Make the Ordinary come Alive!
Do not ask your children
to strive for extraordinary lives.
Such striving may seem admirable,
but it is a way of foolishness.
Help them instead to find the wonder
and the marvels of an ordinary life.
Show them the joy of tasting
tomatoes, apples and pears.
Show them how to cry when pets and people die.
Show them the infinite pleasure
in the touch of a hand.
And make the ordinary come alive for them.
The extraordinary will take care of itself.

Our theme for 2015 is
“Make today your best day!”
Our theme song for 2015 is
“Best Day of my Life” – American Authors

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 26
TERM 3
July 13 – Sept 18
TERM 4
Oct 6 – Dec 4 (12noon)
FOUNDATION DAY
The foundation of our beautiful school will be celebrated on Friday 14th August. We will commence with a whole school mass commencing at 9:15am. Parents, friends and parishioners are welcome to join us. Following Mass, we will have munch and crunch.

The remainder of the day will be even more fun. Staff and our parent sub-committee have organized jumping castles, fairy floss, sample bags, a photo booth, an animal farm, ceramic painting, sand art, ten pin bowling, donut bobbing, beading, a fishing game and more. The kindy children will be joining us for a period of time as well.

We look forward to seeing lots of parents helping and joining in our celebrations.

A MESSAGE FROM THE GUIDANCE COUNSELLOR
It is very common for children to return from a hectic day at school and have information to share about things that went wrong, or things that have been challenging for them. Our brains are wired to remember these things, in preference to the more enjoyable aspects of our day. In the past this has been a survival mechanism to aid in the alert of danger. While there is minimal threat of danger in our modern times, this tendency has persisted for many of us.

At Star of the Sea we talk with the children about making their brains strong in different ways. It may be to strengthen our learning abilities, to practise creativity, or to concentrate better. It may also be to stop and think before responding, to practise being brave or assertive, or to express ourselves better.

It may be that we practise a sporting skill or musical ability to improve in these areas. The more we practise these skills with our brains, the better we become at demonstrating them. In much the same way, the more we are aware and attend to things that are positive in our lives the better we become at noticing them and enjoying life. We can help our children to do this by acting as role models of people who pay attention to happy or positive situations, and helping to draw their attention to things that are enjoyable around them.

And when children do bring their unhappiness home, or disappointments, it is important to listen and help them to look at it from another perspective. It is not always the other child’s fault, or the fault of the teacher, but perhaps other things happened that we don’t even know about or didn’t notice.

Being critical or judgemental of other people in front of our children may lead to unhelpful thought patterns that may contribute towards inappropriate behaviour or unhappiness. (‘She is always mean to me’ or ‘It’s never my fault’).

If we view unfortunate situations from the perspective of multiple possibilities, children will learn that there are a range of ways to view and approach situations, and to choose the way that is hopefully more helpful for them and others.

Kathy Casley    Guidance Counsellor

MUSICAL REHEARSALS
The actors in our Little Stars musical have been working every Wednesday lunch time with Mrs Hardy and myself. However, as the last week of this term gets scarly closer and closer I would like to run additional rehearsals for all the actors and contestants.

Commencing at 8:00am this coming Monday, 27th July, I will be available in the Lighthouse for all, or any, of our actors or contestants to come along for some additional rehearsal time. This way Mrs Hardy and I will be playing to our strengths with Mrs Hardy taking the singers on a Thursday morning and I’ll take the acting team on Mondays.

I do realise that this will mean two mornings for some of our “little stars” but I believe that this is the best way that I can support the children. We will still have our Wednesday lunch time rehearsals. Thank you for your support of the musical.

Terry Larsen    Speech and Drama Teacher

DATE CLAIMERS:
First Communion Masses .........................5th September, 6th September, 12th September, 13th September
Multi-cultural Mass and Expo .................Sunday 30th August from 8:30am
Parent Community Group Meeting ...........Thursday 30th July 7:00pm – 8:00pm
BUSHLAND PROJECT
We've received lots of positive feedback about the work undertaken over the holidays in the area at the back.

We are now planning Stage 2 with a sub-committee of parents, staff and parishioners. We have received great response to this sub-committee including a surveyor, environmental scientist and architect. We look forward to meeting and developing a plan for the area.

