Dear Parents, Carers and Community Members,

Last Friday 12 July, we welcomed 11 Principals from the Toowoomba Diocese who were visiting two schools in the Archdiocese of Brisbane. The purpose of their visit was twofold; to discuss how our Teacher Leadership Teams operate, and to discuss the planning and implementation of our contemporary learning practices — interactive TV’s, iPad’s, Learning Management System, 1:1 notebook program etc. The Principals requested to visit St Rita’s as they had heard we have a well-developed technology plan which ably supports our Vision for Learning and Teaching. It was a pleasure to share with them the development, implementation and challenges of these programs as well as the continued realisation how fortunate we are as a learning community. After the team left, we were humbled for them to speak so highly of our school. A team from St Rita’s is presenting at a Toowoomba Educational Conference at the University of Southern Queensland in September and look forward to catching up with our colleagues again then.

Our PBS (Positive Behaviour Support) Team has been reviewing and preparing information for our new website (live 1 August). One document going on the web clearly outlines stated expectations of what constitutes acceptable behaviour at St Rita’s. Teachers work with children at all levels; individually, class, year and whole school to constantly reinforce these expectations to create conditions to optimise learning outcomes. Please continue to meet with teachers as we all work together to nurture a safe and welcoming environment.

Safe travels to Ms Heshusius who is leaving for World Youth Day which is being held in Rio. This formation experience is being sponsored by Brisbane Catholic Education and the Archdiocese of Brisbane and we are looking forward to Amy sharing these learning experiences on her return. I would also like to thank Amy for her dedication and leadership in her time as Acting Assistant Principal and welcome Ms Hill to the Acting Assistant Principal role over the coming weeks.

There is a great deal of activity in our community as we prepare for our Winterfest Fete on the 27 July. Thank you for all your efforts to date — generously donating goods, time and energy that will ultimately benefit the children at St Rita’s. Keep praying for fine weather as the countdown comes closer and closer. We are looking forward to celebrating with you on this day.

A gentle reminder that the entrance to the staff car park through Red Gum Drive is not a drop off point for children. If you wish to use this side of the school, please park outside and walk your children in. Thank you as we work together for the safety of our children.

Enjoy the week ahead
Kevin

World Youth Day
During our liturgy at the Year Seven camp last week I said, “We are all pilgrims. We are all on a journey to be the best person we can be. And, more importantly, we are all on a journey to know God.” I, personally, am about to embark on a significant journey in my life. I am about to participate in a pilgrimage to World Youth Day in Rio de Janeiro. I wanted to share some of my thoughts with our community before I leave.

When you go on a holiday, you are called a tourist. On a short holiday to the coast or a long holiday to another country, people who travel away from home and enjoy family time in another place are called tourists. Tourists use all their senses to experience a new place. Their eyes see new things, their ears hear different sounds, their bodies touch and feel new sensations, their noses smell unfamiliar
scents and their mouths taste different cuisines. As a tourist, you ‘soak up’ everything you can about life in another place. You allow yourself to get a bit lost in a new world which is different to your everyday life back in the Redlands.

When you go on a pilgrimage, you are called a pilgrim. On a short pilgrimage to a nearby sacred place like the Indigenous rock paintings at Straddie or a long pilgrimage to another country like Brazil, people who travel away from home and spend time talking to God in another place are called pilgrims. Pilgrims do everything tourists do. They see new things, hear different sounds, touch and experience new sensations, smell unfamiliar scents and taste different cuisines. However, a pilgrim does something more. A pilgrim has another sense, a sense of God. In their heart, a pilgrim feels the warmth and love of God in a new and holy place. A pilgrim uses all of their senses, and ‘soaks up’ the overwhelming feeling inside their heart of God being present in the sights, sounds, sensations, scents and tastes of everything around them.

To get that feeling and sense of God, pilgrims tend to travel to holy places. A few years ago, Father Leo went on a pilgrimage to the Holy Land. He went to the place where Zacchaeus climbed a tree to see Jesus. There is a tree that people from all over the world travel to pray near because they believe that place is sacred, and at that place, they can sense, feel and talk to God. Ask Father Leo about his pilgrimages, he has done many. He would love to share his stories, experiences and photos with you.

