

23 July 2012

Principal's Pen



HAPPY CATHOLIC EDUCATION WEEK EVERYONE!!!

'We live in the shelter of each other', the old Irish proverb says

In looking for material for this editorial, this quote struck me as being quite



profound. Upon further reflection, it dawned on me how this proverb is strongly linked to our school motto – **“Under God's Protection”**

Relatedness is fundamental to being human and it is within **community** that this occurs. Fr Neil Muir, Vicar of Education, spoke of 'connectedness' as being central to community in his homily at the CEW mass at St Monica's Cathedral yesterday. This is such a very rich concept to focus on this year as we celebrate **Community**, in Catholic Education Week.

In our conversations and lessons this week, staff will be highlighting our school value of **community** and how we at St Rita's are a community who shelter and serve each other under God's protection. The experiences of the week, where we are a part of the Southern Deanery Community, Diocesan Community and Sister School Learning Community with St Michael's, will be a wonderful opportunity for the children to experience being a part of something bigger and greater than just St Rita's.

How is your family a part of our community? Part of the Parish community? Part of the Babinda community? How does your family reach out to others?



BEING ORGANISED THIS WEEK

To assist with organisation, below is a list of 'things to do' to prepare for each day...

DAY	WHAT TO BRING AND DO
Monday 23rd	Tuckshop Orders for Friday due
Tuesday 24th Southern Deanery Day – St Rita's, Sth Johnstone	Sports Uniform (whole school) Morning Tea, Lunch and Water Bottle (named) School Hat – (named) Apply Sunscreen Be at school by 8.20am

DAY	WHAT TO BRING AND DO
	Bus leaves on the bell (late students can't be accommodated) Bus due back to school by 3pm
Friday 27th CEW Day at St Michael's, Gordonale	P-2 – Wear Casual Clothes (that can cope with goop stains) 3-7 – wear Sports Uniform School Hat (named) Apply Sunscreen Lunch and Afternoon Tea (if not getting tuckshop) Water Bottle (named) Bus leaves on the bell (late students can't be accommodated) Bus due back to school by 3pm

NB. Attendance at these events is a privilege. Staff will be taking parent phone numbers on the day and if students choose to engage in any unacceptable behaviour, parents will be called and expected to pick their child up.

BOUT OF ILLNESS

In the last week, there have been a considerable amount of students sick. Symptoms have varied from fevers, sore throats, colds, headaches and rashes. We have spoken to the students about personal hygiene and how to stop spreading germs. The students were able to tell us:



- Stay home if you are sick
- Wash your hands on all sides and under fingernails – sing Twinkle Twinkle or Happy Birthday while washing
- Cough into your sleeve and NOT into your hands
- Go to the doctor

SUBSCRIBING TO OUR ONLINE NEWSLETTER

We now have 7 parents subscribed to our online version of the newsletter and I trust they are enjoying the convenience and interactive aspect of it. All you have to do is go to:

<http://stritasbabinda.schoolzinewsletters.com/subscribe>

Once you do this, you will receive a weekly email to notify you that the newsletter has been published and the link to access it online.

2013 PREP ENROLMENTS

2013 Prep enrolments continue this week and next. If the interviews are any indication of the quality, then we have a lovely group set for next year.

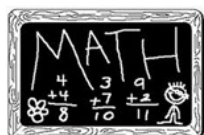
OPENING OF SCHOOL BUILDINGS



Next Monday 30 July is an important day for St Rita's when Bishop James Foley will bless and officially open the Library extensions and the Multi-purpose Court. All parents and friends of St Rita's are invite and encouraged to attend and are asked to RSVP to the school office by calling 40671467 or email secretary.babinda@cns.catholic.edu.au. We need to know numbers for catering.

A reminder that students are required to wear their formal school uniform on this day and NOT their sports uniform.

PARENT'S GO BACK TO SCHOOL TO LEARN THEIR 1,2,3s



On Tuesday 31 July, Dot Shea is offering a workshop for parents on Maths. It will commence at 7pm. A registration note will be going home this week.

SCHOOL PHOTOS



Next Tuesday morning, 31 July will be School Photos. All students are required to be in their best day uniform with correct shoes and socks and hair done smartly.

School Photo order packs have been sent home with each student. Enquire at the office, if you would like to have a Family Photo pack. Please return these to the school office by **Monday 30th, with the correct money included.**

All cheques must be made payable to NQ School Photography.

MINDFUL PARENTING TIP #2

Imagine how you appear and sound from your child's point of view. ie. Having you as a parent today, in this moment. How might this modify how you carry yourself in your body and in space, how you speak and what you say/ How do you want to relate to your child in this moment? (M&J Kabat-Zinn)

ROISIN STAGER'S GOOD NEWS

Roisin recently entered a photograph in the Cairns City Council Sustainable Living Expo photo competition. She was the recipient of the Overall Encouragement Award. Congratulations Roisin.

SOMETHING TO TICKLE THE RIBS...



Q: What does a jellyfish have on its tummy? A: A jelly button.

Q: Why was the ancient Egyptian confused? A: Because his daddy was also his mummy.

Q: Have you heard the one about the skunk? A: Never mind, it really stinks.

Q: Have you heard the one about the germ? A: Never mind, it'll spread.

Q: Why did the computer go to the doctor? A: Because it had a virus!

Q: What has 4 wheels and flies? A: A garbage truck!

IN CONCLUSION

We are looking forward to a memorable week as we celebrate community in the context of community. This week we also start our Peer Support Program with the unit 'Being Friends'

Cheers Gavin



STARS OF THE WEEK

Prep/1	Cassie Ross
2/3/4	Grace Hession
5/6/7	Kesha Bridger

Date Claimers

JULY	
23rd - 29th	Catholic Education Week - Tue 24th Tues 23rd Southern Deanery Mass and Activities at Sth Johnstone (Whole School) - Thursday 26th Diocesan Mass at St Monica's Cathedral (School Captains) - Friday 27th U8's Day and Activities at St Michael's, Gordonvale
30th	Official Opening of the BER Funded Buildings 9am
31st	School Photos English Competition Parent Maths Workshop Tuesday 31 July 7pm
AUGUST	
3rd	Gymnastics Program commences for 5 weeks
7th	P & F Meeting 7pm
5th	Diocesan Parents & Friends Meeting
13th – 20th	Book Fair and Book Week
14TH	Maths Competition
SEPTEMBER	
4th	P & F Meeting 7pm
19th	NAIDOC
20th	St Rita's Got Talent Show
21st	Student Free Day