Dear Parents/Guardians,

Welcome to the new school year. It was fantastic to see so many mums, dads, grandmas and grandads at school on Monday to help their children/grandchildren settle in. We have several new students starting across the school coming to us from as far away as Kununurra. We hope that all new families enjoy their stay at St Brigid’s and have many positive and memorable experiences. The playground is very quiet without our Year 7 students and from most reports, our two classes from last year have settled in well at high school.

God Bless
Mr Cronin

Term 1 Important Dates 2015

Feb 12 • Board & P & F AGM—7pm
Feb 13 • Yr 6 Student Council Leadership Bunbury
Feb 17 • Parent Meetings
Feb 18 • Ash Wednesday Mass—9.30am
Feb 27 • Test Books sent home
Mar 02 • Public Holiday—Labour Day
Mar 05 • Ash Wednesday 9.30 Mass
Mar 13 • Yr 4 Assembly
Mar 27 • Yr 2 Assembly
Apr 02 • Last day term 1

St Brigid’s of Ireland Prayer

I would like an abundance of peace.

I would like full vessels of charity.

I would like rich treasures of mercy.

I would like cheerfulness to preside over all.

Prayer Corner

Hunga Busta Roster

The Canteen is looking for volunteers for this year’s roster. 2 hours of your time per term is all that is required.

To add your name to the roster, please contact Mrs Higgins in the Canteen, or leave your name at the front Office.

Electronic Copy of Newsletter

Will commence Thursday 19th February. All families receiving the Newsletter via email last year will continue to do so. Any new families to the school will also receive the Newsletter electronically. If you require a hard copy please notify the front Office
Please check your email address is correct on the attached Personal Detail form.
Uniform Clarification
Students from Years 5 and 6 are required to wear black lace-up or buckled school shoes on Tuesday to Thursday. Students in Years 1-4 have the option of wearing Sandals on these days. Sandshoes in Years 1-6 worn on Monday & Friday should be predominately white or black.

Children Going Home from School Early
Students are only permitted to leave the school with anyone other than a parent if the parent has phoned the school with the name of the adult with permission to collect their child or by supplying a note.

Student Absences
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 6 bring in notes to school explaining absences. We are trialing a new attendance system and parents will begin receiving a text message on their mobile if their child is away and we have not been informed.

Playgroup
The first session of our Pre-Kindy program will began today and will continue every Thursday. Sessions are held in the Kindy room from 9-11am. Mrs Teresa Harker will again be the coordinator and the sessions are open to Pre-Kindy students from birth to three years! Mums and Dads stay and it provides a great opportunity to get to know other parents within the school. The cost is a gold coin donation for each child.

Swimming Lessons
Unfortunately at this stage the town pool is not completed, therefore the children will not be taking part in Swimming lessons until further notice which is likely to be in Term 4.

St Brigid’s Feast Day
The Parish celebrated St Brigid’s Feast Day last Sunday with a shared lunch. Due to St Brigid’s Feast Day falling in the holidays, at school our major Feast Day celebration is for the Presentation Sisters in November.

Parent Information Sessions Year 1-6
Group parent information sessions will be held with classroom teachers on Wednesday 18 February. It will provide parents with an opportunity to meet their children’s teachers and gain an insight into how classrooms will operate this year and include topics such as: homework, Sacraments, diaries and camps.

Times will be:
3.15pm Year 1 and Year 6
3.45pm Year 2
4.15pm Year 3
4.45pm Year 4
5.15pm Year 5

AGM for School Board and P & F
The Annual General Meeting for the School Board and P&F will be held on Thursday 12 February starting at 7pm in the school Library. The evening will provide parents with an opportunity to hear about and celebrate the work the Board and P&F have done over the past twelve months and find out how you can get involved with some vacancies to be filled. Several parents who have indicated that they are interested in joining the School Board while there are still opportunities to join the P&F Executive.

P & F Levy
Last years P & F Levy reimbursements will continue this year. 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. We had a great success with this program last year and it is hoped that all parents take the opportunity to get involved in school life this year.

