Dear Parents, Friends and Guardians

Farewell to Fr Pat & Fr Peter
At this morning’s assembly we were able to say goodbye and thanks to both Fr Pat Molony, our Parish Priest, and Fr Peter Gablonski who has been one of our Associate Priests since January of this year. It was great to be able to wish both priests well for their new appointments and this was especially the case with Fr Pat who has been the parish faith leader for eighteen and a half years. On behalf of our school community we were able to present both priests with gifts as a sign of our appreciation for their dedication to our school and our parents, staff and children. Our P & F Association was also on hand through our Secretary, Genevieve Sly, to present Fr Pat with a painting of our Burleigh Headland, a place which he knows very well and which he walks most days. The children also presented Fr Pat with a school spray jacket which we hope he wears with pride in his new parish.

Farewell and Thank you to Staff
We have a number of our staff who will not be returning to our school next year due to resignations, funding shortfalls and other reasons. I would like to thank these people for their great commitment to our school and its families which they have shown, even though some have only been here for a short period of time.

Firstly I would like to thank Diane Gawler, our Parent Reception Secretary, for her time with us since her start in July 2000. Diane has not had a great year with a frustrating knee injury and has had time off from her role. Her health is returning and Diane has decided to spend more time with her family and friends and also do a lot more travelling, especially around Australia with husband Jim. Our thanks for a job very well done go with Diane and we also send her best wishes for her travels.

Helen Boyes has done a number of contracts with us over the last few years with stints in Year Six, One and now her latest one in Prep which will finish at the end of this year. Helen has done a remarkable job across these year levels and managed to fit in helping with school plays and musicals as well as organising our school’s approach to the Indigenous reconciliation movement, Generation One. We wish Helen well for her future studies and other teaching roles.

Monica Weatherall and Gaylene Clouston have both worked in our Learning Enhancement Centre in their role as Teacher Assistants since March and April of this year. Both ladies have done an excellent job in the short time they have been here and our children have been the better for their efforts.

Melissa Redman (Year 5), Sarah Marks (Senior PE), Jane Powell (Learning Enhancement) and Michael O’Shea (Library) have all been filling contracts for staff who are on Long Service Leave for different timeframes during this term. All of these teachers have worked here over the last few years in varying capacities and again this term they have given our children dedicated service and have been professional in their approach to their children. Our thanks goes to these staff members as well as our best wishes for their future teaching roles.

Best Wishes to Bernadette
We also say goodbye, albeit for a short time, to our APRE, Bernadette Christensen, who is taking some well-earned Long Service Leave. Bernadette will be out for the first semester next year and will return to us in July. I know that Bernadette is planning a number of different things to take up her time, one being some fishing, so our wishes go to her for a restful, relaxing and rewarding time away. As previously advised, Kev Yates will be replacing Bernadette.

Welcome to Jemma
I am pleased to be able to announce that we will have a new teacher starting with us next year. Jemma Rainbow will take up a position as one of our Year One teachers for the 2013 school year. Jemma was able to visit our school on Monday and meet many of our staff and spend some time in planning and preparation for next year. She is endeavouring to be here next Tuesday for our New Class Day so this will be a great opportunity to meet her new class and for them to spend time with her.

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School Family Tragedy
Many parents may have caught the news of a devastating house fire in our region which occurred on Sunday evening. This tragedy struck one of our school families, the Phan Hong family who have had children move through both our school and College. The two youngest are members of our Year One and Two class respectively. The family lost their home and entire belongings in the fire but importantly there was no major injury to any family member which was a blessing. Our schools and parish are keen to support the Phan Hong’s and as such they have set up a support process where families can donate basic goods, clothing and food as well as money through our local St Vincent de Paul group. Staff from the school and St Vinnies have already been in contact with the family, and initial support has been arranged. If any of our families would like to donate in any of the abovementioned ways then this can be done by contacting the St Vincent de Paul centre on 5594 7044 or by dropping materials off at their Arundel depot which is located at 126 Allied Drive (just off Olsen Avenue). I am sure that the Phan Hong family would appreciate our prayers and support at this time.

