FROM THE SCHOOL LEADERSHIP TEAM

Dear Parents, Carers and Community Members,

The light rain over the past days will be good for keeping our school nice and green. We trust that the postponement of our School Sports Carnival was not too much of an inconvenience – especially when many of our parents re-organise work schedules to attend. Making the decision early last Friday was a good opportunity to test our communication channels through the Parent Portal, BCE Connect APP, Twitter and ICLT email. To date we have approximately 250 parents who have registered and access the Parent Portal. If you are yet to do this, please email the ICLT email (from this newsletter) for assistance. It is essential in these functions that your mobile phone details are current as next term we will be implementing an SMS service to alert parents for any emergency or matters of urgency including unexplained absences for our students.

We have rescheduled the sports carnival for Monday July 20 (Week 2 of Term 3) and hope for fine winter weather at this time.

SPN – Family Fun Day
As the second term is winding up we look forward to some simple fun and enjoyment at the St Rita’s Family Fun Day this coming Sunday. This is a chance to get together and play some old fashioned games and share a picnic. Hopefully fine weather will prevail.

Safety in the Car Park and Drive-Thru
It is a timely reminder to please follow our safety expectations for the morning drop-off and pick-up. A number of parents seem to allow students to step out of cars alongside the tennis court and school entrance. There is a clearly marked yellow zone for no-stopping in this area. If you wish for your child/children to use this entrance, please park in an allocated space. Otherwise, proceed through the drive-through and exit this end. Our message is always SAFETY before convenience and are appreciative of most who adhere to this.

Anne

As the end of semester approaches, the teachers and leadership team have been preparing and reviewing individual students report cards. When reporting, teachers use the collection of evidence of selected student work to make an on-balance judgment about how well the evidence in student responses to the range of assessments best match the valued features of a learning area described in the achievement standards. The on-balance judgment represents the student’s achievement at the time of reporting. During the reporting process, we hope to communicate a snap shot of the level your child is achieving, the quality of that achievement and where their learning needs to be directed in the future to support progression. If your child is achieving at the expected standard, this level is very deserving of praise, admiration and encouragement. They are completing work and understanding concepts at the level that the Australian Curriculum has described for them. Achieving at more than the expected level may indicate an area of strength for your child as they demonstrate a depth of understanding, sophistication of skill and/or application of knowledge that goes beyond that described in the
expected achievement standard. These subjects may be the ones that your child really enjoys and gets motivated by. Encouraging your child to explore and take risks in their particular areas of strength is of course highly beneficial. The report card is one way to build school parent partnerships and the article on reading your child's report provides some further useful information. Report cards are going home next Tuesday 23 June and you are encouraged to make contact with your class teacher if you wish to discuss your child’s achievements and learning progress.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Achievement:</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Well above the expected standard</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Above the expected standard</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>At the expected standard</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Below the expected standard</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Well below the expected standard</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Unexplained absence** - Starting next Semester, parents will receive an automated text from the office if your child is absent from school and the office has not been notified. Could you please ensure that if your child is absent from school that the office is contacted before 8:45 am on the day so this can be recorded as an explained absence. There are multiple ways to contact the office for student absences: Parent Portal (quick link now on public website) and the absentee line on 3207 6628 extension 3. Many thanks for your attendance to this important task as we continue to monitor student wellbeing.

Best wishes for the week ahead,
Kevin

A reminder that this Sunday the 21 of June is the St Rita’s Family Fun Day. Begin the day with the School and Parish Mass at 9am. Followed by fun and games on the oval from 10:30 am – 1pm. Bring a picnic lunch and a blanket and chairs.

**Rosies and BABI Appeal**
The Mini Vinnies are doing a terrific job leading our community in this important winter appeal which supports the homeless and disadvantaged here in the Redlands. Thank you for your support during this appeal and please keep those donations rolling in.

