Loving Jesus, may our lives be quilted together in love made visible, as we laugh, love, labour and learn together. Enliven our spirits that our inner beings may give form and strength to all we do. Grant that all who serve in Catholic communities may love you much, love one another, and never forget our reason for being - Christ our light!

Thank you to all parents who participated in the Parent Sharing interviews. It was heartening to hear staff talking about how positive and involved our parent community are in supporting the academic, social and emotional growth of the children.

Mrs Kylie McCartney has been appointed to the position of teacher of K-2 composite. I know you will join me in warmly welcoming Kylie to our community.

The P and F committee work tirelessly to support many initiatives in our school and often take the focus for their work from dialogue with parents. If you want to make a difference to our school, please come along on Friday morning to the first P & F Meeting.

I reassure all parents and carers that when a teacher is absent from class it is for a valid reason. The NSW Institute requires our teachers to undertake professional learning and there are instances when the teacher (or a family member) is sick. The staff at St Brendan’s understand that having the teacher in the classroom has a positive impact on your child’s learning and try hard to limit disruptions to their class.

Stage 2 Assembly will be held this Friday 6th March at 8:20am. I apologise if any inconvenience was caused by the misprint in last fortnight’s Newsletter.

Next Wednesday, 11th March between 9-10:30am families of children enrolling in a Kindergarten in 2016 are invited to visit our school. If you know of someone considering St Brendan’s for 2016, please let them know about this event. For those families with a sibling starting in 2016, you can obtain an Enrolment package from the Office.

There will be a Staff Development Day, which is pupil free, on Monday 11th May. The focus of this professional learning day will be on Writing, aligned to our School Improvement Plan.

Looking forward to seeing you at the Family Mass at 5pm on the 14th March.

Wishing you a wonderful week,
Luanna Fletcher
Principal
MESSAGE FROM THE ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

I had the opportunity over the course of the last couple of weeks to head to a number of classes and teach. It is always fascinating to see how children learn! In recent years neuroscience research about how we learn is making a huge impact on education. We still have a lot to learn about how our brain works, but in a recent article I read about how we process information, one thing that stood out for me was how we can create an environment that promotes learning.

If children feel they are in a safe and happy environment they will learn more efficiently – the classrooms I visited had strategies in place that fostered this type of environment; the children were happy and eager to learn!!! This doesn’t mean that there won’t be times when students struggle socially or academically. It does mean though that strategies are in place to help students gain emotional resilience that enable them to learn.

As I always say, if you are concerned with how your child is progressing, please chat with the class teacher. In partnership, we can help our children succeed.

Some worthwhile resources:

https://www.kidsmatter.edu.au/primary
http://www.ted.com/talks/ken_robinson_changing_education_paradigms#
www.suelarkey.com – subscribe to her Newsletter for some great tips like the following:

A great Book: Brain Rules: 12 principles for surviving and thriving at work, home, and school, by John Medina

And a couple of great quotes:

*Trust in the Lord and be Happy!*
*The greatest glory in living is not in never falling, but in rising every time you fall!*

Nelson Mandela

Craig McNee
Assistant Principal
Religious Education News

DATES TO REMEMBER:

- Wednesday 11 March  Year 5 Class Mass – 9am
- Saturday 14 March  Parish Family Mass – 5pm
- Wednesday 18 March  Year 4 Class Mass – 9am

RECONCILIATION PROGRAM:

Important dates to remember regarding the Sacrament of Reconciliation are:

- Compulsory Parent Class  3 March and 10 March at St Mary’s from 7-8pm OR
  4 March and 11 March at St Brendan’s from 4-5pm
- Renewal of Baptismal promises  7 March at 5pm Mass at St Brendan’s
  8 March at 9am Mass at St Mary’s
- Commitment Mass for Families  14 March at 5pm Mass at St Brendan’s
  15 March at 9am Mass at St Mary’s

If your child is in Years 4-6 and HAS NOT received this Sacrament and would like to do so, please contact me.

ASH WEDNESDAY:  We were fortunate to have two prayerful celebrations on Ash Wednesday. The Primary classes joined with students from St Brigid’s at Mass whilst our infant students started the season of Lent with a Liturgy in the Church.

FAMILY MASS:  We are celebrating our first Family Mass for 2015 on Saturday 14 March at 5pm in the Church. Please join us. We will be welcoming our new families, especially our new Kindergarten families.