I am about to head off on a pilgrimage to World Youth Day. World Youth Day (WYD) is a gathering of young people from all over the world with the Pope. It is a week-long meeting to build and strengthen the bonds of faith, friendship and hope, symbolising the union between people of different cultures and countries. The main goal of WYD is to inspire young people with Christ's message.

So this Friday, at some ridiculous hour of the morning, I will leave Brisbane with a group of 22 teachers from Brisbane Catholic Education. I embark on a journey where I am hoping to see new things, hear different sounds, touch and experience new sensations, smell unfamiliar scents and taste different cuisines – just like a tourist. As a pilgrim though, I pray that as I journey I sense Jesus in the people I meet, I sense the wonder of creation in the places I go, I sense the gifts of the Holy Spirit guiding me and keeping me safe and most of all, I pray that my experiences bring me closer to knowing myself and knowing my God.

At camp I also said to the Sevens “Wherever we go, we take that St Rita’s symbol with us. It follows us. And that symbol stands for, and means something.” As I go to WYD, I take the St Rita’s spirit with me. I walk in Knowledge, Truth and Love. I seek to KNOW more, DO more and BE more. And with that St Rita’s symbol and spirit as my guide, I will be the best person I can be while I am away from our sacred place, home, St Rita’s.

You can follow my pilgrimage in a few ways.

- I am taking Little Gus with me. He has a twitter: https://twitter.com/LittleGus_WYD
- With two fellow pilgrims I am keeping a blog: http://worldyouthdayblog2013.blogspot.com.au

This week I finish my time as Acting Assistant Principal: Religious Education. When I return from WYD, I will return to my class 4Truth. The weeks in leadership have flown by and I have learnt so much from my two colleagues Kevin and Shane. I can honestly say, St Rita’s is a community that is in very good hands. Thank you for your support and encouragement as I continue to work towards my goal of Catholic school leadership.

**WYD Vivid 2013: Go Make Disciples**

Vivid 2013, our local Archdiocesan World Youth Day event, will link with the theme for WYD Rio 2013: Go Make Disciples. It will feature guest speaker Br Damien Price and include local artists, Brazilian music and food – something for everyone. An Archdiocesan Mass with Bishop Joseph Oudeman will also be celebrated as part of the event.

All are invited to come along for a chance to be immersed in the WYD experience as ‘pilgrims’ with energetic music, testimonies, prayer, great food, fun and inspirational messages of hope! Mark Sunday 28 July (4.00-8.00pm, doors open at 3.30pm) at St Laurence’s College, 82 Stephen’s Rd, South Brisbane as the place to be!

To be part of this great event, register online at http://www.cymbrisbane.org.au by Monday 24 July. Phone 3109 6800 or visit the website for more information.
May God bless and keep you, until I return, adiós Santa Rita’s!

In Faith and Friendship, Amy

Catholic Education Week

Catholic Education Week will be celebrated across Queensland next week. This annual event is held to promote the special ethos of Catholic schools and to highlight the great things that take place in Catholic schools every day.

The theme for this year’s celebrations is: Making a Difference... inspired by Jesus. Catholic schools strive to make a difference in the lives of individuals and in the wider community by challenging young people to live out the message of Jesus and to reach their full potential as compassionate, contributing, life-giving members of society.

St Rita’s aims to provide a high quality, faith-based education that is responsive to the needs of all learners and provides opportunities for them to reach their full potential - spiritually, intellectually, physically, culturally, socially and emotionally.

By ‘Making a Difference’ St Rita’s strives to lead students to develop deeper understandings of the world and their place in it, and, by encouraging them to live out the Gospel message of Jesus Christ, trust they can live fulfilling lives.

Students are nurtured to develop a commitment to social justice and a critical social consciousness, and are prepared for global responsibilities through stewardship of the Earth’s resources. Like other Catholic schools, we strive to be a welcoming, inclusive, and connected community that values diversity and treats each student with dignity, enabling them in turn to promote and respect the dignity of all.

There are 296 Catholic schools in Queensland that educate around 140,000 students and employ almost 17,000 teachers and staff. All of these communities will celebrate Catholic Education Week in some way. In partnership with Catholic schools in the Redlands, our Year Seven students will be participating in a Catholic Education Week Mass on Tuesday 23 July at Carmel Catholic College. Excursion permission forms have already gone home and I encourage you to return these as soon as possible.

