



FROM THE SCHOOL LEADERSHIP TEAM

Dear Parents, Carers and Community Members,

We welcome Fr Joseph back from his holiday this week and we begin our Lenten Journey following Ash Wednesday Parish Mass. Students will have a prayer in their classroom during the morning. We know that Lent is a time of preparing and waiting, this week we are invited to focus on some ways we can 'wait on others'.

Thank you for your understanding and patience during our health alert last week. Whilst it was not ideal to cancel our community events, the mass and welcome bbq, we did have a responsibility to minimize the potential for cross infections of the virus. We have also been advise that we cannot hold any community events while we have students sick with the gastro virus.

We are still working with Qld Health and updating them daily of any new cases of gastro in the school community. Should your child/children have any symptoms of this virus, we ask you to keep them at home and let us know that they have this particular virus. Please then refer to the guidelines emailed last week, specifically the exclusion period recommendations - should be for **48 hours after symptoms cease**.

We are enacting all recommendations from Qld Health to prevent the spread of this virus, including extra environmental cleans in all affected areas. I thank you for your understanding and cooperation in assisting us manage the outbreak.

Around Our School

Term 1 Week 4

13 February 2018

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Email: pvictoriapoint@bne.catholic.edu.au

Online: www.stritasvp.qld.edu.au

IMPORTANT DATES

Thurs 15 Feb Bayside District Swimming
Next Week Year 2 Excursion

School Goals 2018

Each year we reflect on work completed during the previous year and identify areas for growth. Our goals for this year are identified as the following under three areas of the Brisbane Catholic Education strategic areas of Excellent Learning and Teaching, Catholic Identity and Building a Sustainable Future.

Excellent Learning and Teaching Critical Challenge:

To ensure the continued progress of all students through responsive and precise teaching that targets identified needs.

- SMART Goal: By October 2018, 90% or greater of students in P-2 will be meeting PM Benchmarking targets in reading for their respective year level.
- 50% of Year 3 students will be in the top two bands for NAPLAN reading in 2018.
- By October 2018, 60% of students in Year 3-4 will be meeting writing analysis targets.

Catholic Identity Challenge:

- During 2018, we the staff at St Rita's are working with the two Capacities of Prayer and Welcome so that the staff develop a deeper understanding of the Formation Model and have opportunities for formation and deep personal transformation.

Building a Sustainable Future Challenge:

- During 2018 we will support continuous improvement and growth at individual and team levels through focussed Performance and Development Processes by implementing new approaches of individual goal setting meetings in Term 1 and review meetings in Term 3.



Uniforms

There has been much in the news in recent weeks about uniform policies of schools. We have a uniform policy and **expect all students to be in the correct uniform at all times**. Please refer to the [link](#) for uniform requirements for St Rita's. Shoes must be completely **black**.

If a student is out of uniform, a note to the class teacher from the parent/guardian is expected as a courtesy to explain the reason for the non-compliance and a timeline for when this will be corrected.

Jewellery - One sleeper or stud in each ear and a watch are acceptable.

The School has several 'Sun Safe Procedures' in place for the well-being of students. One such procedure is "No hat, no play". The student will have to sit out of play if they do not have their school hat.

Students' hairstyles should be clean and neat. **Colours and styles should not draw undue attention to the student**. Hair longer than collar length should be tied back. Scrunchies and ribbons are to be in school colours and are available from the uniform shop.

I appreciate your support in ensuring that your children are in correct uniform.

Phones and Devices at school

We know that many families opt to have students bring phones or other personal devices with them to school for safety or personal communication before/after school. In order to ensure that these are not used for purposes other than intended, devices must be kept in school bags. If a student has a device out of their bag during school time then these will be taken to the office and sealed in an envelope until collected at 3pm. I ask that you assist with ensuring your children's understand of this procedure.

With best wishes,
Carolyn



FROM APA

Play Pod Items

Just a brief reminder, following on from last week, that we'd like to hear from any parents or carers who might have some work connections that would give them free or low cost access to safe creative construction items such as plastic crates and tubs, foam and vinyl shapes, wooden blocks and offcuts, cable reels, tarps and cloth sheets etc etc which have no sharp points or edges. Some examples of existing items are shown below. If you think you can assist in this regard, please contact me (Brian Mason) via the school office, or email me details and/or photos bmason@bne.catholic.edu.au so we can discuss suitability and delivery/collection arrangements.



Have a great Week 4.

Regards,

Brian

FROM APRE

This week is a very busy week in the life of the Australian Church. On Tuesday we have Shrove Tuesday and the Anniversary of the Apology to the Aboriginal people. Then on Wednesday it is St Valentines Day and Ash Wednesday. Unfortunately due to recent health alerts we are unable to join the Parish Mass on Ash Wednesday.

Project Compassion – Mini Vinnies

Today, 4 members of our Mini Vinnies attended the Project Compassion launch at St Stephen's Cathedral.



We will share a story each week as part of project compassion and the Mini Vinnies will be raising money.

Ash Wednesday – Lent

Ash Wednesday is one of the most popular and important holy days in the liturgical calendar. Ash Wednesday opens Lent, a season of fasting and prayer.

Ash Wednesday takes place 46 days before Easter Sunday, and is chiefly observed by Catholics, although many other Christians observe it too.

Ash Wednesday comes from the ancient Jewish tradition of penance and fasting. The practice includes the wearing of ashes on the head. The ashes symbolize the dust from which God made us. As the priest applies the ashes to a person's forehead, he speaks the words: "Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return."

Alternatively, the priest may speak the words, "Repent and believe in the Gospel."

Ashes also symbolize grief, in this case, grief that we have sinned and caused division from God.

Writings from the Second-century Church refer to the wearing of ashes as a sign of penance.

