

Welcome Kindergarten Wolfhounds!

Rooted in Love, Beacons of Hope

2025-2026



Mrs. Kathy Stuart - mrs.stuart@stbrigid-school.org
Beth Nelson-Hernandez -paraprofessional

Mrs. Kathy Hare - mrs.hare@stbrigid-school.org
Erika Harris - paraprofessional

Miss Brittany Katona - ms.katona@stbrigid-school.org
Amy Sudduth - paraprofessional

Mrs. Stephanie Gluntz - mrs.gluntz@stbrigid-school.org
Instructional Support Teacher

Mrs. Rozanski - mrs.rozanski@stbrigid-school.org
Intervention Specialist





The ABC's of Kindergarten!

A Attendance: School begins at 8:00. Students can be dropped off beginning at 7:45. Please see the school handbook and Wolfhound Wednesday for current arrival procedures. Being frequently late or absent can cause children to miss important learning opportunities.
[Parent-Student Handbook 2025-26 \(updated 8.11.25\)](#)

Please do keep your child home if he/she is sick or contagious. If your child will be absent or tardy, please email the teacher and the office at attendance@stbrigid-school.org. Be sure to include the reason for your child's absence. In the case of a medical appointment, please provide the office with a note from the medical provider. Please refer to the school handbook for information regarding when your child may return to school after absences due to illness.

Assessment is a natural, ongoing and important part of learning. By questioning and talking to children, listening to the language they use and observing their behavior, adults gain information about children's levels of skill and understanding.

We will be observing, keeping notes, and using checklists to record our observations about your child's learning. We are looking not only at the product but also at the skills and strategies your child uses. Your child will be demonstrating his/her learning in appropriate, practical, authentic ways in an encouraging and supportive environment. Through observation of your child in multiple learning situations, we can build a more complete assessment of his/her learning.

Your kindergarten child will also learn to self-assess. He/she will understand how to use a rubric or checklist to be sure he/she has completed his/her work to the best of his/her ability.

A report card will be sent electronically to parents each trimester. Our report card is based on the Diocesan kindergarten standards. A discipleship rubric will also be sent with the report card.

We also utilize formal assessments, including STAR (Early Literacy) and DIBELS, to monitor progress throughout the year.

B Birthdays! We love birthdays! Your child can look forward to hearing birthday wishes during morning announcements and receiving his or her birthday pencil from Ms. O'Reilly. Your child will enjoy a special treat at lunch as he or she celebrates with friends (Please do not send special birthday treats to school.). Your child may also dress down on his/her birthday to celebrate. If the birthday falls on a Mass day, your child may dress down the day before or after the birthday.

Backpacks: Your child should bring his/her backpack to school every day. Your child's backpack should be large enough to hold a 2-pocket folder easily. Please be sure to clearly label the backpack with your child's name and afternoon transportation information on the tag provided at WOW day.

It is much easier for your child if the backpack only contains things that are needed for school. Making a plan for backpack organization with your child is helpful and reassuring. For example, decide with your child where to keep the blue take-home folder, lunchbox, snack, chapstick, extra clothes (sweater, underpants...) and hats/gloves. Our librarian suggests teaching your child to keep his or her library book in the backpack when it is not being read to avoid lost books.

C Communication: We will be happy to talk with you about any question or concern through email, phone, Zoom/Google Meet, or in person at any time throughout the year. E-mail addresses can be found on the front of this handout.

A school handbook can be found on the school website. This handbook contains information (dress code, attendance policy, tardy...) that applies to all children in the school. Please take the time to familiarize yourself with the information in this handbook.
Parent-Student Handbook 2025-26 (updated 8.11.25)

Your child will bring home a blue take-home folder with kindergarten information and papers each day. Please empty this folder daily.

Although we encourage you to send most communication electronically through email in advance, you may use the blue take-home folder to send written messages as needed. It is important that all written communication is placed in the blue take-home folder, as we cannot check the entire backpack daily.

