the moment

this is the moment that’s passing you by
the one chance you’re going to miss
the timing will never be right again
it’ll never be better that this

you said you’ve been waiting for just the right chance
for something you’ve wanted to do
well this is the moment, it’s passing you by
and no one can change than but you.
fate only takes us so far in our lives
the rest is for us to decide
and if you just let this moment go by
you can’t even say that you tried

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OPENING OF THE NEW SCHOOL YEAR MASS
It was our very first whole school celebration with our new priest Fr Ashley. Our theme song this year is “ROAR” by Katy Perry. As parents and teachers, we want our children to be brave, to stand tall, to reach out to help others and to speak up when they see and hear injustices. Everyone participated beautifully.

Many thanks to Kylie Williamson who co-ordinated the liturgy. It was great to catch up with lots of parents and grandparents after mass for morning tea and a chat.

WELCOMING SOCIAL FUNCTION
All parents and students are invited to our annual disco on Friday 21st February from 5:00pm to 7:00pm. BYO food and drinks for adults and children. The event is free. In case of rain, we will move into the Year 4 learning area and The Lighthouse downstairs.

SOCIAL FUNCTIONS FOR 2014
Our Year 2 and Prep parents have co-ordinated the Disco and Social Function this Friday night for all parents and children. A Mother’s Day Celebration will be co-ordinated by parents from Years 1 and 3. Father’s Day event will be organized by Years 5, 6 and 7 parents. The end of year function will be organized by Year 4.

HOME READING PROGRAM
We shared some information with parents at the end of last year about a different emphasis on home reading and broadening it rather than the limiting and often disengaging levelled home readers being sent home.

Some more information will be shared at the Parent Information Sessions but on Monday 24th February from 1:30pm to 3:00pm and 6:00pm to 7:30pm, parents need to participate in some Parent Education being facilitated by Jo Kimmins, a Curriculum Consultant from Brisbane Catholic Education.

We are aiming for at least one parent from each family attending one of the two sessions being offered

RESOURCES NEEDED
A major component of our new home reading program will be environmental print and infographics. We are seeking donations of shopping receipts, catalogues, boxes e.g cereal, biscuits, travel brochures, timetables, menus. We would like the real thing and not just photocopies or downloads from the internet.

CHURCH CLEANING
Each week a team of 4 – 5 people are on a volunteers’ roster to vacuum the Church and clean the toilets. Some of the stalwarts of our parish who do this regularly are getting older and are not always well.

So far I have 6 members of our staff who have offered their services to be put on the roster. It would be once every 6 weeks. If there are any parents who could help out please let me know. The staff teams are looking at cleaning at 7:30am on Friday mornings.

LATE TO SCHOOL
If your child arrives after the bell in the morning, he or she must come to the office and be signed in and the office staff advised. We have had some instances where the roll has been marked, an SMS is sent to advise of your child’s absence and parents then need to call the office to say that there child is at school but was late.

CO-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES
Cooking with Miss Foy during Thursday lunchtimes is proving to be great fun and Chess Club with Mr Stone has challenged any interested children during Wednesday lunchtimes. Next week Mr Waters, Mrs Kirby and Mrs Groves begin our Fun Run Friday morning before school from 8:30am. Meet on the front oval.
SCHOOL FEES
Term One School Fees Statements were emailed out on Monday. The due date for these is Monday 3rd March. We do expect prompt payment and offer many ways to pay your fees for your convenience. It is not too late to set up Direct Debit if you wish.

Please ensure that you have located this email and if not contact the school immediately.

SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM
There will be some changes to our Parish Sacramental Program this year. This is to allow the sacraments of Reconciliation, Confirmation and First Communion to be celebrated in Year 3 from 2015. This year the Program will be open to the following students

- Reconciliation: Year 3 and above
- Confirmation: Year 5 and above
- Communion: Year 3

Diocesan requirements deem that before a student is eligible to make their Communion/Confirmation, they need to have participated in Reconciliation in a simple form.

Please indicate by email to pcleveland@bne.catholic.edu.au if you would like your child to participate this year. Please include student name, year level and sacrament/s. We are hoping to celebrate Reconciliation this term, First Communion in third term and the date for Confirmation has been set for 5th June.

Thanks to those of you who have indicated that your child will be participating in the program this year. Please note that the Parent Night for Reconciliation will be Thursday 6th March at 7:00pm in the Parish Hall. Dates for the celebration of Reconciliation have been set for 27th March and 29th March – times to follow.

