Peace Prayer

If there is to be peace in the world
There must be peace in the nations.

If there is to be peace in the nations
There must be peace in the cities.

If there is to be peace in the cities
There must be peace between neighbours.

If there is to be peace between neighbours
There must be peace in the home.

If there is to be peace in the home
There must be peace in the heart.

Lao-Tse - 6th Century Chinese philosopher
PCG MEETING
Next PCG meeting is scheduled for Monday 29th April 9:00am. Please forward agenda items for General Business by Friday 26th April. In order to contextualize the agenda item, it is important that a parent attends the meeting and can speak to the item.

PREP 2014
Enrolment interviews for Prep 2014 have commenced. To date we have 40 applications for our 50 places. Children being interviewed currently are siblings and baptized Catholics. If you have a child ready for Prep next year, please drop a completed application form into the office as soon as possible.

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EARN 2 LEARN
Star of the Sea has registered again for Woolworths Earn 2 Learn promotion. When you shop at Woolies, you will receive stickers which you add to a sheet. Once the sheet is full, please drop it into the box located in the Student Entry.

Please save this date!
What: .................. KidsMatter Launch
When: .................. Monday, 6th May – 9:00am
Where: .................. O’Dea Centre

HELP NEEDED
We have a plan to fasten a STAR for each student to our fence. Many thanks to Gill & Co Timber who are cutting the plywood into squares. This will save so much time.

Already I have heard from Rod Guolo and Renato Beqeri who can cut these squares into our stars. The plywood squares will be here by the end of next week. If there are other Dads who can collect a set of squares to cut out the stars, please let me know. A star template will be provided.

SCHOOL PHOTO DAY
Our School Photo day is Monday 13th May 2013. A Flyer/envelope for each of your students explaining the products available has been sent home.

Please ensure that each student returns his/her own envelope even if payment is made in the eldest child’s envelope. Envelopes are not to be placed inside other envelopes. Students are to bring envelopes BEFORE Friday 10th May. NO photo envelopes will be accepted by the school office on the morning of photos.

Advanced Life Photograph has an automated system for payments by credit card. You can go online to www.advancedlife.com.au for easy to understand payment instructions. You will receive a receipt number which MUST be written on the order envelope in the space provided. You can also make payments by cash, cheque or money order.

Sibling Photos are also available for students at the school, please collect a “family order envelope” from your school & return it to the office. Please don’t hesitate to contact Advanced Photos at the above email address if you have any queries.

PARENT INFORMATION SESSION
Parents interested in learning more about our school’s student behaviour support plan are invited to an information session on Monday 13th May commencing at 5:30pm. The session will be held in the staff room.
INTER-HOUSE CROSS COUNTRY – PREP TO YEAR 7
Students are to wear their house sports polo next Wednesday. The first event will be underway at 9:30am. Students will gather in the O’Dea Centre when the bell rings. The cross country races will commence on the front oval. Parents and grandparents are invited to come along and cheer our runners along.

MOTHER’S DAY MORNING TEA
Come and join us in the Parish Centre on Thursday 9th May from 9:30am to 11:30am. Year level performances will commence at 10:15am. More information coming in a flyer.

MOTHERS’ GROUP
The dates for the rest of the term are as follows Friday 26th April, Friday 10th and 24th May, Friday 7th & 21st June. Mothers’ Group meets once a fortnight during school terms for a cup of tea, chat and for the children to have a play. Mothers’ Group is held fortnightly in the McKinlay Centre from 9:00am – 11:00am.

Please bring morning tea, a drink and hat for your children. Tea and coffee will be provided. Any questions or would like to join us please contact Therese Staley 0420 306 774 or Michelle Mair on 0407 700 322.

COMMONWEALTH DOLLARMITES PRIZES
If your child does school banking and makes three or more deposits during Term 2, he or she can be in the running to win some great prizes. Major prizes include a family holiday voucher valued at $5000, $5000 cash, adventure packs and prepaid debit cards. For more information, visit www.commbank.com.au/personal/youth-students/school-banking/school-banking-term-2

INTERNATIONAL GUEST STEVE ANGRISANO IS RETURNING TO BRISBANE!
Internationally acclaimed singer, songwriter and youth minister, Steve Angrisano is returning to Brisbane from 9th – 13th May. He will be facilitating a number of events, including music & liturgy workshops at Albany Creek and Sunnybank, a twilight retreat at Jindalee and a ministry workshop at Paddington. His visit will conclude with a Concert at the Powerhouse on Mon 13th May (6.30pm - 8.00pm).

