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
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
ERM 4……. Oct 8 - Dec 7 (12noon)

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

A Child’s Angel

By Erma Bombeck

Once upon a time, there was a child ready to be born.
He asked God: “They tell me you are sending me to earth
tomorrow but how am I going to live there being so small and
helpless?”

God: “Among the many angels, I chose one especially for you. She
will be waiting for you and will take care of you.”
Child: “But tell me, here in Heaven, I don’t do anything else but
sing and smile, and that’s enough for me to be happy. Will I be
happy there?”

God: “Your angel will sing for you and will also smile for you every
day. You will feel your angel’s love and be happy.”
Child: “How am I going to be able to understand when people talk
to me if I don’t know the language that people talk?”

God: “Your angel will tell you the most beautiful and sweet
words you will ever hear. With much patience and care, your
angel will teach you how to speak.”
Child: “And what am I going to do when I want to talk to you?”

God: “Your angel will place your hands together and will teach you
how to pray.”
Child: “I’ve heard that on earth people can be cruel. Who will
protect me?”

God: “Your angel will defend you even if it means risking her own
life.”
Child: “But I will always be sad because I will not see you
anymore.”

God: “Your angel will always talk to you about me and will teach
you the way to come back to me, even though I will always be
next to you.”

At that moment there was much peace in Heaven, but voices
from earth could already be heard. The child, in a hurry, asked
softly:

“Oh God, if I am about to leave now, please tell me my angel’s
name.”

God: “Your angel’s name is of no importance.
You will call your angel … Mummy.”
A MESSAGE FROM THE GUIDANCE COUNSELLOR

Safe Start Program
This term each learning area is undertaking a series of 4 lessons aimed at developing a greater awareness amongst students of steps that they can take to keep themselves safe.

**Lesson 1 – I am special, so are you!**
Students will identify and appreciate similarities and differences between themselves and others; understand the importance of, and actions that demonstrate, respect for self and others

**Lesson 2 – Safety is my right**
Students will acknowledge their right to be safe and their corresponding responsibilities; recognise early warning signs and situations when these may occur; recognise personal emergencies and actions to take

**Lesson 3 – My body belongs to me**
Students will understand body ownership; identify private and public body parts and understand the rules about private parts; identify safe and unsafe secrets and understand the rules about unsafe secrets; explore strategies to respond to abuse, including making a disclosure

**Lesson 4 – I can get help**
Students will identify the benefits of talking with someone if they feel sad, angry, scared or confused; understand how to develop a ‘safety network’; recognise how to use and review a ‘safety network’.

Please reinforce these concepts with your child at home. If you have any queries about these activities, please email me via the school email address.

*Kathy Casley*  Guidance Counsellor

**SCHOOL FEES**

School fee invoices for this term have been emailed. Prompt payment is requested as we near the end of the year. Please make an appointment with me if you are unable to pay your school fees.

**SURVEYS**

To date we have received 90 surveys from a possible 170 families – 53% return. The feedback will be collated and presented for discussion at next Monday’s PCG meeting. As I will be collating this information over the weekend, you have until tomorrow, Friday, to send your survey back and have your thoughts considered in the process. Hard copies are available in the front office if yours is missing in action.

**PARENT COMMUNITY GROUP MEETING**

Our final meeting will be held next Monday, 12th November from 9am in the staff room. Please join us if you are able. As well as the feedback from the PCG survey, there will be some discussion on our Strategic Renewal Plan, Goals and Achievements for 2012.

Some current parents will also be coming to our Prep Orientation Evening on Monday 26th November from 6pm – 7pm. If you don’t have a child coming into Prep in 2013, you are most welcome to attend and welcome our new families to Star of the Sea.

**AFTER SCHOOL CARE**

Every week until the end of this term, you will find attached the enrolment form for After School Care commencing within our school site from Day 1 2013. I am aware that some families have enrolled at the Child Care Centre. Please complete and return to the Child Care Centre or Centacare. Please do not return to the school as Centacare is administering and organizing staff for this service.
STRATEGIC RENEWAL PLAN
A requirement of Brisbane Catholic Education is that each school articulate and publish the goals and achievements for each year. Attached to today’s newsletter are the achievements for 2012. The goals for 2012 are on the school’s website. The achievements will also be updated on the school’s website.

BOOK FAIR
Thank you to everyone for your support of our annual Book Fair. Due to your generosity and enthusiasm in promoting reading at home with your children, our commission was $700. Thank you to the wonderful families who purchased books to donate to our school. We had a great time purchasing new resources for our Lighthouse.

