Our theme for 2012 is “What have you done today to make you feel proud?”

Great actions grow great habits
Great habits grow great character!
Great character grows a great DESTINY!!

PARENT SUPPORT GROUP
If you have a query or need advice re: social functions and fundraisers, please direct these to one of the following:

Keryn Lietzow
martin_keryn@bigpond.com
Anne Retief
reliefa@bigpond.net.au
Amanda Montenegro
admmontenegro@yahoo.com.au

Assembly tomorrow - Friday 2:30pm O’Dea Centre
ALL WELCOME!

2012 TERM DATES
TERM 3... July 9 - Sept 21
TERM 4 .... Oct 8 - Dec 7 (12noon)
(Term 4 PUPIL FREE DAY – 22nd Oct)

2013 TERM ONE DATES
Wednesday 30th Jan – Thursday 28th March

Our true home is in the present moment.
To live in the present moment is a miracle.
The miracle is not to walk on water.
The miracle is to walk on the green Earth in the present moment.

(Thich Nhat Hanh)

A Blessing
May your work excite your heart.
Kindle in your mind a creativity to journey beyond the old limits of all that has become wearisome.

May the work fit the rhythms of your soul, enabling you to draw from the invisible new ideas and a vision that will inspire.

And may you have the grace of encouragement to awaken the gift in the other’s heart. Building in them the confidence to follow the call of the gift.

John O’Donohue
PCG MEETING
We had a great meeting last Monday with a larger number of parents participating. Topics discussed included:

- house polo shirts
- leadership polo shirts for our Senior students next year
- swimming carnivals
- finalization of Stage 3 and drawing down the residual of the loan
- expenditure of funds and grants
- Father’s Day Mass and Social
- Outside School Hours Care
- fundraising levy
- end of year Mass and social celebration.

- Expenditure of $18,000 given by PCG plus a $31,000 technology grant from Brisbane Catholic Education has enabled the purchase of the following:

  30 iPads ------------------------ $17,100 – now a bank of 10 in each learning area
  17 iPods ------------------------- $3,722 – now a bank of 10 in each learning area
  5 colour printers------------------ $1,438 – now 1 in each learning area as well as access to the networked photocopier
  12 MacBook Pros------------------ $13,472 – a bank for use throughout the school
  30 iPad cases-------------------- $2,009
  17 iPod cases-------------------- $504
  1 LCD monitor for Year 3 -------- $750
  Multi-dock charge and sync station 30 bay ----------------------------- $1,854
  Storage for mobile devices for each learning area ----------------------- $4,770
  4 Voice Amplification Systems placed in all learning areas excluding Year 3 ---------- $7,610

- Funds raised through fundraising levy in Semester 1: $8,865.

Sample polo shirts being made up – red, blue, yellow with the name of the house in white across the back.

End of Year Mass and social celebration – The option discussed was to hold an outdoor mass on Thursday evening 6th December at 5:00pm followed by BYO drinks and nibblies for adults. We need suggestions of ideas for food for the children and entertainment for adults and children. Some ideas so far are pizzas for the children, a clown, disco, balloon animals. We’d love to hear the ideas from parents who can’t make it along to meetings.

Inter-house swimming carnival – It would seem that we can’t use Cleveland State School Pool for our carnival this year.

WEBSITE
Our new website is now up and running and safe to use. If you are still having trouble accessing it, please do not use the link on your “favorties” bar and you may need to delete your browsing history before it will work correctly.

Open Internet Explorer and click on the “Tools” (cog) icon in the top right hand corner then go to Internet Options and click on “Delete” under Browsing History. Tick everything as in this screen shot and click on Delete.

If you still can’t get in, use this link;  
http://www.staroftheseacleveland.qld.edu.au/Pages/default.aspx

Moodle is accessed via the elearning tab on the right under “School News”
A MESSAGE FROM THE GUIDANCE COUNSELLOR

At our wonderful Parent Retreat this week, we came away with many worthwhile strategies for being present to the moment and creating opportunities for reflection in our busy lives.

