Dear Parents, Carers and Community Members,

Thank you for all the best wishes as I take on the Acting Principal role for the coming weeks during Anne’s travels. Anne will be visiting a few schools while overseas and we look forward to learning about these experiences next Term. Congratulations to Amy Heshusius as she takes on the Acting Assistant Principal role – this is a strong reflection of the Teacher Leadership we have at St Rita’s. Last week we received some exciting news for our teachers, St Rita’s has been invited to present components of our School Wide Learning and Teaching Framework at a Conference in Toowoomba. This Framework reflects the changing nature of 21st century education and is continuing to take shape as we partner with Professor Frank Crowther.

Team Gus Fun Run
The St Rita’s Team spirit was alive and thriving last Sunday morning at the Redlands Koala Fun Run. We had a number of our families walk or run the track, including Gus with a great 3.5 km effort in just over an hour. Gus was very popular stopping for numerous photo opportunities, including receiving the ‘Best Dressed’ award from the organising committee. Thank you for all who participated as part of the Team or cheered for Gus at the finish line. It is always great to gather as a community. We hope to see you there next year.

Parent Portal Reminder
We are continuing to have a steady stream of families logging their email details through the ‘Parent Portal Registration’ button on our public website. It is important to note that the information provided is separate from our current school data base. In essence, we are unable to pull the information from other sources. We would appreciate it if all families could register their email addresses through the button before the end of this Term. It will only take a few minutes and is most appreciated
http://www.stritasvp.qld.edu.au/

School Song Update!
The Music Fire Team from Brisbane Catholic Education were unanimous in their congratulations of our community and students. They were very impressed with our knowledge of St Rita’s story and understanding what makes our community special. The team worked with over 100 students, staff, parents and Parish members in capturing the song. We are at the stage now of recording the backing track, and in the coming weeks the recording studio will come to school to lay the voice tracks – exciting times ahead! A glimpse of our chorus...

Chorus
Knowledge, truth and love, we know more, do more, be more
Knowledge, truth and love (clap, clap)
With pride we sing out loud
St Rita is our guide, as we learn from each other
In kindness we grow with an open honest heart
**IMPORTANT DATES**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday 29 May</td>
<td>Middle Years Assembly</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday 30 May</td>
<td>Year 5 Mass</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Next Week</td>
<td>Whole School Assembly, Interschool Sports, Precinct Assemblies</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**School Fees**

All accounts have been issued and I encourage you to make payments within the due date. Our school fees are vital to maintain our standards for resourcing and school maintenance. If you are having financial difficulty, please make contact with Krys, our Finance Secretary, to arrange for a concession. Our thanks to all parents who are maintaining this important commitment.

Every blessing for a peace filled week ahead

Kevin Billion
Acting Principal

**Resilience**

A word often bandied around by teachers, parents, current affairs presenters, politicians and the like. But what does it mean? Resilience is the ability to adapt to adversity. It's the ability to cope with living in spite of stress. Building resilience is the ability to bounce back and adapt to all kinds of adversity, including trauma, tragedy, threats, setbacks and stress. Children at some time in their lives will experience stress and trauma, but by building resilience, children are better able to manage stress and feelings of anxiety and uncertainty.

With this in mind, I have found these suggestions from leading parenting guru, Michael Grose in regard to resilience. Hope you find them helpful.

**Resiliency Robbers**

Parents, by nature, have the best of intentions when raising kids. Wanting what is best for kids in the short term can cause parents to make decisions that are not always in their (children’s) long-term best interests. If you want your child to be resilient enough to bounce back from some of the bouncers that life invariably throws their way then check out the following common parenting Resiliency robbers that reduce children’s resilience.

**Resiliency robber #1: Fight all their battles for them**

Nothing wrong with going into bat when kids struggle or meet with difficulty inside or outside school but make sure this is the last resort, not the first option.

**Resiliency robber #2: Make their problem, your problem**

Sometimes parents can take too much responsibility for issues that are really up to children to work out or decide. Here’s a clue if you are wondering what I am talking about: a jumper is something a mother puts on her son when she is cold.

