Dear Parents/Guardians,

It was great to see so many parents coming into school for the parent information sessions last night. It gave parents the opportunity to meet their children’s teachers and find out about the routines and expectations for 2014. Staff prepared handouts which will be helpful during the year. Thank you to all the parents and staff who attended last Thursday’s Board and P&F AGM. At the meeting we thanked Jodie Hanns and Garrick Gulvin for their time on the Board. Thank you to Amanda Smith and Karri Dallywater who volunteered to fill the positions. Sam Cheng (President), Sam Brojanowski (Treasurer) and Renae Mumme (Secretary) offered to continue in their positions for this year. The position of Vice President remains vacant.

God Bless
Mr Cronin

The Lord Is My Shepherd

The Lord is my Shepherd, and I want to follow, wherever he leads me, wherever he goes.
Over the mountains, the waters and by-ways, valleys and highways he’s waiting for me.
I want to go to meet him there, to lay myself down in his love.
The Lord is my shepherd, and I want to follow, wherever he leads me, wherever he goes.
And while on the journey to where we are going, he promised to be there to help us along.
And over the mountains we’ll walk on together, to know all the wonders he’s given to me.
Parents of students in Years 3, 5 and 7 will receive a flyer titled ‘NAPLAN – Information for Parents’. This year’s NAPLAN testing will begin on Tuesday 13 May.

Mr C.

Apart from the initial time change for Years 3 and 7, swimming lessons have been running very smoothly. Thank you to all the parents who have been helping in the younger year levels. A huge thank you to Ray Bertolini who has offered to drive the bus the mornings that he has off work.

Mr C.

I will be in Perth attending meetings on Monday and Tuesday of next week. Then the following week I will be attending the Principals’ Conference. Mr Bree Dudek will be in charge while I am away.

Mr C.

All Education Department High Schools will be taking Year 7 students next year. Collie Senior High has secured the funding and planning is well under way.

Mr C.

Ms Denise O’Meara will be visiting St Brigid’s hall on Thursday 6 March at 9am to discuss how BCC operates. Ms O’Meara will present to Year 5-7 students and parents are welcome to come along.

Mr C.

Parents are asked to phone the office if your child is sick and unable to attend by 9.30. It is a State Government requirement that all students from Kindergarten to Year 7 supply a signed note by parents to school explaining absences (Emails will not be accepted). We have a new attendance system and parents will receive a text message on their mobile if their child is away and we have not been informed.

Mr C.

Year 3 and Year 7 students will be assisting with the Parish Mass on Saturday 8 March.

Mr C.

Piano lessons with Mrs Uren will begin after Swimming in Week 5.

Mr C.

Folders are in place in the office, Pre-Primary room and canteen for parents to register when they assist in some way in or around the school. Each time parents (or grandparents) help, $10 will be recorded and families who pay the $100 levy will have up to $80 returned to them in December. The Kindy P&F levy has been modified to $50 with a maximum of $30 returned. It is hoped that all parents take the opportunity to get involved in school life.

Mr C.

The first P&F meeting of the year will be on Thursday 27 February in the staffroom starting at 7.30pm. All parents are welcome to attend.

Mr C.

Some of the Year 6 students’ many talents will be on display on Friday 7 March in the hall. Parents and friends are welcome to attend.

Mr C.

Mr Cronin Away
**Parish News**

**Father Jaybee returns**
We welcome back Father Jaybee from his annual holidays in January and look forward to his continuing involvement with our liturgy and sacrament programmes in the school.

**Volunteers are needed**
Sadly, towards the end of last year, the family co-ordinating the projector and music programme at the parish moved interstate. Currently there is no-one to work the projector or play musical instruments. Father Jaybee is seeking any volunteers to help with either of these ministries. Do you know of anyone who might be interested in giving a little of their time to help out? The projector operator could be a high school student and they do not need to commit every week. Please leave your name at the front office for Karyn Cronin or speak to Father Jaybee on 9734 2183.

**Children's Liturgy**
During Sunday morning mass, children between the ages of Kindy and Year 6 are able to participate in a Children's Liturgy in the Parish Hall. The sessions are run by parent and teacher volunteers and children are complete activities that relate to the Sunday's Gospel. Mrs Zoe Furler is rostered for this Sunday, February 23. There will be no liturgy the following week as it is a long weekend.

**World Day of Prayer**
On March 7, St Brigid’s Parish is hosting the World Day of Prayer. This is a worldwide movement of Christian women, from a range of denominations, who come together to observe a common day of prayer each year on the first Friday of March. It takes place in more than 170 countries and regions. Every year, there is a different prayer focus relating to a different country. This year’s focus is on the difficulties faced by people living in Egypt. The prayer service will be held in St Brigid’s Church at 9.30am and everyone is invited along. Members of other Christian Churches in Collie will also be participating, as will our Year 5 students. The service will go for about 45 minutes.

**Ice Cream Containers**
The school is seeking empty 2 & 4 litre ice cream containers. If you have any to spare could you please take them into the year 4 class.

Thank you

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**RE News**

**First Reconciliation**
Thank-you to parents and students who attended the meeting regarding First Reconciliation on Wednesday February 12. Please note that the Commitment Mass for children wishing to receive this Sacrament has been moved to Saturday, March 8 at 6pm. Information regarding this mass will be given out closer to the day.

**Altar Servers**
It is once again fantastic to see so many students volunteering to assist Father Jaybee with Parish Masses. We had a training session with Father and Mr Leo DeAngelis on Wednesday February 12 which went really well. Rosters have now gone home with contact numbers for servers to arrange a swap in they need to. Please let me know if there is a change to your rostered date.

**Ash Wednesday**
Our first whole school mass will be held on Wednesday, March 5 at 9.30 am in the Church. This is Ash Wednesday, which signifies the beginning of Lent. Students from Years 1 to 7 will attend. Parents and friends are welcome to join us.

Thanks
Karyn Cronin

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**Uniform Roster**
Feb 21  Nicole Martin & Sheree Payne
Feb 28  Swimming Carnival
Mar 07  Nicole Tate
Mar 14  Karyn Cronin
Mar 21  Nicole Martin
Mar 28  Tracey Johnson
Apr 04  Sheree & Fiona

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**Statix Dance Group**

**Enrolments are now being taken for 2014 dance year.**
Lessons in jazz, hip-hop (mixed boys and girls), slow modern ballet.

For more info phone Tracey 0439 518 299 or 9734 9951