Dear Parents, Carers and Community Members,

Well the EKKA week has passed and we are fast approaching the final weeks of our school term with the first day of Spring only days away. We have received a notice from our Health and Safety department providing sensible advice on keeping our schools as healthy as possible.

Seasonal influenza season has started with one third of all flu cases this year (as of 11 August 2014) reported in the last two weeks. Ongoing attention to prevention and control measures is essential to minimise the spread of this infection. Information regarding the flu is available at: [www.health.qld.gov.au/flu](http://www.health.qld.gov.au/flu) The key messages are to wash hands, keep areas clean, stay home if children have the flu symptoms, vaccination and cover mouth when coughing.

Fr Paul’s Invitation.

We are enjoying getting to know Fr Paul as he visits classrooms and being at Sunday Mass last weekend, I enjoyed and appreciated the thought provoking homily on “Who do you say, I am?”. In discussions with Fr Paul, he is very keen to get to know our community and who we are. As such, he is providing a unique and confidential invitation for our parents and staff to communicate what is important to you. From Fr Paul….

**Friends, I am delighted to be happily settled here at St Rita’s parish and school. It is already clear to me the beautiful Spirit that blesses our community here. I have upcoming Parish Pastoral Council and Parish Liturgical committee meetings and I thought it would be a great opportunity as I go to them to give members of the parish and the school community an opportunity to share with me anything relating to the spiritual, worship, sacramental or pastoral needs of the community that are important to you. So, please feel free to email me (confidentially), about the things you value, the things you hope for, any questions or suggestions or concerns that you have that you would like to be considered liturgically, sacramentally or pastorally. The aim is to get at the gifts and challenges, the graces and temptations, what’s working really wonderfully and what could work better for the good of all. My personal email address is: holyjoe@ozemail.com.au Please accept this as my invitation to you to share candidly with me your hope and fears, your thoughts and ideas. This would be extremely helpful in getting a deeper insight into what issues are really key for people. The email is my personal email and goes to me alone and I appreciate all sincere feedback sensitively and with confidentiality.**

Sacramental Program

A reminder that a meeting for parents of Year 4 students or older is on this Thursday evening in the Parish Church at 7pm if you are wanting to support your children through the Sacrament of Reconciliation this year and First Communion and Confirmation next year. It is compulsory for parents to attend these sessions to be involved in the program.

Adopt A Cop Assistance to Keep us Safe and Compliant with our Traffic Laws

Last Friday, our younger classes received an active and informative lesson on Stranger Danger. Our Adopt A Cop, Constable Boardman taught our Preps to Year 3 the basic information about safe strangers and unsafe strangers and effective strategies if confronted by an unsafe stranger.

In addition to this, Constable Boardman is providing
feedback and advice on our Drive-Thru Procedures and Parent Parking practices. Her observations are that we have a great system at St Rita's, however has noted some breaches of traffic law that compromise the safety of our children.

A fairly frequent offence is the use of mobile phones while driving through the car-park. You may not be aware that this is considered to be a public road and therefore while the car is on and/or moving, it is an offence for the driver of the vehicle to use a hand held phone. A list of the traffic breaches is included again and I draw your attention to these to continue our good work in maintaining a high standard of safe practices.

May God’s peace and blessings be with you and your families in the coming week.

Anne

This week is a busy week in our wider community. There are also many things going on in our school this week as learning continues. The focus question this week also relates to our teachers, “What do I need to know about?” Our teachers have been engaged in professional knowledge of Spelling and developing ‘Effective strategies for the Teaching & Learning of Spelling’ to enhance their knowledge, understanding and skills in this aspect of English, and providing quality teaching to our students.

Year 6 students, Mr Kenyon, Mrs Hill, Mrs Ferguson, Mr Fernando and Mr Thompson have been preparing busily for Camp Goodenough, and are very excited as Wednesday draws near. I look forward to joining them on Thursday evening.

