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
retiefa@bigpond.net.au

Amanda Montenegro
admmontenegro@yahoo.com.au

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

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

The Christmas Gift
From a Dear Abby column

So many of you asked us (since Yuletide’s drawing near)
“What do you want for Christmas? What can we give this year?”

If we say, “We want nothing!” you buy something anyway,

So here’s a list of what we’d like; believe now what we say:
Pajamas for a little child, food to feed the poor,
Blankets for a shelter, and we ask but little more.
Perform good deeds and let us know,
Or volunteer your time.

These last are worth a fortune, and they needn’t cost a dime.

We have too many things now, vases, candles, tapes and
clocks. We have our fill of garments, ties, underwear and
socks.

Candy is too fattening, crossword books we’ve more than 20.
We don’t need trays or plates or cups,
And knickknacks we’ve have plenty.
We’ve no walls to hang more pictures;
We have books we’ve not yet read;
So please, take what you’d spend on us
And help the poor instead!

Just send a Christmas card to us and tell us what you’ve done; We’ll open them on Christmas Eve, and read them one by one,
It won’t cost as much for postage as a package sent would do,

You’ll need no wrapping paper, ribbons, ink or glue,
And we’ll thank God you listened to what we had to say,
So we could be the instruments to help someone this way.
AFTER SCHOOL ENROLMENT FORMS  
These forms have been attached to recent newsletters. There are hard copies located in the front office of the school as well as at Centacare.

CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION  
Everyone is invited to celebrate the end of the school year with us next Thursday night. We will commence with Carols at 5:20pm followed by Mass at 5:30pm. The celebration will be held on the front oval. BYO picnic rugs, folding chairs. Families are also invited to bring food and drinks to have following the celebration. All students will be seated in their year levels together with their teachers for the celebration and will join families later.

END OF SEMESTER REPORTS  
These will be handed to your child on the last day of the school year. If your child is not present, the report will be posted.

NEW PARENTS ORIENTATION  
Last Monday night, we gathered in The Lighthouse for Orientation. It was a great way for new parents to the school, as well as current parents, to meet and to chat with our staff in a social context. We look forward to welcoming these families to our community in 2013.

TRANSITION DAY  
Tomorrow is Transition Day for all students. When students arrive in the morning, they need to place their bags on the rack outside their new learning area. They will spend the whole day with their new friends and new teachers. Mr David Bermingham teaching Year 5 and Ms Laura Robinson teaching Year 2 will be joining us for the day. Unfortunately, Mrs Wendy Groves who will be teaching Year 3 next year is unable to join us. Wendy lives and works in Bundaberg.

LAST DAY  
School finishes for 2012 on Friday 7th December at 12noon. All students need to be collected by 12:30pm as staff will be leaving the site. There is NO After School Care on this day.

TERM DATES 2013  
Term 1........... 30th Jan – 28th March  
Term 2........... 15th April – 21st June  
Term 3........... 8th July – 20th September  
Term 4........... 8th October – Friday 6th Dec 12noon

BAYSIDE SWIM CARNIVAL  
Last Friday we joined Catholic Schools from the area at Cleveland Aquatic Centre. It was a great day and conducted with wonderful sports spirit. Our thanks to St Rita’s Victoria Point, St Anthony’s Alexandra Hills, St Luke’s Capalaba, St John Vianney’s Manly, Guardian Angels Wynnum and St Mary MacKillop Birkdale for joining us and helping it be such an enjoyable carnival.

THURSDAY LUNCHES  
Our Thursday lunches raise a considerable amount of money each year for the Parent Community Group to use on resources for our school. Anne Retief does a fantastic job co-ordinating the lunches.

There are usually 2 Mums here each Thursday and then additional parents are placed on the roster. Anne is now in need of 3 parents who can help out weekly. As the tuckshop is placed close to the Adventure Playground, bringing a pre-schooler is not an obstacle to helping out. Please let Anne or the office know if you can help.
THE LIGHTHOUSE RESOURCES
We need all library books and home readers returned as soon as possible. At the end of last year we had nearly 200 home readers not returned. Please have a good look at home. These resources are very expensive to replace.

SCHOOL CHOIR
Our School Choir will be singing at the morning tea after Healing Mass, at approximately 10.00am in the Parish Hall on Thursday 6th December.

UNIFORMS FOR 2013
The holidays are a great time for updating, re-naming, checking and fixing uniform items. If you will be purchasing new school shoes for next year, please make sure you buy ALL BLACK JOGGERS (with Velcro for younger students), that is, NO Mary-Jane shoes or any joggers with colours or logos.

