Hello to all in the St Brigid's community.

Week 4 Term 1

This Sunday is the First Sunday of Lent

The season of Lent begins on Ash Wednesday and concludes on the Thursday of Holy Week. It includes six Sundays, the five Sundays of Lent plus Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord. Lent is the season of repentance and renewal as we prepare for the passion, death and resurrection of Jesus at Easter.

The First and Second Readings link the saving power of water. In the First Reading, the story of Noah and the flood is recounted and we hear of the covenant struck between God and Noah after the flood. In the Second Reading in the First Letter of St Peter we hear of the cleansing water of Baptism and how through it we are forever saved by Christ's death and resurrection.

Pretty heavy theology but an excellent start to Lent which provides an opportunity to ponder the mystery of the Christian story from the Creation story in Exodus to the death and resurrection of Jesus.

What's on over the following week.

We will hold two liturgies on Ash Wednesday, one at 9:15 am for Years 2-6 and one at 2:15pm for Years Prep-1. Parents and other family members are welcome to attend.

On Thursday morning I will be attending the Blessing and Opening of the new facilities at St Mary’s School, Beaudesert which were destroyed by fire in 2013. Congratulations to their community on their achievement.

On Monday our students will be participating in the first of the new format district sporting carnivals when they compete in the ‘Hinterland Green’ District Swimming Carnival. Good luck to our representatives.

Assembly prayer this week was led by 5C whilst 4A will lead next week’s.

Positive Behaviour for Learning (PB4L)

This week we will be expanding on Rule #1: Respect for Others by focussing on our everyday language and the mantra ‘Speak to please not to tease’. Important tasks of childhood include developing the awareness of one’s feelings and the ability to control one’s actions by the use of thinking instead of acting out of emotion. Sadly our language is sometimes an expression of our emotions and not our cognition. Please help the children to develop this important life skill.

Thought for the week
With the imminent introduction of the National Health and Physical Education Curriculum at St Brigid’s I thought the following article may be of interest to members of our community.

New thinking about physical education is moving more PE classes to activities that promote fitness, fun, and fairness. The aim is to teach students to take care of themselves beyond school. Not only do cutting-edge PE classes get more students actively involved (less sitting on the sidelines waiting your turn and no opt-out for non-athletes), but there’s also evidence that physical activity boosts academic performance. Children who are active and fit do better in school, better on achievement tests, better on measures of brain health. In one study, children who exercised regularly out-performed a control group on executive function, working memory, response speed, cognitive flexibility, and multitasking.

Characteristics of new PE classes:

- A focus on wellness rather than athletics.
- Fitness games that value teamwork, build confidence, and encourage self-expression.
- More choices so students can find activities they enjoy.
- Recreational activities that students can enjoy outside of school.
- Teaching of skills like throwing, catching, and kicking as physical training, not sports prep.
- More use of technology, including heart-rate monitors.
- Use of music to enhance activities.
- A fast, energetic pace, providing students with a real workout.

“The ‘New PE’ Aims to Build Bodies and Brains” by Laura Pappano in Harvard Education Letter, January/February 2015

Parish News

During Lent the Stations of the Cross will be conducted on Fridays commencing at 6pm.

On Saturday 21st February at 10am Fr Rafal has invited volunteers to come with gardening equipment to a working bee to make the church gardens safe and secure, elegant and minimalistic, and easy to maintain. Those with a trailer are also asked to bring it along.

Please [click here](#) to read this week’s Parish Newsletter.

Swimming Carnival

Congratulations to all involved in last week’s school swimming carnival. I understand the children were well behaved and joined enthusiastically in the carnival.

Thanks to Mr Gudgeon, staff, parents and students who assisted in ensuring the carnival ran smoothly and safely.

Thanks also to Somerset College for the use of their magnificent facilities.

