FROM THE SCHOOL LEADERSHIP TEAM

Dear Parents, Carers and Community Members,

Staff News for St Rita’s 2015
In recent weeks, within Brisbane Catholic Education we have worked our way through the Change of School Process for teachers. This involves teachers nominating themselves to be considered for a change of school placement for the commencement of the next school year. I believe that it is healthy for both individuals and the school community for teachers to seek new opportunities in professional experiences. For us at St Rita’s, this year has proved to be one where some of our teachers have taken up this challenge and some highly reputable and exemplary teachers have expressed their interest in coming to St Rita’s to experience what our school has to offer in terms of curriculum innovation and a cohesive and positive culture for learning.

In summary, we congratulate Mrs Lizbeth Iles who will be moving to St Ita’s at Dutton Park; Mrs Natasha Galvin who will be going to St Paul’s, Woodridge; Mrs Sheridan Arndell who will be moving closer to home at Guardian Angels, Wynnum and Miss Lucy Walker who will be extending and progressing her early experiences as a teacher at St Joseph’s, Bardon. We look forward to welcoming Ms Lisa Louange from St Ita’s, Mrs Jayde Mills from St Paul’s and Mrs Katie Kellett from Guardian Angels, Wynnum.

St Rita’s Open Day – 21 August 2014
Following on from the success and interest in our recent Prep Open Afternoon, we will be hosting a whole school Open Invitation to our school and local community to visit our classrooms and outdoor spaces for learning and play next Thursday 21 August between 11am and 1.30pm. Current parents are welcome as you may like to visit areas of the school that your children are not experiencing and we are encouraging prospective parents within the community to come and see firsthand our St Rita’s school philosophy and pedagogy in action. In preparing for this, our teachers will be conducting lessons as they would ordinarily do so to exhibit an authentic and insightful experiences to our visitors. Please continue to spread the good word!

Prayers and Support for Mrs Tate and Mrs Shepherd
Please keep Mrs Deirdre Tate and her family in your prayers as they received news late last week that her husband’s father has passed away in Ireland. We are also sending good wishes and prayers for successful surgery and quick healing for Mrs Marie Shepherd who has suffered a bone fracture whilst out on her regular early morning walk last week. We pray for all those experiencing hardship and struggles with life’s challenges of loss and illness in our midst.

Cybersafety Seminar – Carmel College
I draw your attention to the invitation to our Year 6 and 7 parents from the Carmel College P&F to support and attend a parent session on Cybersafety on the evening of Tuesday 26 August. The notice with further detail is within our newsletter.

A busy but short week ahead. I look forward to seeing many of you take the opportunity to enjoy and support our Book Fair this week. We wish our Senior Choir and School Concert Band a wonderful experience at the Queensland Catholic Schools and Colleges Music Festival on Friday. Finally, a huge congratulations to our many successful and enthusiastic athletes who competed in the Redlands Districts Athletics Carnival last week.

May God’s peace and blessings be with you and your family.

Anne
This week is National Science Week. The 2014 National Science Week theme for schools is Food for our Future: Science feeding the world. The theme was inspired by the International Year for Family Farming and can include topics like food security, agricultural sustainability and innovation.

Our new Australian Science curriculum which was introduced into all schools in 2012 is designed to develop students’ interest in science and an appreciation of how science provides a means of exploring and understanding the changing world in which they live. It provides an understanding of scientific inquiry methods, a foundation of knowledge across the disciplines of science and develops an ability to communicate scientific understanding and use evidence to solve problems and make evidence-based decisions.

The Science our children learn about and discover at school is organised in three interrelated strands: Science understanding which focuses on the important science concepts from across different areas of science. Science inquiry skills which focuses on skills essential for working scientifically and Science as a human endeavour which focuses on the nature and influence of science.

In the spirit of Science week, some of our students attended a Science Incursion recently with a focus around ‘Street Science Electricity’.

“Year Six recently participated in an incursion on Science and in particular electricity. We tried many exciting and interesting activities including creating a variety of electrical circuits. We worked in pairs to construct a radio and discovered we had to walk around to find a radio station signal. We also watched an amazing demonstration of fireballs, dry ice, explosions, an air zooka and how to create different coloured gases using various chemicals such as magnesium. It was a fantastic learning experience”. Jayda, Eden, Tyler, Bailey, Annie, Hamish, Jade, 6K

All the best.
Shane

S.P.E.A.K. (Speaking Promotes Education and Knowledge)

Once again the wonderful staff at Victoria Point Library will be hosting an hour of fun for families. The session is set for Wednesday 13 August at 3:30pm – 4:30pm. Come and join the fun filled free Craft Activities and Storytelling Time.