A weekly email will be sent by the teacher sharing current information. Photo newsletters will also be posted periodically on the school website. These photos will show what we have been doing in the classroom and around the school, so you can see our learning in action!

Wolfhound Wednesday, a school newsletter, is sent via email each Wednesday. Please be sure to read this carefully each week. Please also see our Kindergarten Communication Plan attached to this packet.

D Dismissal: Our current dismissal policy has been described in detail in the handbook. Please familiarize yourself with this plan as we strive to ensure safety during dismissal.

If you have any changes to your child's dismissal plan, please email the teacher and the attendance office. The transportation change form can be found on the school website. Transportation changes should be emailed to the teacher and attendance@stbrigid-school.org. If there is a last minute change, please call the office rather than sending the teacher an email. We may not see it during the school day (7:30-3:15).

Discipline: Our classrooms are communities in which the children learn to work together and practice Catholic values. To ensure each child has the maximum opportunity to learn, all children are expected to follow the classroom rules and put forth their best effort throughout the day. We emphasize The Golden Rule, problem solving, responsibility for actions, discipleship, and making good choices. Our goal is to provide a safe, positive classroom atmosphere.

Kindergarten Classroom Rules

Be kind.

Be respectful.

Be responsible.

Be ready to learn.

Follow The Golden Rule.

If a child is having difficulty following the rules, we will help redirect his/her behavior through eye contact, quiet reminders, modeling, and visual prompts. If a child is having significant difficulties, additional plans may be appropriate. Parents would be contacted to discuss options to best help the child.

E Email: Please be sure you are receiving weekly Friday emails from your kindergarten teacher and the Wolfhound Wednesday from the office. If there is a problem, please contact us immediately. These emails are important for successful communication.

Events: This policy establishes guidelines for visitors attending special events at St Brigid of Kildare to ensure the safety, security, and respect of school values. Please read through this document carefully. [Event Policy Document](#)

F Food: We will be eating our lunch in the cafeteria at 10:20. Your child can buy lunch or pack lunch. The menu can be found on the school website. Please discuss this choice with your child to be sure he or she will eat the lunch provided. Children are happier and more successful when they are not hungry. (Packed lunches to be eaten in the cafeteria may contain nuts.)

Your child should bring a water bottle each day and a healthy snack to eat in the afternoon. Please be sure your child can manage the snack and lunch items independently (peeling, opening containers...). Please pack your child's lunch and snack in separate containers. It is helpful to put your child's snack in a specific place in the backpack.

G Gym: Kindergarten specials schedules will be sent to you by your teacher each term. Please have your child wear gym shoes to school on scheduled gym days. Your child may wear his or her regular school uniform or the gym uniform on gym days (Girls should wear shorts under the jumper.).

H Homework: Reading daily with your child is very important to build word recognition, comprehension, and vocabulary. Practicing skills individually at home can also be very beneficial. We encourage parents to practice reading using the materials in the red folder, review heart words, practice math facts, and read books with your child consistently at home.

Handbook:

[Parent-Student Handbook 2025-26 \(updated 8.11.25\)](#)

I Independence: Your child can learn to do many tasks independently with your guidance and support. Please help your child with the skills needed to open lunch containers, clean up spills, button, zip, tie shoes, manage bathroom needs, and put on coats independently.

J Jesus: Your child will be developing a relationship with Jesus during our time together in kindergarten. Please talk about Jesus with your child and support this at home. Many students enjoy creating a special place or prayer table in their room as they learn about our Catholic faith.

K Kindness! Spread kindness everywhere. Set an example. We are a school family. Everyone at St. Brigid wants the best for your child, and we are all here to support not only your child but your family as well. Please reach out if you need anything!

L Learning: Kindergarten students learn by doing. We get messy. We make mistakes. We will try again. Encourage a growth mindset! Maybe your child can't do something YET, but as we always say in kindergarten ... "The more we practice, the better we get!"

M Mission Statement of St. Brigid of Kildare Elementary School:
The SBK School community, in order to know and live out our Catholic faith, seeks to nurture grace and wisdom. Each individual's unique gifts are developed through strong academic experiences focused on serving God and His kingdom.

