Dear Parents, Carers and Friends of Holy Cross

What a wonderful week it has been as we celebrated Book Week with Rug Reading, a Book Swap and a wonderful Book Character Parade! Our Year 7 students led Rug Reading with Prep to Year 3 and staff read with Years 4, 5 & 6. Proceeds from the “fine” for wearing pyjamas went to the Pyjama Foundation. Proceeds from our Book Swap went to support Literacy Initiatives in remote Indigenous communities. The Book Character Parade was chaired by two extra-ordinary “Olympians” Thank you to Mrs Forsyth and Mrs Wood for their work in our Library. A wonderful week to celebrate that Champions Read!

Last Friday our Senior and Junior Choir both achieved Silver Awards in the Catholic Schools/Colleges Music Festival. Thank you to Mrs Farne Sang for her wonderful work with our Choirs!

Today we venture to the fields at Geebung for our Athletics Carnival. We are looking forward to another exciting day.

Yesterday afternoon, the whole school attended a performance focussed on Personal Development. The strong message from the performance was, “It is OK to be ourselves.” and “Everyone has the right to feel safe at all times”. The performance was specifically targeted for primary school age children.

Take time this week to read our 2 columns in the Newsletter – APRE Report and Pastoral Care Corner.

This week Mrs Patty Mc Court announced that, at the end of 2012, she will be retiring from her role as Assistant to the Principal: Religious Education. Patty has made an incredible contribution to Religious Education and the faith life of our school community. Her contribution has also been to the wider church. As we journey through the months ahead we will take opportunities to gather as a community to show Patty our appreciation. For now – THANK YOU PATTY. GOD BLESS.

We are remembering in Prayer those children in our community preparing for the Sacraments of Confirmation and First Eucharist which will be celebrated in our parish on Saturday 8 / Sunday 9 September.

State Budget Concerns for 2013
You would be aware that the State Government is making significant cuts to the budgets of many government departments. Initial briefings from Treasury have suggested that cuts to the Department of Education, Training and Employment budget will flow through the basket-nexus process and significantly reduce funding allocations to non-government schools for 2013.

State Government recurrent grants make up around 20% of our recurrent funding and any reduction in the funding for state schools has a flow on effect to us. It would seem that for the first time in living memory, we may actually suffer a decrease in state grants from one year to the next.

This is of major concern to us and through the Queensland Catholic Education Commission (QCEC) we are seeking an urgent meeting with the Treasurer to discuss the issue before the budget is finalised. The government is scheduled to hand down its budget on 11 September.

As the Newman Government prepares its September Budget, I urge you to be in touch with our local member (also the Qld Treasurer) Hon Tim Nichols MLA to lobby for no cuts to funding to Catholic Schools.

Contact Details: Electoral Office, Shop 1, 729 Sandgate Road, Clayfield Q 4011 Ph: 07 326 8819

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

In prayer, I often spend quite a deal of time asking God for what I think I need! If that was the only way my friends related to me, I would question how strong the relationships were!

Something that has been built into the culture of Holy Cross School is the Hand Reminder of the five support people in each of our lives to whom we can turn in time of need. This has become quite natural for our students to do.

However, I discovered that a hand is also a great way to broaden our prayer horizon and to engage in a variety of prayer styles.

The index finger is a reminder of all those who point out some of the possibilities as we walk the journey. They are the ones who don’t leave us to negotiate the hurdles on our own. Thank you, God.

The middle finger is a reminder of those in any sort of authority role, who need wisdom to listen to all sides of the story, understanding to know what it is to feel vulnerable, discernment to know what is important, gentleness to welcome every person and love that shines through all the discussions and the decisions. Guide them, God.

The third finger is a reminder of the people who love us and those we love. This one is mainly to bring a smile to our face and a cuddle to our heart! Hug them, God.

The little finger is a reminder of those who are weak, lonely, vulnerable, elderly, ill, feeling small or even of just little old me! Hold them gently, God.

The thumb is a reminder of those who are living in difficult situations or those far away, maybe through distance or perhaps through a misunderstanding. Strength them/us, God.

I can’t imagine life without prayer!

God is with us.

Patty McCourt

Pastoral Care Corner

Dear Parents

“There are no winners in a society that accepts rage and self-important blustering as the normal way to behave.” This was the byline in Kylie Lang’s article in the Sunday Mail last weekend. She was highlighting the many times we see anger as a response to whatever has happened. It is not appropriate and never solves the situation.

Stephen Covey, a respected thinker, says angry responses where there has to be a winner and loser, is dangerous, because lose/win people bury a lot of feelings, which usually come out later, perhaps as an illness or as even greater rage to a minor situation. He says it is much better to work together to solve an issue, to find a new and better path forward. To do this, we need to listen, say ‘thank you’ and ‘sorry’, be generous, stop comparing ourselves to others, be less defensive, spend time with nature and treat others with respect. Does this sound familiar? It should! Think of our school motto, ‘With God for others’. Think of our school mission statements and class covenants. Yet, how often do we do in our daily lives? Do we model such behaviour to our children? Do they see us doing these things, spending 60 seconds in happiness rather than in anger? Each of us has the choice to smile, to give way, to slow down …

Have a peaceful week.

