

St Brigid's

Thursday 7 May, 2020



Welcome to Term 2

Welcome back to a new school term. It has been wonderful to see the children slowly returning to school. This week 90% of our school came to class and we expect this number to slowly increase based on parent information in the coming weeks. I have really appreciated speaking with parents over the past couple of days (whether at home or at school) talking about how everyone has been dealing with these COVID-19 times.

Thank you once again to all parents for the support you continue to show our school as we enforce new rules in regards to drop-off and pick-up. They have certainly helped us to ensure adult traffic inside school is kept to a minimum.

In regards to our school teaching and learning programs, we continue to teach the children at the class level with work also being provided to those families at home. As always, it is important over these times to keep communicating with your child's teacher to inform them of how your child is progressing. Now more than ever, we need home school communication to be at its best. On the back page of this newsletter is a brief flyer from our community nurse. Please take a look as it offers some good tips to parents at this unchartered times.

Finally, thank you to our fabulous cleaner Mrs Sparkes who is coming into school for an extra two hours per day (during the day) to ensure our school is in 'tip-top' hygiene.

Winter Uniform

Many of you have used the past few days to organise your children's winter uniform items. It was great to see the children wearing the winter uniform as they came to school on Monday. If you still need to purchase

items, please call the school. Payment for items which have been sent home may be made over the phone.

iPads, chargers and keyboards

For children who have returned to school, if you have not already done so, please return the school iPad, keypad and charger if you loaned one over the holiday period.

Pre-Kindy class

For the time being, Pre-Kindy (three year old) sessions will need to be on hold. Primarily, our three year old program cannot begin due to health and safety concern for the adults in the room. We understand that our littlest students in the school will need to have their parents with them for part of these sessions (particularly the first couple of days) and so we cannot afford to have a heightened risk for adults in this instance. As soon as we can, we will cater to begin this program and get those very keen children into our school.

Mother's Day hamper

We may not be able to celebrate our champagne breakfast with everyone together as we originally planned, but we can certainly make one Mum's day with a raffle of a beautiful Mothers Day hamper. And the winner is ... Marisa Owen. Congratulations! We're sure you'll enjoy this hamper packed full of special goodies.

Canteen

The fabulous Mrs Wilson has been ready to provide canteen for our school. We appreciate the support of our parents who assist with canteen. Today, the canteen roster was placed onto our school connected app. Please note your day to come in and make your child's day!

Payments to school

Our school has a new administration and finance system courtesy of a recent upgrade. This system is being deployed to all

WA Catholic Schools. An email was sent out on Tuesday 7 April to all families regarding payments made to school. When you pay over the internet (for uniforms, fees, or any other debit), please note your BPay reference number has changed. You are asked to update your bank details prior to making any payments. If you are having trouble with this, or cannot locate the email, please contact the office.

Term planner

It seems strange not to send a term planner home but until we know some specifics (events) taking place, there would be no point sending one out. So you are aware of the structure of this term, please note the following dates in your diaries:

- Monday 1 June - WA Day Public holiday.
- Tuesday 2 June - Pupil free day (staff development day).
- Friday 26 June - Lightning Sports Carnival (Yrs 3-6).
- Friday 3 July - Final day of Term 2

To all our Mums, may you enjoy a special day on Sunday with your families and be utterly spoilt... because you deserve it.

Happy Mother's Day!

Carlo Pardini
Principal





Canteen

Week 2	Fri 8 May	Erin Maddams Sam Baker
Week 3	Tues 12 May	Susanna Caminschi Ash Tassos
	Fri 15 May	Joanne Walker Abbie Fetter
Week 4	Tues 19 May	Donna Perkins Liz Kane

Names in bold are cake makers

TOP PARENTING TIPS FOR PARENTS AND CARERS DURING COVID-19

1

Reassure your children that your family is your top priority

Say something like "I'm your parent, it's my job to keep you safe and we are doing everything we can."

2

Take care of yourself the best you can

Deal with your own distress by taking actions that give you a better sense of personal control. Stress management skills such as mindfulness and/or deep breathing can help reduce stress. Keep healthy and safe (good personal hygiene, exercise daily, eat well, get enough sleep, avoid using alcohol or drugs to lessen stress). Avoid behaviour that might increase your stress. For example, while it is helpful to keep informed about COVID-19, constant checking on your screens can increase stress.

3

Make sure your children know you are ready to talk

Children need to be able to talk to parents about their concerns and have their questions answered. When a child wants to talk about their feelings, stop what you are doing and listen carefully. Avoid telling your child how they should feel ("That's silly. You shouldn't be scared about that.") Let children know it is OK to be worried. Talking or drawing can help children get in touch with their feelings and figure out what they are anxious about.

4

Be truthful in answering children's questions

Find out what they know about the issue before answering. Keep answers simple. Get information from trusted sources (e.g. official government websites) rather than social media.

5

Maintain everyday family routines

Keep to usual rising times, mealtimes, and bedtimes. Every family is different. Involve children in working out any new routine (e.g. have a daily plan of activities for school-aged children who are at home).