

Dear Parents, Friends and Guardians

Maternity Leave to Start

This Friday is the last day of teaching for our Prep Teacher, Gemma Walker. Gemma will be commencing a period of Maternity Leave as she and her husband, Rick, await the birth of their fourth child. This will be an exciting time for them and their children – Emily, Annabelle and Mason. I would ask that you please keep the Walker family in your prayers during this time of waiting and preparation. We thank Gemma for her efforts and time with her class for the last six weeks – she may have some interesting Show and Tell for the children early next term. I would like to thank Deanne Krueger for taking on the role of Prep teacher for this class for the rest of the year. Deanne is already well known to the children as she has been planning and co-teaching with Gemma since the start of the year.

Catholic Schools' Swimming Carnival – Friday, 7 March

The annual Catholic Schools' Swimming Carnival is being held this Friday at the Pizzey Park pool complex. Our participating children have been given notes last week with the full details and a program of events from our PE teacher, Paul Hill, so they should all be up to speed on what's happening and when. Good luck to the squad for the day – it's always a great meet with some very good competition on offer.

March P & F Meeting - Monday, 10 March

Our March Parents and Friends Association meeting is being held on this coming Monday evening at 7.00pm in the Staff Room. All parents are welcome to come along to this meeting which runs to approximately 8.30pm. Some of the Agenda items are :- New Parish church plans; Marymount Schools' Art Show 2014; Primary P & F Trivia Night.

Have you checked the Children?

In the early 1980's this was the slogan used to advertise a rather chilling movie called "When a Stranger Calls". It was about a young babysitter looking after children whilst the parents went out for a dinner and a stranger kept calling the sitter to ask 'Have you checked the children?' At the time it scared a lot of people and it won reasonable acclaim. It served to shock many adults and made them wonder how safe and vulnerable their children were.

I am asking again now for you, our parents, to check your children for their online safety, especially if you have allowed them to use social media. It is calling at nearly every door of our school community and many of us are oblivious to its dangers. Last week our Assistant Principal, Tony, wrote a great article in our newsletter about many of the social media sites that we and our children know – Facebook, Instagram, Kik and others. I believe that the purpose of these sites are without any moral compass or conscience and our children fall prey to their wiles. How many times do we see in the news of children and adults being bullied, ostracised, humiliated and worse and these sites do little or nothing to delete or respond to calls for the offending materials to be removed?

As Tony noted last week, the recommended guideline for access to these sites is thirteen years. Only a few weeks ago a leading Australian Psychologist, Dr Michael Carr-Gregg, spoke to all the staffs of the Gold Coast Catholic Schools and his comment was that he believed that children under this age do not have the emotional intelligence or capacity to handle what can be thrown at them on such sites as listed above.

Sadly there has been an increase in the amount of parent concerns about these sites over the last few years. We have been hearing stories of children from the school being able to access inappropriate sites and using other social media to post all sorts of inappropriate language and mistruths about others. Sometimes as parents we can tend to be a little naïve at times when it comes to these types of sites as we may not fully understand them and how they work and what they are capable of. I am sure that many of our children have access to various forms of the social media even though they are under the recommended age limit. Some have one or two accounts as well.

It is our responsibility as parents to protect our children from the 'Stranger' calling yet many of us freely open the door to him or her by allowing our children to open up accounts. Perhaps it's time to say no to these accounts, until they reach an age when they can responsibly handle it. Children need boundaries in which to operate and very sadly many of the social media don't have these. I have included with this newsletter the information we sent out last week on Internet Usage Tips for your awareness once again. I would strongly urge you, as Tony did last week, to talk about these things with your children – it's here, it's happening now and the "Stranger" is calling. How are you going to react? Have you checked the children?

Thanks for reading.

