From the Principal's Desk

ST. BRIGID'S COLLEGE A MINISTRY OF MERCY EDUCATION LTD

A MINISTRY OF MERCY EDUCATION LTI ABN 69 154 531 870

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22nd March 2024

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

This weekend we celebrate Palm Sunday, the sixth and final Sunday of Lent and the beginning of Holy Week. There is both joy and sorrow associated with this day which commemorates the triumphant arrival of Jesus in Jerusalem, days before he was crucified.



As recorded in the Gospels, palms were laid in homage along the pathway that Jesus travelled, riding on a donkey, and in commemoration / re-enactment, we carry palms or olive branches as we process into our Churches where they are blessed by the Priest. Many fashion the palms into small crosses or other personal items of devotion and they are generally kept for a year.

Palm and olive branches are widely recognized as symbols of peace, friendship and victory, hence their preferred use on Palm Sunday.

Next Wednesday, 27th March, at 9.00a.m., our Year 6 students will take us on the spiritual journey of the Stations of the Cross as we pray together and reflect on the joy, torment and suffering of Jesus' final week on earth.

Following this reflection, we will celebrate students from Kindergarten to Year 12 who have embraced our Mercy charism during our Spirit of Mercy Assembly.

Parent Representatives

A big thank you to our 2024 Parent Representatives. Last Wednesday morning I enjoyed the company of our Primary School Parent Representatives from Kindergarten to Year 6. The gathering was an opportune time to reflect on this important voluntary position within our community which supports all families in feeling welcome at St Brigid's. Our College aspires to be an extension of the family and the invaluable support of parents journeying with our educators makes this aspiration a reality. I encourage all parents and carers to seek out ways to be part of the vibrancy of St Brigid's College.

Parent Teacher Student Meetings

Please be reminded that Parent Teacher Student Meetings will take place next Thursday, 28th March, from 9.00a.m. to 5.45p.m. This is a student free day unless students are attending meetings with their families.

Mock Trials

On Tuesday evening, 19th March, a group of Year 10, 11 and 12 students participated in their first Mock Trial against Lake Joondalup Baptist College at the Supreme Court of Western Australia. I am proud to announce that, WE WON!!

The weeks of preparation by our full group of 14 legal eagles made sure we delivered a watertight case for the Defence.

I hope you enjoy the attached photograph. The two students in civilian attire, Anja and Juwan, were role-playing as our witnesses, Mr Winger and his girlfriend, Annie Edison. Both did a fabulous job during cross examination, maintaining their composure under tough questioning by the Prosecution. The two rather serious looking students, Madison and Evie were our Barristers who put on their game faces ready to fire uncomfortable questions at the Prosecution and their witnesses.

Congratulations to our team of 14 students who did so well. Thanks to Mrs Casey and Mr Ramnarayan for their guidance and support. We look forward to hearing about the next trial!



Tiny Mic Ministry (TMM)

Tiny Mic Ministry (TMM) has hit the ground running across the SBC campus this term. A brand-new initiative by Year 12 Leaders, Anja (the spokesperson), Serena (content developer) and Olivia (fundraising & engagement officer).

Tiny Mic Ministry is a 2024 Ministry initiative aimed at engaging more young people to be involved in fundraising events that better the lives of people less fortunate than ourselves.

Conceptualised by Anja (inspired by a little bit of online shopping where she spotted the said Tiny Mic). The idea behind TMM was stemmed from the notion that people are less inclined to donate money when they don't understand where the money is going. What better way to bring it to life than with some vibrant roving reporting around campus.

As a Mercy school, St Brigid's has a long history of providing assistance to our brothers and sisters in Australia and overseas. As the world around us changes, the ways we engage in raising funds and awareness needs to evolve. Tiny Mic Ministry aims to utilise the expansive platform of social media to raise awareness and much needed funds, for various initiatives throughout the year at SBC, in a fun and engaging way.



We'll be looking forward to more fourth-wall breaking news brought to us by our students behind Tiny Mic Ministry. Keep an eye on the SBC socials on Facebook and Instagram for more Tiny Mic Ministry videos and reels!

Tuesday Morning Mass

All families are invited to join me in the College Chapel at 7.50a.m. on Tuesday mornings for our weekly Mass.

Easter Bonnet Parade



Our annual Easter Bonnet Parade for students in Kindergarten to Year 6 will be held on Wednesday, 27th March at 2.40p.m. in the Gymnasium.

We look forward to seeing some wonderful and unique creations!!

Easter Raffle in support of Project Compassion – Caritas Australia

Earlier this week, you would have received correspondence from Mr Martino, our Head of Faith and Mission, calling for donations for our annual Easter Raffle, proceeds of which will be donated to Caritas Australia. Caritas is the Catholic Church's international aid and development agency in Australia which supports programs at home and in developing nations.

Should you be able to assist by donating something small with an Easter theme, please bring your gift to Student Reception on or before Monday, 25th March. Student volunteers will be selling raffle tickets before school and at lunchtime from Tuesday 18th March (Week 8) at \$1.00 per ticket.

The Primary School Leaders will also visit the Pre-Kindy, Kindy and Pre-Primary classes to sell tickets before 8.45a.m.

The raffle will be drawn in the final week of the term and prizes delivered by Wednesday, 27th March.

Please continue to support Project Compassion as your generosity will enable Caritas Australia to help many people in need around the world.

PROJECT COMPASSION BE MORE

Years 3 to 6 Interhouse Swimming Carnival

Thank you to an eagle-eyed reader who determined that the placings for our Year 4 female students were not quite correct last week.