I expect all students to have the full correct uniform items including the correct shoes for the commencement of 2013! See the timetable below for Uniform Shop opening times over the holidays. A reminder that ALL uniform items (except shoes) are to be purchased through the uniform shop.

EXTRA UNIFORM SHOP TRADING DAYS
Extra days and hours are as follows:
Monday 3rd December ----------------------------- 8.15am – 11:00am
Wednesday 5th December -------------------------- 8.15am – 11:00am

2013 OPENING TIMES
Monday 21st January 2013 ------------------------- 2:00pm – 4:00pm
Tuesday 22nd January 2013 ------------------------ 9:00am – 12:00noon
Wednesday 30th January 2013 --------------------- 8.15am – 10:00am

Please be aware that LJ Apparel no longer accepts Personal or Business CHEQUES in the uniform shop. They have full credit card and EFTPOS facilities and still accept cash.

STOCKED PENCIL CASES
Students in Years 2 – 7 are required to bring a fully stocked pencil case to school. The items required are:

- lead pencils
- rubber, sharpener
- scissors
- 30cm ruler
- glue stick
- coloured pencils
- felt pens
- highlighter

Years 4 – 7 require a red pen as well. Year 6 and 7 require a blue pen as well.

Although the Book Fair stocked novelty rubbers, pencils etc, bringing these items to school is not permitted. Staff and students are reporting that these items tend to go “missing” so they are better left at home. Keep to sensible and plain tools for your child to use in the learning areas.

JAPANESE TEACHER
Mrs Judy Lucas has resigned from Brisbane Catholic Education, is moving to Tweed Heads and will be seeking work in a totally different occupation. We thank her for her efforts this year and wish her a bright and happy future.

ST VINCENT DE PAUL CHRISTMAS APPEAL
As part of our ‘Lighthouse Keeper’s Project’ we are fundraising for St Vinnie’s this Christmas. Each class will create a hamper of Christmas goodies for the last three weeks of school. We would like each family to donate gifts (such as toiletries, toys, books) and food items that could be used by families to celebrate Christmas lunch. All items should be new and good quality. You can drop these anytime now into the learning areas.
CARMEL COLLEGE ENROLMENTS - YEAR 7, 2015

Applications for enrolment for Year 7, 2015 are invited from parents of students who are currently in Year 4. Carmel College’s enrolment process for this year level will begin Term 1, 2013. Enrolment information can be obtained via the Carmel College website www.carmelcollege.qld.edu.au or by contacting Mrs Donna Cook, College Enrolment Secretary on 3488 7791.

Applications are also being accepted for students currently in Year 3. These students will be the intake for Year 7, 2016. ‘LET YOUR LIGHT SHINE’

2013 SCHOOL FEES
Brisbane Catholic Education has recommended a 4% increase in fees and levies for 2013. We have not increased any of the levies - swimming, music, stationery and fundraising.

Attached to today’s newsletter is the fees schedule for 2013. The increase for 1 child equates to $2.50 per school week, $3.25 per week for 2 children, $3.75 per week for 3 children and $4.25 per week for 4 children.

Also attached is a Direct Debit form should you choose to pay your fees this way. All Direct Debit forms will be checked by Jody. The payments must cover all fees and levies for the entire year. You may commence your debits this year if you would like. The original form needs to be received by the office 5 full working days before the commencement of the first payment.

SCHOOL BANKING
There will be NO school banking next week. It will re-commence in 2013.

SWIMMING LESSONS
The last swimming lesson for 2012 is next Wednesday. There will be a lesson on pool safety for the first half of the lesson followed by play and swim in the Fun Park

ANNUAL CATHOLIC CAMPAIGN
Attached is a letter from our Archbishop Mark Coleridge and a flyer outlining information about fundraising for the Catholic Church.

19 November 2012

Dear Families,

As we come to the end of the year and begin preparations for Christmas, I am glad to have this opportunity to share with you some of what I have learnt in the months since arriving in Brisbane and to ask for your support.

Since coming to Brisbane as Archbishop, I have had to adjust to a different scale of operation than I have been used to elsewhere. By any reckoning, the Archdiocese of Brisbane is big in terms of Catholic population – the second biggest in Australia after Melbourne. We have almost 720,000 people identifying as Catholic in our region; and our schools educate 84,000 students. Geographically too we extend far beyond the city of Brisbane. Our 104 parishes are spread as far north as Gin Gin, out west to Eidsvold, and down south to Coolangatta.