Yours in Christ

Greg Casey

Coming Events

Wednesday March 5
Ash Wednesday

Friday March 7
GCCPS Swim Carnival -
Pizzey Park
8.45am - Reading Workshop
LOTE Room
Yr 4 - Theatre visit

Monday March 10
7pm - P & F Meeting

Wednesday March 12
3A - Whole School Assembly
6P - Ozanam Villa Mass

Thursday March 13
Yr 6 Liturgy

Tuesday March 18
School Photos
Yr 7 Liturgy

Wednesday March 19
2P - Whole School Assembly

Thursday March 20
School Photos

Tuesday March 25
Yr 4 - Ngu-tana Lui
Yr 2 Liturgy

Wednesday March 26
1R - Whole School Assembly
1A - Ozanam Villa
Yr 5 - Lake Ainsworth Camp



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

Social Media

Yes, again I am writing to you as parents to take control of Social Media with your children. As an adult, I am constantly shocked and disgusted with many things that I see children aged 10-13, have posted or said on Social Media. Even after my article last week, children at our school STILL have public sites, open for the world to see, and are engaged in chats with people they don't know, or are posting some disgraceful things (even to their friends).

As Parents you need to read, and act on, these 5 very important points, when it comes to Social Media.

1. Ask for their password, or better still, you have the password for their account and check their account daily.
2. Setup your own account and be a friend or follower of your children. This way you can see what is being posted.
3. If they don't agree to points one or two, then the decision is very simple....Delete their account!
4. Read what experts are saying about these sites, and if you still want your children to use them, make sure you put some boundaries and safety measures in place.
5. Check what accounts your child has on Social Media. If they have Kik or Ask FM then I urge you to read these 2 links. You will be shocked at what these two very dangerous sites offer your children.

<http://www.bewebsmart.com/internet-safety/is-kik-okay-for-kids/>

<http://www.hightechdad.com/2013/06/05/parents-be-warned-ask-fm-is-a-dangerous-deadly-social-site-for-teens-tweens/>

I am going to continue to bombard you with this information. Why? Because I am sick of seeing our children hurt by things that could very easily be controlled!

Thanks
Tony Barron



Thoughts from your School Counsellor

This week I have decided to resubmit the Insights article "What's the big deal with Instagram?" In October last year I spoke of the concern that many parents and educators share about this new social media. As a result of the growing popularity of Instagram among young and teen social networkers, many schools have found that Instagram can create havoc within and between social groups. As Tony Barron indicated last week, we are genuinely concerned by this trend. I urge you to read Catherine Gerhardt's important insights for parents concerned about the pitfalls of this new social media. Catherine urges us to become aware so that we may educate our young of associated rules, responsibilities and privacy issues. She emphasises the importance of parents monitoring their children's internet use to ensure appropriate digital citizenship.

Best wishes for the coming week.

Mary Sanders
Phone: 5535 1803 - Email: msanders@bne.catholic.edu.au

Curriculum News

Well what a great week we have had with two amazing literary opportunities. Year 3, 5 & 7 were enthralled by author Dr Cameron Stelzer. Cameron has published a number of books and he worked with the children to show how to develop characters and story lines to grab the reader's attention and create the desire to read further. Year 7 were also stepped through how to create and draw their own character.



Also happening on Tuesday was the Writer's Day of Excellence, for selected students from Marymount Primary, Marymount College and St Augustine's schools. Again the children were experiencing working with a published author, Christine Bongers to enhance their own writing.

It is hoped from these experiences that your children will continue to love to read and can see the benefits from continuing to read and create texts well beyond their school days.

Diane Anderson

Fun fundraising!

Traditionally Pancake Tuesday (also known as Shrove Tuesday or Fat Tuesday) takes place on the day before the season of Lent begins. It was seen as an opportunity to 'use up' all the rich ingredients in your pantry before the season of fasting and abstinence (Lent) began.

Caritas Australia (through Project Compassion) will benefit from our efforts on Pancake Tuesday. Raising awareness of the needs of others and money for their welfare is the point of such endeavours. I would particularly like to acknowledge the work of the Year Six students from all classes who actively contributed – through making the bags, counting orders, preparing pancakes and serving others. Just two weeks ago at their leadership assembly this group promised the school community that they would make a difference through their actions. They have certainly delivered through their attitude and contribution. Thank you!

