

Dear Parents, Friends and Guardians

Combined Parents and Friends Meeting

Thank you very much to those parents who were able to make it along to our combined P & F meeting on Monday evening this week. We had Carmel Nash and John Beaton, the Executive Director and Executive Officer of the Federation of Parents and Friends of Queensland, address our meeting on the role of the Federation and the current funding models of the State and Federal Governments. This latter issue is a crucial one for our schools as the possible new funding models will have impacts for us financially and thus there may be an impact on school fees and levies. We are very dependent on the Federal Government for the majority of our funding and any changes which may occur at this level can be significant to us. Therefore the outcomes of the Federal Government's Gonski Funding review will be an important time for Catholic Schooling. Carmel was able to provide a synopsis of this new model as well as explaining the way our current model works.

We also had Michael Hart, our local State Member for Burleigh, present at our meeting and he was able to address a number of items which are of concern to our two school communities. He shared with us some issues pertaining to the traffic flow in and around our school and what he is doing to help with these matters.

It was great to be able to share our meeting with these special guests and our thanks goes to them for taking the time out of their busy schedules to be with us. Our thanks also goes to our College's P & F Association for joining with our parent group for the evening. This meant that they had to forego their normal monthly meeting and we appreciate this gesture of unity.

NAPLAN Testing

Our children in Years 3, 5 and 7 are now in the middle of these yearly standardised tests in the areas of Literacy and Numeracy. The testing protocols are very strict and our finished works are sent away to external markers. The results usually come back to schools and parents around the end of Term 3. I would like to thank Diane Anderson, our Curriculum Support Teacher, for her efforts in co-ordinating our school's testing program. It is a very significant task and Diane has yet again handled it well. A thank-you also to our teachers who have helped the children prepare for these days. It can be a reasonably stressful time but our staff members have worked calmly and steadily to support the children.

Year 6 Camp

Good luck to our Year 6 children and staff who head off to Lake Ainsworth at Lennox Heads today for their annual camp. Thanks again to our teachers – Mary Petersen, Chris Britton, Deb Cronin, John Jensen and Mark Wilkins for giving up their own time to help our children. Here's hoping the weather can stay clear.

Congratulations to Rena

Rena Harvey, our school's Office Manager, carries out many duties in her role, one of which is our school's Workplace Health and Safety Officer. This role ensures that our school environment is safe for all who utilise it - children, parents, staff and wider community groups. It is not an easy task for such a large campus but Rena does an excellent job. As part of her ongoing Professional Development in this role Rena recently completed her Certificate Four in Occupational Health and Safety. I would like to congratulate Rena for achieving this award - it is not an easy thing to do whilst working in a dynamic environment like a school.

Thanks for your time – enjoy the week ahead.

Yours in Christ

Greg Casey

Check out our new school website
www.marymountprimary.qld.edu.au

Coming Events

Wednesday May 15
NAPLAN TESTING continues
Yr 6 Camp

Friday May 17
Yr 6 return from camp
Yrs 5 - 7 sport

Wednesday May 22
Whole School Assembly - 2R
2Y - Ozanam Villa visit

Monday May 27
Yr 5 - Science incursion

Wednesday May 29
Whole School Assembly - 1M

Thursday May 30
Catholic Cross Country - St
Brigid's



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

Year 7's Excursion to St Stephen's Cathedral and the Mary McKillop Centre

Last week our Year 7's experienced a day trip to Brisbane, attending mass at St Stephen's Cathedral and a visit through the Mary McKillop Centre, Annerley. The excursion was part of the Yr 7 R.E unit Church Design. Students were taken on a guided tour of the cathedral by volunteers after mass. Students discovered the history of special church features including the crucifix by sculptor John Elliott and stained glass windows from Dublin, Ireland.



PATRON PARENTS EVENTS

4M - 24 May - after drop off, Stocklands Coffee Club.
OP - 14 June -5pm Family dinner Robina Tavern,
Playground and free face painting. RSVP to Michelle
0435 203576 by 17 May.

