FROM THE SCHOOL LEADERSHIP TEAM

Dear Parents, Carers and Community Members,

This coming Saturday evening, we welcome Archbishop Mark Coleridge back to our Parish to officially welcome Fr Paul with a special blessing during the 6pm Mass. All families are most welcome to join in this special ceremony.

Our children are also looking forward to the annual Snug as a Bug Movie night sponsored by our School Parent Network. Details within the newsletter outline that this is a family event (children must be accompanied by an adult family member) and will take place on Friday evening in the Unitas Centre. A free sausage sizzle is on offer with a great G rated movie.

Our Mini-Vinnies team and Student Council are hard at work again planning and preparing for a Cup Cake Sale next Tuesday to support the Babi Appeal. Babi (Bayside Adolescent Boarding Incorporated) originated as a support program for young adolescent parents requiring accommodation. It has grown in areas of support and the following is a summary taken from the Babi website:

What sets Babi apart from many other youth services is that our first priority is to help young people stay connected with family and community.

Our mission is 'to promote an environment in which young people can grow and participate successfully in the life of their community.'

We do this by working alongside young people and their families:

- We help young people to identify their goals and innate strengths,
- give them the tools to plan for the future,
- assist them to access resources, and
- provide targeted support to help them achieve their goals.

Over the years, Babi has developed real expertise in developing young peoples' skills and resilience so they can move forward with confidence.

We have also had tremendous success helping parents to develop the skills and knowledge necessary to make the job of parenting teenagers a genuinely enriching and pleasurable experience.

What can we do?

You can help our Cup Cake appeal by bringing in cupcakes next Monday or Tuesday and/or send a gold coin donation to purchase a cup cake.

Parenting Ideas

In this week’s newsletter we attach an article from Michael Grose on building deep relationships with our children. A great follow on from Father’s Day last week. I hear from many of our parents their desires, strategies and activities that match those of Michael’s. As we lead into the September break in a week or so, I hope you find this a contemplative and affirming read.

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

Anne
Young Australians’ use of online social media, ACMA publication – July 2009

Help your child be safe online

The internet and online technologies, like mobile phones, are incredible tools. They provide an opportunity to communicate, learn, play and be entertained by content from around the world.

Like communicating in the real world, there are risks involved in interacting online. Cyberbullying, identity theft, scams, sexting and inappropriate content are some of the issues that can pose challenges for all young people—from pre-schoolers just starting to use a computer, to more experienced teens.

Knowing how to use online technologies safely, and how to deal with issues, is essential to young people having positive experiences online.

As a parent, you have an important role to play in helping to educate and guide your child online. To assist you, the ACMA’s Cybersmart Outreach program provides free cybersafety presentations and information tailored specifically for parents. Resources can be found at www.cybersmart.gov.au

Cybersafety Outreach Internet Safety Awareness Presentation for parents

This internet safety awareness presentation offers an overview of cybersafety issues focussing on the interests and needs of parents. The presentation runs for around 60 minutes, and is held in your child’s school. It is easy to understand, thorough, non-technical and informative. The presentation gives parents a sound understanding of cybersafety topics and provides advice on how to help children and young people stay safe online. Students from years 4-7 will also participate in a 60min presentation next Thursday at 2pm.

Presentation at your school

Next Thursday 18th September you are invited to attend an internet safety awareness presentation for parents:

Time: 5:30-6:30pm

Date: 18th September

Venue: Unitas Centre – St Rita’s

RSVP: shane.thompson1@bne.catholic.edu.au

If you are already registered and would like further information about cybersafety or the presentation itself, please visit: www.cybersmart.gov.au - Australian Communications and Media Authority

All the best

Shane

It was wonderful to celebrate father’s day last week with you all. Our teachers and Minnie Vinnie’s lead us in a wonderful liturgy followed by a tasty BBQ breakfast cooked by the SPN. It was great to see so many dads and granddads there, and many stayed on to visit classes.

We are heading towards the end of the term with less than two weeks to go, and our students and teachers continue to remain focused on learning. Religion is one of our core subjects. Our new curriculum was designed and written by Brisbane Catholic Education and clearly identifies what students need to know, understand and do.

Each of our classes from Prep to Year 7 are studying texts from the Bible in an analytical way. Our Year 5 classes are comparing the stories of Jesus’ birth, told by the Gospel writers Matthew and Luke. Students learn how and why Matthew and Luke have written different versions of the birth story, and are asking questions inquiring about the stories through the ‘Three Worlds of the Text’ strategy.