Nut Allergies and Students

St Brigid’s School has a number of students with severe allergy to nuts. St. Brigid’s position is not to guarantee a completely allergen free environment, rather to minimise the risk of exposure, create community awareness, encourage self-responsibility, and plan for effective response to possible emergencies. The common causes of
allergies are; nuts (in particular, but not exclusively, peanuts), dairy products, eggs, wasps, bees and ants. The allergy to nuts is the most common high risk allergy, and as such demands more rigorous controls including:

- The Tuckshop, parent support groups (P&F) and outside caterers are made aware of the Allergy Management Policy and requested to eliminate nuts and food items with nuts as ingredients from their operations.
- Classroom teachers promote hand washing before and after eating.
- St. Brigid’s is committed to a no food and drink sharing policy.
- Age appropriate education of the children with severe nut allergies – peanut and tree nut.
- All parents are asked to not send foods in school lunches that contain nuts, peanuts, tree nuts or ‘nut traces’.

It is important that all families adhere to the last dot point above in particular when packing children’s lunches or sending birthday cakes or similar to school.

Your cooperation in keeping St Brigid’s a safe place for our students with severe nut allergies is greatly appreciated.

Online Tuckshop ordering

We have now been using online ordering for 12 months. Uptake by parents has steadily climbed over that time. We know that online ordering makes it easier for our small, in number, tuckshop staff and volunteers as there is much less cash to be counted, recounted and banked and we believe that it is more convenient for parents once they register as a user with Flexischools. Remember, to register students go to https://www.flexischools.com.au/FM/FM.aspx?p=Registration&RegID=5f1Imr6LHB

Kevin Bianchi
Principal

APA News

New Smoking Laws to consider

From 1 January 2015, smoking is banned at all Queensland state and non-state schools, and for 5 metres beyond their boundaries.

The law applies at all times—during and after school hours, on weekends and during school holidays. It includes the use of all smoking products, including regular cigarettes and devices commonly known as electronic cigarettes.

School land is defined as land on which a:
• state school provides education programs under the *Education (General Provisions) Act 2006*
• non-state school provides primary education, secondary education or special education under the *Education (Accreditation of Non-State Schools) Act 2011*
• state or non-state school provides other educational facilities, instruction or activities, for example, sports grounds, and including land that is owned or leased by the school.

**Five metre buffer**

The buffer is a 5 metre no-smoking area around the perimeter of the school, beyond the school land boundary; including all structures in this area, such as bus shelters and car parks. This area does not extend into residential or business premises that share a boundary with school land.

**Enforcement**

If you see someone smoking within the 5 metre buffer, tell them that it is illegal for them to smoke in this area.

If you wish to report a breach of these tobacco laws, contact 13 QGOV (13 74 68). In coming days you will notice no smoking signs being displayed in ‘high traffic’ areas of our school.

**Student Protection Training for School Volunteers 2015**

Student Protection is everyone’s responsibility. **Prior to volunteering in classrooms we ask that you complete the student protection training (annually) as outlined below:**

Volunteers who are parents or guardians of students at St Brigid’s must read the following documents & sign the ‘School Volunteer Register Sheet’:

- Volunteer Student Protection Handbook
- Volunteer Code of Conduct

These documents are available to read and sign in the front office as required or on the Parent Portal.

Volunteers other than Parents or Guardians of students will be required to provide either of the following documents:

- Positive Notice Blue Card Registration number
- Exemption card registration number

Please note that these cards will need to be presented to office staff for copying.

The final step is to complete and sign the ‘School Volunteer Register’ sheet before handing in to front office staff.

Please consult a member of the school’s leadership team should you have any questions about the volunteer registration process.

**ICAS UNSW Tests are open for entry**

ICAS stands for the International Competitions and Assessments for Schools, developed by Educational Assessment Australia (EAA) of the University of New South Wales (UNSW). The
Competitions are conducted during school hours and require no special preparation over and above the class work students cover with their teachers each day.

Entry into any of the ICAS competitions is open to all students from Year 3 to Year 6.

St Brigid’s will once again offer the chance for your child to participate in one, two or all three of the competitions offered by the University of NSW this year.

The assessments being offered include: Science, English and Mathematics. Sitting dates for these tests have been added to the school calendar. Each test takes the form of a series of multiple choice questions on the competition topic. All children get a statement of results and a certificate of participation or achievement. The cost is $9.00 per competition.

Students who are interested can find and print a note from the Student or Parent Portal. Those with no web access can collect a note from the front office.

