Dear Parents, Friends and Guardians

A Temporary Change in Direction for Bernadette

Bernadette Christensen, our Assistant Principal – Religious Education (APRE), has decided to take a temporary change in the direction of her teaching career for next year. Bernadette has applied for a seconded teaching position with the Northern Territory Catholic Education Office in one of their indigenous schools. She will be moving to Santa Teresa Catholic School which is located about an hour and a half south-east of Alice Springs. The community numbers about five hundred people with the school having an enrolment of about one hundred and fifty children. Brisbane Catholic Education and the Northern Territory Catholic Education have a twinning arrangement which involves teachers from our system taking up secondment in some of their remote schools. This is an exciting and challenging move for Bernadette and our prayers, thoughts and best wishes go with her. I’m sure that Bernadette would appreciate your support with this change as well. The posting is initially for one year and as such we have advertised for an Acting APRE for 2015. We would hope to have someone appointed to this role by the end of the month.

Jemma - Off to the Tropics in 2015

In other staff news one of our Year One teachers, Jemma Rainbow, has been offered a full time and continuing teaching position in the Rockhampton Diocese. Jemma has been on a fixed term contract basis with us for the last two years and has secured a permanent position with the Rocky Diocese at St Joseph’s Catholic School at Biloela which is about an hour inland from Gladstone. This is a wonderful achievement for Jemma and is a reward for her dedication and hard work here at our school. Jemma’s new role came about following an application and interview process with Rockhampton Catholic Education. We will miss Jemma and again we send our prayers and best wishes with her for her future career in teaching.

Parents and Friends Association News

On Monday evening our P & F Association held its Annual General Meeting. At this meeting all of our Executive positions were declared vacant and nominations were called to fill them. I would like to congratulate the following parents who were elected by our meeting –

President – Genevieve Sly (re-elected)  Vice-President – Jenny Wood
Secretary – Sarah Price (re-elected)  Treasurer – Richard Treggiden (re-elected)

I would like to thank our outgoing Vice-President, Quentin McCarthy, for his great work over the last year – he played a pivotal role in the success of last year’s Fete and he has been a long-time supporter of our P & F. Quentin was re-nominated but had to decline due to increased work commitments.

On your behalf I would like to thank these parents for taking on this extra role. Our P & F has achieved a great deal this year and it has been largely due to the efforts of this committee. Matters raised directly at this forum this year have been acted upon and this has helped to ensure a better and safer environment for our children.

The annual P & F Levy was also set for next year at this meeting. Our levy will remain the same as for this year – ie. $40 per term / $160 per year.

Our next (and last) P & F meeting for the year is to be held on Monday, 10 November at 7.00pm. As it is our last meeting for the year there will be some drinks and light nibbles on offer.

2015 Prep Orientation Evening and Morning Session – 27 & 28 October

Our annual Orientation sessions are set down for Monday and Tuesday on the above dates for our Prep intake for 2015. The Parent meeting will commence at 6.00pm in the Multi-purpose Centre (The Shed) and finish at approximately 7.00pm. Our new Preppies will then join us for the morning session from 9.15 to 10.30am in the Prep classes. This parent meeting and morning is open for all new parents and children. Existing parents with new Prep children for 2015 are also invited to come along.

Well Done to Rena

On Monday morning our school was visited by personnel from Brisbane Catholic Education’s Workplace Health and Safety division. They were here for our annual accountability audit in which they review our procedures and protocols for this important area. I am pleased to report that we were given a 97% result. This is great news and it is a credit to the fantastic work that our school’s Workplace Officer Rena Harvey does. Rena is very meticulous with this role in the school and she has helped to create a safe learning environment for our children. Congratulations to Rena on leading us to this result.

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Band on the Run
Our school’s instrumental band, under the tutelage of our instructor, Col Hoy, has spent the best part of today on a tour to two of our sister Gold Coast schools. Our children visited Mother Teresa Catholic School at Ormeau in the morning and then played for the children and staff at St Francis Xavier Catholic School at Runaway Bay in the afternoon. Our band co-ordinator, Bernadette Christensen, accompanied the children as they toured around. These days are a great time for the children as they get to share their skills and talents with others and look to hone their group dynamics. I would like to thank Mother Teresa and St Francis for welcoming our band into their schools.

Leaving Marymount Primary at the End of this Year
If your children are not returning to Marymount Primary School in 2015 could you please let our office know either through a phone message (55 351 803) or via email on pburleigh@bne.catholic.edu.au. This of course does not apply for our Year 6 & 7 children who will be finishing their primary education at the end of this year. We have a number of families who are keen to enrol with our school and many of our classes are at near capacity. By letting us know now we are able to more effectively plan for classes, resourcing and staffing for the future. Thank you for your anticipated help with this matter.