Saint Brigid of Kildare School Statements of Belief

- St. Brigid of Kildare is committed to building a community that knows and lives our Catholic faith.
- Each person is a valued gift from God and worthy of respect.
- In order to be the best version of themselves, students benefit from a variety of instructional experiences while developing and using their unique gifts.
- Students learn to integrate their gifts for moral decision making, critical thinking, and problem solving to build the kingdom of God.

Mass: School Masses are usually Thursday mornings at 9:00. You are welcome to attend, watch, and pray with our school family. We plan to attend Mass as a class periodically throughout the year. A schedule is provided in this packet.

N Noteworthy Dates!

The **Barn Bash** is planned for **Friday, September 26 from 5-7 PM**. This is a great opportunity to meet other St. Brigid families, meet your child's new kindergarten friends, and have a wonderful time with your family. Information will be available in the Wolfhound Wednesday.

Christmas Play: The Kindergarten Christmas Play will be Tuesday, **December 16th at 8:40a.m.!!** The kindergarten children will be dressing in costumes and singing the story of the birth of Jesus. Please plan to join us for this special event! Bring your cameras and grandparents. This event is held in the gym and will last approximately 30 minutes. Costumes are provided.

O **Oops:** Please do not allow your child to bring toys/objects from home. Toys are very distracting and often get lost. At times, there may be special days to bring a toy to school. You will be notified of these days through an email.

P **Play:** Kindergarten children learn through play. We encourage you to examine how much time your child spends on electronics. Increasing traditional play time and reducing tech time will benefit your child.

Q **Questions:** In addition to academics, all students are learning to make friends and be friends. At times, there may be arguments, tattles, or hurt feelings. We step in when needed and encourage students to solve these issues with as much independence as possible. Learning problem solving skills is an important part of kindergarten. If you have any questions about academic or social issues, please ask.

R **Recess:** We will go outside for recess two times a day (weather permitting). Please make sure your child is properly dressed for the weather. Keeping a sweater, gloves, and a hat in your child's backpack is very helpful, especially as the seasons are changing. Please be sure to **label** all of your child's belongings with his/her name.

S Safe environment policy: Our safe environment policy can be found here. <https://stbrigidofkildare.org/welcome/about-us/safe-environment/>

Specials: During the school year, your child will participate in art, music, physical education, library, and Spanish class. The schedule for special classes will be shared by your child's teacher.

Schedule (kindergarten classrooms):

8:00 School begins
8:10-10:15 Academic time
10:15-11:15 Lunch/Recess
11:15- 1:00 Academic time
1:00-1:45 Specials time
1:45-2:10 Academic Time
2:15-2:35 Recess
2:50 Dismissal

T Technology: We use iPads and a SmartBoard in our classrooms.

U Uniforms: Please look in the handbook on the St. Brigid website for a complete dress code and dress down day guidelines. (Boys do not need a belt in kindergarten.) Please label everything!
[Parent-Student Handbook 2025-26 \(updated 8.11.25\)](#)

V Volunteers: You must complete Protecting God's Children and be fingerprinted before volunteering or chaperoning . Please look at <https://stbrigidofkildare.org/welcome/about-us/safe-environment/> for more information.

Be sure to watch the Wolfhound Wednesday for opportunities to be involved in our school. We look forward to seeing parent volunteers!

W **Water:** We have a sink for refilling water bottles. Students should bring a child-sized **closed** water bottle to keep in the classroom. The bottle **must seal completely** and may only contain water. Guidelines for choosing a water bottle are in the handbook.
[Parent-Student Handbook 2025-26 \(updated 8.11.25\)](#)

X **eXtra TLC:** Events that happen at home can impact your child's day. Knowing what is happening in your child's family life will allow us to understand and support your child more effectively in the classroom. Please let us know if something happens at home that may affect your child. We are a team!

Y **You!** We both have the same interest – your child. Thank you in advance for all of your help and support this year!