Entries and payment will be accepted at the front office until Friday February 27th

Should you require more information please access the following link: http://www.qagtc.org.au/

Medical Meetings

In coming weeks I will be making contact with parents of students who are impacted by serious medical conditions such as anaphylaxis, epilepsy and other intolerances. A medical action plan will be created in consultation with parents and shared with school staff. Please be mindful that:

- Students should not bring nuts or foods containing nut products to school.
- Students are not to swap or share foods whilst at school.
- Students who are considered to be affected by asthma are required to provide the classroom teacher with an asthma management plan. These can be obtained through visiting a Doctor or the following website: http://www.asthmaaustralia.org.au/

Your child’s written Asthma Action Plan outlines:

1. What medication to take every day (even when you are feeling well).
2. How to tell if your asthma is getting worse.
3. What you should do if your symptoms are getting worse.
4. What to do if you have an asthma attack.

Having a written asthma action plan can help to:

- Reduce your chance of needing to go to hospital, or for an urgent doctor visit
- Improve your lung function
- Reduce the number of days off school due to asthma

Sometimes plans are based on your symptoms, while others are based on your peak flow score. You and your doctor or nurse can decide together what will work best for you.
Through having current and accurate documentation on student’s medical conditions teachers are better able to meet their needs and ensure they remain happy and healthy.

Parent Information Evenings

Thank you to those parents that have been able to attend the recent parent information nights. Parents who were unable to attend these sessions should make contact with your child’s classroom teacher to access any information or handouts used on the night. In many cases this material will be available on the Parent Portal in coming days.

Acceptable Use of Computer and Internet Resources Consent Form

In coming days if your child is in Year 5 or 6 they will bring home a document titled: ‘St Brigid’s Nerang Acceptable Use of Computer and Internet Resources Consent Form’. This document will have been explained to students in classes by classroom teachers. We would ask that you:

1. Read the document and discuss it with your child.
2. Seek clarification on any aspects you are unsure about with your child’s classroom teacher or a member of the schools leadership team.
3. Return Page 1 of the signed document to your child’s classroom teacher in the days following.

We require this signed document to acknowledge that both you and your child are aware of the conditions of use including their responsibilities. We are encouraging students to be responsible digital citizens who are cyber safe. This document is available on the Parent Portal for easy reference.

Chris Clurey

APA

APRE NEWS

Project Compassion Launch

We wish our four Year Six students, Daisy, Luke, Daniel and Alisha well as they travel to Brisbane tomorrow with Mr Bianchi to the Project Compassion Commissioning Mass, celebrated by Archbishop Mark Coleridge. We look forward to seeing the Project Compassion scroll that the children will be presented with, on assembly on Thursday morning, commissioning them to initiate Project Compassion at St Brigid’s.

Ash Wednesday

We welcome everyone in our school community to attend the Ash Wednesday Mass this week, which will be celebrated by Father Rafał at 9.15am with Years 2-6 in St Brigid’s church. Prep to Year 1 will be having a special Ash Wednesday liturgy later in the afternoon with Sister Brigid at 2.15pm in the church.

Celebrating Lent as a family
Your family will be given a leaflet this week, Families Living God’s Mercy. This leaflet has been produced by the Archdiocese of Brisbane and explains how you and your family can fully engage in the Lenten season.

**Week 4 Prayer**

We thank 5C for the messages in their prayers at the whole school assembly on Monday. The children told us about the meaning of Shrove Tuesday and then went on to explain about the meaning of Lent. It was quite special as the students shared with the whole school, some of their very personal Lenten promises that they would be trying to keep during their Lenten journey. 4A will lead next week’s prayer.

Belinda Kingston

APRE

**DATE CLAIMERS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday 18 February</td>
<td>Ash Wednesday Mass 9:15am</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Ash Wednesday Liturgy 2:15pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday 23 February</td>
<td>District Swimming (TSS)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday 25 February</td>
<td>P &amp; F AGM Meeting 7 pm in Library</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday 2 April</td>
<td>Last day of Term 1 - 2015</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 2015 and 2016.

