Dear Lord

As my children leave for school,
I pray that you will keep them in your care.
Send your spirit to open their minds
to all that is true and beautiful and good.
Help them to see the gifts and talents you have given them
and to use them well.
Help them to grow in knowledge and wisdom.
Help them to be kind to others
and let others be kind to others
and let others be kind to them.
Give their teachers patience and understanding
and help them teach what is just and true.
Send your angels to guide and guard my children
and to keep them from all harm.
Open their young hearts to your presence
and enfold them in your peace and protection.
Hold them in the palm of your hand
and bring them home safely at day’s end.

STUDENT PROTECTION CONTACTS
Karen Bakon------ Principal
Kylie Williamson - APRE
Kathy Casley------ Guidance Counsellor

Click on link below for
Brisbane Catholic Education's Student Protection Process
www.bne.catholic.edu.au/students-parents/Pages/StudentProtection.aspx

2015 Term Dates
TERM 1
Jan 28 – April 2
TERM 2
April 20 – June 6
TERM 3
July 13 – Sept 18
TERM 4
Oct 6 – Dec 4 (12noon)
WELCOMING SOCIAL FUNCTION
All parents and students are invited to our annual disco and barbecue on Friday 27th February from 5:00pm to 7:30pm. More details will be coming.

PARENT COMMUNITY GROUP MEETING
Our first PCG meeting will be held on Thursday 26th February from 7:00pm to 8:00pm. All parents are invited to participate. Part of the meeting will be devoted to more information on the Home Reading Program so it would be great to see our new parents represented.

Our Annual General Meeting is held in March so you have plenty of time to think about nominating for positions – Chair, Vice-Chair, Secretary, and Treasurer.

PARENT VOLUNTEERS NEEDED
Thank you Donna Denning for offering to help Sharon Gillies with Book Club. Thank you to Sylvia Brownlie and Monique Reimer for offering to help with sushi. We still need 3 parents to help with the weekly banking commencing Week 4.

CARMEL COLLEGE OPENING MASS
On Monday, I will be representing Star of the Sea School at the Opening of the School Mass to be held at the Chandler Auditorium. Grace Clark, Ben Rutberg and Ryan Gough have been selected as student representatives to accompany me.

REDLANDS DISTRICT SWIM CARNIVAL
Also on Monday, we have 18 students representing our school at the Redlands District Swimming Carnival at the Cleveland Pool. We wish the following students a great day:

Baker, Harriet ................. Female - Age: 10
Bradley, Amy ................... Female - Age: 10
Bradley, Anna ................. Female - Age: 12
De Shepper, Lore ............. Female - Age: 10
Faulks, Mia Coco ............. Female - Age: 10
Healy, Stephanie ............ Female - Age: 11
Karklis, Tali .................... Male - Age: 10
Kenmuir, Catelyn .......... Female - Age: 11
Kenmuir, Dylan ............... Male - Age: 11

McKay, Renae ............... Female - Age: 10
Montenegro, Calum .......... Male - Age: 10
Montenegro, Ella ............ Female - Age: 12
Norris, Zac ................... Male - Age: 11
Oliver, Ziggi .................. Male - Age: 10
Retief, Hannah .............. Female - Age: 10
Rosiak, Hannah ............. Female - Age: 11
Ryan, Rumi ................... Female - Age: 11

OPENING OF THE SCHOOL YEAR MASS
We will officially open the school year with a whole school mass on Thursday 12th February commencing at 9:15am. Parents, grandparents and friends are most welcome.

Part of the celebration will include the induction and blessing of our new school leaders so we especially invite the parents of our Year 6 students. Could parents please bring a plate to share at morning tea in the O’Dea Centre after Mass?

NEXT WEEK’S ASSEMBLY
A representative from the Commonwealth Bank will speak about school banking.

CHILDREN AND THE SACRAMENTS
Children from Year 3 are eligible to receive the sacraments of Reconciliation, Confirmation and Communion this year. Parents are invited to enrol your child for Reconciliation which will be celebrated in March.

The parents meeting will be held in the Parish Hall on 19th February and it is essential that a parent attend this meeting. The meeting will be 2:00pm and repeated at 7:00pm. Please contact the Parish on 3821 4902 with any queries.
ASH WEDNESDAY MASS
On Wednesday 18th February at 9:15am we will celebrate as a whole school with our parishioners and families, the beginning of the Season of Lent. Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of 40 days of reflecting on the life of Jesus, his crucifixion on Good Friday and his rising on Easter Sunday.

During these next few weeks, our students will be learning more about this Season in class.

