Dear Parents, Friends and Guardians

External School Renewal Visit

Yesterday our school was visited by a panel of four senior staff from Brisbane Catholic Education in order to complete a review of our school’s processes and procedures. This visit forms part of our accountability to the state and federal governments and their relevant Education departments from whom we receive funding. It is also an opportunity for our system, Brisbane Catholic Education, to review our school’s Religious Education program, our Teaching and Learning and how we work within our community to best service the needs of our children both with staffing and resourcing. Our panel spent the day talking with various groups from our school including our P&F President, Genevieve Sly, staff members, our school’s Leadership Team and children. They had also communicated with Fr Ken, our Parish Priest. They provided us with an interim report late yesterday afternoon and a full report will be sent on to our Executive Director, Pam Betts, and the BCE Leadership Team. The panel were able to identify some key points to focus on for our future direction as well as commending us for areas which we are working strongly in. I will present our full report to our P&F forum when I receive it.

I would like to thank our Assistant Principal, Julian Cotter, for taking the lead role in co-ordinating our school’s response to this external renewal process. Julian has been working on this since the third week of this year and has been able to provide data and evidence of our procedures (eg. Workplace accountability information, Student Protection protocols, etc) as per the requirements of the Non State Schools Accreditation Board. Well done to Julian for this.

Year 6 Leadership Day, Assisi Catholic College – Wednesday, 28 May

Next week our Year 6 children will join with just over 600 other Catholic primary school children from the Gold Coast to participate in their Leadership Day. The day will follow a similar format to our recent Year 7 leadership Day with a liturgy in the morning to start our day. The children will then be engaged in an assortment of activities designed to encourage them to be leaders in their community and to recognise their own leadership skills. Once again our Executive Director, Pam Betts, from Brisbane Catholic Education will be with us for the day to share her reflections on leadership in a Catholic community. This is a great thing for Pam to do by making herself available for our staff and children as she has a massive workload as our Executive Director. Last time her message was very well received by all and her insights into leadership were beneficial to us all. The children will be away for the majority of the day as they share time with their peers from our Gold Coast schools.

Catholic Schools Cross Country Carnival – Thursday, 29 May

Our annual Catholic Schools’ Cross Country Carnival is being held next week at St Brigid’s school at Nerang. Our children participating were chosen from our own recent Marymount Cross Country Carnival and notes have been sent out to these relevant students with full details. We are taking a squad of just over 60 children on the day with Paul Hill and Jackson Elliott looking after our team. Good luck to all of our runners. Parents are most welcome to join us for the day which is always a fun one.

Disco Date Change – Tuesday, 27 May

We have had to change the date for our Term 2 Disco to the Tuesday 27 May. As some of you may know, the Doyle Centre has been undergoing some refurbishment work since the Easter holidays and unfortunately this work has met with some unforeseen extra works. This has caused the change for the night. Our times and costs are still the same so we hope to see you all next Tuesday evening for a fun night out.

Thanks for taking the time to read this week’s newsletter. There are some great articles added in and I commend them to you.

Enjoy the rest of the week.

Yours in Christ

Greg Casey

P0Box 2506 Burleigh BC 4220 Phone (07) 5535 1803 Fax (07) 5535 1819 Email pburleigh@bne.catholic.edu.au http://www.marymountprimaryqld.edu.au
TUESDAY 27 MAY
FLUORO THEME
Wear your coolest and brightest FLUORO gear!
Please wear appropriate footwear
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.

IMPORTANT DATE CHANGE

STAFF and students are busy painting the Friendly School Tree in readiness for positive affirmations to be placed on it.
**Curriculum and the sacramental journey**

Marymount Primary supports the Burleigh Parish sacramental program through our teaching in Religious Education and our encouragement of students and their families. The following is an extract from the BCE Religious Education curriculum that we follow at Marymount. It shows the connection between our teaching about liturgy and sacraments and the faith life lived by families in a school and parish context.

Students in Archdiocesan schools grow in their understanding and appreciation of the liturgical and sacramental life of the Church. They develop an understanding of the many ways in which the Biblical story of God’s covenant relationship finds echoes in the lives of individuals and in their relationships with others. Students learn how liturgy can assist them to give authentic and creative expression to their own ongoing story, to their struggles and triumphs, successes and failures, sorrows and joys, and to all that lies deepest within them. Each student’s individual story is linked to the Christian story which is centred on the person of Jesus Christ, his life, death and resurrection. They explore the capacity of liturgy to express the cultural diversity of believers and encourage their active participation in worship.

Students develop an understanding of how Sacraments of the Church proclaim God’s presence in human life through words, actions and symbols. In exploring the historical development of Sacraments, students make connections between the liturgical and sacramental life of the Church and the life and ministry of Jesus.

The list of students below is a more complete list than was published last week. We wish these families well as they celebrate together this week.

Angelina Grgich, Charlotte Jamieson, Jandy Tabrett, Sarah Harm, Lucas Harm, Taylor Bruce, Natalie Teasdale, Olivia Bunn, Charlotte Hockings, Mikalya Hopkins, Natalie Teasdale, Scarlett Thorpe, Shannah Vargas, Chelsea Berezwick, Lucas Berezwick, Elijah Beasley, Mia Carroll, Ethan Carney, Lulu Frankel, Natalie Mallos, Charlotte Sellars, Julian Sim-Sing, Molly and Sam Mayes.

Enjoy the the week ahead.

