Dear Parents & Carers

On behalf of the Executive Director, I am pleased to announce the appointment of Ms Helen Coman to the position of APRE from the commencement of 2013.

Helen is an experienced primary educator who is currently Acting APRE at St Agatha’s School, Clayfield. She has held the positions of Curriculum Support Teacher and Curriculum and Resource Teacher and member of the school leadership team at St Benedict’s Primary School, Mango Hill. She has also held a position as Early Years Co-ordinator. Helen is nearing completion of her Masters of Education.

Please join me in congratulating Helen on this appointment and warmly welcoming her to Holy Cross.

I take the opportunity to thank Mrs Patty McCourt for the very significant contribution she has made to the school community and to the faith life of the local church and the community of Brisbane Catholic Education and wish her many blessings as she leaves her role at the end of 2012.

The school and parish community will farewell and thank Patty for her wonderful work at Holy Cross at two special events in November

- Parish/ School Mass - followed by supper in the Parish Heritage Hall
  Saturday November 24th 6pm

- Special School Assembly and Afternoon Tea – Holy Cross School Pavilion
  Friday November 30th 2pm

Please join us to thank Patty and wish her well for all her future endeavours!

Next Monday 22nd October is a Professional Learning Day and PUPIL FREE

Recently the Qld Government announced that, from the beginning of 2013, the services of Visiting Advisory Teachers who support students with Physical and Vision Impairments would cease to be available to Catholic and Independent Schools throughout Queensland. This service has supported a number of students at Holy Cross for many years. At present the Queensland Catholic Education Commission is in negotiation with the State Government regarding this action. I am sure your representation to our local member the Hon. Tim Nicholls MP urging the government not to take this action, would be one way of supporting families and school communities that will lose this service next year.

Contact details: Shop 1, 729 Sandgate Road, Clayfield Qld 4011 or ph: 32628819

Paul Drewniak
Principal
A.P.R.E.’s Report

During the September holidays, I was lucky enough to spend five days in Perth with my older son, Luke, who is a teacher there. That was possibly the one and only time in our lives that we will have the opportunity to spend this sort of quality time together, just the two of us. The time together is something that I will treasure forever!

I found myself often just looking at him and wondering how the years Prep to secondary teacher years flew by so quickly and of being reminded again that parenting is the most difficult, the most precious task for those blessed with children.

With pride I looked at the man before me, who somehow, because of and in spite of his ‘poor parents’, has become everything that we hoped one day he would become. Without a doubt, his life is a tapestry created from each moment in his life.

What a gift God entrusts to be safeguarded when we become parents. And the hard part is not that we don’t love our children. That’s easy to do, even when sometimes, you don’t really like them! That is normal, trust me.

The hard part, I think, is learning how to deal with knowing that they are going to have to learn life’s lessons the hard way, just as we have to do. Of course, our first instinct is to protect them, but there are times when we are unable to do that. In those times, it’s knowing when to be there for them, when to leave them alone, when to let them go and when to hug them close. The time in Perth was almost like passing the test!

I do have a confession to make, however. I pray a lot, still! The job description for parenting has no contract – it’s perpetual! All I can say at this stage is that God had better continue to watch as I light the candle and stand beside us during the next stage of my boys’ lives.

Bless all you wonderful parents. What you are doing is a wonderful thing!

Have a wonderful week.

Patty McCourt

Pastoral Care Corner

Dear Parents
The Australian Catholic Bishops recently issued their annual Social Justice statement. It focuses on FAMILY. I thought their reflections were worth sharing with you. They say: “It is in the heart of the family that life comes into being. In the heart of the family the joys, hopes, sorrows and worries of life are shouldered and shared. This intimate community provides our first experience of love, rejoicing when a child is born, educating and guiding little ones as they grow. It is where we learn the importance of sharing, overcoming disagreements and offering forgiveness. In the family we learn compassion and care for those who are ill, in need or in trouble. In the family we draw on the wisdom of generations and pass on the faith. These are some of the aspects of family life that each person longs for and that prepare us to take our place in society and meet life’s challenges.

