FROM THE SCHOOL LEADERSHIP TEAM

Dear Parents, Carers and Community Members,

As we approach the end of our first Semester, I am enjoying reading the student reports that will be issued next week. It is a pleasure to read the comprehensive evidence of students making good progress in their learning – academically, socially, spiritually and physically.

On all accounts, the St Rita’s Sports Day was a great success and we congratulate Mr Kenyon on a fine effort to ensure the running of the day was both enjoyable and enabled our students to participate inclusively and competitively. Great to see a few school records tumble!

Winterfest is upon us and school life is particularly busy this week as we prepare for this magnificent yearly event. When enrolling new families, it is not uncommon for them to have already marked this date in their calendars as an enjoyable introduction to our school community. We look forward to another successful day worthy of the hard work that our team of committee organisers and stall convenors have already invested to ensure all is ready.

Congratulations Ms Heshusius!
This Wednesday evening, we will be supporting Ms Amy Heshusius in her nomination for a Brisbane Catholic Education Excellence Award – Teaching RE. Amy is a most worthy finalist for this award. It is with mixed emotions that we also congratulate Amy for her appointment as Acting APRE at St Mary MacKillop School at Birkdale. This appointment will now be extended to the end of 2014. It is no surprise that the St MMK community have embraced Amy and she is thriving in this leadership opportunity. While she is very much missed here at St Rita’s, we wish Amy many blessings and rewards as she pursues this leadership opportunity that she is well suited to.

A pleasing note is our welcome to Mrs Therese Rae to our teaching community. Mrs Rae brings a wealth of experience and is transitioning into the Year 4 teacher role seamlessly to ensure the continued progress of learning for our students.

Welcome to Lismore Diocese Teachers
This week we have four excellent teachers and leaders of learning from the Lismore Diocese participating in a professional learning school visit. The aim of this initiative is for the four teachers to spend quality time in a school in Brisbane Catholic Education that is known for contemporary and exemplary practices. St Rita’s community is honoured to be involved in this program and we look forward to the reciprocal benefit of sharing best practice and reflecting on our initiatives.

We welcome Amy Rodda from St Francis Xavier School, Ballina; Abbie Matthews from St Mary’s School, Casino, Vanessa McFadden from St Carthages School, Lismore and Vanessa Crouch from St John’s School, Mullumbimby.

Looking forward to seeing you at Winterfest. May God’s peace and blessings be with you in the coming week.

Anne

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 ‘Restoring
Hope’. Friday is World Refugee Day, on this day we pray Dear Brothers and Sisters, you who yourselves are migrants, may this world day help your trust and hope in the Lord who is always at our side - Benedictus PP. XVII. If you would like to read more about his please visit http://www.acmro.catholic.org.au/index.php?option=com_content&view=category&layout=blog&id=6&Itemid=10 or http://www.refugeeweek.org.au/index.php

Sacramental Students
Please continue to keep our sacramental students in your prayers as they are continuing on their journey towards receiving the sacraments of Confirmation and Eucharist next month. They have finished their lessons on confirmation and have moved on to learning about the Eucharist.

Minni Vinnies
At yesterday’s whole school assembly representatives from our Minni Vinnies team proudly handed over a cheque of $1704.85 for our fundraising efforts for Caritas. The students in Minni Vinnies along with Mrs Hill and Mrs Davison have worked together to organise events and encourage our school community to donate this money. A reminder that the Minni Vinnies latest initiative is to work with the Rosie’s and BABi Appeal which occurs annually during winter to support disadvantaged youth in our community. Each grade is collecting various non-perishable items to contribute to the appeal.

Year 6 and Parish Mass and Year 4 Liturgy
This Thursday 19 June the year 6 students will be celebrating mass at 9:00am. Fr Leo is looking forward to his last year mass with the students of St Rita’s before his retirement. Then following this, next week on Tuesday 24 June at 9:00am the year 4 students will take part in a Liturgy of the Word involving the theme of community. This term they have been studying what a community is and what it means to be part of a community. It would be lovely if you could join us in prayer at one of these important events in our school life.

I look forward to seeing you all on Saturday at Winterfest in celebrating a day of St Rita’s community spirit.

Jessica Hill

As the end of semester quickly approaches the students and teachers of St Rita’s have been completing assessments of this terms work. The teachers then collate these results with other samples of work from that subject area to form a body of evidence. This body of evidence is made up of work samples, formal assessments and professional observations of the students completing designated tasks. From this the teachers are able to make a judgement to give an overall mark for the subject for the current semester.

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<th>Achievement:</th>
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<td>Above the expected standard</td>
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<td><strong>At the expected standard</strong></td>
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<td>Below the expected standard</td>
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<td>Well below the expected standard</td>
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If your child is achieving at the expected standard, this level is very deserving of our praise, admiration and encouragement. They are completing work and understanding concepts at exactly the level that the Australian Curriculum has prescribed for them.