Thu 9th May (6.30pm-8.00pm) ........... Living & Sharing the Faith - Ministry Workshop
Lavalla Centre, 58 Fernberg Rd, Paddington. Cost $15

Fri 10th May (6.30pm-8.00pm) .......... To Be Witnesses - Twilight Retreat
Church of the Twelve Apostles, (Darra Jindalee Parish),
111 Yallambee Rd, Jindalee. Cost – Donation

Sat 11th May (10.00am-11.30am)..... We Lift up Our Hearts! - Music & Liturgy Workshop at Paloma Reception Centre,
121 Mains Rd, Sunnybank. Cost $15

Sun 12th May (3.00pm-4.30pm)........ We Lift up Our Hearts! - Music & Liturgy Workshop at All Saints Parish,
4 Faheys Rd East, Albany Creek. Cost $15

Sun 12th May (5.30pm-7.00pm)....... Mass & Launch of the Archbishop’s Pastoral Message to Young People 2013
All Saints Parish (Albany Creek), 4 Faheys Rd East, Albany Creek.

Mon 13th May (6.30pm-8.00pm) ........ SET FREE! CONCERT at Brisbane Powerhouse, 119 Lamington Street, New Farm.
Cost - Donation

Don’t miss this fantastic opportunity to listen to Steve Angrisano and the powerful message of faith, hope and love that is woven throughout his music and inspiring storytelling. To register for events, go to www.cymbrisbane.org.au/steveangrisano or phone 3109 6800.

BOOK CLUB
Book Club brochures have been sent home and ALL of the orders must be received by Thursday 2nd May. No late orders will be accepted. Please ensure you name all your forms (top and bottom) as we had a number of orders with no names on the last order. You need to fill in all parts of the forms! If you missed getting book club brochures, there are spares in the office.
AUTISTIC SPECTRUM DISORDER PARENT SUPPORT GROUP

At Star of the Sea, we are privileged to be a school that includes and supports students with Autistic Spectrum Disorder (ASD). Included in this disorder are the categories of Asperger’s and Pervasive Developmental Disorder.

Children with ASD typically experience difficulty ‘reading’ social situations. This poses challenges with understanding feelings and body language, and knowing the right time to say what they want to say. When fixated on their idea, the ASD child may want to discuss it at length, regardless of whether the other person is interested or not. Sometimes a child with ASD will become physical with others as their way of wanting to socialise, and not realise that the other person does not want them to do that.

Kids with ASD often have difficulty understanding the language around them, and expressing their thoughts. This can make learning really tough for these children, as there is so much language in learning. Other difficulties involve fine and gross motor co-ordination, personal organisation, coping with change and sensory stimulation.

The frustration of all these difficulties can sometimes lead to emotional upset for kids with ASD. At Star of the Sea we have ‘Engine Zone’ activities that often involve physical tasks to either ‘rev up’ their bodies for learning, or cool them down, depending on how they are feeling at the time.

Despite these challenges, students with ASD bring a wealth of benefit to our school community. Their ability to focus on topics that particularly interest them and explore them in great depth is inspirational. They often bring an enthusiasm to situations that is infectious and can look at simple things that many of us take for granted, with great eagerness. Their particular needs can often bring out the very best in their peers who we regularly see include and support them.

If you are a parent of a child with ASD, we would like to invite you for a cuppa on Wednesday, 22nd May 9:00am – 10:00am. We hope to see you there.

Kathy Casley (Guidance Counsellor) and Kylie Williamson (Student Support)

TRIVIA NIGHT

The Redlands Centre for Women is having a “Christmas in July” Trivia Night on Saturday 20th July. 6:00pm for 6:30pm start! Held at Redlands City Lions Community Centre, the cost is $10 per person (tables of 8).

So…..Mums and Dads……book the babysitter and have a fun night out without the kids! Come by yourself and meet up with friends or make new ones! More details will follow in the next couple of weeks.

PASSAGE STREET

Please be reminded that cars should not be parked on Passage Street where the buses, particularly the Straddie bus, pull in of an morning and afternoon.

HEAD LICE AND HAIR

Could parents please ensure that their girls’ hair is tied back if it is shoulder length? Schools are great places to breed head lice. Not only will you be protecting your own daughters from head lice, your daughters will look even more beautiful!!
PREP – This week in Prep, during our Discovery Learning time, we have been making all things Australian! It has been amazing to watch the children getting really involved in what they are making. We have had some amazing Aboriginal Flags, some great Australian Flags and even some Swaggie hats (complete with corks).

This week we have also started to look at the THRASS chart. We have been busy learning the first line. This will be a great word bank for us when we start writing sentences and stories.

