

St Brigid's School Newsletter



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7th March 2024
Term 1 – Week 6

Dear Parents / Caregivers,



Dear Whanau,

St Brigid's School Mass March 17th Sunday at 9:30 am at Mercy Parish

We look forward to seeing you all there as we celebrate two of the great Irish saints, St. Brigid and St. Patrick, on St. Patrick's Day. Please wear your school uniform and add something green. All children are required to attend.



Weetbix Athletes

Congratulations to Finn and Charles who participated in the Weetbix Tryathlon on Sunday. Their entries to our school team won us a three-hundred-dollar voucher for Rebel Sport. The school children have created a wish list of new items for our school sports box. Charles and Finn are looking forward to going shopping! Charles also won a year's supply of weetbix. Some of which he has kindly donated to school. We will have a school shared breakfast during Move it March. Thank you, Charles, for your kindness.



R.E. Comment...



About Lent

Not eating meat on Fridays. The rule that Catholics cannot eat meat on Fridays during Lent is not quite right and it is much more lenient now than what most Catholics in history have had to observe. Nowadays meat is only prohibited on Ash Wednesday, Good Friday. The idea was that Catholics should fast or take light meals and asking us/them to not eat meat was a sure way of ensuring everyone fasting. Now people are asked to fast and can choose what is best for their situation. The purpose of fasting is spiritual focus, self-discipline, in the imitation of Christ and a way of showing sorrow.

We are halfway through Lent and every year Catholics try to answer the age old question: What should I do for Lent? Well, Pope Francis had some great ideas back in 2015.

Pray: Make our hearts like yours!

"During this Lent, then, brothers and sisters, let us all ask the Lord: 'Make our hearts like yours.' In this way we will receive a heart which is firm and merciful, attentive and generous, a heart which is not closed, indifferent or prey to the globalisation of indifference."

Take part in the sacraments "Lent is a favourable time for letting Christ serve us so that we in turn may become more like him. This happens whenever we hear the word of God and receive the sacraments, especially the Eucharist.

Kapa Haka

We are always looking for ways to encourage risk taking and opportunities for our tamariki to lead. We were so proud of our Year 4-6 students who volunteered to lead our Kapa Haka on Friday when Lauana was away. Kia kaha me to mahi e hoa! A wonderful example of tuakana-teina. Sharing your learning and empowering others.



Parent Interviews

We have changed the dates of interviews to support anyone going away for the Easter Weekend. Save the dates on your calendar. **Thursday 21st and Tuesday the 26th March. 3:00 -6:00 pm**

Please complete the google form <https://forms.gle/xQsSdVXLJPPSMxiW8> by Wednesday 13th March.

School Accounts 2024

These will be sent home this week. Payments can be made online via internet banking, or in person at our school accounts office. Some people may prefer to set up automatic payments; a small amount each week can be much more manageable - please contact Rachel or Teenaka if you need any further information.

**Board of Trustees - School Account:
06 0942 0045712 00**

After School Care. We now have an After School Care option for before and after school. Please email teenaka@stbrigidsdn.school.nz if you would like enrolment information.

Bookclub orders are due back at school no later than Tuesday 12th March. Please click on the link below to take you to the Loop Page for online ordering. If ordering by cash, the correct money needs to be in an envelope with the order form please.

<https://mybookclub.scholastic.co.nz/Parent/Login.aspx>

Phones at school

At St Brigid's School we have always had the rule that students who bring phones and smart watches to school must hand them in to the office as soon as they arrive at school. The children can then collect them as they leave for the day. If parents need to communicate with their children, please phone or email the office.