Achieving at more than the expected level may indicate an area of strength for your child. These subjects may be the ones that your child really enjoys and gets excited about. Talking to your child about practising their areas of strength to master this area is highly beneficial. Why not be great at the things that give us energy and we are good at?

This is not to say we ignore the other areas of schooling where we have not achieved as highly as we would have liked, they to deserve time and energy. It is more likely that children will excel in their strength areas which may lead to not only job opportunities but a happy and fulfilled work life.

All the very best
Shane

**IMPORTANT FEE NOTICE**

Fees are now overdue and prompt payment would be appreciated. Please forward you payment by then end of the term. If you have any concerns please contact the school office immediately.

As from Term 3 School Fee Statements will no longer be printed and mailed. These statements will be emailed to each family. Please ensure you have notified the school office of your current and correct
email address. If you have not notified the office of your email please do so by the end of term 2. Thank you for your co-operation in this matter. An email can be sent to stritasict@bne.catholic.edu.au to have your details updated.

Krys Kuropka
Finance Administrator

ST RITA’S RANGERS - ADOPT-A-SPOT

When you visit our school in the near future, you will see new 'Adopt a Spot' signs located around the school. SO WHAT DO THEY MEAN?

Last year we received an amazing award from KEEP QUEENSLAND BEAUTIFUL, when we were given a two star and accredited, 'Queensland's most improved school'. To continue on from this each class has chosen an area around our school grounds to keep clear from unwanted rubbish and paper.

Classes are working hard to ensure that every piece of rubbish goes into the right bin even if it’s not their own. Working towards a litter free school. Every week over a three week period students from the St Rita's Rangers, Sustainability club will inspect the areas and the class with no rubbish awarded a gold star for their efforts, which is displayed on their sign. The class with three consecutive stars will be the winners of this challenge and announced at the next Monday assembly.

So when you are in school or at church please help support us by choosing the dispose of your rubbish in the right bin, recycle or rubbish.

As part of our role as Learning Support teachers, we are engaged in gifted education and the current literature that surrounds it, to ensure that all our students are given the best opportunity to flourish. Every three months I look forward to receiving 'Mindscape,' the Official Magazine of the Queensland Association for Gifted and Talented Children, for this very reason.

While reading the current volume this weekend, I came across one website that particularly grabbed my interest, as it provides high quality information on a variety of key elements of giftedness, not only on the academic, but also the equally important social aspect.

This website, created by the National Foundation for Gifted and Creative Children, aims to raise public awareness, answer key questions and overall provide information to the parents of gifted children by focussing on topics such as, keeping children challenged, dealing with underachievement in gifted children and addressing twice exceptional giftedness; that is being gifted with special needs. It also provides additional information on areas previously explored in our Learning support section, such as perfectionism and the fear of taking risks, uneven development and heightened sensitivity.

Providing information and resources, hot topics on giftedness and an introductory course that seeks to answer practical questions, such as ‘What is giftedness?’ and ‘Why do we need gifted education?’ this website is definitely one to explore for parents with a keen interest in providing for high potential learners. Check it out! [http://www.nagc.org/]

ASSEMBLY AWARDS

The following students who received Gus Gotchas at this week's Early Years assembly:

PK - Levi, Cooper, Darcy, Fionn, Lachlan, Sebastian, William, Tia, Tamika.

PT - Abigail, Laurel, Aleesha, Ellie-May, Charlotte, Marc, Baxter, Michael, Nate, Jack, Ashley.


1K - Jessica, Ashlee, Jayde, Ella.

2K - Annie, Ashleigh, Sam, Alice, Seth, Imogen.

2T - Lachlan B., Tatiana, Brandon, Gemma, Lachlan G.

2L - Eva-Rai.

LEARNING SUPPORT

What is Giftedness?

“It is not enough to prepare our children for the world; we also must prepare the world for our children.” We owe it to ourselves and to future generations to help prepare the world of education for gifted students.’

Luis. J. Rodriguez
**3K**

Bethany E  
For your great collaboration in your science group. You were a great team member in science today! Awesome!

Ethan S  
For inspiring learning in your science group. You worked well in your team today. Awesome effort!

**3T**

Fletcher W  
Amazing Work Fletcher. You treat everyone with kindness and consideration. You are always willing to help others in a caring and thoughtful way. Your RESPECT for others is to be commended. Great Work!!!

**3L**

Arabella O  
Arabella is a hard-working student who always gives of her best. Her work displays excellent concentration and a high level of effort. Fantastic work!

Sophie D  
Sophie is a considerate girl who shows care for other students. In the classroom, she works very hard to ensure that she always does her best. Well done Sophie!

Josh F  
It is wonderful to see how hard Josh is working this term! He certainly enjoys Maths and loves contributing. Recently, his handwriting and presentation of work have also improved. Well Done!

