Dear Parents,

“I am the living bread from heaven, says the Lord; whoever eats this bread will live forever.” John 6:51-52

The celebration of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ provides us with a special time to stop and remember and give thanks to God for the gift of Jesus, the risen Lord, who is with us in the Eucharist.

On the night before he died, Jesus celebrated a special meal with his disciples. At this Passover meal they shared bread and wine together. Jesus told his disciples that from now on whenever they shared bread and wine together at the meal and remembered him, he would be with them,

This Sunday we will celebrate the Solemnity of The Body and Blood of Christ. This solemnity celebrates the gift and presence of the risen Lord with us in the Eucharist. Each time we come to Mass we remember what Jesus said and did and we share the bread and wine that has become Jesus for us. God lavishes us with his love and abundant gifts so that we may share what we have received with others. When we pass on God’s gifts to others we are participating in the coming of the Kingdom.

Lord, help us to see the ways we can allow your love and compassion to touch the people around us.

Inside this issue:
- School Closure Day – Monday, June 25th
- Parent/Teacher Interviews – Thursday, June 28th
- Early Dismissal 1.00 p.m. on Thursday, June 28th
- School Board
As mentioned last week our Annual General Meeting (AGM) of the School Board will be held in the multipurpose room on Tuesday, June 26th and is open to all parents, staff and parishioners of the school and Parish Community. Father Peter, Simon and myself will represent the school staff and Bill Justice and Jane O’Sullivan will continue as parent representatives. We are now calling for nominations for two parent representatives and a representative from the Social and Fundraising Committee to sit on the Board.

The School Board is an advisory Board and acts as a forum for discussion on matters concerning education in the community. It brings together in a spirit of co-operation, Parish Priest, Principal, representatives of parents and staff so that responsible informed advice can be given to the Parish Priest and Principal.

The role of School Board members is to:
- Attend all Board meetings
- Openly discuss any issues raised
- Provide informed advice to the Parish Priest and Principal
- Maintain confidentiality and the integrity of the group
- Discuss, develop and clarify any school policies
- Be mindful that discussions should reflect the views of the whole school community
- Focus on the welfare of students as the basis for decision making
- Facilitate and nurture positive home/school relationships
- Help organize any relevant activities and projects
- Adhere to the Boards Code of Ethics

Board members need to:
- Recognise the role of the school in the overall mission of the Parish.
- Foster the relationship of the school with the Parish community.
- Understand that through involvement on the Board they are sharing in a leadership role in the education ministry of the parish.

If any parent is interested in nominating to be a member of the School Board please fill out a nomination form and return it to the Office by Friday, June 15th. The AGM will commence at 7.00 p.m. on Tuesday, June 26th. The AGM will be the time when we formally recognise St Brigid’s School Board as a representative group.

Parent/Teacher Interviews – Thursday, June 28th from 1.00 p.m.

Early Dismissal 1.00 p.m.

Parent Teacher Interviews will take place on Thursday, June 28th. Students will be dismissed at the earlier time of 1.00 p.m. on this day. Information on how to register your preference for an interview time will be out shortly.
Queen's Birthday

Monday, June 11th is a Public Holiday in celebration of the Queen's Birthday. There is NO SCHOOL on this day.

Prep Enrolments

Prep Enrolments for the 2013 school year opened on May 1st 2012 for new families wishing to enroll at St. Brigid's. Enrolment will close on June 29th 2012.

School Closure Day – Monday, June 25th 2012

Staff of St. Brigid's will be undertaking professional development with staff from the Catholic Education Office on Monday, June 25th. There will be NO SCHOOL for students on this day. Please mark this date in your calendar.

St. Vincent de Paul Annual Appeal

Non-Perishable Food Items

To assist the St. Vincent de Paul Society meet the needs of our community we are asking for your generous support in sending donations of non-perishable food items to school. Items are being collected by our classroom teachers and will be presented at a whole school Mass on June 14th and distributed by our Parish St. Vincent de Paul volunteers.

Class Masses

A reminder that Grades 3/4 will be attending Mass on Thursday, June 7th at 9.00 a.m. You are invited to join us.

Catholic School Identity Surveys

St. Brigid's will be undertaking a Renewal process next year. School Renewal involves a review of current processes and procedures and formulates goals for the following five years.

The completion of an online Catholic Identity Survey is an important part of this process. The data from the survey will help us understand what we think of St. Brigid's as a Catholic School and what we would like as the ideal Catholic school. Those who are not Catholic or who do not feel they currently practice their religion are still encouraged to participate.

