No one is born hating another person because of the colour of his skin, or his background or his religion. People learn to hate, and if they can learn to hate, they can be taught to love, for love comes more naturally to the human heart than its opposite.

Nelson Mandela
ASH WEDNESDAY MASS
Next week we celebrate the beginning of the Season of Lent. Everyone is invited to join our students and staff for Mass and distribution of ashes on Wednesday 5th March at 9:15am.

STAFFING CHANGES
We welcome Mrs Delene Keyser to our school. Delene will man reception on Fridays commencing tomorrow.

Brisbane Catholic Education Office has also allocated to each primary school in the Archdiocese additional administration time. This decision has enabled Kate MacArthur who has been released two days a week since we opened in 2009 to be released full time from her teaching role. Kate’s role is to support teachers with their planning and reporting processes, keeping abreast of curriculum changes and managing our information and communication technologies.

HOME READING – READING FOR LOVE, READING FOR LEARNING, READING FOR LIFE
It was great to see so many parents take part in the two sessions last Monday in the O’Dea Centre. The feedback has been very positive. Kate MacArthur will endeavour to take some of the PowerPoint slides and post them onto Moodle for those parents who were not able to make it to a session.

Below are some logistical reminders for everyone:

✔️ Each student from Year 1 – 7 chooses 3 texts from The Lighthouse during their library borrowing time. Preppies will choose only 2 to start with.

✔️ One of these texts must be an infographic (real-life reading) e.g. travel brochure, menu, and advertisement. Most of these packs contain some questions which can be used by students to check their comprehension and / or can be used by parents as prompts for questioning their child’s reading.

✔️ The students keep these texts for the week until the next library borrowing day.

✔️ Every student must have a red satchel to keep the two or three texts in as well as their reading folder – NO SATCHEL = NO BORROWING

✔️ Older students will be able to complete the reading log contained in their reading folder by themselves but we encourage parents to check and make comments as well.

✔️ Parents of younger children will need to fill in the reading log for their child.

✔️ READ TO means that an adult reads to their child – even Year 7’s can still be read to

✔️ READ WITH means that an adult shares the reading time, the child reads aloud with parent help as needed

✔️ READ BY means the child reads the text independently and easily without adult support

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>LIBRARY BORROWING DAYS</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>Year 2 and 6 / 7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>Year 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>Year 5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>Year 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>Prep and Year 1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

SCHOOL PARKING
The small carpark outside the ChildCare Centre is for parents dropping off and picking up their children from the Centre. Please do not park on the grassed areas in Longland Street and Queen Street. These nature strips are fiercely protected under State Government legislation and we are regularly advised by Council Officers that it is a $50 on the spot fine if you are caught.

SCHOOL CHOIRS
Junior Choir is held on Thursdays from 10:45am to 11:15am and Senior Choir is held from 11:30am to 12 noon.
BAPTISMAL PREPARATION

Our Parish relies heavily on lots of volunteers to co-ordinate and run its activities. The two ladies who help parents with Baptismal preparation have had to step down for personal reasons.

If you can help out or would like to find out more details about this program please speak with Fr Ashley or phone the Parish Office on 3281 4902.

A NOTE FROM OUR GUIDANCE COUNSELLOR

DISCIPLINE

The word discipline means to teach. Who would have thought? For most of us discipline is often associated with punishment! However, it’s important to remember that children are still learning about the world around them, they are bound to make mistakes, and it is up to us to educate them on what to do and how to behave in a range of situations.

Effective discipline can be broken down into three aspects:

1. Strong and positive relationships
2. Building skills and increasing desired behaviours
3. Decreasing undesired behaviours

Today we will look at the first step in more detail. Parents and carers who provide discipline as part of a loving and secure relationship with their children help them to feel secure and self-confident.

My top two tips for strengthening your relationship with your child are:

1. Quality time together
2. Catch them being good

1. Quality time – It’s important to have some ‘special’ time with your child on a regular basis. Schedule these on a family calendar so that your child knows when they’re occurring. I know many parents are busy so even half hour blocks of time are fine.

The key to quality time with your children is to give them your undivided attention (avoid the urge to multi-task), allow them to choose an activity to do together (feel free to set limits e.g. it must be free), and make an effort to listen more to your child (no pretending).

Take the time to really appreciate and enjoy your child’s company. Activities your child might like to do with you could include playing a game, going to the park, playing with toys, cooking/baking something together, going for a bike ride, reading a story, or having a special snack together. Make time to really listen to your child. This helps them to feel understood.