Today is Pancake Tuesday. I had 2 pancakes with butter and jam. They were yummy. Addison 1M

Today is pancake Tuesday. I had 2 pancakes with jam and butter. They were yummy. I let my sister have some. There were big kids helping down there. Luke and Harry liked the pancake. Will 1M



Ash Wednesday

All students today received the sign of the cross marked in ashes on their forehead as a reminder that the season of Lent has begun. This long-held Christian tradition is rich with meaning that draws us into a period of reflection and 'getting back to the basics'. The focus for primary aged students is positive and meaningful change, not simply giving up some behaviour or habit but trying to become better people through conscious choice. A large number of primary students attended the Ash Wednesday Parish Mass this morning at which the ashes were blessed for our school. Tara, Ronan and Miller accepted them from Fr Ken and brought them back to our assembly.

*God of endless kindness and patient love,
open our hearts as we enter this time of Lent.
Give us courage to critique our lives with honesty;
Give us strength to deal with what we find;
Help us to forgive ourselves and each other,
so that we may return to you with all our hearts,
and celebrate with joy, the rising of your Son
and all that this means for the world of today.
We make this prayer through Christ our Lord.
AMEN.*



P & F NEWS

I would firstly like to thank everyone for taking the time to listen to me at the recent Parent Information night. I hope I was able to provide some information to all parents about the role of the P & F within the school and the way in which we provide funding to the school for various projects which benefits all children. Our next meeting will be held on Monday, 10 March, in the primary school Staffroom at 7pm. If you are unable to make it and have an idea or issue you would like discussed then please feel free to email me at gensly17@gmail.com and I will add it to the agenda if time permits. This month's meeting will address items such as the plans for the new church, the tuck shop, the upcoming Trivia Night, After School Swimming lessons and the criteria for P & F Association's End of Year Award. These agenda items are also accompanied by the Treasurer's Report and the Principal's Report.

I would also like to mention the upcoming P & F Trivia Night on Saturday, 29 March. Tickets are available from Parent Reception for \$8 a ticket. This is a great night with prizes such as lucky door prizes, best and worst-dressed, best table and a raffle. The night offers the chance for parents to beat the teachers, the Admin staff or you may like to book a table and play against other parents from other classes or just book a table with a group of friends and enjoy the night.

Hope to see you on Monday evening.

Regards
Genevieve Sly
P & F President



Trivia Night

WE ♥ 80s

Saturday 29th March 2014

Arrive 6.30pm for 7.00pm start

Doyle Centre

\$8 per ticket
(buy table of 8-10 tickets for \$7 each)

Tickets available to purchase from
Parent Reception NOW - CASH ONLY PLEASE
(Tickets must be pre-purchased as they will not be available on the night)

All money raised will go to St Vincent de Paul.

PREPARATORY ENROLMENTS FOR 2015

We are now calling for enrolment for Preparatory classes in 2015. Many of our parents have already filled out an application form for their prospective Preppies, but there are still many not yet submitted. If you wish for your child to be part of our great school in Prep next year, please contact the Administration Office to complete and submit your Application for Enrolment form. Children eligible for Preparatory in 2015 need to have been born between 1 July 2009 and 30 June 2010.

Applications close at the end of Term 1, 2014.

SPORTS NEWS

Swimming Age Champions 2014

Congratulations to our Swimming age Champions for 2014. Medals and trophies were presented to these students at a special assembly on Tuesday 4 March;

8yr boys

1st Ben Cervenak
2nd Kai Allen
3rd Ethan Callaghan

8yr Girls

1st Miller Brosnan-Ball
2nd Zara Brosnan
3rd Millie Wood
3rd Brooke O'Brien



9yr Boys

1st Sean Lunney
2nd Carden Skalij
3rd Tom Cervenak

9yr Girls

1st Zali Williams
2nd Josie McCabe
3rd Rosie Ward



10yr Boys

1st Lewis Treggiden
2nd Will Smith
3rd Taj Harris

10yr Girls

1st Hayley Weise
2nd Kiana Young
3rd Polly Deane-Johns



11yr Boys

1st Even Mitchell
1st Jack Eveleigh
3rd Will Brown

11yr Girls

1st Chloe Thomas
2nd Olivia Breeze
3rd Yasmin Glifos



12yr Boys

1st Conall Crowley
2nd Blake Weise
3rd Mitchell Browne

12yr Girls

1st Emily Noyes
2nd Emma Tanaka
3rd Sanaha Nolan



13yr Boys

1st Campbell Kennedy
1st Jarman Wilson
3rd Tom Deane-Johns

13yr Girls

1st Dayna Sullivan
2nd Emma Riddell
3rd Nikita Bazzana



District Netball

Congratulations to Sophie Devine. Sophie has been selected in the U11 Gold Coast South Netball team. The team will play at the Regional Trial on 25 March at Runaway Bay. Well done and best of luck Sophie.