MOODLE
Please check Moodle regularly for updates on what’s happening in your child's year level. If you are having difficulty accessing it, please let your year level teachers know.

READING TIME
Every Wednesday morning starting next week from 8:30am, learning areas will be open so that parents, staff and students can READ,READ,READ!!!!

CLASS PARENT REPRESENTATIVES
As explained in our Parent Education sessions this week, we are seeking at least 2 parents from each year level to coordinate a social function and other networking opportunities for our parents and families. To date we have the following reps:

Prep --------------
Year 1 ----------- Monique Reimer & Amelia Clark
Year 2 -----------
Year 3 ----------- Helen Groombridge
Year 4------------
Year 5------------ Donna Denning
Year 6------------

Please let us know if are able to take on the role.

AUSSIE HOOPS IS BACK!
Bayside Basketball is offering a “girls only” and a “boys only” Aussie Hoops program this term at Star of the Sea. Aussie Hoops is all about participation and fun.

Aussie Hoops has a national coaching curriculum and sequentially developed program consisting of warm-up games, skill activities and modified games, all delivered by accredited coaches. It's for Prep to grade 6 students aged 5 to 11 years. Each new participant receives a ball, a bag and a reversible singlet.

Basketball Queensland will be bringing some “QBL Stars” to play a “So You Think You Can Play!” game against the “Teacher All Stars” on Wednesday 11th February from 11.00-11.40pm to launch the Aussie Hoops program. All are welcome to come and watch!

The program will be on Monday afternoons from 3.15pm to 4.15pm for boys and it starts on the 16th February and Thursday afternoons from 3.15pm - 4.15pm starting on the 19th February for 7 weeks for the girls. Cost is $75 which includes the Aussie Hoops pack or just $55 if you are a returning participant and already have your Aussie Hoops gear.

To register check your child’s bag for a flyer for instructions or go to www.aussiehoops.com.au and enter postcode “4163” into sign post next to Patty Mills.

VOLUNTEER STUDENT PROTECTION TRAINING
All parent volunteers in 2015 are required to complete the latest Student Protection training for volunteers. Our first group session will be held on 25th February at 9:00am in the staffroom. This session will take approximately 30 minutes.

If you are already helping with things like sausage sizzle / sushi, bookclub, crossing supervision or banking, or you are interested in helping out throughout the year, please attend this or further training offered at school.
**SWIMMING LESSONS**

Lessons for Prep to Year 6 begin on Monday 23rd February (Week 5). 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
- ✔ Sunhat
- ✔ 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.

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**SCHOLASTIC BOOK CLUB**

The best gift any parent can give a child is the love of good books and the joy and benefits of good reading. Children who read at home, or are read to, have a head start on reading success in school.

Twice a term during the school year we will send home a Club flyer with a different selection of books offered. You’ll find award-winning books, as well as old and new favourites. We recommend them because the books span a wide range of children’s reading levels and interests and because they are inexpensive (some books cost as little as $2). Owning your own books is something special!

We hope that you will encourage your child to order books this year. Each order helps earn free books and teaching materials for our school, however, there is never any obligation to order. I know of no better way to encourage reading than to allow children to choose the books they want to read.

One of the new ways to post your order is to access the new LOOP system.

Thank you in advance for making our School Book Club such an amazing success.

Kind Regards Book Club Co-coordinators

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**SPEECH AND DRAMA NEWS**

A reminder that Speech and Drama lessons with Mrs Terry Larsen will start back in the Parish Hall on Thursday morning 12th February 2015 at 8:00am. Lessons are $10 per week per student and invoices are sent home through the school's internal mail system.

An enrolment form must be completed and returned to the office before the first lesson. The enrolment form and additional information is attached to the school newsletter and there are also forms available in the school office. Mrs Larsen can be contacted at tlarsen@bne.catholic.edu.au

Terry Larsen Speech & Drama Teacher

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**STAR OF THE SEA MOTHER’S GROUP**

Play group will be meeting again this term in the McKinlay Centre (next to Uniform Shop). Anyone is welcome to come along for a chat and a cuppa. Please bring morning tea, drink bottle and hat for your child. Tea and coffee is provided for the parents.

The dates for this term are 6th February, 20th February, 6th March and 20th March. Any questions please feel free to call either Michelle Mair on 0407700322 or Amelia Clarke on 0415 939 993.
A MESSAGE FROM THE GUIDANCE COUNSELLOR

Student Protection Processes

http://www.bne.catholic.edu.au/students-parents/Pages/StudentProtection.aspx

Recent amendments to legislation have led to changes in Brisbane Catholic Education’s Student Protection Processes. For a full description of these changes, please follow the above link to Brisbane Catholic Education’s website. A hard copy of this information can also be found at the front desk of the school administration office.

