

Dear Members of the Kildare Ministries community

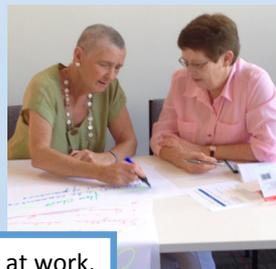
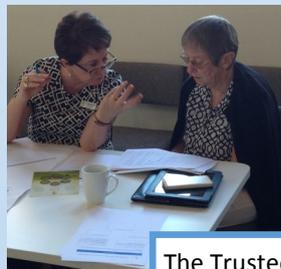
Through anthropological eyes, liminality (from the Latin word *limen*, meaning "a threshold") is the confusion that occurs in times of transition when we no longer hold our original beliefs and values but have not yet fully identified the new. During this liminal stage, we "stand at the threshold" between our previous way of structuring our identity and our community and the new way, which is established by the journey. Teresa and Jim D'Orsa in their book *Leading for Mission*, reflect that "*We live in a liminal time when the old certainties have been eroded and the new is yet not convincing*" (D'Orsa 2013). When we recognize ourselves in this stage, we can often also feel uncertain and unclear about our future direction. What is required of leaders in Catholic ministries they argue, are leaders who are both skilled in strategic and operational leadership but also in mission leadership. "*Mission thinking*" requires us to help bring meaning to things that seem uncertain and as well as help others around us to make sense of what is happening.

The Trustees, as Governors of Kildare Ministries have embraced 'mission thinking' bringing light to an uncertain path. They have worked at bringing a new expression to this liminal time through their articulation of the *Vision, Mission and Values* foundational document and through the *Founding Grace Inspiring the New* document which is the formation framework for all our ministries. Both documents attempt to provide the roadmap that will bring meaning to our new and emerging identity not only as Kildare Ministries but as Catholic schools and community works who are asking profound questions about Catholic Identity. The faith and personal needs of our students and parents in schools and our participants in the community works, are dramatically different than they were even 5 years ago. "Our [ministries] desperately [need] imaginative mission thinkers and practitioners, who understand the radically changed environment and are able to create relevant transformative responses" (D'Orsa 2013). This is our real challenge as people responsible for developing the narrative for Kildare Ministries. We need to become 'mission leaders and thinkers' and to use Paul Sharkey's theory, we need to 'do theology', to respond to the needs of our students and communities.

In this light, the *Gathering Together: Lightening our Way* conference to be held in August will provide the opportunity to discuss and negotiate this liminal space we find ourselves in. As we talk through and discern the challenges that face us we will begin to understand not only what confronts us but how we might respond as a Kildare Ministries community. In addition, building relationships between and across the various governance levels, across all the ministries is vital to good governance as well.

Governing in faith based ministries is value rich governance. Unlike corporate governance where you would expect the articulation of success to be expressed by measuring KPIs, developing financial strategy and assessing risk appetite, in Kildare Ministries we understand that these 'targets' are necessary but not sufficient. We will rise and fall on our ability to become mission focused leaders and inculcate a culture where our common purpose and our shared values are enlivened through our work.

Erica Pegorer
Executive Director



The Trustees at work.



A New Heart for a New World

*Create a new heart, Holy Lord.
Beckon our lives through your Word.
Open our eyes to your call
United as one for your world.
Heighten our minds to your thoughts.
Heal us of pride and of hurt.
May we go forth in your Name.
We pray our hearts change.*



BRIGIDINE COLLEGE— ST IVES



Brigidine College St Ives had an exciting start to the year. Like any school, there are a myriad of things occurring, often concurrently, but our experience and the research tells us that this helps girls grow as they learn to manage their time and commitments and flourish in understanding the value of multi-faceted lives. Providing opportunities for girls to be involved allows them to develop their leadership capacity and our aim is that they 'act in the world with strength and gentleness' (Mission Statement).

Our strategic intent at Brigidine College St Ives is to ensure opportunities for girls and staff to grow in understanding Christ's mission to love and serve humanity. This has occurred through social justice programs including working with Catholic Mission Australia in Cambodia, Street Retreats and many other opportunities.

Year 10 cooking for the homeless in Sydney. This was such a valuable experience for many of the girls that they returned during their school holidays to volunteer .

Staff and students on immersion with Catholic Mission Australia in Cambodia.

A number of senior students were involved in the Catholic Mission Cambodia immersion in January. Throughout the trip the girls visited numerous schools, orphanages, non-government organisations and rural communities. Highlights included time spent at Lavalla Marist School for Disabilities, St Augustine's Pastoral Centre, St Joseph's School, Takeo and St John the Apostle Parish, Siem Reap.



Amid the service opportunities the girls toured Angkor Wat, The Killing Fields, markets in Phnom Penh and enjoyed a river cruise on the Mekong. The girls found the trip extremely worthwhile and made everlasting memories and connections with the Cambodian people.

