4 February 2016

Principal’s Welcome

Dear Parents,

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. We hope that all new families enjoy their stay at St Brigid’s and have many positive and memorable experiences.

God Bless
Mr Cronin

Year of Mercy

Be kind and merciful.

Let no-one ever come to you without coming away better and happier.

Be the living expression of God’s kindness:

Kindness in your face, kindness in your eyes, kindness in your smile,

Kindness in your warm greeting.

In the slums we are the light of God’s kindness to the poor.

To the children, to the poor, to all who suffer and are lonely, give always a happy smile — Give them not only care, but also your heart.

Amen.

Mother Teresa

OUR VISION

We are a progressive learning community, which nurtures the holistic growth of all children within a supportive Catholic environment.
St Brigid's Communication
All families receiving the Newsletter via e-mail 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. The newsletter is also posted on our school website, www.stbridgiscollie.wa.edu.au and our facebook page, St Brigid's School Collie. SMS' are also sent on a regular basis regarding important information within the school. If you are not receiving SMS' please contact the office.

School Improvement – Reading Focus
This year, our school focus is improving Reading levels of students across the school. Staff were visitied by Viv Marwick last week and she gave a presentation on ways of teaching reading and reading comprehension. The timetable for this year has been constructed so that the early years have Literacy Dedicated Time (LDT) from the start of the day until recess with senior classes running LDT from recess to lunch. The LDT sessions have a set structure with opportunities for students to read, be read to, answer questions and write every day. Reading levels of students will be measured at regular intervals and progress mapped. From Viv's presentation, some thought provoking points that arose included:

- Reading ability is the most powerful influence on children's ability to learn.
- Opportunities for personal fulfillment and job success are directly related to reading ability.
- The Power of Books in the Early Years: For boys, reading (or being read to) 3-5 days per week (compared to 2 or less) = 6 months above average by age 5.
- Reading 6-7 days per week (compared to 2 or less) = 12 months above average by age 5.

Mr. C.

Farewell to Mr Lovering
Sadly, due to some personal reasons, Mr Rob Lovering who had been our gardener for nearly two years, has had to move back to Perth. Mr Lovering will be greatly missed.

Mr. C.

Gardener/Maintenance Person Required
Applications are sought for people interested in applying for the Gardener/Maintenance position at St Brigid's which is 30 hours per week. Applications close Monday 8 February. For more information, please contact the office.

Mr. C.

Tiles Needed
Mrs Harnby is on the look out for any plain coloured 6 inch tiles that you may have laying around. Also shiny black or white tiles of any size would be greatly appreciated. Please drop them into the Art room or the front office.

3 Year Olds
After much anticipation, our 3 Year Old program began this week with three students there for the first session with interest from several other families looking at starting. 3 Year Olds is from 8.45am to 3pm on Tuesdays and children are under the guidance of Mrs Jackie Robinson and Mrs Leah Vallesi. Contact the office if you would like to find out more.

Mr. C.

P&F Levy Rebate Running Again This Year
Last year's 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. Many families received notices on their children's Amenities lists at the end of last year, thanking them for their donations of time, with each family receiving a credit on their school fees.

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.

Mr. C.
**School Notices**

**Students Arriving Early**
Students should not be arriving at school before 8.30am. If students do, they are directed to the benches in the undercover area where they wait for the 8.30am bell to sound before they can use sports equipment or enter classrooms.

Mr.C.

**Students 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.

Mr.C.

**Playgroup – Change of Day**
The first session of our Playgroup program will begin tomorrow and will continue every Friday. 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.

Mr.C.

**Canteen Help Required**
The Canteen is desperately looking for volunteers for this year’s roster. 2 hours of your time per term is all that is required. Attached to today’s Newsletter is a roster, if you are able to help on any of the days available, please contact Mrs Higgins in the Canteen, or leave your name at the front Office.