3 Year Old Program
Thank you to the parents who have advertised our Three Year Old Program that we are looking at starting in Term 2. Over the past week, I have been contacted by ten families outside of the school interested in finding out more. A meeting will be held on Friday 27 February at 9am in the school library to discuss how the program will operate. The phone calls have also meant we had several new families at our Playgroup session this morning.

Piano Starting
Mrs Julie Uren will be starting her piano lessons next Tuesday and lesson will be Tuesdays and Fridays. Parents of children already having lessons are asked to ring Julie to confirm that their child would like to continue on 9734 4512. Mrs Uren may have space for one or two new students so contact Julie if you would like to find out more. New students must be Year 1 or older.

Reading Workshop for Parents on Helping Your Child
Viv Marwick will be holding an information session for parents on Wednesday 25 February at 9am in the hall. Viv used to be Assistant Principal at St Brigid’s but over the last few years she has worked at the Catholic Education Office in Bunbury as a Literacy Consultant for South West schools.

Viv has expertise in the reading area and will give tips to parents on how best to help you child at home. We know that ‘kids who read succeed’, so we are keen to work with parents to give students the best start to their schooling. The session is aimed at Kindy to Year 3 parents.

Please RSVP by emailing me (cronin.paul@cathednet.wa.edu.au) if you are interested in attending by 23 February so we know how many to expect.
**Community News**

**Bunbury Catholic College**

**Italian Cultural Tour Fundraiser**

**Date:** 21st February 2015  
**Venue:** Collie Italian Club, Ewing street. Collie  
**Time:** 6pm

- $30 per adult  
- $15 for children under 10  
- Free for children under 3

NO B.Y.O, Beer, Wine and Spirits on sale at bar. Book your tables now by calling Bunbury Catholic College.

Phone No 08 97210000.

Great food, DJ entertainment, prizes to be won and more.

**Collie Lawn Tennis Club**

Wow what a great turn out for the Family Fun Day. It was fabulous to see so many people, young and not so young, playing the game.

Fun was had on the courts, on the Bouncy Castle and all around the club.

Many thanks to all those that helped throughout the day.

Juniors continue to play at the weekend with coaching and grass court play starting from 9am.

Dennis True coaches the juniors with fantastic assistance from Cooper Smith, John Dowey, Blake Slater and Paul Bernardi.

Assistance from parents during the coaching sessions has been greatly appreciated too.

This weekend will be social tennis which will start from 2pm, and Wednesday morning from 9am.

Things coming up will be a Valentines Social competition and Club Championships to be held on March 14 and 21, at this stage.

A list will be placed on the board for interest.

Please note if you are unavailable for either dates.

Collie Lawn Tennis Club

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**Message from the Office**

**Full Family Details** form has been attached to this Newsletter. Parent please check details and make relevant changes. Make sure that your mobile no. and your email are correct.

**Emergency contact numbers** must be within the Collie area.

**Permission Slip** for Class Excursions to be signed and returned.

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**Ash Wednesday Mass**

Students from Year 1-6 will be involved in the Ash Wednesday Mass on 18 February at 9.30am in the Church. Parents are welcome to attend.

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**Student Leaders’ Day**

Ms Furler will be taking our Year 6 student leaders to St Mary’s in Bunbury on Friday 13 February for a Leaders’ Day. St Brigid’s students will have the opportunity to work with Year 6 students from other Catholic schools in the Bunbury Diocese.

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**Altar Servers**

Training was held yesterday for 27 students from Years 4-6 who have volunteered to be involved in the Altar Servers Program. Fr Jaybee was very pleased with the enthusiasm of the students and afterwards they enjoyed a morning tea.

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**Suggested Change of Sports Uniform**

There are a number of parents who have approached me over time about changing the sports shirt and shorts for Years 1-6. Stock is low at the moment so a survey for parents is attached. To make the change, it will require 75% of returned forms to be in favour. If a change is made, the sports shirts will be made of a similar fabric to the Marathon Club shirts. A display of the shirt and shorts will be in the undercover area from tomorrow.

A change would mean that the current sports shirt and shorts can be worn to school until the end of 2016.

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**Survey for Possible Change to St Brigid’s Sports Uniform**

Please circle your preference and return to the front office by Friday 13 February.

- I would like the sports uniform to remain the same.

- I would like the sports uniform to change.

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**Family Name:** ______________________