



Dear Parents, Friends and Guardians

Parent Information Nights

Thank you to the many parents who were able to make it along to our 2016 Parent Information Meetings on Monday. It was heartening to see so much support for our teachers and the genuine desire from our parents to be involved in their children's educational journey. These meetings are a very important part of the communication process between home and school. The better these channels of communication are kept the better it is for your child. If you couldn't make it to these meetings please contact your child's respective teacher for an overview. Most teachers had their content on Powerpoint so they may be able to send these home to you via email or they could be placed on our new Parent Portal (please see Tony's piece on this later in the newsletter). I would like to thank our teachers for their time and their professionalism at these meetings, we have a great crew of teachers and there are already many wonderful things happening in the classes.

Year 6 Leadership Day – Wednesday, 24 February

Next Wednesday our Year 6 children will travel to Jubilee Primary School at Pacific Pines to attend the annual Year 6 Leadership Day. This day involves all of the primary school leaders from across the Coast's Catholic schools. The theme is on leadership and each year we join, firstly in liturgy, and then have guest speakers on the topic. After sharing Morning Tea with their colleagues from the other schools, our children will be involved in group activities before returning to school around 1.00pm. It is a great day for the children and their teachers and it is very rewarding for them all. Thanks to Maree Wright, our Assistant Principal Religious Education, and the other APRE's from across the Gold Coast for their co-ordination of the day.

Doyle Centre Car Park and Set-down / Pick-up Area

Thank you to our families who are utilising the new set-down / pick-up area near the Doyle centre – the traffic is flowing much better as all families get used to the new system. The extended part of the car park is working well and it is allowing more cars to be able to come into our school grounds and therefore free up Reedy Creek Road and Bermuda Street. This was something which the Department of Main Roads and Transport were very keen for us to do in order to allow these major arterial roads to flow easier. This back section also has a number of designated parks which our parents can use each day and many have been already. We are looking to construct a concrete path alongside these parks leading back into the school over the next few weeks to make it easier for whole school access. Now that this extra part is opened up we have returned to normal school starting times which sees the first bell go at 8.35am and then the move into class bell at 8.40am.

It is our desire to stop the parking on our primary school oval by the end of next week so that we can reclaim it for the full use of our children. It is already inhibiting the normal lunch play times as well as our PE programs. The extra parks in the new section can be used instead of our oval. I would also encourage our parents of the Prep and Year One classes to look at utilising the Reedy Creek Road Public car park as there are plenty of places in here which allow longer term parking. Parents could be in here from around 8.20, be able to walk your child in and then leave around 8.45 to 8.50 quite easily. The same could happen with the top end of the extra car park. Some parents may also look to start dropping their children off in the designated area if the children feel confident enough to try it. Maybe some could start in the mornings when the traffic isn't so heavy to see how they go with this. We will have a teacher on duty here each day from 8.10am as well as in the afternoons. Thanks for your help with these arrangements. Please feel free to contact us if you have any issues which you feel we may need to consider.

Finally, could I thank our parents for ensuring that the two Disabled Park areas in the middle of the car park are left open each day. We have a number of parents and grandparents who need access to these parks and your help for them is certainly appreciated.

continued over

Coming Events

Wednesday February 17

Whole school assembly -
Yr 6 Badge Ceremony

Thursday February 18

District Swimming - Pizze Park

Monday February 22

6.00pm - 2017 Parent Enrolment
Information Evening - Theatre

Wednesday February 24

Whole school assembly -
Yr 6 Leadership Day - Jubilee

Tuesday March 1

Art Show Committee Meeting

Friday March 4

GCCPS Swim Carnival

Tuesday March 8

School Photos

Thursday March 10

School Photos

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

2017 Parent Enrolment Information Meeting – Monday, 22 February

On the above date we will be conducting an information night for prospective enrolments for 2017. It will take place in the Doyle Centre theatre and will start at 6.00pm. We have sent invitations out to those families who have already expressed interest in our school but you may know of someone who has been thinking about the possibility of joining our community. If so we would be grateful if you could pass this information on. At the meeting we will discuss general issues about enrolment for our school such as our Mission Statement, enrolment criteria, curriculum, uniforms, sacramental programs and parish involvement and projected school fees. Our meeting is expected to run for just on the hour. For more information please contact our school's Parent Reception office on 55 351 803.

Catholic Schools and teacher Strikes

Parents may have seen or heard reports in the media over recent weeks in regards to some Catholic schools where the staff are taking industrial action of various types as part of the latest Enterprise Bargaining wage negotiations. These negotiations take place every three years (approximately) wherein discussions are held between the employer representatives (Brisbane Catholic Education) and the teachers and associated staff who are represented by the Queensland Independent Education Union. These latest Bargaining events have been ongoing since mid-last year and they are still not finalised.