**Canteen Roster**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Person</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>5 February</td>
<td>Fiona Shepherd</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>8 February</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>10 February</td>
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<td>Friday</td>
<td>12 February</td>
<td>Sheree Payne</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>15 February</td>
<td>Leanne Prince</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>17 February</td>
<td>Joanne Remeika</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>19 February</td>
<td>Camille Mumme</td>
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**St Brigid’s Church Cleaning Roster**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Roster</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5th February</td>
<td>Trish Stocks, Sharyn Brown</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12th February</td>
<td>Danielle and Peili</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19th February</td>
<td>Karena Rankin &amp; family</td>
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<tr>
<td>26th February</td>
<td>Fiona, Lara, Sheree and Rochelle</td>
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<tr>
<td>4th March</td>
<td>Kris Payne (Denise M, Lynne B, Dionne S, Denise S)</td>
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<tr>
<td>11th March</td>
<td>Renae and Blair Mumme</td>
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**Uniform Shop Volunteers required**
Our Uniform Shop is run by a very small handful of volunteers who generously give up their valuable time every week. It would be fantastic to see a few more friendly faces that would be able to help out for only half an hour per term to help on a Friday morning from 8.30–9:00am. If you are able to assist and would like your name added to the roster, can you please contact Nicole Tate on 0417 347 278. Your help would be greatly appreciated.

The uniform shop is open Friday mornings from 8.30—9.00am

**Student Leaders’ Day**
Mr Cronin will be taking our Year 6 student leaders to St Mary’s in Bunbury on Friday 12 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. It will mean those students will miss their last swimming lesson.

**Upcoming Events**
Upcoming Events

Parent Information Sessions
Year 1-6
Group parent information sessions will be held with classroom teachers on Wednesday 17 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:
2.30pm Kindy
3.15pm Year 1/2 and Year 6
3.45pm Year 4
4.15pm Year 3
4.45pm Year 1 and Year 5

Swimming Lessons
Swimming lessons for Years 5 and 6 students will begin on Monday 8 February with Year 5 starting at 9.30am and Year 6 at 10.45am. On Wednesday 10 February, swimming lessons will run after the Ash Wednesday Mass. On Monday 15 February Pre-Primary, Year 1/2 and Year 4 will have lessons for two weeks starting at 9.30am. Year 1 and 3 will follow at 10.15am.

Mr.C.

Ash Wednesday Mass
Students from Year 1-6 will be involved in the Ash Wednesday Mass on 10 February at 9.30am in the Church. Parents and friends are welcome to attend.

Mr.C.

AGM for School Board and P & F
The Annual General Meeting for the School Board and P&F will be held on Thursday 11 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. The P&F and Board meet separately twice a term. The P&F have two main roles in fundraising for resources for the school and organizing events to bring the school community closer together. The Board assists the principal to ensure the school finances are in order. Drinks and nibbles will be provided.

Mr.C.

Piano Starting
Mrs Julie Uren will be starting her piano lessons next Tuesday and lessons 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.

Mr.C.

Community News

Amaroo Dental Therapy
Parents are advised that FREE dental treatment is available for children aged 5-17 years from the Amaroo Dental Therapy Centre. All eligible children will be offered enrolment or alternatively contact the Dental Therapy Centre.

When an appointment is received please bring your child along to discuss their ongoing oral health care. If the appointment time is unsuitable, you are unable to attend or you have a change of address please contact the clinic. If you prefer your child to receive their dental care from a private dental practitioner, then you should advise the dental clinic.

Please contact Amaroo Dental Therapy Centre for any further information.