**Resiliency robber #3: Give kids too much voice**

In this era of giving children a voice it is easy to go overboard and allow them too much of a say in what happens to them. Kids often take the easy option to avoid hard or unpleasant situations.

**Resiliency robber #4: Put unrealistic or relentless pressure on kids to perform**

Expectations about success and achievement are important. Too low and kids will meet them. Too high and kids can give up. Too much and kids can experience anxiety.

**Resiliency robber #5: Let kids give in too easily**

Resilient learners link success with effort. They don’t give up because they don’t like a teacher or when confronted with multi-step or more complex activities. Similarly they don’t bail out of a sporting team half way through the season because the team is not winning or they are not enjoying it.

**Resiliency robber #6: Encourage kids to complete what they have started even if the results aren’t perfect**
**Resiliency robber # 6: Neglect to develop independence**

Don’t wait until they are teenagers to develop the skills of independent living. Start early and promote a broad skillset so that they can look after themselves if you are not around.

**Resilience notion # 6:** Don’t routinely do for kids what they can do for themselves.

**Resiliency robber # 7: Rescue kids from challenging or stretch situations**

There are many times kids are put in situations that are outside their comfort zones for a time. For instance, giving a talk, singing at the school concert or going on school camp may be challenges for some kids. They are all situations that kids usually cope with so show your confidence in them and skill them up rather than opt for avoidance.

**Resilience notion # 7:** Overcoming challenges enables kids to grow and improve. Sometimes the manageable hardships that children experience such as a friend moving away, not being invited to a party or completing a difficult school project are fabulous learning opportunities. They help kids to stretch and grow. Dealing with them effectively also teaches kids that they are capable of coping when they meet some of life’s curve balls. And that is huge lesson to learn at any age.

All the very best
Shane

**St Rita’s Day**

To begin our St Rita’s Feast Day celebrations last week our school community gathered in Unitas for a special Mass led beautifully by Father Peter Weinke, an Augustinian priest, and we were led in song by our own Mr Tyrrell and his choir with accompaniment from Brisbane Catholic Education’s Music Fire Team. Throughout the day, many students from our school worked with the Music Fire Team to begin the process of writing a St Rita’s School Song. The feedback from our guests was that our children were very clearly able to articulate what our school is about, making their job very easy! We look forward to the coming months as our school song comes alive. Thank you to all the parents and parishioners who were able to join us on this special day.

**Rosies and BABi Appeal**

Once again the Mini Vinnies are leading our community in this important winter appeal which supports the homeless and disadvantaged here in the Redlands. Please show your support.

**Year 5 Mass – Thursday 30th May**

Our Year 5 children are leading our school / Parish Mass this Thursday commencing at 9:00 am. All are welcome to share in Eucharist as we gather as a faith-filled community – please join us if you can.

**Singaporean Principals Visit**

Next week we will welcome two Singaporean principals as visitors to our community. Angeline Wong and Shirley Tan will be observing the practices of our Early Years classrooms, with a particular focus on Religious Education and the Religious life of our school. Please make them feel welcome.

**World Environment Day – 5 June**

World Environment Day occurs every year on the 5th June. It is a global day for actively supporting positive environmental action plans. It is a secular day that we can give a religious voice to, in understanding our commitment to our relationship with God and creation.

**Reflection**

*God looked at everything he had made, and he was very pleased.* Genesis 31

Have a terrific week!
Amy Heshusius

**SCHOOL PARENT NETWORK**

**SPN Monthly Volunteer Draw**

Be in the running to win two adult Cineplex movie tickets. All you need to do is place your volunteers registry ticket in the box beside the sign in register on the counter in the school office. Each month a ticket will be drawn and that volunteer will be rewarded for their time.