While we try to teach our children all about life, our children teach us what life is all about. (Angela Schwindt)

All the best Shane

**PREP 2014 ENROLMENTS**

Prep acceptances for 2014 are now due. Can you please pay the enrolment deposit and submit paperwork as soon as you can. If you have problems please contact the school office.

**CONCERT BAND BREAKS WORLD RECORD!**

On Saturday the 13th of July, students of the St Rita’s Concert Band performed in the World’s Biggest Orchestra Challenge. The students had to beat 6424 people playing simultaneously for 5 minutes. The challenge was undertaken at Suncorp Stadium and was conducted by world renowned, trumpet player James Morrison.

Together with many other musicians the St Rita’s Concert Band students broke the World Record with 7223 musicians performing. These students are now officially included as part of the Guinness Book of World Records.

A wonderful day was had by all! A big Thank You to Amy Heshusius for her help and supervision on the day.

Yours musically, David and Kathleen Smith, Creative Kidz On Stage

**MUSIC NEWS**

A big congratulations to our St Rita’s School Band who participated in 'The World’s Biggest Orchestra' on Saturday 13th July. The record of the most amount of musicians playing together at one time stood at 6452, set in Vancouver, Canada. The Official Count on Saturday was 7,223 breaking the record by almost a thousand. Check out some of the photos on Twitter!

Great to see some of our students being part of a piece of record breaking history!

Coming up....Redland’s Eistedfodd, Winterfest, Queensland Catholic Music Festival.

Paul Tyrrell
Arts Teacher
SPORTS NEWS

Age Championship Events
Below are days scheduled for completion of the age championship events. If you have nominated for an event and are away on the day it was held, Please see Mr Kenyon to schedule an appropriate time to catchup.

Monday 15 – Shotput 10-13yrs
Tuesday 16 – 10 and 11yrs Longjump (During Break times)
Wednesday 17 - 12 and 13yrs Longjump (During Break times)
Thursday 18 – 10 and 11yrs Highjump (During Break times)
Friday 19 – 12 and 13yrs Highjump (During Break times)

St Rita's Touch Football
Thankyou to the girls and boys who attended on Monday for our 'Team Placement Day' and small training session. Training will commence next Monday, after school from 3.10 -4.00pm.

Game times for Friday night have yet to be finalised. Students playing will be notified by Thursday afternoon.

Mission Cup Netball
Notes have gone home to all girls interested in trialling for a position in one of our ‘Mission Cup Representative Teams’ to compete at the carnival in Redlands on 26/27 October. Trials will be held on the St Rita’s MPC this Thursday 18 July from 3.30pm.

District Trials
Girls U/12 Cricket – Available to all girls born (2001,2002 and 2003). Please see Mr Kenyon as soon as possible.

Year 5 Camp
Any students yet to hand in their permission and medical forms for Year 5 Camp, must do so as soon as possible.

Met-East Tennis
Congratulations and Well Done to Chelsea (Y7), who was successful at the recent Met-East Tennis trials. Chelsea did extremely well in her matches earning ‘1st Seed’ position for the upcoming state championships to be held later this month. All the best Chelsea!

MSReadathon!
Yes it’s that time again when we invite all "St Rita's book lovers" to join up and support people with MS. It’s as easy as 1-2-3!
1. Register online at: msreadathon.org.au
2. Ask your family to sponsor you.
3. Read as many books as you can during the month of August.
You will be able to win some great rewards and help people living with MS at the same time.

ROBOTICS

On the first Wednesday of the school holidays I went to a robotic workshop. After a brief introduction we paired up and our teacher gave us a robot and a computer to work with.

The robot was small and basic; it had ultrasonic sensors like echolocation and hearing as well as wheels and a screen. We used the computer to program the robots using a special Software (Lego Mindstorm); it had different types of control boxes such as moving, timing, hearing etc. We used these in all our tasks especially the moving control box.

Throughout the day we had some challenges such as: programming the robot to go exactly from one place to another; my group was the first to complete the challenge!

Another one was to program our robots to do the Mexican wave, each group had an exact time (mine was 1.5) and we completed it successfully.

