Dear Parents and Carers

So, let's tell a story...

A parable is told of a farmer who owned an old mule. The mule fell into the farmer's well. After carefully assessing the situation, the farmer sympathised with the mule, but decided that neither the mule nor the well was worth the trouble of saving. Instead he called his neighbours together and told them what happened, and enlisted them to help haul dirt to bury the old mule in the well and put him out of his misery.

Initially, the old mule was hysterical! But as the farmer and his neighbours continued shovelling and the dirt hit his back, a thought struck him. It suddenly dawned on him that every time a shovel load of dirt landed on his back, he could shake it off and step up! This he did blow after blow. "Shake it off and step up ... shake it off and step up ... shake it off and step up!"

He repeatedly encouraged himself, no matter how painful the blows, or distressing the situation seemed, the old mule fought panic, and just kept right on shaking it off and stepping up. It was not long before the old mule, battered and exhausted, stepped triumphantly over the wall of that well. What seemed like was going to bury him actually blessed him ... all because of the manner in which he handled his adversity. That's life!

If we face our problems and respond to them positively, and refuse to give in to panic, bitterness or self-pity; the adversities that come along to bury us usually have within them the potential to benefit and bless us! Remember forgiveness, faith, prayer, praise and hope are all excellent ways to 'shake it off' and step up out of the wells in which we find ourselves.

One more thing ...

Never be afraid to try something new. Remember that amateurs built the Ark. Professionals built the Titanic.

**BIRTHDAYS**

Birthday greetings to the staff and students celebrating their birthday this week: Nathanial.

We are Learners – We are Respectful – We are Safe
FOOTY COLOURS DAY
Footy final fever is upon us! On the last day of school Friday 23rd September, ALL students and staff are invited to come to school dressed in their favourite footy colours. (Hopefully there will be lots of red and white!)
This is an SRC initiative so please bring a gold coin donation. Money raised will go toward purchasing sports equipment.

HOT CHOCOLATE
Thanks to Mr McCulloch’s helpers this week: Jordan, Arlo, Charlotte and Miss Hope. Our helpers next Wednesday are Ashtyn, Charlotte and Jake.

NEWSLETTER
Please contact the school office if you have not been receiving your weekly school newsletter via email.

SCIENCE INVESTIGATIONS
Grade 5 and 6’s fantastic Science Investigations are currently on display in the library. I encourage you to come and view their wonderful work.

SCHOOL FAIR ROSTERS
The School Fair is less than 6 weeks away! The fair committee have been tirelessly preparing for this major school fundraiser over the last few months. Money raised benefits all the children in our school so please contact the school office to place your name, and the time you are available, to assist on a stall.

STRESS DOWN DAY
Students raised $152.50 on our recent ‘Stress Down Day’. This money will enable two students from Thailand to receive an education. On behalf of the SRC, thank you very much for your support!

SUMMER UNIFORM CHANGEOVER - TERM 4
From 10th October (first day back for Term 4) all students will be required to wear full summer uniform. The uniform shop is open on Thursday mornings from 8:15 to 9:15am and on Friday afternoons from 2:30 to 3:30pm. If you have any questions or need to place an order please contact Alison Stevens at alison.stevens@catholic.tas.edu.au or leave a message with the school office.

ST BRIGID’S BUDDIES
Please note that there is no St Brigid’s Buddies playgroup next week, however our Term 4 “St Brigid’s Buddies” overview is located below.

Warm regards
Annette

We are Learners – We are Respectful – We are Safe
Congratulations to all candidates and particularly to Tayla Hoiberg-Cox and Campbell Anderson who both received their First Eucharist on Sunday at the 10am, Star of the Sea Mass. The word ‘Communion’ means to be united with. Catholics believe that in Holy Communion we are united in a special way with Jesus Christ. At his last supper, Jesus said of the bread that he shared among his followers, “Take and eat, this is my body.” When we receive Holy Communion, Catholics believe that in a mysterious way we are sharing in the body and blood of Christ. Holy Communion and the whole celebration is also known as Eucharist, from a Greek word meaning thanksgiving.