The World Behind the Text helps us to understand the cultural world at the time it was written. The World of the Text enables us to analyse the text by inquiring about what is happening in the story, who the characters are, the style of writing and its structure. The World in Front of the Text provides us with an opportunity to respond to the text, to see how the text might be relevant to our lives.

Our Teachers and students gain insight into biblical texts in a way that adds meaning and value to their learning by using the Three Worlds’ strategy.

Lagi
What is giftedness?
As we are coming the close of another productive term at St. Rita’s, I thought it was timely to summarise some of the key elements that have been addressed on the area of giftedness in this section. In sum, a student can be gifted without being talented, as a gift is an innate trait that one possesses, however a talent is only shown if that gift has been nurtured and optimised. An elite basketball player can not perform to their maximum ability, for example, if never given a basketball.

Ten percent of each year level, according to a renowned gifted expert, Gagne, are gifted, in one or more of five domains, however the level of giftedness ranges from a mild level (1 in 10) to a profound level. (1 in 100 000) Therefore, giftedness does not have to refer to ‘little Einstein’s,’ as traditionally perceived. Levels of curriculum adjustments and provisions should match the student’s level of capability. This is best achieved through a broadening of the curriculum that allows for depth of knowledge and understanding, where students are required to evaluate, create and become producers of their own knowledge through higher order thinking. This type of ‘creative thinking’ is largely developed by asking ‘why and how?’ and through encouraging students to explore and expand on their findings.

It is acknowledge that the students who require this higher order thinking are usually curious people who possess a strong sense of justice, emotional intensity, power of concentration and an ability to learn information at a rapid rate. Despite these traits, they may be the class clown or the student who displays undesirable behaviours in the classroom.

The profile of gifted students are clearly explained by Neihart and Betts, who claim that there are six types of gifted students, which range from the ‘successful’ to the ‘at risk.’ It would therefore be wrong to assume that all gifted students exhibit compliant and proficient characteristics. In fact, many students learn early, for various reasons, that it is not desirable to be gifted and that they just want to ‘fit in,’ and be like their peers. Students who are not provided with a sufficient level of challenge may also be ‘at risk’ of not rising to their true potential.

The social implications of giftedness are as profound and complex as the cognitive, which is why Brisbane Catholic Education support both Gagne’s definition, along with Harrison’s social approach that states:

“A Gifted child is one who performs or who has the ability to perform at a level significantly beyond his or her chronologically aged peers and whose unique abilities and characteristics require special provisions and social and emotional support from the family, community and educational context”.


This definition highlights the true complexities and reality faced by these students and dispels any stereotypes of ‘elitism’ that may epitomise it. We must open our eyes to not only recognise the gifted, but most importantly to provide for them and to ensure that their gifts, that may present themselves in multiple forms, are nurtured, fostered and optimised both in the classroom and home setting. This is the only way that our gifted can move from being gifted to that of gifted and talented.

For more information on giftedness please refer to the parent tab at [http://www.hoagiesgifted.org/](http://www.hoagiesgifted.org/)

Wendy Anderson

**SCHOOL FEES**

Fees are now overdue and prompt payment would be appreciated. If you have any concerns please contact the school finance office immediately.

If you haven’t received your statement, it may have ended up being delivered to your “Junk Mail”, please check your junk mail, the email address that the statements come from is: PVICFinance@bne.catholic.edu.au

Please also ensure your email and contact details are up to date with our system.

**SPORTS NEWS**

**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**

*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.

