



# St Brigid's College Horsham

St Brigid's College Horsham | 97 Robinson Street, Horsham VIC 3400  
(03) 5382 3545 | [www.stbc.vic.edu.au](http://www.stbc.vic.edu.au)

# NEWSLETTER

**27th Nov 2020**

## FROM THE PRINCIPAL



Dear Parents and Guardians,

This Sunday in the Church calendar is the first Sunday of Advent. It is the beginning of the season that heralds the birth of the Christ child and it marks the time when Christmas trees and lights and festive decorations come into full swing. We are also reminded in the Gospel's this week to use this time of

preparation to ensure we are exploring our ultimate dreams and realities and not to be distracted. We are encouraged to focus on the important things and not to be taken away from the people that we love as an expression of God's love in the world. There is so much to do over the coming weeks, but if we can distil that busyness to completing the things which build up the love around us, we may find greater joy in the season.

The season of Advent is symbolised by the Advent Wreath. The wreath is a symbol of growth and life. Traditionally adorned with pink and purple candles, it reminds us of the power of the light of Christ overcoming evil in our world. The circle symbolises the continuity of life.



The word "Advent" means "coming" (from the Latin Adventus) and this is the time we wait in joyful anticipation for our God to come, yet again, be born in our hearts.

### LEARNING IN 2020

Our students, staff, families and friends of the College all deserve the opportunity to pause and consider the achievement it has been to progress learning in 2020. The analysis of student literacy and numeracy outcomes from earlier PAT testing indicates that students have for the most part not been substantially impacted as learners by our remote learning experiences. We look forward to unpacking this information more thoroughly and exploring where we need to provide additional support in 2021. The success of our community throughout this year has been very much grounded in the ability of our community to work together, and the engagement between students, their teachers, the broader College and families has been critical, and I remain very grateful for the contribution of everyone.

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## UPCOMING EVENTS

Mon 30th Nov - Fri 4th Dec  
Headstart - Yr 11 and Yr 12 2021

Tue 1st Dec  
Yr 7 2021 Transition Day -SMJ students

Wed 2nd Dec  
Yr 7 2021 Transition Day -other Primary schools

Mon 7th Dec - Fri 11th Dec  
Yr 11 Street Retreat

Tue 8th Dec  
Students conclude

Wed 9th Dec  
Parent Teacher Interviews - student free day  
Yr 12 Graduation Dinner

Fri 11th Dec  
Staff conclude

Tue 15th Dec  
Office closes

### HEADSTART

Our current Year 10 and Year 11 students have received their HEADSTART timetables with these 2021 classes to commence on Monday. It can be a time of nervous anticipation, and it is very natural for students to feel challenged by the change that new groupings and experiences bring. I encourage families to support students by looking positively at the opportunities that change brings.

There are always some challenges with staffing at this time of year as a proportion of staff finish their time at St Brigid's. Where new staff are not available for HEADSTART, we will have qualified, and experienced staff fulfil the teaching load.

Next week will be the final week for our current Year 10 and Year 11 students with their final day of classes on Friday 4th December. Our Years 7-9 students will conclude on Tuesday, 8th December.

Today is the Year 12 Studio Arts examination. Nearly all of our Year 12 cohort have completed their examinations and I congratulate them on their efforts. Year 12 Graduation will take place on Wednesday, 9th December.

## YEAR 11 RETREAT

Our Year 11 students are looking forward to their "Street Ministry" retreat in Adelaide from the 7th to 11th of December, covid-19 restrictions permitting. The opportunity for our students to witness and be involved in the service of Christ is one that is both enlightening and humbling. A greater appreciation of who they are and their impact on others are the major outcomes of the retreat. The five days promise so much and we wish our Year 11 students and staff an enlightening experience.

## STAFFING

As you are most probably aware by now, I have decided not to seek a further Principal term at St Brigid's College once my current contract expires. As a result of this decision I will now undertake an extended period of leave from St Brigid's College during 2021. Mr Gerard Raven has been appointed as Interim Principal for the commencement of the 2021 school year and I thank Gerard for accepting this most rewarding position to lead this wonderful school community next year.

The process for the appointment of Principal of St Brigid's College will commence in Term 1 2021 with a desire to appoint a new Principal to commence at the beginning of Term 3 2021. Catholic Education Ballarat will facilitate this process which will involve community consultation.

