Dear Parents/Guardians,

As a school community we have faced many challenges in my time here at St Brigid’s. I truly appreciate the tremendous support I have received from St Brigid’s staff and families, over the past four years. St Brigid’s is a wonderful community and Collie is a fantastic place to raise a family.

Friday night’s family barbecue starting at 5pm is still on and I look forward to spending time with ‘old’ and ‘new’ families.

God Bless
Mr Cronin

Prayer Corner

Stewardship “Countless Blessings” Prayer

Generous God, you have blessed us immeasurably. We are eternally grateful for your many blessings. The beauty of the world we live in, the wonder of creation, and the miraculous gift of life itself. The loving support of family and friends, their caring sympathy during troubles and their sharing happiness during our joys. The challenge of the tasks we work at, the satisfaction of our accomplishments, the enjoyment of our hobbies and diversions and the meaningfulness of our volunteering. The gift of shelter, the nourishment of food and sustenance, and the warmth and comfort of our clothes. The trials and tribulations that each one of us faces, that cause us to acknowledge our dependence on God. The ‘little things’ – a good book or great movie, chocolate chip cookies, arriving home safely, and all those other things we take for granted but which are really blessings. The love of a God who cares for each one of us, the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ, and the continuing presence of the Holy Spirit. May we always remember to live as grateful stewards of your countless blessings. We share our gratitude to you now and forever. Amen.

Term 1 Important Dates 2014

Mar 21  ·  Yr 4 Assembly
          ·  Family BBQ 5pm
Mar 26  ·  Yr3 Reconciliation
Mar 27  ·  P & F Meeting 7.30pm
Mar 28  ·  Swimming Carnival
          ·  Youth Group 6.30–9pm
Apr 03   ·  Board Meeting 7.30pm
Apr 04   ·  Yr 1 Assembly
          ·  Year 6 Car Wash 2pm PCYC
Apr 05   ·  Car Boot Sale
          ·  Yr2 & Yr4 Parish Mass
Apr 10   ·  End of Term Mass
Apr 11   ·  Easter Egg Raffle Draw

Hunga Busta Roster

Mar 21 Friday          Karyn Cronin
Mar 24 Monday         Adam Cronin/Kyla Golding
Mar 26 Wednesday     Deb McCormick
Mar 28 Friday        Swimming Carnival
Mar 31 Monday        Colleen Read
Apr 02 Wednesday      Sandra Pits
Apr 04 Friday         Cheryl Pullan

There will be NO CANTEEN on Friday 28th due to the swimming carnival, instead Mrs Higgins will open on Thursday 27th, both for morning tea and lunch orders.
Family BBQ
School families and staff are invited to come along to a barbeque at school on Friday 21 March, starting at 5pm. The evening is an opportunity to welcome new families and staff. You are asked to bring your own cutlery, plates, meat, drinks and chairs, as well as either a salad or dessert to share. Families with a surname starting with the letters A-L are asked to bring a dessert to share and M-Z a salad.
Mr C.

Photographs at Swimming Carnival
All schools in Collie have been advised that the Collie Shire has made a decision that parents are not permitted to take photographs or video footage at Swimming Carnivals. Schools have been instructed to give two names of official photographers to the pool the day before their school carnival. Pool entry for parents will be $2.50.
Mr C.

Student Supervision
Students are not permitted to be at school before 8.30am. There is no supervision of students before that time. We have had students arriving at school before 8am.

Volleyball
On Friday April 4, students from Years 5-7 will have their sport lesson at the Italian Club using the beach volleyball courts. Students will travel by bus to the Italian Club, driver to be confirmed.
Miss Langley

Youth Group-Help Required
I need some offers of assistance from parents to help our Youth Group otherwise it will need to be cancelled. Youth Group is planned for Friday 28 March from 6.30-9pm for students in Years 6, 7 and past St Brigid’s students in Year 8. The cost is $5 and supper will be provided.

New Addition for Mr Sarre
Congratulations to David and Amy Sarre on the safe arrival of Clancy earlier this week. Both mother and baby are doing very well.
Mr C.

P & F Meeting
The next P&F meeting will be held on Thursday 27 March at 7.30pm in the staffroom. It was fantastic to see some new faces at our last meeting. Parents are encouraged to come along and get involved in the school community.

Art Department
If anyone has brightly coloured tiles to spare Mrs Hamby would greatly appreciate them.
Thank you
Mrs Hamby

Year 6 Car Wash for Camp
Is your car beginning to look dirty? Don’t wash it yourself! Wait until the Year 6 Car Wash to raise money for camp on Friday 4 April outside the PCYC from 2pm.

Bunbury Catholic College Scholarships
Application forms to apply for the Scholarships offered in 2015 by BCC are in the front office for any Yr 6 & Yr 7 student attending BCC next year. Applications close 4 April.

Board Meeting
The next Board meeting for Board members will be held on Thursday 3 April starting at 7.30pm.

School Surveys
Earlier this week 60 Climate Survey forms were sent home to families. If you received one, please complete it and return it to school by Friday 28 March. If you have one and do not intend to fill it out, you can return it to school so we can pass it on to another family.
Mr C.

Uniform Roster
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Name</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mar 21</td>
<td>Nicole Martin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mar 28</td>
<td>Swimming Carnival</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Apr 04</td>
<td>Sheree &amp; Fiona</td>
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</table>
**Parish News**

World Day of Prayer
Thank-you to Miss Langley and the Year 5 students for their participation in the World Day of Prayer at St Brigid’s Church on Friday March 7. It was a lovely service, with representatives from different Christian churches in Collie. Well done to our students who participated with enthusiasm and read beautifully. Thank-you also to the parents who came along in support.

