A Father’s Letter

To My Child,

I am writing this to you for three reasons......

1. Life, fortune and mishaps are unpredictable, nobody knows how long life is. Some words are better said early.
2. I am your father, and if I don't tell you these things, no one else will.
3. What is written is my own personal experience and it may save you a lot of unnecessary heartache.

Remember the following as you go through life.....

Do not bear a grudge towards those who are not good to you.

No one has the responsibility of treating you well, except your mother and I. Treasure those who do.

No one is indispensable and no possession is life changing. Once you understand this, life will be easier, especially when people leave by their own choosing.

Life is short. The earlier you treasure your life, the more you will enjoy it.

Love is but a transient feeling, and this feeling will change with time and mood. If your loved one leaves you, be patient.... time will wash away your aches and sadness. Don't over exaggerate the beauty and sweetness of love, and don't over exaggerate the sadness of falling out of love.

A lot of successful people did not receive a good education. This does not mean that you can be successful by not studying hard! Whatever knowledge you gain is your weapon in life.

I do not expect you to financially support me when I’m old, nor will I financially support you for your whole life. My responsibility as a supporter ends when you are grown up. After that, you decide whether you want to travel by public transport or in a limousine!

Be good to others, but don’t always expect this in return. When you expect people to live by your standards, you can be very disappointed. This doesn’t change your obligation to do the right thing.

No matter how much time we have together, let’s treasure it. Let’s make the most of every laugh, every hug, every struggle, and every joy. I am so pleased to be your father and to have you as my child.

Always affectionately yours, Dad
**PRAYERS PLEASE**
Please pray for all those in our school community who are sick or in hospital at the moment. We pray especially for Ethan Fiteni in Year 1, Laura Day (Mum to Amelia Year 2 and David Year 4) and Lily Grace Thompson (Sally’s new baby girl).

**NEW APPOINTMENT**
I am pleased to announce the appointment of Ms Anita Katajamaki as our Guidance Counsellor from the beginning of Term 4 this year until the end of Term 3 2014. Anita is currently on a contract at St Edward’s School, Daisy Hill and Our Lady of Lourdes, Sunnybank. Anita’s contract at Daisy Hill ends this term. She will work 3 days per week here.

We wish Kathy Casley an interesting and different year ahead as she embarks on further study.

**RESILIENCY ROBBERS**
Michael Grose is considered a leading parenting educator in Australia. He has coined the term “resilience robbers.” We all know that parents have the best of intentions when raising their kids.

Grose believes that wanting what is best for kids can cause parents to make decisions that are not always in their (children’s) long-term best interests. He says that if you believe that the promotion of resilience is in the best interests of kids then there are some common parenting mistakes that reduce children’s resilience.

He names 7 Robbers of Resilience. Today I share Robber #6 with you:

**Neglect to develop independence** – Don’t wait until they are teenagers to develop the skills of independent living. Start early and promote a broad skill set so that they can look after themselves if you are not around.

**Resilience notion #6 : Don’t routinely do for kids what they can do for themselves.**

**ALTAR SERVERS**
If your child has made the Sacrament of First Communion and would like to become an Altar Server, at school and parish masses, please contact the Parish Office to enrol in training. We need students for Sunday morning Mass at 8.30. It would involve serving approximately once a month.

**FATHER’S DAY**
The Father’s Day Sporting Spectacular is only a few days away!! This Saturday please arrive and be ready to be placed into your group at 2:00pm as rotations will start.

Please wear a hat, apply sunscreen and bring a water bottle. *So far we have 166 children and 103 Dads joining the fun!!*

**UNIFORM SHOP**
The uniform shop is offering a lay-by system again this year. If you wish to come and lay-by your uniforms for next year there will be a $20.00 minimum deposit and each payment must be a minimum of $20.00. All lay-bys will have to be collected by 25th November 2013. Payments can be made by Credit Card or EFTPOS.

The Uniform Shop is open every second Monday and will next be open Monday 3rd September 8:00am – 9:15am.

**WELCOME VISITORS**
Next Tuesday we welcome a team of teachers and the Principal from St Elizabeth’s School in Tarragindi. They will be meeting with me and spending time observing in each of the learning areas.
**OZTAG**
For the next three Wednesdays, our Prep to Year 3 students will be playing and learning the game of Oztag. Next term Years 4 – 7 will participate.