May God bless you all.
Kell York
Religious Education Coordinator.

From the Library

Overdue Books - Thank you to all of the children and parents who have been chasing up overdue books from previous years. It is always exciting to see our popular books returned and ready to be borrowed by other students. The replacement cost of overdue books has only come into effect this year and so far we have no fines. If your child still has books in their name from last year please just write a note, email us or drop in and see us.

Book Club - Book Club order forms have been sent home with your child today. Please note that the return date for this issue is Friday 13th March and that Scholastic provides a secure online payment (Option 2 on the order form). We also accept cash and cheques. There are some great titles available at reasonable prices.

Thanks you for your continued support,
The Library Team
MERIT AWARDS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class</th>
<th>Class Award</th>
<th>Class Award</th>
<th>Class Award</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>K Red</td>
<td>Benjamin B; Joshua B</td>
<td>Joe S; George K</td>
<td>Amelia G; Olivia M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>K Blue</td>
<td>Kye McD; Corey M</td>
<td>Imogen S; Tannar S</td>
<td>Sienna S; Lily-Anne W</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>K Green</td>
<td>Zoe E; Kye J</td>
<td>Emily J; Noah J</td>
<td>Sienna H; Chelsea F</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 Red</td>
<td>Alexandra T; Carissa D</td>
<td>Finley J; Haylee G</td>
<td>Aiden R; Charlotte D</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 Blue</td>
<td>Cooper E; Summer K</td>
<td>Gemma R; Kia P</td>
<td>Bryce L; Bronte M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 Green</td>
<td>Tristan S; Kayla A</td>
<td>Lakota A; Farid S</td>
<td>Kayla A; Layla A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 Red</td>
<td>Christopher L; Lucinda M</td>
<td>Emily M; Tanaya B</td>
<td>Ella B; Ethan M</td>
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<tr>
<td>2 Blue</td>
<td>Blake B; Riley B</td>
<td>Luke B; Lockie R</td>
<td>Isaiah R; Sienna M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 Green</td>
<td>Griffin S; Jayden L-J</td>
<td>Jewel R; Finn McC</td>
<td>Skyla W; Deacon W</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>K-2</td>
<td>Joshua G</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>Blake B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 Red</td>
<td>Nyah D; Jamie W</td>
<td>Jackson S; Sophia H</td>
<td>Tenika G; Jayden K-B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 Blue</td>
<td>Elise W; Tyler G-R</td>
<td>Ellie L; Samantha M</td>
<td>Jemma D; Charlotte K</td>
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<tr>
<td>4 Red</td>
<td>Teagan M; Ashley W</td>
<td>Cohan P; Daniel C</td>
<td>Coby T; Emma S</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 Blue</td>
<td>Ryley C; Hartley C</td>
<td>Paige H; Luke K</td>
<td>Skye S; Broc T</td>
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<tr>
<td>5 Red</td>
<td>Tristan K; Broc M</td>
<td>Oliver G; Ethan J</td>
<td>Sophia M; Ashton L</td>
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<tr>
<td>5 Blue</td>
<td>Madelaine E; Malachi D-A</td>
<td>Alex O; Joshua M</td>
<td>Riley W-M; April B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 Red</td>
<td>Kiara S; Mia C</td>
<td>Emma L; Ryder H</td>
<td>Max B; Keely C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 Blue</td>
<td>Charlotte B; Amber E</td>
<td>Oliver Y; Isaac A</td>
<td>Alex G; Savannah L</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>K-6 Green</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Christian C</td>
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SWIMMING CARNIVAL - Congratulations to the following children who achieved awards at our St Brendan’s swimming carnival held at Wyong Pool on Monday 16th February. Red House were the overall winners of our carnival.

Junior Girl champion: Brydie K/ Paige H (Joint winners)
Junior Boy Champion: Harry H
11 Years Girls Champion: Gemma B
11 Years Boys Champion: Daniel C
12 Years Girls Champion: Mia C
12 Years Boys Champion: Luke V

CCC SWIMMING CARNIVAL - Our school had 29 representatives at the CCC Swimming Carnival at Mingara on Monday 23rd February. All competitors did themselves and their school very proud. Daniel C was the Central Coast 11 Years Champion Boy and Harmony F was the 9 Years Girls Runner Up. Congratulations to these swimmers on an outstanding achievement. Daniel C and Larissa H will be representing the Central Coast Cluster at the Diocesan Swimming Carnival at Mingara on 10th March. Good luck to these children.