Information on how to complete the survey was sent home on Monday and we would be very grateful for your full participation.
We wish the children who have celebrated or are celebrating a birthday shortly all the best for a great day.

**JUNE**

1st  Rosie          7th  Isabella      13th  Khaan          16th  Emma  
16th  Ashlee        16th  Chloe        17th  Anya          20th  Kerri    
27th  Toni          30th  Ashah         

**Foodie Friday – June 8th**

A reminder that the Social and Fundraising Committee are holding a Foodie Friday on June 8th.

**School Assembly**

Our next school assembly will be held on Friday, June 8th at 2.30 p.m. Grade 3/4A will lead us in prayer and Grade Prep I will share class news. Everyone is welcome to come along and join us as we pray and celebrate together.

**St. Brigid’s Playgroup**

St Brigid’s Playgroup takes place every Friday morning between 9.00am and 10.30am in the Parents Retreat. Cost is $2.00 per session and all you need to bring is a piece of fruit or healthy snack for the children to share, along with a drink. We welcome all families with young children to attend this relaxed and social gathering.

**News from the Deputy Principal – Mr. Simon Greely**

**Confirmation**

Please keep them in your prayers as they prepare for their Confirmation Masses with Bishop Prowse on the 16th, 21st or 23rd June.

**Level Masses**

7th June – Grade 3/4A & 3/4B  
14th June – Grades 4/5A & 5/6W, which will be our whole school Feast of the Sacred Heart Mass.  
Masses are at 9am and, as always, families and friends of St. Brigid’s are very welcome.
**Harmony in Officer**

The Building Harmony project has won another award, this time in the Gippsland and Cardinia Diversity Awards. At this stage we are not sure which category it is in, however we have been notified of the award. The nomination was co-ordinated through the Cardinia Shire and the award will be presented at the West Gippsland Art Centre on the 14th June, 2012. This is another great achievement for this wonderful Harmony group.

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**Leader of Learning and Teaching - Mrs. Dianne Ahern**

Last week we celebrated National Reconciliation Week where we learnt about our shared histories, cultures and achievements.

National Reconciliation Week (NRW) is celebrated across Australia each year between 27 May and 3 June. The dates commemorate two significant milestones in the reconciliation journey—the anniversaries of the successful 1967 referendum and the High Court Mabo decision.

**May 27 marks the anniversary of Australia’s most successful referendum** and a defining event in our nation’s history. The 1967 referendum saw over 90 per cent of Australians vote to give the Commonwealth the power to make laws for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and recognise them in the national census. 2012 marks the 45th anniversary of the ‘67 referendum.

**On 3 June, 1992, the High Court of Australia delivered its landmark Mabo decision** which legally recognised that Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples have a special relationship to the land—that existed prior to colonalisation and still exists today. This recognition paved the way for land rights called Native Title. This year is the 20th anniversary of the Mabo decision.

The theme for this year was, **Let’s Talk Recognition**, with a focus on how Australians can better recognise each other. Children may have recognised a person in their own life, either at home or school, who supports them in a particular way. Some grades have investigated how a particular Indigenous person has contributed to making Australia a better place, such as Mark Olive, Bronwyn Bancroft and Archdeacon Karen Kime.

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**Leader of ICT and Media Liaison – Mrs. Karen Inguanzo**

**Online Tips for Parents who are using Technology with Kids**

It is never too early to start encouraging the appropriate use of technology with young children. The early parents begin these types of conversations about technology, the easier they will be have during the later years of children’s school life.
1. **Talk to your child.** Parents ask their children where they are going and who they are going with whenever they leave the house. They should take the same approach when their children go on the Internet—where are they going and who are they with?

2. **Develop rules.** Together with your child, develop rules about acceptable and safe behaviors for all electronic media.

3. **Explore the Internet.** Visit the websites your child frequents, and assess the pros and cons. Most websites and on-line activities are beneficial. They help young people learn new information and interact with people who have similar interests.

4. **Talk with others.** Talk to other parents about how they have discussed technology use with their children.

5. **Educate yourself.** Stay informed about the new devices and websites your child is using. Continually talk with your child and explore the technology yourself.

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**SEASONS FOR GROWTH**

Learning to live with change and loss

Change and loss are issues that affect all of us at some stage in our lives. At St Brigid's we recognise that when changes occur in families through death, separation, divorce or related circumstances, young people may benefit from learning how to manage these changes effectively. We are therefore offering a very successful education program called Seasons for Growth which will commence during term three. This program is facilitated in small groups and is based on research which highlights the importance of social support and the need to practise new skills to cope effectively with change and loss. The program focuses on issues such as self-esteem, managing feelings, problem-solving, decision-making, effective communication and support networks.

