Six Little Stories

Once all the villagers decided to pray for rain. On the day of prayer all the people gathered, but only one boy came with an umbrella.

That’s FAITH

When you throw a baby in the air it laughs because it knows it will be caught.

That’s TRUST

Every night we go to bed, without any assurance of being alive the next morning we set the alarms to wake up.

That’s HOPE

We plan big things for tomorrow in spite of zero knowledge of the future.

That’s CONFIDENCE

We see the world suffering, but still we get married and have children.

That’s LOVE

On an old man’s shirt was written a sentence “I am not 60 years old…….

I am sweet 16 with 44 years’ experience.

That’s ATTITUDE.
CLASS SIZES 2015
During this term, one of my many jobs is to plan staffing levels for the following year. The staffing formula for all our Brisbane Catholic Education schools is 1 teacher to 25 students in Prep to Year 3 and 30 students in Years 4 – 6.

On occasions, I hear feedback that “the class is too big”, “the classrooms are too noisy with all those children”. Below I have provided the teacher-student ratio for this year as well as the enormous amount of teacher aide time in each learning area:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>YEAR LEVEL</th>
<th>SOTS ENROLMENT</th>
<th>BCEO STAFF SCHEDULE</th>
<th>TEACHER AIDE SUPPORT</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PREP</td>
<td>51 - 1 teacher : 25.5</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>41.5h weekly</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ONE</td>
<td>39 - 1 teacher : 19.5</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>20h weekly</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TWO</td>
<td>36 - 1 teacher : 18</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>20h weekly</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>THREE</td>
<td>48 - 1 teacher : 24</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>20h weekly</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FOUR</td>
<td>44 - 1 teacher : 22</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>20h weekly</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FIVE</td>
<td>36 - 1 teacher : 18</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>14h weekly</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SIX</td>
<td>41 - 1 teacher : 20.5</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>12h weekly</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

I would be keen to hear from anyone who is aware of schools in our local area which have a lower teacher: student ratio.

OUTSIDE SCHOOL HOURS CARE
We have great news about our After School Care Service. We met yesterday afternoon with a rep from Centacare and the ceiling has been lifted from 30 children to 45 children.

Centacare requires a formal notification today and this increase in places should happen quickly. If you are wanting permanent places or casual places, please communicate directly with the Co-ordinator on 0477 551 066 or email clevelandohsc@bne.centacare.net.au.

FOUNDATION DAY
The foundation of our beautiful school will be celebrated on Friday 14th August. We will commence with a whole school mass commencing at 9:15am. Parents, friends and parishioners are welcome to join us. We have our SOTS kindy children also joining us for part of the day. Following Mass, we will have munch and crunch.

The remainder of the day will be even more fun. Staff and our parent sub-committee have organized jumping castles, fairy floss, sample bags, a photo booth, an animal farm, ceramic painting, sand art, ten pin bowling, donut bobbing, beading, a fishing game and more.

We look forward to seeing lots of parents helping and joining in our celebrations.

DATE CLAIMERS:
First Communion Masses -------------- 5th September, 6th September, 12th September, 13th September
Multi-cultural Mass and Expo--------- Sunday 30th August from 8:30am
Parent Community Group Meeting ---- Thursday 30th July 7:00pm – 8:00pm

SCHOOL UNIFORMS
Whilst I appreciate how cold it is, we are seeing lots of irregular items being worn to school. We also have a large number of unnamed hats and red, fleecy jackets in lost property. These will be placed outside the office area for parents to take.

EISTEDDFORDS
Although our Senior Choir was not placed in the top 3 last night, we thought that they sang and performed beautifully. The students love the songs Mrs Hardy selects for choir practice.

This afternoon our Junior Choir takes the stage. They perform at 4:30pm but need to be inside the hall for warm up at 4:15pm. See you there.
INTER-HOUSE ATHLETICS CARNIVAL

It is that time of the year for Athletics carnivals and the SOTS inter-house carnival will take place on Friday the 7th August at Carmel College.

