Dear Parents, Carers and Community Members,

Prep Open Afternoon
Our sincere thanks to the student leaders, current parents, teachers and staff who generously supported our first Prep Open afternoon yesterday. A great display of our school community connectedness, warmth and focus on best learning practices provided a rich and enjoyable experience for some new families and prospective enrolments for future years. In particular the afternoon showed the strength of our parent partnership in leading learning and the importance of this to enhance learning achievement for our students. We plan to do this again early in 2014. Thank You!

School Fee Payment
As a Catholic school we rely on school fees to supplement our funding to make St Rita’s a school with excellent facilities. Thank you to the many families who are committed to this. There is currently a significant amount of outstanding fees due to an oversight of payment. Your prompt attention to this is appreciated. Please make contact with our Finance Officer, Mrs Kuropka, should support be required to meet fee payment.

Year Six Camp
We farewell our Year Six students and their teachers tomorrow as they set off to Camp Goodenough in the Gold Coast Hinterland. Camp is a great experience for students – and teachers – to discover physical, social, emotional and spiritual strengths in new, at times, challenging and a beautiful natural environment. Keep safe and enjoy!

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

Anne McKenny
Principal

Around Our School

Coffee Mornings – In line with our values of Augustinian Hospitality we have started a new initiative for welcoming new families to the St Rita’s community. At the first Monday morning assembly of each month, the coffee van will be supplying coffees to all parents of our new and existing families who are able to join us. The SPN will be sponsoring this as a way of welcoming these families into our supportive community. We will be endeavouring to tweet out these coffee mornings each month so please join us if you can make it.

Year 2 Liturgy – Please come and celebrate with our Year 2’s on Friday 10:00 in Liturgy with Fr. Leo. The celebration will be in the Church and you are most welcome to attend if you can make it.

This will be my final newsletter till mid next Term when I return to St Rita’s. I’m looking forward to the experiences ahead and already looking forward to connecting again with our great community after the holidays.

Until then, take care
Kevin

Congratulations and well done to the students that recently participated in the Bayside Athletics carnival at Carmel College, it was great to see our students performing at their best.

Tomorrow night I am very much looking forward to attending the Year 6 Camp for both nights and wish the boys and girls the best of luck throughout the week.

I take this opportunity to thank the students of St Rita’s over the past few weeks for their efforts in Taking Care of Property and Environment – in particularly ensuring that rubbish is placed in the appropriate bins located on the school grounds. We have noticed a big improvement with ‘Wiping out Waste’. I also congratulate all students for their
**IMPORTANT DATES**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday 11 September</td>
<td>Year 6 to camp, Junior Years Assembly</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday 12 September</td>
<td>Early Years Assembly</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday 13 September</td>
<td>Year 6 return from camp</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday 16 September</td>
<td>Whole School Assembly, Snr Choir Marebello visit</td>
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Efforts with participating in the ‘Nude Food/Litter Free’ lunch days each Tuesday. Essentially the long term goal is for this to occur every day at St Rita’s. Many thanks for your ongoing support with this.

In addition, this morning I met with a class representative from Years 2-7 to form what will be an Environmental Club/Team at St Rita’s – photo below. This is in line with our Cross-Curricular priority that is Sustainability.

http://www.australiancurriculum.edu.au/CrossCurriculumPriorities/Sustainability

All the best

Shane

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**WORLD YOUTH DAY**

**Little Gus’ Big Adventure at World Youth Day**

**Saturday Night Vigil**

‘How do you keep 3.7 million young people in order? Put them in front of the Holy Sacrament’. This was tweeted through the official World Youth Day Twitter account and when I read it, I knew it was true because I was one of those 3.7 million people.

After our walk along Ipanema and reflection time on the headland, we continued our walk up Copacabana Beach. We walked up the beach as far as the crowd would allow and found a tiny piece of beach to set up for a long night. With our sleep mats, sleeping bags and box of food supplies ‘staking our claim’, we made ourselves known to the pilgrims around us, which included a tiny group of Germans whom we adopted into our group for the night.

The beach was literally alive and crawling with bodies that were singing, dancing, chatting and waiting with great anticipation. Surrounding us was an incredible noise, peaceful and friendly noise, but very loud all the same. As the first words were said signalling the start of Mass, the crowd began to settle and within minutes, a sense of sacredness and stillness had calmed the beach. It was almost like the calming of the storm from the gospel. With only a few words Jesus calmed a great storm, and now, with only a few short words, the Pope had calmed an almighty crowd.

With a pocket radio providing an English translation of the Mass, we reverently participated in the songs, responses and actions to the best of our ability. We thought the crowd was already amazingly quiet, however what happened next was truly the work of our almighty God. As 3.7 million young Catholics knelt in the sand before the altar, Pope Francis held up the most beautifully adorned monstrance for all to see. He placed it on the altar and for about 5 minutes, the already quiet and subdued crowd, went absolutely silent. Only the sounds of waves crashing gently on the shore could be heard. Once again, the beauty of creation made itself present as we spent time with Jesus.