Thoughts from your School Counsellor

Given that parenting can be challenging when both parents are present week in and week out, one can only imagine how much of struggle it is for parents whose work takes them away from home for weeks at a time. The Insight article for this week looks at this issue and provides some tips for making a 'Fly-In, Fly-Out' job work for children.

Best wishes for the week ahead

Mary Sanders
msanders@bne.catholic.edu.au

DISCO
Wednesday 22 MAY
CAMOUFLAGUE THEME
Wear your coolest CAMOUFLAGUE gear!

5.00pm to 6.00pm—Prep to Yr 3 ONLY
6.30pm to 8.00pm - Yrs 4 to 7
Entry cost \$3
(Parents must collect students at door and we ask that parents be punctual in respecting finishing times)

Please refrain from sending older children (Years 4-7) to the junior disco with their younger siblings until 6.30 as this creates a supervision and safety concern.
Chips and drinks are available for purchase at \$1 each

Disco is strictly for students of Marymount Primary School.

PARISH PRIEST PROFILE

P

Fr Huang Van Nguyen

Burleigh Heads Catholic parish is the fifth parish Fr Huang has ministered in since coming to Australia. Fr Huang's journey to the priesthood and to our community has been quite an amazing one.

He was born in Vietnam in the area of the Mekong Delta. His family was very religious and from an early age Fr Huang knew he wanted to be priest.

After high school, Fr Huang entered a seminary to begin his training as a priest. With the rise of Communism in Vietnam, Fr Huang was forced to continue his study in secret. Although he had completed his studies, it was impossible for him to become a priest in Vietnam, so he travelled to Australia to study further at Banyo Seminary and fulfil his calling to serve God.

Fr Huang was ordained in 1995 and continues his ministry in our community.



Class Liturgies

This week students have shared the first of the class liturgies with priests from our Parish. Last week Fr Huong prayed with 3M and this week he is taking time to pray and share God's Word with students in Year 2. In the coming weeks other classes will begin to prepare for these liturgies. These Liturgies of the Word focus on the scripture readings for the day and on helping out children understand and respond to scripture and liturgical celebrations. These times are also intended to further strengthen our relationship with our priests and parish.

Last week's newsletter featured a profile of Fr Lucius. This week we feature the amazing story which has brought Fr Huong to our community.

Pentecost

This weekend our Church celebrates the Feast of Pentecost. This feast day signifies the end of the Easter Season and recalls the time when Christ's followers were filled with seven 'gifts' by the Holy Spirit. For the Apostles, Pentecost ended a time of fear and uncertainty following the Ascension of Christ days earlier.

This time in our church calendar is a reminder to us of our role as the hands, eyes and ears of Christ in our communities as we carry on Christ's work. Please keep in your prayers the students from Marymount who received the sacrament of Confirmation last week in our parish.

Fundraising

At Marymount, we focus our fundraising efforts on specific causes that we support through the year. In recent months we have supported Caritas through Project Compassion and more recently held our Mother's day Stall to raise funds for the local St Vincent de Paul Society.

Money continues to be contributed to project Compassion and at last count our total stood at \$3300.

Our Mother's day stall raised \$2200 for St Vincent de Paul.

This is an amazing effort by our community and will be a valuable contribution to the work of these two charities in our local and global communities.

I am often impressed by the enthusiasm from our students to undertake and participate in various fundraising activities at school. At Marymount, as a whole school, we focus our efforts to support specific charities throughout the year. As much as we appreciate the enthusiasm of these the students and value the organisations for which they fundraise, we discourage students from selling items at school to raise funds for organisations other than those we have as a school decided to support. I appreciate your understanding and support of this matter. Please contact me at the school should you have any concerns.