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

**GUIDANCE COUNSELLOR NEWS**
Wouldn’t it be great to start 2015 with parenting successes? Michael Grose, parenting expert, talks this week about the **10 golden rules for parenting success**. He discusses things such as communication within the family but also external to it, building confidence and independence and parenting at the correct developmental level. This last point is such an important one. With the ease of access to the internet these days, it is easy to find reader-friendly information on developmental levels of children. This may just be the key to understanding your child’s behaviour or change of behaviour. Wouldn’t it be great to understand that your child is acting this way because he is growing up and finding his way rather than just being “naughty?” Have a read and I hope it brings you some insights into your child.

“All that is valuable in human society depends upon the opportunity for development accorded the individual.” - *Albert Einstein*

Debbie Thurlow  
Primary Guidance

**LIBRARY NEWS**

Welcome back parents & welcome to new families

Please note the library days for your child are as follows:

Tuesday………..3A, 3B, 3C, 1C, 1A, 4A.

Wednesday………4C, 1B, 4B.

Thursday………Year 5, Year 6.

Friday………Prep, Year 2.

The library is open second break each day for students to read, play board games, play computer games or research assignments.

Please provide your child with a clean library bag (with a plastic supermarket bag inside it).
Encourage your child to read for at least 10 minutes most nights and remember families are never too old to read together! Even when students are in year 6 you can still share a great novel that can be enjoyed by the whole family.

Wanted. Please send in to the library any clean supermarket bags you can spare, as our supplies are very low due to supplying the first borrowing sessions.

Jan Knowles  
Teacher  

PASTORAL CARE

Let us find the positive in life if at all possible.

“Supposing a tree fell down, Pooh, when we were underneath it?”

“Supposing it didn’t, said Pooh after careful thought. Piglet was comforted by this.”

Remember the ‘glass half full’ saying.

May your week be a happy one.
Sr Brigid Frawley

BIRTHDAYS

Happy birthday to those children who celebrate their birthdays this week:


P B 4 L
Robo's Rule of the Week

Respect for Others - Speak to please and not to tease.

Robo Awards


Class Awards

0A Leah, Lucas
0B Riley, Lylah
0C Jade-Li, Lachlan D
1A Jack, Isabella
1B Jada, Beau-Krystal
1C Jackson, Maddi
2A Abbie, Kobe
2B Tori, Jonathon
M(usic)M(edia)A(rt)D(rama)D(ance) (MMADD for Arts)

2015 will be an exciting year for the Arts here at St Brigid's. With the introduction of the National Curriculum – The Arts, there will be changes introduced regarding how the Arts will be taught, assessed and reported on. We will keep you informed throughout the year in this section of the newsletter.

**Term 1**: will see all classes attending a one hour specialist Music and Dance lesson. Your child's teacher will inform you of the day your child will attend. Where possible, children should wear the sport uniform on this day, even if they do not have PE. Girls may be more comfortable in shorts rather than a skirt or dress.

Please find below a link to a short video, presented by ACARA (Australian Curriculum Assessment and Reporting Authority,) which introduces Dance in the Arts curriculum, the benefits and purpose.

http://www.australiancurriculum.edu.au/the-arts/dance/rationale

**Instrumental Music Lessons (Piano, Guitar and Percussion)** have begun. New students can obtain information from the office.

**Expressions Of Interest- Instrumental Band Lessons**

I am exploring several options for establishing and building a strong and ongoing instrumental program here at St Brigid’s and I am very keen to hear from any parents who are interested in their child participating in band lessons - ie learning a concert band instrument such as flute, clarinet, trumpet saxophone etc.

Please send your details and any comment via email to msandstrom@bne.catholic.edu.au.

This is not a commitment - but a gauge of the support among the school community.

**Singing Club** will be supporting the Ash Wednesday Mass, Wed 18th, 9.15am.
Thank you.

Mrs Maryanne Sandstrom

MR GUDGEON'S SPORTS REPORT

District Swimming

This year’s District Swimming Carnival will be held on Monday 23rd February at The Southport School (TSS).

The carnival is for students aged 10-12 years. To qualify students must swim a time that is under the set qualifying times set by the district body.

