Dear Parents, Friends and Guardians

Marymount Schools Fete Success

Last weekend we held our Marymount Spring Fete and it was a wonderful event. The co-operation of the parent, staff and student bodies of both schools was magnificent and as such we had a great community day with things on offer for all ages. I would like to thank the Parents and Friends Associations from the primary and secondary for all of their work both before and on the day. The spirit of giving from these volunteers was really special and this helped to create an enjoyable day and one which everyone could be justifiably proud of. These groups were well led by our convenors Tracey Dean and Karen Harrison who worked tirelessly to ensure the success of the day. Tracey and Karen left no stone unturned in their organisation and their willingness to go the extra mile helped to lift others throughout the months of preparation.

It was great to see so many fabulous acts on our centre stage (well done to our band here) and the games area and the ride passes yet again proved to be a smashing hit. It seemed that plastic swords and rubber ducks were the flavour of the day as our children tried their luck at the clowns or the junior games. Crazy hair and painted faces also helped to create the real carnival atmosphere. I would also like to thank our brave staff who fronted up for the “Slime the Teacher” stall – this was really going above and beyond the call but it seems that our children loved it. Maybe next time Tony Barron might hop in there in his Queensland State of Origin gear – I’d reckon that there’s a few long suffering New South Welshmen and women who might like to gain some revenge!

We will be holding a meeting on Monday, 16 November, to review our Fete and finalise the financial side of things. This meeting will take place in our Staff room and will start at 6.00pm and all parents are welcome to come along. If you can’t make it but have some possible ideas for future fetes please email us on pburleigh@bne.catholic.edu.au. Once again thank you very much to everyone who helped in any way for this year’s Fete – it was a pleasure to be a part of such a great day.

Thanks to Annette and our Leadership Team

I would like to thank Annette O’Shea for taking on the role of Acting Principal in my recent absence. It is very reassuring having someone with Annette’s experience of over twenty years of leadership in Catholic schools to take over and we are blessed to be able to call on her. Annette was ably assisted by Diane Anderson and Tony Barron as well as Deb Cronin who joined our Leadership Team for the six weeks. Once again these three are experienced Catholic educators who have a number of years of leadership in different schools across a number of different diocese to fall back on. Thank you to Annette, Diane, Deb and Tony for a job well done and thanks to you as our parent body for supporting them so strongly.

Next week will be Annette’s last few days with us for a while as she will be on leave from Wednesday until the end of the year. Annette is having minor surgery on her eyes which will prevent her from being able to be at school. She will then be taking the first semester off in 2016 in order to take some Long Service Leave. I would like to wish Annette well for her surgery and a speedy recovery. I also send our best wishes to her and Tony for an enjoyable and rewarding time whilst on leave in 2016. We will look forward to some great travel stories in July next year.

Milestones for School Staff - 20 and 30 Years of Service

Next week we will be honouring the following staff members for their years of dedicated service to Catholic Education. Some of these years have been in other schools but many of them have been here at Marymount Primary School. Our recipients are – Annette O’Shea (30 years), Jan Marais (30), Margaret Reddan (30), Una Deem (20) and Annette Straker (20). I would like to congratlate our wonderful teachers on achieving these milestones in their careers. I would also like to thank them for their marvellous efforts in working with, and touching the lives of so many children over the years. We are indeed blessed to have them have been here at Marymount.

Prep 2016 Orientation Meetings

We will be holding two meetings next week for our Prep 2016 intake of children. On the 26 October, Monday evening at 6.00pm we will be offering Parent Information meetings with the class teachers and then we will have an Orientation Session for the new children at 9.15am on Tuesday 27 October. Our Parent meeting will start off in our Multi-purpose Centre and then move to the classrooms. The morning session with the children will run for just over an hour and normal classes for our existing Prep children will resume by 10.30am.

continued over...
Parents and Friends Annual General Meeting – Monday, 16 November

Our P & F Annual General Meeting will be held on the above date commencing at 7.00pm. Unfortunately we were unable to have a quorum for our meeting on Monday night and so we have decided to push our meeting to this date. It would be great if we could get more parents to these meetings as often decisions are made about the expenditure of our P & F Levy and input is needed on these decisions. Please mark the above date in your calendars – our meeting should go for no more than twenty minutes and then we will move into our November General meeting which would be finished by 8.30pm

Welcome to Sharon

We are very pleased to be able to welcome Sharon Cummings to our school for the rest of this year.