But the scale of the Archdiocese is not just about population and geography. We are also rich in gifts that God has given us for building up the Body of Christ – the Church – for the sake of mission.

In the months I have been here, I have seen how much good is being done right across the Archdiocese by many people. There is a lot of support and gratitude for all that the Church does in the community, but I am also hearing that we need to do more. Now is the time to see that more is possible, and to begin planning for what that might mean.
Let me mention one initiative that opens up new horizons of possibility.

In our schools, we are preparing thousands of young people for what we hope will be a bright future. But we know from the last census that only one in two Catholic students attend Catholic schools - half of our Catholic young people are missing out on a Catholic education.

We will continue to ask why, but already we know that for many families, cost is a problem.

A good Catholic education should not be denied to any young person because of the financial situation of their parents. But with one in six Australian children living in poverty, a Catholic education seems unreachable to many families.

In response to this, and in the spirit of Saint Mary of the Cross MacKillop who dedicated her life to educating children regardless of their financial status, a new fund has been established to provide families in financial difficulties with the opportunity of sending their children to Catholic schools.

It is in areas like education that I believe we have great potential to be a more missionary Church - to be more effective in our outreach into the wider community. But for that to happen, I need your help.

I write to ask if you would help with a gift to this year's Annual Catholic Campaign in support of the charitable ministries of the Archdiocese, like the Mary MacKillop Brisbane Catholic School Access Fund.

Through your gifts, you will help build on the work already being done to make a difference in people's lives across South East Queensland. You will help our ministries find more powerful and creative ways of working so that our contribution to the community touches more people more powerfully.

Your gifts will help advance the mission of the Church in many ways. As well as offering Catholic education to children who could not otherwise afford it, your gifts will:

- help transform the lives of thousands of people who are supported by Centaare, our community and social services outreach
- prepare more men studying for the priesthood
- care for our sick and retired priests, who have dedicated their lives to serving others.

You will find more information about each ministry in the enclosed brochure. If you can offer a regular gift, you will help ensure that our ministries continue to grow in new ways.

Feel free to complete and return the enclosed form or give us a call on 07 3336 9406. I might also mention for the sake of clarity that gifts over $2 to the Charitable Works Fund (ABN 36 959 183 320) are tax deductible.

The ongoing support of people like you - the support of your prayers and your financial offerings - is what makes the Church such an important part of the social fabric in this part of the world.

With your help, I look forward to expanding our many services so that we can become more and more the Church that Jesus Christ wants us to be.

May the God of all gifts richly bless you and your loved ones.

As always in the Lord,

The Most Reverend Mark Coleridge
Archbishop of Brisbane
ANNUAL CATHOLIC CAMPAIGN 2012

Your gifts will help build the Church for more mission by:

- helping transform the lives of thousands of people who are supported by Caritas, our community and social services outreach
- offering Catholic education to children who could not otherwise afford it
- preparing more men for priesthood
- caring for our ill and retired priests

The Annual Catholic Campaign (ACC) is a program designed to provide ongoing support to ministries in the Archdiocese of Brisbane. Gifts to the Annual Catholic Campaign benefit ministries that are supported through the Charitable Works Fund.

The Charitable Works Fund

The Charitable Works Fund (CWF) is overseen by the Archbishop to support charitable activities of the Archdiocese of Brisbane. The CWF provides support for Caritas, the Priests Foundation, Holy Spirit Seminary, and the Mary Mackillop Brisbane Catholic School Access Fund. Gifts over $2 to the Charitable Works Fund of the Archdiocese of Brisbane are tax deductible (ABN 36 959 193 320).

About the Living Faith Society

One of the most significant ways you can contribute to ministries of the Church is to join the Living Faith Society. An electronic monthly gift drafted directly from your bank account or credit card makes supporting the Church simple and provides much-needed, stable, monthly support.

The Living Faith Society was created to allow parishioners, school parents, employees and friends of the Archdiocese of Brisbane an easy way to support ministry throughout South East Queensland on a monthly basis.

Catholic Social Service ministry at Caritas, seminar education at Holy Spirit Seminary, support for retired and ill priests through the Priests Foundation, and giving greater access to Catholic schools through the Mary Mackillop Brisbane Catholic School Access Fund are funded through your financial generosity. Your belief in the importance of these ministries helps to bring the Gospel of Christ to others.