... Through the words and actions of their parents, (Catherine McAuley would say, ‘Your conversation should always be simple and useful.”) a child will learn and emulate either an attitude of selfishness or an outlook of openness, kindness and inclusion. A child’s heart will be richly blessed by a family’s spirituality that teaches a genuine reverence for all people …

Nurturing a family is a vocation, and not an easy one. It requires commitment, sacrifice, love and generosity of spirit. … Families are the basic units of society. As intimate communities of life and love, their wellbeing is so vital to our society, culture and economy that we can say that …” the future of our world depends on the family.

Take a bow for the great job you are doing in securing the future of the world.

God bless
Sr Anne.

GIANT JUMBLE SALE
Holy Rosary School is having a giant Jumble Sale next week, Tuesday to Friday from 9:00am to 3:00pm. There will be a wide variety of new and second-hand clothing and sundry other items. Come along and browse. I’ll even make you a cuppa if you come on Wednesday or Friday! (Sr Anne)

WORLD TEACHERS’ DAY
Next Friday, 26 October, is World Teachers’ Day. Here at Holy Cross, we believe that each staff member is vitally important to the education of each child, so we are celebrating World School Staff Day! You may like to send a message to any staff members who work with your children. Don’t forget the groundsman, the Office ladies and the Tuckshop lady. While our cleaners have no contact with children, we don’t forget their contribution also.

God bless
Sr Anne.

Mark on your calendars please!
Nov 23 Catholic Missions Free Dress Day – Lots of activities and a disco in the afternoon.
Nov 24 Parish School Mass at 6pm.
More information will be forwarded later.

If you have any dump vouchers that you will not be using, please give to Shane our groundsman or to Billie in the office.
Thank you.
The school community wishes the students who celebrated their birthday this week, many happy returns:
Fuschia Cooper, Sam Patane, Shaun Gray, Isaac Artuso and Alex Cutajar

**TUCKSHOP**
MORE HELPERS NEEDED FOR THIS WEDNESDAY PLEASE!
Helpers for Wednesday 24th October are:
Tuck-shop: Deb Birthisel, Sylvia Livolsi (until 10.30am), Jane Vincent (until 11.00am) & Jeanine Fenton
Home bake: Deb Birthisel, Kathryn Lyons, Kate Felsman, Gabrielle Rowley & Carmen King

Please note our NUT FREE POLICY when preparing Homebake items. Thank you

TERM 4 ROSTER ATTACHED

**OSHC NEWS**
No vacancies left for Monday 22nd October which is a student free day! We are full.
Rhonda Wood
Coordinator

Holy Cross School Craft Club for Christmas crafts start on Friday 26 October.
If you have returned your form, please meet at 8 o’clock on Fridays for half-an-hour - outside the staff room.
All profits will go to the Catholic Mission appeal, which helps to support the poorest peoples in Australia and overseas
(http://www.catholicmission.org.au)

**Reminder**
**Friday November 2nd - Pizza Day**
Help Needed!!! Calling all Pizza Slingers – Past Present and Future

From approx 12.30 – 2.00pm on the day.
If you have some spare time on the Friday then we would love your help to sort and distribute the pizzas just prior to big lunch.

No experience needed!!
For more information or to sign up just text Mary-Therese on 0423 777 600 or email mary-therese@bigpond.com

**P&F AGM**
Wednesday 14 November
6.30pm – Lower Floor New Building

The finish line for the 2012 P&F Year is approaching. The P&F Executive would like to warmly invite all parents and friends to attend the Holy Cross School P&F AGM to hear a report on our P&F Association’s achievements throughout this year, and to elect an Executive for 2013.

If you have never attended a P&F, the AGM is a great time to do so. Join us in celebrating the last meeting of the year with some drinks and nibbles. We are always looking for new ideas, and we would be grateful if you could spend some time with us.

As per the nature of a P&F Association, each year nominations are sought for the following positions:-
- President (Executive)
- Vice President (Executive)
- Treasurer (Executive)
- Secretary (Executive)
- Grants Team Sub Committee (Non Executive)

(Nominations form is attached to the newsletter)

Any questions: please contact Toni Williamson via the P&F email address: pfhcps@bne.catholic.edu.au

We welcome your nominations and look forward to seeing you there! Kind Regards,
Peter Chester, Maddie Barbour, Toni Williamson and Tony Artuso.
AWARDS
Congratulations to all students who received awards during assembly.

