

# St Brigid's School Newsletter



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Dunedin 9013  
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*8<sup>th</sup> February 2024  
Term 1 – Week 2*

*Dear Parents / Caregivers,*



Kia ora whānau,

As we celebrate Waitangi Day, we honour the signing of Te Tiriti o Waitangi and its profound significance in shaping our nation's history. For our Catholic school community, Waitangi Day holds special meaning as it resonates with our faith's values of partnership, unity, and respect for all.

As we commemorate Waitangi Day this year, let's take a moment to reflect on what it means for us as individuals and as a school community. Let's honour the spirit of Te Tiriti o Waitangi by working together to create a respectful more inclusive future for all.

Noho ora mai,  
Teenaka Kennedy

### School Grounds

Thank you to Sharon and Kevin who have worked most weekends over the past two years to make our school grounds look amazing. They have gone above and beyond to make it a wonderful environment for our children and community. We have valued the time you have spent and for all of your hard work.

Sharon and Kevin have now finished up as our caretakers but we are still lucky to keep Sharon as staff in her Teacher Aide position in Room 3.

### Lunches

Remember to check out St Brigid's facebook page to check what's on for this week P.T.A lunch. Tomorrow Burgers are on the menu

### Māori Mass

The first Miha Māori for 2024 will be celebrated on Sunday, 11 February at 4.30pm in St Patrick's Basilica, South Dunedin. Shared kai to follow. All are welcome. You don't need to be proficient in te reo Māori. We're all learning!

### Wheels Day

Children are welcome to bring their wheels to school every Wednesday. Helmets must be worn for safety.



### St Brigid's Day Celebrations

On the 1st of February, our school celebrated St. Brigid's Feast Day—a time to reflect on the remarkable life and legacy of our school saint. It was filled with storytelling, prayer and remembrance, where we shared the timeless lessons of love, work, and compassion that St. Brigid embodied. As we gathered, we were reminded of the core values that define our school community—care, respect, and responsibility—and how they guide us on our journey as learners and individuals.

During the festivities, the tamariki were divided into smaller house groups and tasked with a sports afternoon and a creative challenge: crafting a St Brigid's cloak that covered the largest area. All children displayed cooperation, collaboration, and kindness.

**Sun hats:** In Terms 1 and 4, tamariki must wear a school sunhat when they are outside. We would appreciate it if everyone could have a hat by next week.

### **Weetbix Tryathlon**

Our school has registered as a group for the Weetbix Tryathlon to be held at Taieri College on Sunday the 3rd of March at 9 a.m. If you wish to be part of the group please follow the link to [register](#).

### **Annual Accounts**

The 2022 audits Annual Accounts are now available on our website or in the school office if you would like to read them.

### **Learning Discussions:**

Later in term one (late March/early April) we will hold individual learning discussions with caregivers and students. This gives us time to get to know your children and properly assess where they are at in terms of academic learning and self-management. At this hui we will share baseline data with you (where we believe your child is working in reading, writing and math) and we'll also use this time to set goals for the rest of the year.

### **Ash Wednesday/Lent**

Ash Wednesday is on the 14th of February, marking the beginning of our Lenten journey. Lent is a special Season of the Church's Liturgical year. It begins on Ash Wednesday where Catholics around the world attend a special Liturgy where we are marked with the ashes on our foreheads. It is a period where we as Christians pray, fast, and give. Our school will be gathering for our own Ash Wednesday liturgy at which you are welcome to be a part of. All our children will be marked on their forehead with ashes that were from the burnt palms of last year's Palm Sunday celebration.

This is a special time of repentance where we reflect on ways we can be closer to God.

## **What's on in Term 1**

### **February**

Monday 12 <sup>th</sup>	Year 6 Physical Active Leaders Training
Wednesday 14 <sup>th</sup>	Assembly 2:30pm in the Hall
Sunday 18 <sup>th</sup>	Combined School Mass 9:30pm Mercy Parish
Wednesday 21 <sup>st</sup>	Assembly 2:30pm in the Hall
Saturday 24 <sup>th</sup>	Palm Sunday
Wednesday 28 <sup>th</sup>	Assembly 2:30pm in the Hall