As a Living Faith Society member, you will receive the annual report of the Catholic Foundation of the Archdiocese of Brisbane and other updates from time to time to tell you how your gifts are being utilised to help those in need.

You can increase, decrease, or discontinue your monthly gift at any time simply by calling the Catholic Foundation at (07) 3336 9406 or email giving@bne.catholic.net.au. Gifts to the Living Faith Society are deposited into the Charitable Works Fund of the Archdiocese of Brisbane ABN 36 959 193 320 and are tax deductible.

Please join the Living Faith Society today! Your prayers and financial support for ministries of the Church can be a light to people in need. Thank you!

MAKE YOUR GIFT TODAY!

Visit us online at www.catholicfoundation.org.au
Or call (07) 3336 9406 to find out more about other ways to make your gift.
Thank you!

In my visits around the Archdiocese I hear appreciation for all that the Church does in the community, but I also hear that we need to do more.

For us to do more – to be a more missionary Church – I need your help. Will you help with a gift to this year’s Annual Catholic Campaign, in support of the charitable ministries of the Archdiocese?

Through your gifts you will help build on the work already being done to make a difference in people’s lives across South East Queensland. You will help our ministries find more powerful and creative ways of working so that our contribution touches more people more powerfully.

I look forward to expanding our Church ministries with your help, so that we can become more and more the Church that Jesus Christ wants us to be.

Yours in Christ,
Archbishop Mark Coleridge
HELP A CHILD AND YOU WILL HELP A FAMILY, A COMMUNITY, A NATION.

Making dreams come true
A great education is one of the most compelling ways to provide a child with a hopeful future.

Catholic schools are valued for offering high quality education in a caring, faith-based environment that fosters the personal, spiritual, physical and academic growth of each young person.

But only one in two Catholic students attend Catholic schools - half of our Catholic young people are missing out on a Catholic education.

For some, cost is a problem.

One in six Australian children live in poverty, making the dream of a Catholic education seem unreachable to many families. But a Catholic education should not be denied to any young person because of the financial situation of their parents.

The Mary Mackillop Brisbane Catholic School Access Fund continues the work of St Mary of the Cross Mackillop who devoted her life to seeing that children were educated regardless of their financial status. The Mary Mackillop Fund offers children of families who could not otherwise afford it, the dream of a Catholic education.

Transforming lives
Every day, Centacare helps create life-changing opportunities for thousands of women, men and children across South East Queensland.

As the social services arm of the Catholic Church in the Archdiocese, Centacare provides practical and compassionate support to people from all walks of life who need a helping hand.

Centacare works with the elderly, the hospitalised, the unemployed, the homeless, families living with disabilities and mental illness, prisoners and their families, sealers, young people and families in crisis.

Whether it’s making someone feel they belong or supporting their independence, you will help improve someone’s life.

YOU WILL HELP SUPPORT THE MEN WHO WILL BE YOUR FUTURE PRIESTS.

Preparing our future priests
Just as you would prepare for a career by going to training college or university, the men who feel called by God to priesthood must be prepared as well.

Our seminarians spend their formation years living and training for priesthood at the Holy Spirit Seminary in Banjo.

There are more than 30 men in various stages of formation, with more expected next year.

The seminary is full! But with this blessing, we need help to support its expansion and maintain running costs.

Your gifts will support the men who are dedicating their lives to God and to our Catholic Church.

OUR PRIESTS HAVE BEEN THERE FOR US, LET’S BE THERE FOR THEM.

Supporting priests’ health and retirement
From baptism to last rites, every day, our priests are there for us - celebrating with us, supporting us, teaching us.

Like family, our priests are there for us in good times and bad.

Upon retirement however, a priest is no longer able to rely on the support of his parish, his “family”, to see him through his senior years.

The work of the Priests Foundation ensures that after a lifetime of selfless service to generations of families, our priests can spend their senior years continuing to live as independently as possible and with dignity.

The Priests Foundation helps senior priests with basic living assistance, convalescence care, accommodation support, and health and transport assistance.

It also supports priests in active ministry in times of illness.

Your gifts will honour the lives of our priests who have given so much.
INTRODUCTION TO CHRISTIAN MEDITATION

“Be still and know that I am God” - a six part series will be held in the Star of the Sea Church on Monday morning beginning 4th February 2013 from 9:20am until 10:20am.

This free series provides an opportunity for those interested in finding out about Christian Meditation to experience the practice in a small group, to learn about its origins, and to discover its relevance as a form of prayer for the contemporary world.