Hope you can make it.
Victoria Point Library
7-15 Bunker Road
Victoria Point Qld 4165.
Phone: 07 3884 4000

Lagi

NOT RETURNING IN 2015

Please remember to complete the form from last week’s newsletter or email pvictoriapoint@bne.catholic.edu.au regarding returning in 2015. If you are aware that your child/ren will not be returning to St Rita’s in 2015 it would be appreciated if you could complete and return the form to the school office by Monday 18 August.

NEWSLETTERS AND FEES

Term 3 fees are due this Friday, August 15, please note families who have a direct debit set-up and have a child/ren in Years 5 & 6, the extra charges for Polo Shirt and Camp, are not included in your direct debit and need to be paid by the due date of 15 August.

If you are not able to pay your account by the due date, simply contact us and we will be able to reach some agreement about your fees.

As from the commencement of Term 3, all newsletters and other relative school correspondence will be emailed home. Please ensure
that we have your correct addresses and contact details on record.

School Fee statements have now been sent out via email. If you have not received your statement, or would like to update your details, please make contact with the Finance Department.

**S.P.E.A.K.**

S.P.E.A.K. (Speaking Promotes Education and Knowledge) Come to Victoria Point Library on Wednesday 13th August 3:30 for a free afternoon of story and craft.

**SPORTS NEWS**

*Quote of the week*
Every strike brings me closer to the next home run.  
*  Babe Ruth

**Athletics Age Champion Awards**
Age Champion awards for Athletics will be awarded to students on Monday’s assembly next week.

**St Rita’s Touch Football**
- U8’s and U10’s are playing at 4.30pm
- U12’s are playing at 5.15pm
*Game details will be communicated on a weekly basis through a messaging system to parents.*

Training for U12s will be from 3.10 – 4.10pm Monday afternoons, U10’s will be Thursdays First Break and Fridays Second Break during school hours.

**District Athletics**
Congratulations to all our students who competed in the Redland’s District Track and Field Carnival last Thursday and Friday.

Further congratulations to William (Y7) and Ethan (Y7) who were both successful in various events and will now compete at the Regional Carnival early September.

William took out 1st place in both the 100m and 200m 12yr Boys finals and Ethan claimed 4th place in the 200m final. Well Done Boys!

**Mission Cup Netball**
Training will be held on Tuesday afternoons from 3.15 to 4.30pm. Please let either Mr Kenyon, Mrs Rossi or Mrs Manderson if unable to attend.

**Upcoming Important Dates**
Year 6 Camp (Camp Goodenough) – 27 – 29th August

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**FATHERS’ DAY LITURGY**

The St Rita’s Mini Vinnies and School Parent Network invite all grandfathers, fathers, uncles, family members and students to attend the **Fathers’ Day Liturgy on Friday 5th September at 7:45am in the Unitas Centre**. The liturgy will be followed by a morning tea for the adults.

During the liturgy, a slide show of photos will be shown. The Mini Vinnies are seeking digital photos of our St Rita’s students with their fathers/ stepfathers/ grandfathers/ uncles to use for a reflection. If you have a suitable digital photo that you would like to share with our community, please email it to: stritasfathersdayphotos@hotmail.com. The photos will only be used for this purpose, and then deleted by the school.

**ASSEMBLY AWARDS**

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<tr>
<th>3K</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Summer M</td>
<td>For inspiring learning in 3K by making your writing very descriptive when writing about your monster. Keep up the great effort!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hunter B</td>
<td>Well done on being very helpful in the classroom. You are always ready to help your teacher and your peers when they need help. Awesome effort!</td>
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<tr>
<th>3T</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jonathan S</td>
<td>Fantastic Work Jonathan!!! You are working SUPER HARD in Maths and are INSPIRING OTHERS to do the same. Terrific!!!!!!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tenisha B</td>
<td>Wonderful Work Tenisha!!! You wrote an amazing description about a Monster. Thanks for INSPIRING LEARNING in 3T!!!!!</td>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bianca M</td>
<td>For the positive way she approaches writing tasks. Bianca’s description of an alien was entertaining.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Caleb R</td>
<td>For the concentration he has been displaying in class. Caleb is listening well and contributing consistently in all activities.</td>
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<th>4K</th>
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<tr>
<td>Stephanie P</td>
<td>For showing confidence and presentation when giving her impromptu speech. Good effort.</td>
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**NEWS FROM THE RESOURCE CENTRE**

Book Fair arrived today, so here are a few reminders of the fun and activities ahead!