Brigidine Music Club

The Brigidine Music Club 2016 has seen a busy start to 2016 and recently had a massive day with 175 Brigidine girls performing at the Royal Easter Show. In total there were four performances. The first group to perform was the Choir with the finale from *Matilda*, 'Like I'm Never Gonna Lose You', and 'Say Something'!

The Combined Stage Bands performed next and the girls did brilliantly.

Up until this year Brigidine College has only ever had one concert band, but as a result of the group getting bigger and bigger, (over 140) it was necessary to split it into two groups: the Junior and Senior Concert Bands. The Easter Show was the first outing for these two new groups. Comprising students from Years 7 and 8, with a little support from some older students, the Junior Concert Band played a number of classic hits such as 'Viva la Vida', 'Soul Bossanova' and 'Hip to Be Square'.





BRIGIDINE COLLEGE— ST IVES



The Senior Concert Band, many of whom embarked on Brigidine's first ever International Music Tour at the end of Term 1, played hits such as 'Hawaii 5-0', 'Fame' and 'The Final Countdown'.

The crowds were very appreciative and the College had great feedback throughout the day from members of the public. Some girls even got onto the news on television that night!



Recognition of the contribution of the Brigidine Sisters

We were moved by two occasions with the Brigidine Sisters this year. The first came about as a result of gifts from our community to Annual Giving. These gifts helped us to acknowledge the Brigidine Sisters who founded our College.

The first occasion was when two Brigidine Sisters, **Sr Margaret Daniels csb** and **Sr Maree Marsh csb**, unveiled the sculpture in St Brigid's Chapel in a simple but heart-warming ceremony in the company of Sisters, donors, student leaders and some of our staff.

So that we could share this important gesture with our students and staff a video of the history of the College and the motivation for the sculpture was produced and played at the following Assembly. A small group of Sisters joined the students and staff for this. It was so moving to see the delight the Sisters gained from the video and the unceasing applause the girls and staff offered them as they departed from the Assembly. It was both heartening and reaffirming that our girls understood the significance of these women. One of the Sisters, who confessed to being 90, was heard to say, "I just can't stop smiling. What a wonderful day we are having!"

On both occasions we were fascinated and amused to hear some of the stories from the days when these devoted women lived here on site – sometimes four to a room with only a partition giving them some privacy and the light shining down on all four until the last was ready to sleep. And, of course, no ensuite.

We hope that we have expressed our gratitude and continue to remember those who led the way in girls' education in this part of Sydney.

Sr Margaret Daniels, Brigidine Board member, and Sr Maree Marsh, Co-chair Trustee of Kildare Ministries unveil the art installation in the College Chapel acknowledging the contribution of the Brigidine Sisters to the College since its foundation in 1954.



PRESENTATION FAMILY CENTRE—BALNARRING

School Holiday Programs

The 2016 Summer School Holiday Program was a successful demonstration of the many and varied ways the Presentation Family Centre welcomes families: facilitating social and environmental connections, learning, respite and engagement across four weeks in January. Our program is planned around the children, enabling parents, carers and other family members precious time together in a peaceful, safe environment. The weather was beautiful and allowed us great scope in delivering what we will report as an enriching, rewarding holiday program for all. As our shed renovation gets underway, we ultimately look forward to offering even better holiday programs to families in need in the future



Basic Cooking Skills Workshops



During the June holiday program we will be conducting a pilot program of basic cooking skills workshops in our brand new Activities Centre. These workshops will be available to our residential guests and will focus on finding a basic recipe, shopping for this recipe within a budget, understanding the nutritional aspects of ingredients, preparation and serving to our families.

Workshops

The following workshops were held at the Centre:

Meditation : March 18, 19 and 20, and May 19 and 20



**Presentation
Family Centre**

A big thank you to our volunteers :

Site Maintenance: Bunnings

Holiday Programs: Our bank of staff and volunteers who give their time and energy towards families with holiday program activities.

Regular volunteers and donors: Those who consistently provide their generous support to the running of the Centre.

A special mention and a big thank you to **Clonard College** who are currently executing a fund raiser and will be donating the proceeds towards the work at PFC. We hope to raise enough funds to provide a specialised swing for physical disability.



TRUSTEES MINISTRY VISIT TO BRIGIDINE COLLEGE—ST IVES

9th-10th May 2016



Coinciding with the AGM, Trustees took the opportunity to conduct their Ministry visit to Brigidine College St Ives on 9-10 May. Met with the true spirit of Kildare Ministries, welcome and hospitality by both the Chair of the Board, Kitty Guerin and the Principal Jane Curran, the Trustees shared morning tea with the staff and enjoyed an informative lunch with the student leaders. It was a terrific visit and thanks are extended to the whole community for their welcome and generous hospitality.