**FIRST RECONCILIATION**
Please remember in your prayers Charlotte Noonan and Abbey Blake as they prepare to receive the Sacrament of Penance / Reconciliation on Sunday 8th September.

**PARENT – TEACHER CONFERENCES**
It is a requirement that teachers offer the opportunity for a minimum of two parent-teacher conferences each year. The timing of these is towards the end of Term 1 and the end of Term 3. Your year level teachers will be in contact to notify you of dates and times.

A written report is not provided at the end of Term 3. There would be a number of parents who have regular conferences with their child’s teacher who may not wish to register for another one.

**CLASS PARENT REPRESENTATIVES (CPR’S)**
The role includes organizing a term get together for parents, welcoming new parents, eliciting support for the year level social function and providing care and concern for the members of their year level.

- Prep:-------------Robyn Heilbronn and Kirsty Bell
- Year 1: --------Kate Cherry and Jodee Armstrong
- Year 2: --------Megan Forbes and Jo Oliver
- Year 3: --------Nicole Fiteni and Nina Rose
- Year 4: --------Angelique McKillop and Chae McMorrin
- Year 5 --------Helen Groombridge
- Year 6 /7----- Lee Brand, Suzie Rumler and Vanessa Dunn

**KIDS CONNECT CONFERENCE**
On Monday and Tuesday this week, nine Year 6 and 7 students attended Kids Connect, at The Edge technology hub, Brisbane State Library. This conference runs every year, and gives children an opportunity to learn new and exciting ICLT skills.

We broke into different Breakout Groups, to complete a variety of ICLT challenges over the two days. We used software programs like SketchUp, and iMovie, animation applications like Scratch, apps like Aurasma, cameras, iPads, iPods, and Mac computers.

We had the opportunity to create digital advertisements, augmented reality, digital 3D models, and cartoon animations.

We have all learnt so many new skills, and we can’t wait to share them all with our classmates and peers!

Kids Connect has been a fantastic opportunity for students over the last three years, and every year we can’t wait to attend! 

*By Claire Nolan*
**END OF TERM 3**
Term 3 ends at the usual time of 3pm on Friday 20th September.

**PICK UP NOT USING DRIVE THROUGH**
The area in front of the office is now a **CHILDREN ONLY ZONE**. Parents who enter the school site from the main car park and Longland St entry must NOT walk through the line of witch’s hats. Please walk around The Lighthouse. The same procedure in the afternoon is to be applied.

Discussions at the PCG meeting last Monday shared the concern of parents, prams and toddlers attempting to make their way through this area. It is frustrating for parents who are trying to get from A to B but also unsafe for our children to have so many adults walking over them and through them.

**BEFORE SCHOOL SUPERVISION**
Staff supervision commences at 8:30am. Children who arrive before 8:30am and who are not booked into Before School Care are to:

1. Place their bags on their racks or year level seats
2. Move to the seats in front of the Year 1 area
3. Remain seated – not play, run around etc – certainly can chat with others!

**NOTE FROM YEAR TWO**
*To Parents, Parishioners and Students of Star of the Sea,*

*We have been looking at ‘Life: Back in the Day’ for our Discovery Learning this term. Something that stood out to us was the fashion from ‘Back in the Day’. We love anything from frills on your sleeves to bonnets on your heads!*

*We love lace and top hats and anything old! We want to encourage boys, girls and adults to get back in touch with the Olden Day fashion. So, we will be setting up a stall on the Oval in week’s 10 and 11 in our lunch time to sell some of these Olden Day style clothes.*

*However, we need some donations to get our stall running! If you have any ‘Olden Day’ style clothes that you would like to donate to our stall, please drop them off into the Year Two Classroom by the end of week 9.*

*All the money we raise from selling the donated clothes will be given to RSPCA to help protect our local animals that are becoming endangered due to our ever growing community! We look forward to seeing you and collecting some donations very soon!*

*Thank you, From Ella P, Lilly, Elise and Alana (Year Two).*

**BAYSIDE FIT CLUB**
Bayside Fit Club are supporting community members to achieve health & fitness results.

- **Yummy Mummy Session** (workout with your little ones) ----- Every Monday 9.30am
- **Bootcamp/General Fitness Sessions** ----------------------Every Wednesday 5.30pm and Saturday 7:00am

For more information, contact Nadine on 0451 049 469. Supported by Great Shape Today Health.
PREP – We have been busy little bees in Prep this week. By the time this news goes to print our Father’s Day presentation will be over and we really hope that all Dads enjoyed it, and that they are spoilt over the Father’s Day weekend. Mrs Henderson is happy to copy the presentation, for any Dads who cannot make it on Thursday, onto a parent supplied USB stick.

