Dear Parents, Carers and Community Members,

**Together in Family Mass**
We look forward to as many families as possible joining our school and parish community together in family at this Sunday 9am Mass. This is an opportunity in the busyness of our lives to take time to be together doing something very simple yet profound – celebrating in prayer our inclusiveness as a Catholic community. A shared morning tea to follow.

**Congratulations Carmel College Captains 2015.**
As our staff met together for our professional development yesterday, we were absolutely delighted to hear news filter through that the 2015 College Captains at Carmel College are both former St Rita’s students – Holly Fowler and Patrick Driver. With a majority of our Year 6 and 7 students moving to Carmel next year, this is especially great news. We have fond memories of Holly and Patrick as lively learners who modelled enthusiastic contribution to our school community. We congratulate you and your families on this wonderful recognition of leadership for others.

**Whole School Maths and English Assessment**
At St Rita’s we have put in place a number of whole school assessment processes to monitor and review the learning progress on whole school, year and class, and individual student levels. It is pleasing to note that there is a significant increase in the number of students who have reached the ceiling of the tests at their year level and will be assessed at higher levels. Across the school, we have noted strong improvements and will use this data to inform our planning to meet the diversity of student needs into 2015. Well done to our students, teachers and school officers for the excellent quality of learning progress in reading and Maths.

**School Sports Shoes**
At last week’s School Parent Network the issue of white sports shoes was raised. Due to the difficulty of purchasing an all-white shoe, many students are wearing a variety of coloured sports shoes. In the interests of maintaining standards in our school uniform and practicality, we will be changing the sports shoe colour to black. This will also assist the expectations with our formal school uniform in Year 3 to 7. Please be aware of this change as you prepare to make purchases for 2015. The sports shoe will now be a black shoe, not white. While a small amount of colour will be difficult to avoid, please ensure that your purchase of school shoes falls within our uniform requirements.

**Class Groups 2015**
A task that we devote many hours and minds to is the class makeup for students for the new school year. Our process is to have current year level teachers start to have a fresh mix with a balance of gender and capabilities. Considered care is also given to the social and emotional aspect of the decision making. Our experience is that teachers know the students well and with the input from our student support teachers and school leadership team – a balanced, cohesive and new class composition is determined.

In recent years and in the spirit of our partnership, parents have also been invited to provide input if it is considered necessary. This is not to request teachers and such requests won’t be considered. The quality of teaching across all year levels is very high at St Rita’s and the expertise and strengths of each teacher matches their commitment and dedication to our profession. If you would like to have some input into your child’s class placement, you are most welcome to provide information about learning styles, social skills, strengths and challenges. Could you please have this written communication sent via email (pvictoriapoint@bne.catholic.edu.au) or paper copy to the office by Wednesday 5 November, 2014.

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

Anne
This week we celebrate our first Class Mass this term with Fr Paul tomorrow at 9:00am. Our Year 3 classes and their teachers will attend, and all are very welcome to join.

This week we are also preparing for our Together in Family Mass this Sunday 26th October at 9am. Children from our junior and senior choirs will lead us in song. It is a wonderful opportunity for us to celebrate together as a family and a community. We would love to see you all there. Please bring a plate to share following Mass.

The Queensland State Schools Showcase Awards was on last Friday night and Deirdre Tate one of our Prep teachers was invited to attend. Deirdre has been an advocate for Early Years learning and a member of the S.P.E.A.K group promoting oral language. The S.P.E.A.K application won in their category and we congratulate them. The next S.P.E.A.K upcoming event is The Pirates’ and Princesses’ Family Day out at Capalaba Library is this Saturday 25 October from 10:00am-11:00am. Everyone is welcome to join in on the fun. See the flyer at the back of the Newsletter.

Early Learning Redlands are hosting their second Feelings Matter workshop. These workshops are for parents, caregivers and educators who would like support with their child’s social and emotional wellbeing as they transition to childcare, kindergarten and school. Those interested can register online by November 4. See the poster below for more details. Everyone is welcome and the event is at no cost.

Have a wonderful week everyone.

Blessed are those... whom the master finds vigilant...  
Luke 12:37

In the latest Australian Council for Educational Leaders journal, there is a piece by Bruce Dixon, entitled Educating Modern Learners.

