

Newsletter Term 1 Week 2

Term 1 Week 2



39 Benfer Road VICTORIA POINT 4165

Ph: 07 3207 6628 **Fax:** 07 3207 6734

Email: pvictoriapoint@bne.catholic.edu.au

Online: www.stritasvp.qld.edu.au

For all absentees please log into the Parent Portal by clicking [here](#).

Office Hours: 8am - 3.30pm weekdays

OSHC: 0477 550 700

Parish Office: (07) 32079177

Click [here](#) for Parish Information & Mass Times

Important Dates!



- Friday 8 January 2pm - Opening School Mass
- Friday 8 January 4.30pm- Welcome BBQ
- Wednesday 13 - Friday 15 January - Year 6 Camp

Principal's Message



Dear Parents and Guardians,

Welcome to St Rita's for 2019 and to a new format for our newsletter. We are excited to be able to present this in an engaging format for you and hope like it. Thanks to Kelly Husted for working on the template for us.

Our year has begun in a calm and settled way, with all our students returning prepared and ready for learning. It is lovely to see students wearing the correct uniform shirts, hats, socks shoes and hair ties. Thank you for ensuring that they are all 'kitted out' correctly.

Prior to school commencing staff attended professional development days. The days covered consistency of curriculum expectations, processes and procedures, spirituality and formation and a seminar with Brendan Spillane on The Culture of Joy and Performance. Brendon is an acclaimed Australian educator, speaker and coach. These were great days of learning for our staff.

Staff

Over the holidays, Mrs Fiona Wilson made the tough decision to resign from teaching at St Rita's in order to continue to care for her invalid mother. We wish Fiona all the very best and will keep her mother in our prayers.

Following a recruitment process in January, we were able to employ Ms Annie Murray as Prep L teacher. I know you will join me in welcoming Annie to our community.

We also officially welcome Carmelle Willett 1L, Samantha Garrad 2L, Karen Sala 3L, Lisa Tuohey Support Teacher Inclusive Education (Upper Primary) and Mario Collavino PE teacher.

Our theme for this year is ***Know more, Do more, Be more as people of Welcome & Ritual in 2019.*** We will unpack this for you over the year.

Events this week

On Wednesday night we have our first **St Rita's Parent Network (SPN)** meeting. Everyone is invited to attend, we warmly welcome new members. The meeting will be held in the staffroom from 6.00 to 7.30pm.

Our **Welcome BBQ** is this Friday following our Opening of School Liturgy at 2.00pm. Flyers were sent out last week. We would love to see you all there. If we have rainy weather the bbq will be moved to the Unitas Centre and served from the verandahs.

Best wishes to you and your family,

Carolyn



From the APA



Greetings parents and carers. Thank you for a very positive start to the school year last week – it was great to see the students' smiling faces. Our students have settled in to their new classes well and our processes and systems seem to have kicked back into gear nicely. In keeping with our home-school partnership, I thought I'd share a little about our before and after school processes and expectations with you as parents.

Before and After School Expectations

Before school – We ask that the students arrive at school sometime between 8:00-8:30am. Before-school care is available at our OSHC if parents need their children to be here before that time. Formal supervision is provided 8:10-8:30. Students who arrive before 8:10 are to sit on the white seats near the deck and tuckshop. From 8:10-8:30 P-2 students are able to play under teacher supervision in the artificial grass area in front of the Admin Block and Years 3-6 students are able to play under teacher supervision in the Multi-court area and surrounds. School commences at 8:30am – students gather in their class lines at the 8:30 bell and move to class with their teachers.

After school – A bell goes at 3:00pm to signal the end of the school day. Once dismissed by their class teachers, students are expected to move directly to their designated arrangements for pick-up or going home. We offer formal supervision at our Drive-Thru Zone and at the bus stop opposite the school from

3:00-3:30pm each day. For the welfare of all of our students, this is our preferred location and we encourage our students to wait there for pick-up. Any students not collected by 3:30pm are brought back to the school office wait safely and parents are called. If you are delayed for any reason, please call the office to advise us of the situation.

Safety First! Drop Off and Pick Up of Students

Thank you to all our parents who have been using the street parking, car park or Drive Thru system correctly, safely and patiently. We encourage all families to do so every day, both in the morning for drop off as well as the afternoon for pick-up. When using the Drive-Thru, please proceed through the main carpark (Benfer Road entrance), staying under the **speed limit of 5km per hour** and using the left-hand lane to move around to the pick-up zone. **Drivers are required to remain in their vehicles at all times when using the Drive-Thru and to never leave a vehicle unattended in this area.**

It is dangerous for children to be exiting or entering cars in the carpark lanes and it impacts upon traffic flow. If you wish to leave your vehicle to speak to staff or collect your child(ren), please park in one of the spaces in the main carpark. Our **Disabled Parking spaces** are only to be used by people displaying the **appropriate permit** please.

A **staggered approach is ideal** in the afternoon, rather than everyone trying to pick up at 3:00pm. Staff are on duty in the Drive-Thru until at least 3.30pm. Parents / Carers arriving at 3.15 onwards usually have a clear run through. We understand that at times, you may be caught in a traffic jam somewhere. Please be assured that your children will not be left unattended.

