Dear Parents,

“The hand of the Lord feeds us; he answers all our needs” Ps. 144

The excitement is building as we prepare for the evening performance of our Concert 'Cinderella Rockafella' this evening in the Auditorium at St. Francis Xavier College in Beaconsfield. Special thanks to Mrs. Petra Taylor-Smith for all the work she has put into preparing the students. Seeing the Matinee today, I'm excited about tonight's performance.

The Gospel this coming Sunday is a familiar one. Jesus went over to the other shore of the Sea of Galilee. A large crowd of people followed him. Seeing the need of the people, Jesus performed the great miracle of the multiplication of the bread and fish.

I always like to think of the little boy in our Gospel reading (John 6:1-15) as courageous and generous in sharing his five barley loaves and two fish with the crowd. Perhaps he felt embarrassed offering his meagre rations to Jesus. Jesus provides more than enough food there is abundance. The actions of Jesus in this Gospel remind us of the Eucharist. Jesus takes, gives thanks to the Father, and blesses, breaks and shares. This giving thanks shows us how Jesus is not seeking his own glory. He shows us when we bring what we have without thought of ourselves it will be enough for him. God is the giver of all things human and divine. Jesus’ self-giving is a sign of fulfilment and the promise of God’s eternal glory.

The challenge for us today is to trust in the Lord and to share what we have with others. When we act out of love of God by helping another, it is Jesus again coming to his people and answering a need.

Lord Jesus,
you fed
the hungry crowds that day,
and you feed us
with the bread of life.
Through the gift of yourself
help us to become more like you.
Term 3 – School Closure Day
Friday, 27th July, 2012

As mentioned throughout last term there will be a School Closure Day on Friday, July 27th 2012. St. Brigid’s staff will be involved in professional development together with St. Michael’s and St. Catherine’s in the area of Religious Education. The Catholic Education Office will be facilitating this day. There will be NO SCHOOL for students on this day.

CONCERT

Our Concert ’Cinderella Rockerfella’ is being held tonight at St. Francis Xavier College, Beaconsfield Campus in the Maree Johnson Auditorium, Beaconsfield Avenue Beaconsfield. Children can be dropped off for the evening performance to teachers in the auditorium from 6.30 p.m. to 6.45 p.m. Doors open at 6.00 p.m. for a 7.00 p.m. start.

Carpark

Safety in the school car park has become a concern once again. Please refrain from parking on the concrete area adjacent to the footpath. There have been instances where cars have been blocked from entering or leaving the car park due to cars parked in this way. Children are also walking to parents cars without an adult. We ask you collect your child from the classroom/playground area and walk them to your car. These simple rules will help to ensure your children’s safety around cars and to encourage common courtesy within our community

Before and After School Care

For families who access before and After School Care at Officer Early learning Centre, please contact the Centre directly for any changes that occur during the day. They will then notify the school office.

St. Brigid’s Playgroup

DUE TO THE SCHOOL CLOSURE DAY THERE WILL BE NO PLAYGROUP THIS FRIDAY, JULY 27TH
We wish the children who have celebrated or are celebrating a birthday shortly all the best for a great day.

**JULY**

1\textsuperscript{st} Taylah  
14\textsuperscript{th} River  
19\textsuperscript{th} Henry  
24\textsuperscript{th} Courtney  

8\textsuperscript{th} Pacey  
14\textsuperscript{th} Declan  
19\textsuperscript{th} Emmerson  
29\textsuperscript{th} Emily  

9\textsuperscript{th} Caitlin  
14\textsuperscript{th} Darcey  
19\textsuperscript{th} Holly  
30\textsuperscript{th} Jett  

10\textsuperscript{th} Emilia  
17\textsuperscript{th} Shaylee  
19\textsuperscript{th} James  
31\textsuperscript{st} Keegan  

11\textsuperscript{th} Jayden  
17\textsuperscript{th} Mia  
23\textsuperscript{rd} Jordan  
31\textsuperscript{st} Dylan

---

**First Communion**

If your child is baptized Catholic and has received the Sacrament of Reconciliation and is in Grade 4 or above then they can prepare for this Sacrament. The COMPULSORY parent meeting is on Tuesday the 7\textsuperscript{th} of August at 1.30pm or 7.30 pm in the St. Michael’s Stadium, behind the Church. The Commitment Masses will be the next weekend - the 11\textsuperscript{th} and 12\textsuperscript{th} of August.

**Cyber Safety**

On Tuesday, 31\textsuperscript{st} July the Harmony in Officer group are having a day for our Grade 6 students to learn about Cyber safety and bullying. That evening in our MPR there will be a special presentation for any of our parents to help them learn more about cyber safety. A note with more information has gone home today with an RSVP. Please give this evening serious consideration.