Over the past five years, technology has moved into the mainstream of school. It is part of our core business, as we realize that more and more it can have a significant impact on a child’s opportunities for learning. At the same time, we are starting to see a gap widening between the opportunities provided within the formal learning environment of school, and those offered in the technology rich world of informal learning outside.

It is no longer about computers being simply seen as a ‘tool’ or being used as a substitute for existing practice, but rather it is about expanding learning horizons. It is not about scheduling student access to computers locked in a room that compromises learning possibilities, but rather about providing students with personal access to the learning medium of their time; and it is not about ‘adding computers on’ to what we currently do, but rather we can no longer ignore the potential for new pedagogies that will leverage this on demand access and enable deeper learning.

Last week and in the coming weeks myself, Anne and Lagi will continue to work in partnership with Fawmatt, our external IT support team (http://www.fawmatt.com.au/) to make informed strategic choices about our future with IT at St Rita’s including the device that will be rolled out to our year 4’s in 2015 along with the distribution of the existing laptops when the year 6’s and 7’s depart in 6 weeks’ time. A note will go home in the coming days informing our year 3 parents of the existing transition and protocols to follow for the 1:1 program in 2015. In addition, all teaching staff will be participating in professional development in January with Danielle Carter (BCE Senior Education Officer) to review and explore learning horizons with technology. Exciting times ahead!

We as a school community are challenged with the responsibility of ensuring our children receive the best possible learning opportunities. Our staff are committed...
to this, you as parents expect this of us, and our children trust in us to provide the best opportunities we can to ensure we continue to prepare our students in the best possible way for the future to ‘Know more, Do more and Be more’.

Book lists will be emailed home this week. Please go to the school website if you did not receive the book list. Orders must be submitted online by Monday 3 November for delivery to school on Tuesday 2 December.

All the best - Shane

**ASSEMBLY AWARDS**

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<tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PT</td>
<td>Siera, Zoe, Laurel, Marc, Izack, Baxter.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1T</td>
<td>Rydah, Levi, Sarah, Isaac, Jackson.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2K</td>
<td>Seth, Ashleigh, Alice, Sam, Rowan, Patrick, Matthew, Imogen G.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2L</td>
<td>Georgia.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**3T**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Makayla D</th>
<th>Great Work Makayla!! You always try hard in class, making sure your work is neat and well presented. Your attention to your work INSPIRES OTHERS to give 100% like you do. Amazing!!!</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Madisson L</td>
<td>Madisson, you always treat others with kindness and respect. You constantly make sure your friends are feeling included in the classroom and playground. Your friendly smile always makes everyone feel happy. Thanks for making 3T a great place to be!!!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jack C</td>
<td>Great Work Jack!! You have been working very hard in Writing, putting great effort into your use of adjectives and making sure your writing is VERY interesting. Well Done!!!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Beibhinn D</td>
<td>Amazing Work Beibhinn!!. You work SUPER HARD everyday, always striving to do your best. You INSPIRE OTHERS to be like you. Well Done!!!</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**4T**

| Jay C | For INSPIRING LEARNING by trying his best to be a responsible learner and making big effort in his maths. Well done, Jay!! |
| Paula O | For INSPIRING LEARNING and aiming to be an independent learner. Have confidence in yourself, Paul, you’re going great!! |

**SCHOOL BANKING**

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

School Banking is every Tuesday, however if you don’t make it on a Tuesday you can come into the branch and you will still go into the draw for Banker of the Week, just remind us that you’re doing your school banking. We’d love to see you and we’re even open on a Saturday until 12 so pop in and see us.

We’re open 9.30am Mon – Fri, 9.00am 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 22nd October**
Trish McNamara
help needed?

**Thursday 23rd October**
Wendy Bevis
help needed?

**Friday 24th October**
Michelle Kotynski
Cilla Mihajlovic
Louise Lowcock
2nd Break
Michelle & Louise

Pre Ordering Sushi must be done by 1:30pm on Thursdays for Fridays. Renee 0411 523 969 email rsaleh@bne.catholic.edu.au
**UNIFORM SHOP**

**HOURS**

Thursday  8.00 to 10.00am
Friday    8.00 to 10.00am
NEW SWIM CLUB
AT THE YMCA VICTORIA POINT
JUNIOR - ADULT
PRICES FROM $7
ALL YEAR ROUND HEATED POOL
MORNING & AFTERNOON
SESSIONS
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