CHILD CARE CENTRE MAINTENANCE PERSON
The Child Care Centre requires a Maintenance person for 5 hours per week. Duties include repairing equipment and general maintenance to the building, gardening and mowing. General outdoor clean on a weekly basis with most work to be carried out on the weekend with a few tasks during the week.

Please contact Charlotte Ivanes Centre Director Star of the Sea Catholic Child Care Centre on 3821 2999.

CARMEL COLLEGE ENROLMENTS YEAR 7, 2016
Applications for enrolment for Year 7, 2016 are invited from parents of students who are currently in Year 5.

Carmel College’s enrolment process for this year level will begin Term 2, 2014. Applications should be received before Friday 31st March, 2014. Enrolment information can be obtained via the Carmel College website www.carmelcollege.qld.edu.au or by contacting Mrs Donna Cook, College Enrolment Secretary on 3488 7791.

Applications are also being accepted for students currently in Year 4. These students will commence Year 7, 2017.

‘LET YOUR LIGHT SHINE’
PIANO TUITION and MUSIC THEORY

PARENT EDUCATION TOPICS
Each year we endeavour to offer workshops for parents. This term the focus is on reading and particularly how parents can help their children at home. We are interested in hearing from you the topics that you may wish us to facilitate for the remainder of this year.
A NOTE FROM THE GUIDANCE COUNSELLOR

Resilience & Role-modelling

Last week I began writing about resilience and the importance of reaching out. This week I will discuss how we can raise our children to become resilient.

There are two ways that we can support healthy development and build resilience;

- **Leading by example - being a role-model.** Click on the link below and on page 7 there is a table that provides information on the things that your child learns from your example. And of course no person or parent is perfect in their example so it’s helpful to sometimes reflect on our strengths and weaknesses and the ways these impact our children.

- **Taking opportunities to explicitly teach our children skills, particularly with their thinking.** The human mind is designed to try and make sense of our experience however, the mind also has a tendency to overgeneralise and makes assumptions which are inaccurate (e.g. Nobody likes me, I can’t do anything, I never get it right). Words like nobody, everybody, anything, never and always tend to indicate an overgeneralisation.

It’s important for children to learn that not everything their mind says is true! So they need us to help them check their assumptions and to find new ways to view challenges, solve problems, and get along better with others. We can also help children to see the positives and to appreciate the little things in life. Children also learn about who they are from the things that we tell them about themselves.

So let’s remember to identify our children’s strengths and tell them! “The way we talk to our children becomes their inner voice”. Peggy O’Mara You might recognise the voice of your parents in your mind from time to time, for better or for worse!

I guess we have a responsibility to speak helpful, beneficial, ‘words-to-live by’ to our children because they will take our words and use them to frame the way they view themselves and life. If you would like to read more about building resilience in children there’s a great little PDF booklet available on-line. [http://www.beststart.org/resources/healthyl_child_dev/pdf/BSRC_Resilience_English_final.pdf](http://www.beststart.org/resources/healthyl_child_dev/pdf/BSRC_Resilience_English_final.pdf) We have printed out a couple of copies and have them in the office if you would like to call in and have a read.

In kindness, Anita Katajamaki – Guidance Counsellor

STAR OF THE SEA MOTHER’S GROUP

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 and a drink for your child/children. Tea and coffee will be provided. Everyone is welcome! For more details contact Therese Staley - 0420306774 or Michelle Mair - 0407 700 322.

Dates for the rest of the term are 21st February, 7th and 21st March, 4th April.

THURSDAY LUNCHES

*A reminder that ALL Thursday lunch orders are to be paid for on WEDNESDAY MORNINGS.* Next Thursday’s lunch is Sushi.

The costs are;

- $2.50........1 sushi roll
- $3.00........1 sushi roll and 1 ice block
- $1.00........Ice block only
- $5.00........2 sushi rolls only
- $5.50........2 sushi rolls with ice block

The profit made from Thursday lunches is banked in the PCG Bank Account.
PREP – This week the letter of the week has been “c”. We have made cars, crowns, cupcakes, read “Clippety Clop” by Pamela Allen and handwrote the letter “c”. We love having parents come in to help us during this time. On the weekend, see how many “c” things you can find around the house.

Number 8 has been a point of interest this week. We made collections of 8 using collage materials. We have read and found out information about spiders. They have eight legs, make webs, eat little insects and many spiders also have eight eyes. We drew number stories using spiders and their legs. Four legs and four legs make 8 legs....