**Year 4 Assembly**

Year 4 students will be presenting their assembly tomorrow 21 March.
Mr C.

**Is Fr Tony Shaving off His Beard?**

HE SURE IS! Fr Tony Chiera will give up his beloved beard to support the Leukaemia Foundation in the 2014 World’s Greatest Shave. With Fr Wayne Bendotti (... having his head shaved) and Dr Michael Jackson from the Pastoral Office (... growing a beard to be shaved into a “Mitchell Johnson ‘Mo’) they are “The Three Amigos”. Help them raise funds for this worthy cause by sponsoring them. To do so, visit:


The Shave will be held at 11am on Saturday 29 March at Centrepoint Shopping Centre.

Note: Please give generously to Project Compassion also! We do not wish to detract from this important annual appeal in any way! **The Three Amigos**

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**RE News**

First Reconciliation
Please pray for our students preparing to receive the Sacrament of Penance for the first time next Wednesday March 26. Yesterday a note was sent to all families involved. Please see Mrs Dittman, Mr Cronin or Mrs Short if you did not receive one.

An Invitation from Bishop Holohan
Do you have a child in Year 6 or 7 who will be preparing for the Sacrament of Confirmation next term? Every year, St Brigid’s students in Year 7 attend the Chrism Mass at which the holy oils, including the oil used during Confirmation, are blessed. The Chrism Mass is celebrated on the Tuesday during Holy Week, which unfortunately occurs during the first week of our school holidays this year. Please find attached an invitation for you and your children to attend. It would be lovely to see some of our students at the Mass. You could perhaps make a family day down in Bunbury.

Project Compassion
Every Wednesday until the end of Term 1, students are meeting in the hall at the start of the day for morning prayer and assembly. They will be looking at slideshows from different countries which show them the difficulties faced by people around the world on a day to day basis. Some of these difficulties include finding water, food and shelter. So far students have learnt about problems facing children and families in Brazil and Sudan. Over the next two weeks we will be looking at the Philippines and Solomon Islands.

Did you know that Caritas Australia is celebrating its 50th anniversary this year?
Mrs Cronin.

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**Invitation from the Bishop**

All Year 6 and 7 Confirmation Candidates
Are invited to:
The Chrism Mass
St Patrick’s Cathedral, Bunbury
11.00am on Tuesday, 15 April 2014

The oil used for the anointing during the Confirmation ritual is blessed in a special ceremony at the Chrism Mass, and it has been the custom for some years now for all Confirmation Candidates to come to the Mass.

The bishop is aware that this Mass is in the school holidays this year, but is hopeful that Candidates might find a way to attend.

RSVP to Your RE Teacher by 9th April 2014.

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**Phasing Out Of Paper Copies**

From the beginning of next term, like many schools we will be emailing the school newsletter to families unless they specifically ask for a hard copy. We estimate that it will save 12,000 pages of paper per year. Attached below is a slip asking for your email address. The newsletter is also available on the school's website which will soon be upgraded. Please return the slip below by 12 April.

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**Family Email Address/es for the Newsletter**

Name of eldest child in the family: ____________________________

Email address (can be sent to more than one): ____________________________

Please indicate if you would still like to receive a hard copy of the newsletter.
Snippets from Year 6 Students’ Recounts for ‘A Swag of Tales’ Incursion

On Monday March 10 a man named Andy came to perform a Show called ‘A Swag of Tales’. He was very funny and even a little bit silly. He chose some students from the audience to be involved. (Ellie Howell)

It was about a convict and showed us what people looked like, the clothing they wore the toys from the time and how they did things in 1875. (Lilly McCallum)

Andy talked about the Gold-Rush and how people dropped their jobs and went to look for gold. He acted as other people so we could get what he was talking about clear in our minds. (Alexis Tate)

Then he time travelled to the 1820s. Andy chose Rahnui and Hayden to stand out the front with him and Andy got some clothes from that time and they put the clothes on. (Joel Cronin)

It was very interesting, finding how hard it was for kids our age to find jobs and how they lived without all the electronics we have. (Francesca Mitchell)
20th March 2014

Dear Parents

Introducing Your School Counsellor

My name is Laurie Sutherland and I am pleased to be back at St Brigid’s School again this year as the School Counsellor/Chaplain.

My role here at St Brigid’s is to provide pastoral care and support to the whole school community. I am available for students, parents, family members, carers, teachers and school staff members who may wish to talk through any issues, concerns or worries.

I have a professional background as a social worker with many years experience working with troubled young people and their families.

This year, I will be working at St Brigid’s on Tuesdays, so, if you or your child would like to come in and see me, please do not hesitate to call me at the school. The phone number here is 9734 1097.

If you would like or feel a need for a little extra support for yourself or your child as you try to deal with a problem or worry, please feel free to ring me and arrange to come in and have a confidential chat. If you cannot come in to the school for any reason, you are still very welcome to ring me and I will chat with you over the phone. Unfortunately for privacy reasons, I cannot make home visits.

I look forward to being of assistance to you and offering any pastoral care and support I can. I would be delighted also to share your excitement and joy about something wonderful happening in your or your children’s lives.

Best Wishes to you all

Laurie Sutherland
School Counsellor/Chaplain