apply for the school of your choice!

**Year 5 parents**

Our Year 5 students will be invited to visit St Michael’s for a day in the final week of this term (with their classmates and our year 5 teachers). St Michael’s and Aquinas College representatives will then come to St Brigid’s early in term 2 to talk to the children about what they have to offer. St Michael’s interviews for our current Year 5 students will begin around May, so now is the time to think about where you would like to make an application. The best way to do that is to look at the websites of any schools you are considering and download an application form and check their timeline for applications, interviews and offers.

Karen Petherick
APRE

**APA NEWS**

**ICT Acceptable Use Contract – Please Return**

Parents of students in years 3-7 have received a document outlining what is involved in the acceptable use of ICT resources for St Brigid’s students. This document has been created to ensure students are using learning technologies in a safe and responsible manner. It would be appreciated if parents could read through this short document and discuss its contents with their children.

The document requires signatures from both a parent and child on the consent form. It would be appreciated if you could return the signed form at your earliest convenience to your child’s classroom teacher. Should you require clarification on matters related to the acceptable use of ICT at St Brigid’s feel free to contact me.

**ICAS Competitions for 2014 Closed**

ICAS entries for St Brigid’s have now closed. Thank you to those parents that have registered their children to participate in the Science, English or Maths competitions scheduled for the following dates: Science – Wed June 4th, English – Tues July 19th & Maths – Tuesday Aug 12th.

**NAPLAN Preparation for 2014**

Students from years 3, 5 & 7 will undertake their annual NAPLAN tests from May 13-15. Class teachers may make contact with some parents prior to the testing to ensure students requiring adjustments are suitably catered for during the testing period. Parents wishing to find out more about the NAPLAN testing can click on the following link:


**School Volunteers**

At St Brigid’s we value and encourage parents who have the time and energy to assist in classrooms under the direction of the classroom teacher. Prior to parents assisting in classrooms and in compliance with BCE policy and school procedure, parents are asked to read the following documents:
These documents can be accessed on the St Brigid’s school website at the following address: http://www.sb.qld.edu.au/page.asp?id=87

This volunteer training process and documentation should occur in every new calendar year. A folder of parents who have lodged this documentation with the office is kept in administration. Should there be any questions in relation to this material or the process, please speak to Kevin, Karen or Chris in the front office.

Please see me if you have any questions regarding parent helpers for 2014.

Regards,

Chris Clurey

DATE CLAIMERS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Friday 28th February</td>
<td>P&amp;F Welcoming Mass &amp; Picnic</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday 7th March</td>
<td>Catholic Schools Swimming Carnival</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday 4th April</td>
<td>Last day of Term 1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday 22nd April</td>
<td>Term 2 begins</td>
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Please refer also to the calendar on the Parent Portal for dates relevant to St Brigid’s.

Term Dates

Please refer to the Brisbane Catholic Education website for term dates for 2014 and 2015.

http://www.bne.catholic.edu.au/students-parents/Pages/TermDates.aspx

PASTORAL CARE

We need to practise what we preach.

Or, as Mahatma Gandhi says:

"An ounce of practice is worth more than
This Week's Parent Topic

Helping Kids Unwind

Modern kids are busy kids. Regardless of age, their days are filled with activities. There is nothing wrong with kids being busy as long as they have plenty of chances to relax and unwind. Parenting educator Michael Grose has identified five ideas for you to help your children unwind. Please click the link below to download the tip sheet.

[Insights_Helping_kids_unwind.pdf]

Please do not hesitate to contact me, the class teacher or other school personnel if you are concerned about the social or emotional well-being of your child.

Weekly quote: “We don’t stop playing because we grow old; we grow old because we stop playing.” George Bernard Shaw

Kind Regards,

Cilla Stent
Primary Guidance

LIBRARY NEWS
A very BIG thank you to Connie Nowlan, Vickie Temple, Shayne Johnson, Kate Ticehurst, Lee Hile and Julie Wicks for giving up their time and helping the library out by covering many of our beautiful new Atlases. We very much appreciate your community spirit.

Over the beginning weeks of library we have used up our supply of plastic supermarket bags. If anyone has spare supermarket bags, please ask your child to drop them into the library. Thankyou.

In Library this week Year 4 were looking at Dreamtime stories, how they were passed on through time and why they are told.

Prep was very excited this week because they met our St Brigid's Book bear Boris and this week was his first visit this year to one of their houses for a sleepover.

![Certificate for raising reading minutes](image)

**Library Days**

Tuesday – Years 3 and 1

Wednesday – Years 4 and 5

Thursday – Years 6 and 7

Friday – Years Prep and 2

We still have overdue library books from last year, please ask your child to return these.