Our Literacy and Numeracy rotations are now back into full swing as well. We welcomed 5 new parent helpers this week – we hope they have enjoyed seeing a little glimpse of what goes on at Prep.

We all thoroughly enjoyed our day off for ANZAC day. Lots of the children watched the march in Cleveland and in town with the highlight being the fly over by the Hornet plane. We really are so lucky to live in this wonderful country and we owe so much to the men and women who fought for, and continue to fight for our freedom.

YEAR 1 – The Year Ones have been very busy this week preparing for their liturgies. Thank you to all the parents, grandparents and friends who came along to celebrate our peace liturgy. We focussed on the need for peace in our world because of Anzac Day this week. After the Wednesday liturgy we made Anzac biscuits and poppies to remember all those people involved in war or peacekeeping.

Morning reading is progressing well and we are pleased with how many helpers we have had so far. Most students are reading three times a week with a parent which is really improving our reading. Re-reading the book from the night before is also helping us remember those sight words we have to learn to improve our reading.

On Monday we had Mrs Callum and Mrs Porter in our room. They helped introduce our new Fairy tale, Jack and the Beanstalk, with a PowerPoint and song. We then completed a true and false comprehension activity based on the story.

Fairy tales are a type of short story that feature fantasy characters such as giants, pigs that build houses, frogs that turn into princes etc. Fairy tales often start with “Long, long ago” or “Once upon a time”, and they have a problem that gets solved, so the characters can live “happily ever after”. Each week we are planning to look at a different fairy tale. Our room is starting to be displayed with some of our art work for each fairy tale.

During discovery time we have been immersing ourselves in olden day things. Our generative Statement is “A long, long time ago....” Fairy tales were written and set a long time ago and we have been looking at how things were in the past compared to the present.

We have some olden day items in the learning area such as, a port, a boater, old books, letters (not emails) written a long time ago, chalk, .... If you have some items from the past that we could compare to items we have today, please let us know.

Looking forward to the cross country next Wednesday, don’t forget to wear a shirt the colour of your house with your sports shorts and runners. Go Barinya! Go Elandra! Go Iluka!

YEAR 2 – This week in year two we have been working really hard on our procedural texts. We have written a whole class procedure on the pizzas we made last Friday. So - just ask us how to make pizzas and we can give you a hand over the weekend to whip up something yummy!

We have looked at fractions in groups and have been able to show halves, quarters and eighths. We are getting pretty good at these so will be moving on from this soon.

We have added a painting of the desert to our windows. We are going to be decorating it with art work of animals and plants. Our class watched the magic school bus (which we love!) to help with our immersion.
We have learned so much already. For example the desert is really hot and dry and doesn’t have much food, shelter or rain. Also, some animals have adapted to help them survive! We love learning about our environments and can’t wait to find out more!  Love Caitlin and Zoe

YEAR 3 – This week we welcomed ‘Sparkles’ back to the school as we began our Bounce Back Program for this year. Our focus was on identifying the many and varied feelings we all experience and that feelings are necessary, even the unpleasant ones. We spent time linking our feelings to colours and sounds and read the story “My Many Coloured Day” by Dr Zeus. Our discovery day was an opportunity to select a topic we are interested in investigating from the questions we generated from last week’s immersion on Aboriginal Culture.

We then planned how we will go about this investigation including what we already know about it, what we will need to find out more about it and how we think we might present our discoveries to the class. Lots of work ahead of us, we’re looking forward to our next discovery day to get started!

It was our second week of using our new Spelling Journals, it takes a bit of getting used to but we are getting the hang of it and finding that it works well. We each work on five words at a time that we select from our writing or have-a-go pads.

We then learn our words using different strategies like making our words in play dough, writing our words in chalk out on the concrete, cut and pasting our words and writing ‘silly’ sentences.

Once we’ve had time to learn our words we do a partner test, when our words are correct three times we highlight them to show we know them and choose some new words. When we have ten words highlighted we have a teacher test and the words we get correct go into a bank of words we know!

In Maths over the past two weeks we have been exploring division using the book "The Doorbell Rang" by Pat Hutchins. The book is about sharing cookies between changing numbers of children and this gave us an excuse to do lots of sharing of cookies (tiny teddies) between each other while solving division problems...YUM!!

We have discovered that when sharing or dividing it doesn’t always work out evenly and we need to show a remainder in our answers...11 share between 2 = 5 r1. Playing Battleships has been enormous fun and taught us a lot about reading maps and coordinates.

With Anzac Day on Thursday we spent time on Wednesday reflecting on what Anzac Day means to us through discussions, stories, You Tube clips, writing, drawing and painting. We remembered those who have bravely served our country to make Australia the great place it is today! “Lest we forget”.