National Literacy and Numeracy Week (NLNW)

This week is National Literacy and Numeracy Week (NLNW). It is a special week that celebrates the achievements of Australian schools in improving literacy and numeracy standards. NLNW aims to raise community awareness of the importance of literacy and numeracy skills for all students. You too can get involved in NLNW 2014 by visiting the website NLNW 2014. There are many literacy and numeracy activities planned for this year.

This Friday 29th August at 2pm our Prep classes along with all other school children in Australia, will take part in the reading of ‘Sunday Chutney’ by Aaron Blabey in our school library. It is wonderfully presented as an ebook with audio, and an Auslan (Australian sign language) signer. We welcome all parents and community members to join our Preps for this reading and fun activities. I encourage you to visit the site. There is something there for everyone.

Happy National Literacy and Numeracy Week!

Hearing Awareness Week

It is Hearing Awareness Week as well as Speech Pathology week this week, which is fitting as children acquire speech and language through hearing.

Hear ye!   Hear ye!
So this week think about how precious your hearing is - it keeps you in contact with your environment 24 hours a day, is important in communication, learning, relaxation, alerting you to danger and appreciating your world. Remember if you damage your hearing it won’t come back.

1 in 6 Australians has a hearing loss. This means hearing loss is more common than cardiovascular disease, diabetes mellitus, asthma, cancer and mental illness.

If you are lucky enough to live long enough then you are likely to develop a hearing loss. Males are much more likely to lose hearing than females. Over 70% of seventy year olds suffer from hearing loss.

Hearing loss caused by noise exposure (loud sounds at work, home and or at social events) is still the most common form of preventable hearing loss.

To conserve your hearing for as long as possible:
- Avoid loud sounds. Like sun exposure and skin damage, the amount of hearing damage is related to the intensity of the sound and the length of time you are exposed to it.
- If you cannot avoid loud sounds, then you should protect your ears with earplugs or ear muffs. Balls of cotton wool or paper tissue offer little protection.
- You should give your ears frequent rest from noise.
- Limit the volume of music played through headphones.

During hearing Awareness Week there are a number of places where adults can have a free screening hearing test. If you are in TUH and are over 50 years old, you can make an appointment to have a free hearing screening test any time.

Speech Pathology Australia Week
This week is Speech Pathology Australia Week.
In a world where everybody speaks, imagine if you could not? Well, that’s the challenge that confronts over 1.1 million Australians every single day! The challenge that Speech Pathology Australia is highlighting during Speech Pathology Week 2014.

Speech Pathology Week will run from 24-30 August with the theme: ‘Nation for Communication’.
During the week, speech pathologists all across the country are aiming to make Australia a ‘Nation for Communication’ by increasing the understanding of communication disorders and how they impact on people’s lives. To find out more follow the link below.
Speech Pathology Australia Week

National Migrant and Refugee Week
This week we also focus on National Migrant and Refugee Week. The annual Multicultural Mass which concludes the latter will be held on Sunday 31 August at 2.30pm in the Cathedral of St Stephen.
Pope Francis has named its theme to be “Towards a Better World”. A better world, he maintains, will come about only if attention is first paid to individuals; if no one is neglected, including the poor, the sick, prisoners, the needy and the stranger; if we can prove capable of leaving behind a throwaway culture and embracing a culture of encounter and acceptance.

Lagi

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.

**My Dad, the Spy.**

My Dad’s a secret agent.
He’s an undercover spy.
He’s the world’s best detective.
He’s the perfect private eye.

He’s a Pinkerton, a gumshoe.
He’s a snoop and he’s a sleuth.
He’s unrivalled at detecting and uncovering the truth.

He’s got eyesight like an eagle.
He’s got hearing like a bat.
He can out-smell any bloodhound.
He’s as stealthy as a cat.

He can locate nearly anything with elementary ease.
But no matter how he looks and looks my Dad can’t find his keys!