All students are required to be there by 9:00am with the marshalling of first events starting at 9:15am.

This year we will see a different format for the carnival, with every grade involved in rotations throughout the day.

We are hoping to have the presentation at 2:30pm and ALL children picked up by 3:00pm. If you are unable to get your child to and from Carmel College on the day of the carnival, please let the office know!

It will be a fun filled day, with activities such as sack races, vortex throwing, egg and spoon races, tug-of-war and ball games combined with the usual Athletics events forming the basis of the day. We also have a coffee van again this year and thanks to the PCG, we have a sausage sizzle similar to what we had at the cross country carnival.

Just a reminder that ALL children are required to be in their house colours for the day!

We do require some parent volunteers from each grade to help the class teachers with shot put and long jump recording etc. so if you are able to help, please let the class teachers or the office know!

SCHOOL MUSICAL

Our school musical, 'Little Stars' is approximately 6 weeks away! We want to make it clear that ALL students from Prep to Year 6 are participating in our first musical. Staff have been rehearsing with all year levels.

Therefore, the expectation is that, unless there is a medical reason, ALL students will be performing at both the 1:00pm and 6:00pm performances at the Redlands Performing Arts Centre.

Whilst it was advertised in the newsletter last week, that children can stay at home that day and come to the Arts Centre directly, I appreciate the logistics of this for working parents. School will run as normal that day with all staff present. If your child requires dressing dressed with make-up etc, that will be organized here.

DVD

We are hoping find a handy cameraman within our community that would perhaps volunteer to record the show for us. We would like to sell DVD’s as a keepsake of our very first musical in term 4.

SCHOOL FEES

School fees for Term Three were emailed out on Tuesday afternoon. The due date for these is Tuesday 11th August. Prompt payment would be appreciated. If parents are having difficulty with school fees, please contact Karen to discuss further.

Direct Debit statements were also emailed out for these families to check for overdue Library book fines. As your Direct Debit does not cover these we ask that you please pay these fines by the due date.

If you DID NOT receive your fees please email the school as soon as possible for a copy.

FREE DRESS DAY FUNDRAISER


Year 5 is leading a whole school Free Dress day to fundraise for the cancer treatment of one of our young boys in Cleveland.

Josh Dunford is known to many of our school families. You can read his story via the link above.

The free dress day will be held on Thursday 20th August Week 6. Children may wear appropriate free dress with closed in shoes and a hat and bring a gold coin donation which will be collected by our Year 5 class.
FREE DRESS DAY LAST DAY OF TERM
You may have read or heard about the Orange Laundry Van. This project was the initiative of two young men who were educated at St Joseph’s School, Gregory Terrace, in the CBD.

Their aim is to have these vans washing and drying the clothes of homeless people throughout Australia. It costs $70,000 to buy and fit out one of these vans. Not only are the young men providing a practical service to our homeless, but as the process takes an hour to complete, there is ample time for their volunteers to engage with them and to provide a counselling service as well.

The Principals of the Primary and Secondary Schools in the Brisbane Archdiocese, which currently has just over 70,000 students enrolled in our schools, have embarked on a joint initiative. Our aim is to raise $70,000 for one van.

On the last day of this term, children will be invited to wear ORANGE for the day in return for a gold coin donation to the bus. We look forward to your support of this worthwhile charity.

SCHOOL CLOSED MONDAY FOR EKKA HOLIDAY
SCHOOL OPEN TUESDAY – FRIDAY NEXT WEEK

A MESSAGE FROM THE GUIDANCE COUNSELLOR
The Triple P parenting program offers some helpful advice about children doing chores. “Responsibility for regular chores helps children learn self-discipline, how to apply themselves to a job and how to help with the running of a household.