We are pleased to confirm the correct placings as follows:

Year 4 Girls

Gold Isla Emmott
Silver Harriet Dickinson
Bronze Aubree Ford

Let's Celebrate our Children

This week, the following primary students received Merit Awards and, as a community, we congratulate them for their efforts:



PP Gold	Lucas Broderick Roman Marvelli	PP Green	Olivia O'Toole Harriet Smith	
1 Gold	Willow Altinier Lachlan Restifo	2 Gold	Hannah Norrish Kavish Thananchayan	
3 Gold	Ella O'Shaughnessy	3 Green	Piper Shearing Erin Smith	
4 Gold	Jacob Bellah Marketa O'Shaughnessy Vivienne Robinson	4 Green	Isla Emmott Madeleine Guppy	
5 Gold	Jack Blake Apryl Ouwendyk	5 Green	Olivia Flint Tobias Kinnear Daniel Vaughan Zac Venter	
6 Gold	Benjamin Guppy Matthew Ogilvie-O'Neil Ava Tresham	6 Green	Lucian Coburn Blaise Parmenter	DONE

WA Student Assistance Payment

Over the weekend, the WA State Government announced the introduction of cost-of-living support to WA families. The initiative is aimed to support families with school-aged children. The new WA Student Assistance Payment will provide parents and carers with a \$250 payment for each secondary student, and \$150 for each primary school or kindergarten student.

Please <u>CLICK HERE</u> to access a copy of a letter sent to us by the Association of Independent Schools of WA (AISWA) from the Premier of Western Australia, the Hon. Roger Cook MLA and the Minister for Education, the Hon. Dr Tony Buti MLA.

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 opened on Monday, 11th March 2024 and an Application Package made available for download from the College's website: https://sbcl.wa.edu.au/scholarships/.



The Registration Fee is \$105 and is payable through Accounts.

Please note that applications will close at 4.00p.m. on Thursday, 28th March 2024. Examinations will be held on Monday, 15th April 2024.

Specific times and the location of examinations will be confirmed shortly.

Farewells



Early next week we farewell our Italian Exchange Teacher, Ms Alice Chianale, and thank her for her support this term. I also extend a very big thank you to the Basioli family for hosting Alice.

I would like to sincerely thank Miss Stephanie Daga and Miss Theresa Youngs-Lachmund for assisting us this term in the areas of Music and HASS respectively.

Miss Daga ably supported our primary school music program during Mrs Wade's absence on leave, and Miss Youngs-Lachmund has been a wonderful support to students studying Humanities and Social Science and Geography. Thank you ladies, you have made a dfference and brought joy to our students.



Happy Holiday

I would like to wish Mrs Nicole Kirry a very happy holiday during Term 2 and look forward to welcoming her back to the College in Term 3 this year.

During her absence, Mrs Penny Gaffey will be assisting us in Year 4 Gold on a Wednesday and Friday, and Mrs Ellen James will be assisting us in Year 6 Gold on a Thursday.

Term Two

I ask you to note the following for the commencement of Term 2, 2024:

Students in Kindergarten to Year 6 resume on Monday, 15th April.



All secondary students (Years 7 to 12) resume on Tuesday, 16th April.

All students are required to wear their winter uniform as outlined in the College uniform policy.

Community News



Catholic School Parents WA (CSPWA)

This year, Catholic School Parents WA (CSPWA) celebrates 70 years of representing and advocating on behalf of parents who choose a Catholic Education for their children in Western Australia. To celebrate the occasion, they are hosting a pre-Conference Dinner, incorporating the Awards of Excellence, on the 7th June and a 70th Anniversary Conference on the 8th June. A copy of the Conference flyer with the booking link may be accessed here. Nomination forms for the Awards of Excellence are now available via our website: https://www.csp.wa.edu.au/CSPWA-awards-of-excellence.

A copy of the CSPWA Term 1 Newsletter may be downloaded here: https://cspwa.schoolzineplus.com/news?nid=51

Murdoch University

Murdoch University's Year 11 and 12 Exploration Day will be held this year on Wednesday, 3rd April 2024, and is a perfect day out for students wanting to experience life as a Uni student. The day will allow participants to make new friends and participate in hands-on Workshops. Lunch is provided. Please <u>click here</u> for a copy of the flyer and for details of the registration process which is essential.

Alumni News

Phoebe Thomasson, Head Girl 2019, has been keeping very busy since leaving the College. Phoebe is currently studying Sports Science and Physiology at UWA and "she loves it!" She balances her studies with running marathons and was chosen from Running Clubs across Australia and New Zealand to represent Australia at the London Marathon this year.



Phoebe is an Ambassador for New Balance and will be running her third Marathon in London. Good luck Phoebe.

More of Phoebe's story may be found at the following: <u>LDN: Mind the Gap and Run Your Way | Tempo (tempojournal.com)</u>

As this is our final Newsletter for the Term, I wish all families a very happy Easter. May we all be filled with joy and hope this season.



I extend my thanks to all of our students for their dedication and commitment to their learning programs throughout Term 1. As Interim Reports are shared, it is an opportune time to reflect on the progress made and set new goals for Term 2.

Thank you to all staff for your support of the students in our care.

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 final week of Term 1.

Kind regards,

Veronica Parker Principal

Veronica Parker

Attachment

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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, 25 th March	Secondary Interhouse Cross Country
Tuesday, 26 th March	Year 10 RAC B Streetsmart Excursion
Wednesday , 27 th March	Station of the Cross Spirit of Mercy Assembly Term 1 concludes – final day for all students Mazenod College Open Day 3.30p.m. to 6.00p.m. College Advisory Council Meeting
Thursday, 28 th March	Holy Thursday Parent, Student, Teacher Meetings