The challenge I enjoyed the most was to save Penelope the bear, we used our robots to get to her because it was too dangerous for humans to do. We have to get around a maze using different rotations making sure we didn’t hit the walls.

Can’t wait to get my own, and know more, be more, do more.

By Carlos Johnson 4T
**SCHOOL BANKING**

**BANKER OF THE WEEK WINS A FREE SHOW BAG AT WINTERFEST**

This week’s special winner of a Show Bag TO THE VAULE OF $10 at the Winterfest is Jacob Joneshart (2L)!! Congratulations and we hope you have a fun time deciding which to choose! Don’t forget everyone has a chance again next week to win a Show Bag voucher so please bring your school banking next Tuesday.

Thank you J
Your Personal Banking Team @ Victoria Point Shopping Centre
Open Mon – Sat
DIRECT PHONE 3207 6133

**CONGRATULATIONS**

The Redland Bay Tennis Club and Bayside Tennis Coaching are proud to announce that two of Queensland’s best 12/U aged girls train and play at the Redland Bay Tennis Club.

**Chelsea Groundwater** has been selected to play off for one of seven positions in the Queensland State Team at the Primary School State Tennis Trials to be held in Townsville in August.

The Redland Bay Tennis Club will be holding a **SOCIAL DOUBLES EVENT** to help raise money and to support this up and coming tennis star.

**WHEN:** Saturday 27 July
**FORMAT:** Social Doubles (team up with your own partner)
**TIME:** 12:15pm until late
**COST:** $15.00 per player. Includes BBQ and entry into several lucky draw prizes

All funds raised will help cover some of the costs involved in the girls’ upcoming trip to Townsville.

There will be great raffle prizes and lucky door prizes available throughout the afternoon’s event.

As Head Coach and Club Manager, I encourage the Redland Bay Tennis Club community to show your support of Lara and Chelsea by registering to play in the social doubles afternoon and enjoy what promises to be a great event.

Registration forms are available from the Pro Shop. If you have any questions about the event, please feel free to contact me at the club on 3829 1383.

**TUCKSHOP NEWS**

**Wednesday 24th July**
Wendy Bevis
Kelly Goldston

**Thursday 25th July**
Alicia Overdijk
Trish McNamara

**Friday 26th July**
HELP NEEDED????
Nigel Wright
Brenda Owbridge
Leila Winterburn

**2nd Break**
Kay Coleburn

It was great to see so many Students loving the Pizza Special.
Also remember we have a drink called Krazy Lemon. This drink is high in Vitamin C and great for sore throats etc.
If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact me anytime.
Renee Saleh 0411523 969 email - rsaleh@bne.catholic.edu.au

**UNIFORM SHOP**

**HOURS**
Thursday 8.00 to 10.00am
Friday 8.00 to 10.00am

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**BUYING or SELLING**

**David Bradley**

- Over 20yrs Experience
- Sales Team of 50
- 4 Bayside Offices

**REMAX Bayside Properties**

m: 0412 557 777
e: davidbradley@remax.com.au
You are invited to our Parish Retreat - Life in the Spirit Seminar with Fr Jack Soulsby S.M. at St Rita’s church.

A Life in the Spirit weekend is for anyone wanting to:
Know more about their faith
Grow in prayer
Discover the gifts God has given to them
Open their lives to the renewing power of the Holy Spirit
Learn more about the mission they have been called to.

When:  
Friday 2 August 7pm to 9pm
Saturday 3 August 9.30am to 3.30pm (lunch provided)
Sunday 4th August 1pm to 4pm (concluding with mass at 3pm)

Cost:  
Donation

Altar servers – More volunteers needed:
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

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
**HERO RUN**

The Leukaemia Foundation Qld is the new major charity partner for the Brisbane Marathon Festival for 2013 and has the Leukaemia Foundation Kids 2.2km Hero Run as our feature race for the festival. This event is open to under 12’s and is a great way for kids to get out and get active, all participants who complete the course each receive a finishers medal! All the details on the event and how to register are available on our events page just visit our website [www.lfq.org.au](http://www.lfq.org.au)

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**Toilet wanted for 'Lob a Loo' game**

Side Show Alley is in need of a new or old (clean) toilet pan for the day, if you can help out please contact the school office.