If you give your child chores, you will find that you have more time to spend with your child on other activities and more time for yourself.” The program suggests that children begin chores when you believe your child is able to help with household tasks.

A number of suggestions are offered by Triple P around introducing chores at home:-

- Plan ahead – come to agreement with other adult family members about involving children in chores
- Call a family meeting – discuss expectations and the reasons for doing chores
- Discuss why helping is important – helping out with jobs means more time to spend together as a family
- Agree on chores – make a list with your child of all the jobs that need doing around the house
- Ask your child which chores they would like to do
- Finalise a jobs list

If you would like more information from the Triple P program about this or other parenting topics, please contact me at Snug Harbour.

Kathy Casley
Guidance Counsellor

LIFE CHANGES PROGRAM
Students at Star of the Sea will have the opportunity to explore how our lives can change and helpful ways that we respond to life events through the Life Changes program.

This will be offered by Psychology students Cameron and Johanna from the Caroline Chisholm Centre at QUT. This program will commence on Friday 21st August and occur weekly through until 16th October.

If your child has experienced a major life event such as the illness or death of a loved one, parental separation or family relocation, they may well benefit from the support offered by this program. Sessions will take place during school hours in the McKinlay Centre.

If you would like your child or children to participate in the Life Changes Program, please email kmcasley@bne.catholic.edu.au to put your child’s name forward.
This week we have been reading, writing, making puzzles, puppets and learning some of our sight words from Noni the Pony by Alison Lester.

We love the way Alison Lester writes her stories with a mix of imagination and magic such as - Noni the Pony is friendly and funny. Her shimmering tail is the colour of honey.

We have been looking at rhyming words throughout the story too and at the beautiful illustrations. We are working hard at learning our number names and counting during our Maths rotations.

Preppies are very excited about our first Sports Day on Friday at Carmel College. Try to wear your house colours on the day!

Salutations! It’s been a great week in year 1 this week as we are all working hard to achieve our individual goals. We are really enjoying planning and creating our own narratives and are very proud of the work we are producing.

We also welcomed a new class member this week. Wilbur from Charlotte’s Web is staying with us until the end of the term. Each night one of us gets the privilege to look after Wilbur. Wilbur has already had some amazing adventures this week. He got the opportunity to meet Miss Williamson’s dog Tigger.

He became a little seasick travelling to Stradbroke Island with Sam and also showed his artistic talents when he went to an art class with Charlotte. This weekend Finn will be taking care of Wilbur, which might even include a trip to the footy. Lucky Wilbur!

A big thank you to Mr Bermingham for supplying us with amazing new equipment for Playing Partners.

Best of luck to everyone tomorrow for the athletics carnival!

This week in Year Two we have been exploring everything there is to know about Food Chains! We have been participating in activities that have helped to build our understandings of Producers, Consumers, Predators, Prey, Herbivores, Carnivores, Omnivores and Decomposers, and how these are all connected to the Food Chain.

In literacy, we will soon be writing our very own narratives after the many immersion activities we have completed on the topic. Earlier this week we innovated known stories by changing some characters and events.

Our stories are called; The Big Bad Pigeon (Innovation of The Three Little Pigs) and The Missing Porridge (Innovation of Goldilocks and the Three Bears). We had a lot of fun innovating these stories to include some of our favourite fictional characters Pigeon, Piggie and Gerald.

In numeracy, we have been continuing our exploration of shapes by looking closely at flips, turns and slides. We were even able to complete an art piece during maths activities based on our name using these newly developed understandings.
We are looking forward to the Athletics Carnival this Friday and are ready to compete! Be sure to pack a jumper for the early morning breeze before the events begin! We hope our Year Two families have a lovely long weekend and get to enjoy this exciting Ekka season!

This week in our discovery learning, we engaged in lots of different science experiments in small groups. In our first experiment, we were to test which ice cube would melt the quickest when placed in different situations.

