Dear Parents, Friends and Guardians

Blessing of the New Church Foundation Stone
Last weekend our Burleigh Heads parish celebrated another milestone on their journey to the construction of the new church at the top of our school and parish site. The Foundation Stone was blessed by the Papal Nuncio, the Pope’s representative in Australia, following a mass which saw more than a thousand parishioners and school families join together. We also had our Archbishop, Mark Coleridge, here for this special ceremony as well as a number of other priests from across the Gold Coast. Congratulations to our Parish Priest, Fr Ken Howell, and his Associate Pastors, Fathers Lucius and Stephen, for the weekend’s celebration.

Catholic Schools’ Swimming Carnival
It was great to be able to be with our children from our school’s swimming squad as they joined in with our annual Gold Coast Catholic Schools’ Swimming Carnival last Friday. Our children had a great day and they all actively got in and cheered their team mates on. We reckoned that we had the best team spirit there on the day (biased opinion obviously and voted on by our team!!) and this was really helped by our parents who came along for part or all of the day. The efforts which the children put in were magnificent and some really stood up to be counted even when things during the day may have gone against them. The resilience they showed to keep on going was something to be very proud of. This showed through with some of our relay swims when the children kept going even though they were well behind. This often helped them when another swimmer came into the pool and caught up distances which may have been lost – the team’s overall strength came through. Our thanks goes to our Senior PE teacher, Paul Hill, for his co-ordination of our squad and also to Jenny Wood and Kim Shillig, our Swimming Instructors, for their wonderful efforts in helping to work our squad into a great team. Paul has all of the results later in this newsletter.

P & F Meeting – Monday, 14 March
Our monthly meeting for March is being held next Monday evening at 7.00pm in our school’s Staff room. This meeting will begin to look at possible projects for our P & F levy to be used on. Some monies ($15 500) were already allocated at last month’s meeting for school and home readers. These have already been put into circulation and more are almost ready to come out once they are covered with contact. Our meeting is usually finished by 8.30pm and all are welcome to attend.

New Concrete Pathway
As part of the final additions to our new car park and set-down / pick-up area, we are constructing a new concrete pathway from the back extended road catchment area up to behind the Doyle Centre. This will allow for easier access for parents, especially those who may have prams or strollers. This project will hopefully (weather permitting) be finished within the next two weeks. Thanks again to our parents and families for working in with our new system. We are still awaiting speed bumps, a gate and more signage and this shouldn’t be too far away.

Thanks for your time this week, a good start for all of our Queensland Rugby League teams but not for our Rugby team the Reds. Here’s hoping that they can start to fire.

Enjoy the rest of the week.

Yours in Christ

Greg Casey

Please be aware that bookings for Parent Teacher Online Interviews close this Friday at 4pm
From our Assistant Principal

Tony Barron

Please be aware that bookings for Parent Teacher Online Interviews close this Friday at 4pm

Parent Teacher Interviews - Online
Last week you should have received an email regarding the booking process for Parent Teacher Interviews. The process for booking an interview is fairly simple. It is via PTO website, where you will receive a PIN and login information. Once in the system, you will be able to book a time to see your child’s teacher. This system will go live on Friday, and will be open for bookings until Friday 11th March. (Another reason why your email address needs to be up to date!!!!!!)

Parent Portal
Have you logged onto the new Parent Portal yet??????
We will be making increasing use of the Parent Portal to provide a range of information to parents in the future. The Parent Portal will be used for Newsletters, Class Blogs and Information, accessing Teacher details, Parent/Teacher Interviews, and many other things.

It will be the one place to find out what’s happening at Marymount!

The initial login requires you to verify your identity and set up a password. This document will run you through the process. https://extranet.bne.catholic.edu.au/parent/marymountprimary

School Photos
Family photos will be held on Thursday 10 March. Please ensure children are in their dress uniform (white shirt) and that the siblings order envelope is brought to school on this day.

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.