Z **zzzzzz:** Kindergarten children need about 9 to 11 hours of sleep a night. Not getting enough sleep will impact your child's day. Your child will be tired after school, especially for the first few weeks, while he or she gets used to the school day. You are encouraged to plan a schedule that works best for your child and your family.

Kindergarten Curriculum

Religion

Trinity - God the Father, God the Son, God the Holy Spirit

Bible stories from The Old Testament

Creation Story

God's gifts to us

Saints

Angels

The Christmas Story

The life of Jesus

Bible Stories from the New Testament

Jesus as our friend

Living our lives as disciples/What would Jesus do?

Sin

The Stations of the Cross/Holy Week

Easter

Forgiveness

Divine Mercy

Pentecost

Mary, rosary

Heaven

Our strengths: Gifts from God

Prayer

Our Catholic faith/The Church

Clergy

Vocations

Caring for others near and far

Catholic Social Teaching

Christian Meditation

Lectio Divina

Examen

Intercessory prayer - intentions

An introduction to Salvation History

An introduction to Catholic Social Teaching

An introduction to Theology of the Body

Math

Identifying/Writing numerals
Counting/Comparing quantities
Building number sense
Understanding teen numbers - beginning of place value
Counting to 100
Composing/decomposing numbers
Ways to make 10
Addition/Subtraction within 10
Fact fluency within 5
2-D and 3-D shapes
Measurement
Problem solving

ELA

Fiction/nonfiction read alouds
Comprehension
Skills and strategies - predicting, retelling, connections, compare/contrast
Plot, characters, setting, problem/solution
Decoding, phonics, word work
Segmenting sounds in a word, spelling patterns
Sight words
Shared reading - reading together as a group
Child reads at his/her own level with teacher support, individually and in small groups
Independent reading
Guided writing - modeled writing with the class
Independent writing - writing workshop
Handwriting - correct formation, sizing, spacing
Phonemic Awareness
Vocabulary
Fluency

Social Studies

Time, personal history
Heritage, traditions, faith, religious celebrations
Symbols of our country
Maps and models
Individuals/group responsibility
Rules
Wants and needs
Goods and services

Science

Weather changes, seasons - air, temperature...
Moon, sun, stars
Living things - animals, plants, life cycles
Properties of objects
Noticing and sorting
Sound
Exploring God's world/Investigations

Health

Healthy food
Sleep/exercise/healthy habits
Safety
Respect for others
Respect for self
Feelings - self and others

Social/Emotional

Identifying and growing in executive functioning skills
Identifying strengths, gifts, talents
Independence/Asking for help
Self-regulation
Setting goals - Growth Mindset
Empathy
Participation
Positive citizenship
The Golden Rule
Respect

Responsibility

Social cues

Personal space

Communication

Friendship skills - sharing, including others, initiating...

Problem solving, solving problems in multiple ways, identifying the size of a problem

Matching reaction size to the size of the problem

Paying attention/Ready to learn

Opinions/reasons/listening to the opinions of others/using your voice

Flexible vs. "stuck" thinking

Making choices/decisions

Change/transitions

Expected and unexpected behaviors

Kindergarten Communication Plan

<p style="text-align: center;">DAILY</p> <p>Blue take home folder</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">WEEKLY</p> <p>Weekly updates via email from the teacher Wolfhound Wednesday online from the office</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">PERIODICALLY</p> <p>Photo Newsletters (link in the Wolfhound Wednesday)</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">HALFWAY THROUGH THE TERM</p> <p>Interim Reports: If a teacher needs to report an issue with academic progress or behavior between report cards, the parent/guardian will receive either an interim email or phone call.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">TERM</p> <p>Report Cards Homework sheets in the blue folder</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">THREE TIMES PER SCHOOL YEAR</p> <p>Student-led conferences are held in the fall, winter, and spring. Students discuss their learning with their parents. Students and parents/guardians then set goals for academic performance going forward.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">AS NEEDED</p> <p>Teachers are always available to answer questions or to discuss concerns. Please contact us via voice message or email and we will return your call or email within 24 hours. We are always happy to talk with parents.</p> <p>Please contact us at: mrs.stuart@stbrigid-school.org mrs.hare@stbrigid-school.org ms.katona@stbrigid-school.org mrs.gluntz@stbrigid-school.org mrs.rozanski@stbrigid-school.org </p>	

“Good two-way communication between families and schools is necessary for your student’s success. Research shows that the more parents and teachers share relevant information with each other about a student, the better equipped both will be to help that student achieve academically.”

