

SCHOOL NEWS

Learning, Respect, Community and Faith



8th May 2012

Edition 14

STAFF

Parish Priest:	Fr Bill Grundy
Principal:	Gavin Rick
APRE:	Sarah Hession
Prep/Yr 1:	Lana Ross
Yr 2/3/4:	Sarah Hession/Vicki Jago
Yr 5/6/7:	Dean Garside
Science:	Taryn Greenwood
Literacy Support	Bernadette Anthony
Performing Arts	Michelle Garside
LST:	Vicki Jago
Indigenous Support	Michelle Garside
Japanese:	Dorota Konzsky
Admin Officer:	Julie Cross
Library/Aide:	Debbie Kurucz
School Officers:	Donna Lauridsen Lisa Calcagno
Cleaner:	Marie Torrisi

SCHOOL TIMES

First Bell:	8.40am
First Lunch:	11.00-11.45am
Second Lunch:	1.10-1.30pm
Finish Time:	3.00pm

OFFICE HOURS

Mon - Thur:	8.00am - 2.30pm
Fri:	8.00am - 2.00pm

PARISH MASS TIMES

Sat :	7.00pm
Sun :	8.00am

DATES TO REMEMBER

Term 2

May 11th	Mother's Day Salon/Spa
May 15/16/17th	Naplan
May 30th	Trivia Night
May 31st & 1/6	Athletics Carnival
June 6th	Student Free Day
June 11th	Queen's Birthday Holiday



Principal's Pen



“Be aware of wonder. Live a balanced life - learn some and think some and draw and paint and sing and dance and play and work every day some.”
Robert Fulghum

Last week I was fortunate to join approximately 100 Catholic School Principals for the Bi-Annual Conference in Mackay. The theme of the conference was **“Head, Heart and Soul – Creating the Balance”** The quote I share with you above was one that was used to illustrate that **in life we need to be more aware and conscious of what we choose to fill our days and time with – what we prioritise.** We can very easily fill out lives with ‘stuff’ and be constantly ‘over busy’ and lead ourselves down the track of extreme stress which leads to increased chances of physical and mental illness. Our children pick up on this and too, are more prone to episodes of stress and anxiety if they see it in their parents. **We owe it to ourselves and our children to strive for that balance, with their need for time to connect with us at the top of the priority list.**

For me, it was a timely opportunity to stop and re-evaluate what I choose to prioritise in my life and how it effects my children – sometimes we come up with answers we don't like! Work is essential and is very important but **we should be working to live and not living to work!**

Maggie Dent, author, educator and parenting and resilience expert offered some very practical tips for us all that I'd like to share with you here: She proposes **7 Steps To Living A Life Full Of Significant Moments**

1. Feed your own passions. Do what you really love doing... those things where you can forget who you are.
2. Choose your thoughts and words very carefully – once said they can never be taken back.
3. Stay present and live in the moment. Pause and really celebrate small, special moments. Every day above the ground is a bonus!
4. Be grateful and thankful.
5. Lighten up and laugh often. Don't take everything so seriously or personally.

6. Feed your won spirit and strengthen your own world. There is so much power in 'pause' and learn the art of 'linger'
7. Simply be kind to others. Don't assume things of others.

Maggie has some wonderful free resources on her website for parents <http://www.maggiedent.com/content/resources-parents>
You can subscribe to her free newsletter.

ST RITA'S MOTHER'S DAY SALON AND SPA



This Friday at 1.45pm St Rita's will transform into a Mother's Day Pampering Parlour. Invitations were sent home last week to all Mums and we hope that you can join us. Aunties, Grandmothers and other special ladies are also welcome to come along. A reminder to students and Dads to send in their special homework to me if they haven't already done so.

P&F MEETING

Last week a very productive meeting was held and much was discussed. Among the items discussed, the most pressing being:

Harvest Festival:

- St Rita's has been allocated the Bar this year and this will require considerable support from parents to run.

Float:

- Many thanks to the parents who responded to the call for help with the float. A P&F representative will be in touch with you shortly to get the ball rolling.

For a full report, the minutes are available to all parents in the school foyer.

STAFF PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT LOAD THIS WEEK

I need to bring to your attention, that the staff will be doing an enormous amount of additional Professional Development this week, including School Officers. As a staff committed to Learning, we have two Twilight Sessions this week. On Tuesday from 3.30pm – 6.30pm we are taking the next step in our School Re-visioning process and writing our Mission Statement. On Wednesday from 4pm – 7pm, the staff of St Michael's is joining us for PD on good Mathematics Teaching and Learning. This is the beginning of our phase of learning about best practice in Maths teaching which goes over terms 2 and 3. Then on Thursday afternoon, we have a planning session with the Teacher Librarian from Catholic Education to prepare for our Reading Week. I ask that parents are mindful of the extra load the staff have this week

and if possible, put off until next week anything extra that can wait. Thanks for understanding.

