

Dear Pants / Caregivers



9 December 2022 Term 4 – Week 8

This will be the year's last newsletter as we look forward to Christmas and the New Year. It is fair to say this has been a challenging year for all concerned at St Brigid's however as the new school year approaches we have plenty to look forward to.

Due to the generosity of the Ministry of Education for our staffing in 2023, we can offer an unprecedented amount of time with the teacher-children ratio. The news gets even better because of the extra staffing we are able to employ a teacher specifically to teach all the classes art one day a week. We are also able to employ teachers to teach Te Reo Maori and Kapa Haka. This is a marvellous opportunity to develop our children's learning in these areas of education.

The hub will be moving to Room 3 - Room 3 is being relocated to Room 2. All the teaching spaces will have completed the refurbishment in January 2023 with the extension room being refurbished in the holidays. This creates a purpose-built learning environment with breakout rooms This is all very exciting, with the introduction of the History curriculum, and some implementation of the new Catholic curriculum, combined with our new hub it will make learning at St Brigid's an exciting experience.

I get to work with amazing staff who put in so many hours that are often not recognised or realised and I get to share in their joys as they facilitate and encourage the curiosity of your tamariki. I see first-hand, every day the school Gospel values that your child displays. I would like to thank all the parents who have supported the school throughout the year.

We have had some amazing learning from home and school over the year. Our Student Achievement Report reflects this positive learning and we have seen our overall reading, maths and writing results improve this year.

I would also like to sincerely thank the School Board for their ongoing support and positive encouragement of our school learning community. Our Board members make a significant commitment of time and energy and we can be proud of their achievements and aspirations for our school.

This will be the last newsletter typed by Moira, who was first employed here around 1992 which makes 30 years of absolutely brilliant service to our school. Moira has seen a great deal of change in the school - too numerous to mention, however, she has made lifelong memories for countless staff, parents, and children who have had the privilege of knowing her. There will be a more fulsome farewell at the end of year prize giving.

Finally, let us honour Mother Mary as we prepare for the celebration of the birth of Jesus. Let us walk in the love of Jesus and cherish our families and friends. Wishing you all a joyful, peaceful, and restful holiday break. *Andrew Pozniak*



What's on Next Week		
Tues 13 Dec	End of Year Prizegiving &	
	Production at St Patrick's – 6pm	
	start (Please be there no later	
	than 5.30pm)	
Wed 14 Dec	End of Year Mass 9:30am in Hall	
	Mission Afternoon	
	End of Year Reports will be sent	
	home	
Thurs 15 Dec	Last day of Term 4	
	School will close at 12.30pm	
Thurs 2 Feb	First Day of Term 1 2023	

2023 TERM DATES:

TERM 1:	Thurs 2 Feb	6 April
TERM 2:	24 April	30 June
TERM 3	:17 July	22 Sept
TERM 4:	9 Oct	20 Dec

St Brigid's House Groups:

Congratulations to Aubert House - the winning house this week. Our House Token Winners this week: Aubert House: Mason Voyce McAuley House: Finn Smith de Paul House: Effie Spaven

Sports News

Futsal: Results: Tigers won. P.O.D - Holly North Rebels won. P.O.D - Hart-Lee Knights

Values Awards

This term we are focusing on all of our school values: Te Tapu o te Tangata - Respect Atawhaitia - Care Whakahaere - Responsibility Certificates were given to the following children: Rm 4 -Stella Anstey & Theo Hawkins Rm 3 - Maddex Porter & Phillip Balu Joy Maungatua - Neve O'Donnell, Summer North & Miya Bijin



The GOLDEN TICKET

Congratulations to the following children who received Golden Tickets this week for displaying outstanding values:

Felicity Burke, Dexter Valentine, Halaina Sparks, Austin Gillespie, William Valentine, Leeyah Than





End of Year Reports will be sent home on Wednesday 14th December

Library Stocktake URGENT!!!!!

Stocktaking is underway but there are still a few books to be returned ... please make sure that all your library books are returned by next week.

Term 4 Education outside the Classroom

Term 4 EOTC Invoices were sent home with children on Monday asking for contributions towards the cost of implementing our EOTC programmes throughout the year. We very much appreciate the support we get from parents.

There are still some outstanding stationery and sports payments to come - if anyone is struggling to meet these payments please contact Andrew to discuss options.

Covid Update - We still have a small number of cases so please be aware of any symptoms that you or your family may show and take a covid test if you suspect anything.

If you do happen to have a positive case within your household, please let us know ASAP as it helps us to manage the spread as best that can. We really appreciate the communication with families.

Kind regards, Andrew Pozniak

3rd Week of Advent - JOY

"See, I will create new heavens and a new earth.

The former things will not be remembered nor will they come to mind. But be glad and rejoice forever in what I will create, for I will create Jerusalem to be a delight and its people a joy. *Isaiah 65:17-18 (NIV)*

Advent prayer for your home



Jesus, you entered our world on Christmas as the Prince of Peace. This Advent, as we strive to become the-best-version-of-ourselves, fill us with a deep and abiding peace. Help us share that peace with everyone we encounter, especially those who need it most. Amen.



Community News

MERI KIRIHIMETE FROM TÜHURA OTAGO MUSEUM

Santa's Up Late – free crafts, karaoke carols, tours, Santa photos and live music. 5pm – 9pm, Friday 16 December // free

Christmas Carols and Choirs 10am – 4pm, Sunday 18 December // free

School Bank Account Details

CH

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)



OTAGO MUSEUM