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
reitf@bigpond.net.au
Amanda Montenegro
admmontenegro@yahoo.com.au

2012 TERM DATES
TERM 4 .... Oct 8 - Dec 7 (12noon)

2013 TERM DATES
TERM 1.....Jan 30 – Mar 28
TERM 2.....Apr 15 – Jun 21
TERM 3 .... Jul 8 – Sep 20
TERM 4 .... Oct 8 - Dec 6 (12noon)

A Small Piece of Carpet
By Charlie Badenhop

Have you ever noticed how the way you feel about yourself sometimes depends on whether or not you get confirmation of your value from others? When you enter into challenging situations with a positive self-identity you will discover that you are living your life with a greater sense of enjoyment and fulfilment.

I have learned a lot about nurturing a positive identity of love and appreciation from the man who taught me to train dogs. Dogs and humans both have a "self-identity" that determines perception of the world, behaviour, and one’s sense of self-worth. Let me explain how my teacher nurtured a positive self-identity in the dogs he trained.

Frank had a very fascinating way of helping the guard dogs he trained, to feel respected, protected and loved, regardless of the situation/context they were in. Here is how he accomplished this. First of course, he started out by treating his dogs with love and respect, and by showing them an infinite amount of patience as they were learning. This of course is crucial.

Next, Frank would teach the dog to pick up the piece of carpet himself, and carry it to wherever they were going. The dog would then set the piece of carpet down when they stopped, and sit on top of it, with Frank all of the time praising him for being a "good boy." Soon the piece of carpet took on the distinct odour of the dog, and Frank said that this led the dog to feel "at home" when sitting on the carpet.

And I ask you now, if this strategy works so brilliantly with dogs, would the same basic strategy not work just as well with human beings? Ask yourself, "What is the small piece of carpet you carry around with you wherever you go?" "Would your life not be very different if you changed your piece of carpet to one of self-love and appreciation?"
A MESSAGE FROM THE GUIDANCE COUNSELLOR

In revisiting some of my collection of articles from my own earlier parenting days, I discovered one that was a fixture on my fridge for quite some time. While it probably originated from the mid-90’s, it is still highly relevant today. I thought I’d share this excerpt from Don Edgar’s article.

“... Bolotin acknowledges the freeing power of realising that children do need to see there are consequences of bad behaviour; that self-esteem is not a goal in itself but a by-product of competent behaviour; that chores which contribute to the whole family’s wellbeing are an essential way of giving a child a sense of belonging; and that any child told constantly he is the best, the nicest, the smartest person in the world regardless of what he can do is going to be a narcissist, not someone with any real self-esteem.

The message to be taken away... is one of realism and common sense. No parent or partner is responsible for keeping everyone else happy all of the time. No one can be happy all of the time and we do a disservice to children if we pretend life is only about self-pleasure and the avoidance of hard work, boredom or pain. It’s not that ‘life wasn’t meant to be easy’; it’s just that the greatest happiness comes from our achievement. If you bask in feeling good and take pride merely in your existence, you never get anything done. Children brought up that way, insisting on their own happiness at the expense of others in the family, are more of a headache than a pleasure.

The answer lies in authoritative parenting, providing warm support and a set of sensible limits. Then children can learn who they truly are through what they do and become capable, autonomous adults instead of dysfunctional ones bewailing that ‘life’s (tough)’ and blaming everyone except themselves for their unhappiness.”

Kathy Casley  Guidance Counsellor

PARENT SURVEY

Last week, a hard copy of a survey was sent home with one student from each family. We have received 29 completed survey forms (from 167 families). The survey is the Parent Community Group’s attempt to gain more feedback on social functions, fundraisers and parental involvement. We are aiming for 100% return!!!!

We will be sending reminders to the families who haven’t responded. We need this information before out next PCG meeting on Monday 12th November. The survey responses will guide our direction for 2013.

REDLANDS ON STAGE

A concert will be held on Saturday 3rd November at 2:00pm in the Performing Arts Centre. The concert will include performances by international opera singers Shaun Brown and Sarah Crane. Bookings can be made by phoning 3829 8131 or www.rpac.com.au

SECOND HAND HATS

There are a few second hand hats available in the office for $5 each. They have been washed and ironed. If you send your child in with the money the office staff will name them before they leave the office!

STAR OF THE SEA PARISH’S MOTHER’S CLUB

Star of the Sea Parish’s Mother’s Club is on again next Monday 29th October from 9:20am in the McKinlay Centre (behind the Lighthouse next to Parish Hall). It will run every SECOND Monday morning and is for Parents and under school age children.