For more information contact Dianne Ramsden - email - dian nem48@hotmail.com or phone 3821 3872.
Dear Parents,

Following are a list of activities available in the local area on the holidays to help keep the whole family happy and enjoying the wonderful Christmas break. I hope you have plenty of time to re-connect as a family and spend real time enjoying each other, creating, exploring and relaxing. I would like to take the opportunity to thank you for your ongoing support of the Guidance Program here at Star of the Sea and I am continually impressed with the strong commitment of parents to ensure the wellbeing and positive development of their children.

Kathy Casley – Guidance Counsellor

SCHOOL HOLIDAY ACTIVITIES AND EVENTS

Useful websites:

Activities:


Elorac Place Carole Park runs School holiday activities in conjunction with the Brisbane City Council for young people aged between 11 - 16. Activities could include; speed karts, bowling, ice-skating, pottery, laser force, body painting and more. Phone No: (07) 3271 3592. [http://www.swnc.org.au/eloracplace/Youth_Kids/index.html](http://www.swnc.org.au/eloracplace/Youth_Kids/index.html)


(East Brisbane, Toowong, Buderim)

Residential Camps

Edmund Rice Camps
 January 7 – 11 .......... Summer Camp Week 1
 January 14 – 18 .......... Summer Camp Week 2
 January 21 – 25 .......... Summer Camp Week 3


Contacts: .................. Alice McMonagle or Jessica Marshall
Ph: .......................... (07) 3327 2240, Fax: (07) 3327 2230
Email: ........................ ammcmmonagle@edmundrice.org
Email: ........................ jemarshall@edmundrice.org
Web address: ............. [www.ercqld.org](http://www.ercqld.org)

PREP – This week we have been really enjoying our Christmas craft – thank you to all the Mums, Dads and Au Pairs who came along to help us. We couldn’t have done it without you!

Tomorrow we will be spending the day in Year One – can you believe that we have grown up that much already?? The Year One classroom next year will be where the current Year Two classroom is. The children will need to take their bags to the port rack outside their new classroom in the morning. I wonder what fun activities your new teachers have planned for you???

Thanks to all the Mums who have generously offered to help us out with the cleaning of the Prep room.

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<tr>
<th>MONDAY</th>
<th>TUESDAY</th>
<th>WEDNESDAY</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fran Wilson</td>
<td>Michaela Healy</td>
<td>Nicole Fiteni</td>
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<tr>
<td>Suzana Andacic</td>
<td>Glenis Viegas</td>
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<td>Nicole Fiteni</td>
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<td>Tracey Pareaezer</td>
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<td>Therese Staley</td>
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We really appreciate your time and effort! Hopefully we will be looking spic ‘n span in no time!

Don’t forget to mark in your diaries our special Christmas Play and morning tea on Thursday, 6th December commencing at 9.30am. We will be performing our play in the Adventure Playground on the new grassed area. All parents, grandparents and friends are welcome to join us. Would you mind please bringing something small to share for morning tea? We will be handing out our Christmas gifts to our mums and dads at this time so if you can make it along, we would absolutely love to see you.

That evening, the whole school will gather together to celebrate our end of year Mass on the top oval. The Prep children will all sit together and we ask that they wear either a pink or a red shirt. If possible could they please wear black, blue or denim shorts or skirts on the bottom.

YEAR 1 – Week Eight in Year One has been busy but fun! We are knee deep in Christmas Art and Craft and enjoying every minute of it! We have been making wrapping paper, mini elves, reindeer masks and Christmas ornaments.

Miss Manicaros is the Art and Craft smarty in our learning area so we are very thankful to have her teaching us how to do all of these wonderful creative activities. Miss Foy isn’t so bad herself. She has found some fun activities for us to complete like Christmas Word finds and mystery sentences! She just loves to challenge us!

We are really looking forward to tomorrow’s transition day where we get to act like Year Two students for the day! We also get to meet our new Year Two teacher, Miss Robinson! How exciting! Miss Foy has already told us that she is very nice and enthusiastic! She has told Miss Foy that she is so excited to work with us next year and can’t wait to meet all of us tomorrow!

We are starting to feel tired now so our teachers are slowly winding things down for us. Next week we have some final Christmas Art and Craft to complete. We will be cleaning up
around the classroom. Our final swimming lesson is on Wednesday and we are so lucky to have Christmas Morning in our learning area on the last day of school! We will be coming in our p.j.’s and we will be opening presents and sharing some yummy snacks and chocolate milk! Only 5 and a half days to go until our HUGE Christmas break! We are very excited and very much looking forward to some time off to just RELAX! Bye for now, Love Year One.

