FROM THE SCHOOL LEADERSHIP TEAM

Dear Parents, Carers and Community Members,

We began our week with a beautiful Opening School Year Mass on Monday and it was lovely to see parents and parishioners join Fr Paul, students and all staff to celebrate our theme to Live in Hope – Live with Joy. We look forward to our first Parish Family Mass on Sunday 1 March at 9am.

It was great to see our Prep triplets’ photo in our local paper last week. All of our Prep students are settling in well and are now ready to wait on the seats before school begins. This will be in the shade sail area to the side. With our larger number in Prep this year, it will be too congested and possibly overwhelming to have all four of the year levels to Year 3 sitting on the seats outside the tuckshop. Well done Preps – Mums and Dads too!

Kate, Emily and Isabelle Kwiatkowski – Prep L

Assembly Reminders

Just a reminder that parents and caregivers are welcomed to attend our Year level assemblies in 2015. Assemblies will be held in the Unitas Centre.

Early Years assembly (Prep – Year 1)
Every 2nd Thursday afternoons at 2pm commencing in Week 5.

Junior Years assembly (Year 2 – 3)
Every 2nd Wednesday 2.30pm on even weeks commencing in week 4.

Daniel Morcombe Child Safety Curriculum

Our teachers participated in professional learning in January for Student Protection. Included in this program was an introduction and overview of the Daniel Morcombe Child Safety Curriculum. This is a wonderful resource to teach our children about personal safety and awareness, including cybersafety and phone safety. It focusses on three key safety messages: Recognise, React and Report. The Curriculum was developed in consultation with Bruce

IMPORTANT DATES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wed 11 Feb</td>
<td>2pm SPN Meeting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thur 12 Feb</td>
<td>Yr 4 Computer Rollout</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Frid 13 Feb</td>
<td>Yr 4 Excursion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mon 16 Feb</td>
<td>School Assembly, Yr 4 Bootcamp</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
and Denise Morcombe, the Commissioner for Children and Young People and Child Guardian and representatives from the Department of Education, Training and Employment, Queensland Police Service, and the Department of Communities, Child Safety and Disability Services, as well as experts in child safety education. We anticipate that these lessons will be implemented across this term and we will keep you informed as to when they will commence and provide supplementary parent resources. In the meantime you may like to go to the Qld Education Department Website and peruse the program:


When teaching the program, it will simply be referred to as Safety Lessons and become part of our teaching school expectations for Respect and Keep Safe Be Safe.

May God’s presence be known as we live in hope and live with joy in the coming week.

Anne

Project Compassion 2015

We had a wonderful first meeting of our year 4’s to 6’s Mini Vinnie children showing their dedication for our social justice initiatives this year. As we commence the Lenten season on the 18 February, the Mini Vinnies team will launch our Project Compassion for 2015. Project Compassion this year focuses on Food for Life. It throws a spotlight on global food issues and how Caritas Australia is empowering the world’s poorest people to establish sustainable food sources for life. Thank you in advance for supporting this worthy cause. More information can be found at http://www.caritas.org.au/projectcompassion

Parish & Family Mass

Planning is well underway for our community dedication mass on the 1 March. Thank you to those who have sent in emails wishing for their children to participate in the mass. If you would still like to be involved, please let me know kbillion@bne.catholic.edu.au

Religious Education Curriculum

Please keep an eye on our school website for curriculum planning updates on our religious education programming.

Reflection

The family is the privileged means for transmitting the religious and cultural values which help a person to acquire his own identity.

Founded on love and open to the gift of life, the family contains in itself the very future of society.

John Paul II

Have a wonderful week

Kevin

“If today we teach our children the same way as we taught them yesterday, we rob them of tomorrow!”

Yesterday we saw our Year 4 students excitedly set up their new 1:1 Surface Pro 3 Tablet devices. It was very pleasing to see the manner in which all students maturely took part in this process in what was a patience test for both teachers and students at times. Congratulations and well done to the all.

As mentioned last year, the 1:1 devices for our year 4 students has changed from previous years, moving from a Laptop machine to the latest tablet device (featuring Windows 8) which comes with a stylist pen to assist with operating the machine. For further information on the capabilities of the tablet, please visit: http://www.microsoft.com/en-au/tablet/?q=tablets

The Surface Pro 2 device was rolled out to our teaching staff 12 months ago. The feedback from all has been extremely positive with the teacher’s now having a comprehensive understanding of the machines and a 12 month head start from the students. This is critical in this day and age with many children becoming technology savvy from a very early age. We believe the use of the devices will continue to be a positive experience for our students and give them a solid grounding in this ever changing technological era that we live in.

All the very best

Shane
Quote of the week
‘Vision without action is merely a dream. Action without vision just passes the time. Vision with action can change the world.’
Joel A. Barker

District Swimming
Well done to all our St Rita’s Rep Swimmers who competed at the Bayside District Swimming Carnival on Monday. St Rita’s competed strongly across a multitude of events in each age division and did really well. Congratulations to Jerome (Y4) who was successful in qualifying for the District Squad for 50m Backstroke in PB time.

