

Issue Date 21 February 2025



## Important Dates

Parent Volunteer Session 2.15pm - 2.45pm Monday 24 February 2025 Parent Volunteer Session 9.00am - 9.30am Thursday 27 February 2025 Flourishing Hearts 8.50 am - 3.00 pm Friday 28 February 2025

Ash Wednesday Wednesday 5 March 2025

Last Day of Term 1 Friday 11 April 2025 Pancake Day (Shrove Tuesday) Tuesday 4 March 2025

Flourishing Hearts 8.50 am - 3.00 pm Friday 7 March 2025

Public Holiday -Adelaide Cup Monday 10 March 2025 AGM Meeting 7.00pm - 8.00pm Thursday 20 March 2025

# From the Principal

Welcome to the second newsletter of the year! It has been wonderful to see all our students and families settling in so quickly. One of my highlights this fortnight was watching one of our brand-new Reception children display such independence and confidence. With a cheerful goodbye to dad in the courtyard, they skipped off to the playground without a second glance, while it was dad who needed a little comforting that morning!

## Parent Information Evening

A big thank you to those who were able to attend our recent Parent Information Evening. It was a fantastic opportunity for our class teachers to share key information about classroom setups, routines, and the exciting learning ahead for this year. For those who couldn't make it, we have created a handout of the information, which will be emailed to you.

## Safe and Inclusive School

As discussed during the Parent Information Evening, at St Brigid's, we are deeply committed to maintaining a safe and inclusive school environment. We have reviewed both our Positive Relationships and Anti-Bullying policies. In line with this, we will be sharing regular updates with students and parents on fostering positive relationships and addressing bullying.

One important reminder: our school policy is that parents should not enter classrooms after 9:00 am and before 3:00 pm. Unfortunately, we've noticed that some parents are still walking through the office space to classrooms up to 9:30 am or 'popping in' before 3:00 pm. This poses a duty of care concern, and to help us keep all students and staff safe, we will be placing signage in the front office to remind everyone of this policy. At the end of the day, gates open at 2:50 pm, and parents are welcome in the school yard. However, we ask that you please refrain from entering the classrooms. If you need to take your child out of class before the school day ends, you must sign them out at the front office, and they will be called over to meet you.

Thank you for your cooperation and continued support in helping ensure St Brigid's remains a safe and inclusive space for all.

## Annual General Meeting (AGM)

I am excited to invite all parents to our St Brigid's School AGM on Thursday, March 20, 2025. This is a fantastic opportunity to connect with others, engage in meaningful discussions, and learn about what's planned for the year ahead. It will also be the first chance to contribute your ideas toward shaping our strategic plan (2026-2028), which we'll be developing later this year.

Doors will open at 6:30 pm for nibbles and conversation, with the AGM beginning at 7:00 pm. As two of our School Board members will be departing, this is also an opportunity for you to get involved and join the Board. More information will follow soon.

### Volunteers

Research shows that schools with strong volunteer programs benefit students, schools, and parents alike. I was thrilled to see our volunteer numbers increase from 1 to 5 by the end of last year, and one of my goals this year is to continue expanding this group. Volunteers have helped with excursions, and some have gone on to gain valuable experience, pursue further education, or even secure job opportunities.

If you're interested in volunteering, you'll need to complete the free 2-hour online Mandatory Reporting (RRHAN-EC) training, submit a volunteer declaration, and hold a current Catholic Working With Children Check. To support you through this process, Ms Bonnie will be hosting two free sessions in the Community Hub: Monday, February 24th at 2:15-2:45 pm and Thursday, February 27th at 9:00-9:30 am. If you can't make these sessions, volunteer packs are available at the front desk, and we're happy to assist you in completing the process.

### **Flourishing Hearts**

We are delighted to welcome back our youngest members, the Flourishing Hearts children. Due to the ongoing renovation project, Flourishing Hearts will take place in the Community Hub/OSHC space for this term (and possibly Term 2 as well). These children will also be joining us during recess and lunch, and they'll participate in fitness and other activities across the school.