As part of the campaign to move the negotiations along and to push certain industrial matters the staff, through their union if they are members, can take different actions if they wish. This has happened in some Catholic schools across Queensland where a majority of union members at these individual schools have opted to take what is called Protected Action. A number of schools have been taking various forms of Protected Action since September last year. The campaign has been escalated over the last few weeks and some schools have opted to take half or full day strike action. Marymount Primary School has not been involved in any of these actions and is still not. Our college however is one of the schools who will be taking Protected Action in the form of a full day strike. This strike will see a number of teachers absent from school duties next Thursday, 25 February. The college Principal, Chris Noonan, has informed me that this action will severely hamper the school's ability to provide normal classes. He will be informing his parent body within the next week as to what alternative arrangements the college will be taking in the case of limited staff turning up. This may mean that some lessons are cancelled for the day and children may not be required to attend. Obviously this may have an effect on attendance for our primary students who are siblings and I will leave this up to our families to decide what they feel is best for their children on the day. Please know though that Marymount Primary School will be open for business in a full capacity on this day. I will endeavour to keep you posted when I hear from Chris as to what is happening at the College.

Thanks for reading

Enjoy the rest of the week

Greg Casey

From our Acting Assistant Principal

Tina O'Keefe

Volunteer Student Protection Training

Anyone who wishes to volunteer at the school in 2016 is required by Brisbane Catholic Education to attend Volunteer Student Protection Training once during the year. Volunteering includes listening to students read, helping in the classroom and tuckshop or specialist areas and going on excursions.

This training only takes 15 minutes of your time, but helps to ensure that you are aware of the procedures that need to be followed to protect our students. I will ask you to sign the volunteer register and once you have completed the training you are good to go for the year. I will be running training times as follows:

Monday 22 February in the Staff Room 2:30pm

Tuesday 23 February in the Staff Room 9:00am

If you could please email me on: tokeefe@bne.catholic.edu.au to let me know if you are going to attend it would help me with organising materials.

Thanks, **Tina O'Keefe**



Parent Portal

Marymount Primary is excited to launch our Parent Portal.

Yesterday you should have received an email inviting you to log in to the new Parent Portal.

This is really important, as soon, this will be the only place to access information!

You must use the email address that you provided the school. If this is no longer in use, you need to contact Parent Reception urgently to update your details.

Access is restricted to parents of students at our school and a log in is required. Account details were sent in an email to parents yesterday.

The Parent Portal will enable easy access to information about happenings in the school, forms that need to be returned, names and contact details for staff, & policy information. You can also check on information about your child's attendance, teachers, timetable, and NAPLAN performance.

End Semester Report cards will also be available here. There's also a special section to allow you to check the details we have recorded in our enrolment system about your children, and if necessary, advise us of any changes.

Late Arrival and Early Departure

There is now a new method of signing your child in if you arrive late, or leave early throughout the day. Parents and children need to go to Student Administration and sign in via a barcode/computer terminal. A touch screen terminal is used by parents to add the appropriate information. A slip will then be provided which is to be given to the class teacher. Details of this procedure are available in the announcements section of our new Parent Portal.

Newsletter

Currently our newsletter is emailed out via a distribution list. This will cease in the next few weeks. The newsletter will then be available on the Parent Portal, or the school website for your viewing.

Thanks

Tony Barron



A group of very excited Year 4 students who received their new laptops today as part of the 1:1 program.

A Note from the Guidance Counsellor

At Marymount we are keen to build positive parent-school partnerships. To that end I have maintained our membership as a Parenting Ideas school. This valuable resource is available for teachers and parents to refer to. I will continue to include articles that I feel will be helpful for your consideration and encourage you to access this resource by going to: http://www.parentingideas.com.au/Parent_Magazine.html

The attached Insights article seeks to clarify the difference between teasing and bullying. Michael Grose states that it is important for us to "skill our kids up to manage rudeness and teasing" by not categorising "every awful behaviour that kids experience as bullying". Michael asserts that whilst "bullying needs to be taken seriously, we also need to be discerning about bullying behaviours".

Best wishes for the week ahead.

Mary Sanders

msanders@bne.catholic.edu.au

Year Six Leadership Liturgy

Today at assembly we acknowledged the Year 6 students as leaders of our school for 2016. The students received their Leadership badges that remind them of the responsibility that comes with this role as they interact with others in their everyday lives. The students are challenged as leaders to stand up with responsibility, solidarity, generosity, empathy and justice. We thank Fr Ken for leading our prayer liturgy today and blessing our children and their badges. We wish all the Year Six students all the best for their final year of primary school.