Every family will receive a notice in the near future with more details about the Seasons for Growth program, however if your child participated last year they will not be eligible in 2012. If you think your son or daughter would benefit from Seasons for Growth we would encourage you to talk to him/her about participating in the program.

St Brigid's is pleased to be able to offer this important program and we are confident that it will be a valuable learning experience for those who request to be involved. If you require further information please contact Cathie Waters.

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**Social and Fundraising Committee**

Next meeting Mon 25th June @ 7:30pm in the MPR (we realize there will be no school for the children on this day)

Remember to keep an eye on the latest news from our special Twilight fair newsletter which can be read / downloaded from our web site.

Congratulations to the winner of our Design a poster competition - Mitchell Drury (Prep/1M). Mitchell’s artwork will be included on all our advertising material for the fair. He will receive a wristband for the fair valued at $20. Well done Mitchell! We received six wonderful
entries and all entries will be awarded a prize!"


We will be presenting them with a little participation prize at assembly this Friday. Family & friends most welcome!

June kicks off our first donation request for the fair. We need books! Please hand in to the office. We would be grateful for any unwanted 2nd hand books in good condition.

We are currently planning for our 1st Lap-a-thon!

The Lap-a-thon is a fun way to celebrate our school spirit, promote an active lifestyle and make money for St Brigid’s! All students are asked to participate during the school day on Tuesday 31st July, 2012, running or walking for 20-30 minutes. Each lap around the field will bring us closer to our goal of acquiring a new sports/running track to be installed at St Brigid’s! The lap-a-thon will be run in conjunction with the 2012 London Olympics and every child who collects sponsorship dollars will receive a participation medallion. All students are to be in sports uniform OR Olympic colours on this day.

Some points to remember:
· Ask family / friends to sponsor you!
· Fill in the pledge form (which will be sent home very soon!)
· Pledges may be $$ per lap OR a flat donation. (Students can achieve up to a maximum of 30 laps)
· After the event students collect the pledge money from their sponsors and deliver money back to school BY MONDAY 6TH AUGUST 2012.

Lanyards required! We need approx. 216 lanyards – please let Kellie Cosgrove (kelliescards@bigpond.com) or Belinda Moresco (moresco@bigpond.com) know if you have any contacts.

News from St. Michael’s Parish Berwick

2012 Sacrament of Confirmation

Parish children are now undertaking preparation for Confirmation. Sacrament of Confirmation Masses with Bishop Prowse will be celebrated on June 16th, 21st and 23rd. Please keep our Confirmation Candidates and their families in your prayers.
Looking ahead...

**JUNE**

**Thurs. June 7th**
Mass Grades 3/4A and 3/4B
9.00 a.m. Multipurpose Room

**Fri. June 8th**
Foodie Friday

**Mon. June 11th**
Queen’s Birthday Public Holiday

**Thurs. June 14th**
Whole School Mass 9.00 a.m.

**Fri. June 15th**
Feast of the Sacred Heart of Jesus

**Monday, June 25th**
SCHOOL CLOSURE DAY

**Tuesday June 26th**
AGM for School board

**Thurs. June 28th**
Parent/Teacher Interviews
Early Dismissal 1.00 p.m.

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**Yesterday is gone**
**Tomorrow has not yet come.**
**We have only today**
**Let us begin.**
*Mother Teresa*

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**St. Michael’s Parish**
125-129 High Street, Berwick 3806
Parish Priest: Fr. Peter Slater
(03) 97071355

**Weekend Masses**
Saturday: 6.00 p.m.
Sunday: 9.00 a.m., 10.30 a.m. and 6.00 p.m.

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**Brainteaser**

The answer to my last brainteaser was hand in hand. This week’s brainteaser is:

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**We thank you Lord**
for the chance to serve another
and to give ourselves in some small way
to those not blessed as we are each day.
Our thanks for health and mind and soul,
to aid us ever toward our goals.
For eyes to see the good in all,
a hand to extend before a fall,
for legs to go where the need is great,
learning to love – forgetting to hate,
for ears to hear and a heart to care,
when someone’s cross is hard to bear.
A smile to show our affection
with energy to do the task,
and all we ask, dear Lord,
if we may,
is to serve you better day by day.
Amen.

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**Yours in friendship and unity,**

Ken Gale
Principal