Mrs Henderson and Mrs McLucas would like to say a huge thankyou to all our wonderful parents for their time in forwarding the photos to us. We know how busy everyone is, and we do appreciate that we were able to include all of our children in the presentation. We are very proud in prep this week!

In literacy we are focusing on the ‘sh’ sound, as in shout and shoulder. Once again the children surprised us with the words that they came up with. In numeracy we are becoming more competent at using our number lines to find the answers to our picture problems, and we are exploring 2D shapes.

“Skip into Spring” and Yoga are continuing to be a big hit, and the children are participating beautifully. This week our Yoga adventure was “Parsnip the Cat”. The children will be able to show you how much their flexibility is improving in their yoga positions.

See you all next week....

YEAR 1 – We love finding QR codes and scanning them with our iPods or iPads. During Discovery time we write some of our information on QR codes and paste them on the walls for others to scan and learn about the different habitats we are researching.

This week Ella arrived back at school after a holiday in Fiji. She reported her travels to us from the daily entries she made in her journal. We loved listening to her tell us about the fun she had while she was away.

As Ethan is in hospital this week we decided to make a book to cheer him up. Everyone in the Year One learning area drew a picture of Ethan and wrote something special to him.

With the help of Mrs Stitcher we made fingerprints and turned them into his friends from Year One and made a cover for the book. Caleb said when Ethan saw the book he had a big smile on his face. We pray each day for Ethan to get better soon.

In Maths we are learning about 3D shapes. We are taking photos, using play dough, finding shapes, drawing pictures and building with Lego, to find out more about the features of these shapes. Maths can be so much fun!

YEAR 2 - We had such a wonderful day last Friday for our 60 Minutes for MS. The whole school looked fantastic with their red accessories, red hair spray and red outfits!

In Year Two we started the day off with a talk from Holly and some interesting facts that were shared by Caitlin and her friend Shae from England. We decorated cupcakes in the morning with red icing and red lollies. We really enjoyed making these for our guests.

After lunch we quickly borrowed from the library and raced back to the classroom where we found out the activities that we would be doing when our parents came in. We were able to relax with our parents and friends and read, get our faces painted, write stories on storybuddy, draw our favourite characters and play charades. We finished off with sharing cupcakes with our parents. It was such a great day!
We were doing all of this to raise awareness and money for the Multiple Sclerosis Foundation. A big thank you to all of the parents and friends who came in on Friday to help out. Also thank you everyone who has donated. We know your donations will help the Foundation.

This week in numeracy we have been looking at informal units; length, area and volume. We know that there are many different tools that we can use to find out different types of measurements. For example, we can use children to find out how long (in children) the O’Dea Centre is! In literacy this week, we had one last narrative to write and we have done a fantastic job. Our creativity was flowing and we wrote some really great stories!

We have been receiving emails back for permission to start our projects and are very excited to get going. We are working on the second step of our plan this week and starting to understand that these projects/ events take a lot of forward thinking and planning. We know that all of this work will be worthwhile!

**YEAR 3 –** As you know, escaping planet Earth has been our discovery focus this term, and our class Assembly on Thursday last week told the story of a small boy called James, who heard the news that the sun was dying and that humans would need to find somewhere else to live! The story told how teams of experts from all over the world met and decided on how and where we might survive somewhere else in the universe.

> And so young James and his mother took one last look at planet Earth as they climbed aboard a ‘space pod’ to embark on their new adventure... living on Mars in a giant dome!!! TO BE CONTINUED...

The children did a fabulous job as actors, and for those who were not able to join us on the day, check out our performance on the our web gallery - [click here](#) - then click ‘Videos’

We have been preparing for Father’s Day this Sunday. We have some small surprises for our Dad’s which we hope they enjoy, including a Father’s Day Song, which will be available to view on Father’s Day!!!!. By Sunday it will be our new ‘Video of The Week’ - [click here](#)

We wish all of our Dad’s a very HAPPY FATHER’S DAY!