Cross Country Training
For all those interested – Cross Country Training starts this week (Friday Morning). Training is held on Monday, Wednesday and Friday morning from 7.50 – 8.25am. Students are asked to meet Mr Kenyon under the covered area outside the tuckshop prior to 7.50am. Training is on offer to all students interested. See you there!

St Rita’s Touch Football
Touch Football teams are still in the process of being finalised and students will find out what teams they are in soon. Due to the number of students interested we have had to limit our teams to only 2 per division.

Training for u/12’s teams will be held Mondays starting 16 February next week with first rounds commence Friday 20 February. Looking forward to a great season!

Scholastic Book Club brochures have been distributed. If you wish to place an order for issue 1, please send your order to Mrs Brownlie in the library by Friday 13 February 2015.

If you can spare an hour or two after drop off or before pick up your time would be appreciate to help cover new books in the library. Many hands make light work.

This week’s Banker of the week is Luke A, congratulations. Luke we have deposited $2 into your bank account.

School Banking is every Tuesday, however if you don’t make it on a Tuesday you can come into the branch and still be in the draw for Banker of the Week, just remind us that you’re doing your school banking. We’d love to see you and we’re even open on a Saturday until 12 so pop in and see us.

We’re open 9.30am Mon – Fri, 9.00am Sat , Closing times Mon – Thur 4.30pm, Fri 5pm & Sat 12noon. BOQ Victoria Point, Shop 23 Victoria Point Shopping Centre Ph 3207 6133

みなさん、こんにちは (Hello Everyone) By now, all Yr 4-6 classes should have had their first Japanese lesson. We are preparing to welcome visitors from Japan later this term and learning to introduce ourselves and ask others their name. If you are looking for ways to practise what has been learnt in class, visit http://oshiemasho.wikispaces.com/ for a wealth of resources connected to our classroom learning.

Wednesday 11th February
Linda Thorogood
Help Needed??

Thursday 12th February
Maria Kease
Monique Buzzolan

Friday 13th February
Geraldine Harper
Louise Lowcock
Kylie Holbeck
2ND Break
Help Needed?
It is great to see some new names popping up on the roster, it would help if we had at least 2-3 more for Fridays even if you just want to do 2nd break.

Each Term there will be a raffle for the Tuckshop Volunteers. When you do a day in Tuckshop simply fill out a ticket and put it the jar. One of the Leadership Team will draw a winner at the end of each Term.

Please check the new menu attached to last week’s newsletter as there are a few price changes which take effect this week.

We have attached a Suggestions Form to this week’s newsletter. Please feel free to fill it out and send it back to the school or you can email me directly with any suggestions. rsaleh@bne.catholic.edu.au

**UNIFORM SHOP**

<p>| | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>HOURS</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>8.00 to 10.00am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>8.00 to 10.00am</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**LEARNING SUPPORT**

Welcome back to another great year of learning. It has been terrific to see the students settling into their new classes, especially the preps and new students to St. Rita’s. Now that the teachers have had a few weeks to familiarise themselves with their class and the form of support that their students will require during term 1, the learning support and teacher meetings will commence this week. These meetings are paramount in sharing information about students to ensure they have a smooth transition from one year to the next and allow plans to be implemented for student progress. This may take shape in the form of intervention programs, literacy support, extension groups or maths investigation, just to name a few, and compliment the ongoing support and adjustments offered by the classroom teacher and the school officers on a daily basis.

**What is Giftedness?**

**QAGTC 2015 International Conference - Illuminating the Spectrum of Giftedness and Talent Development**

It is with great excitement that I inform you that the International Gifted and Talented conference is held at the Brisbane Exhibition Centre from the 19th to 21st March. This conference provides cutting edge research delivered by experts in the field of gifted and talented education and is designed for educators and parents. Please see the link below to access the schedule and registration details to attend this highly anticipated event.

Tuckshop
Suggestions, Comments

Do you have any suggestions on changes or new items to the menu? Do you have an idea for sports day? Any thoughts at all, no matter how big or small, they help us improve our service.

Please keep in mind that preparation time for food needs to be kept to a minimum.

If you would like me to contact you please leave your details below

Name..................................................................................................................................Phone................................................................................
Japan tour visiting St. Rita’s Primary School

Host families needed

Host Family Payment of $560

- 2 Students per Homestay at $80 per night
- For 7 nights from March 24th to March 31st.
- Students aged 10 to 13 yrs.
- No need to change your daily routine!
- The student can travel to and from school with your child.
- 24/7 Support in Japanese and English just a phone call away

Japanese students are a pleasure to host and it’s a great opportunity for your family to experience another culture and make an international friend.

Please contact:
Odette Clark
Mobile: 0418 677 498
Email: odette@logique.com.au

Join Now

Netball Players needed 8 years to seniors

Our club is looking for players to play on Saturdays at the netball courts at Thornlands. Seniors play on Mondays.

Registration is easy through our web page
www.thunderboltsnetball.org.au

More information 0413332960