All classes will visit the fair during their library non-contact. Each student will fill out a wish list with a selection of books that they have enjoyed. If you allow them to purchase just fill out the form on the back of the wish list and mark the items that your child is purchasing. (Payment can be by cheque to St Rita’s, credit card or cash. Eftpos is also available in the library) Place the wish list and payment in an envelope or zip bag, and send along with your child. We will fill the orders during the day and send the books to your child’s classroom.

Some popular titles do sell out from the shelves, however we can re-order most titles, and it only takes a few days to get to us!

August is also the month dedicated to the support of the MS Readathon. St Rita’s has always been a strong contributor to this worthy cause. It’s not too late to give it a go! Forms are available in the library, but you can also join online at [www.msreadathon.org.au](http://www.msreadathon.org.au)

More visiting Author dress up day photos........

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**LEARNING SUPPORT**

**August Extension Opportunities**

"Either write something worth reading or do something worth writing." — Benjamin Franklin

Often students will ask if there are any writing competitions that are available to enter. This is a great time to start entering, as August offers many opportunities being the month of Book Week. Most
of these competitions are judged in October, which is usually the end of most competitions for the year. Why not encourage your child to have a go! The competitions below are fun and a great way to support and enrich your child’s interests and strengths. The competitions below are available to all age groups.

- **Scholastic Writing Competition**- Are you Australia’s most creative adventure writer?
  
  Write a short adventure story of approximately 300 words to enter the Scholastic competition, inspired by the new release novel, ‘The impossible Quest’ by Australian author Kate Forsyth.
  
  Prizes: 1st prize- up to $250 worth of book vouchers. 9 runner up receive a $50 scholastic voucher.
  

- **Tom Gates Competition**- Are you an inspirational doodler?
  
  Create your own drawing on an A4 piece of paper, either keeping in the Tom Gates style, or simply creating your own.
  
  

- **Write 4 fun**- Poetry or short story competition- Awesome prizes on offer!
  
  Create your very own poem of 16 lines or less or a 500 word creative piece of writing that encourages you to use any style or theme. The sky is the limit!
  
  Prizes: Xbox 360 plus ipod touch, playstation 4 or xbox one. Many Write$fun gift packs and cash on offer.
  
  Entries close: 31st August, 2014. [www.write4fun.net](http://www.write4fun.net)

The flexible learning space in Learning Support will be open every Wednesday at first play to provide additional support to any students who need assistance with these activities. 😊

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**SCHOOL BANKING**

The Banker of the week is Daniel T, congratulations Daniel we have deposited $2 into your bank account for you.

Don’t forget we have a great Marquee that we’re happy to lend out to Community Groups. Please call us on 3207 6133 or pop into Victoria Point Branch to book the Marquee for your next event.

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

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**NIHONGO NOTES**

From our Assistant Teacher, Mayuka Shibata:
Japanese musician ~part1~

**AKB48**

とうきょうのあきはばらにあるげきじょうでうたっています。メンバーはあわせて１００人です。これは、ギネスきろくにのりました。わたしは、「こいするフォーチュンクッキー」が好きです。

The Japanese pop group, AKB48 are based in Akihabara at Tokyo. Their members total one hundred people. AKB48 holds the is Guinness record for being the largest pop group. By the way, my favorite song is “Koi suru fortune cookie”.

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**TUCKSHOP NEWS**

Wednesday 13th August
Esperanza Ponce
Felicity Dunn

Thursday 14th August
Niah Brown
Tania Digby

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**UNIFORM SHOP**

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Enquiry night for the Sacrament of Reconciliation 2014
The preparation for the Sacrament of Reconciliation will begin with an enquiry night at 7pm, Wednesday 13th August in the church, for parents to come and find out about what level of commitment is required to be part of the Sacramental program for 2014/15. The Sacrament of Reconciliation is usually for the children in Grade 4 in preparation for the Sacraments of Eucharist and Confirmation in Grade 5, 2015. If you have an older child who would like to make their first Reconciliation in preparation for Confirmation and First Eucharist in 2015, please come to this information meeting.