*Bernadette Christensen*

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**Patron Parent Events**

(Thank you to these volunteers who facilitate the building and strengthening of networks at Marymount Primary)

- **Yr 1R - Coffee & Chat** - Friday May 23 after drop off, Zarraffas, Stocklands
- **Prep 0R - Coffee & Chat** - Wednesday May 28 after drop off, Coffee Club, Stocklands
- **Prep 0Y - Coffee & Chat** - Friday May 30 after drop off, The Paddock, 20 Hibiscus Haven, Miami (off Christine Avenue)
- **Yr 2M - Coffee morning** - Thursday June 5, 8.45am, Coffee Club, Stocklands
- **Yr 2P - Coffee & Chat** - Thursday June 19 after drop off, Coffee Club, Stocklands

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**Cancellation**

YEAR 7 INTO SECONDARY PARENT FORUM PLANNED FOR MAY 27 HAS NOW BEEN CANCELLED.

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**Important Notice**

BEACH-A-THON CHANGE OF DATE NOW FRIDAY JUNE 27 (Last day of this Term)

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**Thoughts from your School Counsellor**

Today I would like to share with you an article written by Heather Clark (my colleague from Marymount College). Recently BCE Guidance Counsellors attended a conference in which Kirsten Hancock was a keynote speaker. Subsequently Heather provided the attached summary for the College Newsletter. It seems appropriate that our Primary Parents have access to the important message that “Every Day Counts” at school!

Best wishes for the week ahead

*Mary Sanders*

msanders@bne.catholic.edu.au
**Sport News**

**District Cross Country**
Best of luck to our Marymount students who are competing at the District Cross Country today (Wednesday 21) at Pizzey Park. The team has been training well for several weeks so we are looking forward to some good results.

**Catholic Cross Country**
The Catholic Cross Country carnival will be held on Thursday 29 May at St Brigid’s Nerang. That’s just over a week away. We have been getting excellent numbers to training over the last few weeks, so keep up the great work boys and girls.

Training times are Monday at Lunchtime, Tuesday at 7.45am and Thursday at Morning tea. Meet Mr Elliott and Mr Hill in front of the Shed.

**Paul Hill**

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If your child has ordered Tuckshop and is either not coming to school or is being taken home before 9.30am, you will need to let the Tuckshop ladies know. If no notice is given and food is cooked and supplied then no refund can be given. We appreciate your support with this.

Sushi will now only be available on Thursday and Friday due to the colder weather. Sushi will be back on the menu every day in the warmer months.

Coming up on May 28th is the First Game for the State of Origin. We’ll be cooking up a Footy Fever Storm with a Sausage Sizzle for the kids and Steak Sandwiches available for the staff plus some YUMMY surprises. Orders for these are to be placed on Munch Monitors until Friday 23rd May.

We will also be having a choice of Vegetarian and Gluten Free on the Day. Combo Deals will be available starting at:

- $4.00 for a Sausage Sizzle Combo (Includes drink, sausage on bread with sauce and a surprise)
- $5.00 for a Gluten Free Combo (includes chicken nuggets, drink and cookie)
- $5.00 for a Vegetarian Combo (includes vegetarian burger, drink and surprise)

The ordering process will be online through Munch Monitors. So, please sign up before it’s too late. All menu items like Ice Blocks, Slushies and Snacks can still be ordered through the normal ordering process BUT NO OTHER HOT FOOD WILL BE AVAILABLE ON THE DAY.

Should you wish to help out in the tuckshop on the day of the State Of Origin please contact the Tuckshop on 55208413 or come and see the lovely ladies. It is sure to be a fun and eventful day!

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 the Tuckshop. We don’t mind if you volunteer once a week/fortnightly or monthly. We appreciate the help!

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The Marymount Art Show will feature some exciting and well known Artists to exhibit their work at this years’ Art Show. 

Over the coming weeks we will share the work and story of our Feature Artists.

Our first Feature Artist is Seabaston Toast - winner of the Painting category award at Marymount Art Show in 2012.

Seabaston Toast's work has garnered much attention over the past couple of years particularly after winning the 2011 $10,000 Gainsborough Greens Award, the Marymount Arts Prize and achieving finalist positions in many other prominent awards including the 2012 Doug Moran Portrait Prize, 2013 Sunshine Coast Art Prize and 2014 Cliftons Art Prize.

Her paintings are primarily concerned with the human condition and often uses animal archetypes to reflect upon our relationship to the psychological landscapes we inhabit.

She is currently represented by Anthea Polson Art Gallery on the Gold Coast and Red Hill Gallery, Brisbane.

Like Seabastian Toast on facebook https://www.facebook.com/theartoftoast
As the mornings turn cooler, and the long weekends are a distant memory, I want to encourage parents to work hard to get their teens to school. Make it a priority!

Some new research out of Western Australia (WA) has looked at students’ achievement scores and the correlation with their attendance. Without a doubt there was a significant effect for every day that the student missed school in relation to their achievement scores. Their scores were significantly lower than their peers who didn’t miss school.

Kirsten Hancock from the Telethon Institute in WA, noted that the first few days of absence makes all the difference in terms of achievement. In addition, (for those of you with children in the primary school still) the early years are critical. This period in time is all about setting expectations. The research noted that students that missed school in Year 1 had the same attendance patterns in high school! It was also clear from their data, that absences in Year 9 had a greater impact on achievement.

Life is all about “showing up”. Establishing good attendance patterns in the early years and continuing this in high school will help when your teen gets a job and moves into a career to be a reliable worker.

And for those Year 8 parents reading this, remember that it is important for your adolescent to attend camp too! Many lifelong friendships are established on camps which encourage students to mix outside their comfort/friendship group. We have seen over the years that the students that are “excused” from camp are often the ones that report problems with “fitting in” later in the year.

So, next time you are thinking it is easier to give in and let your child stay home,- remember you are not doing them any favours both with their achievement but also in teaching life lessons.

See everyone at school tomorrow!

(Source: Kirsten Hancock, Telethon Kids Institute)