Thanks and have a great week,
Tony Barron

PATRON PARENTS

Year 1S - Mums Welcome Dinner - Justin Lane (1708 Gold Coast Hwy, Burleigh Heads). Friday 11th March from 7 pm.
Year 5A - Coffee & Chat - 8.45am (after drop off) Urbanistar Coffee Shop, 19 Park Ave, Burleigh.
Preps - Combined Prep Mummy Mixer -Miami Surf Club. Sunday 13th March @ 2.00pm. For more information join the Prep Facebook page – search: Marymount prep 2016
Laying of Foundation Stone - Mary, Mother of Mercy

Thank you to all the students and their families who joined Marymount College and the Burleigh Heads Parish for this important ceremony. We had a large attendance with numbers exceeding 1000. His Excellency Archbishop Yllana, the Apostolic Nuncio to Australia, celebrated mass with Archbishop Mark Coleridge concelebrating. Following the mass we ‘pilgrimaged’ to the building site of Mary, Mother of Mercy church where the Nuncio laid the first stone. Thank you too to those students from Marymount Primary who sang in the choir and the Year 6 leaders who gave out mass booklets.

World Day of Prayer

Last Friday, the Year 6 Social Justice Crew joined parishioners for the annual World Day of Prayer. This is a worldwide movement of Christian women of all traditions who come together each year on the first Friday of March to observe a common day of prayer. World Day of Prayer focuses attention on one country each year, where the Christian women from that country write a one-hour prayer service for all to share in worldwide. This year World Day of Prayer was dedicated to Cuba. The theme for this prayer service was taken from Mark's gospel:

“Anyone who welcomes a child in my name welcomes me” Mk 9:37

Thank you to Father Stephen for the invitation to join the prayer in solidarity for the plight of many children and women in Cuba. The students showed exemplary behaviour and after the prayer liturgy joined the parishioners for morning tea.

Project Compassion

We are now into our fourth week of Lent. The Vicar General, Monsignor Peter Menealy, has asked that everyone gives generously to Project Compassion during these Lenten weeks. Funds will go towards the ongoing long term support of the people of Fiji as they try to rebuild their lives after the terrible damage and loss of life caused by the recent cyclone. With a school our size, if every child could donate $2 a week to Project Compassion, we would be able to send $12000 to support the Fijian people.

Blessed Mary MacKillop’s motto for life was:

“Never see a need without doing something about it.”

Your support of Project Compassion is greatly appreciated, and together as a community we can make a real difference to those in need.

Free Dress - St Patrick’s Day

Thursday next week, 17 March, is St Patrick’s Day. Wear green and bring a gold coin donation for Caritas. Remember to be safety aware- dress for outdoor play in enclosed shoes, a hat and a shirt with sleeves.

Woolworths Earn and Learn Program

Last week a huge array of games and puzzles arrived thanks to the support of families, friends and the local community of Marymount. These resources will have a positive impact on our ability to continue to provide the students of Marymount with high quality learning experiences. This would not have been possible without the support of all the families who collected the Woolworths tokens. On behalf of all the staff and students I would like to thank everyone who helped us to collect the tokens. It was a mammoth effort with fantastic results.

Thanks must also go to Woolworths for supporting our schools. We are just one of over 12,500 schools nationally who have benefitted from this initiative. As you can see from the photos, we had some very excited children as they received these resources.

Enjoy the rest of the week

Maree Wright

Year 6 Social Justice Crew prepare for World Day of Prayer with Fr Stephen.
Dear members of the MMP community,

What a wonderful day for our Parish! Last Sunday was a truly memorable day as we participated in the special Mass and Laying of the Foundation Stone of our new church and Parish centre. Thank you sincerely to all who contributed in any way to making the day the happy occasion that it was. I was delighted to see so many of our Primary School families present and giving of their support to this project. I am convinced that this building endeavour will bring many blessings to our Parish, Schools, and families for many generations to come.

God’s blessing to all

Fr Ken Howell
Parish Priest

Jingeri Jingeri everyone, greetings or hello in the local Yugambeh Language. Marymount Primary is putting together a school RAP or Reconciliation Action Plan. The RAP is a declaration of our positive commitment to reconciliation between the wider Australian community and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people. It will include our school vision and school wide actions that can increase respect, reduce prejudice and strengthen relationships between our school community and the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community.