TUCKSHOP

Another clash of events has meant that the Tuckshop will start next week now. As they say "Good things come to those who wait!" The new tuckshop menu is on following page.

NAPLAN – ST RITA'S IN THE TOP 10 OF THE REGION

A reminder that NAPLAN testing is on next week – Tuesday 15 – Thursday 17 May. Students have been undergoing some additional preparations for the testing, however continual good teaching and learning in all year levels, as well as what parents do at home, contribute to outcomes.

You may have seen last week in the Cairns Post that St Rita's, Babinda was ranked 6th in the Far North region. This has been averaged over the past 4 years and is based on NAPLAN results as well as consideration of attendance rates, teaching staff and capital expenditure. This is a great achievement for St Rita's and is credit to the school staff and parents.



However, we cannot lose sight of the fact that as a Catholic School, **we value the education of the 'Whole Child'** and we know that NAPLAN is just a snap shot in time and has many deficits – it doesn't give you a true indication of how a child is really achieving – only a teacher in possession of much more comprehensive data can do that.

"These results are very pleasing and a credit to the hard work of our students and teachers with support from their families. However, NAPLAN results should be kept in perspective. While important, they are only one measure of student achievement at a point in time." *Gerard Delaney – Queensland Catholic Education Commission*

CLASSROOM PROFILING

In our commitment to ensuring high quality teaching and best practice in building positive classroom culture, our teaching staff will engage in a process of classroom profiling this week. A profiler will be spending time in the classrooms gathering data which will be fed back to the teachers, giving them a snapshot in time of their classroom. This data is then collated and a School profile provided back to the staff. From here, we then set goals for areas for improvements as well as celebrating areas we are doing well in. This coaching is a most effective way to support teachers in engaging in best practice.

As we move into this busy week, let's take some of Maggie Dent's advice and do something you really love doing (or at least plan to do it!)

LET'S GET SHOPPING NEXT WEEK

A reminder that the Cairns Central promotion begins next Monday 14 May. Save up all those holiday bookings, TVs etc for between 14 May and 24 June.

Enjoy looking for that balance in life this week.

Cheers



APRE/SEL News

Today Year 2/3/4 celebrated Class Mass together. The focus for the Mass was 'Jesus is Risen!', and the reading was the story of Doubting Thomas. Whilst preparing for Mass last week, our class were discussing the ways in which Jesus was with us – even if we couldn't physically see him. A big concept for children! However, the children quickly understood and discussed that Jesus was evident in our lives through the actions and thoughts of the people here on earth today. They gave examples of kind and loving acts people had done for them, and how this was Jesus being present in their life today.

What I was most impressed by, and found to be one of those 'moments' was later that afternoon we were engaging in a Social and Emotional lesson focusing on our school's core values. As a group, we were looking at how the 'Famous Five' rules supported our school in living out the values of Community, Faith, Respect and Learning. As adults, we can find the value of Faith a difficult one to articulate clearly... however the children in Year 2,3,4 very quickly drew connections between the Religion lesson earlier in the day and the lesson about our rules and values. "That's easy" one child responded when being asked how keeping your hands and your feet to yourself could be an example of Faith. "When we treat others nicely, we are showing Jesus here today".

The wisdom of kids ☺ May we all have a terrific week, and bring a little bit of Jesus into the life of others through our thoughts and actions. Sarah

TUCKSHOP

A reminder that tuckshop will recommence next Friday 18th May 2012.

The new menu is as follows:

Please remember to write lunch orders on the front of a paper bag and if possible, enclose the correct amount of money. Orders need to be in by WEDNESDAY.

Ham & P/apple mini pizza		\$3.00
Ham, Salami & Cheese mini pizza		\$3.00
Sausage Roll	sml	\$1.20
	lge	\$1.70
Toasted Sandwich -	Ham & Cheese	\$3.20
	Chicken & Cheese	\$3.20
	Cheese	\$2.40
Jelly Cup		\$1.00
Jelly Cup (with custard)		\$1.20
Muffin		\$0.80

Can you please make sure that orders clearly show:

1. Student's name
2. Class
3. What is being ordered
4. Amount of money enclosed

WOOLWORTH EARN & LEARN PROGRAMME



From Wednesday 9th May, simply start collecting stickers at the checkout of your local Woolworths supermarket (self-service too) to place on your child's sticker card. There'll be one sticker for every \$10 spent, excluding purchases of liquor, smoking/tobacco products and gift cards. Once completed, simply drop the sticker card into a collection box, either at your school or at your local Woolworths.