**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.

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**Assembly Awards**

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<tr>
<th>3K</th>
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<tr>
<td>Abbigail W</td>
<td>Lachlan C has been very enthusiastic about his learning this term. He contributes well and is applying extra effort to his writing.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Zayne H</td>
<td>For working extra hard with his spelling and basic facts. Keep up the good effort, Brenden!</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mitchell A</td>
<td>For showing an improved effort with her work in class and trying her best! Keep up the good effort, Taylor!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lara B</td>
<td>For quietly getting on with her work and showing a responsible attitude. Keep up the good effort, Caitlin!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Josh McN</td>
<td>For delivering your impromptu speech so confidently, covering a lot of points and speaking so fluently and with perfect pace and volume. Great job, well done!</td>
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<tr>
<td>Alexandra C</td>
<td>For following instructions and presenting beautifully and accurately completed tasks. Well done, Alex!</td>
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<td>Declan-Lee M</td>
<td>For inspiring learning by working effectively on your subtraction problems this morning. It was great to see you giving other advice.</td>
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<tr>
<td>William H</td>
<td>For inspiring learning with your enthusiasm to learn new things and share your ideas.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tarni M.</td>
<td>For Respecting Everyone by being considerate of the emotions of his peers, particularly during break times. Your willingness to include everyone in play is refreshing to see. Congratulations Elliot!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>For Inspiring Learning through the creation of her diary entry recalling the events of Burke and Wills’ fateful journey. Your way with words is truly a gift. Well done Tarni!</td>
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<tr>
<td>Name</td>
<td>For demonstrating perseverance and having a go at challenging activities on camp.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lachlan C.</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Kelso M.</td>
<td>For Inspiring Learning through perseverance and hard work.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jemma B.</td>
<td>For inspiring learning by contributing to class learning and sharing ideas.</td>
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**6T**

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<td>Krystal J</td>
<td>Krystal is a co-operative class member who is a good role model to all. She has a bubbly personality and is kind to others. Krystal is a caring person who always asks if you are OK. She never gives up and tries her best to complete her work. Krystal is a good friend and dancer. Thanks Krystal for being part of our 6T family.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kaed A</td>
<td>Kaed is a good friend with a fun-loving personality. He makes our classroom happy and bright with his humorous ways. Kaed is always friendly towards others and loves playing sport. He is a kind and caring friend and he is great to hang out with. Kaed is working hard towards completing his learning activities. Well done, Kaed!</td>
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**NEWS FROM THE RESOURCE CENTRE**

**The Great Book Swap**

The Student Council has begun organising The Great Book Swap to raise money for the Indigenous Literacy Foundation to aid in providing books to Indigenous people in remote communities. It will be held on Monday the 3rd of November in the Unitas Centre. For the great book swap to occur we are asking for you to donate any preloved books that are still in good condition that you think others would like to buy. The student council will collect books from the classrooms each Thursday before lunch. On the great book swap day we will be selling the donated books for $1 each. Thank you for helping us to build a love of reading throughout all of Australia.

**ST RITA'S RANGERS**

Last week's St Rita's Ranger meeting welcomed Cameron, Phil, Dennis and Claudia from the Cerebral Palsy League, Capalaba. Cameron showed us his presentation on how he reduces, recycles and reuses. The children learnt that from our scrap paper new handmade paper can be made into cards and envelopes. An idea for us for a future St Rita's Rangers meeting! The feedback from the children was warm and positive and a learning experience for us all. We thank Cameron and his friends for taking the time to visit and talk to us and sharing their ideas.

**SCHOOL BANKING**

Here is the Banker of the Week:

The Banker of the week this week is Luke A in 6T, congratulations Luke we have deposited $2 into your bank account for you.

Next Tuesday will be the last school banking for term 3 and will resume first week back in term 4.

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

**TUCKSHOP NEWS**

*Wednesday 10th September*
Esperanza Ponce
Leila Winterburn
Trish McNamara

*Thursday 11th September*
Niah Brown
Felicity Dunn

*Friday 12th September*
Michelle Kotynski
Nigel Wright
Lisa Bihari
Louise Lowcock

2ND Break
Michelle and Louise

Great to see many families using Flexischools! Keep it up! If you are having trouble with Flexischools or have any questions please make contact with me.

Just a friendly reminder that we do not do variations to the menu. If your child is Allergic to something please come and see me.
Renee 0411 523 969 email rsaleh@bne.catholic.edu.au

**UNIFORM SHOP**

**HOURS**

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<th>Day</th>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
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**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**

**Archbishop’s visit this Saturday night**

Archbishop Mark Coleridge will be celebrating mass this Saturday night and officially installing Fr Paul as our parish priest. After mass we invite you to join us for a ‘sausage sizzle’ (gold coin donation) or to bring a plate to share.

A special thank you to Fran Connors and the Parish Council who have organized the food. We appreciate all the ministers who give of the time and talents to build our parish community and make it a more welcoming place.