Thank you for your continued support as we make St Brigid's an even better place for everyone. I look forward to seeing you at the AGM and working together to make this a wonderful year!

In Love, Peace and learning

Paula Burns

# From the Assistant Principal Innovation, Inclusion and Wellbeing

## Feros Care

Feros Care is a not-for-profit organisation trusted by thousands of Australians. Feros Care is the local area coordinator (LAC), and their job is to help people with disability connect with services and support people to request access to the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS).

A Feros Care local area coordinator (LAC) will work with you to understand what is important to you and connect you to the services that will support you and your family members. LACs can meet with you, your family and carer to help you:

- · Help you connect with government and community services in your area
- · Support you to apply for the NDIS
- · Support you to put your NDIS plan into action

Would you like some more information? Check out the brochure attached, or contact Feros Care on 1300 090 256

## NAPLAN

We are approaching an important time of the year for our Year 3 and Year 5 students as they prepare for the National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN). This year, the NAPLAN tests will be conducted betweenâ€<sup>-</sup>12th and 24th of March.

To help our students feel confident and prepared, we will be holding NAPLAN practice tests onâ€<sup>-</sup>Tuesday, 25th February. These practice sessions are designed to familiarise students with the test format and types of questions they will encounter, ensuring they are well-prepared for the actual assessments. They will be asked questions on reading, spelling, grammar and punctuation and numeracy.

We encourage all parents to support their children during this period by ensuring they have a good night's sleep, a healthy breakfast, and a positive mindset on test days. If you have any questions or need further information, please do not hesitate to contact the school office.

Thank you for your continued support.

Yours in Love, Peace and Learning,

Jason Puttnins

Assistant Principal - Innovation, Inclusion and Wellbeing

## From the APRIM

### Sacramental Programme

If you have a child who is 7 years or older and who has been baptised in the Catholic Church, you may wish for them to complete the next stage of their Catholic journey, the sacraments of Reconciliation, Confirmation, and First Holy Communion.

The first session begins on Wednesday 26th February at Good Shepherd Church at 6:15pm. If you have any questions please come and see me.

### Children's Liturgy

St Brigid's Church in Kilburn, offer Children's Liturgy of the Word during the 9:00 AM Sunday Mass an is organised by staff members of St Brigid's School. This program provides children with an age-appropriate understanding of the day's Gospel and helps them appreciate the structure and richness of the Liturgy of the Word.

### Shrove Tuesday/ Pancake Day -

Shrove Tuesday (Tuesday 4th March) is the day before Ash Wednesday, which marks the beginning of the season of Lent. The name comes from the old word 'shrive, ' which means to confess. Traditionally Christians would go to church on Shrove Tuesday to confess their sins in preparation for Lent, and they would also use up indulgent foods such as milk, eggs and butter. This is why we celebrate with pancakes on Shrove Tuesday.

## Ash Wednesday

Ash Wednesday is the beginning of Lent, the time in the Catholic calendar of repentance as we pray, fast and give Alms in the lead-up to Easter. Our year 3-6 students will attend Mass for Ash Wednesday and the R-2 students will have a liturgy here at school. During the Ash Wednesday Mass or Liturgy students will be invited to receive our Ashes as a symbol of Jesus' sacrifice on the cross.

Yours in Love, Peace and Learning,

Michaela Edwards

Assistant Principal Religious Identity and Mission

# Teaching and Learning

## Heart Learning: A Journey of Compassion and Hope

This week, we kicked off the 2025 Heart Learning program with enthusiasm and purpose. Heart Learning is a unique initiative that focuses on the social, emotional, and spiritual growth of our students. By fostering strong, supportive relationships between Year 6 house leaders and their house members, this program aims to nurture each child's development in line with Catholic teachings and the OLSH pillars.