**Vinnies CEO Sleepout**
This Saturday the 18 June holds that date for the Annual Vinnies CEO Sleepout. This is an evening where CEO’s from across the country sleep out in their home town after fundraising to not only provide crucial assistance to people experiencing homelessness but to make inroads to addressing the very cause of homelessness with the aim of breaking the cycle permanently for as many people as possible. Pam Betts the Executive Director of Brisbane Catholic Education will again take part in this event. If you would like to find our more information visit [https://www.ceosleepout.org.au/](https://www.ceosleepout.org.au/)

**World Refugee Week**
This week is Refugee Week an annual event in Australia to raise awareness about the issues affecting refugees and to celebrate in the positive contributions that refugees make to Australian Society. This year’s theme is ‘With courage let us all combine.’ [http://www.refugeeweek.org.au/](http://www.refugeeweek.org.au/)

Pope Francis says: “Migrants and refugees are not pawns on the chessboard of humanity. They are children, women and men who leave or who are forced to leave their homes for various reasons, who share a legitimate desire for knowing and having, but above all for being more.”

Have a wonderful week.
Jess

**SPORTS NEWS**

**Athletics Training**
It’s that time of the year again! For all those students interested in training with ‘Sprints’, ‘Shot-Put’ and ‘LongJump’:

Monday – Sprints
Wednesday – Shot-Put
Friday – Long-Jump

Please wait for Mr Kenyon in the Tuckshop area at 7.50am on those mornings to be escorted to the designated area on oval for training to take place.
**Age Championship Events – Nominations now open**

Nominations are open for students aged 10yrs and older. Nominations can be found under ‘Student Portal’ in the sports section. If you need assistance in nominating – please see Mr Kenyon on Wednesdays during Lunch.

*Events you can nominate for:* 800m, Long-Jump, High-Jump and Shot-Put. (800m will be held on the morning of our carnival 15 June).

Nominations will close Friday June 13, 8.00pm.

**St Rita’s Touch Football**

Season 1 for Touch Football is coming to a close and I would like to congratulate the students on how well they have played over the last few months. A special thankyou to all the parents and members of the school community who have attended games week after week and supported them. Also to Mr Anthony Fernando, Mr Dennis Winterburn and Mrs Wendy Anderson for their voluntered time and effort in coaching/managing their teams on Friday nights. Your help and assistance is invaluable.

Season 2 will not start until early Term 3. If positions become available and students are interested in playing – please see Mr Kenyon.

**LEARNING SUPPORT**

**Sharing Stories**

This week it is my pleasure to share Jemma S writing entry (5L) that she has submitted into the Young Journalist award competition. Jemma interviewed her dance teacher as her source of inspiration, and has completed an articulate and enjoyable piece of writing. Well done Jemma!

*Tahlia Brettel*

Tahlia Brettel started dancing when she was three years old and then when she was five, she was put in Ballet.

_Tahlia says, “The only thing that was difficult when I was starting out was my technique.”_

Tahlia is a very flexible and strong sixteen years old. She helps us to fix our mistakes in our routines and strengthen our core muscles so we can hold our posture better. She teaches us new tricks and tips to make us the best dancers we can be.

Tahlia has been the best dancer for her age in all of Australia for three years in a row.

_Tahlia spends about 40 hours a week in dancing and 10 hours a week at her local gym._

Tahlia enjoyed dancing and she still dances to this exact day.

_“I guess I just like performing and being on stage for people.” she quoted._

She is mine and almost one hundred other girls’ dance teacher along with her mum and her older sister, Alana.

Her favourite quote is

_’The best way to predict the future is to create it.’ - Abraham Lincoln_

Tahlia inspires me to become a better dancer. She encourages me to work hard and put in all I can. I am working towards being a dancer like Tahlia Brettel.

**Year 1**

This term year 1 have been learning about weather and a small group of students have been extended on this topic by discussing the water cycle. This has given these students the opportunity to discover words such as evaporation, condensation, precipitation and collection and to gain a deeper understanding of how these things work together. These students have prepared an interactive presentation to deliver to year 1 this week as a way to consolidate their learning, and also as a valuable opportunity for year 1 to engage in collaborative learning facilitated by their peers. They are really looking forward to showcasing their ‘water cycle’ skills.