Students who qualify will be given an information note following our school carnival.

Parents of those strong swimmers - please be prepared in the case of your child qualifying. This will mean providing transport and supervision for your child at the district carnival.

Thankyou to Duncan Sharpe for these awesome professional photographs taken at last Fridays Swimming Carnival. They capture the spirit of the day beautifully...

Duncan has files to share with you on OneDrive. To view them, click the links below.
Regards

Simon Gudgeon

PE Teacher & Sports Coordinator

WORKPLACE HEALTH AND SAFETY NEWS
Visitors' Register

The Visitors' Register is located at Reception and all parents and visitors are **required** to sign in and out.

This is an essential document that keeps the school informed of all visitors and contractors who may be on site at any particular point in time.

**be SAFE be WELL**

**P & F ASSOCIATION**
P&F - The P&F Annual General Meeting will be held on Wednesday 25th February at 7pm, in the school’s library. All nominations to be received by Wednesday 18th February. Please click here to access the nomination form.

Melanie Annand  
P&F President

TUCKSHOP

The tuckshop is now open every Wednesday, Thursday and Friday! Please click here to access the 2015 Menu.

Slush puppies are now available for $2, they are all natural flavours based on fruit.

Miss Mel  
Tuckshop Convenor

UNIFORM SHOP

Hours

Opening hours - Tuesday and Friday 8:30am - 9:30am  
Help needed! If you have a spare hour on a Tuesday or Friday morning from 8.30 - 9.30am, your help serving would be greatly appreciated. If available to help out, please give me a call or drop in to the Uniform Shop. Please note jumpers, jackets and ruggers have arrived. Still waiting on socks, we will advise when these arrive.

Deb Laurie - 0431 151 903

CLASS NEWS

Prep News

We have been busy learning new sounds and words. The letter for this week is Tt. Please encourage your child to know these sounds and words, as it is necessary in the early stages of reading and writing. The children have been introduced to a new Oracy book in each classroom. Prep A children are enjoying Hairy Bear, Prep B children are reading Grandpa, Grandpa and Prep C children are learning lots of clown tricks in the Smarty Pants story.
In Religion we are continuing to focus on making the Sign of the Cross. This Wednesday is Ash Wednesday and the children will be attending a Liturgy in the Church at 2.15pm. The children will receive a ‘cross of ashes’ on their forehead to remind them to keep their Lenten promises.

The numbers for this week are 4 and 5. The children are very clever working out the next number on the 100 number train. We have been so busy and we are noticing that the children are settling into our school routines…so clever of them when they have only been at school for 13 days! We are very proud of their achievements.

Year 1 News

Homework booklets went home last Friday. These contain revision of letters, sounds and numbers. Encourage your child to carefully trace the letters and follow the correct direction for letter or number formation. Colouring in these books is optional. Children can show an understanding of the concept by crossing out information not required or by carefully circling the correct answer. Remember to read a home reader every night and have your child spend some time (1 hour) on Reading Eggs each week. When reading with your child, allow them time to look at the pictures as these support early readers to gain an understanding of the story. Young children will remember and recite the words from the readers, encourage them to look at the words as they are read and point to the words for one-on-one word recognition. Be patient as over time your child will become more familiar with the reading process and more confident with the words as he or she learns more sight words.

ROSNER is a program used in Grade One for a few children who would benefit from auditory discrimination. It is a one-on-one program designed to assist children to distinguish parts of words and the different order of sounds found in words. For example, say ‘pat’ now say ‘pat’ without the ‘p’.

St. Brigid’s is a ‘Sunsmart’ school. If your child does not have a hat at school he or she can still play in the hall. Children can wear sunglasses in the playground however they need to take responsibility for them. If you send your child with sunglasses please ensure they are named.

Year 2 News

Thank you again to the many parents at the Parent Information night last Tuesday night. We appreciate that it can be difficult to come to these nights and so your presence was much appreciated. You can find the Parent Information document and Year Two homework on the Parent Portal under Forms and Documents in the Year Two section.