One of the key goals of the program is to promote deeper connections between different year levels, allowing students to support one another across the school community. The Year 6 students have shown great initiative and responsibility in embracing this leadership role.â€<sup>-</sup>

This year, our theme is "As Heart People, we are Pilgrims of Hope," which connects deeply with the 2025 Jubilee Year of Hope. This term, we are focusing on "Hope for Compassion," encouraging everyone to embrace compassion as we journey through the season of Lent. $\hat{a}\in\hat{a}\in\hat{a}$ 

We look forward to the continued growth and connection that Heart Learning will bring to our students throughout the year!

Yours in Peace, Love and Learning

Rachael De Tullio



## Library

This week in the Library my trollies are filled and the classes are ready to start borrowing on Thursday and Friday. I know the children have been patiently waiting for this week to arrive and can't wait to start borrowing for the year.

Reminder to all parents to ensure all Library books are kept in your childs school bag or class folder when they are not being used. This will then allow your child to read the book of their choice when they have some free time at school when work has been completed. It will also mean the book is at school on library day for them to be able to return and borrow a new book.

### Scholastic Book Club

Thank you to all that ordered books for your children in the first issue of Scholastic Book Club for the year. The children are already asking when their books will arrive and they should be here within the next few days.

As most people pay via eftpos for things these days change can be problematic at times. Due to lack of change on the school premises can you please put your order form with the correct money in an envelope when returning to the school. Alternatively you can pay for the books via eftpos at the front office.

The due date is usually written on the front page of the catalogue and this is the date all orders are required back at the school.

I am really looking forward for the borrowing to begin.

Please do not hesitate to contact me for any questions you may have in regard to the Library or Scholastic Book Club Orders.

In Love, Peace and Learning, Mardi Ruediger

Library / Resource / ESO

## From the Community Hub

### **Playgroups and English Classes**

It has been great to welcome everyone back to Playgroups and English classes over the last 2 weeks.

In playgroup we have done activities around valentines day, potion making, water our plants, did some chalk painting and more. Playgroups are Mondays and Wednesdays 9-11am in the community hub/OSHC building for children 0-5years and their parents. All are welcome to join! It is free!

Our English classes run Thursdays 10-12pm. All are welcome to join though some level of English would be beneficial. We have childminding available (in the same room) for children below school age.

#### Volunteering information sessions

Next week we will have 2 volunteering information sessions.

Monday 24th February, 2:15-2:45pm and;

Thursday 27th February, 9:00-9:30am

These sessions we will talk about what is needed to become a volunteer at St Brigid's school. Becoming a volunteer means you can help with school excursions and special events. In the community hub I am looking for volunteers who would like to support in playgroup and child-minding for our English class.

Some benefits to volunteering include;

Gaining skills and work experience'

Improving your confidence and,

Connecting with others in the community

If you would like to volunteer, come along to one of the information sessions and pick up a volunteer application pack! Or they are available from the front office.

The community hub is here to serve you! If you have any suggestions on what we can offer free to contact me at any time between 8:30-

4:00pm. The community hub number is 0480 277 409, and email is communityhub@stb.catholic.edu.au

Yours in Love, Peace, and Learning

Bonnie

## **Community Hub Leader**



## OSHC

This week, we have 'Random Acts of Kindness' Day and in OSHC, we believe that it is important to show kindness everyday by showing compassion, teamwork and helping each other to create a safe and welcoming space for all. The weather has been beautiful, which means lots of outside play on the playground and courts.

(Outcome 1.1, 1.3)

Other activities that the children have enjoyed playing are UNO, Beyblades, action-figures toys and computer games.

Yours in Love, Peace, and Learning

**Ritz Ardenete** 



## Community



## Newsletter Signup

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First Name

Last Name

**Email Address** 

Upcoming Principal's Tours



Book a tour

## Feros Care

**THE NDIS** 

**PROCESS** 



1 CONNECT Your LAC can link you with government and community services already available in

your local area.



Your LAC can help you to request an NDIS Plan. The plan will be based on your needs and goals.



If your plan is approved by the NDIS, your LAC will help you use it.



Your LAC will help you find services that support you to reach the goals in your Plan.



5 CONTACT

Your LAC is your contact person for help with your NDIS Plan.