Have a great week,

Wendy Anderson.
**ASSEMBLY AWARDS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class</th>
<th>Student</th>
<th>Award</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3K</td>
<td>Manveer S</td>
<td>For being honest and willing to ask for help when you do not understand something. You inspire learning by asking questions and always trying your best with set activities. Well Done!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Annie W</td>
<td>For getting involved in our class activities and offering to read our morning prayers and various other texts in class. It is wonderful to see you becoming more confident as a reader and speaker. You have shown determination and persistence. Well Done!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3T</td>
<td>Teagan M</td>
<td>Amazing work Teagan!! You take such pride in your work, complimenting each activity with an amazing illustration. Your attention to detail INSPIRES OTHERS to be creative like you. Well Done!!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Alice C</td>
<td>Fabulous Work Alice!! You work consistently in all parts of the school day, showing dedication towards your learning and demonstrating a wonderful work ethic. Thanks for being an excellent role model and showing everyone what INSPIRES LEARNING looks like. Amazing!!</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**MUSIC NEWS**

Congratulations to the students who participated in the Redland’s Ukulele Festival. By all accounts, it was a great performance, the students did a fantastic job! The audience were singing and toe-tapping by the end of their performance!

Congratulations also to Levi W (1L) who came 2nd in the Ukulele Festival colouring-in competition for his age group. Well done!

Yr 6 Ukulele club will be performing as part of the Junior Assembly this Thursday.

Coming up.......Redland’s Eistedfodd, QCMF, St Rita's Got Talent.

Paul Tyrrell

**NIHONGO NOTES**

みなさん、こんにちは (Hello Everyone). More apps that are free and suitable for students wanting to practise reading and writing Japanese are the ROBO series of apps created by Masahiro Mizutani. The full list can be found here: https://itunes.apple.com/au/artist/masahiro-mizutani/id368158224

**TUCKSHOP NEWS**

Wednesday 17th June
Trish McNamara
Geraldine Harper

Thursday 18th June
Linda Thorogood
Jane Reinhold

Friday 19th June
Louise Lowcock
Michelle Kotynski

Congratulations Elliot C. You are the lucky weekly winner, a bonus $2 will be deposited in your account. Don't forget your banking in on Tuesday's! Have a great week from the team at BOQ Victoria point 3207 6133.
Sports day menu is active on Flexischools. Please re-enter your orders to set and forget. If you have any queries about Sports Day please do not hesitate to contact me.

Please remember if you are putting money in 1 bag for both breaks please make sure it is put in 1st breaks bag. This will save a lot of time and make sure your child can be feed on time.

Email: rsaleh@bne.catholic.edu.au or 0411 523 969

**UNIFORM SHOP**

**HOURS**

Thursday 8.00 to 10.00am
Friday 8.00 to 10.00am

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**Bishop Colin Campbell to visit St Rita’s Praise & Worship Prayer Group**

Catholic Charismatic Renewal (CCR) invites you to explore Who we are and whose we are. Whose DNA do you have? What is your identity—clothed in Christ. Special guest speaker Bishop Colin Campbell, has been involved in Catholic Charismatic Renewal since 1971 and National Chaplain for the renewal in New Zealand since 1998. He was consecrated the sixth Bishop of Dunedin in 2004. He has found great strength and support in belonging to a prayer group and feels drawn to choose the words ‘In the Spirit’ as his motto. He is a truly inspired and inspiring Preacher of the Scriptures.

When: Tuesday 7 July 2015
Venue: St Rita’s Church,
Time: 7.00pm
Contact: John Evans 3207 8874 or Angela Clarke 0407 674 373
Supper provided and a love offering for Bishop Campbell will be taken up.

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**Asthma? Allergies? Ask the Experts!**

Asthma Foundation Queensland is hosting an ‘Ask the Expert’ session for parents of children with asthma or allergies. The session will provide parents with the invaluable opportunity to learn more about their child’s asthma or allergies, and to have their questions answered by experts in the field. Details for the session are below:

**Date:** Wednesday 29th July
**Time:** 6:30pm—8:00pm
**Venue:** Meeting Room, Carina Leagues Club
1390 Creek Road, Carina QLD 4152
**Cost:** FREE

Registrations can be made online at asthmaaustralia.org.au or by phoning 1800 ASTHMA (1800 278 462). Registration includes a ‘goodie’ bag and light refreshments.