**Jan Knowles**
BIRTHDAYS

Happy birthday this week to the following children:


STUDENT AWARDS

Week 5 Awards to be presented at Assembly - Wk 6 - Monday 3 March

OB Maddison, Jack
OC Sienna, Lachlan
1A Kirra, Tahj
1B Kobi T, Tori
1C Matilda, Lachlan L
2A Ava, William
2B Eden, Jasper
2C Maddison, Jack
3A Ciadhna, Tom
3B Aston, Akenese
3C Jordan, Lucy
4A Gabriel, Allanah
6B Olivia, Josh
Robo's Rule of the Week

Revision of Rules:

- Respect for self and others
- Respect for learning
- Respect for property

Robo Awards

Tori 1B, Luke D 3A, Sienna OA, Darby 1C, Ashleigh 2A, Alex R 5B,

Joshua K 6B, Oscar 4A, Ruby 4B, Amber G 6A.
MUSIC NOTES

Musical Instrument Trial

Would your child like to learn a musical instrument and become part of the St Brigid’s School instrumental band program?

St Brigid's School, together with Musicorp, are excited to offer a variety of instruments for students to learn.

Students from grades 3 and 4 will be trialled for suitability for band instruments during classroom music lessons next week - no obligation.

Flute, Trumpet, Saxophone, Trombone, Clarinet, Violin, Percussion and Guitar lessons are available during school time.

Please call Musicorp on 1300 858 911 or email Amber on amber@musicorp.com.au

Please see attached expression of interest flyer for further information or speak with Mrs Sandstrom.

Please click below for Musicorp Exp of Interest Flyer:

Musicorp_Exp_of_Interest_Flyer_1_2.pdf

Mrs Sandstrom

The Green Spot Environmental News

In 1989, an ‘average Australian bloke’ had a simple idea to make a difference in his own backyard - Sydney Harbour. This simple idea has now become the nation’s largest community-based environmental event, Clean Up Australia Day.

St Brigid’s has been actively involved in the campaign for several years and will again take part on Schools Clean Up Day – February 28th.

The Year 2 students and teachers will be cleaning our school grounds and surrounding parklands as part of their Reduce Reuse and Recycle focus in Term 1.
Information will be sent home with your child. Parents are welcome to join in.

Thank you.

Mrs Sandstrom
The Environmental Team

MR GUDGEON'S SPORTS REPORT
Swimming Carnivals

2014 has kicked off with a BANG after last week's School and South District Swimming Carnivals.

Our School Carnival turned out be an awesome day with all students participating with great effort and pride for themselves and their houses. It was nice to see students pushing themselves to have ago at new events and longer distances to earn extra points for their team.

Following our School Carnival we had 6 six students qualify to represent St Brigid's at South District Swimming. These students were perfect role models for our school, in fact they were competitive, thankful, and proud of their achievements. Well Done Team!

Furthermore, Will M and Tayah C have both earned themselves a place in the South Coast Team to compete at the upcoming regional carnival. We wish them luck in representing our school and district in the next level of competition.

We can now look forward to the Catholic Schools' Swimming Carnival for 8-13 year olds which will take place at Pizzeys Park on Friday the 7th March. Those students who had the two fastest times in each 50m stoke will receive information notes in the coming weeks.

I leave you with some great pictures of our swimmers from the two days of competition.

Interschool Sport
Children in Years 5-7 are this week required to nominate for Interschool Sport, played at a variety of venues across the Coast, beginning on 21st March, 2014 (Term 1).

Safety equipment is required for rugby league (mouth guards are compulsory, boots are recommended), hockey (mouth guards and shin pads are compulsory) and soccer (shin pads are compulsory). Students electing to play netball will need to cut/tape fingernails and remove/tape earrings. By providing consent for your child to play these sports you are agreeing to provide these items and/or abide by these regulations. Rugby League training begins on Monday 3rd March at 3pm on St Brigid's Oval.

Students are required to mark first, second and third preferences on their nomination form and return it to their class teacher by Wednesday 26th February. Teams in each sport can only be made if enough children in each year level/age group select that sport, so marking preferences is essential. All children will be given their top preference if it is at all possible to do so.

Spare notes can be found on the parent portal.

**Rugby League Training**

Rugby League Training for students participating in interschool sport (Term 2) will begin Monday 1st March at 3:05pm on the St Brigid's School Oval.

We are lucky enough to have super coach Dave Kilby with us again this year. Students must have a mouth guard to train. If your child would like to attend they must collect a permission slip from Mr Gudgeon and return it prior to the first session.

**Simon Gudgeon**
PE Teacher & Sports Coordinator

**WORKPLACE HEALTH & SAFETY NEWS**

be SAFE be WELL

**TUCKSHOP**
HELPERS are required please. If you are able to help out with even an hour of your time, it would be much appreciated. Please pop down and see me if you are able to help out, as many hands make light work.