Volunteers
All parents and community members participating at the school in a volunteer capacity are required to complete student protection training and familiarise themselves with the Volunteer Code of Conduct. A hard copy of this document is available at the front desk of the administration office. Prior to commencing volunteer work at the school, members of the community will need to complete a short training session and provide documentation demonstrating their participation in this training. If you are a volunteer at the school, please keep a lookout for sessions to update your compulsory Volunteer Student Protection training.

Student Protection Contacts
At Star of the Sea there are 3 Student Protection Contacts on staff. These contacts are Karen Bakon (Principal), Kylie Williamson (Assistant Principal) and Kathy Casley (Guidance Counsellor). Students, parents and staff can approach Student Protection Contacts individually with concerns about the safety of students, and these particular staff members will then follow the necessary processes in response to the concerns raised. This may include a concern about the behaviour of a staff member that a student considers to be inappropriate.

Complaints Procedure
Where members of the community believe that a staff member has not complied with Brisbane Catholic Education’s Student Protection processes, a formal complaint may be made by following the procedure outlined in the ‘Complaints Procedure’ section, accessed by following the link above.

Record of Complaint
Where members of the school community believe that a staff member has not followed student protection processes, a formal complaint may be made by using the ‘Record of Complaint’ form, which may be accessed by following the link below.

http://www.bne.catholic.edu.au/students-parents/Pages/StudentProtection.aspx

This and further information on Student Protection policies and processes can be accessed on the 'Students and Parents' tab of the Brisbane Catholic Education public website.

Mrs Nicole Cantwell's wedding – 13th December 2014
In Prep this week it’s been all about settling into routines and ways of working. We are getting good at packing our own bags, looking after our things, knowing what to do and making new friends. It’s been incredibly busy with lots to learn but it’s getting easier every day!

One of our favourite stories this week has been The Very Hungry Caterpillar. We surprised to see how much food the caterpillar ate. This made us think of times when we ate too much of our favourite foods.

We are really good at pretending in Prep and used this ability to act out the story of The Very Hungry Caterpillar. And what do caterpillars turn into?? Beautiful butterflies! If you visit our room you’ll see some of our collage butterflies.

A big thank you to our Year 6 Buddies for helping us settle in!

What a busy start to an exciting term in year 1. We are having lots of fun in our literacy rotations creating Rhyming Rainbows with pairs of rhyming words.

In Maths we are enjoying the process of gathering data and converting the data into graphs. We are also gaining an understanding of the calendar, in particular the order of the months of the year.

Noah’s Ark has been our focus for Religion and we are looking forward to creating our own individual artistic impression of Noah’s Ark. The behavior and work ethic in year 1 has been sensational! We are looking forward to a great year in 2015.

This Week in Year Two we have started our Immersion phase in Discovery. There were so many interesting items in our Immersion Box, we think it may take us a little while to explore every piece!

Our Hexagonal thinking session has led us to believe we are learning about nature, insects and animals, the planet and Captain Planet. Who is Captain Planet you ask? We asked each other the same question!

The rest of this week we will be focusing on finding out more about this Captain Planet fellow and his Planeteers.

We do know they share a very important message about the Earth but what could it be? And why are they doing it?
In Grade Three we have been very busy with learning and we’ve been having a lovely time with our two new teachers. Last week we did some Australia Day activities. We coloured some Aboriginal, Australian and Torres Strait Islander flags. We also made lamingtons with Ms Biskupovich which was awesome! We made some Coat of Arms which represent who we are!

This week we got straight into learning with Literacy Rotations. We are reading a class novel called George’s Marvellous Medicine, we have started doing word sorts for spelling and we have learned all about contractions. During our Reading Training we have focused on choosing a book that is suitable for our ability and another focus was finding contractions in our book.

In Maths we have been doing some learning about symmetry, odd and even numbers and addition. We made Monarch Butterflies in Art, which show symmetry.

Year Four has had a great start to the year celebrating Australia Day with Australian Activities.

We continued this theme looking at our immersion box on Tuesday for our new Discovery Learning unit. Students enjoyed selecting items from the box and guessing how they could all form a topic.

Items included a cricket bat and Wallabies jersey, a stuffed echidna and platypus, Australian history and information books, a boomerang, a rain stick and lamingtons!