**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.

**Altar servers – More volunteers needed urgently:**

We are still looking for more boys and girls to be altar servers. The children that are interested must be Catholic and have completed their first Holy Communion. They should be between the ages of ten and seventeen. We need altar servers for both Sunday Masses and at the vigil Mass on Saturday night. It is an honour and privilege to be an altar server. It is up to us parents to encourage our children to participate more at Mass. Being an altar server is a good way to serve the Lord. Altar servers are important; they prepare things for Mass. They assist the priest before and during Mass. They light candles, carry the Processional Cross, hold the Sacramentary, and ring bells. The altar servers learn the Order of Mass, prayers, responses, and postures. They are an integral part of the Celebration. It will be a good experience for them.

We invite you to encourage your children to serve. Parents if you are interested in your child serving here at St. Rita’s, please contact us at the Parish Office on 3207 9177. Fr Paul is happy to run a training session this week after school for anyone interested.

**Mass Times in our Parish**

Morning Masses in the chapel 9am every day except Wednesday
Weekend Masses: Saturday 6pm, Sunday 7am, 9am, 6pm.
Reconciliation Times - Saturday’s 5pm to 5.30pm in the Church

**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.

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**SPN MOVIE NIGHT**

**SPN 'Snug as a Bug' Movie Night**
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. Please note that all children need to be accompanied by an adult. There will be a free sausage sizzle and snacks and drinks will also be available to purchase from 5.30pm. Bring your own chair, beanbag, comfy pillow, rug and snacks. Look out for the flyer attached for all the information and RSVP slip or send an email to StRitasSPN@gmail.com It’s a great night so we hope to see you there!

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**GIRLS ACADEMY - VICTORIA POLINT MAGIC**

Victoria Point Magic Football Club will be running a girls Academy in term 4 for girls aged 6 to 12 years old on a Wednesday afternoon. As part of the Academy we have created a girls only League (internal). This will allow the girls to train and play games. Girls can sign up as a group or individually and we will place them in a training group and team.

Teams and training groups will be separated by age or ability and may be combined with younger or older age players. Each week each team will have two games and two training sessions. The Academy will start on Wednesday 15th of October and run for 8 consecutive weeks, 5.00pm to 6.00pm. The fee is only $99.

Sign up online at www.totalfootballacademy.com.au and select the Academy tab. Please call Andy on 0413 888 643 if you require any further information.

Venue: Victoria Point State School (Primary), School Rd, Victoria Point, Qld, 4165

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**EARLY LEARNING**

Early Learning Redlands are offering a free workshop to parents, caregivers and educators supporting children’s social and emotional well-being. An opportunity to come and hear about ways you can help your child develop their social and emotional skills. Talk with professionals including occupational therapists, psychologists, early childhood educators and more.
'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
Building a strong relationship with their children is every parent’s dream. Here are some time-honoured ways of doing this ... if you can stick to them.

Every parent I know wants a great relationship with their children.

An effective way of promoting such relationships is through rituals and traditions. Rituals and traditions build close families.

For example, most strong families I know are underpinned by a strong food culture. In these families, every kid, no matter what their age, is expected to come to the meal table. Kids in these families are generally also expected to participate in other rituals and traditions.

This can require some parenting spine, but these rituals build wide relationships – that is, they gather the tribe together creating a wide relationship circle.

Individual parent-child relationships need to go deep. Deep relationships provide leverage. They also survive the potential storms of adolescence, during which relationships can become stormy and intense.

Certainly some ages are more amenable to positive relationship building than others. Developmentally, it’s easiest to build deep relationships in the opportunity years of latency: five through to ten years of age.

The easiest way to build a deep relationship between yourself and each of your kids is to spend regular one-on-one time together.

- Go somewhere for a whole day with a child.
- Go away for a weekend with just one child. Do things you enjoy.
- If possible, go camping.

These shared experiences can have a magic impact on relationships. They can sometimes lead to vast improvements in children’s behaviour.

Another way to build deep relationships is to share an interest with a child. Having something in common, whether it’s a shared love of sport, books or a hobby, creates an individual bond that goes deep. A shared interest also creates ‘natural’ opportunities for one-on-one time.

Make it happen

- One-on-one time needs to be organised.
- It generally won’t happen by accident.
- It takes time. It takes energy. It takes a support mechanism to make it happen. Most of all it takes permission.
- But one-on-one time is so worth the effort.
- One-on-one time is the coat hook upon which each of your children will hang their memories of you.