Amaroo Dental Therapy Centre
Amaroo Primary School
Jones Street (enter from Magnussen St.)
COLLIE, WA 6225
Ph: 9734 2330
Opening Hours: Monday - Thursday, 8am - 4pm

Chess Club
Will meet today at the Collie town Library from 4-5pm.
Free to join and snacks will be provided.
# HUNGER BUSTA TERM 1 MENU

Canteen open Monday, Wednesday and Friday for recess and lunch

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### EVERYDAY OPTIONS

**G-Fresh Sandwiches**
- Chicken: 3.10
- Chicken & Salad: 3.50
- Ham: 2.90
- Ham & Salad: 3.30
- Egg: 2.10
- Egg & Salad: 3.30
- Tuna & Salad: 3.60
- Salad: 2.90

*(Salad: lettuce, carrot, tomato, cucumber and cheese)*

**Add 40 cents for rolls and 60 cents for wraps**

**G-Toasted Sandwiches**
- Chicken & Cheese: 3.60
- Ham & Cheese: 3.30
- Cheese: 2.60
- Baked Beans & Cheese: 3.30
- A-Chicken Noodle Cup: 3.10
- G-Hot Chicken & Mayo roll: 4.10
- G-Chicken Tender roll: 4.60
- G-Mini Chicken Tender roll: 3.60
- G-Crunchy Chicken Salad box: 4.30

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### MONDAY SPECIALS

- A-Pie: 3.60
- A-Sausage roll: 3.10
- Sauce: 0.60
- A-Hotdog: 3.60
- A-Crunchy chicken & sauce: 3.70
- A-Yummy Drummy: 3.70
- A-Beef Lasagne: 4.10

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### WEDNESDAY SPECIALS

- A-Yummy Drummy: 3.70
- A-Pizza: 3.60
- A-Hotdog: 3.70
- G-Crunchy Chicken Wrap: 4.10
- G-Chicken, Mash & Gravy: 4.60

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### FRIDAY SPECIALS

- A-Pie: 3.60
- A-Sausage roll: 3.10
- Sauce: 0.60
- A-Pizza: 3.60
- A-Crunchy Chicken & Sauce: 3.70
- G-Crunchy Chicken Wrap: 4.10
- G-Chicken, Mash & Gravy: 4.60
- A-Beef Lasagne: 4.10
- G-Chicken Fillet Burger: 4.60

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### DRINKS

- G-Apple & Blackcurrant juice: 1.70
- G-Bottled water: 1.70
- G-Play Water: 2.80
  *(blackcurrant, fruit tingle or lemonade)*
- G-Harvey Fresh Flavoured Milk: 1.30
  *(chocolate, banana or strawberry)*
- LOL Drinks: 2.10
  *(tropical, raspberry or blackcurrant)*
- G-Slushies small: 1.70
  - large: 2.30

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### MEGA MONDAY

- Hot Dog: 4.60
- Choc Milk: 4.60
- Mini Icy Pole: 5.10

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### WICKED WEDNESDAY

- Yummy Drummy: 4.60
- Choc Milk: 4.60
- Mini Icy Pole: 5.10

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### RECESS

- G-½ Vegemite roll: 0.70
- G-Crunchy Chicken wrap: 1.10
- A-Mini Yummy Drummy: 1.70
- A-Mini Pizza: 0.10
- A-Choc Chip Cookies: 0.70
- A-Homemade Muffins: 0.90
- A-Hash Browns: 1.00
# HUNGA BUSTER ROSTER