Dear Parents and Guardians,

We would like to share information about our upcoming standardized tests for the year. These tests help our teachers monitor growth and areas for improvement, which also assist with informing instruction. We do ask that the students put forth their best effort so that we have an accurate representation of their growth and needs.

The tests that each grade will take are below:

- STAR Reading/Early Literacy (Kindergarten-8th Grade)
fall, winter, and spring (8/28-9/15, 12/4-12/19, 4/10-4/27)
- STAR Math (1st-8th Grade)
fall, winter, and spring (8/28-9/15, 12/4-12/19, 4/10-4/27)
- Third Grade Reading Guarantee (3rd Grade)
Fall window-October 13-31
Spring window-March 23-April 24
Summer window-June 22-26
 - Because we are an EdChoice Scholarship provider, and 65% or more of our students are recipients, all 3rd-grade students must take this assessment. **All EdChoice students ONLY must pass this assessment to be promoted to 4th grade.** Students have three opportunities to pass this assessment.
- ARK- Assessment of Religious Knowledge (2nd-8th Grade)
3/23-4/10
- State Science (5th and 8th Grade)
Testing window-March 30-May 8
- Algebra End-of-Course Exam (8th Grade- select students)
April 29th

Teachers will communicate specific testing dates for each grade level.

Additionally, we wanted to share the attached information with you:

- Test-Taking Strategies
- STAR Test Parent Guide
- ARK (Assessment of Religious Knowledge) Parent Letter

We hope that this information is helpful to you. Please let us know if

you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Jill Carfagna

Test-Taking Support

Some students experience stress and anxiety with test taking. Here are some tips that your child can use to set themselves up for success!

EAT A GOOD BREAKFAST

Children focus better when they have a hearty breakfast that includes protein and complex carbohydrates.



REMAIN POSITIVE Stay calm, and practice deep breathing/relaxation

techniques with your child.

BE PREPARED Have all your school

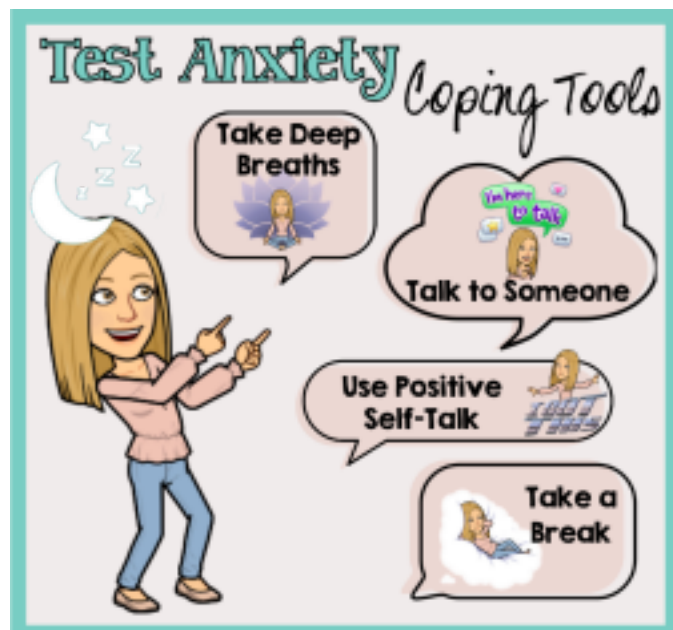


materials packed the night before school.

ARRIVE EARLY TO SCHOOL

Wake up 10 min. early for a stress free day!