Congratulations to Leila Winterburn. You have won two movie tickets!
The Mini Vinnies have started the annual Rosie’s and BABi (Bayside Adolescent Boarding Inc.) this week. The appeal is designed to support the youth in our local community who find themselves on the streets at night with nowhere to call home. All Catholic schools and parishes in our local area contribute to this worthwhile appeal each winter. Listed below are the suggested items for each year level to collect. Boxes are placed in each classroom for donations. Please ensure that donated items are non-perishable and within the expiry date. For more information please visit: [http://www.babi.org.au/](http://www.babi.org.au/) and [http://www.rosies.org.au/](http://www.rosies.org.au/).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Collecting…</th>
<th>MV Reps</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Prep</td>
<td>Baby Food</td>
<td>Abby, Emily, Jade Y6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 1</td>
<td>Biscuits</td>
<td>Casey, Lauren Jade Y5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 2</td>
<td>Cheese and Biscuit Snacks</td>
<td>Emily, Paige, Dorind Y5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 3</td>
<td>One serve packet soups</td>
<td>Tilly, Maddisen, Darcy Y7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 4</td>
<td>Tinned Soup</td>
<td>Leah, Laura, Michaela Y5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 5</td>
<td>Tea, Coffee, Sugar, Milo</td>
<td>Piper, Kristal, Eloisa Y5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 6</td>
<td>Cereal, Cereal Bars</td>
<td>Jena, Aymee Y7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 7</td>
<td>Pasta, Pasta Sauce</td>
<td>Gabby, Jessica Y7</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**ENROLMENTS FOR 2014**

For those families with siblings at home ready to start Prep in 2014 please get your enrolment forms in for the 2014 school year. Prep Enrolment Interviews will be held early in term 2. Enrolment forms are available from the school office or the website [www.stritasvp.qld.edu.au](http://www.stritasvp.qld.edu.au).

**WALK SAFELY TO SCHOOL DAY**

Thank You

Thank you to all those parents and students who helped out to make 2013 Walk Safely to School Day a success. It was great to see so many parents/carers and children brave the cold morning and arrive at school with balloons blowing in the wind and wearing stickers.

Thank you to the Student Council members who arrived at school early to help out and thanks to Mr Thompson and all the teachers involved on the morning.

**SPORTS NEWS**

**Athletics Training**

Athletics training has commenced - Monday, Wednesday and Friday Mornings from 7.50am.

- Mondays – 100m Sprints/Timing
- Wednesdays – Shot Put
- Fridays – Long Jump

All are welcome!

**Age Championship Events**

Nominations for these events opened Wednesday 22nd May. We are trialling an ‘Online’ method to nominate for these events this year. These events are available to all that turn 10 or older this year.

The page to nominate for these events can be found on the student portal (follow the quick link from the school website [www.stritasvp.qld.edu.au/](http://www.stritasvp.qld.edu.au/) ).

Events available for nomination are:

- Shot-put
- Long Jump
- High Jump
- 800m

**St Rita’s Touch Football**

The games for Friday night are as follows:

- u/10 – 4.30pm Field 4A
- u/12 – 4.30pm Field 8
- u/14 – BYE

Please let Mr Kenyon or Mrs Hill know early in the week if you are unable to play due to other commitments.

**Important Dates:**

- Tuesday 4th June – Interschool Sports Carnival Day 2
- Monday 17th June – St Rita’s Sports Day Athletics
- 10th to 12th July – Year Seven Camp (Goodenough)

**ASSEMBLY AWARDS**

The following students were awarded a Gotcha from Gus. Fantastic Work!

- Alice 1K
- Lucas 1K
- Lily 1K
- Oliver 1K
- Georgia 1K
- Georgia W 2K
- Chase 1L
- Ella PL
- Jack PL
- Jaxon PL
- Ben PL
- Fynn PL
- Grace PL
- Isabella PL
- Sophie PL
- Nate PL
- Tahnee-Lee 2L
- Lara 2L
- Madison 2L
- Lachlan T 2L
- Summer 2L
- Luke 2L
PK
Keeley W  For ‘Inspiring Learning’ when you use your ‘Eagle Eye’ and ‘Stretchy Snake’ skills to read words. Well done Keeley!

Ayo O  For ‘Respecting Everyone’ by always speaking kindly to others and for using beautiful manners at all times. Congratulations Ayo!