Please click here to access the 2014 Tuckshop Menu.

**Online Ordering**

This year we are offering online ordering, you will need to follow the link attached to set up your account.


Children will be able purchase items over the counter during 1st & 2nd break, but snacks and ice-blocks only.

**Miss Mel**
Tuckshop Convenor

**UNIFORM SHOP**

**Hours**

Tuesday and Friday 8:30am - 9:30am

**P & F COMMITTEE**
Welcoming Mass & Picnic with Live Entertainment Friday 28 February

Mass starts at 6pm followed by a BYO Picnic on the Oval.

There will be a performance from the school Drum Group and a live band.

Come and join families from the school community over a relaxing evening.

Please click here to access the flyer.

Parents & Friends AGM

The P&F Annual General Meeting was held on Wednesday 19th February.

Your new P&F committee for 2014 is:

President - Melanie Keegan

VP - Sheridan Ranger

Secretary - Kim Lillis

Treasurer - Amanda Adamson

Active School Travel - Lisa Fahey, Amanda Adamson, Jamie Weinert

Uniforms - Chris Clurey, Sheridan Ranger, Deb Rohr, Michelle Davies

Melanie Keegan
P&F President

CLASS NEWS

Prep News

The students are continuing to discuss and display the characteristics of “Connie Confidence”. We are standing up taller, trying to speak in a clearer voice and if we make mistakes we know its ok, because I CAN DO IT!

This week the children will be learning about the letter “Tt” and our number for the week is the number 4. Please discuss these with your child and perhaps help them to practise writing them the correct way.
Last week in our library lesson a special visitor joined each class. The children were introduced to Boris. Each week one lucky child has the pleasure of having Boris for the weekend. He comes with a book where you can help your child write a story about their special time with Boris. We then ask that the lucky child illustrates the story. This story is then shared with their classmates. Mrs Knowles has also requested to send in any grey plastic shopping bags you have at home, as these are used to help protect the library books when they come home.

Year 1 News

By now the children are establishing a routine as all programs have been implemented. Literacy Blocks are on Monday to Thursday with groups ranging from 5 to 8 children. The children rotated through four separate learning experiences - Guided Writing; Guided Reading (with a Big Book focus); Rhyme (Nursery Rhymes/word building designed to identifying and creating rhyme) and Reading Eggs (an On Line Literacy Skills program E.g. sounds, letters, spelling, sight words, reading).

A letter went home in Week 3 or 4 to provide children with Log In and Password details for home use. The Reading Eggs program is set at an individual level for each child. Children must complete each level before progressing to the next one. It is highly recommended for parents to set aside time for children to undertake Reading Eggs at home.

Year 2 News

This week is “Active School Travel Week.” From Monday to Friday this week a class survey is being conducted to record how children travel to school. The aim is to travel to school in a way that promotes exercise and is better for the environment. The categories are walk, bike, scooter, bus, train, carpooling and own family car. If it is too far to walk or ride it’s an option to park a little way from the school and the walk, ride or scooter the rest of the way to school. There is a trophy for the class who has the most children travelling to school in an active way.

Also this week the Caritas Australia Project Compassion money boxes went home. The children have been asked to ask parents/carers if they can earn some extra money by doing jobs at home and give the money to Project Compassion. Year Two are holding a competition to see which class can raise the most amount of money. There will be a prize for the class who raises the most.

Due to the hot weather we encourage all children to pack a water bottle and a jumper if they are feeling too cold in the air conditioning.

On Friday 28th February the Year Two classes will be doing their Clean Up Australia rubbish hunt. Please send back permission notes as soon as possible.

Have a great week!

Year 3 News

Last Thursday Clinton Brewer, a Cultural Officer from Fleays, spoke to the Year Three students about the First People (Kombumerri people) of Nerang and the Gold Coast. Clinton engaged the children through the dreaming stories of the Ng-grangwal (Nerang River) and Jellurgal (Burleigh Headland). He pointed out some of the secret men's and women's business that took place and the special roles of hunting which men and women undertook. Examples of traditional hunting weapons were on show, which were a hit with the students, next to Clinton's imitation of a kookaburra on his didgeridoo.
Year 5 News

It's hard to believe we are at the half way point of the term already! Year 5 are certainly showing great enthusiasm for the topics we are studying this term. The students are busy writing ‘Fantasy’ narratives in practice for NAPLAN next term. We are also getting very involved in discovering the new ‘Geography Curriculum’ and learning about how various communities around the world have adapted to the environments in which they live. This also closely links to our science unit on 'how do animals adapt to their.' Lots of exciting and enjoyable learning taking place in Year 5!
A 'big' congratulations to all Year 5 students for the way they participated in the swimming carnival last week and also to those students who came a place on the day, well done!