If you are interested please call Therese Staley on 0420 306 774 or Michelle Mair on 0407 700 322.
BOOK FAIR
Book Fair will open at 8am on Tuesday 30th October. It will be open each morning from 8:00am to 9:00am and then again from 3:00pm to 4:00pm until Monday 5th November. Children will have an opportunity to visit on Tuesday to create their wish lists.

STRADDIE MASS
The atmosphere was wonderful last Sunday evening for our Straddle Mass. Great to see so many staff present as well as a large number of families from Straddie. Thank you also to the families and parishioners who travelled across for our celebration. Thank you to the staff and particularly, Kylie Williamson, for their organization of the liturgy. We had amazing weather also so sitting outside Little Ships’ Club and watching the sun setting was a memorable experience.

PROFESSIONAL LEARNING AND PLANNING DAY
All teachers will be on site next Monday but our learning areas will be staffed by our relief teachers.

ORIENTATION / TRANSITION FOR 2013
New Parents and parents of Preppies 2013 are invited to join the staff for a Wine and Cheese Evening on Monday 26th November from 6pm to 7pm. Our new Preppies will join us on either Wednesday 28th November or Friday 30th November from 9am to 11:30am. New students in other year levels and all other students will have a transition day on Friday 30th November from 9am to 3pm.

OUTSIDE SCHOOL HOURS CARE
After school care will be moved into our school facilities from the beginning of next year. Before school care will still operate from the Child Care Centre. Enrolment forms will be forwarded shortly.

YEAR 5 AND 6 CAMP
Our student campers are having a tremendous experience at Camp Mapelton. I’m sure we will hear lots more next week about their adventures. It was great to spend some time with them in a different environment.

They are a wonderful group of students but during camp there were some who shone very brightly. Their sense of responsibility, care for others, good humour and willingness “to have a go” at some very challenging activities were highlights for me.

BREAST CANCER RAFFLE
Mel who works at the Child Care Centre is undergoing treatment for breast cancer. Our prayers and thoughts are with her and her very young family. The Centre is conducting a raffle of hampers to raise some funds for the family. We have some raffle books available in the front office if you would like to help out.

SWIMMING CARNIVALS
All students from Prep to Year 6 will participate in our inter-house swimming carnival on Tuesday 13th November.

Our Year 4 – 6 students and selected Year 3 students will participate in our Bayside Catholic Inter-School Carnival on Friday 23rd November. Both Carnivals will be held at the Cleveland Aquatic Centre.

HEAD LICE
There have been head lice in Prep and Year One learning areas this week. Could ALL families check their child/ren’s hair this weekend and treat if necessary?
CLEVELAND SCOUT GROUP
On Sunday Oct 28th 1300 - 1600 Cleveland Scout Group will be hosting its centenary at the den "Thomas Gloster Urban Habitat" crn Bainbridge and Gordon Sts Ormiston. In addition to the formalities the scouts will be holding activities available to community youth. we call it " No Batteries Required" A host of activities that promote "responsible risk taking", merely a part of scouting.

Please see the attached flyer for all the information on the day!

CLASSROOM NEWS

PREP – Our two beautiful “Spring” liturgies have been the highlight this week. Mrs Thompson and Mrs McLucas were so proud of the way that all the children read and acted out the Parable of the Sower. They have certainly come a long way since the beginning of the year!!!

A big thank-you to all the wonderful parents, grandparents and friends who were able to come along to celebrate with us. We hope you were as proud as we were!

During our journal writing time, we have been writing some instructions.

Ely gave us instructions on how to run a running race.
1. Put your running shorts on.
2. Put your running shirt on.
3. Put your running shoes on.
4. Go to the running race.
5. Go to the start line.
6. Wait for the gun to shoot.

Jessica B gave us instructions on how to pat an elephant.
1. Get a ladder. It has to be very tall.
2. Find an elephant.
3. Climb the ladder.
4. Pat the elephant.

Aren’t they clever little superstars????? Enjoy your weekend 😊

YEAR 1 – This week in Year One we have been working very hard on our literacy and numeracy activities, plus practicing our assembly performance! So it is safe to say that we are all very tired little students this week. We will all enjoy the weekend break very much!

Friday has been our biggest day of the week, by far! We spent the morning learning all about how to make sushi with Mr Batista and WOW he is a very talented chef! Not only did he teach all of the children how to correctly prepare some sushi rolls, Mr Batista also helped the penny drop for Miss Foy. Miss Foy finally realised what that metal rod looking thing is used for in her knife set......it sharpens the knives.