PG  Mekela Morrison & Max Whittle
PW  Mia Kirkegaard & Frank Piper
1G  Alex Bradley-Moore & Harry Monaghan
1W  Remy Jackson & Hayden Malone
2G  Bianca Besterwitch, Lili Vincent & William Wood
2/3W Isabella Gonzalez
3G  Angelina Daly & Isaac Rogers
4/5G Inabi Dunn & Avash Nanoo
4/5 Lachlan Cree & Mackenzie O’Sullivan
6G  Anna Sharpe & Kiloran Zuill
7G  Luke Slater & Bridie Swain
7W  Ashlynn Haywood-North & Laelah Dunn

OPEN GARDEN
Date Claimer: 3 & 4 November

Soon local garden enthusiasts and a Holy Cross School family will be opening their stunning garden to the general public on Saturday November 3 and Sunday November 4 in celebration of the 25th Anniversary of Open Gardens Australia.

Sharon Kellett and Adam Wilson (Jack, Prep W) have very kindly nominated our HCS P&F as the beneficiaries of the entrance fee, as set by the Australian Open Garden Scheme.

It can be accessed via the website, along with all other Open Gardens:

Everyone is most welcome to come along and view the garden and please tell your family and as many friends as possible to support both Sharon, for her enormous effort with creating this beautiful garden, and also our P&F Association.

Grade 7 Parents Final Social Fling
Come and celebrate the end of primary school for our children

Where: Kedron Park Hotel Function room
693 Lutwyche Road Wooloowin QLD 4030
When Saturday 10th November 2012
Time: 6:30 for 7pm
Cost: $25 per person or $50 per couple includes food
RSVP: 6th November 2012 email either Tanya (Paris mum)
tanya_tns886.smith@humanservice.gov.au or
Michele (Niamh’s mum)
mlcree@optusnet.com.au

SCHOOL PHOTOS NEEDED...
2012 School Magazine

If you have photos from school events this year that you think would be great for the school magazine, please submit them

ASAP to the school office (CD/DVD or USB preferred) or e-mail bmckee@bne.catholic.edu.au for approval and possible inclusion.

THANK YOU
Holy Cross School Musical Showcase

Who? Our school band, school choirs, various student ensembles and some solo pianists will perform at their first school gala since the inception of our school band. This musical showcase shall allow our students a wonderful opportunity to perform for their school community after many months of preparation and it is sure to dazzle and delight you, as you join them on their musical journey.

When? Sunday November 11 from 4.30pm – 6.30pm *Please ensure you mark this important date in your diary and encourage and support your child in her/his preparation.

Where? Holy Cross Heritage Hall, Chalk Street.

Many thanks to Ms Chelsea McNelliey, Mrs Sharon Farne Sang and Mrs Danielle Price for their time and commitment in preparing our students for this showcase and to Mrs Kathryn Lyons, Mrs Maria Crawford and Mrs Alison Boyd for organising this special event.

LIBRARY NEWS

- All children in years 1 to 7 have been provided with a green plastic library bag. This bag is to be used to transport library books to and from school. We have had a number of library books damaged by water leaking from water bottles in bags etc and are therefore enforcing the rule - NO BAG- NO BORROW. If your child has lost their library bag you may buy a replacement from the library for $5.
- The Annual Book Fair will take place this term. The book fair will be stocked by The Book Warehouse and the school receives a generous commission from sales. The date for the Book Fair is November 12 – 16.
- If your child likes to play word games there is a great online competition running at the moment. There is no cost and it is easy to register. For more information go to www.wordmania.com.au
- Please encourage your child to return their books each week.

GOTCHA CARDS – Week 2

GOTCHA CARDS have been designed to encourage and reward good behaviour in an effort to boost each child’s self esteem and improve the general standard of behaviour at our school. Well done to all the ‘Gotcha Card’ recipients who have done a brilliant job of demonstrating our school-wide positive behaviour expectations (Safety, Learning & Respect).

The following children won seats in our assembly Corporate Box:

- Trent Cleary
- Emily Smith
- Olivia Mills
- Ryan Mason
- Lia Walsh
- Sofia Bell
- George Williamson
- Cassie Martinz
- Ross Grimsdale

Also, keep an eye out for our Gotcha Card display in the hallway near the office.