Ahead of the end of the Year of Eucharist in October 2005, Pope Benedict XVI invited children receiving their First Communion to St Peter’s Square. Some of the children seated closest to the Pope asked him questions about the Eucharist. I would like to share his answers to two of the questions with you.

Andrea: “In preparing me for my First Communion day, my catechist told me that Jesus is present in the Eucharist. But how? I can’t see him!”

Benedict XVI: No, we cannot see him, but there are many things that we do not see but they exist and are essential. For example: we do not see our reason, yet we have reason. We do not see our intelligence and we have it. In a word: we do not see our soul and yet it exists and we see its effects, because we can speak, think and make decisions, etc. Nor do we see an electric current, for example, yet we see that it exists: we see this microphone, that it is working, and we see lights. Therefore, we do not see the very deepest things, those that really sustain life and the world, but we can see and feel their effects. This is also true for electricity: we do not see the electric current but we see the light.

So it is with the Risen Lord: We do not see him with our eyes but we see that wherever Jesus is, people change, they improve. A greater capacity for peace, for reconciliation, etc., is created. Therefore, we do not see the Lord himself but we see the effects of the Lord. So we can understand that Jesus is present. And as I said, it is precisely the invisible things that are the most profound, the most important. So let us go to meet this invisible but powerful Lord who helps us to live well.

Anna: “Dear Pope, can you explain to us what Jesus meant when he said to the people who were following him: ‘I am the bread of life?’”

Benedict XVI: First of all, perhaps we should explain clearly what bread is. Today, we have a refined cuisine, rich in very different foods, but in simpler situations bread is the basic source of nourishment; and when Jesus called himself the bread of life, the bread is, shall we say, the initial, an abbreviation that stands for all nourishment.

And as we need to nourish our bodies in order to live, so we also need to nourish our spirits, our souls and our wills. As human persons, we do not only have bodies but also souls; we are thinking beings with minds and wills. We must also nourish our spirits and our souls, so that they can develop and truly attain their fulfilment.

And therefore, if Jesus says: “I am the bread of life,” it means that Jesus himself is the nourishment we need for our soul, for our inner self, because the soul also needs food. And technical things do not suffice, although they are so important. We really need God’s friendship, which helps us to make the right decisions. We need to mature as human beings. In other words: Jesus nourishes us so that we can truly become mature people and our lives become good.
St Brigid’s Catholic School would like to invite students from our local community to compete in our Lego Competition and Mini Brixhibition.

Builders may create a Lego design that either uses their imagination OR a design that follows step by step instructions.

All entries to be a maximum A3 size (30x42cm) and multiple entries are welcomed. Cost $2 per entry.

The competition will be judged by a member of the Community and announced on Friday 28th of October.

1st prize $30 gift voucher at Burnie Toyworld, 2nd prize $20 gift voucher and 3rd prize a movie ticket for each division.

All entries will go in to the prize draw for a chance to win a Star Wars Lego diorama (pictured) kindly donated by Burnie Toyworld.

Age group divisions from all local Schools
- Kinder, Prep, Grade 1
- Grade 2, 3 and 4
- Grade 5 and 6

Please return entry forms to your School office by the 19th of October 2016. Lego creations and payment can be left at the St Brigid’s Community Hall behind the St Brigid’s Catholic Church on Thursday 27th of October between 3pm - 4pm and 7pm - 8pm OR Friday morning 28th between 8am - 9am. For enquiries please email stbrigidsw@catholic.tas.edu.au or call our office on 64 422167

St Brigid’s Lego Competition

NAME: ______________________________________ GRADE: ______________________
PHONE: _____________________________________________________
SCHOOL: ____________________________________________________

Lego show bags for some lucky entrants!

We are Learners – We are Respectful – We are Safe
St Brigid’s Fair
October 28th 5pm – 8pm.

