FROM THE SCHOOL LEADERSHIP TEAM

Dear Parents, Carers and Community Members,

Today we welcome the return of Mr Billion to St Rita’s. Kevin has enjoyed the challenge and experience of being Acting Principal at St Rita’s Dutton Park since the end of last term. During this time, Mrs Marianne Ferguson has done an outstanding job in the APRE role and we thank her for her enthusiastic and very capable leadership during this time.

In this our last term of the year, there are many events – class and school based for us to plan for and enjoy. Our Crazy Hat Day today (coinciding with Melbourne Cup) is one such event and has been organised by our Year 7 leaders for Catholic Mission Month. In particular, funds raised are in support of orphaned children in Mongolia. An important part of this event, in fact, the most important aspect is the difference this makes to others and providing our young people with an experience to know that their generosity is making a significant difference to the lives of others.

Prep Orientation
Next week, on Wednesday 13 November, we have our Prep Orientation Day. Another big day on our calendar where we welcome the new families and younger siblings to St Rita’s. This is an exciting day and we look forward to sharing more about the learning intentions for our Prep year, our community partnerships within and beyond school including Parish.

Fr Leo is delighted with the number of families attending weekend Mass and taking the opportunity to build our children’s faith experience through the Children’s Liturgy at 6pm (Saturday) and 9am (Sunday) Masses. It is a gift that is meaningful and appreciated later in life and it is great to have a positive response within our school community to make this a regular feature of family life.

School Zone – Flashing Lights
I am pleased to advise that the State Government project to install flashing 40km School Zone lights directly outside our school on Benfer Road is to go ahead this week. The installation should not be disruptive to our school day/traffic. A timely reminder to all that the school traffic time is a time for additional safety, responsibility and patience. Our Benfer Road Drive Thru is the safe option for drop off and pick up. While we always appreciate the many who use this responsibly, it is disappointing to observe or have to speak to a minority who prefer convenience over children’s safety.

School Fees
All fees are due for the last term this coming Friday. As we are required to pay our school bills before the end of year, we would appreciate that all accounts be finalised by that due date and thank you to those who have already attended to this. Please make contact immediately with our Finance Secretary should you have any concerns with this.

Anne McKenny
Principal

I love my job and the people I work with - no day is ever the same. As we approach the half way mark for this Term, I found this ‘enlightening’ article which was written several years ago however is still very relevant. Hope you enjoy it.

Children do not run the household. It’s a novel concept in these enlightened times when parents spend most of their waking hours organising their
children's days to within an inch of their cosseted lives - the children that is and not the parents, for whom cossetting is a distant memory.

Piano and drama lessons juggle for timetable space alongside soccer and tennis. Swimming is an absolute must (who knows if there’s another Thorpedo lurking inside those six-year-old shoulder blades) so something has to give. Usually it’s a parent's patience.

During any down time between before-school art and after-school craft, it’s the parents who answer the clarion call of, “I’m bored - there’s nothing to do.” Well, toughen up and go outside and play. That’s the advice of New Zealand author Nigel Latta, who has been dealing with difficult children and their parents for more than 15 years.

Latta’s book, Before Your Kids Drive You Crazy, Read This!, is aptly sub-titled Battlefield Wisdom for Stressed-Out Parents. It’s a book of strategies gleaned from his experiences as a psychologist, which include the truly horrible behaviour of some children. Latta’s main bugbear is over-parenting which leads to wilful and arrogant behaviour from the people in the household who aren’t paying the mortgage or doing the shopping. He says the most common parenting issue is adults who doubt themselves. You only have to hang around the school gates to get an idea of just how big a millstone parents have made for themselves. The conversations aren’t so much about “This is what we’re doing” as “Is this what we should be doing?” Am I spending enough time with my children; do I take them on enough museum trips; are they making the right friends; should we give them peanut paste; is that toy made in Ch...

Latta is also a big advocate of “welcoming the chaos” - and with two boys aged five and eight, he knows how the chaos has affected him. “Before we had kids, people used to say, I was this calm and peaceful person and they’d say it quite a lot,” he says. “And then we had kids and it’s not that people say I’m this really uptight person now, but they’ve stopped saying I’m a really peaceful person.”

His most salient piece of advice for a misbehaving child is time out. A few minutes in a chair or a corner, some couch time or time in a boring room should do the trick.

All the best
Shane

Thank you to everyone in our community this morning for the warm ‘welcome backs’ I received (it is amazing how quickly some children grow in 6 weeks). My time leading with another school was most rewarding professionally and very affirming of the strong work we are doing together at St Rita’s. Having said this, it was great to be heading to St Rita’s today and I look forward to weeks ahead as we prepare for the end of Term and the blessings of the Christmas Season.