*Note: A ‘Pinkerton’ is a private security guard.
‘Gumshoe’ was originally slang for ‘thief’, but since 1908 it has been used to refer to a Police detective.
A ‘Sleuth’ is a detective.*

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**SPORTS NEWS**

**Quote of the week**

At one point in your life you either have the thing you want or the reasons why you don’t. *Andy Roddick*

**HPE Lessons**

For the remainder of this term Year 3-7 will be looking at Tennis and skills involved during lessons. If you own your own tennis racquet, please bring it along to lessons for the remainder of this term.

**St Rita’s Touch Football**

U/8’s and U/10’s are playing at 4.30pm
U/12’s are playing at 5.15pm

*Game details will be communicated on a weekly basis through a messaging system to parents.*

Training for U/12s will be from 3.10 – 4.10pm Monday afternoons, U/10’s will be Thursdays First Break and Fridays Second Break during school hours.

**Bayside Athletics**

Our ‘Bayside Combined Catholic Schools’ Athletics Carnival is scheduled for Monday 1st September. Students have been notified if they are attending and have received their permission notes. If you have not done so already, could you please return your note by Wednesday afternoon.

Track training for events 100/200/800m will be on Mon/Wed/Fri mornings from 7.50am on the oval.

Field event training will be held during school break times.

Students involved are strongly encouraged to attend these sessions.

**Year 6 Camp**

All the best to our Year 6 Students who venture out on camp this week to Camp Goodenough. Students will be challenged and pushed from their comfort zones to achieve personal goals as they participate in a variety of activities. Please make sure you have checked your camp equipment list thoroughly and have marked your name clearly on all your items.

Looking forward to a great camp!

**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) – 27th – 29th August (This week)*

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**IMPORTANT FEE NOTICE**

Fees are now overdue and prompt payment would be appreciated. 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 as soon as possible. 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.

Please also check your “JUNK” inbox for stray emails, the fee statement will come from PVICfinance@bne.catholic.edu.au.

Krys Kuropka
Finance Administrator

**LOST**

A black and red small USB has been lost outside Year 1 classrooms, if found please return to Alex in 1L.

**ASSEMBLY AWARDS**

PK - Alysha, Chelsea, Jade, Kayley, Paige, Tamika, Tia, Lachlan.
PT - Zoe, Laurel, Charlotte, Mattia, Michael, Quin, Jack, Ashley.
1K - Oliver, Jayde, Sophie, Kiarna, Geordie, Oscar, Ashton.
1T - Mia, Madeline, Kira.

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**3K**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Message</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Isabella F</td>
<td>You show that you respect everyone at all times in the classroom and in the playground! You’re an asset to our classroom.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tommy M</td>
<td>You are making awesome progress with your reading. Well done for putting in a great effort! Keep up the great work.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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**3T**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Message</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Madison D</td>
<td>Fantastic Work Madison!!! You complete your work quietly each day, making sure you give 100% to all tasks. Thanks for INSPIRING 3T.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thomas E</td>
<td>Terrific Work Thomas!! You take great care to make sure your PROPERTY and ENVIRONMENT are always well cared for and tidy. Your efforts are also appreciated by others in our school. Well Done!!!</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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**3L**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Message</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Owen K</td>
<td>For the concentration Owen has been applying to his school work this week. Well done Owen!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Joseph K</td>
<td>For the thoughtful contributions he has been making during our Science lessons. Keep it up!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fraser W</td>
<td>For the way in which he cares for others. Fraser is always kind and considerate of his classmates feelings.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Joshua G</td>
<td>Josh has been participating positively in English lessons and is showing that he is applying what he has learnt to his own writing. Great work Josh!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clodagh B</td>
<td>For the effort she applies to ensuring her work is always neat and tidy. Well done Clodagh!</td>
</tr>
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**4K**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Message</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Elyza J</td>
<td>For the thought she has been applying to her writing to ensure that it flows and makes sense.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Riion B</td>
<td>For showing a responsible attitude in the classroom and always concentrating hard with his work. Well done, Riion!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jayke R</td>
<td>For showing improved confidence when presenting impromptu speeches. Keep it up, Jayke!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bailey S</td>
<td>For showing improve concentration when working in the classroom and avoiding distractions. Keep up the good effort, Bailey!</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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**4T**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Message</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Abby G</td>
<td>For the awesome effort you apply to all areas of your work, Abby. You are truly an inspiration to your classmates. Well done!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ryley E</td>
<td>For the effort and enthusiasm that you show for History. We are all inspired by you sharing your general knowledge. Thank you, Ryley and well done!</td>
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**4L**