Generally, when children feel understood they begin to calm down. Too often we don’t take the time to really listen and empathise with our children and instead we jump immediately into doing one of the following: correcting them, giving advice, distracting them, dismissing or catastrophising their concerns!

2. Catch them being good – It’s important to give your child attention for positive/desired behaviours. Acknowledge these behaviours and be specific e.g. “Thank you for your help. You remembered to clear away the dishes without a reminder” or “I was really happy that you were so patient. You sat quietly and waited for me to finish my conversation”.

Psychological research has shown that following up on a person’s behaviour with something positive makes it more likely that these behaviours will happen again. Praise and acknowledgement are motivating for children. You may even like to keep a record of the behaviours you are pleased with and read them together at bedtime. This will be a positive experience for both you and your child.

Next week we will look at step 2 in more detail. Until then, have a wonderful week.

In Kindness, Anita Katajamaki (Guidance Counsellor).
SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM
Thanks to everyone who has indicated that their child will be participating in the program this year. Your emails have given us a good idea of the number of children who will be involved. Please note that you need to collect an enrolment form from the Parish Office.

Remember that the Reconciliation Parent Session is next Thursday evening, 6th March, at 7:00pm in the Parish Hall.

FUN RUN
Attached to today’s newsletter is some information about our Fun Run starting tomorrow at 8:30am. Children and any interested parents need to meet at the long jump pit on the front oval at 8:20am. The Fun Run will be held every Friday until the end of this term.

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 8 members of our staff and 1 parent 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.

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.

THURSDAY LUNCHES
A reminder that ALL Thursday lunch orders are to be paid for on WEDNESDAY MORNINGS. Next Thursday’s lunch is Sausage Sizzle.

The costs are:
$3.00 ........ 1 sausage on a roll and 1 ice block
$1.00 ........ Ice block only

SCHOOL BANKING – EVERY TUESDAY
Every Tuesday is School Banking day! For any student wanting to participate there are Parent Information Packs available in the front office. The pack will explain how to setup a Commonwealth Bank Youthsaver Account, Reward Tracker and Token Redemption Card. For every deposit made at school, no matter how big or small, students will receive a cool Dollarmites token.
PREP – One of the best things about being in Prep is spending time with our Buddies!

Last Thursday we met our buddies to go to the church for the Opening School Mass. Our buddies led us into the church, sat with us and taught us lots of things about how to be part of the Mass. They were so helpful and kind which made the experience very special for us, something we will always remember.

Our buddies often come in to help us pack our bags or just to sit with us while we eat our lunch and have a chat about how we are going at school. We are so lucky to have such great buddies. Thank you buddies and Mr Stone.

This week as part of our afternoon reading groups we have been enjoying ‘Blanket Reading’. It’s a wonderful opportunity to sit outside in the shade on a blanket and share some books in a small group with an adult. We get to chat about the stories and share our ideas. We look forward to more ‘Blanket Reading’ next week.

On Friday this week we will be starting the new SOTS Home Reading Program. We have been busy preparing some very special pictures for the front covers of our new reading folders!

We will all be taking home a ‘read to’ text (library book) and a ‘read with’ text (info graphic) on Friday this week which the children will keep for a week and return next Friday.

YEAR 1 – Today we welcomed Mrs Oliver to our learning area. Mrs Oliver showed us different ways to add numbers to ten and told us about her favourite author Mem Fox. We listened to one of the stories written by Mem Fox ‘Shoes from Grandpa’, and then had a discussion about how much we enjoyed the illustrations and the rhyming words used throughout the book.

At playtime today it was the year one’s turn to do cooking with Miss Foy in the year two learning area. Miss Foy explained what we had to do and then with some help from Miss Robertson and Mrs Heilbron we managed to ice and decorate our biscuits.

For some children the best part was eating the biscuits when they were ready. For others it was walking up the long flight of stairs and looking out at the lighthouse!

YEAR 2 – This week in Year Two we have been looking at Butterflies in Discovery! We have found out so many interesting facts about butterflies and have even learned their life cycle. They are very beautiful insects and use the colour of their wings to camouflage. We found out that this is one of their ‘defences’ against their predators.

We have been looking at information texts in literacy and have written one about Ants. We included what they look like, where they live, their diet and one interesting fact. In numeracy we have been looking at mental addition strategies like our rainbow facts of 10. We have really enjoyed these and love to practise them at home too!