## ORIENTATION DAYS

Next Tuesday 1st December, we will conduct our first of two Year 6 into 7 Orientation Days, welcoming all our new students as they enter into the spirit of the days. Many thanks to Bettina Bird who has co-ordinated these days and all staff who will assist.

Yours in the community of St Brigid's College,

**Peter Gutteridge**  
Principal



## Parent-Teacher Interviews

End of Semester Reports and  
Parent Teacher Interviews

End of Semester reports will now be released on Friday December 4th at 5pm. We are hopeful that this gives enough time for the reports to be looked at and interviews booked if families wish for

We are opening up evening time slots on Tuesday December 8th from 5pm until 7.30pm for Parent Teacher Interviews for working families to be able to access the teachers they wish to see and then Wednesday 9th Decemebre for Zoom or parent phone calls. Bookings can be done via PAM.

TA Report	Schedule Term 4
Week ending	Interviews this week
Week 8 Nov 27th	Catch up on Interviews
Week 9 Dec 4th	No interviews
Week 10 Dec 11th	No interviews

## DR DELANY AWARDS

### YEAR 11

#### Josh Dunn and Toby Arnup

Awarded for their organised and Conscientious approach to VCE Environmental Science.



### YEAR 9 & 10

#### Sophie Winfield

Awarded for her excellent work in Textiles.



### YEAR 7 & 8

#### Holly Luciani

Awarded for her excellent work ethic in Maths.



## Student Booklists 2021

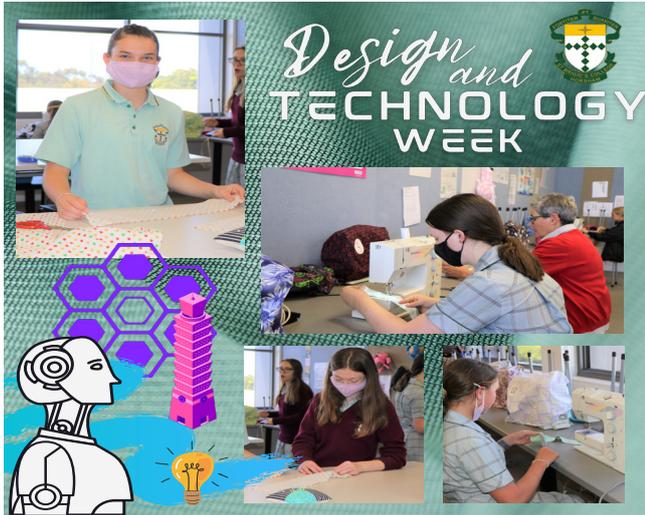
Booklists are now available for 2021. These can be accessed via PAM. All booklists need to be submitted to Shelton and Lane by Friday 11th December. We will email to all families a copy of the second hand book list that can be on sold/purchased. For new students starting at St Brigid's next year, you will receive your PAM log in codes on Orientation Day. If you have any queries please call the Front Office on 5382 3545.



# STUDENT NEWS

**TEXTILES** | As part of our Design & Technology Week lunchtime activities, students yesterday had the opportunity to participate in constructing hair scrunchies in the Textiles room. There were lots of colourful scrunchies being created by the girls who attended.

Thank you Mrs Van Dyk for sharing your sewing expertise!



**DESIGN & TECHNOLOGY WEEK** | Students had fun glazing ceramic Christmas ornaments in the Art Room at lunchtime on Monday as part of Design & Technology Week. They will be ready to take home next week!



**ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS** | As we are unable to celebrate our student achievements as we normally would this year, throughout this week we are holding small group celebrations with students to acknowledge our award recipients and fantastic achievements for 2020.

As we are unable to have our families and friends join us, these celebrations will be filmed and shared via our social media platforms to allow our St Brigid's College community to share the excitement of these achievements virtually.... Stay tuned!

Many thanks to Stoph Pilmore and the Victoria Hotel in Dimboola for a beautiful meal and a historical tour of the Hotel. Stoph explained to the VCE Business Management class, the day to day operations, staffing in a rural area, licensing procedures, his entrepreneurial skills, the challenges in business during a pandemic and the way forward. The history in this pub is something to be experienced from the eclectic decor to the artwork. Pieces are original and range from Sidney Nolan to local artists. There is also a framed sketch of the building drawn by our own Art teacher Deb Moar.

Every piece has its own story. Most certainly a wonderful place to visit!



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