Homework began last Wednesday. We hope this is going well. Please let us know if you need clarification regarding the homework. Please note that homework goes home each Wednesday and must be returned each Tuesday. Home readers and Reading Record books are to be returned daily. Students are required to write out the spelling words that they got incorrect on their pre-test and revise those words they got correct on the pre-test. Spelling must be written out four times during the week on Wednesday, Thursday, Friday and Monday. It is important that this is done on four separate days to maximise their learning success.

In preparation for Lent we made pancakes on Shrove Tuesday and the children enjoyed eating these. This term we are focussing on the genre of Procedure which fits nicely with cooking pancakes.

We hope you all had a lovely week and a wonderful Valentine’s Day.
Year 3 News

Welcome to Week 4. We had a busy, but fun week. We enjoyed the swimming carnival and were lucky to have had such a gorgeous day.

We congratulate all the children who participated, especially the children who find swimming quite challenging. They had a go and we commend them for that.

We have started a religion log and the children have to reflect on their day to day moral living. We ask the children, how can they live like Jesus every day? What can they do for others?

We would like to share some news to note in your diary.

3A will be presenting assembly Monday 16th March.

3B will be presenting assembly Monday 23rd March.

3C will be presenting assembly Monday 30th March.

Caregiver and teacher Interviews /Conferences will take place week 9 of this term, March 23rd -27th.

Don’t forget homework needs to be brought back every Tuesday, which is also library day.

Mass will be at 9:15 on Ash Wednesday 18th February, all welcome.

We would like to share some comments from Week 3, about the swimming carnival.

“I liked backstroke and freestyle best because I got a ribbon in each event.” Layla 3A

“I came 2nd in freestyle and I was so happy.” Mia 3B

“It was fun at the carnival because I could be with my friends.” Tarla 3C

We wish you a fulfilling week!

Enjoy our photos from the swimming carnival.
Year 4 News

A huge well done to all the Year 4 students who participated in the St Brigid’s Swimming Carnival last Friday. The weather stayed clear for the most part and everyone tried their best. It's always fantastic to see ‘good sports’ who congratulate their peers on their successes and cheer on their team mates during events.

Tablet Update:

- While we are investigating ways of maintaining student safety while using the tablets at home, we are spending time becoming very familiar with both the hardware and software elements of this new learning tool.
- All User Agreements need to be returned before any tablets will be sent home, so please make sure you have discussed it with your child and you have all signed this document.

LENT

- This time of year is very important in the Christian Calendar, and in our Catholic Schools. There will be lots of things happening during Lent so please keep your eyes and ears open.
- We start this off with Shrove Tuesday (Pancake Tuesday), and will have an Ash Wednesday Mass on the 18th.

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK
Lea Dempster, Vanessa Chappell, Brooke Madden and Michelle Neville

Year 5 News

Thank you to all the parents and care providers that attended the Parent Information night last Tuesday, we hope that we were able to alleviate any of the matters that you were unfamiliar with in how we operate as a cohort in Year 5. This Tuesday, 17 February we celebrate Shrove Tuesday where the students will be involved in eating pancakes. This day heralds the beginning of Lent on Wednesday 18 February, Ash Wednesday, which we will celebrate with a school Mass. All parents and care providers are invited to attend this celebration of the sacrifices Jesus made for us. It would be prudent to remind people that Ash Wednesday is a day of abstinence and fasting and we should not be eating meat on this day. Also, it would be great to talk to your children about what sacrifices they might like to make during the Lenten period - ie. giving up some treats or giving to those less fortunate than ourselves.

Year 6 News

This week saw the completion of the Year 6s first written assessment. On the whole, the students showed a good understanding of their style of intellect and how they can make the most of their talents. It was very interesting to learn more about the students in our class. To commemorate the recent feast day of our patroness, Saint Brigid, both classes went on a prayer walk around the Nerang River. The scenery was a very appropriate setting to reflect on the work that Saint Brigid did as she was a true believer in appreciating and taking care of our natural surroundings. The students were extremely reverent during our walk and enjoyed taking in the serenity of the river.
On Friday our Year 6 students had the opportunity to show their leadership skills at our school swimming carnival. We were very impressed with how they conducted themselves and set a good example to the younger students. Their duties ranged from serving lunches to providing extra support for the less able swimmers. Well done Year 6!