PTA NEWS

Next P.T.A meeting: 12th March 7pm in the school staffroom. All welcome

BOARD NEWS

Next Meeting: Wednesday 27th March

What's on in Term 1

March

Tuesday 12 th	P.T.A meeting in the School Staffroom 7pm
Wednesday 13 th	Assembly 2:30pm in the Hall
Wednesday 13 th	Bring your Scooter to school with Scout the Active Schools Mascot
Sunday 17 th	St Brigid's School Mass Mercy Parish 9:30am
Thursday 21 st	Parent interviews
Wednesday 20 th	Assembly 2:30pm in the Hall
Sunday 24 th	Palm Sunday
Monday 25 th	Otago Anniversary Day- School is closed
Tuesday 26 th	Year 5 & 6 Seek Day at Trinity
Friday 29 th	Good Friday- School is closed

April

Monday 1 st & Tuesday 2 nd	Easter Monday and Tuesday - School is closed
Wednesday 3 rd	Assembly 2:30pm in the Hall
Friday 5 th	Term 1 Family Social night- details to come
Wednesday 10 th	Assembly 2:30pm in the Hall
Friday 12 th	Last day of Term 1

Other Important Dates for 2024

Thursday 25 th April	ANZAC Day (NB - this occurs in the school holidays)
Monday 29 th April	First Day of Term 2
Friday 31 st May	Teachel Only Day
Monday 3 rd June	King's Birthday- School Closed
Friday 28 th June	Matariki - School Closed
Friday 5 th July	Last Day of Term 2
Monday 22 nd July	First Day of Term 3
Friday 27 th September	Last Day of Term 3
Monday 14 th October	First Day of Term 4
Monday 28 th October	Labour Day - School Closed

School Bank Account Details

Board of Trustees - School Account:

06 0942 0045712 00

(For stationery payments, sports fees, EOTC & Copier contributions etc)

PTA – Fundraising Account:

06-0901-0797125-00

(For fundraising, uniform shop, lunch orders etc)

Please reference your child's name and reason for payment (e.g. stationery / pizza / etc.) when paying online.

Tips for Walking to School Safely

Walking to school provides a great opportunity for children to learn road safety skills while getting some physical exercise, however, it is a good idea that they first understand the below safety tips. These will help keep your child safe on their journey to school.

- **Walk the route with your child/children first** – this will help them learn the route to school and be aware of any hazardous points. It will also put your mind at ease if you're familiar with where they are going.
- **Walk with friends** – if you are nervous about your child(ren) walking to school alone, encourage them to walk with other children who are also walking to school. This could be a good opportunity to get to know your neighbours.



Remind them to do the following:

- **Stop, look & listen** – an obvious one, but something to make sure all kids have ingrained into their brain!
- **Stay alert** – distractions include messing around with friends and use of mobile devices (see below).
- **Choose safe places to cross** – check they know where safe places to cross the road are.
- **Do not cross behind buses or between parked cars** – drivers may not see you, and remember to always make eye contact with drivers before you cross the street.
- **No mobile phones or headphones** – kids can be glued to their mobile phones but should understand the dangers of talking on their phones or listening to music when walking along and crossing busy roads.
- **Reflective accessories** – especially useful in winter months as the mornings and afternoons get darker. Reflective clothing stickers or shoelaces can help kids to be seen whilst not cramping their style.

Remember: Children will model the behaviour of adults, so be mindful of pedestrian rules to set a good example and keep kids safe!

You can check out this guide for more information.

[Hike-it-bike-it-v3a-web.pdf \(nzta.govt.nz\)](#)



Move it March has begun

Tamariki have been making a great effort to enjoy being active at break times or trying to scooter or walk to and from school. We do have a number of awesome prizes to give away so please remember to sign your form each day.

Send in any photos of your active travel to the office@stbrigidson.school.nz

**This year for Move It March, Friday 15 March 2024 will be Walk to School Day!
This year's theme is Be Bright, Be Seen! Bring your Scooter Day March the 13th**

Photo Competition

Add your entries - To the Facebook Page: Scout- The Safe and Travel Mascot

Week 1 - Improving Confidence

Ideas include crossing the road at a safe point such as pedestrian crossings, tamariki leading the way or demonstrating how to STOP, LOOK & LISTEN! This week's photo competition closes Wednesday 13 March 2024

Week 2 - Be Bright, Be Seen

Ideas should show tamariki wearing bright, fluorescent and/or reflective clothing! This week's photo competition closes Wednesday 20 March 2024.