Sharon is a Speech Pathologist who is employed by Brisbane Catholic Education to work with children, staff and parents at our school.

Sharon currently works two days a week at Marymount College and next year she will be doing two days a week with us as well.

Please find below a bit of background information from Sharon in regards to her role. We warmly welcome Sharon and thank her for becoming a member of our staff.

College Opening of Franciscan Buildings

The College officially blessed and opened their new buildings which sit adjacent to our Frank Shine Walk a week and a bit ago. These buildings are state of the art in their design and contain modern classrooms as well as specialist rooms to cater for the Year 7 and 8 children. Their placement so near to our classes really helps for an even smoother transition of our children into the secondary sector. They provide education in a contemporary and exciting setting and I would like to congratulate the College and their Principal, Chris Noonan, on bringing these buildings to reality. They have been named as the Franciscan Centre in honour of the school’s history with the Franciscan Sisters who helped to establish both the Primary and the Secondary schools here in the Burleigh Heads parish. Well done to our neighbours on achieving another significant milestone.

Thanks for reading this week – here’s hoping that the Wallabies can continue on their winning way at the Rugby World Cup. We won’t mention the slight hiccup from last weekend against the Scots!

Yours in Christ

Greg Casey

---

SPEECH PATHOLOGIST

My name is Sharon Cummings and I am the school’s School-based Speech Pathologist. This term I will be working at the school on a Friday in preparation for two days per week in 2016. My background is in Primary schools on the Gold Coast as a teacher and Deputy Principal. I bring this experience to my Speech Pathologist role to assist teachers to support students who experience difficulties with their speech, language, fluency and multi-modal communication. I will also be working directly with students on a weekly basis and will be in contact with parents throughout my time at the school.

I look forward to meeting many of you during my time at the school and please do not hesitate to contact the school if you would like me to make contact with you.

Sharon Cummings
Speech Pathologist

---

Medical All Stars

In readiness for 2016 all parents and caregivers of our Marymount Medical All Stars should have received current information and relevant forms for updating. We ask that you amend/update the information as required and return in the reply envelope provided by Friday 23rd October.

If your child’s Action Plan does not require any changes, it can be kept for signing by your medical practitioner at your earliest convenience and then returned to the school.

Should you have any concerns or have not received this information, please feel free to contact me.

Many thanks

Helen Brosnan
LEC teacher
Bus Travel and Payment
Over the coming weeks, Travel Inspectors from Translink will be visiting the school. The purpose of their visit is to crack down on Fare evasion.

On Tuesday approximately 10 officers checked every child’s Go Card or Bus pass, to ensure children were paying for their travel. Between the College and the Primary, Officers handed out over 100 infringement notices.

Any child who was found to have evaded their fare, was handed a written warning. The Translink officers have said that in future, children who do not pay, could be subject to possible fines, and/or be stopped from using the bus system.

Children and parents know that in Qld, no child can be left behind, however, this is not a reason to refuse to pay while travelling on a school bus.

Can you please ensure that if your child travels by bus that they either have; money for a ticket, a Go Card with adequate funds, or an up to date School bus pass.

The onus is on each child to ensure they show their pass or tap on and off with their Go Card for each trip.

Translink and Surfside officers were also strict on parents using the bus lane as a drop off area. Please remember that the main carpark area off Reedy Creek Rd is not owned by the schools, so therefore is under the rules and regulations of Main Roads, Gold Coast City Council and the police.

Chain on Sunlight Drive near Parish House
Parents who use the area at the top of Parish Park (near Parish House), would have noticed a chain is now being put up each afternoon between 2:45 and 3:10pm. This chain and parking area is being controlled by the College. It is designed to hold back extra traffic from the roadway (mainly Year 12 students and college staff).

The College have advised us that it will remain in place for the next two weeks while their Year 12 students are still on campus, to help minimise extra traffic, and ensure that the area is as safe as possible.

Sorry for the inconvenience, but hopefully everything will work out for all involved.

Thanks
Tony Barron

Year Five Mass
Tomorrow Year Five will be travelling to St Benedict’s Mudgeeraba to celebrate mass with Fr Stephen. Mass will begin at 9:15am and conclude at approximately 10:15am. Parents are most welcome to attend. This opportunity enables students to take part in a full mass, ask questions from Fr Stephen and strengthen their knowledge of the rituals of our faith.