**DONATIONS FOR SIDE SHOW ALLEY**

Last year was Side Show Alley’s first year and due to your kind support it was a huge success. This year, I would ask again if you could donate new items that your child would love to win at Winterfest, here are just some suggestions:

- Individually wrapped sweets
- Whizz fizz
- Mentos
- Trolli lollies
- Milkos
- Red skins
- Milky Way bars
- Mars bars
- Toy cars
- Hair bands
- Rubbers
- Writing sets
- Pencils
- Trading cards
- Note pads

Please drop them into the office into the box labelled Side Show Alley. Once again thank you for your support.

**TOMBOLA**

Please help the Tombola stall by donating a jar with goodies to the value of $5, i.e., marbles, stickers, hair ties, 5c pieces, small toys.

**ARM BANDS**

This year you will be able to purchase arm bands on line through Flexischools. Arm Bands will be $35 pre purchased, and $40 on fete day. The on-line ordering should be up and running this week, and will close on Thursday July 25 at 5pm. Pre purchasing will close on Friday July 26 at 3pm. Any purchases needed to be made on the Friday will have to be done through the school office with either cash or credit card.

**BOOK STALL**

Books, books, books! Do you have any 2nd hand books that you no longer need? Angela Clarke is our book stall convenor and needs any books. Cookbooks, picture books, craft books, magazines, reference books, novels….. She will take them all!

**COLOURED HAIR SPRAY**

Our social justice group, Mini Vinnies, are holding their Coloured Hair Stall. They need donations of coloured hairspray and glitter hairspray. All the funds raised from this stall go to St Vincent de Paul to help those less fortunate than ourselves. Let's encourage these selfless St Rita's students who are trying to help people in our community in need.

**TICKET SELLING VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**

We still have a few empty spots on the volunteer roster on Friday afternoon, if you can spare an hour or two, please call into the school office and put your name on the roster, every hour helps. If you sell 10 raffle books, your child will receive one free all day ride pass.
JEWELLERY AND HANDBAGS
Donations are needed of good quality pre loved accessories and handbags, if you have any items that you would like to donate, please secure them into small plastic bags so they don’t get broken or tangled. Items such as hats (not caps) bags, (not backpacks), gloves, scarves, belts and all types of jewellery will be greatly appreciated. These donations can be sent into the school office, or left in the back of the church or parish office.

SET-UP/PULL DOWN
Help is needed for set up on Friday July 26 from 10 am, and also for clean up on Saturday after the Fete from 5pm. If you can help on either of these days, please call the office to leave details.

RAFFLE TICKETS
Please ensure all raffle books are returned to school urgently. We have to account for all tickets, if you have lost your book, please contact the school office.

ROSTERS FOR STALLS
These forms went home last week, please show your support by filling in some times to help on a stall and return these forms as we need to finalise all helpers for all stalls as quickly as possible.

MOBILE ATM
We will have a mobile ATM for your convenience. It will situated on the oval near the after school care building.

LOB-O-CHOC
Donations of blocks of chocolate for Lob-o-choc are still being taken, and can be left in the office.

PHOTO BOOTH
Crazy photos and family portraits will be available at photobooth, 8x10 @ $5 each, 5x7 @ $2 each. We are in need of borrowing some wigs for the day, clown, long hair etc, if you have any lying around could we please borrow. They can be left at the office, (please name them so we can return them to you).

WINTERFEST SPONSORS
Please show your support to the business who have so generously supported our Winterfest

WINTERFEST DONATIONS
Please support the following businesses who have so generously donated towards Winterfest:
Lorraine Lee Linen, LJ Hooker, Cleveland, Victoria Point
Mower Centre, Bob Jane Tmart Capalaba, Peter Dowling
MP, Service Plus Auto, Currumbin Wildlife Sanctuary,
Sirromet Winery, Watershed Wines, Redland Bay Golf
Club, Cr Lance Hewlett, Michel’s Patisserie, Cleveland
Picture Framing, Merlo Coffee, Dan Murphy’s, Redlands
RSL Club, Grandview Hotel, Raniga Dental, Victoria Point
Shopping Centre, Super Cheap Auto, YMCA, Snap
Fitness, Curves, Victoria Point Tavern