Which Bank?
Each Tuesday a group of our school parents come together to assist our school families with the children’s banking programme. The ladies diligently count and process the many banking deposits which come through every week. Our last banking day was yesterday and I would like to thank this small band of helpers for their support over the course of the year. The team is Tracy Fitzpatrick, Tanya Heritage, Kay Penfold and Theresa Gundy. They also have some occasional assistance from another of our parents Deb Rowlings. Thank you ladies – your time is certainly appreciated.

Annual Whole School Awards Ceremony – Wednesday, 5 December
At next week’s assembly in the Doyle we will be presenting a number of our students with our annual awards. Parents are most welcome to come along for this special assembly which should take no longer than half an hour. The recipients of these awards receive a trophy as well as our perpetual trophies and they have the honour of their names being engraved on our Honour Board which is located in our Student Reception area.

Class Teachers for 2013 & Tuesday New Class Session
Outlined below is our teacher allocation for our classes for next year. The children would have received their individual class list on Monday of this week. We will be utilising the middle session of next Tuesday, 4 December, as a time for the children to experience their new class grouping and teacher for next year. This practice has been a worthwhile one in previous years as it helps to settle any nerves or anxieties which may be surfacing about the new year.

Our class teachers are:
Prep: Therese Hockings; Melanie Benson; Una Deem; Jan Marais; Matt Redmond
Year 1: Maureen Ruzans; Sophie Allen; Jemma Rainbow; Vanessa Munro; Carol Hicks
Year 2: Trudy Grimsey/Tania Matus (3/2); Sonia Aalberts; Wilma Kuipersmith; Penny Jones/Jane Weston (3/2); Annette Straker
Year 3: Luke Cervenak; Jane Lennon; Kim Jones/Gemma Walker (3/2); Whitney Reid; Vena Cameron/Jennifer Campbell (3/2)

Final Day for 2012 – Friday, 7 December
School concludes for the children this year on Friday, 7 December, at 12 Midday. After this time there will be no supervision of the children and it will be the responsibility of our parents to ensure that the children are catered for. School will begin as usual for this day and we will hold a special assembly just before Morning Tea (10.40am) in the Doyle Centre. At 11.45am the children will move out from their classes to form a Guard of Honour for our Year 7 children as they leave our school for the last time. From 12 midday then our school will close for the year. I would ask that parents please start to organise care for their children after this time. Our OSHC unit will be operating but places are limited so early bookings would be essential.

Thanks for your time and enjoy the rest of the week
Yours in Christ
Greg Casey

End of Year Reports 2012
This Friday, 30th November reports and portfolios will be sent home with your child. You will notice this year that for the first time there will be comments for English and mathematics as well as the general comment. This feature is part of our new SRS reporting system. The comments have been written by a panel of teachers and are very comprehensive.

As this is the first time we will have used this style of reporting we welcome your feedback. Please feel free to send in your comments and mark them attention to me, (Diane Anderson Curriculum Support).

Included with the reports and portfolio is a letter explaining the meanings of the five point grading system which aligns with the achievement standards in the Australian Curriculum documents.

A report is also available to parents which shows the achievement levels reached across an entire year level. Parents who would like a copy of this are welcome to request one by calling in at Student Reception or phoning me directly on 55 208 408.

Diane Anderson
Curriculum Support Teacher

TERM DATES 2013
Term 1—January 30—March 28
Term 2—April 15—June 21
Term 3—July 8—September 20
Term 4—October 8—December 6
Pupil Free Day Monday 21 October 2013

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As you would expect, **preparations for the Christmas season** at Marymount seek to highlight a particularly Catholic or Christian view while acknowledging that of the secular society in which we live. We thank you for your support in activities that bring home the ‘real’ messages we seek to live out.