Socktober
This Friday we are having a silly sock day to raise money for Catholic Missions who support the poorest children of the world. This year Catholic Missions, through our support, are raising money to help the people living in poverty in Madagascar, a small country off the Coast of Africa. The children here don’t have safe drinking water or proper sanitation and therefore disease is a common occurrence. Socks symbolise working in partnership with Catholic Mission, recognize the uniqueness of every child, and acknowledges that through normal everyday contributions we can make an extraordinary difference.

All children are invited to wear silly socks this Friday and to donate a gold coin in support of the work of Catholic Missions. The normal Friday uniform is to be worn with these socks. The ‘Year 6 Social Justice Crew’ is leading this day.

I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink. Matthew 25:35

Band performance at Marymount Fete
Congratulations to Col Hoy and the Marymount Senior Band who showcased their talents on Saturday at the Marymount Fete. They played five pieces and displayed the musical talent that we have here at Marymount.

Enjoy the rest of the week

Maree Wright
Next Tuesday is my last day at Marymount until at the earliest, second semester next year. Having travelled our great country last year, the call of wheels has resounded throughout this year and thus my husband, Tony and I are off again nomading our way to “wherever” and “whenever”.

I thank you for the privilege of sharing part of your child’s schooling. I am blessed to have been part of a community where care and support abounds. This spirit of joy and community was so very evident at the fete last weekend where the Primary, Secondary and Parish entities came together towards a common goal.

To the many parents who have worked with us in a solution-focused way, I extend thanks. Understandably, I am yet to ring a parent during the school day and be greeted with yelps of joy! Please know that at all times, communication is made with the hope that together we can help children come to manage themselves in a positive, respectful and productive way. Again, I feel blessed that I have been able to share a relationship with parents that is built on trust and a common understanding that the children’s interests are at the heart.

As I say good-bye for now, I also say thanks and please know that my prayers and very best wishes travel from me, whenever I am be nomading, to you and your beautiful children.

Finally I leave you with a few of my thoughts for consideration.

Enjoy the rest of the week

Annette O’Shea

A life of simple
What matters most
Found amidst bustle
Or far outpost
No need for diamonds
No cry for jewels
All are on tap
For other than fools
Find life in the wilderness
And in the still
In the raw and untamed
Our choice to fulfil
Release me of trappings
Of caught with the lot

My spirit alive
In what I forgot
So forget me the dollar
The slave of acquire
My heart needs more
For my spirit to fire
Found in the wheels
As freedom reclaim
My choice to breathe freely
And taste the real game

A wanderer’s whispering
Nomading elsewhere
True call of her soul
With whispers to share

Last Thursday Rozie, Aimee and I were lucky to be able to attend the Arts Centre to watch the Indigenous Dance Troup from the Bangarra Dance Theatre, do a warm up and technique class. We joined members of the Year 11 dance troupe and three other mob members from Marymount College. It felt very spiritual to be around such talented indigenous dancers. We were very thankful for the opportunity to attend.

Olivia Breeze 6M
Earlier this year, a class-set of books titled ‘Olga the Brolga’ by Rod Clement was purchased for our Year 2 classes. A class set of readers provides the opportunity for every student to be totally immersed in their own copy of a book and as such is a wonderful investment in developing a love of reading. Mrs Kuiper-Smith’s class have been reading Olga and have had many discussions about the various characters. Last week, the students put pencil to paper and wrote about who their favourite character was and why. Not only was their writing great to read, the corresponding illustration put a smile on my face. Thanks for sharing 2A!

Late last term, all ten year olds on the Gold Coast were invited to enter into an art competition to celebrate Q1’s 10th birthday. A number of our students entered this competition and I thank them and their teachers for taking part. The competition received a huge amount of entries and six of our students were chosen as part of the top 25 submissions.

Congratulations to:
- Kali Byres (4Y)
- Lola Jenkins (4A)
- Aoibhe Littlewood (5M)
- Ailyah Karchinsky (5M)
- Zade Norton-Smith (5M)
- Shaylee Gear (5M)

The students received their invitation to a special birthday breakfast on level 78 of the Q1 building on Assembly this morning. I hope they don’t forget to RSVP!

Have a great week.

Laura Mitchell

Congratulations to:
1st Charlotte Threlfall
2nd Leo Dennett
3rd Jack Isaacs
Highly Commended - Zara Nunan and Jack Isaacs
Congratulations to Taylor Kane (3M) and Bianca Fisher (3P) who recently competed in the National Skipping Championships in Canberra at the AIS. Both girls did very well at the competition with Taylor placing 11th in the speed skipping event and Bianca achieving 2 personal bests.