Finally, don’t forget our web galleries - click here. They’re updated most weeks with photos of whatever interesting stuff we’ve been getting into. There’s a link on Moodle too.

YEAR 4 – This week in Year Four was exciting! On Monday we started Bounce Back and we talked about how all feelings are important, even unpleasant ones.

We made cars and wrote our feelings on them to go on the Dark End of the Street and the Bright Side of the Road - just like the Van Morrison song. Some of the unpleasant feelings were: embarrassed, angry, ignored and unprepared. Some of the pleasant feelings were: love, special, included, grateful and proud.
Guess what we did Tuesday? We created our Reverse Garbage Corner! It's filled with re-useable materials like boxes, paper, plastic bottles and foam. In Discovery Learning time we continued trying to find out how we can save our planet.

On Wednesday Mrs McKillop was the relief teacher for the day and she was awesome. We talked about ANZAC Day and you wouldn’t believe what we made... ANZAC biscuits! They were yummy yummy! Some of us went to PE and we did Cross Country training and played Basketball.

Thursday was a day off - yay! Some of us went to Dawn Services... Rosie even had some medals from her Great-Grandfather. Today we had Mrs Erwin in with us and she was helpful to the class. Mr Casley came in - we never knew that he was a Geologist! So cool! He talked to us about rocks, lava and volcanoes and showed us videos and interesting rocks and fossils that we could touch. Unfortunately, we didn’t make it to 80% on ClassDojo for our Friday Fun Treat so we had to clean our Tidy Trays... they were disgusting! Mrs Clough and Miss Manicaros are going to be pulling out random names to have their Tidy Tray checked and if it’s clean they will get a prize! Hopefully everybody will clean their trays.

Thank you, this is the news, starring Micah Robertson and Ben Rutberg!

YEAR 5, 6 & 7 - Well, the artists of Year 567 have completed the mammoth task of painting our pet horse! Mrs O’Donnell, our resident artist has guided the children’s artistic journey, to create a beautifully decorated and meaningful sculpture. Below is a copy of the children’s explanation of how the horse symbolises SOTS, as well as answering the design brief....Great Carnival Moments.

When presented with the task of painting a race horse under the theme of ‘Great Carnival Moments’ the students at Star of the Sea wanted to embody three elements. Firstly, they wanted to show what excites them about the great carnival moments in Australia’s horse racing history.

Secondly, they wanted to create a visual experience of being at a horse race, so that when a person viewed the horse they would feel like they were at a racing carnival, standing behind the white picket fence, watching the horse’s race and seeing the colours of the jockeys. Thirdly, they wanted their horse to represent them as Star of the Sea students.

As a whole the horse represents the visual of a horse race, with green grass legs, surrounded at the top by a white picket fence. Behind this, on the body, there are horses racing around the track and the colours of the jockeys flashing before your eyes. This is then finished off with the beautiful clear blue sky of the perfect racing day.

The black and white horse pictures in gold frames represent the history of racing in Australia dating back to 1810. The jockey stripes represent the colours and patterns of the many horses and jockeys that have been recognised in the great carnival moments that grace the pages of history books.

The final element of the horse is the head. The deep red represents the natural colour of the Redland Shire in which the school resides and is the major colour of the school logo. The stars represent the school name ‘Star of the Sea’.
Green Living – Practical Ideas by Year 4
Consider buying a BPA free water bottle instead of plastic water bottles!

Did you know?
- Plastic bottled water is the fastest growing beverage in the world?
- 1.5 million barrels of oil are used each year to make the world’s supply of bottled water?
- 70% of the world’s plastic water bottles end up in landfill or in our oceans?

What does this mean?
- Plastic water bottles are destroying our Earth!

What can we do?
- Try a re-useable, BPA free water bottle to use each day (BPA stands from Bisphenol A and is a chemical used to make most plastics. When we drink from plastic water bottles we are slowly ingesting this chemical, which can have adverse effects on our bodies)
- Refill your BPA free water bottle from the tap - it’s practically FREE!! Which makes it more than 500 times cheaper than bottled water!
- Bring in your old scrap materials for Year 4’s Reverse Garbage Corner.

We are recycling and re-using anything and everything possible from around your home or workplace. We are especially looking for plastic objects that would normally go into landfill that we can use for our construction. Consider things like:
- CD’s
- Cassettes
- Keyboards
- Plastic and metal objects
- Wires
- Canisters
- Mobile phones (without batteries)
- Buttons and bottle tops
- Coat hangers