We each received a booklet of ‘Ten Simple Strategies to Bring About Stillness and Silence’, designed for teachers to use with students, but that can be modified for parents to use with their children.

1. **Times for Silence** – Plan for times of silence throughout the day – lying back and staring at the clouds, a cuddle on the couch.
2. **Listen** – to the sounds outside the room, to the sounds inside the room
3. **Breathe** – Notice the gentle rise and fall of your chest as you breathe in and out
4. **Close your Eyes** – Shut off the distractions that make your mind wander
5. **Still your Body** – Listen to your body. Tense parts of the body and then relax them. Sit completely still and relaxed and at peace
6. **Visualise** – Imagine you have been transported to another place that invokes a sense of calm
7. **Light a candle** – Watch the flame flicker and grow
8. **Listen to music** – Sketch, write words, feelings, emotions during or after listening

These ideas can help us and our children to take time-out in our busy day to find a place of calm, connection and reflection. In such fast-paced lives as we lead, these small practices can go a long way in improving our overall wellbeing.

*Kathy Casley*  
Guidance Counsellor

VISITORS

This week we have hosted a team of 4 curriculum leaders from the Lismore Diocese. They have been immersed in our vision for learning, teaching and learning principles, discovery learning and our ways of working. They will be presenting their learnings at a Principals’ Forum early next term in Byron Bay. We have suggested that they can invite our staff down to help present!!

CELEBRATIONS OF LEARNING

The learning areas will be open on Wednesday from 8:15am to 8:55am. Please join your children for a tour of their learning area.

INTER-HOUSE SWIMMING CARNIVAL

We have booked Cleveland Aquatic Centre for our carnival. The date is Tuesday 13th November from 9:00am to 1:00pm. All students from Prep to Year 6 will participate.

PARKING ON PASSAGE STREET

The Straddie bus, in particular, is finding it hard to park safely at 3:20am each afternoon. The safety of our students is paramount. Please do not park on the section of Passage Street outside the Church. Thursday afternoons are particularly chaotic due to Auskick.

LABELLING ITEMS

The Lost Property box is overflowing with unnamed water bottles, freezer blocks, hats and lunchboxes. If it comes to school, it must be NAMED!! This is clearly the responsibility of parents to ensure that this is checked.
BEFORE SCHOOL SPEECH & DRAMA
What a fantastic term we have had in our drama group. I have been quite thrilled with the enthusiasm that the children have brought to each week's scenario. They have been pirates, astronauts and museum exhibits and are fantastic at being both The Big Popper and museum guards for our warm up games (I'm sure that if you ask them they'll be happy to tell you all about these games).

Next term our before school sessions will start back in week 2 (15th October) and there will be 6 weeks of lessons. If your child won't be returning to the lessons then please let Mrs Larsen know by the end of this term otherwise it will be presumed that they are continuing.

A gentle reminder that all accounts must be finalised by Tuesday of next week (18th September).

Terry Larsen Speech & Drama Teacher

NAPLAN RESULTS
As per the instructions below, Naplan reports for Year 3 and 5 students will be sent home to parents next Monday. I have viewed each student’s report and although these tests are only a snapshot of a student’s learning, their results are very pleasing.

An article in this morning’s Courier-Mail and some other regional papers may have caused confusion about the distribution of student reports to parents. I would just like to confirm what was outlined in previous communications. The student reports cannot be sent home until after Federal Education Minister Peter Garrett releases the national data, which is expected to be on Friday 14 September. In practical terms, this means that the reports can be sent home from Monday 17 September. This process is the same as it has been in previous years and keeps to the agreed national protocols.

As in previous years, class and school data will be available on the QSA secure website from Monday.