The rest of the day was spent visiting the library and practising for our heart wrenching performance on assembly. Next week is going to be another big week for the kids! We have our paraliturgies, swimming and Halloween all in one week! Hopefully things will settle
down by week 5 so we can all have a well deserved rest and recover for the last few weeks of term!

For our literacy and numeracy activities we are still focusing on our main topics of information texts and data displays. In numeracy we are still working on addition, subtraction, groups of, halves and shapes. In literacy we are always focusing on developing our spelling skills, thrass knowledge, handwriting skills and our reading skills.

Finally it would be rude of us not to mention the very special day it is today......WORLD TEACHERS DAY!!!!!!!!! Yes, that’s right, it is the day to celebrate how amazing all our teachers are here and everywhere around the world! Especially Miss Manicaros and Miss Foy because they are sooooo amazing, don’t you think? Of course you do, why are we even asking! Well we hope all of the wonderful teachers around the world have a fantastic day!

HAPPY WORLD TEACHERS DAY!  

Love Year One

YEAR 2 – We had another enjoyable week this week. Firstly the students had a pupil free day and by reading their journals, many did some fun activities on that day. The teachers were also busy on that day too. It was hard for them to be the students for a day. They even learnt to express themselves freely in a creative art session with Mrs Gayle Crisp.

Over the last 3 weeks we have been working hard on our reading and comprehension. Most of what we read is easy to understand and we can find information easily. But we have been working hard at “reading between the lines” to decipher the deeper meaning in texts. When comprehending, students strive to process text beyond word-level to get to the big picture. At home after the students have read their reader, ask them questions about the text and questions they have to infer from what they have read.

We have also had special visitors to our room. Each of them is demonstrating how science affects them in their daily work. Mrs Spence showed us she is a master environmental scientist. She showed us two great experiments. The first one used purple cabbage and household items that were acidic or alkaline. We loved to see the changes that happened as each household liquid was tipped in. Then she took us outside with a bottle of coke and some mentos – you can just imagine what happened when we put these two items together!

Father Frank also came to our learning area to talk about prayer. This term we are looking at prayer and where and why we pray. Father helped us realise that we can pray anywhere, any time. The Star of the Sea Parish now has a bell that rings at 12midday and 6pm to remind us that it is important to pray to God. He said praying to God is like talking to a friend.

Today, Mrs Davison was our master demonstrating how she uses science in her everyday life. Next week we will have two more master parents to our room. What a wonderful immersion we are having for our topic “Masters of the Universe”.
YEAR 3 – We are only eight or nine years old and they’ve got us organising a whole planet! We never really thought about it before, but societies and cultures are complicated. There’s so much to think about when you start a new one.

Who decides what happens to people who break the rules? How can you know what to build first - roads or schools? What about hospitals? Who’s going to do the building and how do you decide how they’re run? And that’s not even thinking about the biggie – who makes the rules? Even more importantly, how is a society’s rules made. These are some of the questions that Year 3 has set for themselves in the weeks ahead.

This week we've looked at customs and celebrations (Why is it called “customs” at the Airport?). We started with Australia and explored some of our holidays and customs. That was fun and afterwards we brainstormed some holiday & customs ideas for our own Planets. We realised that you don’t just celebrate holidays for no reason. There’s always an interesting history behind them. So we had to make one up for each of our holidays.

That’s why it’s lucky that our work on descriptive writing has been going well. Our new tools are similes, which are tricky but powerful, especially when used with our old friends the adjectives. Division is also powering ahead and this week we're up to dividing by 4 and 5 - and most in the class are onto it - which is fantastic.

We miss Mr Hancock, who is away on camp, but we’ve been lucky to have Mrs MacArthur in our room yesterday and we learned about Pablo Picasso and even did some artwork of our own in his style. Mrs Hyland joins us for the rest of the week. Big thank-yous to both those ladies for their wonderful help!

YEAR 4 - This week in year 4 we have had a YUMMY week. We all became chefs in our kitchen, using fresh produce that we grew in our own vegetable patch. We made a potato and bean salad, using parsley, berry tomatoes, dill and assorted beans which all came from our garden. We also added potatoes, crispy bacon and mayonnaise. Some of us even went home and cooked the salad for our families!!! Check out our pictures on twitter!!!

Years 5 and 6 have been at camp so we were lucky to spend Wednesday morning at the Cleveland pool. It was a great way to cool off and start the day. We have also enjoyed following the year 5 and 6’s on twitter. They have been posting some amazing photos of all the things they have been doing at Camp Mapleton.

We look forward to hearing about camp on Monday when they return we and also can’t wait to cook again!!!

YEARS 5 & 6 – Watch this space for camp news next week! The exhausted Year 5 and 6 students are on their way back from Mapleton as this goes to print!!