PT
Alex S  Participating more in class. Well done Alex!

Madeline  Being a great leader and helping her classmates. Well done Madddy!

Jackson  For inspiring others with your interesting questions. Keep asking those questions Jackson

Zane  For always being confident when doing your interesting shown and tells. Keep up the good work Zane.

1K
Jorja H  Jorja, we will miss your smiling face, your kind words the way you are always willing to help a friend. You have been a marvellous member of 1K who INSPIRES OTHERS to be terrific like you!

Bailey R  Fantastic work Bailey! You are a RESPECTABLE and patient student who works very hard to ensure you are INSPIRING LEARNING for all of 1K. Keep up the great work.

1T
Jade F  For the respectful way that you treat other people. Your friendly smile and kind nature reflects the light of Christ to others.

Brandon S  For the wonderful dinosaur narrative you presented to our class this morning. Great job, birthday boy!

1L
Matthew S  For inspiring learning by trying so hard to get all of your work done. Fantastic, Matthew!

Breea H  For always being kind and respectful to other children. Well done, Breea!

2K
Luke P  For Inspiring Learning by the hard work you are putting into your reading. Keep up the great work!

Lani P  For the respectful manner you show to others in the classroom and also in the playground. Awesome effort!

WOOL CLUB
Our first week of Wool Club was a big success with a huge number of students coming along. Some of the students started to learn to knit whilst others learnt how to weave God’s Eyes using paddlepop sticks. We have new activities with wool planned for this week but desperately need more parents and grandparents to help us. Please call me on 0414 943 485 if you would like to join in the fun. Keep an eye out for some exciting wool creations coming home soon!

Carly Kotynski

Please note all volunteers must complete the Volunteers Student Protection Handbook. All grandparents must apply for a Blue Card. All relevant information is available from the school website or school office.

SCHOOL BANKING
Congratulations Kiarna Brown class Pk, you are the Banker of the week & we have made a $2 deposit to your account for you. Another great week with record number of students banking which is great to see - Happy savings to you all 😊

Kind Regards
Your Personal Banking Team @ Victoria Point Shopping Centre
Open Mon – Sat
PH 3207 6133
**Tuckshop News**

**Wednesday 29th May**
Veronica Dunn
HELP NEEDED??

**Thursday 30th May**
Annie McHerron-Murray
Kim Heironymus

**Friday 31st May**
Brenda Owbridge
Louise Lowcock
Nigel Wright
Lisa Bihari
Leila Winterburn

**2nd Break**
Louise Lowcock
Nigel Wright

Please remember for Friday’s to put 1st and 2nd breaks on separate bags. This will save a lot of confusion and mistakes.

If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact me. Renee Saleh 0411 523 969 email - rsaleh@bne.catholic.edu.au

**Explorers by the Fourers**

The Explorers by the Fourers Museum will be opening on Thursday 13 June 2013. Year Four parents please save the date for this exciting event. More information coming home soon.

**Uniform Shop**

**Hours**
Thursday 8.00 to 10.00am
Friday 8.00 to 10.00am

**From the Parish**

Feast of the Body and Blood of Christ (Corpus Christi)
This weekend at church we celebrate the feast of the Body and Blood of Christ which is very relevant to all the children preparing for their 1st Holy Communion.

In this week’s Gospel, Jesus welcomed the people, spoke to them about God’s kingdom, and healed everyone. All this happens before Jesus fed all the people with a few loaves and fishes.

This story is like a summary of Christian life, the way Jesus wants us to live. Jesus was welcoming and open to everyone, especially those who are neglected. He showed what God’s kingdom was like in his own conduct, in the way he treated others and cared for them. Jesus was attentive to all the ‘hungers’ that people had within them: he cured those that were sick, comforted the sad, gave hope to those who had no hope.

Jesus gave us the great sacrament of his Body and Blood so that he could do the same for us, and so that we would be able to do these things for those around us.

Notice that the disciples wanted to send the people away to get food for themselves, but Jesus tells them ‘You feed them’.