Cross Country Training

Cross Country training has started this week. Our training times are Monday lunchtime (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.

Apologies for the incorrect date in last weeks Newsletter! The correct date for the Marymount Cross Country Carnival is Thursday 24 April (week 1, term 2).

Paul Hill



Parents, please make sure you update your child's class on Munch Monitors. This will ensure they receive their orders. The children are finding it extremely hard to find their orders when the class is incorrect.

VOUCHERS ARE NOW IN FOR ICEBLOCKS. When your child orders an ice block or slushie they will be given a voucher. These vouchers are printed in different colours for different ice blocks. Your child can now bring their vouchers to the Tuckshop to collect their ice block or slushie.

We have also started to pack cold food separately to hot food with our new Coles Chiller bags. This is a great way to make sure the student's hot food stays HOT and cold food stays COLD! We no longer combine student's orders which improves the quality of the food when collected.

We are always trying to improve our service for your child's enjoyment and to continue developing new ideas to encourage parents into ordering tuckshop food for their child.

Please note that Preps are no longer able to order Slushies. Unfortunately they can cause quite a mess and can be difficult to clean up.

Easter is soon approaching and the Tuckshop will be holding some fun activities as well as a colouring competition for the Preps. We will also be selling hot cross buns during the last two weeks of this term. These can be ordered on Munch Monitors. Keep an eye out in the newsletter for up to date information about what is happening and when!

Our Healthy Choice Menu is designed for all students needs including allergies, gluten free and vegetarian. We have Daily Specials every day of the week.

We are always on the lookout for Volunteers to help out in the Tuckshop. Should you wish to come and have some fun whilst meeting new people please contact me at the Tuckshop. Even if you can only manage once a week; fortnightly or monthly. We appreciate the help.

VOLUNTEER ROSTER

Monday 3rd

Tuesday 4th
Tracey R

Wednesday 5th
Trish Y

Thursday 6th

Friday 7th
Rommy S

Monday 10th
Lisa B

Tuesday 11th
Tracey R

Wednesday 12th
Trish Y
Louise G

Thursday 13th
Sharon H

Friday 14th
Rommy S

Writer's Workshop



At the workshop, the author taught us different techniques to help us with our writing. She explained how our imagination and our real-life experiences can help us write stories. Mrs Bongers told us that if you want to be a good writer, you need to read, read and read some more! All of her books are based on real life people and incidents that have happened to her or her family. I had a really nice time at the workshop and learnt new things.

Charo

Mrs Bongers told us that if you want to be a good writer, you need to write all the time about lots of different things. A strategy I liked was to think of something and then ask yourself 'what if?'. I had a great day because Mrs Bongers shared her skills and strategies with us. The author's stories during the day were entertaining and some were funny too!

Janice

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
- 
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- 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



What's the big deal with Instagram?

Kidproof's Catherine Gerhardt gives the parenting lowdown on Instagram, the new social media phenom currently sweeping across girlworld.

Earlier this year my 11-year-old asked me if she could have access to Instagram. Heard of it? It's a social networking phenomenon that is taking the tween population by storm. In a nutshell, Instagram is a photo sharing app that makes photos fun.

Instagram is steadily growing in popularity among young and teen social networkers. At first it seems a relatively harmless way of sharing photos with each other via a smartphone. You can crop, adjust, reduce red eye and add filters. Even very ordinary photos can suddenly become appealing and interesting.

However, we are hearing from a lot of schools that Instagram is quickly taking over the social networking circuits and creating havoc within and between social groups. It is a sideways slide into social networking. Set up an account and within seconds you are able to comment, like and check out what your friends are doing. Facebook is out, Instagram is in.

What parents need to know

Instagram is a social networking service, and just like all other social networks "You must be at least 13 years old to use this Service". Why 13? The age of 13 has to do with COPPA – the Children's Online Privacy Protection Act (in the USA) which simply applies to the online collection of personal information by persons under 13 years of age. A child who provides a fake birthday to get onto a social networking site is helping that site break the law, as they are unknowingly collecting information from an under-age child. The internet is the biggest public place our kids can possibly hang out in. Rules and guidelines are there for good reason.