The first meeting of the Marymount RAP Committee was held this morning after the concept was introduced to the staff at last week’s staff meeting. We would love to invite people from the Marymount Primary community to join us, particularly any Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, when we meet again early next term. Please email me on tokeefe@bne.catholic.edu.au to express your interest. Dates will be announced in the newsletter and on the Parent Portal.

Tomorrow afternoon our school will be hosting representatives from many other Catholic Gold Coast schools for the Molum Sabe Implementation Meeting. Molum Sabe is a Brisbane Catholic Education strategy which seeks to improve educational outcomes for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children. There are two priorities: Engagement “Start with us, stay with us”, and Literacy “Each student above and beyond the line”. We look forward to sharing all the wonderful things Marymount Primary does to celebrate First Australian Culture, and learning from other schools about their individual reconciliation journeys.

Thanks everyone and yal boru (be happy).

Tina O’Keefe
Gold Coast Catholic Primary Schools Swimming Carnival

Congratulations to our Marymount Primary Swim Team who competed at last Friday’s Gold Coast Catholic Primary Schools Swimming Carnival at Pizzey Park.

The team performed exceptionally well together taking out the Overall points score trophy by just 19 points in front of Guardian Angels. They also won the Junior Boys, Intermediate Boys, Senior Boys and Senior Girls trophies.

The day was filled with lots of close and exciting racing, great sportsmanship and fantastic team spirit. Well done to you all.

State Swimming Championships

Congratulations to Kai Allen, Lachlan Kelly, Sean Lunney, Hayley Weise and Zali Williams who have qualified for the State Swimming Championships. They will be taking on some of Queensland’s fastest swimmers when they compete at the Sleeman Swimming Complex in Chandler on 20-22 March. We wish them all the very best at the Championships.

Cross Country Training

Now that our school swimming season has come to an end, its time to start thinking about Cross Country.

School Cross Country training times will be;

- Monday - during Morning Tea
- Tuesday – 7.30am
- Thursday – 7.30am

Paul Hill

Volunteers Needed

If you would like to assist to cover some of the beautiful books donated by the P&F, please meet Mrs McKean-Nunan and Mrs Dawood at the library from Monday until Friday of next week. We will start at 8am and finish each day at 9am.

It’s a wonderful opportunity to assist your school by extending the life of these books and to also connect with other parents of the school.

Many thanks in advance

Deb McKean-Nunan
Early Years Literacy Teacher

A Note from the Guidance Counsellor

Michael Grose states, “As parents we often focus on the development of children’s academic skills and quite easily neglect the development of important social skills, which contribute so much to children’s happiness and wellbeing”. I draw your attention to the Insights article for the week. It presents seven important social skills that have the potential to assist our children to develop positive friendships that have “long-term implications for social and indirectly academic success”.

Best wishes for the week ahead

Mary Sanders
msanders@bne.catholic.edu.au

Gold Coast Health Oral Health Services

Gold Coast Oral Health Services are offering free dental check-ups for all students. This service will be provided off site at the Burleigh Dental Clinic.

Hours of operation for this clinic are Monday to Friday, 8.00 am – 4.30 pm.
To arrange for an appointment you can call 1300 300 850.

Child Dental Benefit Schedule Vouchers are accepted. When your child’s $1000 cap is reached, there will be no out-of-pocket expenses provided your child meets *eligibility criteria. * Eligibility – All Queensland resident children aged four years or older who have not completed year 10 of secondary school.

Further information on public funded oral health services can be accessed via URL: http://www.health.qld.gov.au/goldcoasthealth/html/services/oralhealth.asp

Parish Office Hours 9.00am to 5.00pm
Parish Manager: Mr Jim Littlefield
Parish Pastoral Team
Parish Pastor: Fr Ken Howell
Associate Pastors: Fr Lucius Edomodi & Fr Stephen Camiolo

Phone: 5576 6317/5576 6466 FAX: 5576 7143
EMAIL: burleigh@bne.catholic.net.au