### **March**

Friday 1 <sup>st</sup>	Move it March Begins
Wednesday 6 <sup>th</sup>	Assembly 2:30pm in the Hall
Wednesday 13 <sup>th</sup>	Assembly 2:30pm in the Hall
Sunday 17 <sup>th</sup>	St Brigid's School Mass Mercy Parish 9:30am
Tuesday 19 <sup>th</sup> & Thursday 21 <sup>st</sup>	Parent interviews 3-6pm
Wednesday 20 <sup>th</sup>	Assembly 2:30pm in the Hall
Monday 25 <sup>th</sup>	Otago Anniversary Day- School is closed
Tuesday 26 <sup>th</sup>	Year 5 & 6 Seek Day at Trinity
Friday 29 <sup>th</sup>	Good Friday- School is closed

### **April**

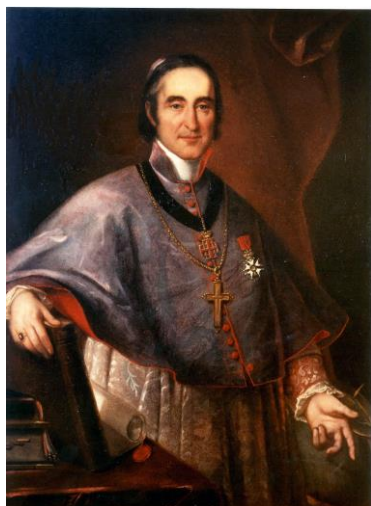
Monday 1 <sup>st</sup> & Tuesday 2 <sup>nd</sup>	Easter Monday and Tuesday - School is closed
Wednesday 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Assembly 2:30pm in the Hall
Wednesday 10 <sup>th</sup>	Assembly 2:30pm in the Hall
Friday 12 <sup>th</sup>	Last day of Term 1

### **Other Important Dates for 2024**

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

**Absences:** If your child is going to be absent for any reason, or late due to an appointment etc please phone the office and leave a message on the absence line, or email the office at [office@stbrigidson.school.nz](mailto:office@stbrigidson.school.nz) by 9:15 a.m. This saves time for staff as we need to phone or text you if your child has not arrived.

## R.E. Comment...



### Waitangi Day

Bishop J. B. F. Pompallier arrived in New Zealand in 1838, and established many Catholic missions. Pompallier was sympathetic to Māori concerns, and for his time, he had an enlightened view towards Māori culture. He was at Waitangi when the Treaty was signed on 6 February 1840, and asked Lieutenant-Governor Hobson for his promise to protect the Catholic faith. This pledge is sometimes referred to as the unwritten "fourth article" of the Treaty, and is said to protect and recognise not only major western religions, but also Māori custom.

**Scholastica** (c. 480 – 10 February AD 543) is a saint of the Catholic Church, Eastern Orthodox Church and Anglican Church. She was born in Italy, and was the twin sister of Saint Benedict of Nursia. Her feast day is 10 February. Scholastica is traditionally regarded as the founder of the Benedictine nuns.

Scholastica is the patron saint of Benedictine nuns, education, and convulsive children, and is invoked against storms and rain.



### 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.**

### BOARD NEWS

**Next Meeting:** Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> February

### PTA NEWS

We would love to see some new members on our P.T.A. If you are interested, please see Teenaka or Rachel in the office.

## Community News...

### Adult Volunteers Needed as Ushers –

Our local Professional Mens Basketball team, the Otago Nuggets, have 10 home games at the Edgar Centre this year from March through to July. We are offering **up to 4 FREE** tickets (conditions apply) & other benefits to everyone who volunteers. Parents, this is a very easy way for you to receive **FREE** tickets for your family to come along to an event that is held inside, is very entertaining and family friendly. Go to <https://forms.gle/bTSivmQnvs1oC2Rag> to register or email Kath Richards at [kath@otagonuggets.com](mailto:kath@otagonuggets.com).



### Dunedin Institute of Traditional Karate

Okinawan Goju Ryu Karate, IOGKF

Traditional Karate is a journey for life that will improve:

- Self Confidence
- Discipline
- Respect
- Courage
- Fitness
- Self Defence

St James Presbyterian Church Hall - 393 King Edward St - South Dunedin

Senior Instructors - Sensei John Marrable - 7th Dan - 021 231 3887  
- Sensei Lee Hart - 4th Dan - 0277 386 012

[www.dunedinkarate.co.nz](http://www.dunedinkarate.co.nz)



It's an ideal opportunity for parents to share in a life journey with their children!

**Nothing is impossible – the word itself says ... "I'm possible"**