

18 September 2012

Principal's Pen



TERM 3 DRAWS TO A CLOSE

As we come to the close of another successful term, we can look back at all that has been achieved in the classroom, the school and wider parent community. Highlights of the term include:

- 2013 Prep Interviews
- Maths Teacher and School Officer Training
- Maths Parent Workshop
- The Hession family welcoming Ned into the world
- Mrs Chambers starting as Acting APRE
- Catholic Education Week Celebrations at St Johnstone
- Catholic Education Week Celebrations at St Michaels
- Mulgrave and Peninsula Athletics Trials
- Opening and Blessing of the Library and Multi-Purpose Court
- Docemus Awards and nomination of Julie Cross
- P&F Meetings
- P&F Raffle for Father's Day
- P&F Father's Day BBQ
- New Sandpit
- Class Masses
- 3 Way Learning Conferences
- Money Smart Financial Literacy Staff and Parent Workshops
- Peer Support Program
- Saint Mary MacKillop Feast Day
- Dads in Classrooms
- Book Fair
- Book Week
- Book Character Parade
- Babinda Community Kindergarten visit
- Prep / Yr 1 Fire Education

And this week we finish off with a 2/3/4 Excursion to Tjapukai, NAIDOC and St Rita's Got Talent... phew!!!

Of all, I trust that the 3 Way Learning Conferences have been insightful and rewarding for you and your child. They have much to be proud of and it is important that we make the time to celebrate their achievements.



All in the school deserve a well-earned break to rest and recharge ready for Term 4. The 11 weeks has been taxing on students and staff and a break is just what the doctor ordered.

Term 4 is always busy and the temperature and humidity go up. To look forward to next term we have:

- Senior Class Camp at Tinaroo
- 2013 strategic planning including staffing and classes.
- Assessments of student learning
- Semester 2 Reports
- Final Working Bee for 2012
- Year 7 Farewell/ End of Year School Thanksgiving Mass 4 December
- Senior Class Big Day Out
- Consistency of Teacher Judgement Day (Monday 22 Oct) Pupil Free
- World Teachers Day Fri 26 October
- Final P&F Meetings – Mon 8 October and Tuesday 6 November
- Term 4 Class Masses
- Christmas Concert

DIOCESAN SYNOD

On Saturday, I represented St Rita's at the annual Synod which is a gathering of Catholic Church agencies of the Diocese to discuss local church governance and service. At this meeting representatives were present from Diocesan Services, Centacare (pastoral care arm of the church), Education and parishes.

It was good to hear of the many good works various church agencies and parishes are doing around the diocese. What was also reported on was the 'tightening of belts' with finance as a result of government funding cuts. This will be felt considerably in education as the State Government has frozen funding. These are the times we live in, requiring careful planning.

STATIONERY RESTOCK

The coming holidays is a good time to do a final stationery restock for the year. I have asked teachers to go through the supplies this week so students should be able to tell you what they need to get through the rest of the year.

SUBSCRIBING TO OUR ONLINE NEWSLETTER

To subscribe, simply go to this URL or email/call the office and we can add you.

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

From the online version, you are able to easily access the latest school calendar and website. You also have access to the full version of attachments, advertisements and community notices.

STUDENT FREE DAY – FRIDAY 21 SEPTEMBER

A reminder that students won't be attending school this Friday. Last day of term is Thursday.

SPONSORSHIP

If there are any parents with businesses or have contacts with local businesses who might be interested in sponsoring our school newsletter, please contact the office for more information.

DR ARNE RUBINSTEIN – PARENTING GEN Y, THE INTERNET AND RITES OF PASSAGE IN THE 21ST CENTURY

THE AUSTRALIAN RITES OF PASSAGE INSTITUTE

A special presentation that will change lives. Yesterday hard copies promoting the parent presentation and the 'Camp Out with Kids' were sent home. They are also available on the online newsletter for your convenience. The Diocesan P&F are sponsoring this initiative to assist parents and make it more affordable. I encourage you to consider it...

For more information visit www.ritesofpassage.com

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IbzeKXP28qI>

MINDFUL PARENTING TIP #9

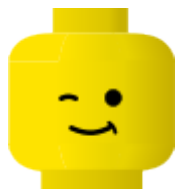
There are important times when we need to be clear and strong and unequivocal with children. Let this come as much as possible out of awareness, generosity, and discernment rather than out of fear, self-righteousness, or the desire to control. Mindful parenting does not mean being overindulgent, neglectful or weak; nor does it mean being rigid, domineering and controlling. (M&J Kabat-Zinn)

ST RITAS GOT TALENT SHOW



The St Rita's Got Talent Show is being held this Thursday 20 September, now commencing slightly earlier at **1.15pm**. The registrations are now in and complete and we are looking forward to enjoying the many talents of the students and staff of St Rita's.

FUNNY BONE



In the season of footy finals...

Q: What should a football team do if the field is flooded?

A: Bring on their subs!

Q: How do hens encourage their favourite sports teams?

A: They egg them on!

Looking forward to seeing everyone bright-eyed and bushy tailed on Monday 8 October. Enjoy the downtime over the next 2 weeks.

Cheers Gavin

A PLEA FROM MRS GARSIDE

I am creating a collage trolley in the art room and would appreciate if anyone has and/or can save any plastic containers for me. A good size would be margarine containers. It would also be useful to have some ice cream or similar containers for art storage. Send them in to your child's teacher please.