Year 5 & 6 Mass

Fr Lucius celebrated mass with Year 6 students last Thursday and Year 5 students yesterday. This is an important time for these year levels to join together in prayer and worship. We thank Fr Lucius for leading us in prayer. Tomorrow 3M, 4M and 4Y will participate in class liturgies in our Sacred Space.

Enjoy the week

Maree Wright



SPEECH PATHOLOGIST CHATTER

I have had several questions regarding STUTTERING this week. Stuttering is a speech disorder that causes interruptions in the rhythm or flow of speech.

Recent research in Australia indicates 8.5% of 3 year olds stutter and that 70-75% of these are thought to naturally recover. We know adolescents and adults are very unlikely to recover.

Early intervention by a Speech Pathologist is recommended for children who stutter in order to reduce the impact of stuttering on well being and daily life. Evidence based programs such as the Lidcombe program have achieved positive results.

Please do not hesitate to call me if you have concerns and would like to discuss a referral.

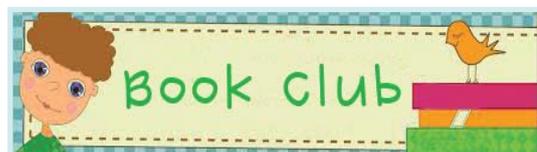
Kind regards

Sharon Cummings - Speech Pathologist

REMINDER

If they wish to place an order for winter uniforms please complete the attached order form and return to the Bookshop by Friday 19 February.

Thank you.



Book Club orders due
Tuesday February 16. Thankyou!

Sport News

Swimming Age Champions

Congratulations to our Marymount Swimming Age Champions (listed below). Medals were presented at Wednesday's assembly. As you can see from the results below there was some very close racing for our Age Champion places especially in the 10 and 11 year old boys. Well done to all.

Age Champion Swimming 2016

8 year Girls

1st Chelsea Smyth
2nd Misti Harris
3rd Lillian Richmond

8 year Boys

1st Jake Williams
2nd Oliver Kelly
3rd Tristan Callaghan

9 year Girls

1st Amy Newton
2nd Belle Sly
3rd Lucy Tyson

9 year Boys

1st Dane Fraser
2nd Ben Thomas
3rd Hayden Riddell

10 year Girls

1st Millar Brosnan-Ball
2nd Amelia Wood
3rd Tara Newton

10 year Boys

=1st Lachlan Kelly
=1st Kai Allen
2nd Ethan Callaghan
3rd Taj Lockett

11 year Girls

1st Zali Williams
2nd Josie McCabe
3rd Rosie Ward

11 year Boys

=1st Tom Cervenak
=1st Sean Lunney
=2nd Jacob Andrews
=2nd Carden Skali
3rd Luke Rana-Smith

12 year Girls

1st Hayley Weise
2nd Kiana Young
3rd Mikayla Cameron

12 year Boys

1st Taj Harris
2nd Jaden Wood
3rd Max Tanaka

Oceanic District Swimming Carnival

Best of luck to our Marymount Primary students competing at the Oceanic District Swimming Carnival on Thursday 18 February at Miami Aquatic Centre. Our students will be swimming for a spot in the Oceanic District Swimming Team to compete at the South Coast Regional Swimming trials on Monday 29 Feb and Wednesday 2 March.

District Swimming Team

10yr Girls

Millar Brosnan-Ball
Amelia Wood

10yr Boys

Kai Allen
Lachlan Kelly

11yr Girls

Zali Williams
Rosie Ward
Piper Stockell
Josie McCabe

11yr Boys

Sean Lunney
Tom Cervenak
Carden Skali
Taj Nolan

12yr Girls

Hayley Weise
Mikayla Cameron
Kiana Young
Ashleigh Brown

12yr Boys

Taj Harris
Jaden Wood
Sebastian Pennisi
Max Tanaka

District Netball

Congratulations to Rosie Ward who has been selected to play in the Oceanic District U11 Girls Netball team. Rosie will be part of the Oceanic team to take part in the South Coast Regional Netball Carnival on Tuesday 22 March. Well done and best of luck Rosie.

Paul Hill



Age Champions Swimming 2016

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 Lucius Edomodi & Fr Stephen Camiolo

Phone: 5576 6317/5576 6466 FAX: 5576 7143

EMAIL: burleigh@bne.catholic.net.au



MARYMOUNT PRIMARY WINTER UNIFORM ORDER FORM

Student Name: _____

Class: _____

Student Code: _____

Date: _____

To ensure your child has either tracksuit, jumper or sports jacket, order must be placed by 19/2/16.