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<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Message</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Emma C</td>
<td>For inspiring learning with your renewed belief in yourself this week. It is great to see you trying your best and believing in yourself, you are achieving so much more. Keep up the great work!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jeremy T</td>
<td>For inspiring learning in the way you have been working this week. You have been working hard by listening well, concentrating and choosing appropriate places to learn. Keep up the great work Jeremy!</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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**LOST PROPERTY**

There are many items in lost property at the moment particularly drink bottles. Please check if any items belong to you.

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**NEWS FROM THE RESOURCE CENTRE**
WOW! What a fantastic result with our book fair this year. St Rita’s students sure are connecting to reading in a big way. Our final tally of sales was $8,759.50. That means a school commission of $3,065.80 — our biggest ever! Well done to everyone for your support.

The School Parent Network proudly presents LEGO MOVIE (PG) in the Unitas Centre on Friday 12th Sep at 6pm. The movie is free for families to come and enjoy. Bring your own chair, beanbag, comfy pillow, rug and snacks. There will be a free sausage sizzle and snacks and drinks will also be available to purchase from 5.30pm. Look out for the flyer attached for all the information and RSVP slip. It’s a great night so we hope to see you there!

**LOST PROPERTY**

There are many items in lost property at the moment particularly drink bottles. Please check if any items belong to you.

**SCHOOL BANKING**

This week’s banker of the week is Elliot C, congratulations Elliot we have deposited $2 into your bank account for you.

It’s never too late to open a School Bank account and it’s very easy to do. Pop into the Victoria Point branch (It’ll take about 15 to 20 minutes) and we’ll sit down with you to get you started. We’re even open on Saturday so come on in and have a chat, we’d love to meet 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

**SPN MOVIE NIGHT**

SPN 'Snug as a Bug' Movie Night

We will be doing Paddle Pop Lick a Prize this year. The special paddle pop is called the Dragon Popper $1.50. To claim a free paddle pop your stick must say "you have won a free paddle pop". All other prizes you need to enter online. If a student does get a free paddle pop they will only receive the normal flavours in return and they will be given a ticket to use on the following Tuckshop day.

It is great to see so many families choosing to use Flexischools. The advantages of using online ordering is: not needing to send money so it can be lost in transit, loosing their order. It also makes it easier for Volunteers, faster to trace what is in the order if something is missing. I think it just makes it easier for all. Why not give it a try.
www.flexischools.com.au if you have any queries at all we have a computer in the tuckshop when I am there to show you how it works.
Renee: 0411523969 email:rsaleh@bne.catholic.edu.au

UNIFORM SHOP
HOURS
Thursday 8.00 to 10.00am
Friday 8.00 to 10.00am

Year 2 Parents
Please remember to submit your orders for transition into Year 3 uniform. Letters and forms have been sent home, if you haven’t received one, please drop into the school office or Uniform Shop to collect one. Orders need to be placed as soon as possible to ensure timely delivery of goods.

FROM THE PARISH

NEWS FROM THE PARISH...

Learning how to pray:
You can learn how to pray. Even if you've got a houseful of screaming kids, or too much schoolwork, or a job that consumes way too much of your time.

Overcoming common myths
Many people think they have good reasons why they cannot have a better prayer life.
• "I don't need to pray in any 'formal' sense. God knows I love him."
• "I just can't find the time to pray."
• "My faith isn't deep enough to get anything out of prayer."
• "I've tried learning how to pray, but I just don't 'get it'. It's too hard."