OFFICE NEWS

Fees

There are various payment methods available which include Direct Debit, Credit Card, Bpay or Cash. Application forms for Direct Debit, Credit Card and Concession are available on the Parent Portal, website or can be collected from the Office.
Concessions are granted for one school year only so if you require a Concession for 2015 please complete a Concession Application, ensuring all supporting documentation is attached, and lodge it at the Office as soon as possible.

Parent Portal Access

Please contact the office if you have any problems accessing the Parent Portal.

Student Banking

A representative from the Commonwealth Bank Student Banking Program will be attending our school assembly on Monday, 2 March.

There will be an account opening session at 8:30am on Tuesday, 3 March outside the Prep area.

Student Absences

When leaving a message on the School Absences Line - please clearly state the following:

- Student's Name
- Class
- Reason for Absence - VERY IMPORTANT

Administration of Medication

Please note - a NEW Medication Request Form must be completed for 2015 for any students requiring medication to be administered during school hours. This form can be found on the Parent Portal or collected from the office or accessed by clicking here.

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 a 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.

**Lost Property**

It doesn’t seem to take long before we accumulate a large pile of lost property at the office. If you have labelled your children’s items and they turn up in lost property, we will send them back to the classroom. It is therefore very important to label every single item.

**DENTAL VAN**

Gold Coast Oral Health Services are offering free dental check-ups to children in all Year levels at St Brigids, including new 2015 Prep students.

This service will be provided at St Brigid’s by Mobile Dental Clinic 148A. Hours of operation for this clinic are Tuesday to Friday, 8am to 4pm.

To arrange an appointment for your child telephone:

The Oral Health Client Service Centre - **1300 300 850**

Monday – Friday 8.00 am – 4.30 pm Excluding Public Holidays
Child Dental Benefit Schedule Vouchers are accepted. When your child’s $1000 cap is reached, there will be no out-of-pocket expenses provided your child meets *eligibility criteria.

* Eligibility – All Queensland resident children aged four years or older who have not completed year 10 of secondary school.

Further information on public funded oral health services can be accessed via URL: http://www.health.qld.gov.au/goldcoasthealth/html/services/oralhealth.asp

Leanne Evert
Dental Therapist, Mobile Dental Clinic MDC 148A
Child & Adolescent Oral Health Service / Specialty and Procedural Services (SAPS)
Gold Coast Hospital and Health Service / Queensland Health
leanne.evert@health.qld.gov.qa

COMMUNITY NEWS

NERANG BMX COME & TRY DAY

Sunday February 22nd from 12-3pm

Cnr of Mortensen Road & Cayuga Street Nerang

Bring your bike, helmet, gloves and long pants.

Contact: Debbie 0438 253247 / Rheanon 0401 810 780

This day is free and first 25 to register on the day will receive a free BMX bag of goodies!
SENSORY SCREENING
FOR FAMILIES WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

Big Hero 6
Penguins Of Madagascar
Home
(Tinkerbell: Legend Of The Neverbeast)
Minions
(In Cinemas 19 Mar)
(In Cinemas 2 Apr)
(In Cinemas 18 Jun)

SUN 15 FEB  SUN 15 MAR  SUN 26 APR  SUN 24 MAY  SUN 28 JUN

Sensory Movie Day is an inclusive event for families with special needs
- Lighting is on dim, sound lowered, volunteers monitoring fire exit doors.
- Sensory Movie Day run once a month on a Sunday at 11am
- Tickets are $6 each (Except Ipswich $6 each), Children 2yrs and under are free
- Companion I.D. Cards are accepted

Sensory Movie Day is running at the following Locations:
Morayfield, Maroochydore, Mackay, Capalaba, Browns Plains, Ipswich, Toowoomba, Lismore, Tuggerah and Cronulla
Any questions email sensorymoviday@hotmail.com

BUY TICKETS NOW AT THE BOX OFFICE

EVENT CINEMAS  bcc CINEMAS
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Advertise your Business on the Electronic School Newsletter with a link into your website

If you are interested please call Lorelle Davidson 0419 655 230