



9th February 2024

Dear Parents, Staff, Friends and Students of St Brigid's College,

Twilight Information Evenings

Next week, we welcome all parents and caregivers, as we partner in support of the children and young people in our care. Our staff will provide detailed information on the programs and opportunities that are available to the students here at St Brigid's College.



The Primary Information evening will be held on Monday, 12th of February and the Secondary Information evening on Tuesday, 13th of February. Please see details below:

Partnership with Parents – Twilight Information Evenings

| Monday, 12th February 2024 | | Tuesday, 13th February 2024 | |
|--|--|---|--|
| Primary (Kindergarten to Year 6) | | Secondary (Years 7 to 12) | |
| Time: | 6.00p.m. to 6.30p.m. | Time: | Session I 5.30p.m. to 6.15p.m. Session II 6.30p.m. to 7.15p.m. |
| Venue: | College Gymnasium | Venues: | See following |
| | General information pertaining to all students – Kindergarten to Year 6 Welcome from the Principal, Mrs Veronica Parker, and Head of Primary, Ms Anne Tan | | Specific information relevant for your child or young person's Year Level. Sessions are hosted by the Year Team Leader or Dean. The session will be repeated at 6.30p.m. for families with multiple children or who are unable to attend the earlier Session. |
| Time: | 6.45p.m. to 7.15p.m. | | You will have access to everything you need to know to support your child / young person in 2024. |
| Venue: | Classrooms | | Presentations will be posted on the College website on Wednesday for the families who are unable to attend in person. |
| | Specific information from Classroom teachers with everything you need to know regarding the year ahead for your child | | |
| | | Year Group | Location |
| | | Year 7 | Wandju Room |
| | | Year 8 | Library (Upstairs) |
| | | | YTL / Dean |
| | | | Ms Philippa Wicksey |
| | | | Mrs Lauren Daley |

| <i>Year Group</i> | <i>Location</i> | <i>YTL / Dean</i> |
|-------------------|------------------------|------------------------------|
| <i>Year 9</i> | <i>Library Room 20</i> | <i>Mrs Viv Bahbah</i> |
| <i>Year 10</i> | <i>Library Room 19</i> | <i>Mrs Argia Biddle</i> |
| <i>Year 11</i> | <i>Staff Room</i> | <i>Mrs Catherine Wildish</i> |
| <i>Year 12</i> | <i>Staff Room</i> | <i>Mrs Catherine Wildish</i> |

Driving and Parking around St Brigid's College



Please be vigilant when driving around the Campus. As a community, we all have a duty to care for each other, to follow the road rules and act responsibly. I am continuing to work with the City of Kalamunda for the improvement of the design and use of the Catherine Place and Glen Road areas.

The following times should enable families to collect their children efficiently. Parents of students in Years 1 to 12 arriving too early at the College create congestion as they do not allow parents of the children in the Early Years to access parking. Please be mindful that our older students can wait to be collected from the College.

Dismissal times are as follows:

| | |
|-----------------------------------|----------|
| Pre-Kindergarten and Kindergarten | 3.00p.m. |
| Year 1 to 6 | 3.15p.m. |
| Years 7 to 12 | 3.20p.m. |

The staggered finish times are designed to alleviate traffic congestion. If you have children across the Year Levels, encourage them to wait under the trees near the main entrance in the afternoon, and arrive a little later.

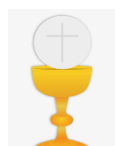
The City of Kalamunda Rangers are friends of St Brigid's College and they are working hard to keep our community safe. Please follow the signage and rules regarding parking restrictions.

If you have any ideas to support the traffic flow across the College, please do not hesitate to let me know.

Sacramental Catechesis - Our Lady of Lourdes Parish

Our Lady of Lourdes Parish Lesmurdie extends an invitation to any Catholic secondary student who would like to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation, Communion or Confirmation, and who missed receiving these Sacraments in primary school. to attend Sacramental Catechesis classes commencing on Monday, 12th February 2024 at 4.00p.m. in the Parish Hall.

St Brigid's College Community Mass



A Community Mass is held every Tuesday morning at 8.00a.m. in the College Chapel – all welcome!

Fast & Abstinence during Lent

The season of Lent begins on Wednesday, 14th February with Ash Wednesday. The College community will participate in an Ash Wednesday prayer service.

Lent is a penitential season of prayer, self-denial and of helping others. In this way, the whole Church prepares for Easter, the major Christian liturgical feast of the year.



Ash Wednesday and *Good Friday* are days of fast (one main meal) and abstinence (no meat). The law of fasting binds those who have completed their eighteenth year, until the beginning of their sixtieth year; the law of abstinence binds those who have completed their fourteenth year (Code of Canon Law 97, 1251-52). As a result, the canteen will not be serving meat products on Ash Wednesday.

Uniform and Grooming

The College maintains high standards regarding the wearing of our uniform. Staff will outline these expectations during our Information Evenings. Your ongoing support is appreciated.

1:1 iPad and Laptop Program

The College Executive, in conjunction with feedback from students and parents, decided to adopt a leasing model for devices in November 2022. It has been exciting to see the new leased devices rolled out in Years 1, 4, 7 and 10 this year.

In 2025, this will be extended to students who will be in these specific Year levels. Please be aware that students currently in Pre-Primary, Year 3, Year 6 and Year 9, will move to this lease arrangement at the commencement of 2025.



In 2026, all students will be involved in this lease arrangement.

College Library



The College Library is open every school day from 3.30p.m. to 5.00p.m. Students in Year 6 to 12 can access the Library during this time.

Managing School Transitions

Transitions into Year 1 and Year 8 can still be particularly fraught and sometimes takes both students and their parents by surprise.