I come back to that tweet, ‘How do you keep 3.7 million young people in order? Put them in front of the Holy Sacrament’. Yes, this was another incredible World Youth Day moment to be part of.
**SPORTS NEWS**

**St Rita’s Touch Football**
- u/10’s Allstars (Mrs Hill) – 4.30pm on Field 5B
- u/10’s Allstars (Mr Kenyon) – 4.30pm on Field 4B
- u/12’s Allstars Blue – 5.15pm on Field 8
- u/12 Allstars Maroon – 5.15pm on Field 9
- u/14’s Invaders – 6.00pm on Field 4
There will be no training this week, as Mr Kenyon is away on Year 6 Camp.

**Mission Cup Netball**
Training for the Mission Cup Netball Squad will be on Tuesday afternoons from 3.15pm till 4.15pm. Please let Mr Kenyon know if you are unable to make training certain weeks.

**State Games – Special Olympics**
Congratulations to Matthew D, who last Saturday competed at the Special Olympics State Games Swimming Carnival. Matthew was very successful taking home Silver in Butterfly, a Bronze in Backstroke and was awarded a ribbon for winning Freestyle. Well done Matt!

**Regional Athletics**
Congratulations to Matthew D, who was very successful at last week’s Met-East Regional Track and Field Carnival. Matthew competed in the AWD 100m, 200m and Shotput and claimed 1st Place in each event! Matthew was close to making the State Squad for sprints but missed out by mere seconds. Congratulations Matthew!

**GKR Karate Championships**
On Sunday the 1 September, Joey H competed in the GKR Karate Championships. For his effort he earned a Silver medal and is now in selection to compete in New Zealand for the State Finals. Well done Joey!

**HPE Lessons**
Year 3-7 students are reminded to continue bringing their tennis racquets (if they own one) to HPE lessons for the remainder of this term.

**Important Dates**
- Year 6 Camp – 11- 13 September
- Interschool Sports Day #4 – Tuesday 15 October

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**LAST WEEK IN YEAR ONE**

In Year One, we are studying life in the rainforest. This week, we welcomed two guest speakers who shared their experiences of visiting the rainforest. Father Leo entertained us with tales of his recent expedition to the Amazon Jungle, while Jacob D (Year 4) recalled his trip to the Daintree Rainforest. Here are some student recounts based on these visits.

**The Amazon Rainforest**
Father Leo went to the Amazon Rainforest. He saw a walking tree that can move. And he had a ride in the Rio del Madre Dios in a canoe. He had lunch wrapped in a banana leaf. He had chicken, rice and vegetables. Father Leo went to Monkey Island. He saw lots of monkeys. He had a fun time at the Amazon Rainforest.

by Jade F 1T

**Jacob’s Adventures in the Daintree**
Jacob went to the Daintree. He saw a brown snake and a tree that was defeated by some vines. He visited a town of history and it was Cooktown.

by Patrick C 1T

**Jacob’s Adventures in the Daintree**
Jacob went to the Daintree Rainforest. Jacob got stuck in the mud. Jacob swam in the river. Jacob visited the historical village. Jacob saw lizards and green tree snakes. Jacob saw a crocodile sunbathing in the sun. Jacob clambered over rocks. It was bumpy on the road. It took three weeks. Jacob had fun.

by Mikayla T 1T
YEAR FOUR CONVICT DAY

On Thursday 19 September, the Year Fours will be participating in a Convict Day. On the day, the Year Four students will come to school dressed as convicts and participate in convict activities. A note has been sent home with further information regarding this day and can still be accessed via the Year Four Weebly.

ASSEMBLY AWARDS

| TT | Maddisen M | For the way in which she works studiously in class. Maddisen never gives less than her best, whether she is working in a group or independently. |
|    | Amelie S  | For her kind nature and friendly personality. Amelie seeks to treat everyone fairly and with respect. |
|    | Mikayla B | For the way in which she displays maturity and enthusiasm towards her school work. |

WOOL CLUB

Our students have been busy this term in Wool Club weaving cds and making dream catchers. We are asking for all students who have borrowed knitting needles to please return them before the school holidays.

FAIRY TALE BALL

What a wonderful time everyone had at the ball!! The ladies were gorgeous and the gentlemen were dashing. The St Rita’s Castle was sparkling with colour, the music was lively and the dancing was spectacular. On behalf of the students and teachers we would like to extend a HUGE thank you to Mrs Hardaker, Mrs Rockliffe and Mrs Fielding for the tremendous amount of hard work they put in to setting up the castle for our annual ball. I think all would agree that their efforts made the night a magical event.