Regards, Lee Willett Manager, NAPLAN Testing Services Branch, Queensland Studies Authority

CONFERENCE
From Tuesday to Friday next week, I will be attending the Joint Australian Primary Principals and New Zealand Principals Conference. The Conference is only held every three years and this year it is in Melbourne. Keynote speakers are coming from Canada, Finland, China and Singapore. This is a tremendous professional learning opportunity for me and a great way to network with other Principals from State, Catholic and Independent systems. Kylie Williamson will be Acting Principal.

POST-OCCUPANCY EVALUATION
As part of this week’s staff meeting, we completed an online survey constructed by Brisbane Catholic Education Centre’s Planning and Building Section. On Friday 12th October from 1pm – 3:30pm, a team of people from Planning and Building and our architect, will meet with focus groups of parents, staff and students. The purpose of the evaluation is to review the design of the school facilities and to make recommendations for future new schools.

PIANO TUITION AND MUSIC THEORY
Teacher with a love of teaching and 15 years experience with outstanding results achieved. Learn for exams or just for fun in an air-conditioned studio. Enjoy the many benefits of learning music. Judith Gordon C.Mus.A; A.T.D.A; A.Dip.A; M.T.A.Q Phone 3821 1470

NO READING BUDDIES NEXT WEEK
NO NEWSLETTER NEXT WEEK
**JENNY SHARP – SCHOOL SECRETARY**

*Where have I worked?* - I started out working at a radio station in my home town of Albury then moved to Sydney and worked for Fuji Xerox for 13 years where I met my husband. I stayed at home with the kids for the next 10 years and now I currently work at both Star of The Sea and Moreton Bay College.

*Family?* - I have been married to Rob for the past 20 years and have 2 teenage children, Samara 15 and Harry 13 both are at Carmel College. We have a Chihuahua x Maltese dog named Elly who is the centre of attention in our house and a bearded dragon called Rex.

*Hobbies?* - Anything to do with redecorating or making old things look new again, I am constantly wanting to change things in my house. I love reading and since discovering iBooks, I cannot live without my iPad.

*Favourite Movie?* - One of my favourite movies is Pulp Fiction, but I enjoy a movie that keeps you guessing until the end and of course a good chick flick. I recently went to see the Sapphires and thoroughly enjoyed it.

*Favourite Music?* - I like a variety of music I can chill out and relax to. Some of my favourites are Missy Higgins, Katie Malua, Queen, Lady Ga Ga, Rod Stewart and Michael Bublé.

*Favourite Sport?* - I enjoy watching most sports especially the US Open Tennis finals. I love rugby and make sure I go to the Bledisloe Cup every year.

*Favourite Food?* - Thai is my favourite followed closely by Indian. Being born and bred in the country I also love a good steak. All of course with a nice glass of red.

**JODY LENNOX – SCHOOL and FINANCE SECRETARY**

*Where I have worked* - I worked in Finance and Administration for large firm of Lawyers in the city for 18 years. I then worked at Lourdes Hill College Hawthorne (4 years), St Ita’s Dutton Park (8 years) and now Star of the Sea Cleveland!

*My family?* - I have been married to my wonderful husband Lionel for almost 30 years. We have two beautiful daughters, Morgan (Lab Chemist), 25 years old and Courtney (Brisbane City Council IT), 23 years old. We have a much loved 14 year old Tenterfield Terrier named “Sandy” who is all but deaf and just about blind but still very agile!

*My hobbies?* - I love going on long drives with my husband and we walk every morning. I have music playing whenever and wherever possible.

*Favourite movie?* - Anything except Science Fiction or Fast and Furious movies (any number!). Romantic comedies and Historical Dramas are my favourites.

*Favourite music?* - I like strong female singers, ballads or anything that lifts my spirits. Love it when my husband is out and I can play my “chick’s music” really, really loud!!

*Favourite sport?* - Love swimming! Casual observer of most sports – except Cricket – yuk!!