Congratulations to Jack Murray (3Y) who won the Primary School Age Champion at the “King of Burleigh Hill Billy Kart” race on Saturday. Jack also won passes to this weekend’s Gold Coast 600. Well done Jack!

Art Union Prize Winners

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Prize</th>
<th>Winner</th>
<th>Ticket No:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1st Prize</td>
<td>Sheridan Saliba</td>
<td>12590</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd Prize</td>
<td>S. Smith</td>
<td>24614</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3rd Prize</td>
<td>P. Kendal</td>
<td>01547</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4th Prize</td>
<td>Rhiannon</td>
<td>21873</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5th Prize</td>
<td>J. Hockings</td>
<td>12243</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6th Prize</td>
<td>L. Boyce</td>
<td>14541</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7th Prize</td>
<td>C. Eldridge</td>
<td>00112</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8th Prize</td>
<td>W. Heritage</td>
<td>19141</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9th Prize</td>
<td>A. Beer</td>
<td>14110</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10th Prize</td>
<td>K. Purchase</td>
<td>24544</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Prize winners are in the process of be contacted. All winners will be asked to present their tickets or identification when claiming their prize. Prizes can be collected from the main reception at the College.

Winners -

- Alcohol Raffle - Wonita Oxenham- basket of alcohol worth approx $200.
- Money Trees - Noreen Burke-Martin - 1st - Pedilanthus plant with over $50 of scratchies
- Brigitte Rutter- 2nd - Lomandra plant with over $40 of scratchies
- Raelene- mobile 041xxxx382- 3rd - Lomandra plant with approx $40 of scratchies

We thank all who bought tickets and made our stall successful.

Tanya Allomes and Wendy Bassana - Convenors of Money Tree and Alcohol Raffle Stall

We would appreciate your feedback on this year’s fete. Please use the link to do a quick survey to help us improve on our next fete. [https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/TDTNDH8?c=b7e1d5e4e9](https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/TDTNDH8?c=b7e1d5e4e9)
Important information about school bus travel for 2016

School transport is not free. However, you may be eligible for transport assistance under the Department of Transport and Main Roads (TMR) School Transport Assistance Scheme (STAS). APPLY NOW if you intend to use a Surfside Buslines bus to get to or from school.

Frequently asked questions

Can I get a bus pass?

There are a number of general criteria that apply to STAS. Where a student is eligible for STAS, there are two types of bus assistance available, distance based and Safety-Net travel. Visit www.translink.com.au/schooltransport for eligibility details and to print the relevant application form.

Where do I send the form to?

Applications for 2016 can be submitted now to Surfside Buslines PO Box 3036 Robina QLD 4230

Or

Email: gcschools@tagroup.net.au

Who needs to apply?

If this is the first time you are applying for assistance to travel or you are moving schools, changed address, repeating a grade or are moving from primary school to secondary school you need to apply now.

Existing bus pass holders

If your details will not be changing from 2015 to 2016 you do not have to reapply.

Students who hold a 2015 bus pass will be able to travel with that pass until 19 February 2016. This allows some time for the 2016 passes to be made.

If you lose your 2015 bus pass you will have to apply to Surfside Buslines for a replacement.

How do I get my bus pass?

Surfside will process applications over the Christmas school holidays so your pass will be sent to your school for you to collect.

What if my pass hasn’t arrived by 19 Feb 2016?

Without written confirmation from TMR stating your application has been approved you will need to pay the full cost of travel. These fares are not refundable.

What if I am not eligible for STAS?

The Queensland Government offers children and students a 50% concession fare by purchasing a TransLink go card. Passengers aged 5-14 years are eligible for a child concession fare.

Full time students 15 years or older are eligible for a Student Concession go card. To receive a concession fare, students must always carry an approved Queensland student photo identification card or wear an official Queensland school uniform.

Timetables

Use the TransLink journey planner to plan your travel to and from school. There are helpful tips on how to plan and how to catch a bus. Alternatively telephone 13 12 30.

Check out the new MyTransLink app. All bus, train, ferry and tram information is in the palm of your hand with customisable features so you will always get the updates that matter to you.

Further information

For more information on the School Transport Assistance Scheme, the Code of Conduct for School Children Travelling on Buses and Timetables visit: www.translink.com.au