Some upcoming date claimers:
Friday 8 November
Year 1’s attending Parish Mass (9:00 am)
Year 2’s Liturgy of the Word in the environmental area (10:10am)

Monday 11 Nov - Remembrance Day Assembly
Remembrance Day (11 November) marks the anniversary of the armistice which ended the First World War (1914–18). Each year Australians observe one minute silence at 11 am on 11 November, in memory of those who died or suffered in all wars and armed conflicts. We will dedicate our Monday’s assembly to Remembrance Day and during the assembly will respect one minutes silence for all those who have suffered or died for our freedom. You are most welcome to attend and mark this time with us. Thank you to 5T who will be leading this service with us. Each year we send a small number of student representatives to Salford
Retirement Home to participate in their service and lay a wreath on behalf of our community. If you are available to attend this service at 11:00 am with your child/ren, could you please email me kbillion@bne.catholic.edu.au in the next few days.

**Tuesday 12 November**

Year 7 Mass (9:00am)

**Reflection**

*You never know what's around the corner.*

*It could be everything.*

*Or it could be nothing.*

*You keep putting one foot in front of the other, and then one day you look back and you've climbed a mountain.*

Have a peace filled week

Kevin

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**BOOK LISTS**

Book lists have now been home for a week. Please let the office know if you did not receive this. Orders must be submitted online by Monday 18 November for delivery to school on Friday 29 November.

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**SCHOOL FEES**

All school fees are to be finalised by Friday 8 November. If payment cannot be made please contact the school office immediately.

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**SPORTS NEWS**

**St Rita’s – Friday Night Touch Football**

u/10’s Allstars 1 (Mrs Hill) – 4.30pm on Field 2B
u/10’s Allstars 2 (Mr Kenyon) – 4.30pm on Field 6B
u/12’s Allstars Blue – 5.15pm on Field 8
u/12 Allstars Maroon – 4.30pm on Field 8
u/14’s Invaders – 6.00pm on Field 3

Please let Mr Kenyon or Mrs Hill know if you are not available to play this week.

Training for U/12’s will now be held on Monday afternoons from 3.10pm to 4.10pm.

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**P-3 Swimming**

Congratulations to all our Prep to Year3 Girls and Boys who participated at the Junior Swimming Carnival this week. It was great to see a lot of girls and boys give the 25m Freestyle option a go as well as taking part in the small modified pool activities on the day.

A big thank you to all our parent volunteers and year 7 leaders on the day, who assisted with in pool activities. Your assistance is most appreciated.

**Congratulations**

On 20 October, Montanna competed in a QLD State competition for Bayside Physical Culture. She placed 5th on the day and will now compete on the 24th November at Nationals, at the Sydney Homebush State Sports Centre. Congratulations on a great effort.

**Mission Cup Netball**

Could all players return their netball dresses cleaned to Mr Kenyon, by the end of this week.

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**ASSEMBLY AWARDS**

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<th>PK</th>
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<tr>
<td>Aiden H</td>
<td>Ashlee G</td>
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<td>Gabrielle Mc</td>
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<td>Keeley W</td>
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<td>Bethany W</td>
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**1K**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bailey R</th>
<th>Marcus L</th>
<th>Aaron Mc</th>
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**2T**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Alex S</th>
<th>By showing great confidence in initiating conversations with his fellow classmates and teachers! Well done Alex!</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ella G</td>
<td>Inspiring others for her fantastic effort at swimming! Well done.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Name</td>
<td>Message</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mia C</td>
<td>Inspiring others by showing great leadership and friendship to her fellow classmates. Well done Mia!</td>
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<tr>
<td>Grace J</td>
<td>You are really trying hard with your writing, Grace. Keep up the good work!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fynn M</td>
<td>You inspire others with your fantastic drama skills. Thank you, Fynn!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Isaac B</td>
<td>You are making amazing progress with your writing. Keep up the great work, Isaac!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Liam B</td>
<td>You keep going even when the task is hard for you. Well done, Liam!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jack M</td>
<td>Welcome to St Rita's Jack. We are so glad you came to our school!!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Emily F</td>
<td>For being a great role model to others with your good listening during your swimming lessons.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Georgia H</td>
<td>For always being ready to learn and keen to participate in classroom activities. Keep up the great work!</td>
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<tr>
<td>Joshua F</td>
<td>For Inspiring Learning in 2K by working keenly and confidently during maths. Awesome effort!</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kaden M</td>
<td>For trying harder during class to participate in class activities and to listen actively.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Makayla D</td>
<td>For Inspiring Learning in 2K by using descriptive sentences in your writing. Great job!</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dean</td>
<td>For taking care of our environment, by making a big effort to pick up rubbish. Thanks Dean!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tobin</td>
<td>For inspiring learning in all subject areas. By staying focussed and trying your best you are starting to achieve great results! Keep it up Tobin!</td>
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**MASQUERADE DISCO**

Just a reminder that the school disco is going ahead and will be on this Friday 8th November. The students of St Rita’s are invited to participate in a fantastic, interactive disco experience. Each student will receive a free sausage in bread & a juice popper. Decorate your own mask to wear on the day. Prep - Year 3 Disco 4.30 - 6.00pm, Year 4 - 7 Disco 6.30 - 8.00pm. Please return the form to the school office by Wednesday 6th November.

**WIPING OUT WASTE**

Have you wiped out waste at home? Well 4K have and here’s our proof. In 4K we have reduced land fill waste by composting and recycling.

Firstly, in 4K we have been doing bin audits in the past 2 weeks. The bin audits show the data that we have collected. The proof to the bin audits is the graphs which you will find on my website below.

Secondly, in the classroom we have a paper recycling bin ONLY for paper. If we have paper that we can reuse, than we put it into the scrap paper box. But if it can’t be reused than it goes into the paper recycling bin.

Thirdly, on the table in the classroom we have a blue compost bin that we can put in tissues and pencil shavings. Then they can be emptied into the compost bin outside the year four classrooms. Once emptied into the compost bin it then it goes into a big area made out of wood and gets poured into it. Once again the graph is the proof.

In 4K we have done a lot of work on recycling and reducing waste. Reducing, reusing and recycling have helped the environment by saving paper, land fill waste and fruit and vegie scraps.

Below is the link to my website:
http://reduceourwastelucyandcallum.weebly.com/

Sincerely
Lucy 4K
Meeting
Thursday November 14, 4pm, Staff Room
This meeting is open to anyone interested in helping with the 2014 Winterfest. New ideas are welcome, anyone interested in convening a stall, or any new ideas for stalls is most welcome. Please come and share your ideas.

SCHOOL BANKING
The Banker of the week this week is Lucas B, congratulations Duncan we have deposited $2 into your bank account. Christmas is just around the corner, and this November we’re partnering with The Smith Family to help collect toys and books for disadvantaged kids Aussie Kids. If you would like to donate a brand new toy or book you can drop it into the Victoria Point Branch for the The Smith Family to collect. Have a great week everyone.

PIANO/KEYBOARD LESSONS
Enrolments are currently being taken for piano and keyboard lessons for 2014. If you are interested in your child having lessons at school please collect an expression of interest form from the office or contact me on vicki.minogue@bigpond.com.

Vicki Minogue
Piano/Keyboard Teacher - 0407 027 216

UNIFORM SHOP
HOURS
Thursday 8.00 to 10.00am
Friday 8.00 to 10.00am
Closed Friday November 8

TUCKSHOP NEWS

Wednesday 6 November
Veronica Dunn
Taryn Durant

Thursday 7 November
Maria Kease
Trish McNamara

Friday 8 November
Louise Lowcock
Michelle Kotynski
Lisa Bihari
Melissa Lorimer

2ND BREAK
Michelle Kotynski

Thank you everyone for Making Tuckshop Day special. This day is designed to thank everybody who has anything to do with the working of a Tuckshop in Queensland.

Please remember that as of Wednesday 13th October you will need to pre-order Sushi. All orders must be in by 1:30pm on the previous day. We will be adding a Gluten Free option to the Sushi menu. Renee Saleh 0411 523 969 email: rsaleh@bne.catholic.edu.au

FROM THE PARISH
Sacramental Program news:
The children have their final Reconciliation lesson this weekend at the Saturday 6pm mass or Sunday 9am mass so please bring your children along.

The Rite of Reconciliation ceremony will be held on Tuesday 12th November at 6pm or at 7.30pm again in the church. Parents, please remember to bring your child’s completed Penance workbook to be collected by Fr Leo at the ceremony.

Advent Adventures:
On Saturday 30th November, your children are invited to come to our church to participate in a very special day to prepare for Christmas. The theme that day will be “Advent Adventures”. Catholic children will gather from many schools for a fun day of activities including drama games, PowerPoint stories, craft, songs etc. BYO lunch. Morning and afternoon tea provided. Please let us know if you are coming by
contacting the parish office on 3207 9177 or email Angela on pa.victoriapoint@bne.catholic.net.au

Junior Choir:
The Junior Parish Choir will be singing at the 9am mass on Sunday 1st December. This will mark the first Sunday of Advent.

Meet and Eat:
Our final Meet & Eat for 2013 is planned for Sunday 1st December both 7am and 9am masses. So bring some gold coins and stay after mass for some yummy pikelets and jam.

YEAR 7 - HAWAIINA ALOHA 'OE

Shout out to all year 7 parents.
As part of the Year 7 Party we are having a Lollie/fruit Buffet complete with chocolate fountain. We are asking if parents could please send in donations of Lollies for the buffet. eg marshmallows, soft lollies (bananas/rasberries), licorice, dried apricots, waifers. There will be boxes in the class rooms for the kids to drop them in and they will be collected daily. A big thank you to all parents for getting the RSVP's back promptly.

Not long to go now!

NEW SWIM SQUAD AT THE YMCA
SQUAD PREP - SENIOR LEVEL
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aquasharks@outlook.com

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*Terms and conditions apply
COMPLIMENTS, COMMENTS AND COMPLAINTS

Your compliments, comments and complaints are important to us – they help us improve our service, so please let us know your views.

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<td>Child’s Name</td>
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