PREP must wear track jacket with or without track pants.

BOYS may wear track pants with Day or Sports uniform.

YEARS 1 – 6 may wear jumper with day uniform only.

YEARS 2 – 6 may wear either the track jacket or sports jacket with both uniforms.

GIRLS may wear black stockings with Day uniform and track pants with Sports uniform.

TRACK JACKET & TRACK PANTS (Prep – Year 6)

Track Jacket - \$50.00 (Compulsory for Prep. Optional for Yrs 1-6 may be worn with Day or Sport Uniforms)

Size: (please circle)

4 6 8 10 12 14 16

please size for me

Track Pant - \$38.50 (Optional – may be worn by preps

– may be worn by boys with day or sport uniforms;

– may be worn by girls with sport uniform only)

Size: (please circle)

2 4 6 8 10 12 14 16

please size for me

JUMPER (Year 1 – Year 6)

Jumper - \$60.00 (Optional – may be worn with Day Uniform only)

Size: (please circle)

6 8 10 12 14 16 18 20

please size for me

SPORTS JACKET (Year 2 – Year 6)

Sports Jacket - \$72.00 (Optional – may be worn with Day or Sport Uniforms)

Size: (please circle)

6 8 10 12 14 XS S

please size for me

Please note: Orders without a deposit cannot be processed.

Credit Card Payment Details

Student's Name: _____

Date: _____

Student's Class: _____

Student's Code: _____

MASTERCARD

VISA

BANKCARD

AMOUNT:

CARD NUMBER:

EXPIRY DATE:

Cardholders Name: _____

Signature: _____



Building parent-school partnerships

WORDS Michael Grose

Teasing V Bullying



When speaking with parents when I present at schools, or engaging with them via our social media, bullying is always a hot topic. A recent Facebook post had one of our biggest engagement rates ever. It begged the question- "What is bullying? Do we mix it up with teasing and other forms of mean behaviour?"

It's an important topic that needs clarification.

Bullying is a term that's wrapped in emotion. For many people it's associated with bad childhood memories. It's been estimated that around 40 per cent of people have experienced bullying in the past. It's something that we don't want to happen to our kids.

But I fear it's being overused at the moment and confused with teasing and rudeness.

Rudeness refers to thoughtless behaviours and thoughtless words. Kids often do rude things to each other without thinking their actions through. Examples include breaking wind in a child's direction; joking about the colour of a child's hair in front of others; failing to share possessions and neglecting to acknowledge someone. Rudeness is usually about selfishness

and thoughtlessness. Taken on their own many rude behaviours can be seen as an element of bullying but when looked at in context they are more about thoughtlessness, lack of consideration and poor manners rather than a deliberate attempt to hurt someone.

Teasing refers to annoying, hurtful behaviour that is used to get a reaction from someone else. Teasing can be persistent in nature, but not always. It's generally an attempt to get under a person's skin. It can involve name-calling; it can be personal and hurtful in nature. It can also infringe on another person's rights. But generally teasing doesn't have the key ingredients that make up bullying.

Bullying is the *selective, uninvited, repetitive* oppression of one person or group by another. It involves **three elements** – intent to hurt or harm; power imbalance; and repetition over time. It takes many forms and guises including physical aggression; verbal abuse; emotional aggression (or blackmail); intimidation; harassment and exclusion.

The new cyber-dimension to bullying has moved the goalpost for many kids. In the past children and young people could escape bullying behaviours by being at

home. Cyber-bullying means that children can't escape bullies like they once could.

Why the distinction? I hear the term bullying misused a great deal in the media and when talking with parents. We run the risk of "The Boy Who Cried Wolf" Syndrome where we become so desensitised to the term that we (or teachers) ignore it when children really are the victims of bullying. We also run the risk of failing to skill our kids up to manage rudeness and teasing if we categorise every awful behaviour that kids experience as bullying.

Our ability to be discerning about bullying is as important as the action we take when we are sure that our child is on the receiving end of bullying behaviour. These actions include: dealing with feelings; providing emotional coping skills; getting others involved; building up a child's support networks; and building self-confidence that can take a battering.

Bullying needs to be taken seriously. But we also need to be discerning about bullying behaviours.

Michael Grose



Want more ideas to help you raise confident kids and resilient young people? Subscribe to Happy Kids newsletter, my **FREE** weekly email parenting guide at parentingideas.com.au. You'll be so glad you did.