GET A GOOD NIGHT'S REST-Aim for 8-12 hours.



Renaissance

Q: What are Star Assessments?

A: Star Assessments are short tests that provide teachers with learning data. Star tests are computer adaptive, which means they adjust to each answer your child provides. This helps teachers get the best data to help your child in the shortest amount of testing time (about one-third of the time other tests take).

Your child may take a Star test for early literacy, reading, or math.

Q: What do teachers do with Star Assessments?

A: Teachers analyze the data they get from Star Assessments to learn what students already know and what they are ready to learn next, to monitor student growth, and to determine which students may need additional help. Star Assessments are heavily researched and scientifically proven to help teachers guide each student on his or her unique path to mastery.

Q: What do Star Assessments do for my child?

A: By pinpointing exactly what your child knows, teachers can personalize your child's practice to keep them growing. Plus, short test times ensure your child spends more time learning and less time testing.

Q: How can I help my child with their Star Assessments?

A: The best way to help your child with Star Assessments is to help them understand why they are taking the test: So their teacher knows exactly how to help them learn! For anxious children, it may be important to tell them that they cannot fail a Star test—as long as they do their best, the data generated from the test will help their teacher teach them more great things!

Q: Where do I go if I have questions?

A: Your child's teacher is the best source of additional information about your child's progress with Star Assessments. Renaissance is committed to protecting student privacy and will not share data with anyone outside your child's authorized school staff.

ARK (Assessment for Religious Knowledge)

ARK is a short, multiple-choice survey that assesses your child's knowledge of the Catholic Faith. We are using ARK Religion because it:

- Helps us understand how well we are educating students in six main areas: the Creed, the Sacraments, morality, prayer, Christian discipleship, and virtue.
- Identifies what our schools are doing well and where we can improve.

ARK also contains a short, anonymous section that asks students if they believe and live out some of the teachings of the Catholic Faith. Data collected from this section is not tied to your child, and it does not impact your child's score. It serves only to help us understand where our school community is on its spiritual journey.



Track Religious Knowledge and Growth

Within six domains of the Catholic Faith:

- ✓ Sacraments & Liturgy
- ✓ The Creed & Salvation History
- ✓ Morality
- ✓ Prayer
- ✓ Virtue
- ✓ Living Discipleship

St. Brigid of Kildare

Special Event Security Plan

Effective Date: June 1, 2025

Event: [insert]

Event Date & Time: [insert]

Expected Attendance: [insert]

Needed Staffing: [insert]

Expected Parking: [insert]

Point of Entry and Visitor Access: [insert]

1. Purpose

- This policy establishes guidelines for visitors attending special events at St Brigid of Kildare to ensure the safety, security, and respect of school values.

2. Scope

- This policy applies to all non-staff visitors, including parents, guardians, alumni, community members, and external guests attending school-hosted events

3. Visitor Requirements

- All visitors must park in **(insert here)**.
- All visitors must come into and exit **(insert here)**.
- All visitors **must register** at **(insert here)**.
- Visitors will be notified as to when they are able to enter the building for an event **(Insert time here)**.
- Identification may be required for entry.
- Visitors must adhere to the school's code of conduct and respect Catholic values.

4. Access & Supervision

- Visitors may only access **designated areas (insert here)** approved for the event. **Visitors are not permitted in unauthorized areas including class hallways, classrooms, backstage, or loitering on the gym floor when visiting during the school day.** Along with helping to ensure a safe and secure environment, this decreases the disruption of learning in other

areas of the building. Unauthorized access, such as **classrooms or administrative offices**, is restricted.

- School staff or event coordinators **must supervise** visitors while on school property.