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**PIRATES and Princesses Family Day Out**

**All Ages**

**Saturday June 20th**
10:00am-11:00am
Cleveland Library
Bloomfield Street
With winter fast approaching and the nights getting colder, spare a thought for those in our community who are most in need. The St Rita’s Mini Vinnies are hoping for your help to collect the following to provide both Rosies and BABI with some basic resources.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year Level</th>
<th>Items Collecting…</th>
<th>Mini Vinnies Reps</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Prep</td>
<td>Small size toiletries (Mini deodorant, shampoo, toothpaste, toothbrushes etc.)</td>
<td>Madi, Amber &amp; Eboni 5T</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 1</td>
<td>Coffee, Cuppa Soups, Long life milk</td>
<td>Tyler-Jaye 4K, Kalin 4L</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 2</td>
<td>Baby Food</td>
<td>Lara 4T &amp; Madi 4L</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 3</td>
<td>Biscuits</td>
<td>Makayla &amp; Beibhin 4K</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 4</td>
<td>Tinned meals/ soups/ vegies, Small cans of tuna and baked beans</td>
<td>Scouff &amp; Lily 6T</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 5</td>
<td>Pasta, Pasta Sauce, Tomato/ BBQ Sauce</td>
<td>Carlyle 6T &amp; Laura 6L</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 6</td>
<td>Cheese and Biscuit Snacks, Cereal Bars</td>
<td>Keira &amp; Luti 4L</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Staff</td>
<td>Cleaning products</td>
<td>Hayden 6L</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Please set aside an item or items and send them to school with your child. These will be collected from their classroom and forwarded to Rosies and BABI.
Join in the fun at St Rita’s

FAMILY FUN DAY
Sunday 21st June

School & Parish Mass at 9am

Fun & Games 10.30am – 1pm (on the oval)
BYO picnic lunch, drinks, seating/blanket etc

Egg & spoon race
Tug o war
hula hoops
3 legged race
Sack races

Please contact Annalise Travers 0435568836 or Lisa Broughton 0416063277 if you are able to help on the day with supervising/organising games
Reading your child’s report

Reports can mean anxious times for children. Will my parents be disappointed or proud? This is the main concern of most children.

Could try harder . . . always does her best . . . lacks concentration . . . easily distracted . . . a pleasure to teach . . . Do these comments, taken from a batch of student reports sound familiar?

Student reports bring mixed feelings for parents. Pleasure and pride if they are performing well but considerable angst when children are not progressing as you hoped.

Reports can mean anxious times for children too. Will my parents be disappointed or proud? This is the main concern of most children. Kids of all ages take their cues from their parents, so your reaction to their school report can affect the way they see themselves as learners and as people.

Before you rip open the sealed envelope containing the report do a little self-check to see if you are in the right frame of mind:

1. Are your expectations for your son or daughter realistic and in line with their ability?

Expectations are tricky. If they are too high then kids can be turned off learning. Too low and there is nothing to strive for. Pitch your expectations in line with your child’s abilities. A quick check of your child’s last report cards may provide you with a good yardstick.

2. Do you believe that children learn at different rates?

There are slow bloomers, late developers and steady-as-you-go kids in every classroom, so avoid comparing your child to siblings, your friends’ children and even yourself when you were a child. Instead look for individual progress.

3. Are you willing to safeguard your child’s self-esteem rather than deflate it?

Self-confidence is a pre-requisite for learning, so be prepared to be as positive and encouraging as possible. School reports come in different formats. Some are prescriptive while some use grading systems such as A, B, C, etc. with room for teacher comments. Regardless of the format school reports should provide you with an idea of your child’s progress in all subject areas, their attitude and social development.

Here are some ideas to consider when you open your child’s report:

Focus on strengths

Do you look for strengths or weaknesses first? The challenge is to focus on strengths even if they are not in the traditional 3Rs or core subjects.

Take into account your child’s effort and attitude to learning. If the report indicates that effort is below standard, then you have something to work on. If your child is putting in the required effort, then you cannot ask any more than that, regardless of the grading.

Broaden your focus away from academic performance to form a picture of your child’s progress as a member of a social setting. How your child gets along with his or her peers will influence his happiness and well-being, as well as give an indicator to his future. The skills of independence and co-operation are highly valued by employers so don’t dismiss these as unimportant.

Take note of student self-assessment

Kids are generally very honest and will give a realistic assessment of their progress. They are generally very perceptive so take note of their opinions.

Discuss the report with your son or daughter talking about strengths first before looking at areas that need improvement. Ask for their opinion about how they performed and discuss their concerns.

After reports are read and discussed celebrate your child’s efforts with a special activity or treat. In this way you will recognise progress and remind them that the holidays are just around the corner when they can forget about assessment, tests and reports for a while.