**CANTEEN ROSTER TERM 1 2016**  
Help required between **10.00am and 12.00 noon**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>MONDAY</th>
<th>WEDNESDAY</th>
<th>FRIDAY</th>
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<td>02/02</td>
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<td>Fiona Shepherd</td>
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<td>08/02</td>
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<td>Sheree Payne</td>
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<td>15/02</td>
<td>17/02</td>
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<td>Leanne Prince</td>
<td>Joanne Remeika</td>
<td>Camille Mumme</td>
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<td>22/02</td>
<td>24/02</td>
<td>26/02</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nicole Martin</td>
<td>Karina Rankin</td>
<td>Trish Stocks</td>
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<tr>
<td>29/02</td>
<td>02/03</td>
<td>04/03</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cheryl Pullan</td>
<td>Sarah Mounsey</td>
<td>Nicole Tate</td>
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<td>07/03</td>
<td>09/03</td>
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<tr>
<td>Public Holiday</td>
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<td>14/3</td>
<td>16/3</td>
<td>18/3</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Blair Mumme</td>
<td>Lara Davidson</td>
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<tr>
<td>21/3</td>
<td>23/03</td>
<td>25/3</td>
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<td>Good Friday</td>
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<td>28/3</td>
<td>30/3</td>
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<td>Easter Monday</td>
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<td>04/04</td>
<td>06/04</td>
<td>08/04</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rochelle Piavanini</td>
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If you are unable to come due to another commitment can you please try and swap with someone else. If you are unable to swap please phone the office 97341097 by 8.30am so alternative arrangements can be made.
It’s not okay to be away ... nor to be late to school

When kids miss school, not only is their academic progress impeded, forcing them to catch up on missed work (which some never do), they often miss important interactions with their peers which can compound issues of social isolation and low self-esteem.

One of the most important things you can do to ensure your child has a bright future is to make sure he or she goes to school every day—and gets there on time.

It sounds simple, but it’s true. The correlation between school attendance and children’s achievement levels is well-established. The more time kids spend at school, the more likely they are to experience school success.

Conversely, according to a report from the Victorian Auditor General, students who are regularly absent from school are at the greatest risk of dropping out of school early, and of experiencing long-term unemployment.

When kids miss school, not only is their academic progress impeded, forcing them to catch up on missed work (which some never do), they often miss important interactions with their peers which can compound issues of social isolation and low self-esteem. Also, many teachers tell me, it’s often the kids who can least afford to take time off school who are most likely to be serial absentees.

Of course, most people know this intuitively, yet school absenteeism is a huge problem in Australian schools—and much of it is parent-condoned.

It’s hard to get an accurate picture across the country but it would appear that Australian students miss an average of between 12 and 15 days per school year, with parent-condoned absenteeism highest among young primary-aged children.

That adds up to a year’s lost schooling over the school-life of a child. In today’s highly competitive world, this rate of absenteeism is alarming, putting our kids at a distinct disadvantage.

That’s not a reason to be away!

It’s now commonplace for children to stay away from school for reasons that would have been unheard of just twenty years ago. These include staying away to celebrate their own or a sibling’s birthday; being absent because they stayed up too late watching television; going shopping for clothes; an extended long weekend; and kids not wanting to take part in a sports day or special school event.

This type of absenteeism sends a strong message to kids that parents don’t really value learning or their children’s school experiences.

Australian kids only spend 15% of their total time at school. They spend more time asleep than they do at school. So we need to maximise every day to get full value. That means turning up to school every day, on time.

Being late is not okay either

Missing a few minutes each day may not seem like a big deal but your child may be missing more than you realise if he or she is continually late.

Current research shows that mornings for most children are the most productive time of the day, with 10.00am the peak period for productivity. When children arrive late and take time to settle as they inevitably do, valuable learning time is lost.
Positive Parenting Program
For parents with children aged 3 to 8 years.

Parents, Carers and Grandparents are invited to attend this 4 week program and 4 15 minute follow up telephone calls over another 4 weeks.

This program will give you:
- effective parenting strategies
- ways to encourage behaviour you like
- how to promote your child’s behaviour
- how to prevent or manage common child behavior problems.

Dates: Wednesday 17 February 2016, Wednesday 24 February 2016, Wednesday 2 March 2016, Wednesday 9 March 2016 (must attend all sessions)

Time: 9.15am to 11.15am

Venue: Child and Parent Centre – Collie Valley, 6 Cable Street, Collie

RSVP: Monday 15 February 2016

For more information telephone the Centre on 9734 3364. Free crèche available, bookings essential.

Supported by:
Government of Western Australia
Department of Health
WA Country Health Service

In partnership with
Investing in our youth Inc.