Truth: A prayer life is essential to the Christian life.
Prayer is "a vital and personal relationship with the living and true God." (Catholic Catechism, 2558)
Prayer the lifeblood of your faith. Without prayer, your faith will die. (Catholic Catechism, 2744)

Truth: Prayer is compatible with everyday life.
You do need a small amount of quiet time each day to learn how to pray, just 5 or 10 minutes to start is fine and you'll start to make prayer a part of the fabric of everyday life. You can find God in all the normal tasks of daily life. Seek Him there.

Truth: Even the smallest faith will blossom through prayer.
As with faith itself, God does all of prayer's hard work! We get the easy part. And our part is learning how to pray, and then praying every day.
St. Paul tells us, "The Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but the Spirit himself intercedes with sighs too deep for words." (Rom 8:26)

The foundation of prayer: conversion
• You're aware of a desire for God.
• You wanted what He wants for you.
• You reached out to ask Him to help you get there

First step: pray for help. Turn to God as you learn how to pray. With even the smallest initial faith, you'll find it easy to turn to God and ask Him for help.
A wonderful prayer here is to use the words of the sick child's father in the Gospel of Mark: "I believe; help my unbelief!" (Mk 9:24)

Opportunities for prayer at the Parish:
Christian meditation: welcomes everyone in the chapel every Monday at 9.30am
Rosary Group: Monday at 11.00am in the chapel. You are most welcome to join us.
Praise and Worship group: Tuesday 7pm either in church or chapel and includes worship through song, scripture reading, small group discussion and personal prayer
Mothers Prayers: welcomes all Mothers, Grandmothers, and Spiritual Mothers every Wednesday mornings at 9.00am in the Chapel
Pro-Life Rosary Crusade: Thursday at 11.00am in the chapel to pray the rosary in the hope of preventing the legislation of abortion in Queensland.

Mass Times in our Parish
Saturday 6pm, Sunday 7am, 9am, 6pm.

Reconciliation Times - Saturday’s 5pm to 5.30pm in the Church

Sacrament of Reconciliation 2014
If you have an older child in Grade 4, 5,6 and 7 who would like to make their first Reconciliation in preparation for Confirmation and First Eucharist in 2015, please contact Angela Clarke at the parish office on 3207 9177 or email her on pa.victoriapoint@bne.catholic.net.au If after having spoken with Angela you feel 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.

Victoria Point Magic Football Club Camp

Victoria Point Magic Football Club will be running a Soccer camp at Victoria Point State School (Primary) for players aged between 5 and 14 years old. The camp will run over three days from Monday 29th September to Wednesday 1st of October, 9.00 am to 2.30 pm. During camps players are put into age groups and have development coaching in the morning. After morning tea coaches will put players into game related sessions. During the break coaches will run fun activities. After lunch players will play in a World Cup competition. Join the fun, say you were there. Sign up online at: [www.totalfootballacademy.com.au](http://www.totalfootballacademy.com.au) or call 0413 888 643.

**Dates:** Monday 29 September to Wednesday 1 of October.
**Time:** 8.30am Registration, 9.00am to 2.30pm
**Venue:** Victoria Point State School, School Road
**Limited numbers:** 60 players only.
**Cost:** $110
‘Snug as Bug’
Movie Session

In conjunction with St Rita’s Primary school, the School Parent Network proudly presents.....

LEGO MOVIE (PG)

An ordinary guy named Emmet is mistaken as being the Master Builder, the one who can save the universe. With the aid of an old mystic Vitruvius, a tough young lady named Lucy, and Batman, Emmet will fight to defeat the evil tyrant Lord Business who is bent on destroying the universe by gluing it together.

When: Friday 12th Sep @ 5.30pm (6pm Movie Start)
Where: Unitas Centre
Snacks & Drinks available to purchase
BYO: Chair, Comfy Blanket, pillow, snacks

____________________________________________________
Family Name: __________________________
Number attending: ______________________

Please return to the office by Wed 10th Sep, 2014