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

MELBOURNE CUP DAY
It was another great experience for our children and staff at Star of the Sea on Tuesday. Everyone shared in the excitement, discussed statistics and odds, colours, jockey backgrounds, used art and craft to demonstrate their understandings, selected their horses, watched the Big Race and the finale was the Hat Parade in the O’Dea Centre. Congratulations to our Best Decorated Hat Winners:

**Prep** ------------------------  Milo Plastow and Ella Wilson  
**Year 1** ---------------------- Will Gough and Mikayla Brand  
**Year 2** ---------------------- Lily Davison and Zachary Picton  
**Year 3** ---------------------- Ben Rutberg and Charlotte McMorrin  
**Year 4, 5 and 6** --------- Brooke Cunningham and Patrick Robinson

ART SHOW
It was my pleasure to be invited last Saturday evening to open the Waterloo Bay Artists’ Annual Art Show in the Parish Centre. The group is comprised of parishioners and, although the group has only been together for four years, the talent was amazing. They meet at the Scout’s Club Hall in Wellington Point and are keen for any parents and parishioners to join them. Although I believe that you would need a modicum of artistic talent to join the classes, they assure me that this is not a requirement, and that one would learn so much from joining the group. If you are interested, please let the office staff know and more details can be forwarded.

TRANSITION DAY FOR ALL STUDENTS
We are in the process of interviewing and finalising staff for 2013. This process will be finalised in the next couple of weeks. Everyone will be aware of the teams working in each learning area by Friday 30th November which is our Transition Day for Years 1 – 7. At this stage, I can inform parents that our Prep staff for 2013 will be Louise McLucas and Sally Thompson, although the two Prep teacher aides are to be finalised.

VACATION CARE
It is our hope that numbers will be sufficient to open Vacation Care on site here from Easter next year. Listed below are the centres offering Vacation Care for these Christmas holidays.

- Cleveland............................. 3821 0135
- Hilliards.............................. 0407 764 526
- Mt Cotton ............................ 0407 575 074
- Ormiston College .................. 0407 378 939
- Redland Bay ......................... 0418 578 012
- St Anthony’s .......................... 0417 783 965
- St Rita’s ............................. 0407 590 547
- Thornlands .......................... 0407 636 650
- Victoria Point ........................ 0407 574 308
INTER-HOUSE SWIMMING CARNIVAL
All Year Levels will participate at the Cleveland Aquatic Centre next Tuesday 13\textsuperscript{th} November. A letter was emailed to all parents last week and there are hard copies available from the front office. Please return to your child’s teacher as they will be helping to compile the swim program. It is expected that all children will participate.

SCHOOL LUNCHES
Beginning next Monday, there will be a dramatic change in lunch and afternoon tea routines. In an effort to reduce waste, children will be required to take all scraps and paper home. Parents are encouraged to keep the use of gladwrap, paper and other packaging to a minimum. Afternoon tea will be eaten in the learning areas before 1:30pm and the children will have play from 1:30pm to 1:45pm instead of only eating during this timeslot.

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

PREP – This week in Prep we have enjoyed learning about the Melbourne Cup. During our Design thinking time we looked at lots of different things to do with the Melbourne Cup like hats, fascinators, horses, jockeys and ties. We enjoyed watching the race with the Year One children and we also enjoyed the Hat Parade – congratulations to Ella and Milo who were our winners this year!

In our journal writing time we have been writing letters. Some children have written to their other friends in prep, some have written to their mums and dads and some have even written to their grandparents. Mrs Thompson and Mrs McLucas have enjoyed reading so many letters about how much we love Prep!

Don’t forget the swimming carnival is on next Tuesday – if you haven’t handed in your form please do so ASAP so we can put all the children into a race.

YEAR 1 – This week in year one we have been very busy working on our discovery learning topics, exploring ‘Under the Sea’, information texts and some aboriginal culture. As Mikayla and Tatum would say, we have been creating our discovery learning plans and so many of us have been choosing questions that relate to saving the sea animals. After much exploration on our sea life and how people care for them, we have all noticed that so many animals are actually becoming endangered!

There are lots of things contributing to the depletion of species however the most common are, oil spills, plastic bags, rubbish and pollution (thanks Clea). We are all very caring year one students so of course this is very concerning to us! So we have all quickly become activists and starting brainstorming ideas of how we can help save the animals!

Tegan has even gone one step further...she is rather shocked that people (possibly including herself, but I don’t think she knows that) eat sea creatures! So she is working out how she can stop people from eating sea creatures. We are sure this will end up being a very interesting topic!
Another big topic for the week has been Aboriginal Culture. We have been learning about aboriginal art and the different ways they convey their messages through visual arts. We have started having a go at creating our own art pieces using some of the key components evident in Aboriginal art. We have been really enjoying this art and craft experience.