SPIRITUALLY SPEAKING...



Yesterday in Peer Support the children focussed on the skills of winning in a friendly way and coping with losing. They participated in various activities and discussed how to accept the outcome of a game, no matter what it is, in a friendly way, in order to maintain friendships. During the week, encourage your child to practise these skills in all aspects of life – whether it be weekend sport or choosing what to watch on television.

Thursday is our final session of the Peer Support program. The children will be participating in a board game reinforcing all of the concepts and skills that they have been learning over the term. They will be reminded of the qualities of a good friend and the skills needed to maintain friendships and make new friends. Each Peer Support group will have the opportunity to celebrate what they have learned and the new friendships and connections they have made.

How can we incorporate the Year of Grace into our lives this week? Our faith is not found only in Churches. Each day reflect on the holiness found exactly where you are and who you are with.

*Peace, Best Wishes and Happy Holidays,
Robyn*

THIS WEEK'S ST RITA'S FAITH AND RELIGIOUS LIFE CALENDAR

Mon Sept 17	11:45am: Peer Support
Thurs Sept 20	11:45am: Peer Support
Fri Sept 21	Feast of St Matthew otherwise known as Levi. He was the tax collector called by Christ to be an Apostle.
Saturdays	7pm: Vigil Mass
Sundays	8am: Morning Mass

PARENTS AND FRIENDS NEWS

October Meeting: Please note that the October meeting is the **FIRST DAY BACK** of term, Monday 8 October at 7pm.

Recipe Book

The P & F have decided to create a Recipe Book to sell as a Christmas fundraiser. It would be appreciated if families could send in as many recipes/handy hints as they can. Two or three per student or family would be great. Please include a variety of savoury and sweet or any useful household handy tips. Some may not get selected if there are double ups. E.g. Favourite Christmas recipes, cakes, slices, desserts, lollies, muffins, pies, preserves, nibbles, pastas, entrees, main meals, even play dough and cleaning tips, etc...

A REMINDER to get your orders in for **Chalk Educated Toys, Parent Direct and Toys and More Fundraising**. There are some great educational items in these catalogues that are not seen in stores. If you have misplaced your catalogue, there are plenty more catalogues available from the school office. Christmas shopping made easy!

STARS OF THE WEEK



Prep/1 - Roisin Stager

2/3/4 - Caitlin Ross

5/6/7 - Molly Stager

GROUND AND GARDENS ROSTER



Thank you to the following families who are rostered on:

ROWE - 15th – 28th September

SAYLOR - 29th Sept – 12th October

Please be sure to check the roster so that you can organize to pick up and drop the mower key to the office. Also let us know if the fuel tank is low or any maintenance needed.

Thought of the week

If you can't see the stars twinkle in the night sky, it doesn't mean that they've disappeared. They're just behind a blanket of clouds and you will see them shine again.

DATE CLAIMERS

SEPTEMBER

18th Sept	Yr 2/3/4 Tjapukai Excursion
19th Sept	NAIDOC Celebrations
20th Sept	St Rita's Got Talent Show 1.15pm
21st Sept	Student Free Day Last day of Term

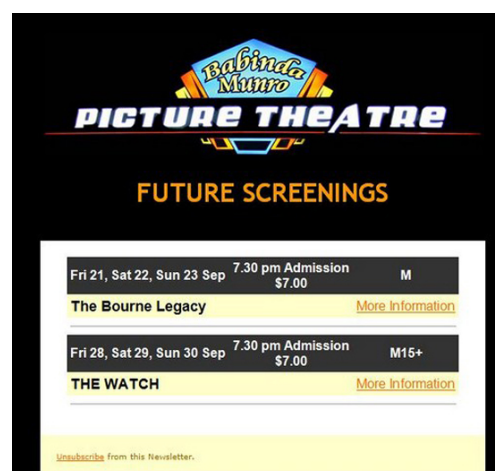
OCTOBER

8th Oct	Students return for Term 4
8th Oct	P&F Meeting 7pm
15th, 16th, 17th Oct	Year 5/6/7 Camp

DATE CLAIMERS

22nd Oct	STUDENT FREE DAY
24th Oct	AVA Pet Visit 10-11am
26th October	World Teacher's Day
NOVEMBER	
6th November	P&F Meeting 7pm
DECEMBER	
4th December	School Thanksgiving Mass and Yr 7 Farewell 6pm
6th December	Christmas Concert and Breakup
7th Dec	Last Day of the School Year finish 12pm.

COMMUNITY NEWS



Final Sign-on for Innisfail Junior Cricket:

Les Scheu Sporting Complex, Goondi Bend, lower clubhouse 10.00 am to 2.00 pm SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 22nd . Super 8's Game format on a Saturday.

FREE Well Women's Clinics – Babinda

Mamu Health Service Tuesdays 18th Sept & 9th Oct 2012 Ph: 4067 1366

Babinda Hospital Tuesday 25th Sept 2012 Ph: 4067 8200

Service includes 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.

BABINDA AQUATIC CENTRE

GRAND OPENING
SATURDAY 22nd SEPTEMBER
FREE ENTRY 10am - 12pm
SAUSAGE SIZZLE
PHONE: 40671211