Students were excited about brainstorming googleable and non-googleable questions about the items they found. Year Four is looking forward to our excursion to Ngutana Lui tomorrow to see what we can discover about Aboriginal culture!

In Grade 5 it has been a great start to the school year. In week 1 we learnt that we will be learning about paper planes in Discovery, something that we all are excited about participating in. Our teachers have made us feel warm and welcome in our classroom, bringing one another together.

In week 2 we went and watched the movie ‘Paper Planes’ and many of us could relate it to how we learn Discovery. We have also started our Maths and Literacy rotations and all the activities have taught us about different aspects of each subject.

Welcome back to another great year at Star of the Sea. Our senior students have started the year so well. They have shown a great deal of maturity in the way they have settled into our new room and especially with the way they have treated their buddies.

Mrs Clough, Mrs McLucas, Mrs Grove and Mrs McKillop have all been so impressed with the attention they have shown the Prep students and the caring way they have looked after them. We are so proud of you all!!!

This week we started our Literacy and Maths' blocks. We have introduced our new Spelling Journal and the children have shown great enthusiasm when working on these. We have also planned our first assembly for the year. The students have been in charge of organising the roster for the presenters, working out the script, liaising with Mrs Bakon regarding the content and setting up the O’Dea Centre with the PA and seating for parents.

We hope to make a few changes to the format this year to make it unique to our year. We are also looking forward to the opening school Mass next Thursday when we will be presented with our leader’s badge. We hope to see you all there.
STAR OF THE SEA SPEECH AND DRAMA PROGRAM

Star of the Sea would like to offer its students the opportunity to attend before school drama lessons with Mrs Terry Larsen. Lessons will be held in the Parish Hall on a Thursday morning starting at 8:00am and finishing at 8:45am with a cost of $10 per student per week.

In a relaxed and supportive atmosphere, the students will be given an opportunity to experience mime, improvisation, role play, poetry and working together to perform in short plays.

Speech and Drama lessons can help students to express themselves clearly and confidently in personal, social, and school situations. Lessons help to develop an understanding of the importance of volume, pitch, pace and pause, emphasis and projection, in producing a clear, effective and natural vocal delivery. An understanding of these processes together with an awareness of facial expressions, body language, gesture and audience awareness means that students can present effectively and confidently.

Mrs Terry Larsen has been teaching drama for over twenty years in both the school and private studio settings and is passionate about the benefits that drama can give to children. She writes poetry, plays and children’s stories, many of which have been performed by her students at exams, eisteddfods and at showcasing concerts.

Terry is the co-founder of Redlands Young Actors’ Group (RYAG); a group that holds Saturday afternoon workshops here at the Star of the Sea Parish Hall on a monthly basis. She is also a Director, the Chief Examiner and author of the Australian Performers and Speakers Syllabus (APASS) formerly known as St Cecilia’s School of Music Performers’ and Speakers’ Syllabus (PASS).

Please fill in the enrolment form below and return it to the office as soon as possible if you would like to enrol your child in these lessons.

Star of the Sea Extra-Curricular Speech and Drama Program Enrolment Form

Student’s Name: …………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………

Year Level: ……………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………….

Parent/Guardian’s Name: ……………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………….

Phone: …………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………

Email Address: ……………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………..

Emergency Contact Person’s Name: ……………………………………………………………………………………………………………………….

Emergency Contact Phone Number: …………………………………………………………………………………………………………………

Parent/Guardian’s signature: …………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………….
School Banking is here at Star of the Sea

The Commonwealth Bank School Banking program is at Star of the Sea every **TUESDAY**. To get your child involved, representatives from the Commonwealth Bank will visit the school to help complete the application form required to open a Youth Saver account on:

**Thursday 12th February 2015**
**Near the Assembly Hall**
**2:00 pm – 3:15 pm**

- Please ensure you bring along photo identification such as a valid driver’s licence or passport for yourself.
- No identification is required for your child as the school will confirm their identity.
- Siblings are welcome to participate, however you will need to bring along their birth certificate or passport.
- Children with an existing account do not need to open a new one to participate. If you can’t make it to school on the day you are welcome to open an account through your local branch, netbank or telephone banking (132221).
- Children can redeem a fun reward once they have made **10** deposits at school such as a money box, handball, pens and more.
- On Banking Day (**Tuesday**) please have your children hand their Yellow Banking Book to their teacher for collection.
- This is a great fundraiser for our school. We receive $5 for each student who banks through the school’s program for the very first time and 5% of every deposit made at school (up to a max of $10 commission per individual deposit).