**4K**

Isobel S  
For always showing a responsible attitude towards her work and doing her best. Well done, Isobel!

Toby I  
For working hard on his African powerpoint. Great effort, Toby!

Bailey C  
For giving thoughtful and insightful answers during discussions in our history unit. Good thinking, Bailey!

Mia T  
For always being organised and ready to start her work. Keep up the good effort, Mia!

**4T**

Ella S  
For consistent effort in producing quality work. Well done, Ella!

Lucas H  
For being the quiet achiever! So much effort into fabulous, accurate work and always with a smile too!

**4L**

Joshua C  
For inspiring learning with your positive attitude towards learning new things. It is fantastic to see you participating in class to share your ideas.

Ethan H  
For inspiring learning with your positive attitude towards improving your learning. It is wonderful to see your growing confidence while you are reading.

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**NEWS FROM THE RESOURCE CENTRE**

**MS Readathon!**

St Rita’s students have always supported this great cause over the past years, and this year will show that we can connect to reading and help others at the same time. Register online at [http://msreadathon.org.au](http://msreadathon.org.au) and if you join before the end of June, there are some great incentive prizes to be won.

Reading takes place from 1-31 August, during our Book Week celebrations! So join online now to be part of the fun.....and help those who suffer from MS!

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**YEAR 6 EXCURSION**

On Thursday 5 June the students in Year Six visited Queensland State Parliament and later the Queensland Museum. When we got there we sat down and watched a power point with information about Parliament. Then we went on a tour around most of the areas and it was interesting to look at what the rooms looked like inside. Overall it was a great experience.

By Jayda & Eden 6K

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**SCHOOL BANKING**

The Bankers of the week are Grace C, Brandon D and Noah B, congratulations you have won $5 towards a show bag at Winterfest. We have put the gift vouchers in your School Banking books.
Have fun at Winterfest everyone and please stop by the Slushie stand and say hello, we’d love to see you. We’re open 9am Mon – Sat, Closing times Mon – Thur 4.30pm, Fri 5pm & Sat 12noon. Pop in and see the friendly team, we’re always happy to have a chat and help with any of your banking needs. BOQ Victoria Point, Shop 23 Victoria Point Shopping Centre - Ph 3207 6133

**WINTER WARM UP!**

On Tuesday 24 June the students of Year Six will be visiting all classrooms selling delicious, warm milo. The yummy treat will be served in recyclable cups for a gold coin donation. Funds raised from this event will be donated to Rosies to support their ongoing services and in particular the provision of ‘Backpack Beds.’ We are able to supply soy based milo for those who are lactose intolerant. We will be collecting donations on Friday 20 June, please inform your class teacher if your child has any special dietary requirements.

**NIHONGO NOTES**

み な さ ん 、 こ ん に ち は (Minasan, Kon-nichi-wa) When you come home from school (or wherever you have been out) you would say ‘tadaima’ and whoever is at home says ‘okaeri nasai’ to welcome you back home.

**TUCKSHOP NEWS**

**Wednesday 18th June**
Belinda Kliese
Tracy Knight

**Thursday 19th June**
Niah Brown
Wendy Bevis

**Friday 20th June**
Maggie Helmn
Tania Digby
HELP NEEDED??
HELP NEEDED??

**2ND Break HELP NEEDED??**

A very big thank you to all who helped on Sports Day.

**UNIFORM SHOP**

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<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
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**WOOL CLUB**

Our Wool Club projects this term are really taking shape - there are lots of monsters about to grow arms and legs next week! And the natural frames are looking very beautiful with leaves and twigs woven into them. Keep any eye out for our Wool Club display at the fete!
FROM THE PARISH

Feast of the Body and Blood of Christ
Having seen Jesus multiply the loaves and fishes, the crowd pursues Him, perhaps seeking more food but also looking for another sign. Jesus tells the crowd that he is the bread of life. He explains that just as God gave the Israelites manna to sustain them in the desert, so now God has sent new manna that will give eternal life. It is in this context that Jesus repeats those words in this weekend’s Gospel and tells them again that He is the living bread that came down from heaven. Jesus’ words are not well understood by the crowd; they argue that Jesus is not from heaven but born of Mary and Joseph. The crowd also has trouble understanding how Jesus could give them His flesh to eat. Jesus tells them that when they eat His flesh and drink His blood, they will remain forever connected to Him. These are difficult words, but they are important because they seek to show us our intimate connection with Jesus.

This is the mystery that is at the heart of our Eucharistic theology. In the elements of bread and wine, Jesus’ Body and Blood are truly present. When we share in the Body and Blood of Christ, Jesus Himself comes to dwell within us. This communion with the Lord makes us one body, brings us eternal life, and sends us forth to be Christ’s Body in the world!