In most schools and systems, Year 1 is regarded as a year when school “gets real”. Year 1 has an increased emphasis on academic learning as well as higher expectations around independence and self-regulation. Even for children who seem ready, the jump from Pre-Primary to Year 1 can be a big one.

The “Year 8 dip” refers to a drop in motivation and performance that often occurs between the first and second years of secondary school. Year 8 and Year 9 are often seen as the least important years of secondary school. Year

7 is new and Years 10 and up are focused on exams and what students will do after they finish school. Year 8, in contrast, has no obvious purpose. Also, Year 8 students are no longer the youngest in the school and are conscious of “growing up”.

What can Parents do to help?

Year 1:

- *Speak positively with your child about the changes they might be experiencing.*
- *Strengthen your child’s independence and planning skills.*
- *Let them pack their own school bag.*
- *Set up a daily routine.*
- *Read regularly with them to strengthen their language skills.*
- *Talk to the teacher if you have concerns.*

Year 7 to Year 8

- *Speak with enthusiasm about Year 8.*
- *Be prepared for a drop in your child’s enthusiasm.*
- *Address concerning behaviours early.*
- *Recognise your child’s increasing maturity and provide them with a greater voice in decisions about school and other issues.*

Acknowledgement: Nina Van Dyke and Cynthia Leung in *The Conversation*, March 8, 2023, <https://theconversation.com/year-1-and-year-8-can-be-surprisingly-tough-transitions-if-your-child-is-struggling-they-are-not-alone-200356>

Year 10 Immunisations

Correspondence regarding the Year 10 Immunisations, scheduled for Wednesday, 21st of February, has been emailed home to our Year 10 families this week. Please contact our College Nurse at nurse@stbrigids.wa.edu.au if you have not received this information.



SchoolTV

When I was at school, it felt like an excursion when you visited the TV Room. SchoolTV is nothing like that and thankfully we have Smart TVs in all classrooms, so the students don’t need to leave their desks.



SchoolTV is actually an online resource accessible via our College website. The subscription to this resource provides us with a range of resources from leading Youth wellbeing experts and researchers from around the world. It is a tremendous resource for parents, and I encourage you to familiarise yourself with it:

<https://sbcl.wa.schooltv.me/newsletter/happiness-gratitude>

“Happiness is not the result of bouncing from one joy to the next; achieving happiness typically involves times of considerable discomfort. It’s more than simply a positive mood, it’s a state of wellbeing that encompasses living a good life.”



Dr Michael Carr-Gregg

Mathspace Parents and Carers Webinars



Mathspace, an online mathematics program for students, is hosting webinars for parents and carers to show how this online tool can help support your child in learning mathematics.

Please register your intention to join a webinar through the following links or click here:

- [Tuesday, 13th Feb 3pm](#)
- [Thursday, 15th Feb 6pm](#)

Requests for Extended Leave

All requests for extended leave, whether they be for a student in the primary or secondary school, **must be made in writing to the College Principal at least three weeks, where practicable, prior to the intended absence.** An absence is a period of time that is three or more school days in duration. A copy of the Extended Leave Policy may be downloaded from the College website: <https://sbcl.wa.edu.au/policies/>.

Right to Disconnect

To assist us in enabling our teachers to disconnect from work and technology at the end of their working days, there is no expectation that they will respond to calls, emails, texts or other communications outside of school hours.

2025 Academic Scholarships

St Brigid's College awards Scholarships for entry to Years 7 and 10 with the intention of assisting students to maximize their potential. Applications for our 2025 Scholarship Program will open on Monday, 11th March 2024 at which time an Information Sheet and Application Form will be available for download from the College's website. Please note that applications will close at 4.00p.m. on Thursday, 28th March 2024. Examinations will be held on Monday, 15th April 2024.



Community News

Catholic School Parents WA (CSPWA)

The Catholic School Parents WA (CSPWA) Parents and Friends (P&F) Induction evening will take place on Wednesday, 21st February from 6.00p.m. at St Peter's Primary School, 103 Wood Street, Inglewood.



The Induction evening will cover the P & F Terms of Reference, Office Bearer role descriptions, the importance of school climate surveys and information on how to access SCPWA P&F resources and online induction.

Should you have any topics you would like CSPWA to cover on the night, please email admin@csp.wa.edu.au.

Please register via this link: <https://events.humanitix.com/cspwa-parent-induction-evening>

Kalamunda Districts Hockey Club

Please find information from the Kalamunda Districts Hockey Club Inc [here](#) advising readers of their Open Day which is to be held today, Friday 9th February, from 5.00p.m. to 7.00p.m. at Hartfield Park, 62 Hartfield Road, Forrestfield.

In conclusion, I have attached a copy of our flyer, 'This Week at the College' that will provide you with an overview of events for the second week of Term 1. I hope you enjoy these snippets of life at the College.

Kind regards,



Veronica Parker
Principal

Attachment

The St Brigid's College community acknowledges the Whadjuk people of the Noongar nation, the traditional owners who have walked upon and cared for this land for thousands of years. We acknowledge the continued deep spiritual attachment and relationship of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples to this country and commit ourselves to the ongoing journey of reconciliation.



ST. BRIGID'S
COLLEGE

THIS WEEK AT THE COLLEGE

Monday,
12th February

Year 12 Student Leaders Breakfast –
St Brigid's and Mazenod Colleges
Primary School Parent Information Evening

Tuesday,
13th February

Shrove Tuesday
2024 Caritas Launch of Project Compassion
Secondary School Parent Information Evening

Wednesday,
14th February

Ash Wednesday Liturgy
SRC Assembly

Thursday,
15th February

Senior Drama Workshop 1: Feet First Collective
3.40p.m. to 5.40p.m.

Friday,
16th February

Year 4 Gold Assembly