Dear Parents, Friends and Guardians

2017 Class Lists
Our class lists for 2017 will go home with our students this Friday 25th November in the afternoon. These are sent home so that children are less anxious about the coming year. This is a time to be positive with your child regarding placements. Be positive about the children in the class, and be positive and supportive of the teacher for 2017 when you speak with your children.

Our Class Placement committee and our staff have been working on these class lists since late August. A great deal of thought and consideration goes into compiling these lists. As such no changes are made to these lists once they are printed for distribution. If you have any concerns or questions, I ask that you email the school on pburleigh@bne.catholic.edu.au.

Semester Two Report Cards
Our end of year Report Cards will be available on our Parent Portal Monday afternoon. No reports are printed by the school, in line with BCE policy. These reports provide a summary of their progress over the course of this semester in all of our Key Learning Areas as well as provide an outline of their work and social habits. The children are assessed against the Australian standards for each learning area and given a ranking over a five-point scale. These standards are the same across schools nationwide although the scale may have different names. Our teaching staff see these as the culmination of work from the children and they are assessed in various ways, it’s not just the end of term tests as it may have been a long time ago. I would like to thank our staff for their dedication to their roles this year and especially for drawing together these documents for the formal assessment process. In reading through them it’s great to see the growth in our children over the year and to also see the variety of learning experiences that they have been involved with this year. If parents wish to make an interview to discuss these individual reports and their child’s progress I would ask that you please contact our office staff so that a mutually acceptable time can be organised for both parties.

2017 School Fees
Last evening at our final Marymount Combined Schools’ Advisory Council meeting our annual budget for 2017 was tabled and ratified by the members. Fr Ken, our Parish Priest, and members of our Parish Finance Council and the wider parish community are members of this group as well as the P & F Presidents of the Primary and College schools. A recommendation was presented to the meeting for a fee increase in 2017 of 1.5%. This was in line with the increase recommended by our Brisbane Catholic Education Commission and our Executive Director and their finance board for all schools in the Archdiocese. Our Council recommends and supports our new fee structure for 2017 which will be available on our website and Parent Portal later this week. My thanks is extended to Janelle Holmes, our Finance Secretary, for her significant work in helping to draft our 2017 budget. It has involved many work hours and checks and counter-checks with our BCE Finance personnel.

Annual Goal-Setting Review
Tomorrow will see our Leadership Team away from the school as they engage in our review of our school’s goals for this year. Tina O’Keefe, Maree Wright, Leigh Yates and I will join with the leadership staff from the other Gold Coast Catholic schools and our Area Supervisor, Trevor Doyle, as we analyse our performance against our own school goals which we developed at the start of the year. We will also look to see where we are tracking in relation to our Brisbane Catholic Education and wider education system goals. This day is a great way to evaluate what we’ve been focussing on and to set possible goals for future years. In our absence I have asked Dan Allsopp, to be the Teacher in Charge for the day.

I will also be away on Friday as I will be attending our Term 4 Principal’s meeting for the Gold Coast schools. This meeting has input from our BCE staff in relation to current and future educational trends as well as from external groups. Tina O’Keefe, our Assistant Principal, will be in charge whilst I’m away.

Swimming Carnivals
This week we are hosting Swimming Carnivals for Years One, Two and Three in the school pool. We have already completed the Year One and Two Carnival and the Year Three Carnival is on Thursday. These carnivals are a fun way to finish their swimming program and I would continued over...
like to thank our staff for helping out with them. Particular thanks goes to our PE staff, Paul Hill, Jill Mathieson and to our Swimming Co-ordinator, Jenny Wood, for their assistance in the smooth running of these events. It’s also great to see so many parents who come along to cheer for and support the children.

School Banking
A huge thanks must go to our banking ladies who volunteer their time each week to ensure the success of our School Banking Programme. On behalf of the school and our parent community I would like to thank Tanya, Kate, Kerri, Maria, Liz and Deb for their efforts week in and week out. We could not participate in this programme without your help and expertise. Thank you!

Thanks for your time, enjoy the rest of the week.

Yours in Christ

Tony Barron

Commonwealth Games
Thank you to Year 6 teacher Mrs Jonnene Bellis and two of her students Abbey Galvin and William Stephens for attending the Queen’s baton relay and ‘500 Days to Go’ Games celebration at Jupiters last Sunday 20th November. This was indeed a memorable occasion as they witnessed the unveiling of the Queens baton for the 2018 Gold Coast Commonwealth Games.

A Brisbane based company called Design Works was given the contract to design a baton that was fitting to the people, place and area of the Gold Coast. Over a year of research went into the design brief to ensure the baton represented the spirit of the Gold Coast. The three elements that went into the design were macadamia wood to recognise the original land owners, the Yugambeh people; stainless steel to mirror the vibrancy of the Gold Coast; and recycled plastic retrieved from our local waterways, to identify with the area and the importance of living a more sustainable way of life for future generations.