SCHOOL BANKING

Not long until the holidays!! This week’s banker of the week is Elliot C. Great job Elliot, a bonus is in your account!! Spring is a great time to think about spring cleaning your finances and re-assessing financial goals, something that people tend to reserve for a New Year’s Resolution. How long has it been since you gave your finances a good spring clean?

Have a good week!!

Thank you from
Your Personal Banking Team @
Victoria Point Shopping Centre
BOQ – It’s Possible to Love a Bank
Open Mon – Sat
PH 3207 6133
HELP NEEDED???

Thursday 12th September
Niah Brown
Tanya Digby
Wendy Bevis

Friday 13th September
Darren Smallwood
Maggie Helmn
Michelle Kotynski
Brenda Owbridge

2ND Break
Tracey Knight
Michelle Kotynski

Please remember to write prices and add your child’s order so to make it easier for our Volunteers. (Especially Fridays)

We have an open door policy in the Tuckshop. If you would like to see how we run, check ingredients’ etc. please feel free to come in anytime.

Renee Saleh
0411 523 969 email: rsaleh@bne.catholic.edu.au

UNIFORM SHOP

HOURS
Thursday 8.00 to 10.00am
Friday 8.00 to 10.00am

Orders for Year 3 need to be returned as soon as possible to allow for ordering and delivery by end of term.

FROM THE PARISH

Ignite Conference is a dynamic and contemporary Catholic conference for adults, teenagers and kids. Since it began in 2001, it has grown to become the largest Catholic youth event of its kind in Australia for young adults, teenagers and kids. The Ignite Conference is about gathering with other young people from across this corner of the world for a common experience - encountering Jesus Christ and the Church, experiencing dynamic faith, being equipped for ministry and living the Christian life, and empowered to impact the Church and the world. For more information go to www.igniteconference.com.au

The Ignite experience gets bigger every year, and now regularly attracts over 1000 young people, ministry leaders, priests, religious and parents from across our nation and beyond.

The Ignite Conference has drawn people from every state of Australia plus New Zealand, East Timor, Thailand and the USA.

The 2013 Ignite Conference will be held from Thursday 26th to Sunday 29th September, at the Mueller Performing Arts Centre (MPAC) on the Redcliffe Peninsula.

Altar servers – More volunteers needed urgently: Thanks to those children who came to altar servers training last week. Fr Leo is happy to run another session this month after school for anyone interested. For more details contact us at the Parish Office on 3207 9177

Date Claimers - Sacrament of Reconciliation 2013

The preparation for the Sacrament of Reconciliation will begin with a ‘Parent Information Evening’ on Tuesday 15th October at 7pm in the church. This is an important meeting and one parent is requested to attend if you wish your child to be involved this year. This is usually for the children in Grade 4 in preparation for the Sacraments of Eucharist and Confirmation in Grade 5, 2013. If you have an older child who would like to receive First Reconciliation in preparation for Confirmation and First Eucharist in 2014 please come to this information meeting.

The children will be enrolled at mass on the weekend of 19th/20th October. Parents can attend either Saturday 19th October at 6pm mass (enrolment ceremony is during the mass) or Sunday 20th October at 9am mass. Children will be given Reconciliation lessons during Saturday 6pm mass or Sunday 9am mass on the following dates: 26th/27th October, 2nd/3rd November, 9th/10th November

The Rite of Reconciliation will be held on Tuesday 12th November at 6pm or at 7.30pm again in the church. Contact Angela at the parish office on 32079177 if you have any questions.
**Final Aria Angels for Term 3**

Music, art, hospitality and prayer! These 90 minute sessions are an excellent opportunity to develop the social, emotional, spiritual, physical and intellectual domains of children through music, art, hospitality and prayer. For children birth – 5 years with parents, grandparents, caregivers and friends. We gather in the Ruby room next to the parish office on Thursdays from 9.00am to 10.30am **THURSDAY 12**. The cost is $5 for one child, $8 for two children and $10 for three children, including morning tea. For more information call parish office on 3207 9177.
BAYSIDE AQUA SHARKS

NEW SWIM SQUAD AT THE YMCA
SQUAD PREP - SENIOR LEVEL
SMALL GROUPS & COMPETITIVE PRICES
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aquasharks@outlook.com

Home & Business Security
Wall-mount DVR with screen & 4 Cameras
Packages from $1500 installed
Call Jim 0428 351 511

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*Terms and conditions apply

Coochiemudlo Island Surf Life Saving club
SIGN ON DAY For the 2013/2014 Season
NEW MEMBERS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME
(Birth Certificate Required)
Sunday, 8th September, 2013 10am and 2pm
28 Yeo Street, Victoria Point
Call Des on 0468 525 844 or Russell on 0409 619 516
email coochieslsc@bigpond.com for an info pack

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