Thank you to all the family and friends for coming to see our class literacy. We loved sharing what we have learned about friendship with you. Have a great weekend!
**YEAR 3 –** This week in Year Three there has been a lot of excitement in the air! We have been counting down the days until our trip to the Planetarium at Mt Coo-tha. We are so excited and can’t wait to share all the details in next week’s news! Make sure you check out our twitter account where we will upload lots of photos of our trip.

This also marks the end of our immersion phase in discovery learning. Next week will see us moving onto the next phases. Yay!

Have a wonderful week. Love Year Three

**YEAR 4 –** We’ve had an exciting week in Year 4. During our Discovery Learning we have started to look at formulating our epic questions. We worked in groups to try to find 100 ideas in 10 minutes – it was great to see the children working so hard together!

We then NUF’ed out our idea – are they New, Useful and Feasible? Our literacy rotations have focussed on singular and plural, and writing paragraphs. During numeracy we have been revising how to add and subtract with and without regrouping.

We have also been tweeting different ways to make numbers – Mrs Clough and Mrs McLucas have been impressed by the way the children have come up with lots of different solutions.

Don’t forget to check Moodle for interview times during Week 7 and 8. We look forward to meeting with you all to discuss your child’s progress and any concerns that you may have.

**YEAR 5 –** In Year 5 we have discovered new hardware, and the use of a variety of new applications available on our iPads. This week, we used the MacBook Pro laptops, as well as the iPads, to create Keynote Presentations to present to our peers the research we have gathered on planets of the Solar System.

Keynote is similar to PowerPoint, however, there are many new tools available in Keynote that we are beginning to master. We are looking forward to presenting our Keynotes, with the use of Keynote Remote, and impressing our teachers with the professionalism of our presentations.

We have been looking at angles and beginning to use protractors to measure angles…amazing how any angles make up our environment!

We are also trying to persuade our teachers that Homework Should Be Banned! …but there are so many positive aspects of Homework that have made writing our persuasive texts challenging!

**YEAR 6 & 7 -** We have had a great week in 6/7 - it has been so much fun.

We have had a lot of time with our buddies this week. In the afternoon we have read to them, help them pack up and then we take them to drive though. We think that our buddies are fitting in great and are enjoying their new school.

This week in maths we have continued learning how to add decimals. We are all getting really good at that. We can't wait for next week when we will be learning about how to multiply decimals.

We are also reading Percy Jackson. Or, really, Mr Stone is reading it to us. We have to follow the board while he is reading and when he pauses we can put our hand up if we know where he is up to. If he picks us we get to sit in his chair and turn the next page. We also get a snake!

In class we have been making posters of Greek stuff. Myths, gods and wars, Olympics, art, drama and much more were among the subjects that people looked at. We also have made learning plans for Mr Stone telling him what parts of ancient Greek Culture we would like to study for our final project in discovery learning.

Make sure you check out our photo gallery just - click here – to take a look at all of our latest pictures.

We hope you have a great weekend. Sincerely Will and Lucy xox
On Friday the 28th of February at 8:30am we will be commencing our Fun Run. The event provides an opportunity for all students to have fun and get fit.

The course will be approximately 1 kilometre. Upon completion of each lap you will receive a coloured token for your effort. The colour you receive will replicate the house colour you are in. Remember to ask your teacher your house colour before Friday if you are unsure. Being 1 kilometre provides a great opportunity to incorporate totals into maths and graphing activities.

During the first session on Friday tokens will be collected and counted. The overall score will be given at the final assembly of the term, with the winning house receiving the Inaugural Star of the Sea Fun Run Trophy.

The course will be mapped out by markers which are to be accurately followed. If you fail to follow the course properly you will be sent back to the start/finish line to re-start your lap.

The Fun Run is a great opportunity to work on your fitness for next term’s Cross Country Carnival. All students are encouraged to ‘have a go’, whether you walk or run. Parents are more than welcome to participate with your child/children or to help around the course. Helpers are asked to assemble on the oval at 8:15am so you can be allocated a job before commencement.

The Start/Finish lines will be in the corner of the oval, where the long jump pits are. Remember, the team with the most laps calculated by the end of the term will be the overall winners.

At the end of the term we will also be having a Pizza Party for the Year level with the most overall laps. A tally of the totals will be updated weekly on a display near the Year 1 eating area.

This Thursday the 27th of February we will be launching our colouring-in competition. Prizes will be won for outstanding efforts.

We are calling on anyone who would kindly like to donate prizes to our Fun Run and colouring-in competition. We would love the prizes to be associated with running and fitness e.g. Waters Bottles etc.