How does it work?

Users can upload a photo from their smartphone photo album or take a photo right then and there and use Instagram to change the way the photo looks. Instagram





may be used as a photo-sharing social network on its own, but users also have the option to upload the photo to a number of other social media sites simultaneously, including Twitter, Facebook, Flickr, Tumblr and Foursquare –depending on which one(s) the user syncs their settings with.

Privacy

The most important thing for users and parents to be aware of is that Instagram defaults to a public setting. Your profile and photos are public unless you tell it otherwise. Many parents may feel more secure knowing that their child has set their account to private, but watch to see how many followers your child has allowed onto their site. A child with a private setting that claims to have 222 followers means they have accepted 222 people to follow them, and not many tweens can say they genuinely socialise face-to-face with that many kids – no way! Remember even a private setting is still in a global public space, and the user's profile information is always public.

Signing up for an Instagram account requires that the user provide a username. In many cases young children use their real first and last names to create their accounts. To make matters worse, the sign-up process has an optional phone number section where users can submit their

phone number as part of their **public** profile. Talking with your kids about what is private information, such as a phone number, and explaining why we don't give this away is a great place to start.

Geotagging

Once a photo has been taken and is ready to share, the option of 'geotagging' – including details of the location of the photo – comes up. This option has to be checked, however as with most touch screen devices errors can easily occur and a photo can be inadvertently geotagged. Geotagging is a great way to showcase where a photo was taken, but it can also alert others to where the photographer has been, if not where they might be at that moment.

Blocking and reporting users and content

Although it seems innocent enough, there are users out there who will post inappropriate pictures. People will and do upload nude photos, drug use, and other inappropriate content. Social networking sites such as Instagram provide tools to block or report content and users and it would be a good idea to learn how to use them.

What can I do?

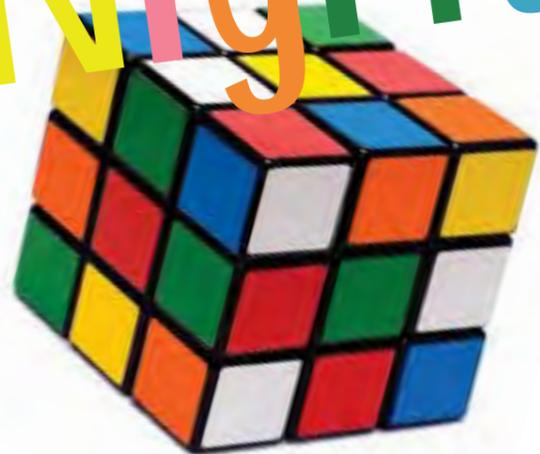
As a parent, continue to monitor your child's internet presence. At this time, it is not possible to sign up for an Instagram account on their website – it must be done by downloading the app to a smartphone. The app may be on your child's mobile device without you even knowing about it.

Help your child adjust their privacy settings at the outset so that their photos are only shared with face-to-face friends. Speak with your child about the safety concerns you may have if they accept requests from people they do not have real-life relationships with.

Sign up with Instagram yourself and have a go so that you understand how it works. If your child has an account, follow your child and monitor their behaviour to determine if Instagram is an appropriate hang out for them.

The answer for my 11 year old daughter was "not yet". However, she is welcome to use my account with my permission as we learn to navigate this new world of social media and digital citizenship together.

Trivia Night



Saturday 29th March 2014

Arrive 6.30pm for 7.00pm start

Doyle Centre

P & F Social Event

WE ♥
80s theme

Hosted by
Anthony Touzell

\$8 per ticket
(buy table of 8-10 tickets for \$7 each)

Make up your own table of
6 to 8 or join a table and
meet new people.

BYO Drinks & nibbles
Lots of prizes to be won!

All enquiries to
Genevieve Sly
0412 211 854

Tickets available to purchase from Parent Reception.

CASH ONLY PLEASE

(Tickets must be pre-purchased as they will not be available on the night)

All money raised will go to St Vincent de Paul.