Too much love never spoils children.

Children become spoiled when we substitute “presents” for “presence”.

Anthony Witham
**SWIMMING LESSONS**
Lessons for Prep to Year 6 begin Next Monday 22nd February. Each student will have 2 lessons a week for 3 weeks totalling 6 lessons.

EVERY child needs to bring along to EVERY lesson the following items – all named please;

- ✓ Togs
- ✓ Towel
- ✓ Thongs
- ✓ Sunshirt
- ✓ Swim cap
- ✓ Goggles
- ✓ Sunscreen (to be applied before school as well)

Swim caps are available for sale at the school office for $6 each.

**DATE CLAIMERS**

*Welcome Disco ... Friday 19th February from 5:00pm to 7:00pm.*

Parents are invited to BYO drinks and food, picnic rugs and folding chairs. The Disco will be held in the O’Dea Centre. A wood fired pizza van will be on site for those who would like to take advantage. Poppers, popcorn and Zooper Dooper iceblocks will be provided to all students and their siblings.

The theme is “TROPICAL” so we invite all adults and children to dress up and join in the fun. The function which is open to all families is funded by the Parent Community Group (PCG).

*Working Bee ......... Saturday 20th February from 7:30am – 9:30am.*

The more helpers we have the quicker we will be. I envisage that this will be our only working bee this year. We have sanding, painting, mulching and planting to be undertaken. A great way for Mums and Dads to get to know others in our school community.

**PROJECT COMPASSION**

We will continue to support the work of Caritas through Project Compassion during the season of Lent. Project Compassion celebrates its 50th anniversary this year. Each student will be bringing home a box for donations.

We suggest families discuss how students can add to the box such as donating part of their pocket money, doing extra jobs around the house, forgoing an ice block and donating the money instead, etc. Please ensure all money is returned to the School Office no later than Wednesday 22nd March.

If you require a receipt, please complete the information on the lid of the box and return directly to Caritas.

**PARENT COMMUNITY GROUP MEETING (PCG)**

During my meeting with our Executive of our PCG last Friday morning, we set the dates for the first two meetings. We are going to trial different days and times this year.

- Monday 22nd February .......... 9:00am – 10:00am--------General Meeting (tea & coffee available)
- Thursday 17th March .......... 7:00pm – 8:00pm --------Annual General Meeting (refreshments available)

Items for General Business must be forwarded to pcleveland@bne.catholic.edu.au by 5:00pm the day before the meeting to enable them to be placed on the agenda

**ENROLMENT PROCESS FOR 2017**

Interviews and tours of our school will commence after Easter for our 2017 intake. If you have a child who is eligible for Prep in 2017, please ensure you have lodged a completed Application for Enrolment. Parents will be notified of the dates for interviews so that you may confirm a time. It is desirable that both parents attend with their child.

Enrolment applications can be downloaded from the school's website www.staroftheseacleveland.qld.edu.au or collected from the school office.

**CALLING ALL PARENTS! – MORNING TEA AND SPELLING PACK WORKING BEE**

Our Words their Way spelling packs need to be re-created and we need your help! All you need to be able to do is cut spelling packs and put them into bags!
CLASS PARENT REPRESENTATIVES (CPR’S)

It was disappointing to see so few parents join our meeting last Friday but the Mums who did come along were filled with energy and enthusiasm. We have filled some spots in some year levels. I have listed below the people who have volunteered so far and where we have vacancies. Please let me know if you can assist. Listed beside each year level are the social functions the year levels are responsible for planning and running.

PREP: Janelle Jahnke & Kim Goettler—WELCOME DISCO
YEAR 1: Deanne Caruso & —MOTHER’S DAY FUNCTION
YEAR 2: Jackie O’Hagan & —FATHER’S DAY FUNCTION
YEAR 3: & —MOTHER’S DAY FUNCTION
YEAR 4: Tammy Kitching & Michelle Mair—FATHER’S DAY FUNCTION
YEAR 5: & —END OF YEAR CELEBRATION
YEAR 6: Stephanie Nolan & Tammy Kitching—WELCOME DISCO & GRADUATION

TERM 1 PARENT-TEACHER CONFERENCES

All parents are invited to a conference with their child’s teacher during Weeks 7, 8 and 9 this term, thus beginning Monday 7th March. Parents will be advised how to enrol online through PTO to book times. If necessary, some parents may be invited in for meetings earlier than this timeframe.

PALM SUNDAY MASS

Each year we schedule school sponsored parish masses. We endeavour to build stronger relationships with our parishioners and school community. The Term 1 mass will be Sunday 20th March from 8:30am -9:30am.