The baton will now be sent to Buckingham Palace in London to start its journey and will travel through 71 Commonwealth Nations and Territories until it arrives back on the Gold Coast for the Games opening ceremony, where the Queen's message will be removed from the baton and read to the public.

Deb Cronin

Bookshop/Uniform Shop
Bookpack payments are now OVERDUE. Please finalise as soon as possible, no later than 30 November 2016.

Our last day will be Wednesday 30th November 2016.
No further sales of uniforms (new or second hand) will be processed from this date.

The shop will re-open in January 2017.

Merry Christmas and safe holidays.
Celebrating Multiculturalism
Our assembly today led by the Marymount MOB focused on peace and the harmony of being in a multicultural country. Their message was simple, ‘We are happy, we can be strong! As a family, together, we all belong.’ Prayers were spoken in the various languages represented here at Marymount celebrating the many cultures that make up our school and country.

Confirmation Celebration
It was a wonderful celebration last Wednesday night as over 100 children received the Sacrament of Confirmation as the second step in their faith journey to completion of Christian Initiation. The ceremony was lead by Bishop Joseph Oudeman. Throughout the homily Bishop Joseph said, “Children as you grow up you may choose to leave the Spirit, but the Spirit will never ever leave you as you journey through life.” This is a wonderful message for our young people as they were sealed with the Holy Spirit. Knowledge, wisdom, understanding, courage, holiness, right judgment, awe and wonder are the gifts given by the power of the Spirit, and the gifts with which the children were sealed last week by the Laying on of Hands and the Anointing with the Oil of Chrism.

Last weekend the parish community blessed these children as they continue their faith journey. They will complete their Sacraments of Initiation in June next year when they celebrate their First Holy Communion.

Ozanam Villa
Today 5P attended Mass at Ozanam Villa. This is the last visit for the year by a class from Marymount. The social visits by junior classes and the sharing of the Eucharist with the residents by the older classes are a highlight of the week for students and the residents of Ozanam Villa. We look forward to continuing this relationship in 2017.

Class Liturgies of the Word
Class liturgies will conclude for the year tomorrow with 2A and 2P celebrating with Fr Dantus. We sincerely thank Fathers, Ken, Stephen and Dantus for their leadership and flexibility throughout the year. The students and staff have built a close relationship with these faith leaders of our school and we sincerely thank them for sharing their time with us each week. Holding regular liturgies and Masses throughout each term has given our children a richer experience of our Catholic tradition, an experience many of our students don’t recieve at weekend masses. We look forward to continuing these Liturgies of the Word and Masses in Mary, Mother of Mercy Church in 2017.

St Vincent de Paul Appeal
Every year families at Marymount are generous in donating toys and gifts which we pass on to the St Vincent de Paul Society. The difference these gifts make to children and adults who struggle to provide the bare necessities is wonderful to witness. Please donate if you can. Send in unwrapped, (this allows St Vincent de Paul to match a gift with a family without having to unwrap and re-wrap), to Student Reception. Your generous gift will put a smile on the face of someone you don’t know this Christmas, making this season special for them.

Final Assembly for 2016
Next Wednesday we will farewell as a school community Fr Stephen Camiolo who will be taking up his new appointment as Parish Priest of the Parishes of Nanango and Kingaroy after Christmas. The staff who are leaving Marymount will also be acknowledged for their contribution to our school. Our annual school awards will be presented along with Academic Awards to our Year 6 students. Our Social Justice Crew will also be presenting a cheque to a representative from St Vincent de Paul on behalf of the students at Marymount. Our assembly will be held at 9am in the Doyle centre and everyone is very welcome to attend.

Enjoy the rest of the the week

Maree Wright
Sport News

Greg Norman Junior Masters
Congratulations to Kai Komulainen who has qualified and been invited to play in the Greg Norman Junior Golf Masters early in the school holidays. This is the biggest competition on the golfing calendar and Kai is one of the youngest players to qualify. Well done Kai and good luck at this upcoming event.

Years 1 and 2 Swimming
Well done to our Year 1 and 2 students who have demonstrated some wonderful swimming during their respective carnivals over the last couple of days.

Year 3 Swimming
Year 3 will have their swimming carnival on Thursday, starting at 10.00am.

Years 4 & 5 Swimming Trials
Year 4 and 5 swimming trials will be held on Friday. These trials are for those students wishing to qualify for ‘A’ Division in next years swimming carnival. Trials will start at 9am.

Congratulations to all the Marymount students who received their South Coast School Sports certificates at assembly today. These certificates are for students who have represented our South Coast Region at State Championships in their various sports.

- Millar Brosnan-Ball - Cross Country and Track & Field
- Rosie Ward - Netball
- Corey Connolly – Rugby League
- Camryn Mathison – Hockey
- Oscar Devine – Hockey
- Soma Byres – Cross Country and Track & Field
- Kai Allen – Swimming
- Lachlan Kelly – Swimming
- Sean Lunney – Swimming
- Hayley Weise – Swimming
- Zali Williams – Swimming

Paul Hill