Woolworths Earn & Learn

Please continue to collect and send in "Earn and Learn" points from Woolworths. We are into the final weeks of this campaign and your support is greatly appreciated. Please continue to encourage your friends and family members to collect for us in the coming weeks and send these to your child's class or to Student Reception.

Catholic Campaign

This term we will be joining all schools and parishes in the Archdiocese to help support the Annual Catholic Campaign. Over the coming weeks we will learn about the ministries and people it supports.

On June 12 we will hold a school fundraising event for the campaign. More details will be announced in the coming weeks.

Archbishop Mark Coleridge will be writing to you and other members of the Catholic community across South East Queensland to ask for everyone's support. The Annual Catholic Campaign gives us the opportunity to act together as one Church family to support ministries and services that no individual parish or school can do alone. Of particular interest is the new MacKillop Fund to help families who could not otherwise afford it, access to our Catholic schools.

I encourage you to please give what you can. Every gift, regardless of the size, is vital to the success of the Annual Catholic Campaign.

If you are able to, please consider making a regular monthly gift. This way, the ministries supported by the Campaign can plan more easily for the future and grow knowing that people are willing and committed to making ongoing contributions. Over the coming weeks, as we will learn more about the important contribution we make as a Church, I encourage you to consider your support.

Best wishes for the week ahead

Kevin Yates



From our Assistant Principal

Annette O'Shea

I am constantly amazed at the different responses we often get from boys and girls in comparison to each other. Whilst I am speaking in general terms the nurture verses nature debate, and the significance of cultural and peer norms spring to mind.

In play, boys tend to engage in more physical pursuits whilst girls tend to be more creative. Girls tend to rely more on oral language in play situations in comparison to boys. Boys tend to deal with social conflicts in a more immediate and aggressive way whilst girls have a greater tendency to harbour grievances and deal with them over a period of time. Girls tend to respond in a more emotive way than boys.

I really enjoy observing and working with children and in particular, I often get a laugh from their spontaneous behaviours and responses. Today, as a group of Year Seven boys ran past en route to the oval, I asked how the NAPLAN tests were going. Beaming with confidence and enthusiasm, the immediate response was, "...good... relaxing actually". My response to them was that I hoped the results were relaxing as well!

As is typical, the girls were a bit slower in approaching me and as they casually walked past, I asked the same question of them. The response, full of all manner of facial contortions and body expressions was, "...difficult... exhausting". Based on common statistics, the girls' day is poised to come when the results are published!

The difference between the girls' and boys' responses to the situation is rather typical of what I have observed over and over again. Both relaxation and exhaustion could be interpreted as exaggerated terms and neither is right nor wrong, but an interesting defence in viewing reality and coping with a situation.

It seems our children have been very well prepared for the NAPLAN testing both by way of teacher instruction and emotional response. Thanks to parents for allowing the children to sit the test without feeling overwhelmed or extremely anxious. I hope that the experience was comfortable enough for the children and I ask that the results are viewed as only one type of assessment at one particular time of the year. Our children do not deserve to be evaluated in terms of an academic task.

Have a great week and relish the sunshine when it delivers.

Annette O'Shea

Yr 2 Historical Village Excursion





Pre State of Origin tuckshop competition is proving to be a hit! The children are keen to order their footy food on Tuesdays, with lots of pies, sausage rolls and pizza the order of the day. **PLEASE ASK YOUR CHILD TO NOMINATE THEIR TEAM BY INDICATING QLD OR NSW ON THEIR LUNCH ORDER.** This will then go into the draw for the two State of Origin Jerseys up for grabs. Weekly prizes of a \$10 AMART voucher will be drawn at assembly. Good luck to all!

Keep up the good work sushi lovers. Our sushi order is climbing each week, along with the meal deals of fruit and milk for just an extra \$2. Remember to put your second preference on your sushi order. Thanks

With regard to tuckshop volunteers I am sorry to report with have lost quite a few volunteers. New jobs, little babies and relocating have caused our volunteer base to drop considerably. Calling all Mums, Dads and Grandparents to please consider volunteering your time, no matter how little, to helping in the tuckshop.