**YEAR 4 –** Week 8 in Year Four has been busy, busy, busy as usual! We have been getting ourselves very organised for Father’s Day so our Dads can feel super special and very loved! We have been making top secret gifts and have been shopping at the Father’s Day Stall that the Year Four Mums did such a great job of setting up! There were so many great gifts to choose from, we just wanted to buy them all.

So, Year Four Dads, you’re just going to have to wait until Sunday for your surprises. So many of us have also replied that we are going to the Father’s Day Sporting Spectacular this Saturday – it’s going to be so cool! Some of our little brothers and sisters also have special jobs at the Mass at 5.00pm... We look forward to seeing heaps of SotS families there to celebrate.
This week we also started our new Literacy and Numeracy Activities for the fortnight. We are continuing to look at Procedural Texts – we are really quite “pro” by now and are focusing heavily on targeting the text for a particular audience. Many of us are filming demonstrations for ‘How To’ do certain things for our report CDs.

We have also looked at writing a professional letter this week, as so many of us are needing to contact businesses and other professionals, like Mrs Bakon, to get things happening for our Discovery Learning projects.

In Maths, we are still building our knowledge of fractions, but have shifted our focus to money, money, money! We are looking at adding monetary amounts as well as different currencies from around the world. Some countries’ money is so different to ours – but we definitely think that Aussie money is the coolest.

Maths and Literacy are great and necessary, but Discovery Learning is all we think and breathe! We have got some really fantastic projects on the go, including creating a day to raise awareness for the unfortunate children who fight wars in Africa (mark September 19th as Anti Kids in War Day).

Many of us have created websites to save endangered animals. Animals like the Long-Footed Potteroo, the Black Cockatoo and marine life in the Redlands (you can check out some of the links on our Moodle page). Some of us have been communicating with Mr Hancock to see if we can raise money to get his school in the Northern Territory some sporting equipment. This has involved researching the best ways to transport the equipment. We tried to get Mr Hancock to come and get it but decided that a voucher might be best!

Mr Hancock also gave us a great idea to research what might be different when the Northern Territory eventually becomes a state. We have been looking into a new name as the Northern State doesn’t have the best ring to it. Mr Hancock suggested ‘Mr Hancock Land’ so we are thinking hard to avoid that happening!

Today, some of us went off to the Bayside Athletics Carnival. We competed with a great degree of sportsmanship and effort, and our teachers and Mrs Bakon were very proud of us. The rest of the Year Fours stayed back with Miss Manicaros and there may, or may not have been a little party...... it’s only fair!

Well that’s all from us for now. Happy Father’s Day to all of our wonderful Dads!

YEAR 5, 6 & 7 - This week has been an exciting week for Year 5, 6 and 7, with many different activities and experiences happening!

Our Year 5 children worked on an amazing Discovery Learning session, with a focus on the prototyping of their Exoplanets. Check out Twitter for fantastic photographic examples of their work. It was fantastic to watch the children use their research and knowledge, when creating their own models. Children are using their knowledge of solids, liquids and gases; atmosphere and atmospheric pressure; as well heat, light and food, to create planets that could be inhabited by humans.

Our Year 6, 7 children are working very hard to complete their films for Tropfest Jr. They have realised that there are many steps in between filming...and the finished product. It has been great to watch the children become experts with devices and software, and use their new skills to teach others. Operating iMovie, iPhoto, iMotion, iTunes, copyright laws, storyboarding and Scratch are just some of the skills students are developing.

Literacy Groups is a weekly routine, with the children taking part in a variety of focused Literacy activities. The teachers love to sit with the Shared Reading groups each week, and follow along with the novels they are reading. We are very much enjoying “The Twits”, with the Yellow and Purple Groups.

The language in this book is so imaginative...and makes the kids laugh! “Once and Then”, and “Boy Overboard” are very touching stories, of WW2 and the Afghanistan Wars, through the eyes of children. These books have been very thought provoking, and have made the children ask many questions. We are absolutely loving “Gansta Granny” ... who wouldn’t want a Grandma who is an international jewellery thief?

We wished our friends all the best as they travelled out to Carmel College this morning! We know they will do us proud!