For new families and as a reminder to our returning families, **please have your sign** visible on your **dashboard or sun visor** to assist our staff in the smooth operation of our Drive-Thru system. **The signs will be distributed later this week.**

St Rita's Safety Alerts

Last year we developed a series of three **"St Rita's Safety Alerts"** which are information documents outlining and explaining our various protocols, systems and expectations designed to keep all in our community safe. These can be found on the **Parent Portal** in **Forms & Documents – School Communications**.

I look forward to catching up with many of you at the welcome BBQ this Friday afternoon, or at some stage over the coming weeks.

Have a great Week 2.

Brian Mason APA

From the APRE



Welcome to the new school year. I am looking forward to a number of new initiates we have starting this year as well as continuing with already established practices. Some new Catholic Identity and Religious Life of the School activities that will occur. One initiative will be a House Mass each term linked to new names. Galway (Green) House will begin with a Mass for St Patrick's Day on Sunday 17 March.

We will hold our whole school Welcome Mass this Friday 8 February in the Unitas. All families are invited to attend, and it will be followed by our Welcome BBQ at 3.30pm.

Sports News



A thank you to all the parents, students and staff that have me feel so welcome to St Rita's already.

Any students that wishes to trial a sport at District could their parents please email me asap as some sports are trialing as early as next week. mcollavino@bne.catholic.edu.au

Information required;

a. Students name, class and D.O.B (must be 10,11 or 12 to trial 2007,2008 and 2009)

b.The sport they wish to trial and their experience with that sport. (Example: Soccer, club player, position centre forward, playing for 4 years).

Cross country training will be on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday morning with a 7.30am start on the oval.

I will kick it off this Thursday if that's not to early?

Important dates to remember:

Yr 6 camp 13,14 and 15th Feb,

21st Feb District Swimming,

4th March Whole school Cross Country,

8th March Bayside Catholic Sport Swimming,

21st March District Cross Country,

26th March Bayside Catholic Schools Cross Country.

Kind Regards

Mario Collavino

H.P.E Teacher

Tuckshop News



Thursday 7th Feb

?????????

?????????

2ND Break

?????????

Friday 8th Feb

Sharlene Spiller

?????????

2ND Break

?????????

The tuckshop rosters for Term 1 were sent home today.

If you are able to help in any way please do not hesitate to contact me.

Renee

E. renee.schafer@bne.catholic.edu.au, M. 0411 523 969

Uniform Shop



HOURS

Thursday 8.00 to 10.00am

Friday 8.00 to 10.00am

For Flexischools closure information, please see the attached flyer.

Parent Portal a one-stop-shop for parents to access information about events, announcements, forms, policies and your child's report.

Parent Portals



- Have you explored the Parent Portal?
- Did you know that you can check all of your contact details on the Parent Portal? You can either Confirm or Update your personal details so that we always have your most current contact details in our system.
- Did you know that your child's/ren report card/s are available for you to download from the Parent Portal?
- Did you know that you can report all student absences via the Parent Portal?

If you have any difficulties in accessing the Parent Portal, please do not hesitate to contact the school office on (07) 3207 6628.

BCE Connect Mobile App - Making it easier for Parents and Schools to connect.



BCE Connect provides a platform to securely access school information, making it easier to keep track of all things school related and stay in touch.

All Brisbane Catholic Education schools are available in **BCE Connect** and the app integrates with the schools Public Website, Parent Portal, Social Media platforms and Google Maps.

Log in to **BCE Connect** using your Parent Portal login credentials and '**favourite**' **St Rita's Catholic Primary School** to receive notifications direct from our school (ie. bus is running late from excursion).

BCE Connect is available to download from

- [Google Play](#)
- [Apple App Store](#)

The benefits of using BCE Connect include:

- **Easily access our new CLASS BLOGS!**
- **Connect to the Mater Dei Facebook page**
- **Access Parent Teacher Interviews site**
- **Stay connected, with up-to-date information and announcements**
- **Easily notify the school of a student absence**
- **Add school events or term dates to your personal calendar**
- **Quickly access school newsletters, tuckshop information, class events and more**
- **Access documents such as book lists, medication forms and school policy documents**

School Banking with Bank of Queensland



Banker of the Week

Congratulations to Audrey D you are the winner of a bonus \$2 deposited into your account today. Welcome back to St Rita's School Banking, we look forward to meeting you and helping you

achieve your savings goals! We will also continue our incentive programme, where all you need to do is bank a minimum 14 weeks this Semester and you will earn a \$10 movie voucher to Cineplex Cinemas. In the meantime, can you please make sure your books have been updated with your new class for this year to ensure a safe return of your banking books. Any questions please feel free to call us direct on 3207 6133, email victoria.point@boq.com.au or pop in and see us at Victoria Point Shopping Centre (food court end). Have a great week from BOQ Victoria Point!

SACRAMENTAL DATES

Please read the attached flyer for information regarding the Sacramental Program.

IONA COLLEGE ENROLMENT

Iona College Enrolment Applications are now being accepted for 2021 Year 7 and Year 5. For further information please click on the [link](#).