*My favourite food: I really love salads and seafood.*
PARENT RETREAT
Thanks so much to everyone who attended our first Star of the Sea Parent Retreat at Santa Teresa yesterday. We had an amazing day facilitated by James Ryan, Margaret Connors and Fr Anthony Mellor. Our sessions on Mindfulness and Meditation gave us the opportunity for some much needed time out, as well as some practical ways to apply these philosophies to family life.

Mass in the Chapel was an intimate end to a rewarding and uplifting day! We could not have asked for a better group of parents and parishioners, and we are so thankful to have such supportive people in our school community! With your continued support, we hope to offer this opportunity in future years.

WHAT'S ON IN TERM 4....
- Inter-School Moderation
- Straddie Mass
- Year 5 and 6 Camp
- Book Fair
- Inter-house Swimming Carnival
- Bayside Catholic Zone Swimming Carnival
- Swimming Lessons
- Orientation for New Parents
- Prep Parents and Students
- Cybersmart Workshops for Staff, Students and Parents
- End of Year Mass and Social Celebration.

CLASSROOM NEWS

PREP – 10 weeks down and one to go!!! What a big term – yet it has gone so quickly! This week we were lucky enough to have two lifesavers come in on Monday to talk to us about how to be safe at the beach. We learnt about the different flags we see at the beach and what they all mean.

The lifesavers told us about the different life saving equipment they use and showed us some pictures. It was really interesting and comes at a great time with the weather warming up and holidays so very close!!! We also had some great fun playing outside on the adventure playground and the grass.

We started a new design thinking topic on Monday this week- ‘What if everything in the world was made from shapes?’. We are learning all about shapes – 2 dimensional and some 3 dimensional.

This week our design thinking is on 2 dimensional shapes and next week we are doing 3 dimensional shapes. We had some fantastic ideas and designs – shape men, shape flowers, shape tv’s..... the list goes on!
On Wednesday we saw an Arts Council during the middle session. It was all about the aboriginal culture. It was very interesting and lots of fun to watch. Today, our teachers were out of the classroom until 12.00pm planning for next term. We had lots of fun with Mrs Hyland and Mrs Mackillop while they were away!!

We are getting so clever now and learning about digraphs. Digraphs are two letters that when put together make one sound. We have learnt sh, ch and this week we looked at oo. Double o makes two different sounds..... oo as in book and oo as in boot. We also learnt about split digraphs..... when an ‘e’ is on the end of a word and makes the middle vowel say its own name. For example – note, like, mate. We are sooo clever!!!

Have a wonderful weekend!

YEAR 1 – This week we have been working very hard on our discovery learning projects. Our creativity was inspired after watching ‘Caine’s Arcade’ on the Magic Board Monday afternoon. Miss Manicaros and Miss Foy were at a very interesting Professional Development Session last Friday and were shown this video by the Program host. They were so inspired by this young boy’s creativity they just had to show us! On the video we saw how a small idea can grow into something so huge and amazing! All you need is a little motivation and dedication. The main skill we learnt from the video is to try out our ideas and if it doesn’t work, to try again but make some changes that might help.

To help us build on this skill our teachers have provided us with lego, blocks, cubes, mobilo and many other create and pull-apart resources. We will use these to create our designs, take a picture of it and put the print out in our discovery learning pouches. During our next discovery learning time, we revisit our printed out pictures and brainstorm ways that we can change our design or make it better. Then we can rebuild our design with our new plans.

On another note, we are finishing up our literacy and numeracy activities this week for the term and we just have to say a HUUUGGEEE THANKYOU to all of the parent helpers that have ventured out to our classroom to help host our small group activities. We couldn’t have done it without you! So in case you are not already aware, there are no literacy and numeracy rotations in the last week of term (next week).

Thanks to Will Gough, we have all been reading ‘The Magic School Bus’ books in class. They are so interesting! We are enjoying the stories and learning at the same time. We already know so much about the difference between humans and reptiles, the many different types of ants and their jobs, underwater volcanoes and bats! Our teachers will be heading over to the library in the next few days to collect some more Magic School Bus books, we can’t wait!!!! We might even be lucky enough to watch a ‘Magic School Bus’ video in the last week of term!