Children’s Liturgy of the Word (C.L.O.W.)
The Lower Primary Group (Prep to Year 4) will be held on Saturday at 6pm and Sunday at 9am, each weekend. If you can help with Senior Liturgy (Year 5 - 7) please contact the parish office. It’s a great way to introduce your children to Sunday worship.

Altar servers – More volunteers needed urgently:
Fr Leo is happy to run a training session after school for anyone interested. For more details contact us at the Parish Office on 3207 9177

St Rita’s Parish Newsletter
The weekly parish newsletter is available from our website www.stritasparish.org
You can contact the Parish Office on 3207 9177 or email victoriapoint@bne.catholic.net.au

Mass Times in our Parish – Saturday 6pm, Sunday 7am, 9am, 6pm.
Reconciliation Times - Saturday’s 5pm to 5.30pm in the Church

Kids Kayaking School Holiday Program
Meet you on the water this school holidays for some serious paddling fun. Our school holiday kayak program will run for 1.5hrs each day for Tuesday 1st July, Wednesday 2nd July and Thursday 3rd July. You will learn how to kayak, see various waterways of the Redlands and get up close and personal with the wildlife. There will be two sessions, children aged 8 – 10 and 11yrs+. Cost $125.00 per child. (includes full use of kayak gear and safety equipment, photos and light refreshments each day) For more information please contact Katrina Beutel at Redlands Kayak Tours 1300 529 258 or email admin@redlandskayaktours.com.au
It’s time to start planning the Winterfest Baking Stall for 2014. The Baking Stall was a great success last year thanks to all those in the St Rita’s Community who baked and donated ingredients, and of course the generosity of my fellow Baking Club members.

I am inviting any keen cooks to join the 2014 Winterfest Baking Club. The purpose is to share the load of baking and packaging of the baked goods for the Fete. The donated ingredients will be used to cook goods for the Stall. If you love to bake and would like to be a part of the Winterfest Baking Club, please contact Lisa Acret on 0405 152 952 or acrets@me.com.

The Baking Club is looking for the following items to be donated:

- Baking Cocoa
- Chocolate Chips, M&M’s, mini M&M’s, smarties, jelly beans
- Mars Bars
- Baking chocolate blocks – white and milk chocolate
- Mixed Fruit
- Sultanas
- Tinned Caramel
- Condensed Milk
- 500g blocks of butter
- Eggs

SIDE SHOW ALLEY
Side Show Alley are looking for donations of prizes. The following are some suggestions to fill a jar for the HOOPЛА STALL with:
- Loom bands, hair accessories, fashion cosmetic items e.g lipgloss, nail polish
- Stationary items e.g. erasers, pencils, gel pens, stickers, little note books
- Boys toys e.g. Matchbox cars, Trashies
- Packets of individually packaged lollies e.g. Wizz Fizz, Nerds, lollipops.

RAFFLE TICKETS
Don’t forget to return your sold or unsold raffle books as soon as possible. There is a roster on the front counter of the school office, and also will be available at the weekend masses, if you can spare some time to help out at the Victoria Point Shopping Centre with ticket sales it would be greatly
appreciated. The camper trailer is at Victoria Point Shopping Centre, if you sell 10 raffle books, you will receive one free all day ride arm band.

ALL DAY RIDE PASSES
All Day Ride Pass forms will be sent home via email this week, if you would like to purchase one they can be pre-purchased before Fete day for $35 either by sending in cash or credit card details in an envelope marked “Winterfest All Day Ride Pass”. These passes can also be purchased through Flexischools. The passes will be sent home with the eldest child around Wednesday June 18. All Day Passes will be $40 on fete day. The rides for this year are: Miami Trip, Hurricane, Dodgem Cars, Rock Climbing Wall, Animal Farm, Cup and Saucer Ride, Frog Hopper, Lost temple jumping castle and Dragster Slide.

CREATE-A-CUPCAKE STALL
Create-a-cupcake stall needs your help with donations of cake toppings, e.g. sprinkles, 100’s and 1000’s, chocolate chips, mini M&M’s, Milo and jelly crystals.

FACE PAINTING STALL
At this year’s Winterfest the Student Council are running a face painting and temporary tattoo stall. We are asking for any donations of face paints, cotton tips and temporary tattoos. These can be dropped off at the school office. Thank you for your support.

DONATIONS WANTED
St Rita’s Mini Vinnies students are running a coloured and glitter hair spray stall at the fete! We are looking for donations of coloured or glitter hair spray. These can be sent to the office.

All money raised will go to St Vincent De Paul.

LOB-O-CHOC
Don’t forget to support the Lob-o-choc stall, blocks of Lindt chocolate are on sale at the Woolworths supermarket.

SPONSORSHIPS AND DONATIONS
Please show your support to the following businesses who have generously shown their support towards our Winterfest: