

Dear Parents, Friends and Guardians

Welcome to New Staff

This week we had three new staff start with us. Their appointment followed an advertising and interview process through Brisbane Catholic Education's employment protocol. I am very pleased to welcome to our Marymount school community these new staff members

- Marlene Dawood – School Officer – Library Assistant
- Angela Sauvarin – School Officer – Prep Teacher Assistant
- Lon Williams – School Officer – Learning Enhancement Centre

Marlene, Angela and Lon have all had great starts and have 'hit the ground running' since Monday. Each person has their own expertise and experience in their relative areas and we look forward to them sharing this fully with us over the course of the year.

Parent Information Evenings

I would like to thank the many parents who were able to attend our Parent Information meetings which were held last week by our class teachers. It was great to see so many come along and others who couldn't make it, follow up with our teachers at other times. The meetings enable us to pass on a great deal of information about our curriculum and the everyday processes of class and school life. My thanks also goes to our teachers for their dedication to their role and their work with these meetings.

If parents would like to discuss more individual issues with their teachers then I would encourage you to contact them via email, phone message or note to do so. We will be holding our compulsory Parent Interviews in Week 9 and 10 of this term but if you need to see them before this please make contact. I would strongly suggest that any such interviews be arranged after school as these times suit our teachers better.

Presentations of Swimming Age Champion Medals

We will be holding a special assembly next Tuesday, 5 March, in our school's Multi-purpose Centre at 9.00am to present the winners with their Age Champion and Runner-Up medallions. This assembly will only be for Years 3 to 7 as these were the age groups who competed on the day. Parents are most welcome to attend this assembly which should be completed by 9.30am.

Writers' Groups and Author's Visit

Next Tuesday our school will also be hosting two children's authors as part of two different focuses for our children. Christine Bongers will be joining with children from Marymount Primary and the College as well as children from St Augustine's School at Currumbin as part of an Excellence in Writing workshop. She will be working with these children to pass on tips on how to create and develop stories. Laura Mitchell, one of our Year 3 teachers, is co-ordinating this day. We have held this program every year with different authors and it's a great chance for our children to mix with an experienced children's author and hopefully glean some skills from them.

We will also have Dr Cameron Stelzer visiting us on Monday and Tuesday to share with our children in Years 3, 5 and 7 his tips on writing persuasive and narrative stories. This is in preparation for the NAPLAN testing sessions which are held in May. This is a great opportunity for our children and staff to pick up some new skills or to refresh their knowledge of existing skills.

Gold Coast Catholic Schools Goal –Setting Days - Thursday & Friday – 27 & 28 Feb

As mentioned in last week's newsletter, our Leadership Team – Bernadette Christensen, Tony Barron, Julian Cotter and I – will be away from school for the next two days attending the above conference. John Jensen, our Teacher Librarian, has agreed to be our Teacher-in-Charge for these two days. Thank you for your anticipated support of John during this time.

Thanks for reading, enjoy the rest of the week.

Yours in Christ, **Greg Casey**

Coming Events

Thursday February 27
Yrs 4Y & 4P Class Liturgies

Friday February 28
Yrs 5 - 7 Sports trials
Yrs 6 - 7 Musical auditions

Tuesday March 4
9am - Swimming Age
Champions Presentation
assembly

Wednesday March 5
Ash Wednesday
4P Assembly - Doyle Centre

Friday March 7
GCCPS Swim Carnival -
Pizzey Park
8.45am - Reading Workshop
LOTE Room



Mass Times

Children Mass
(Doyle Centre - children read at Mass)
5.30pm 1st Sunday each month

Children's Liturgy of the Word
(Doyle Centre - children are withdrawn for brief lesson)
10.00am 2nd & 4th Sundays;
5.30pm 3rd Sunday
8.30am each Sunday (school term)
at St Benedict's, Mudgeeraba

Parish Mass Times
Sat—5.00pm Miami;
6.00pm at Palm Beach;
6.15pm at Burleigh Heads;
Sun-7.00am at Palm Beach &
Burleigh;
8.30am at Mudgeeraba & Miami;
10.00am at Doyle Centre;
5.30pm at Doyle Centre



Internet and Social Media Concerns that All parents need to know.

Did you know????

34% of kids have friends online they've never met in person

46% of kids have given out personal information to someone they've met online

32% of all teens on the Internet say they have been a victim of cyberbullying

35% of all social media users have a second 'secret' account

Social Media Sites have a minimum age limit for users to register – Facebook 13 yrs, Instagram 13 yrs,
MySpace 14 yrs!!

(Info from Family Online Safety Institute Worldwide

Forums)

Every day we at school are contacted by parents regarding Internet and Social Media issues. Things that have happened at home, on weekends, or even late at night!

The Internet and Social Media Sites are not going to go away; they are and will continue to be a large part of our lives. So the best thing you can do is to EDUCATE your children, WORK with them, MONITOR their Internet usage and be the person in control of their account.

If your child is on these sites then you need to parent them. You need to keep them safe! YOU need to be in charge of their account as the responsible adult.

Outlined below are some general tips and rules to help protect your child and to help them enjoy what the internet has to offer. Please talk with your children about these points. If you need more information or help, contact me. This is not spying or showing a lack of trust. This is called Good Parenting!!

Respect the Rules

Is your child old enough to be on a social networking site?

"Children aged Under 13 years of age don't have the mental, social or emotional capacity to handle all that happens on Social Media." (Dr Michael Carr-Gregg)

Some social networking sites have already made the decision for you. If you have kids under the age of 13, many social networking sites do not allow them to join or participate such as Facebook, MySpace and Instagram. However, with no age verification in place on these sites, many kids under the age of 13 sign up using a fake birth date. While kids should not be completely prohibited from participating in social networking, violating the rules is not a good option. Such rules are in place for a good reason. If something should go wrong with an underage participant, these sites are rarely willing to intervene, and will take the position that their rules were violated.

General tips for parents

- Take a look at or sign up for some of the social networking sites yourself to get a feel for what they're all about. You'll feel much more comfortable about your child using social networking sites if you understand some of the terminology and how they work.
- Look at the privacy information or safety tips provided on the social networking sites themselves. You'll usually find such information in either the 'about us' sections of websites or in dedicated 'safety' and 'privacy' sections.
- Engage with your children about their experiences on the Internet, without making it seem like you're snooping on them. This way your child will not feel worried about speaking to you about online bullying or being sent inappropriate content.
- Try to set limits on Internet usage at home. It's not a good idea for children to spend inordinate amounts of time in front of a screen, be it TV, games console or computer so make sure you set house rules on how the Internet is to be used at home: which sites can be visited, how long each member can spend on the computer, etc. Microsoft has a downloadable 'Online Code of Conduct Contract' you can print off for each family member to sign, which provides a reasonable list of ground rules for families to follow.

Tips for staying safe on social networking sites

- Aside from standard software tools and parental controls you may already have to filter out inappropriate emails and websites from your computer, you may like to consider installing a tool that allows you to monitor your child's online activity, limit the amount of time they spend online and even block their ability to send out personal information.

These sites might help.

www.earnestparenting.com/2011/05/02/7-best-tools-to-monitor-your-childrens-online-activity/
www.pcworld.com/article/224773/do_you_know_what_your_kids_are_doing_online.html

- Never give out personal details such as addresses or mobile phone numbers on social networking sites. It's also best if your child doesn't use their real name on their profile.
- Use 'strong' passwords and ensure your child never discloses their password to anyone, even a close friend. A 'strong' password could be a very random mix of letters and characters. You the parent MUST control this password! (Did you know, the actual word 'password' is the most common password currently used!).
- It's best to select the strongest privacy setting when your child is setting up their online profile, so only those in their circle of friends can access most of their information.
- Be very selective about uploading images, status updates and messages, even among trusted friends. This includes photos of your child in school uniform and sporting teams. It is very easy to track a child's identity when you can read the words "Marymount" in a photo. Once circulated online, images can be shared widely, copied and can be extremely difficult to block or remove.
- Your child should never agree to meet a stranger they've been communicating online with in person.
- Your child should always tell you if they come across anything they find upsetting or offensive while using social networking sites. Equally if they or you suspect your child may be the victim of any form of online harassment or grooming, you need to seek help immediately. Aside from contacting the social networking site itself, serious cases that do not get resolved should be reported to the local police or Child Exploitation and Online Protection Centre (CEOP).
- If your child is the victim of any form of harassment or abuse, ensure you keep a record/screenshot of all communication to pass over to the relevant bodies.

REMEMBER YOU ARE THE PARENT, THEY ARE THE CHILDREN. ENSURE THEY GROW UP IN THEIR TIME, RATHER THAN BEING BROUGHT UP BY SOCIAL MEDIA.

Thanks

Tony Barron

Curriculum News

ICAS, (University of New South Wales) Tests

Due to an increase in the entry fees and a decline in interest it has been decided that for 2014 we will not be offering these tests at Marymount. We will review this decision in 2015.

Reading!

At Marymount we want every child to be excited about picking up a book and enjoying reading from cover to cover. Whilst in the early stages of learning to read there may be some frustrating times, patience and perseverance is the key. Please listen to your child read, no matter what year level, every day. The material does not have to be a traditional book; it could be a magazine, car repair manual, recipe book, a letter from a grandparent. Don't feel that a book must be read in one go, a few pages or a chapter, well read and understood will assist to consolidate the strategies being taught in the classroom. Asking questions about the content, discussing possible scenarios from the story, and searching for more information on a topic of interest helps to build an inquiring mind and a reader who wants to explore more books.

There are many libraries on the coast and borrowing is free. If you have a look online you will find the GCCC libraries run regular events for children (as well as adults), including school holiday activities.

Enjoy the rest of the week.

Diane Anderson



Performing Arts Classes are held every Tuesday after school in the Doyle Centre Drama Room. These are for Year 2 right through to High School. There are a few spots still available this year. With years of experience in both live and TV/film work, I like to offer the students a variety of experiences. Some take part in festivals and the older students will do some film work. Classes cover acting skills, role play, character work, improvisation and more. If you would like to enrol your child email or text me as below.

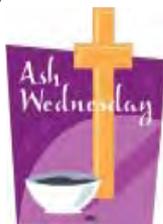
Anna Waters-Massey
watersworks@bigpond.com / Mob: 0417 584290
www.annawatersmassey.com.au

Ash Wednesday

Next Wednesday (5 March) is Ash Wednesday, a feast that marks the beginning of the liturgical season of Lent. This season is 40 days in length and ends at the Mass of the Lord's Supper in April. Traditions and practices during this time have varied over the years though they still revolve around the themes of prayer, almsgiving, penance, fasting and abstinence. While our understanding of these concepts is less literal than in the past, people over the age of thirteen years are still required to fast and abstain from eating meat on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday, provided they are in good health.

4P (JH) will lead us in prayer at assembly. We will welcome the ashes that have been blessed by Fr Ken at Mass earlier in the morning and listen to scripture. We will pray and sing about ways to change our ways. Ashes will be distributed in class during the day at a time convenient to the group. At school we encourage children to focus on changing behaviour and becoming better people. Students make their own personal Lenten promises and work towards these goals.

We also focus on the work of Caritas Australia and Project Compassion as a way of looking outwards into the world and giving in order to make a difference to others.



7.00am
9.00am
9.30am
5.15pm
5.30pm

ASH WEDNESDAY MASSES

Mass - Burleigh Heads
Mass - Miami
Mass - Ozanam Villa
Mass - Mudgeeraba
Mass - Palm Beach

Project Compassion (for Caritas Australia)

This fundraising campaign runs throughout the season of Lent and gives us a practical and immediate way we can contribute to the efforts of agencies who work with the poor in Australia and overseas. Caritas continues to be active in many countries such as Brazil, South Sudan and Sri Lanka responding to the needs there.

Please take a close look at the money box that has been sent home to you this week. Collect your small change or make a plan to give up a family treat so that you can give the money to those less fortunate. Please send the box back at the end of term and remember to fill out the information on the top if you would like a receipt for tax purposes.



Bernadette Christensen



**Year 7
Leadership
Ceremony**



Don't forget to update your child's class on Munch Monitor. This will ensure they will receive their orders in time for their breaks. The children are finding it extremely hard to find their orders due to incorrect information on Munch Monitor.

Please make sure to sign up with Munch Monitors and use this great site built to make ordering your child's food so much easier.

We are always on the lookout for volunteers to help out in the tuckshop. We don't mind if you volunteer once a week, fortnightly or monthly. Any help is greatly appreciated.



USERS

Please update your child(s) class on their online 'Student Profile' to ensure lunch orders are delivered to the correct place.

Steps to do this:

1. Login to your Munch Monitor account and go to MY ACCOUNT > STUDENT PROFILE
2. Click on your child's name in the left green column
3. When the new page opens select their new 2014 class from the drop down list
4. Click Save

CONCESSION APPLICATIONS ARE CLOSING

Please note that completed concession application forms must be sent to the Accounts Office no later than Wednesday 5 March 2014 to be considered for this Term. If you do not submit your application within this timeframe you will jeopardize your chances of approval being granted for Term 1.

Applications must be received with ALL SUPPORTING documentation attached including a CURRENT Centrelink INCOME STATEMENT, before an interview can be made. At this stage the last appointment date with our School Fees Co-ordinator will be Monday 10th March 2014. Please phone Janelle Holmes from our Accounts Office on 55208417 if you have any queries.

SPORTS NEWS

Regional Swimming

Congratulations to our 24 Marymount students who competed at the Gold Coast South District Swimming Carnival last Tuesday at Somerset College.

From that group of 24 swimmers, 8 have qualified to compete in the Regional Trials at Miami Aquatic Centre on Monday 3 and Wednesday 5 March.

Best of luck to Conall Crowley, Jack Eveleigh, Evan Mitchell, Ema Tanaka, Lewis Treggiden, Blake Weise, Haley Weise and Kiana Young with their events at the upcoming Regional Trials.

Catholic Swimming Carnival

The annual Gold Coast Catholic Schools Swimming Carnival will be held on Friday 7 March at Miami Aquatic Centre. Permission notes will be sent home with the relevant students today accompanied by an events list and program.

Cross Country Training

Cross Country training will start next week. Our training times will be Monday lunch time (1.20pm), Tuesday before school (7.45am) and Thursday at Morning Tea (10.40am). Please meet Mr Elliott and Mr Hill in front of the Shed.

Marymount Cross Country Carnival will be held on Thursday 24 March (week 1, term 2).

Paul Hill



BURLEIGH HEADS CATHOLIC PARISH

Parish Office Hours 9.00am to 5.00pm
Parish Manager: Mr Jim Littlefield
Parish Pastor: Fr Ken Howell

3 Sunlight Drive, Burleigh Waters (Postal PO Box 73, Burleigh Heads)
Parish Pastoral Team
Associate Pastors: Fr Huong Van Nguyen & Fr Lucius Edomodi

Phone: 5576 6317/5576 6466 FAX: 5576 7143
EMAIL: burleigh@bne.catholic.net.au
Pastoral Associates: Sr Patricia Tomlinson

Parents' Guide to Internet Use

Like the real world the cyber world will never be perfect but parents have the power to reduce the issues significantly

Please Remember...

- The cyber world is a great and safe world; it's how people use it that creates issues
 - My child needs my life skills and adult instincts to help them make sound choices and identify problems
 - No program my child will want to use is essential to their development, treat all programs as an added extra, a privilege
 - No online decision I make in good faith regarding my children and their safety is a bad one, trust my instincts
 - Technology will forever change but our household rules and my protective practices will never change
 - Online dangers and responsibilities are real
 - Always weigh up the positives and potential risks when deciding what programs my kids can use
 - Encourage the use of technology in a public environment; issues are more likely to happen in private
 - Everybody in the house knows I am the one who has the final say regarding technology
- 
- I don't have to be an internet expert only a diligent, loving and sometimes strict parent
 - Rules and boundaries I put in place will not stop my child using technology, it will help them use it and avoid the bad stuff
 - By being an involved parent I reduce the risk of potential issues
 - Using programs that can monitor and filter online content is my right as a parent, I'm not spying on my kids, I'm spying on everybody else
 - Online issues aren't about technology; it's ALWAYS about people
 - Online education should start the second my child types a key
- 

Every time my child logs on they have access to everything the adult world has to offer - I have to be involved - I may be the only line of defence

1. Always keep lines of communication open
2. Consider monitoring and filtering software
3. Take interest and have active involvement with kid's internet use
4. Take control of the internet and mobile phone
5. Have firm guidelines rules and consequences
6. Keep the internet in a public area of the home



This **Parents' Guide to Internet Use** is provided with compliments of Brett Lee from Iness and Netbox Blue



Internet Safety and Cyberbullying Presentations
for Schools, Community and Organisations
iness.com.au / 07 3139 1181



Internet Management and Cyberbullying Prevention Solutions
for Families, Schools, Business and Government
netboxblue.com / 1300 737 060

How to register :

1. Complete the form below
2. Place it in an envelope marked “Attention Ms. Kelvin Parent Workshop –Reading”
3. Return it to the Class Teacher by

Friday, 28th February, 2014 .

Your name.....

Your child's name.....

Your child's class.....

I would like to attend the workshop on Friday, 7th March 2014

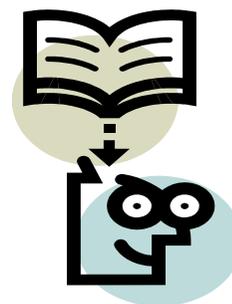
Workshop topics

How do children learn to read?

What do I need to know about reading ?

Making reading fun by using:

- * “hands on “activities to help children with reading
- * Games to help your child learn the Marymount Wonder Words (first 200 sight words.)



HELPING YOUR CHILD WITH READING AT HOME AND AT SCHOOL



If you want to help in the classroom or have some great ideas to make reading more fun at home then this ‘hands on’ workshop is for you ..

WHEN AND WHERE

Friday 7th March 2014
at 8.45 am (sharp) till 11 am
in the LOTE room .

(Opposite the Library
downstairs ,near the stairs)

MAR 2nd 2014

★ DOYLE CENTRE MASS

COMMUNITY PRESENTS ★

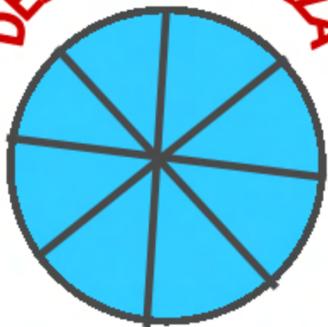
PARISH YOUTH
MASS

EVERYONE

WELCOME

JOIN US AFTERWARDS

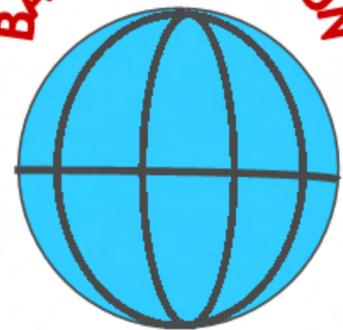
DELICIOUS PIZZA



CONVERSATION



BASKETBALL FUN



MASS @ 5:30PM

★ CELEBRATE YOUTH OF OUR PARISH AND

START OF SCHOOL YEAR

★ DOYLE CENTRE / MARYMOUNT COLLEGE ★

★ SUNDAY 2 MARCH 2014 ★