Families who have children in Years 1 and 3 will be given particular roles e.g. prayers, readings, thanksgiving reflection, processions.

LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE

Next Thursday and Friday, our leadership team will be away at our annual cluster conference. Mr Jason Waters will be Acting Principal during these two days.

VISITORS

Our visitors from Sweden and the University of Qld thoroughly enjoyed their visit to our learning areas yesterday.

123 MAGIC COURSE

For any parents interested in attending the 123 Parent Magic Course – the registration date has been extended to this Friday 19th February 10:00am. Please have all registration forms in by this time. Currently we don’t have enough numbers to warrant running the program in the evening. STAY TUNED!

FUN RUN

It’s that time of year again when we have to start preparing for our Cross Country. We decided that the best way to have fun and get fit would be to hold our Fun Run for the third year in a row.

The Fun Run will commence tomorrow at 8:30am on the oval. Everyone is more than welcome to participate in the 1km course. Remember walk or run, every lap you do will gain one point for your team. Points will accumulate each week and will be added onto the official totals of our Cross Country carnival.

The more laps you do, the fitter you will get, along with aiding your team to hold aloft the coveted SOTS Cross Country Trophy. Last year we had great support from a number of generous parents who kindly donated prizes. We would appreciate anyone who could donate prizes for our participation draws to drop them off at the office. Can Elandra go back to back after their victory last year?

CALLING PARENTS! – MORNING TEA AND SPELLING PACK WORKING BEE

Our Words their Way spelling packs need to be re-created and we need your help! All you need to be able to do is cut spelling packs and put them into bags!
2016 SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM

Students in Years 3 to 6 are invited to participate in the Parish Sacramental Program this year. The program begins with the Sacrament of Penance (Reconciliation), followed by Confirmation and concluding with First Eucharist. Dates are as follows –

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sacrament</th>
<th>Details</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>RECONCILIATION</td>
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<tr>
<td>Parent Meeting</td>
<td>Thursday 18th February 2:00pm OR 7:00pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Commitment Mass</td>
<td>Weekend of 20th / 21st February</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sacrament</td>
<td>Thursday 17th March 7:00pm OR Friday 18th March 4:00pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>CONFIRMATION</td>
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<tr>
<td>Parent Meeting</td>
<td>Thursday 28th April 2:00pm OR 7:00pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Commitment Mass</td>
<td>Weekend of 30th April / 1st May</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sacrament</td>
<td>Thursday 9th June 5:00pm or 7:00pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>EUCHARIST</td>
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<tr>
<td>Parent Meeting</td>
<td>Thursday 21st July 2:00pm OR 7:00pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Commitment Mass</td>
<td>Weekend of 23rd / 24th July</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sacrament</td>
<td>Saturday 3rd September 5:30pm OR Sunday 4th September 8:30am OR Saturday 10th September 5:30pm OR Sunday 11th September 8:30am</td>
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Please see the Parish Office for further information and for enrolment forms. The School Office also has hard copies.

This week in Prep we had a special visit from Fr. Ashley. He spent time talking to the children about different ways that we can pray and the types of prayers that we could say. He joined in our prayer circle and we taught him our prayer song.

In literacy, we have been focussing on the letter 'T'. We listened to stories and made a list of words that start with the letter 'T'. We had fun making turtles during craft and we can't wait for our Teddy Bear Picnic on Friday! (Please remember to bring: teddy bear, towel, no munch and crunch! We will be eating honey sandwiches and Tiny Teddies).

In maths, we have been looking at the number four. We have been practising counting and watched a really cool numbers clip on youtube where the numbers went all the way up to one trillion! We enjoyed playing hopscotch, bean bag toss and dice games that require movement for the number four e.g. four star jumps.
During Discovery, the children posed the question, 'How can we share information about ourselves with our Prep Families?'. The boys and girls came up with many ideas on how we could present this information to share with our families. Over the next few days the children will vote on their favourite idea and we will begin prototyping.

We hope you have a lovely weekend.

1. It was very exciting on Tuesday and Wednesday afternoon this week as we had many Grandparents come to our learning area to tell us about the past and to answer the many questions we were wondering about. We were amazed to hear that some grandparents didn't go to school as they had to work on the family farm. In the past some grandparents were taught by nuns and instead of having books to write in they wrote on a slate.

Many of the grandparents didn’t own a computer or a mobile phone as they hadn’t been invented when they were growing up! We loved talking to the grandparents and learning what life was like long ago!

We have also been wondering about Jesus and what life was like for Him when he was growing up. To help answer our questions we asked Father Ashley to visit us and tell us about the life of Jesus.

Using a globe of the world Father Ashley showed us where Jesus grew up and explained what Jesus would have done during the day. We love it when Father Ashley comes to visit us!