Besides those 2 main focuses for the week we have been occupied with Melbourne Cup activities, swimming, PE and of course our Literacy and Numeracy activities. The only reminder we have for this week is for all swimming forms to be returned to school ASAP as they are already overdue and our swimming carnival is being held on Tuesday 13th November. If any students require transport to or from the swimming carnival location please notify the office immediately.

That is all for year one this week, here are some quotes from the kids that had some ideas for the newsletter. ENJOY!

**Abbey**........... We are learning about aboriginals. We have also been drawing aboriginal paintings.

**Sophie**....... If we have been good we get to watch the magic school bus.

**Zoe**.......... We love all the interesting things we find.

**Grace**....... We are trying to save sea animals.

**Hunter**....... The book fair is the bestest day ever.

**YEAR 2** – We have had another busy week this week. The term is going so fast! The year 2 have again written what they have learnt this week:

On Tuesday Mum came in and taught us about physiotherapy. She taught us a new word called proprioception. It helps us with our balance. We balanced on balance boards with our eyes closed. *(Lily S)*

It was Melbourne Cup on Tuesday. We drew out a horse and looked at the colours of the silks. We coloured some silks and cap before the race. We watched the race and Green Moon came first. Some students won treats because their horse won. *(Jessica)*

On Wednesday we do swimming lessons. We have been practising for the swimming carnival. It is on Tuesday 13th November and the first race starts at 9.30am. Go Barinya! *(Heather)*

Mrs Davison came in with her Mum to show us about sewing with her mother. She helped us make little pockets and Mrs Spence helped us with the buttons. *(Piper)*

On Monday Mr Staley came to tell us about being an electrician. The activity that we did was making a circuit. You need a block of wood, some wire, a battery and a light bulb. Then when you have connected it all together the light comes on! *(Chloe)*

Today we were talking about number of the day. The number of the day is a maths activity and you get a piece of paper with the number of the day on it. You have to draw or write as many things that you can about that number. It was my first number of the day! *(Zachary)*

**YEAR 3** - Our shopping discovery day went very well this week, though our room ended up looking like a confetti bomb went off. When forty six kids all starting cutting gift selections out of catalogues, the resulting mess is something to behold. The photo does not do it justice. Luckily Year 3 are also good at clean-up.
Best of all they used the day to become very good at subtraction. They were given a thousand pretend dollars to spend on gifts for twelve people and they were required to keep a running total. Some Mums & Dads got great (pretend) gifts like TVs and clothes. For others, though, (like little brothers & sisters) the most appropriate gifts were thought to be less generous things like, say, a packet of chips or a (small) bottle of water!

Great work on the Melbourne Cup hats everybody! With the two giant screens in our room we had plenty of atmosphere during the race and the hat parade after to look forward to.

We all had a great day and used the occasion to introduce chance and probability. What is the chance that you can pick the winner of the Melbourne Cup? Year 3 can tell you now, that it’s complicated.

Next week we’ll get more serious about something simpler, like dice. Joshy was alone in drawing the winner in our class sweep with Flynn & Dylan drawing the second place getter and Hayden & Sepi the third. Easiest stars and privileges any Year 3 students ever got.

Next week looks like being another busy one. We’ve got the swimming carnival on Tuesday. Parents, please send us back any outstanding nominations forms (we are missing quite a few). Next Thursday is Year 3’s first ever class Mass. The Galahs are leading us in our celebration which will be beside the adventure playground. The Mass will begin at 9.15 a.m. and parents are asked to please bring a plate. We hope to see as many of you as possible.

YEAR 4, 5 & 6 - Week Six has been yet another fun-filled week in Year 456...with Tuesday being a day packed with excitement!

Our class celebrated Melbourne Cup on Tuesday with hats, fascinators, a loooong lunch and a class sweep. We also looked at ‘chance’, focusing on words of probability, events that may or may not happen, and even a look at how odds are calculated. Many of us asked what it meant when the news reporters said a horse was at seven to one odds...well now we know! It's all about fractions!

By 2pm we were so very excited, and watched the race on the big screen...cheering our horses on the whole time. The prizes for first, second and third were so great, that we all wanted a slice of the action. Luke and Taj G, the sweep winners and Green Moon fans won the highly coveted Year 4,5,6 Melbourne Cup prizes...chocolates! What a great day!

We have continued to enjoy our final discovery projects for the year, but continue to surprise our teachers with the amazing things we want to learn, and knowledge we want to share. Regardless of it being Term 4, we are still working beyond all expectations!

Today and tomorrow we are participating in our class liturgies. Thank you to all the parents that joined us today for mass and morning tea, and we look forward to seeing more parents tomorrow at our second liturgy.

We have also been lucky enough to be chosen to present a very special assembly tomorrow afternoon. The class will be leading the school in our Remembrance Day celebration, to honour all those soldiers who have fought and died for our country. Please feel free to also join the students for this celebration.