We take this opportunity to thank all those who generously volunteer their time on Boards and Stewardship Councils and appreciate the dedication to which our Directors and Councillors approach their work so generously and rigorously for the benefit of our Ministry now and into the future. Kildare Ministries is all the richer for the experience and wisdom these groups provide their Ministry.

TRUSTEES MEET WITH THE BOARD AT BRIGIDINE COLLEGE—INDOORROOPILLY

11th May 2016



The Trustees were in attendance at the AGM for Brigidine College at Indooroopilly. At the dinner that followed, the retiring chair of the Board, Stephen Walsh, was thanked for his valuable contribution and the incoming Chair, Robyn Killoran was warmly welcomed. Also welcomed were the two new Board Directors Mathew Dique and Chris Byrne. Mr Peter Dash was farewelled after nine years on the Board.



KILDARE COLLEGE Celebrate 50 Years with High Tea

Sunday May 29, 2016



On Sunday May 29, past students and staff joined the current Kildare College community to celebrate a wonderful 50 years of learning at Kildare.

Since the establishment of the College in February 1966, a single class of 32 students has grown to a student community of almost 500. A single building has developed into a range of state of the art facilities including performing arts, hospitality and innovative science and maths learning spaces.

Past Principal and Trustee of Kildare Ministries, Kathy McEvoy, spoke fondly about Kildare's past and enthusiastically about the future. She included a reflection on the College's opening from Kildare's foundation teacher, Sr Moira Broderick csb. Spontaneous applause welcomed six Old Scholars from Kildare's very first class in 1966.

The College archives were opened for the day allowing guests to see Kildare's journey first hand. Tours of the current College facilities were also offered to rekindle school memories and showcase the opportunities provided to Kildare students in 2016.



Educating for Justice Student Seminar

June 1—2016

Justice, Democracy & Outreach Program

Working from the idea that *we do what we can in our own space and time*, students from Victorian Kildare Ministries' schools gathered on 1st June for a Justice Seminar. In a great spirit of friendship and collaboration, students began the day by reporting on all that has happened in first semester – and they certainly have been very busy. Highlights included:

- Joining the #linksnotchains movement to befriend a child in detention
- Slam poetry at whole school assemblies
- Guest speakers from groups such as the Orange Sky Laundry
- Festival to celebrate cultural diversity in the school
- Writing to Politicians
- Volunteering with the St Vincent de Paul soup van

Following the school reports, students were treated to a presentation from Paul Munday, a teacher from Melbourne who has spent many years teaching in Indigenous communities in places such as Kununurra, Broome and Hall's Creek. Paul shared his insights into the ongoing effects of the Stolen Generation and the many challenges facing young Indigenous students which worsen the more remote the location. The figures on youth suicide and juvenile detention were particularly alarming, and brought home to our students how fortunate they are to have access to a great education. Paul spoke passionately of the need to create educational models that work for Aboriginal communities, bringing to life their incredibly rich knowledge of and connection with their land, and drawing on their ancient stories which inform their identity today.

The day concluded with a 'yarning circle' led by Paul, as we all made a personal commitment to doing what we can in our own space and time. I would like to thank Rosemary Copeland for her leadership in preparing and facilitating the seminar, and Mary Harmes and the Star of the Sea students for leading us in a beautiful prayer to start the day. Additional thanks to all staff and students who attended and contributed with such generosity and enthusiasm.

Andrea Grant

KM Mission Leader





Reminder:
Don't forget to register your attendance to the Kildare Ministries Gathering Together lighting our way Conference by Monday 4 July 2016.

Kilbreda College News

Congratulations, congratulazioni, おめでとう to Kilbreda staff and students on retaining **FIRST PLACE for Italian globally**, again and for placing **11th out of 923 schools in Japanese** in the Language World Perfect Championships.



...And Justice for All



Justice, Compassion, Courage and Hope are key values at the core of **Kilbreda College**. Kilbreda is committed to having a strong focus on matters of social justice and encouraging students to not only think about, but to actively work toward creating a more just and equitable society. Kilbreda students are called on to be girls of action!

Kildare Ministries

Calendar of

Events

June

&

July

2016



Date	Event
1 June	Educating for Justice Student Seminar at BMC
2 June	KEM Board Meeting
6 June	Brigidine College (St Ives) Board Meeting
16 June	Wellsprings for Women Board Meeting
19-25 June	World Refugee Week
20 June	Brigidine College (Indooroopilly) Board Meeting Star of the Sea Board Meeting
21 June	Kildare Ministries Trustees Meeting at BMC
24 June	Brigidine College (St Ives) Founders Day Clonard College Brigidine Day
1 July	Presentation Family Centre Board Meeting
18 July	Brigidine College (Indooroopilly) Board Meeting
20 July	Kildare Ministries Trustees Meeting at BMC
25 July	Brigidine College (St Ives) Board Meeting Star of the Sea Board Meeting
28 July	Wellsprings for Women Board Meeting
29 July	Presentation Family Centre Board Meeting