Sometimes, like the disciples, we may feel that we can’t do such a big job. But Jesus stepped in and helped them. Jesus does the same for us. He asks us to treat others the way he would treat them, but he always helps us to do it. Jesus helps us through our families, our church community, our children’s liturgy, and our building ourselves up through receiving Jesus in Communion. Together we help remind each other of who we are – the Body of Christ on earth – and we help each other to act like Jesus. The symbol of the Body and Blood of Christ – the loaf of bread and decanter of wine set before the altar, reminds us that in receiving the Body and Blood of Christ, we ‘become’ Christ for others.

Thinking of becoming a Catholic?
The RCIA program (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults) is a journey that takes about 9 months. It involves meeting every week in a small group to discuss topics that have been read previously (you would be given a resource that you read, reflect on, wrestle with etc) and to ask any questions you may have. You would be given a sponsor, someone who would walk the journey alongside you to help support you and to encourage you. Some parishioners would act as catechists in the small group and they are there to help you understand the Catholic faith and tradition. Meanwhile you would be attending mass every week (although you would not be able to receive Holy Communion) in order to experience liturgy and to become familiar with Catholic worship. This period is called the period of the Catechumenate (Catechumens are those people who have never been baptised) and is a time of discerning your beliefs, and for the nurturing and growth of your faith and conversion to God and educating yourself about the Catholic faith. We are hoping to start the RCIA journey in August/September. If you want to know more,
please contact Angela Clarke at the parish office on 3207 9177 or email at pa.victoriapoint@bne.catholic.net.au

Life in the Spirit Seminar with Fr Jack Soulsby S.M.
St Rita’s Catholic Parish will be hosting a Life in the Spirit Seminar with Fr Jack Soulsby S.M. a 3 day retreat from 2nd to the 4th August 2013. The Life in the Spirit Seminar is commonly used by Catholic groups in the context of renewal in the Roman Catholic Church. It is an instrument for bringing people into a deeper experience of the work of the Holy Spirit. The Life in the Spirit Seminar is available for everyone. The Seminar provides a way to learn more about living in the Spirit. In the Seminar you can take steps which will allow Jesus Christ to establish, or restore, or deepen a relationship with you. For Catholics who have experienced the sacramental graces, Jesus will give you a new and fuller relationship with Himself. The gift of the Spirit fills our whole life and changes us so that we begin to know and experience God's love and the abundant life Jesus spoke of ..."I came that they might have life and have it to the full." (John 10:10) The Church has never lost the life of the Spirit nor the experience of the Power of the Holy Spirit. For enquiries please call Angela at the parish office on 3207 9177.

A Building Committee for St Rita’s Parish is to be established: We are seeking the services of volunteer tradespeople and any people that have experience and knowledge in building.

If you could help, please contact the Parish office on 3207 9177

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

DON’T GO TO THE BANK
Get a 0.7% Discount for the Life of your Loan.
Call - BAYSIDE HOME LOANS
Your Local Mortgage broker
PH: 38209155
We will SAVE you $$$
*Terms and conditions apply
St Rita’s Primary School

Wool Club

Grade 3-7 students can now join our new Wool Club held every Wednesday during the 1st break in the Flexible Learning Space in the Library. We will learn how to make lots of different things with wool including knitting, weaving and crochet.

We are also looking for parents and grandparents to teach the students. Please contact Carly on 0414 945 485 if you would like to join in.

Any donations of wool, needles and hooks that we can use can be left at the school office or in the church.

STUDENT TRAVEL REBATES
Semester 1, 2013

Bus Fare Assistance
- Does your child attend a school outside the Brisbane City Council boundary?
- Does your family spend more than $22/week* on fares to and from school (exclusive of concession card)?
- Does your child travel on a publicly available bus not owned or associated with the school?

Students with Disabilities
- Does your child have a verified disability that requires transport assistance to and from school?
- Has your child’s learning support teacher assessed your child’s travel capability rating as ‘semi-independent’ or more dependent?

Visit our website to see if you qualify for financial assistance to help with the cost of transport and apply at www.schooltransport.com.au by 31 May 2013.

Late applications cannot be accepted.