2. Last Friday we celebrated Valentine’s Day a little differently and shared all the highlights about what we love about learning. The students wrote what they loved about learning and these are now displayed on our learning wall.

In Maths this week we went on a "shapes walk” and discovered many two dimensional shapes around the school environment. The students have also been busy practising their skip counting and making two dimensional constructions.

Today we presented our Assembly item all about Respecting Ourselves, Others and the Environment and what Respect Looks like, Feels like and Sounds like within the school. For those families who were able to come along and watch, we hope you enjoyed our performance!

Tomorrow will also be an exciting day of discovery when we will be seeing, thinking and wondering all about our new Discovery topic….so ‘watch this space’ to find out what will be in the Immersion Box!

3. This week during Religion, we have been looking at the heroes in our church community. On Tuesday, we explored the church and looked for people in the church who are special.

We found Mother Mary, Jesus, Saint Mary Mackillop, St Vincent De Paul, Archbishop Mark Coleridge and many more! We discussed why these people are superheroes, and how they contribute to our school. Lucas and Jo are pictured here with their very detailed information.
As a similar task to Religion, during Discovery Learning we looked for important symbols around our school. We took photos of our school badge, plaques around the school, Stella Maris sign, flagpole and our house flags. We’re going to make a display in the classroom of these special symbols that make our school unique.

Another focus in the past couple of weeks has been to ensure all students understand how to log on to Study ladder. The passwords and usernames have been glued into their homework books for easy access if they forget. We have been having lots of fun playing the games and activities that have been set for us. Here is Eden and Janith enjoying their time on Study Ladder.

Reminders;
- Year 1 and Year 3 School Sponsored Mass - Palm Sunday, 20th March at 8:30am.
- Swimming begins next week on Monday and Wednesday.
- School Disco on Friday night at 5pm – Tropical Theme!

Year Four has had an amazing week! One of our highlights was our excursion to Ngutana-Lui! It is an indigenous centre where we learnt lots about Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures.

We learnt about natural resources and trade, listened to some Aboriginal stories, performed a traditional Aboriginal dance, created dot paintings and even threw boomerangs.

In science we have been very excited to watch our broad beans begin to sprout. Our class captains have been very conscientious in making sure they get watered everyday.

In English we have been continuing our work with recounts and during mathematics we have been exploring strategies to help us calculate multiplication problems.

Now we are getting excited for swimming which starts next Monday. It’ll be lovely and refreshing in this hot weather!

In Religion we have been reflecting on the season of Lent and what it means to us. We have put our Lenten promises on small crosses. Our crosses include the sacrifices that we are making throughout Lent, along with ways that help us live more like Jesus taught.

The small crosses we will bear during Lent are minor in comparison to the cross Jesus had to bear by giving up his life for us. We decided to join our small crosses and make one large cross, symbolizing the ultimate sacrifice Jesus made.

We have also been concentrating on the Bible passages of John 15:9-17 (Love One Another) and Matthew 25:31-36 (Sheep and the Goats). We found that the underlying message of these mandating scriptures correlates nicely with our Lenten promises.
1-2-3 MAGIC® & EMOTION COACHING
PARENT COURSE

Learn to manage behaviour in children 2-12 year’s old

A three-session program for parents and carers
at Star of the Sea (Staffroom)
on Monday 22nd, 29th Feb and 7th March from 6-8pm
A PROGRAM THAT IS BENEFICIAL FOR ALL PARENTS
Cost: $10 per family

Learn:

✓ How to manage behaviour without arguing or yelling
✓ How to handle challenging and testing behaviours
✓ How to wisely choose your strategies using a “three option” model and “behavior sorting”

✓ How to listen effectively, assist your child with managing their emotions and use language to calm your child through the use of emotion coaching
✓ 7 tactics for encouraging good behaviour

Parents will receive:
• A 1-2-3 Magic & Emotion Coaching Parent Workbook

Register for this course by filling out the registration form below and return to the school office by Tues 16th Feb. Only 20 places available. You will receive a phone call to confirm your registration on Wednesday 17th February. Childcare arrangements will need to be made to enable all participants to engage fully in the course. Payment can be made on the first night. The course is most suited to parents of children prep – year 4.

Attendance from both parents is beneficial but not necessary.

123 Parent Magic Registration
Please return form to Rachael Lovett via the school office by Friday 19th February

Parent Name: ___________________________ Phone: ___________________________

Name and grade level of children: __________________________________________

• An end to the arguing and yelling! • It saved our lives • Simple, sane, effective

This course is being run by a Parentsshop® licensed practitioner. www.parentsshop.com.au