On a brighter note I would love to welcome new faces to the tuckshop volunteer brigade; Patricia Young, Carla Benson, Renae Buckby and Trudy Humphries. Thanks to Janet Suero for volunteering as a relief helper. To all our tuckshop helpers, thanks so much; in particular those who answer my last minute requests of drop everything and help. I really appreciate everything you do.

ROSTER FOR NEXT WEEK

Monday 20 May.....**NEED HELP PLEASE**
 Tuesday 21 May.....Trudy Humphries, Deb Hopkins
 Wednesday 22 May.....Melanie Leis and Marg
 Thursday 23 May.....Karen and Matt Harrison and Renae Buckby
 Friday 24 May.....Meagan Kennedy and Sandy Kennedy, Luciana

**VOLUNTEERS
WELCOME
ANY TIME**

Thanks to all our wonderful volunteers; and please remember should you not be able to make your date let me know.

Have a wonderful week

Vicki Turner

Friday Sports Results

Rugby League

MMT 10A lost to St Augustine's 24-34
 MMT U11 def Augustine's 46-0
 MMT Open A def St Augustine's 32-8
 MMT Open B drew with William Duncan 6-6

Netball Results

7A1 lost to St Andrews 14-20
 7A2 lost to Elanora 0-22
 7B lost to Broadbeach 0-6
 7C lost to Elanora2 1-5
 6B- Marymount def Burleigh 16-0
 6C Marymount lost to Palm Beach 1-7
 5B def Broadbeach 7 - 1
 5C def St Andrews 4 - 0
 5C1 def Broadbeach 4 - 3

Soccer (Girls)

7A lost to Merrimac 2-3
 7B lost to Mudgeeraba Creek 0-3
 6A def Merrimac 6-0
 6B had a bye

Soccer (Boys)

7A lost to Merrimac 2-3
 7B lost to Mudgeeraba Creek 0-3
 6A lost to Mudgeeraba Creek 1-6
 6B lost to St Vincents 0-7
 5A - Bye
 5B lost to William Duncan 1-4



Remember to say
 you're from Marymount
 Primary next time you make
 a purchase at
 Amart Sports store.



Congratulations to Max Williams (7Y); Paddy O'Brien (7Y); Taylor Girgis (7M); Olliver Smith (7A) and Harry Devine (7A) who competed and all placed at the College Cross Country last week. Our talented boys placed: 1st Olliver; 2nd Max; 3rd Paddy; 5th Harry and 6th Taylor.

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



Wait 'til your (FIFO) father gets home

More and more families are adjusting to life in which one parent has a 'Fly-In, Fly-Out' job. The money is good, but the hard part is keeping everyone grounded, writes Karen Fontaine

Parenting can be challenging when both parents are present and accounted for week in, week out. However, for an increasing number of Australian families, one parent keeps the home fires burning while the other flies out for weeks away from home followed by the decompression chamber that is reentry into domestic life.

“Like many countries, Australia has always had itinerant workers such as shearers, truck drivers and oil riggers, but the mining boom means that more everyday mums and dads who don't necessarily come from itinerant working families are working away,” says Angie Willcocks, an Adelaide-based psychologist who counsels FIFO families.

Of course, the pitfalls of a FIFO work roster, common in the resources and construction sectors, are manifold.

For starters, it's a schizophrenic-style existence for everyone. One month, it's mum plus the kids and their routine. The next month, Dad's back on home turf and often it might take him days to successfully reenter the family dynamic. It might take the kids even longer.

Resentments can simmer, tempers can flare, tiredness takes its inevitable toll and parental pining (Dad for the kids, Mum for Dad, the kids for Dad) is par for the course.

At Edith Cowan University, Jacinth Watson, a PhD student from the Child Health Promotion Research Centre, is investigating the effect that a parent's FIFO employment has on the health and wellbeing of their adolescent children.