Pupil Free Day – Monday, 20 October
Please be aware that next Monday, 20 October, is a Pupil Free Day and school will be closed for our children. Our teaching staff will be involved in meetings and professional development activities for the day.

Thanks for reading and enjoy the rest of the week.

Yours in Christ
Greg Casey

New Caledonia Visit
Last week, we were visited by our friends from Sacre Coeur School, Noumea. They spent the week travelling around the Gold Coast.

A massive thanks goes to our 19 families who billeted the students and gave up their homes to help out. It is always a little difficult given the language barrier, but always rewarding. Thank you for providing these students with care, concern, and a place to stay while in Australia.

Social Media
Are you aware of what your child is doing online?
Have you seen what they are posting each day?
Do you know if they have settings in place to keep themselves safe?
Are they of the correct age, and being safe and sensible?
Did you answer YES to all these questions?

As Parents you need to do, 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. Are they able to show you EVERYTHING they post? If not Why???

As parents, it is in your hands!!

Have a great week!
Tony Barron
Marymount Band on Tour
Today the Marymount Primary Band was excited to visit Mother Teresa School at Ormeau and St Francis Xavier at Runaway Bay. Previously separated into the Junior and Senior bands, the 38 students from Years 3 to 7 have been rehearsing together as one band since late July. We are very proud of their efforts and talents and thank the students and their family members for their efforts and support.

In 2015 we will lose 14 students as both Yr 6 and 7 go to secondary school. The leadership and expertise of these students will be greatly missed. We are very keen to welcome new students to the program.

The band will play at the school assembly on October 29 and then again at our final concert on November 5 (6.30pm in the Theatrette). All are welcome to these events to find out more about the program and students are encouraged to express interest in joining.

Catholic Missions Fundraising event
Marymount CrAzY SoCK DaY
Friday 17 October
Wear your CRAZIEST SOCKS
Gold Coin Donation to Catholic Missions

Hello Super Savers and welcome back to the last term of 2014.

- Just a reminder that school banking day is on TUESDAY! So make sure you get your deposit books in first thing in the morning and continue being a Super Saver!!

- The CBA has informed us that they have run out of Whale Shark Pencil Cases and Penguin Key Rings. Please make sure you choose another award when you next reach your 10 tokens!

- There is a NEW competition this Term

All you have to do is go online and explain what you are saving for – Easy!!!! Please see details more further information.

Happy Banking!

The Banking Ladies
(Note: The deadline for the competition is 31st of October)
Last night Josie Hughes and Will Ross from Year 5, Corbin Zahn and India Silvestrino from Year 6 and Charlize Silvestrino from Year 7 spoke brilliantly at the A B Paterson Public Speaking Competition. The adjudicators in each section praised the children for their efforts. All the students spoke very confidently and represented Marymount so well. Miss Benson, Mrs Taylor and I were very proud to be there to watch each section. Corbin and Charlize were chosen for the semi-finals in Year 6 and 7 next week. We wish them all the best as it is quite an achievement to reach the semi-finals. We would like to congratulate all the students for their hard work and dedication and also thank their parents for taking them along to participate. We hope to see more children enter the competition next year.

Mrs Lennon, Mrs Taylor and Miss Benson

Total Football Academy will be running an after School soccer program during Term 4 at Marymount Primary. The program is for Prep to Year 4 Pupils. Registration forms were distributed during a free demonstration on Monday. During the 6 week program games will be played inside an inflatable soccer field, which captures the imagination of students, giving them a great soccer experience. Training will take place inside a skills square focusing on different skills each week, such as dribbling, turning and shooting. As part of the program players can also purchase a soccer kit (Top and Shorts). The program starts on Monday 27th October, 3.15pm - 4.15pm. To sign up online visit www.totalfootballacademy.com.au or call Andy Robinson on 0413 888 643.

Congratulations to Jonah Botham, as he is one of only two Cub Scouts at the Palm Beach Den to receive the Grey Wolf Award for over 5 years. This is the highest award in the Queensland Cub Scouts.

He has now moved up from Cubs to Scouts, but as a Grey Wolf awardee, he is able to display his badge on his uniform and also can wear a Wolf woggle with his scarf.

Last day for orders is Monday 27 October
Please return your order form and receipt to the library by Friday. No cash or cheques to be sent.