God bless

Sr Anne.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

The school community wishes the students who celebrate their birthday this week many happy returns:

Inabi Dunn, Daniel Kelly & Riley Edwards

TERM DATES 2013

Term 1
Wednesday 30th January – Thursday 28th March

Term 2
Monday 15th April – Friday 21st June

Term 3
Monday 8th July – Friday 20th September

Term 4
Tuesday 8th October – Friday 6th December

Brisbane Catholic Education has advised schools that they can no longer send school fee accounts or financial information home with students. Accounts must be emailed or posted to parents.

The school’s preferred method is to email the accounts.

Please complete the confirmation notice issued with your last account and return to the office as soon as possible.

Thank you
COLES VOUCHERS 2012
Closing 14 Aug

The Coles Sports for Schools Promotion is ending. Coles has stopped giving out Sports for Schools Vouchers on 14 August. Therefore please bring in all of your vouchers so we can exchange them for Sports Equipment for Holy Cross!

If there are any Online Shoppers out there you will need to note Holy Cross School ID 44062 to direct your “online” vouchers to Holy Cross.

The Coles collection box will remain in the office for the short term to collect any remaining vouchers you might have.

Thank you on behalf of Holy Cross P&F Association.

say cheese
SCHOOL PHOTO DAY IS
THURSDAY 6TH SEPTEMBER 2012

Have your child's school memories captured forever
Every student has been given their own pre-paid envelope.
Please take time to read the relevant information on the MSP Photography payment envelopes and remember these helpful points:

* Don’t seal envelopes inside each other. You can pay for all children in one envelope however each child needs to have their own envelope on photo day.
* Family envelopes are available at the school office upon request
* Please enclose correct money as no change is given. Credit Card, Cash, Cheques only.

For any enquiries, please feel free to contact production.brisbane@msp.com.au or ph: 3865 4291

FULL DAY UNIFORM TO BE WORN FOR YEAR 2-7 WITH BLACK SHOES!
PREP & Yr 1 ARE TO WEAR REGULAR UNIFORM (ie sports)

FATHERS DAY STALL – THURSDAY 30TH AUGUST
Our own gift shop at School just for Dads! What a treat!

Come on Thursday 30th August with $5 and buy Dad a great gift.

All gifts $5. Mark it in your diary.

AWARDS
Congratulations to all students who received awards during assembly.

PG  Harry Moore & Mekela Morrison
PW  Harrison Heath & Laura Brennan
1G  Rory Toghill
1W  Sofia Luongo & Greta Salanitri
2G  William Siddle & Alisha O’Donoghue
2/3W  Charlize Rowley & Michael Murray
3G  Alisha Pereira & Brandon Martinz
4/5G  William Grant & Breanna Murphy
4/5W  Jake Reed-Hussey & Shom Philip
6G  Matthew Morris & Antonia Livolsi
7G  Lucy Shephard & Oscar Barrett
7W  Philippa Piper & Nick Egan

Cinderella & Rockerfella
TICKETS ON SALE NOW
2 Performances:
Friday 14 September
Saturday 15 September
$5 PER SEAT
Complete the form sent home earlier this week with the correct money to either Mrs Elder or Mrs Tracey to secure great seats.

UNIFORM SHOP WILL BE OPEN NEXT FRIDAY 31ST AUGUST
This will give parents the opportunity to purchase items before photo day on Thursday 6th September.
Uniform shop will then be open as usual, fortnightly on the second & fourth Fridays of each month.

INTERESTED IN LEARNING TO PLAY THE PIANO?
My name is Danielle Price, to book lessons at the school for 2012 please call me either at Home: 3325 5414 or Mobile: 0413 330 665.

A BIG CONGRATULATIONS TO SARAH MELVILLE & CASSANDRA MARTINZ for performing the Anthem & Happy Birthday at assembly while Mrs McCourt was absent last term.
We are so proud of you both. Well done!
Danielle & Sorcha (Piano Teachers)
Prep & Year 1 Students will be having a special night for their Dad’s.
When: Tuesday 28 August 6pm
Where: Your child’s classroom
Unfortunately mums or siblings are unable to attend.
We hope you can join us.

Under 8’s 2012
We will be celebrating Under 8’s here at Holy Cross on Friday 31 August from 9.30 am to 11.30 am.
P-3 students from Holy Cross will be participating along with students from Our Lady Help of Christians and Holy Rosary.
Here’s to a fun filled morning.

Irene Elder

GOTCHA CARDS – Week 7
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:

Cianna Hind
Louis O’Callaghan
Lucy Shephard
Jack Siddle
Katie Josephson
Luca Barichello
Laura Brennan
Jacob Moesbergen
Abby Collins

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

Mt Maria College Petrie
Inspired by Maximilian Kolbe and Mariette Chappuiau
Information Day
Friday 14th September
Presentation by Principal
Tour of the College
Start 9.00 am (finish 10.30am)
Armstrong Street - next to OLW
Applications/Interviews for 2014/2015 are in progress

Please reply via telephone on 3285 5500 or via Fax on 3285 5091 or Email spetrie@bne.catholic.edu.au by Wednesday 12th September.

GREAT VALUE
FAMILY FILMS
AT DENY

FINDING NEMO 3D Aug 23rd
MADAGASCAR 3: EUROPE'S MOST WANTED Sep 12th
HOTEL TRANSYLVANIA Sep 26th (CTC)

TICKETS $8 (Adults)
$3 (Children)

THEATRE
FOOD
TICKETS
HOTEL TRANSYLVANIA
HOTEL TRANSYLVANIA
HOTEL TRANSYLVANIA
HOTEL TRANSYLVANIA