We also had our first official visit to the Church. We were glad we had our buddies to help us in our prayers and songs. We also enjoyed walking in with our buddies who are the leaders of Star of the Sea School. Our theme for this year is ‘ROAR - Reach Out, Speak Up! It is our challenge this year to reach out to help others in need.

YEAR 1 – What a week we have had, launching into our discovery work after 3 great weeks of immersion.

We have looked at change on many levels and the effects change has had on the world, past and present. We have also looked at change on both a personal and physical level.

Taylor made us aware of the changes that occur in animals around us by bringing in a 3 metre snake skin. We were amazed though still kept our distance.

Mr Len Norup, Grandfather of Eli (Year 1) and Erica (Year 4), came in and gave us a talk on what life was like when he was a young boy. We learnt about many changes that have occurred in society and were amazed to hear what school used to be like.

YEAR 2 – This week in Year Two we are exploring all kinds of information texts relating to our Discovery Topic of ‘Bugs Alive’! We are beginning to learn all about insect life cycles and specific information relating to the characteristics of some insects.

Our math skills are growing by the minute! We are getting so much better at skip counting in 2’s, 5’s and 10’s and are looking forward to experimenting with place value over the next couple of weeks. We have been responding to texts this week, identifying our favourite characters and giving appropriate reasoning for our choice.

On Monday, our response was to ‘I Am Going!’ by Mo Willems. Some of us already know about Piggie and Gerald but many of us are new to these series of hilarious children’s books by Mo Willems. They are so funny and we bet you will be hearing about them throughout the year!

YEAR 3 – We have been learning some really interesting things during discovery learning. Did you know that the earth rotates on its axis to give us day and night and that it takes a whole year for the earth to orbit all the way around the sun? We also learnt that the angle of the Earth is responsible for giving us the seasons!

We have also been super busy during our maths and literacy activities. We are learning about information reports as well as doing lots of reading. In maths we are focusing on place value to 10 000, measurement and revising our addition and subtraction strategies.
On Thursday we had our first school mass. Noah, Ella P and Nicholas did a great job reading. We were so well behaved and our teachers were very impressed! We even managed to get a whole heap of Dojo points!

We hope you have an awesome week! Love Year Three.

**YEAR 4** – This week we welcomed a new girl into Year 4 – Sheyteika. We hope you enjoy being part of our wonderful class, Skeyteika.

The highlight of our week was this morning's whole school Mass. Mrs Clough and Mrs McLucas, together with Mrs Yates and Mrs Larsen were incredibly proud of all our children and particularly those who read the Prayers of the Faithful so beautifully – thanks to Ryan, Jessica, Jack, Claire, Ella and Darcy.

We had another exciting day of Discovery Learning on Tuesday. The children are enjoying finding out lots of information about endangered species. And their teachers are learning lots as well! Let’s hope for a slightly cooler week next week!

**YEAR 5** – Another fantastic week with fantastic kids!

Did you see our Angles Hunt on Twitter? We found angles all over the school, inside the learning areas, as well as outside in the playgrounds. We will be using protractors to measure angles in the next week. We also looked at fractions….yet another area in maths that requires fast recall of our Times Tables. We need to remember to keep practising!

We looked into communities and our involvement in 'like groups' during religion. We are continuing with our research in Discovery, and looking forward to the 'Secret Mission' that the teachers have been telling us about.

Don't forget, Homework and Quota Books tomorrow, and swimming!!! We are all looking forward to cooling off at Cleveland Pool tomorrow.

**YEAR 6 & 7** - This week we have been doing a lot of work. One of the subjects we have been studying is maths and we have started learning about decimals. Everyone is doing a wonderful job at decimals and we hope to achieve something good in the next few weeks.

We have also been learning about taking notes to write narratives. We rewrote stories from Greek Mythology, one of which was Perseus and the Gorgon, Medusa. We have also written stories about the Golden Age of Greece and another story about a squad of ants.

On Thursday the whole school celebrated the opening school mass led by Mrs. Bakon and Father Ashley. The seniors were accompanied by their parents and their buddies in Prep. During the mass, in front of everyone, the seniors were presented with badges and a lantern by their parents to represent the seniors lighting the way for the rest of the school.

Afterwards the parishioners and the parents and the seniors were invited to morning tea to celebrate the new seniors of the school and a happy new year.

Check our web galleries in the next few days - click here – for photos of the Mass and to get regular updates of the Seniors doing whatever interesting stuff we’ve been getting into.

All the best, Navrin, Ashley and Jackson