YEAR 2 – What a wonderful second last week of Year 2. On Tuesday and Wednesday mornings we celebrated with our liturgies. We talked about ways we could prepare for Christmas and we lit the first advent candle. Thank you to all the support we have received this year for our liturgies. So many parents, grandparents and parishioners come to share with us. It has been lovely to see.

We had another wonderful session doing Hip-hop with Mrs Rumler this morning. We have been trying to exercise often this term to help increase our heart rate, which in turn sends blood to all parts of our body – including our brain. This should then help us work really well during the day. We also might be a bit fitter than we were at the beginning of the term – including the teachers!

Thank you to all those families who have donated to the Christmas hamper so far. It is wonderful to see so many people being generous at this time of the year. We still need some more items to fill our boxes so if you haven’t donated remember to do it before next Thursday.

Tomorrow the Year 2’s will be going to their new learning area for next year. We know that they will enjoy their day and are all ready to go into Year 3. Don’t forget that Year 2 will then present their assembly item in the O’Dea Centre in the afternoon. We can’t wait for transition day!

YEAR 3 – It’s beginning to look a lot like Christmas. Mrs Hart has been busily taking our work off the walls in preparation for a new class next year. As the year draws to a close we are completing all the work we need to do before becoming big Year 4s.

On Tuesday, our Discovery Learning was, according to some, our best Maths lesson of the year. We played in some water we investigated capacity and found out how much a litre really is and to see what it looks like in different containers. We also got to use the scales to investigate weight and now know that there are 1000 grams in a kilogram. We weighed all sorts of things from our classroom including pencils, rubbers and footballs. Someone even weighed the Bible – we all know it’s a weighty book.

Today was our last spelling and division tests for the year. All students have come a long way with their spelling strategies this year but we are even more impressed with their learning of the times and division tables. We’re sure all the kids will be practising them over the holidays so they can impress their Year 4 teachers.

After our tests, it was time to do some Christmas cooking. Mrs Stone led the class in making chocolate crackle plum puddings. The room was swarming with junior master chefs. The
results were delicious. In the spirit of Christmas, we didn't make them only for ourselves, but to give to others as well. All of the children agreed they would like more practice at making them on the holidays.

With just over a week to go before holidays we are reflecting on how much we've grown this year. Tomorrow, all of the Year 3s will get their first taste of Year 4 with their new teachers and classroom. We are certain that they are ready for the challenge and will do themselves proud.

YEAR 4, 5 & 6 - Christmas time is the BEST time of year. Our children are loving sharing their traditions of Christmas and creating Christmas mementos for 2012.

This week, we all looked at the Nativity Story, starting with the Gospels and then sharing our own experiences of the story of Jesus’ birth. We all found Matthew to be very historical and full of facts. There was no mention of a manger or the inn, something we are all very familiar with. Luke’s Gospel was like a story...it was entertaining, and had all the key information in it; the donkey, the inn, the stable, the manger...all the parts that we love to hear about. We came to the conclusion that Luke was a storyteller, and he was writing for people who needed to be excited by the birth of Jesus. Matthew was the early writer, who wrote historical information. We then created the most beautiful Nativity Scenes, which we have displayed in our room.

We continued with more Christmas craft, spending time on Tuesday sewing Christmas stockings. Were you following our tweets? If so, you will remember the photos of 54 children sewing...and the exhausted teachers that walked out of the classroom at 3pm! The children did an amazing job, with most of the boys asking to sew again! So, tomorrow we will be sewing another Christmas tree decoration, with the Year 4 boys being peer tutors for this task.

Ms MacKellar treated us to a Christmas sweet...tiny teddies on a sleigh. They looked amazing, but didn’t last long!

Our Year 5 and 6 also spent time on Tuesday, working through a Maths Task that involved 24 hour time, mapping, schedules and money. The task was to send Ms MacArthur around Australia within 24 hours, stopping at each capital city. The children LOVED this task, studying the flights available on various websites, and organising the trips within the time period. Unfortunately, due to daylight savings, the 24hour time frame was not possible. Our winners; Harith, Yasmin, Ashleigh and Colby were able to get Ms MacArthur around Australia in 36 hours and 10 mins. Well done guys! Next week...they are booking the accommodation!

Our Year 4s enjoyed their Ten Pin Bowling day immensely! A lovely celebration to end the year!