**Interschool Sports**

Interschool Sports started last Friday. Although the weather was threatening we got through a full series of games in netball, newcombe and football. St. Michael’s were worthy opponents and our children represented our school very well on the day and thoroughly enjoyed themselves. Our next Interschool Sports afternoon is on Friday 3\textsuperscript{rd} August against St. Agatha’s in Cranbourne.
West Africa Food Crisis Appeal

A humanitarian disaster of massive proportions is currently unfolding, with nine nations and around 18 million men, women and children facing starvation as severe droughts, poor harvests, conflict and rising food prices cripple the area. Large scale emergency assistance is urgently needed across West Africa to save lives. Significant financial resources will be required during this time. Caritas Australia is therefore conducting an urgent Appeal to facilitate a response to this immense calamity, authorized by Bishop Prowse.

Donations to this appeal may be made by calling the Caritas hotline 1800 024 413, visiting www.caritas.org.au or by posting a cheque/money order to their office; Caritas Australia, 24-32 O’Riordan Street, Alexandria, NSW 2015.

“...Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food, or thirsty and gave you something to drink”? Matt. 25:37

Leader of Learning and Teaching - Mrs. Dianne Ahern

Open Learning at Saint Brigid’s values child centred learning. Teachers, as facilitators of the learning process, support students in developing the skills and strategies they need to develop their own connections, in order to develop concept development. Teachers work and plan together, to ensure groups of children are supported, sharing responsibility for students in an Area. It is indeed an exciting and energizing way to learn for both students and teachers.

I encourage you to use our blogs to view our learning activities and to ask questions of students and teachers. I am sure that you will be reassured that quality learning takes place in all Learning Areas and all teachers have a professional and caring interest in every individual in our community.
Body Image

Over the last two terms I have had a number of parents speak to me about concern over their child’s body image. This is a serious issue among young people, even primary school aged children. There are things that you as parents can do to help overcome negative body image in your child such as being a positive role model and thinking about how you speak about your own body and that of others.

On the Intervention and Wellbeing blog I have posted some more information on this issue and have included links to some sites you may find useful, including a video showing how the ‘photoshop’ technique is used to enhance models’ bodies.

Please visit the blog regularly as it has lots of information for parents on wellbeing and intervention issues that concern children and parents of primary school aged children.

Go to – http://lp3818.global2.vic.edu.au

Lisa Piasente

Social and Fundraising Committee

Twilight Fair

Please remember to have a look at the latest news for our Twilight Fair on our website. For the month of July & August we are collecting sealed NEW bottles! Please hand them in to the office.

Next Twilight Fair meeting is on Monday July 30th @ 7pm sharp!

St. Brigid’s Lap-a-thon 2012

The Olympics Lap-a-thon is taking place on Tuesday 31st July, 2012 at 1.30p.m. (If the day is a washout the cancellation will be advised on the St Brigid’s website by 12.00 noon) All students are to be in sports uniform and need to bring their drink bottle.

Family and friends are encouraged to come and support the students on the day. Please bring your cheering voices and a chair if you need one!

We also need some parent volunteers for the day to assist in recording laps and handing out fruit etc. If you are able to help please email Kellie Cosgrove (kelliescards@bigpond.com) with your details.

Family Portraits

Vision Portraits will be at St Brigid’s on Saturday August 11. Session times are available from 9.00am and only take 10 – 15 minutes. Brochures have been sent home to all families today. For enquiries please contact Megan Fisher on 0488 664 860
2012 SACRAMENT OF FIRST HOLY COMMUNION

St Michael's Catholic Church, Berwick, invites Catholic children in Year 4 or above to prepare for the sacrament of First Holy Communion. Preparation begins with an Enrolment/Parent Meeting on 7th August, either at 1.30 pm or at 7.30 pm in St. Michael’s Stadium (no need to book).

This meeting is a compulsory part of the Program and failure to attend will mean your child will be unable to receive First Holy Communion this year.

For more information, please contact St Michael’s Parish, Berwick, on 9707 1355 or email secretary@stmichaelsparish.org.au

RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS

COME AND SEE

Are your interested in becoming Catholic?
Or do you know someone who is?

An invitation to enquire
About the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults.

A Journey of Faith
Beginning with a series of Inquiry Evenings
19th & 26th July 2012-06-26 at 7.30 p.m.

To be held in the
St. Michael’s Parish Office
129 High Street
Berwick
Phone: 9707 1355
Looking ahead...

July

Wednesday, July 25th  School Concert – St. Francis Xavier College
Friday, July 27th  SCHOOL CLOSURE DAY
Sun. July 29th  17th Sunday in Ordinary Time
              (John 6:1-15) ‘Feeding the Multitude
Monday, July 30th  Twilight Fair Meeting 7.00 p.m.
Tuesday, July 31st  Lap-a-thon 1.30 p.m.
                   Cyber Safety and Bullying Gathering – St. Brigid’s Multipurpose Room

Brainteaser

The answer to my last brainteaser was ‘one foot in front of the other’. This week’s brainteaser is:

B
A
C
K

Loving God, Creator of all
we are friends
and companions together.
Teach us to care for one another
and for all creation.
Show us the way to work together
to make our community
a united and more caring place.
We ask this through Jesus your Son.
Amen.

Yours in friendship and unity,

Ken Gale
Principal