Priests administer ashes during Mass and all are invited to accept the ashes as a visible symbol of penance. The ashes are made from blessed palm branches, taken from the previous year's palm Sunday Mass.

FROM PLL

Parents are always asking for and looking for ways to help their children and teachers are often asked "How can I help my child with their learning at school?" I have a suggestion below for a very powerful way you can help your child with learning. Please remember if you ever have a concern about your child and their learning or progress at school make a time with the class teacher to discuss this.

How can you help your child?

A strategy that would allow this to happen would be:

Reading To Your Child - Reading With Your Child - Reading By Your Child

How can you help your child?

Throughout the year the children will be bringing home a wide variety of texts of their choice. They will need differing levels of support from the significant people who read with them at home.

Read To-Read With-Read By

Read to the child	Read with the child	Read by the child
Appropriate ... If the text is challenging. As a way to inspire children to want to read. If it is a family favourite text.	Appropriate.... If the purpose is to engage the child with a text containing tricky concepts that are a little beyond the child's capabilities but manageable with help.	Appropriate.... If the child is confident with the text. If the child makes few mistakes, reads easily and has a solid understanding of the text. If the purpose is to build confidence and fluency in the child as a reader. If the purpose is for the child to experience success as a reader.



SPORTS NEWS



Quote of the week

'Don't cry because it is over, Smile because it happened' *Dr. Seuss*

District Swimming

Best of luck to our St Rita's Rep Swimmers who will compete in the Bayside District Swimming Trials' this Thursday. We look forward to hearing some great results!

Cross Country Training

Cross Country training will then be held on Monday, Wednesday and Friday mornings from 7.40 – 8.10am. Students are asked to meet Mr Kenyon under the covered area outside the tuckshop prior to 7.40am. Training is on offer to all students interested. See you there!

Touch Football

Once again, this year students are given the opportunity to play under the St Rita's name in the local Friday night Touch Football competition held at Cleveland showgrounds. This initiative cannot be run without its many volunteers from our community, so we ask if there are any parents willing to volunteer their time to manage a team on Friday afternoons to contact Mr Kenyon for details.

Teams have now been finalised and fees/registration are strictly due by this Thursday afternoon to avoid a forfeited match on Friday. We wish all those involved this season the best of luck!

District Sport Trials

If there are any students interested in attending the following trials on offer – please see Mr Kenyon ASAP. It is highly suggested/recommended that you are involved with a local club for these sports, have representative experience and display a high knowledge and level of skill.

1. 12yr Girls Netball (Nominations due 23 February)
2. 12yr Boys Rugby League (Nominations due 26 February)
3. 10-12yr Boys Basketball (Nominations due 27 February)

4. 10-11yr Girls Netball (Nominations due 28 February)
5. 10-12yr Boys AFL (Nominations due 2 March)
6. 10-12yr Girls and Boys Hockey (Nominations due 5 March)

ASSEMBLY AWARDS

CLASS	STUDENT
1L	Sebastian T
3K	Gemma S
3T	Charlotte T
3L	Billy N
3J	Owen B
4K	Mackenzie S
5K	Akaysha W
5L	Caitlin H

SCHOOL BANKING



Great news, you can now be rewarded twice a year for your great saving. To achieve an amazing \$10 movie voucher card all you need to do is bank 14 weeks throughout Terms 1 & 2. The \$10 movie voucher card will be rewarded to you in the last week of Term 2. With this voucher you can buy a movie ticket, popcorn, soft drink or anything you choose at the cinema!! Don't forget we still have a random weekly winner who will receive a bonus \$2 deposited into their account. This week our winner is Preston D (3L) - Congratulations!!

Please remember to update your child's new class on their banking books.

If you have any queries regarding St Rita's School Banking please feel free to pop in and see us at BOQ Victoria Point which is located at the food court end of Victoria Point Shopping Centre, call us direct on 3207 6133 or email us at victoria.point@boq.com.au Thank you and have a great week.



TUCKSHOP NEWS

Thursday 15 February

Tania Digby
Lisa Austin

2ND Break (12:30)

Tania Digby
?????

Friday 16 February

Maggie Helm
Louise Lowcock
Elaine Wilson

2ND Break (12:30)

Louise and Elaine



A very big thank you to Cate and Rhye for your help last Friday.

Please remember to clearly mark your tuckshop orders with 1st or 2nd break

If your child happens to be missing something from their order like a drink etc. please let them know they can come to the tuckshop straight away and we will fix it for them.

If you have any questions at all please do not hesitate to contact me.

Renee

UNIFORM SHOP

HOURS

Thursday	8.00 to 10.00am
Friday	8.00 to 10.00am



SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM

First Holy Communion Dates 2018

- Thursday 22 February 8am – 9am or 6pm – 7pm
Enrolment / Administration sessions
- Saturday 3 March 5pm or Sunday 4 March 9am
Rite of Enrolment Mass
- Monday 30 April or Thursday 3 May 6pm – 7pm
Family workshop – Carole Danby
- Saturday 12 May
Pottery Mill Workshop – MUST BE PRE-BOOKED
- Thursday 24 May 6pm – 7pm
Reconciliation in the Second Rite
- Friday 1 June 6pm – 7pm
First Holy Communion Rehearsal
- Sunday 3 June 9am
First Holy Communion Mass followed by Morning tea.



ENROLMENTS YEAR 7, 2020

Applications for enrolment for Year 7, 2020 are invited from parents of students who are currently in Year 5.

Carmel College's enrolment process for this year level will commence Term 2, 2018.

Enrolment information can be obtained via the Carmel College website www.carmelcollege.qld.edu.au or by contacting Mrs Donna Cook, Carmel College Enrolment Secretary on 3488 7791.

Applications are also being accepted for students currently in Year 4. These students will be the intake for Year 7, 2021.

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