5. Security and Safety Protocols

- Security personnel, staff, and volunteers will monitor visitor activities to ensure compliance.
- Visitors must follow emergency procedures in case of evacuation or incidents.
- Suspicious or disruptive behavior may result in removal from the premises.
- If parents wish to take their student(s) home following the event, the student must be designated as a **car rider** with a **transportation change submitted by 10:00 a.m.** on the morning of the event. For safety and accountability, students will be dismissed with the regular car riders at the designated dismissal location. **Students may not be taken directly from the event.**
- If a parent wishes to have a sibling attend an event, the parent must come to the front office, sign they sibling out, go to the designated entry for the event with the child, and sign the child back in after the event. Parents are responsible for a sibling during an event.

6. Photography & Media Relations

- Refer to current guidelines.

7. Prohibited Conduct

- Visitors must refrain from bringing **weapons, illegal substances, or inappropriate materials.**
- Disruptive or disrespectful behavior towards students, staff, or guests will not be tolerated.
- Failure to comply may result in **denial of entry or immediate removal.**

8. Compliance & Enforcement

- The school administration reserves the right to deny entry or take appropriate action if visitors fail to adhere to the policy.
- Violations of this policy may lead to **further consequences**, such as restrictions on future attendance at events.

Our School Wide Goals for 2025–26

This year begins our new accreditation cycle, and with it, two important schoolwide goals that will shape our students' growth in faith and learning. Students will be introduced to these goals this year and will continue to build upon their knowledge and skills over the next four years.

Catholic Identity Goal: Human Dignity

Students will begin learning about *Human Dignity*—the belief that every person is created in God's image and deserves respect. Each year, this understanding will deepen as students connect their faith to their choices and actions.

"Human dignity is the same for all human beings; when I trample on the dignity of another, I am trampling on my own." - Pope Francis

Academic Performance Goal: Executive Functioning Skills

Students will also be introduced to *Executive Functioning skills*—the "tools for learning" that help them succeed in both academics and relationships. Over the next four years, students will build on these skills, moving from basic awareness to applying them more independently and confidently.

By connecting Catholic values with practical life skills, we aim to form students who are strong academically, faith-filled in spirit, and ready to lead with respect, kindness and responsibility.

Our School Mission Statement

The St. Brigid of Kildare School community, in order to know and live out our Catholic faith, seeks to nurture grace and wisdom. Each individual's unique gifts are developed through strong academic experiences focused on serving God and His kingdom.

Our School Belief Statements

- St. Brigid of Kildare is committed to building a community that knows and lives our Catholic faith**
- Each person is a valued gift from God and worthy of respect.**
- In order to be the best version of themselves, students benefit from a variety of instructional experiences while developing and using their unique gifts.**
- Students learn to integrate their gifts for moral decision making, critical thinking, and problem solving to build the kingdom of God.**

PARENT COMMUNICATION



Dear Parents,

Your child will be learning Theology of the Body (TOB) this year. These supplemental lessons will be taught alongside our religion curriculum. TOB is an understanding of what it means to be human. Together, we will discover the very foundations of our authentic identity as human persons created in the image and likeness of God, male and female.

Why are we here? What does it mean to love? How do we find real happiness?

Through prayer, stories, thought-provoking questions, and activities we will begin to explore the wonderful answers to life's questions through the lens of God's design, plan and purpose.

WHAT TOB IS...


TOB is an integral understanding of the human person developed by Pope St. John Paul II, published under the title ***Man and Woman He Created Them: A Theology of the Body***. These Scripture-based reflections about God's original design for the human person provide a needed Christian anthropology for our times. TOB conveys the inestimable worth and dignity of the human person and the road to happiness, which involves the gift-of-self, communion with others and with the Blessed Trinity.

WHAT TOB IS NOT...

- A chastity program
- Sex education
- Only focused on human sexuality
- A bunch of rules
- Just for married people
- Just for young people



The body, in fact, and only the body, is capable of making visible what is invisible: the spiritual and the divine. TOB 19:4

Stay up to date with the TOB lessons your child is learning in the classroom. Look for the  (leaf) at the bottom of your child's worksheets to see a summary of their current TOB lesson labeled "THEOLOGY OF THE BODY TIDBITS."

Want to learn more? Visit RuahWoodsInstitute.org/Parents to view a TOB parent presentation.