Jacinth said the FIFO work roster was a relatively recent phenomenon and it remained to be seen how regular and lengthy absences of a parent affected their adolescent's capacity to be resilient.

“We want to know if adolescents who live in FIFO families adapt to the absence of the parent and become more self reliant, develop higher levels of self esteem and have increased capacity to be resilient,” she said. “Or is the absence of the parent a disruptive effect on the adolescent, making it more difficult for them to cope with other challenges in their life?”





Results of Jacinth's study have found:

- ▶ 73.5 per cent of adolescents are sad when the FIFO parent returns to work;
- ▶ 43.1 per cent felt nervous or anxious when the FIFO parent returns to work;
- ▶ 45.6 per cent worry about the FIFO parent's safety at work;
- ▶ 86.8 per cent communicate with their FIFO parent (when the parent is at work). The telephone is the most frequent means of communication for the FIFO parent and adolescent, with email (84.3 per cent) SMS (34.5 per cent) and Facebook (25.8 per cent) also used.

For Perth-based Nicole Ashby, whose husband Joe works four weeks on an offshore oil rig followed by four weeks "being a happy house-husband", FIFO life is hard but manageable for their children Tana, seven, Chase, five, and Angelina, three.

"Kids find it easier to adapt to the situation when things such as their routine don't change too much when the FIFO parent comes home," says Nicole, who set up www.fifofamilies.com.au because of what she identified as a real need in the community.

As Nicole points out, "there is an opportunity cost for everything and for every family" – even for those where one or both parents works long hours in the city.

And although Jacinth notes that companies are providing increased support to families – including counselling, social support and 'health days' – she hopes her study and similar works will spawn more family-friendly rosters.

"More equal time rosters are best," she says. "Four weeks on, one off rosters and three weeks on, one off are not particularly good."

Angie Willcocks, resident psychologist for Mining Family Matters (www.miningfm.com.au), offers tips for making FIFO work with kids:

- 1. Set shared goals.** "First and foremost, it's really important to be clear why you are going to work FIFO and setting clear goals around this. It's not enough to say 'to get ahead financially' – they need to make specific goals and stick to these. Individuals and couples who really struggle are those who have no idea why they're working away and who feel stuck in the working-away lifestyle. Those who do well know why they're doing it and work together for shared goals. This helps work together when things are tough such as when you're both tired."
- 2. Be positive and proactive.** "Recognise your strengths and weaknesses and work on what you can. Work on problems together as a couple by identifying problems as being about working away rather than blaming each other – for example, say to each other 'we haven't been spending enough time together as a family because of FIFO – so how can we work on this?'"
- 3. Don't dwell on the negatives.** "Face the problems head on and don't dwell on the downsides."
- 4. Be interested in your partner's life.** "Whether or not you're the at-home or away partner, make sure you're keen to know what goes on. Organise a site visit if possible, or get pictures of what the donga is like. Also, create shared interests so you have something other than the 'groundhog day' to talk about. For example, read the same books or watch the same movies or work on a project you can discuss while apart."
- 5. Stay united when it comes to issues about the kids.** "Be clear about rules and expectations and discipline styles for the kids. Lots of parents have differing expectations for their kids but this can become a really major problem when one person works away – this has to be worked on for the sake of the kids."



ANNUAL CATHOLIC CAMPAIGN 2013

ARCHDIOCESE OF BRISBANE



— YOU MAKE A —
DIFFERENCE
— TO ME —

**DONATE
NOW**

07 3224 3200 | GPO Box 282 Brisbane QLD 4001
www.catholiccampaign.com.au



Gold Coast Bulletin Presents

FAMILY DAY

BRING THE FAMILY TO ENJOY
PONY RIDES, JUMPING CASTLES,
PETTING ZOO AND FACE PAINTING



SATURDAY 18 MAY | 4:40PM
METRICON STADIUM

Family tickets: GA or Silver Reserved only **\$50**