Well that’s about all from us this week, just a quick reminder that Year One is performing on assembly next Friday 21st September. We hope to see you all there! Until next time......Love Year One.

YEAR 2 – Phew what a busy second last week we've had!!!!! Year 2 has been very busy learning lots of Literacy facts, such as adverbs and adjectives and some of our groups enjoyed a few spelling games on “spelling city”.

We have been learning to move around the room using adverbs and sometimes we have been doing this very “quickly” and sometimes very “slowly”. In our Maths rotations this week, we learnt all about coins and adding them together. So watch out at shopping time Mums! Make sure you check out twitter for pictures of us making 3D shapes.

Yes! Playdough is still lots of fun...even in year2!
In our Discovery Learning we have been continuing with our projects about living things. We are looking forward to seeing how we have answered our non-googleable questions.

We had two out of classroom experiences this week! On Monday we had two Lifesavers (girls!), come to the O’Dea centre and explain to the school all about the different flags that you sometimes see at the beach. There was actually quite a few, let’s see how many we can remember next time we visit the beach!

On Wednesday we had the Queensland Arts Council come to the school to do a presentation on the Aboriginal and Colonial history of Queensland. It was acted out by “Robin and Gannon”, who took us back in time with their re-enactment. There were a few loud bangs and a few screaming kookaburras to be heard in their story. We are all working so hard in year 2 and are definitely looking forward to a good break in a week’s time.

YEAR 3 - It’s hip to be a square in Year 3! Or a triangle, a pentagon or even a dodecahedron. We’ve started our unit on shapes. We have been studying regular and irregular 2D shapes. Today we have been introduced to 3D shapes. We have learnt the difference between prisms and pyramids. We made 3D shapes from nets and even some virtual shapes on the laptops.

Our normally spotless classroom is beginning to look like a tip! That’s because donations continue to come in for our space inventions. We are asking for any boxes, containers, tubes, egg cartons and anything else that could be turned into a space invention.

This week we have identified a problem that humans will have when we live in space. Each student thought of an invention to solve the problem. Some of our inventions include a space suit, an automatic dressing machine to help get your space suit on in zero gravity and an alien translator. We are all looking forward to beginning to constructing on Tuesday. Come in and see our inventions under construction at our school open morning on Wednesday. Doors open at 8.15 a.m.

Our gymnastics and musical instrument lessons have ended for the term. Thanks to our teachers in these subjects for all of your help and patience. We look forward to more music next term and the resumption of swimming lessons.

YEAR 4, 5 & 6 - The Year 456 teachers are loving the motivation and enthusiasm of all children this week! The children have been working tirelessly on their Discovery Learning projects; designing and creating prototypes, reflecting on successes, and things that didn’t go to plan. The teachers are so very proud of the children’s questioning and thinking skills, and the enthusiastic way they are approaching all their discoveries.

A large group of Year 4 children explored iMovie on the new Macs, and enjoyed putting their Claymation movies together. Thanks to some very helpful “experts” in Year 6, the Year 4s were able to create some amazing movies.

The Year 5/6 children have gone in many different directions this term. We have many documentaries being filmed, a Travel Expo stall being created, and many online iBooks being produced and a very interesting cooking show on the way. We are all looking forward to sharing our discoveries with you next Wednesday morning.

Congratulations to our Year 5/6 children who were thrown into some heavy percentage study, looking into converting fractions to decimals to percentages. They all worked so hard to understand the new concept, and are now begging their teachers to take them shopping to see the ‘percentage off’ sales! The Year 4 children worked tirelessly looking at regular and irregular 2D shapes. Congratulations on meeting Mrs Clough’s challenge of creating your own shapes.

We are looking forward to our final week of term...with many exciting activities planned! Good luck to our Year 5/6 children the interschool cluster carnival tomorrow.