INTRODUCTION



WHAT IS THE THEOLOGY OF THE BODY?

The *Theology of the Body* (TOB) refers to the collection of 129 Wednesday Audiences, or short public speeches, given by St. John Paul II during the first five years of his papacy. TOB helps us to understand the very foundation of our identity created in God's image as male or female.

WHY DID ST. JOHN PAUL II WRITE TOB?

In 1968, Pope St. Paul VI wrote a letter to the world reaffirming the Catholic Church's understanding on married love and the role of the family in the world (*Humanae Vitae*).

It was clear that in order for people to understand God's plan on such a fundamental topic, we would need to approach it in light of a total vision of what it means to be a human person. St. John Paul II took it upon himself to give us this vision through TOB, derived directly from Holy Scripture.

WHO AM I?

From his divine love, God intentionally created you as a unique and immortal human person in his image and likeness. You are made of both body and soul united intimately together.

WHO IS GOD?

God is a Trinity. In the Trinity, we see God's secret revealed. "God himself is an eternal exchange of love, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, and he has destined us to share in that exchange." (CCC 221)

WHY DID GOD GIVE ME A BODY?

Your body isn't a worthless clump of cells or a cage for your soul. Your body is you and you are a gift! God invites you to share the gift of yourself with the world and all who live in it. By making an authentic gift-of-self to others, out of love, you make God's love visible here on Earth.

This is possible because you have a body. Your body reveals the call to holy union and communion and thus bears the mark of God's eternal love story!

WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF LIFE?

The purpose of your life is to make a loving gift of yourself to others and God. We struggle to give an authentic gift-of-self because sin has entered the world.

The good news is that God became man, so that you can be restored, redeemed, and one day divinized. The Eucharist is the taste of your heavenly future. Your body will be glorified and you will live in eternal union in heaven with other persons and God. So now, we push away sin and anxiety as we wait in joyful hope for the second coming of our Savior, Jesus Christ.

*We are not the sum of our weaknesses and failures;
we are the sum of the Father's love for us.*

—Pope St. John Paul II World Youth Day 2002



Lexia Core 5

Dear Parent/Guardian,

This year, your child will be using Lexia Core5 (grades K-5).

The activities in Core5 support and build on our classroom curriculum and focus on developing reading skills in six areas: phonological awareness, phonics, structural analysis, fluency, vocabulary, and comprehension.

Here's how Lexia Core5 Reading works:

- Your child begins Core5 at a starting point that fits their needs and works in online activities throughout the week.
- Online activities include direct instruction and feedback as your child learns new skills.
- Progress and performance in the program are reported so teachers can provide help when needed.
- Paper-and-pencil activities are also used for practice and may be done in school or brought home.

Lexia Core5 Reading can be used at home. Getting started is easy!

Use one of the following browsers: Chrome, Edge, Firefox, or Safari. (Internet Explorer is not supported.)

How to Log in through Clever:

1. Go to the Clever login page for St. Brigid - <https://clever.com/in/saintbrigidofkildare>
2. Have your child enter his/her login credentials.
3. Scroll to the Lexia app on Clever.



If using an iPad:

1. Download the free Lexia Core5 Reading.
2. Download the free Clever app.
3. Open the Clever app, and search for St. Brigid of Kildare School.
*Make sure you choose the one that does **NOT** say Diocese of Columbus.
4. Have your child log in using his/her credentials. Please see the label above.
5. Select the Core5 in the Clever portal.

For assistance with your student's login credentials, please contact **your child's homeroom teacher**.

For technical issues, please reach out to Kerinan Jordan at mrs.jordan@stbrigid-school.org

******You can view a help video here - <http://bit.ly/45Tt03w>

Please Note: Data privacy is important to us. For security purposes, student usernames and passwords are managed by St. Brigid of Kildare. Please contact your child's teacher or school if you don't know your child's username or password, or if your child cannot log in successfully.

Lexia Customer Support cannot provide you with your child's username, password, or teacher's email address, or help you log in on an unsupported device.