Donation Requests
Lollipops, wrapped lollies, balloons, small toys i.e. cars, animals, yo-yos, rubbers, pencils, hair bands/accessories, small paints/brushes, lip balms, soaps, pencil sharpeners, loom bands, small balls, stickers or a cash donation for us to purchase items

Next Fair Meeting: 9am Fri 14th Oct – Staffroom

TULIP FESTIVAL COLOUR RUN
Details and entry forms available at the Waratah-Wynyard Council and the School Office.

RIVERBEND
Kids Camps September/October school holidays 2016
Grades 3/4/5 – 25th September – 30th September
Grades 5/6/7 – 2nd October – 7th October
For further information, please contact: 6452 1635 0457 809 700
www.rivierbend.org.au admin@riverbend.org.au
Riverbend Youth Centre PO box 768 Smithton Tas 7330

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**WYNYARD BAPTIST CHURCH SPRING FAIR**

Sept 17th 10am - 2pm

Stalls include:
Crafts, Cakes, Sausage Sizzle,
Devonshire Tea, Plants, Children’s, Trash & Treasure

**WYNYARD-SOMERSET TENNIS CLUB INC. JUNIOR TENNIS**

Our club places a high priority on introducing children (from primary school to U18 years) to tennis and encouraging them to continue on in the sport.

The next junior tennis roster (played on Saturday mornings at the Somerset courts), begins on 15th October and runs for 10 weeks until the end of Term 4.

The roster activities include basic coaching and organized games at all skills levels.

Beginner juniors start at 9:00am. Juniors start at 10:15am.

**Total cost for the whole roster is $20 per child.** Racquets and balls are provided.

The club also offers the following memberships for 2016/17:

- Social member $60
- Junior member (Under 18) $30
- Family membership $150 (up to 2 adults + 3 children)

Anyone wishing to take part in the next junior tennis roster is invited to contact:

Mitch Martin (Secretary) Ph: 0499 029 919 Email: secretarywstc@gmail.com

**BRIGID BUDDIES**

On Monday morning St Brigid’s Buddies enjoyed a treasure hunt outside in the sunshine. We searched and discussed what we considered to be treasure in our playground. The children were delighted to find golden flowers, special gumnuts, treasured leaves and magic stick wands. We had so much fun exploring and enjoying the beautiful weather, especially playing in the big sandpit and on the swings. This was our last morning for Term 3 and we hope to see everyone back next term for some more fun exploring and playing.

**PRE - KINDER**

Every second Thursday in Term 3 we have welcomed our 2017 enrolled Kinders to investigate our Kindergarten room. The children have all enjoyed becoming familiar with their environment and new friends. Last Thursday they brought in a piece of fruit and we enjoyed tasting something different. This is great preparation for our ‘Munch and Crunch’ fruit break next year.

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*We are Learners – We are Respectful – We are Safe*
St Brigid’s Buddies

Birth to 4 Program

St Brigid’s Buddies is a structured program focusing on early years learning and development, including sensory play, movement, social and emotional wellbeing with a literacy focus. This is a learning opportunity, not only for children, but for parents to socialise in a relaxed and fun environment.

*Please phone 6442 2167 for further details*

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Dates to Remember

September

Tuesday 20th Parish Weekly Mass - Grades 6 and Kinder - 9:30am
Tuesday 20th St Patrick's Band Performance
Thursday 22nd Pre - Kinder 9am-10:30am (enrolled 2017 students only)
Thursday 22nd Advisory Board Meeting
Friday 23rd Footy Colours Day (Gold coin donation)
Friday 23rd End Term 3

October

Saturday 8th Tulip Festival
Monday 10th Term 4 begins
Thursday 13th Pre - Kinder 9am-10:30am (enrolled 2017 students only)
Friday 14th Fair meeting - 9am (staffroom)
Monday 17th St Brigid's Buddies - Birth to 4 Program - 9 - 10:30am
Thursday 20th Pre - Kinder 9am-10:30am (enrolled 2017 students only)
Thursday 27th Pre - Kinder 9am-10:30am (enrolled 2017 students only)
Friday 28th St Brigid's School Fair: 5pm-8pm

November

Monday 7th Recreation Day (Public Holiday)

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