As parents, you need to make a conscious choice about whether your child is ready to take on this important faith commitment in their life. Don’t let the decision be driven by peer pressure but from a genuine desire to live a faith filled life as part of a Catholic community. We will honour whatever decision you make. If your child is not ready to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation in 2014, there is always next year.

If after the enquiry night your family is able to commit to the Sacramental program, then we ask parents only to attend the First Parent Information session’ on Thursday 28th August 2014 at 7.00pm in the church.

If you would like your child to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation it is essential that one parent attends the information evening. At this meeting you bring your completed enrolment form and a copy of your child’s Baptismal certificate unless they were baptised here at St. Rita’s. The cost of the Reconciliation programme is $50. This covers the cost of the workbook, photocopies, prayer cards and lessons etc. It would help if you could put money in an envelope marked with your child’s name and class and bring it to the meeting.

Parish Junior Choir
Do you like to sing? Come and join the parish junior choir. Rehearsals are each Wednesday during term time from 3pm to 4pm at the Ruby Room at the parish office. If you would like more information please contact the Parish office. Invite your friends to come along and sing with you. There is no cost for this activity. Afternoon tea is provided. Open to all primary age and high school age parishioners.

We need your help!!
Due to parishioners moving on, vacancies have appeared in our monthly rosters at the church. We really could do with more Communion Ministers, Ministers to the Word (Readers), Data Projector operators and Altar servers (boys and girls) to fill the spaces that have appeared. If you feel that you can share your time and talent with the Church community, please contact the Parish Office on 3207 9177 for any information that could help us. Many thanks to you all.
ONLINE SAFETY & CYBERBULLYING – BRETT LEE

PARENT SEMINAR
Tues 26 Aug 7pm, Carmel College, College Chapel
20 Ziegenfusz Rd, Thornlands
A SESSION FOR PARENTS/CARERS FROM YEARS 6 & 7
AND HIGH SCHOOL (NOT CHILDREN)

On behalf of Carmel College we would like to invite parents to the Brett Lee parent seminar. Brett Lee, INESS creator, who worked as a Queensland Police Officer for 22 years will deliver an engaging and powerful information session in a way that will bring to life possible online dangers and responsibilities which are a part of your child’s digital world. Brett will deliver the presentation from his perspective as an undercover internet detective. He will outline to parents dangers & responsibilities with social networking; provide simple measures to create fun & positive online experience.

An event not to be missed!!
For further enquiries about this seminar email Carmel P & F Secretary: pandf@carmelcollege.qld.edu.au
PARENTING SEMINAR – BRETT LEE
“Online Safety and Cyberbullying”

This is an opportunity to attend an evening delivered by a professional speaker who will deliver an engaging and powerful information session in a way that will bring to life possible online dangers and responsibilities which are a part of your child’s digital world.

Strategies of protection and prevention will empower you to reduce online risks within your home.

You will be amazed how simple this can be.

Tuesday 26th August 2014
7pm

VENUE:
CARMEL COLLEGE
20 ZIEGENFUSZ ROAD, THORNLANDS
COLLEGE CHAPEL

A SESSION FOR PARENTS / CARERS
FROM YEARS 6 & 7 AND HIGH SCHOOL
(NOT CHILDREN)

Seminar is open to parents from other local Catholic Schools

Seminar will include:
• Simple measures to create a fun, educational and positive online experience
• Witness the real life dangers and responsibilities
• Discover how essential and important your role is
• Social Networking
• The Law online
• Identity protection

For further enquiries about this seminar email Vicki Hochkopper: pando@carmelcollege.qld.edu.au

RSVP Required for seating by Wednesday 20th August

How many attending: ____________________________
Child’s Year level: ____________________________
Child’s school: ____________________________

Please email Vicki Hochkopper: pando@carmelcollege.qld.edu.au
QUEENSLAND CATHOLIC SCHOOLS & COLLEGES
Music Festival

THURSDAY 14 – SUNDAY 17 AUGUST
VILLANOVA COLLEGE, COORPAROO & ST JAMES’ CATHOLIC CHURCH, COORPAROO
Ticket prices: $5 – day pass, $10 – 4 day pass

www.qcmf.com.au • 3394 5691 • qcmf@vnc.qld.edu.au
Limited seating, please check website for session availability.