Our second experiment used warm water to see which type of spoon retained the most heat. We loved getting our hands dirty, and seeing if our initial predictions were correct! Take a look at some of our photos...

Our focus for Literacy this week has been on reading and writing different types of procedures, including recipes and science reports. Our focus for Mathematics this week has been on millilitres and grams. We have had lots of fun weighing the capacity of different types of containers.

Tomorrow we are holding our annual SOTS Athletics carnival at Carmel College. The children have been practising hard to master their running and field events/games. Be sure to dress in your best house colours! We look forward to seeing our parents there to cheer us on.

Reminders
- Please bring in bottle caps and lids for our discovery learning dioramas starting in the next couple of weeks.
- Athletics Carnival at Carmel College at 9:00am on Friday.

The billy-cart building day finally arrived and it was amazing. After spending three weeks researching, brainstorming, planning, prototyping, testing and sourcing materials we were all set to go.

The day started off with parent helpers gathering with the class in the classroom to discuss the plan for the day. Then each group found a place in the school to build their billy-cart.

The materials we had were a little bit random. We had axles, rope, wheels, wood, nuts, bolts, washers and tools to work with. Luckily all the mums and dads were very proficient at using the tools.

It was very hard ensuring that all the parts fitted together but as the day moved on we were able to work out how to fix any challenges we encountered.

When we finished building our billy-carts we were able to decorate them and add details. Test driving was one of the highlights of the day.

We are very much looking forward to racing our billy-carts at the Year Four Derby.

What a week with lots happening in Grade 5. The day has come for the Great Debate and we are really excited to argue. We have been practising with our teams and all is ready to go into battle. Whose side will you side with?
Discovery was another insightful day with Mr Azzopardi and Miss Manicaros teaching us all about liquid. Viscosity is a word we came across and now know the meaning of and shared with our parents. In Maths this week we have continued our fantastic work with fractions and getting better and better with more practice.

Our kicking it challenge is always a highlight of our week and again it didn't disappoint. Today we are at our Anointing Mass and we are looking forward to gathering with other parishioners and praying with Fr Ashley.

Tomorrow sees the Athletics Carnival at Carmel College and haven't we been getting ready with Mr B in PE. We are all nearly stretched out with all the enthusiasm we have shown. Good luck to everyone competing tomorrow and have lots of fun. GO ILUKA, BARINYA and ELANDRA

It's been a very cultural week in Year 6 this week. Our rehearsals for the musical are progressing well and it all seems to be slowly coming together! Some of our students also participated in the Senior Choir in the Redlands Eisteddfod. Although we didn't come away with a win, the children should still feel incredibly proud of themselves. They sang with enthusiasm and conducted themselves beautifully.

During literacy rotations we have been putting together movie trailers using iMovie to promote the movie Blueback. If Tim Winton ever decides to make the book into a movie, then we are ready for him!

Tomorrow we are looking forward to leading the Inter-house Athletics’ Carnival at Carmel College. Make sure you come wearing your team colours!! Looking forward to seeing you all there!
Cleveland Thornlands Cricket Club Sign On.

Date - August 8th/9th and 15th/16th
Time - 9:00am - 12:30pm
Contact - Lauren MacNair, Registrar, phone. 0439 745 252 email. ctccregistrar@gmail.com
Where - CTCC CLUBHOUSE HENRY ZIEGENFUSZ PARK, FITZROY ST, CLEVELAND
U8 – U17 Junior boys and girls. Seniors and Masters

- Join in the fun of cricket games and skills activities
- Enrol in the new 'In2cricket' program ages 5 to 8.
- Registering RCI players under 10’s, 11’s and 12’s.
- All BEARs divisions from under 13’s to 17’s.
- Accredited coaches all holding Blue Cards
- 5 Artificial grass practice nets (3 under flood light)
- 3 cricket fields, 1 Turf wicket
- Club Gear provided for each Team.

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Cleveland Thornlands Cricket Club
Visit