Just a couple of things to keep in mind. Please remind your child that library is on a Wednesday and they need to have both a plastic bag and a library bag to protect the books. Also children should be reading for 15-20min each night and logging this into their reading log in the back of their homework books. Please support your child with the homework process as it is important in establishing this routine for future years.

Year 6 News

Last week we continued our Micro-Organisms unit in science with “A Nightmare in my Lunchbox” investigation. We are looking at the different conditions in which mould grows and what it likes best!

We will also be interviewing migrants to Australia this week for our History assessment. We have been working on a list of interview questions to find out about their home country, journey and new life in Australia.

A reminder to any parents who have not enrolled their Year 6 students at high school for Year 7 next year that this needs to be done ASAP. Most schools are nearly at capacity for Year 7 next year.

OFFICE NEWS

Parent Portal Access

We are currently working with BCE to rectify any issues with logging onto the Parent Portal. Please contact the office if you have recently changed your email address or if you have any problems. Thank you for your patience.

Change of Details

If you have recently changed your phone number, email address, residential or postal address, please contact the office by telephone or email at perang@bne.catholic.edu.au to advise us of these changes.

Up to date information for each student is extremely important in case we need to contact you for any reason.

Direct Debit Request Forms
If you would like to arrange to pay your school fees via direct debit from either a bank account or credit card, a direct debit form can be obtained from the office or accessed through the Parent Portal.

**Student Banking - Every Wednesday**

A new rewards system has been introduced for Student Banking in 2014. Please come into the office if your child did not receive an information package.

A representative from the Commonwealth Bank Student Banking Program will be attending our School Assembly on Monday 17 March to provide further information. She will also be set up outside the Administration Building from 8am on Tuesday 18 March to set up new accounts.

In the meantime, new accounts can be set up at your local Commonwealth Bank branch.

![Dollarmize Yourself](image)

**Administration of Medication**

At times medication needs to be administered to a child at school ie, antibiotics, ear drops etc. If you need us to administer medication to your child during school hours, you must complete the attached [Student Medication Request form](#).

- Medication is to be provided in the original pharmacy labelled container/box to the school.
Please ensure medication is not out of date and has an original pharmacy label stating the student's name, dosage and time to be taken.

- The student needs to have previously received a dose at home without any ill effects.
- The medication must be collected when it is no longer required at school.
- A new form must be completed if the student is prescribed a change.

NB: Where possible, medication should be administered to your child at home at times other than during school hours.

COMMUNITY NEWS

Music in the Park / Youth Week

Council is holding a free Music in the Park / Youth Week Family Event at Bischof Pioneer Park, Nerang St, Nerang on Sunday 6th April from 12 noon to 4pm (following on from the Nerang markets).

There will be music and fun activities to suit all ages.

Some activities already proposed are for example:

- Rock climbing wall
- Inflatable obstacle course
- Have a go circus
The Nerang PCYC will also be involved and there will be a BBQ and drinks available for purchase.

Nerang Early Childhood ‘World’s Greatest Shave’ Open Day

Our centre is getting behind one of our long term families who are experiencing a personal battle with a form of cancer. Amanda V, mum of a toddler in our service will be shaving her head in preparation for another series of treatments scheduled soon. Amanda will be shaving her head on Thursday 13th March with the help of Laura from local hairdressing business, ‘Davissa’. Our service wants to raise much needed funds and community acknowledgement of all the families in our community battling with cancer in its many forms. Our service will be holding information stalls like ‘Nerang Early Years Centre’ who promote ‘steps to prep’ family support project, Little big Sports (soccer program for under 5s’) up, up and away (iphone app. and web information about local businesses and services), Dream Centre (local food bank) and PMP for kids (physical motor program, and healthy nutrition designed by the services educator's and families). Local businesses are donating good and services that will be put into the days raffles to be drawn on the day.

Guest appearances may include but not be limited to local sporting teams, community groups, local family support networks, and local library services. We will also have guided tours, face painting, Japanese language class, storytelling, smart board interactive class demonstrations, balloons, cake stall, raffle prizes and information packs available. All money raised on the day will go towards our chosen charity ‘The World Greatest Shave’. ‘The Shaving’ event will be scheduled the following week 13 March 2014. We want to try to get the whole community involved for such a great cause so lock us into your weekend plans on the 8 March 2014 at 10-1pm. We’d love to see you!

Hinterland Tennis Nerang

Coaching daily only $10 - rackets provided.

Professional Coach - great programs.

Call John on 55 960 308