(STICKER CARDS ARE GOING HOME TODAY WITH THE NEWSLETTER)



Boy, oh, boy!



St Rita's Parents & Friends Association invites you to an informative, relevant and interesting workshop all about **BOYS**.

You will discover the **WHAT, WHY** and **HOW** of raising 'super' boys.

About the Workshop

- ✓ Find out why boys are different and unique.
- ✓ Get some current and relevant information about boy biology.
- ✓ Discover the most effective attitude, discipline strategies and relationship skills.
- ✓ Learn how to understand your boys and how to make your house 'boy friendly.'



About the Presenter

Janine Wicks is an experienced and committed teacher, a proud mum, and a passionate and informed workshop presenter. Janine has presented workshops and provided follow up support to teachers, teacher aides, parents and carers - from day care through to high school settings. Janine wants anyone who has contact with kids (and boys especially!!) to utilise the best management skills in order to develop the best possible relationship. With a 'superhero son' and a 'fairy princess daughter', Janine gets plenty of opportunity to practice and develop her skills on the home front as well!

Workshop Details

Date: Tuesday 22 May Time: 7pm (takes 1.5 hours)

Location: St Rita's School – Church Street Cost: \$5 per person

RSVP: Friday 18 May to St Rita's School – 40671467 or

secretary.babinda@cns.catholic.edu.au

Childcare provided for school aged children upon request (registration required)



ST. RITA'S TRIVIA NIGHT

WEDNESDAY 30TH MAY 2012

Tables of 8

Don't miss out - **BOOK EARLY!!!**

Phone 40 671467



Thought of the Week
A new day - an opportunity to make a difference.

STARS OF THE WEEK



Prep / Yr 1 Ariah Salvestrin
Year 2/3/4 Leon Schep
Year 5/6/7 leesha Hillard

MUNRO THEATRE BABINDA

Screening at 7.30pm on
11th, 12th & 13th May, 2012



THE BEST EXOTIC MARIGOLD HOTEL (PG)

Admission \$7.00

Info line 40671032

GROUNDS & GARDENS ROSTER

Thank you to the following families who are rostered on:



OLIVERI 28th April - 11th May
LUCE 12th May - 25th May

Please be sure to check the roster so that you can organize to pick up and drop the mower key to the office.

Coming Soon:

THE AVENGERS (M) (3D MOVIE)

Screening at 7.30 pm on
18th, 19th & 20th May, 2012
Admission \$7.00

COMMUNITY NEWS & EVENTS

GOOD COUNCIL COLLEGE ENROLMENT YEAR 8, 2013

Enrolments have opened for those parents wishing to place their children in year 8 at Good counsel College in 2012.

Applications for enrolment may be obtained from the College office at 66 Owen Street, Innisfail or by phoning 4063 5300.

The first round of offers will be made to applicants who have returned their completed application forms and who have attended an enrolment interview by Friday 17th August, 2012

PET SHOW

Saturday 9th June 2012, 9am - 3pm

SAINT MICHAEL'S SCHOOL



58 MILL STREET GORDONVALE
Great prizes & giveaways
Lucky door prizes
Various stalls & activities
Jumping castle / Face painting
Games & crafts / Refreshments

Pet entry fee & categories:

Pocket Pet \$3.00 / Cuddle Me Pet \$5.00 / Big Step Pet \$7.00

Further info: please contact HELEN (0407 711 501) or JO (0414 330 893)

FREE WELL WOMEN'S CLINICS



Babinda Hospital Tuesday 15th May 2012 Ph: 40 678200
Mamu Health Svce Tuesday 22nd May 2012 Ph: 40 615182
Services include Pap Smears, Sexual Health Screening, Breast Awareness—also info on Contraception, Continence, Menopause, Lifestyle Issues, Domestic Violence etc.. All services are provided by a specially trained Women's Health Nurse,



THE TROPICAL GARDEN FAIR

Cannon Park Racecourse

May 13th 2012 (Mother's Day) 8.30am-3.30pm
Plant, chicken & fish stalls. Live entertainment.

Great food. **Gumboot Toss comp. between garden clubs.**
Zoo to You. **Dog obedience & agility displays. NULEAF LUCKY GATE PRIZE TO THE VALUE OF \$2000.** Kids lucky gate prize. **Entry \$7/Aged pension. \$4/Child. under 13 Free.**

Girls, boys and teenagers have fun at the Harvest Festival this year. Be creative and dress up as a BABINDA "RAIN DANCER". 3 prizes to be won for BEST COSTUMES! Phone Judi Van Dycke for further information on 40 672604. Register with Frances Alley @ Babinda Pharmacy.