ST BRENDAN’S COMMUNITY CRAFT GROUP will be happening on Wednesday 4th March at 10am in the After School Centre at St Brendan’s. The group is on every second Wednesday. Bring your own craft, or learn a new one. All welcome. Contact Joan on 0408165014.

CONGRATULATIONS to Josh G who has raised $651 for the YMCA Swim-a-thon. He swam past his goal of 100m, swimming a total of 150m. The money raised goes towards helping people with disabilities learn to swim. Well done Josh.
Doyalson RSL Sub Branch visit
We had the great pleasure last week of a visit from the Sub Branch of Doyalson RSL. This visit was made even more special with the students being presented with a medallion especially designed by the Sub Branch to commemorate the Anzac Centenary this year.
The Sub Branch funded this initiative for medallions for children in our local area, helping us to always remember the sacrifice those men and woman made for our great country. The children will wear them with pride on ANZAC day.

ANZAC Grant
Thank you to those who have responded to the Anzac project, it is wonderful to be able to research and honour descendants of families here at the school. If you have a family member who fought in WW1, we would still love to hear from you. Please drop me a line. Jo.spek@dbb.catholic.edu.au

Harmony Day
Harmony Day (21st March) celebrates Australia’s cultural diversity. It’s about inclusiveness, respect and a sense of belonging for everyone.
Harmony Day 21st March http://www.harmony.gov.au

National Day of action against bullying and violence
This annual event provides a focus for all schools to say Bullying, No Way! There is a parent section on this website containing many helpful hints for families. http://www.bullyingnoway.gov.au/parents/index.html

Coffee and Conversation
Please join us tomorrow for Coffee and Conversation with Tracie Richards, our counsellor from Catholic Care. We will begin tomorrow with meditation. Vicki who leads the students in class with meditation will be joining us to help us begin our day relaxed. We have some special guests joining us tomorrow and a beautiful morning tea; spoil yourself and come along! Everyone is welcome.

Class Parents
Thank you to the parents who have responded to being a class parent, that is awesome but we still have some roles to fill. We still need a class parent for 1 Red, 1 Blue, 2 Green, 2 Blue, K-2 Hive, 3 Blue, 4 Red, 4 Blue, 5 Red, 5 Blue, 6 Red, 6 Blue. It is a manageable role that parents who would like to make a small yet valuable contribution to the school can participate in. If you would like more information or the role more clearly defined, please call or email me. 43581501 jo.spek@dbb.catholic.edu.au

MEALS COMMITTEE
Thank you to those people who offered to make meals for families who may be experiencing difficulty. If you would like to be on the committee you would only be asked to make a meal a few times over the school year. Money spent is fully refundable. Please consider being on the team.

Kind Wishes
Jo Spek –Family Liaison Officer (2 Days)
LOST – Amanda Obajdin has lost two umbrellas. An adult black and white umbrella with a wooden handle and a child’s dome umbrella with butterflies. Please contact the office.

DATES TO REMEMBER

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Event Details</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Feb 25th</td>
<td>Wed</td>
<td>Year 6 Mass 9.00 am; St. Brigid’s Enrolment Night 6.00 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mar 11th</td>
<td>Wed</td>
<td>Open Day 10.30-11.00am; Year 5 Mass 9.00am; Free: Raising Responsible Teenagers - Bookings 4328 7350 6-8pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sun 14th</td>
<td></td>
<td>Family Mass 5pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wed 18th</td>
<td></td>
<td>Yr 6 to Canberra; Year 4 Mass 9.00am; Free: Raising Responsible Teenagers - Bookings 4328 7350 6-8pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thu 19th</td>
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<td>Yr 6 Canberra</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fri 20th</td>
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<td>Yr 6 Canberra; Arts Forum; National Day Against Bullying</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mon 23rd</td>
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<td>Kinder 2016 Information Evening 6.30 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wed 25th</td>
<td></td>
<td>Free: Raising Responsible Teenagers - Bookings 4328 7350 6-8pm</td>
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ST. BRIGID’S ENROLMENT NIGHT

Tomorrow evening, Wednesday 4th March at 6.00pm.