- The joy of giving to others; your support of the St Vincent de Paul gift-giving tree, food donations and items for hygiene packs reinforces Jesus’ message of justice for all. Our giving is not necessarily linked to receiving in return but rather a more altruistic and selfless act of true sharing.

- Attending to the sacred story of Jesus’ birth; your interest in the various Christmas concerts and carol singing events (even if you can’t be there) demonstrates the important place these stories have in our faith lives.

- Encouraging your child to thank others and wish them well; the end of the school year signals change and celebration of growth. Modelling ways to thank others for their help, wishing them a Merry Christmas and providing simple things like Christmas cards with personal messages for others assists in the development of a positive outward viewpoint that acknowledges others.

- Participating at Mass; local churches and parishes provide many child-friendly opportunities to gather for seasonal activities in the next month or so. Whether you are at home or away for Christmas, participating at Mass on either Christmas Eve or Christmas Day celebrations in the ‘real’ meaning of the season.

**Ending the year at Marymount**

A number of whole-school events are coming up in which you may be interested and of course, are welcome to attend.

*Thurs 29 Nov. 9am in OSHC – parent helper thanksgiving prayer liturgy and morning tea.*

*Wed 5 Dec. 9am Doyle Centre – final prayer assembly for the year led by 4Y. At this gathering various awards will be presented to seven Year Seven students to recognise their contribution to the Marymount community.*

*Fri 7 Dec. – whole school gathering at 10am, followed by morning break. At 11.40 am the whole school will form a Guard of Honour through the school grounds to acknowledge and farewell the Year Seven students as they leave Marymount for the last time. Siblings and parents will gather outside student reception where they will meet their child, ready for the 12pm departure.*

*Bernadette Christensen*
BOOKLIST PAYMENTS NOW OVERDUE.
We will take booklist payments until 5 December and they can be made over the phone or email bookshop@mps.qld.edu.au
The Uniform/Bookshop will be closed from 3 December 2012 due to stocktake.

Congratulations to the following students Madeleine Farrugia 7R; Olivia McKenzie 7R; Jack McCaskill 7A; Connor Marriott – 7A; Megan Stapleton 3Y; Jai Ebbels 3A; Simi Thomsen-Ajayi 7A; Courtney Smith 6R; Liam Allen 6A; Jack Ross 1M and Abbey Gawler 4A.

Don’t forget to mention Marymount Primary when you purchase goods from Amart Sports at Burleigh. This will give us valuable dollars to spend on sporting gear.

The count down is on! Please make sure you provide your child with food next Thursday 6th and Friday 7th as there will be NO tuckshop on the last two school days.

THE TUCKSHOP WILL BE CLOSED THURSDAY AND FRIDAY OF THE LAST DAY OF SCHOOL.

Next Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday will be our Christmas theme Days. The tuckshop will be selling the following goodies:

- Christmas Cup Cakes............$1.50
- Gingerbread Men...............$1.20
- Watermelon Christmas Trees....50c
- Sour Ice Pop Bon Bons.........70c

All of the above plus our usual, chips, drinks and treats will be available for over the counter sales for both Morning Tea and Lunch time. Slushies are also available both breaks.

Roster for next week
Monday 3 December..................Amanda Dixon
Tuesday 4 December..................Kristy Corvino
Wednesday 5 December.............Melanie and Margaret

As you can see, I need help on the last three days of Tuckshop. Should anyone be able to lend a hand, even for an hour or so, it would be greatly appreciated.

SOS  I have only one helper for Thursday 29 November! Can someone help us out PLEASE?

Have a great week.

Vicki Turner

Night P & F Social Event
Saturday 9th March 2013
Arrive 6.30pm for 7.00pm start
Doyle Centre - St Patrick’s Day theme
BYO Drinks & nibblies
Lots of prizes to be won!
Tickets will be available for purchase from the start of the 2013 school year.
Prices start at $10 per person
Early Bird Special $7
if purchased before Friday 15th February.
All money raised will go to charity.
All enquiries to Genevieve Sly
0412 211 854