An opportunity is being provided for all parents to participate in the much acclaimed ‘1-2-3 Magic Parenting Program’.

Presented by Centacare, 1-2-3 Magic Parenting in a workshop run over 3 sessions and aims to support parents in their role by exploring simple, effective and friendly approaches to raising young people from birth to adolescence.

These sessions will run at school from 9:00am -11:00am on Wednesday 26th August, 2nd September and 9th September. The total cost to parents will be $10 per person. We hope that as many parents as possible will take advantage of this great program. Please RSVP, either to the office or to Kathy Casley at kmcasley@bne.catholic.edu.au

“At 1-2-3 Magic Parenting, we want to help parents raise well-behaved, happy, competent kids and put the fun back into parenting!”

PLAY SPORT FOR FREE with GET STARTED Sport Vouchers
Parents, Round 6 opened for voucher applications on 15th July 2015. Get Started is one of three funding programs that comprise the Queensland Government's Get in the Game initiative to support grassroots sport and recreation.

Get Started assists children and young people who can least afford or may otherwise benefit from joining a sport or recreation club. Eligible children and young people can apply online for a voucher valued up to $150, which can be presented at a Get Started sport or recreation club.

Mrs Bakon and Mrs Casley have filled out referral agent forms for you if you would like to access this great initiative. These forms are available from the front office. Please view the website here for more information.

CHILDCARE PRESENTATION
This presentation was scheduled for last Tuesday but needed to be postponed. Tuesday evening, 11th August, from 6:00pm -7pm at our SOTS ChildCare Centre is the new date.

We shall be sharing information about our school, providing some tips and strategies to parents whose children will be entering Prep in 2016 and 2017, as well as answering any questions from the floor. Hope to see some familiar faces there.
EKKA HOLIDAY
Schools in the Redlands will be closed for the Show Holiday on Monday 10th August. Our school has a normal school day on Wednesday 12th August!

BORN TO MOVE
Attached is a flyer advertising this fitness opportunity for our Prep to Year 2 children. Our Preppies took part in some sessions last term and the children loved it.

CHILD CARE “CHRISTMAS in JULY” FAMILY MARKET
Star of the Sea Child Care is holding a “Christmas in July Market” tomorrow, Friday 24th July from 4:00pm to 6:00pm. All welcome to come along and shop!

There is several local businesses’ showcasing their wares. If any school families are interested in operating a stall on the afternoon the costs is $10. Please contact Lee and the Child Care centre on 3821 2999.

TERM 3 BEGINNER SEWING CLASSES FOR KIDS
Sew with Jo offer sewing classes for children 10+years in a fun, encouraging environment. No previous sewing experience is necessary and classes are run by Jo, a Registered Teacher, with over 20 years of sewing experience.

Classes are held at the Sew with Jo studio at Wellington Point which is fully equipped with Husqvarna E10 sewing machines for students to use. Limited places are available for sewing for beginner block workshops where students make a cushion and skirt starting on Saturday 1st August 12:00pm - 2:30pm and then continuing on Saturday 15th and Saturday 22nd August.

For further information, please visit: www.sewwithjo.com.au or phone Jo on 0409 072 609

NATIONALLY CONSISTENT COLLECTION OF DATA (NCCD)
The NCCD is an annual collection that counts the number of students with disability and the level of adjustments that are implemented to meet the needs of these students.

The aim of the NCCD is to collect better information about school students with disability in Australia. The data collected will enable all Australian governments to better target support and resources to benefit students with disability.

For the purposes of the national data collection, students with a formal verification as well as students with a learning difficulty such as dyslexia or auditory processing disorder, or chronic health conditions such as epilepsy, diabetes or asthma, that require active monitoring by the school, may be included.

Protecting the privacy and confidentiality of all students and their families is a priority. Personal details such as names or any other identifying information is not provided to local or federal education authorities. Please read the attached flyer to understand more about this census. If you would like any further information please don’t hesitate to contact me.

Parents/Guardians wishing their student’s details not be included in the NCCD collection are to advise the school in writing by Monday 27th July.

Kindest Regards
Kylie Williamson

WOOLWORTHS EARN & LEARN
We have registered again for this partnership between Woolworths and Modern Teaching Aids. The promotion commenced yesterday. When you spend $10 or more at Woolworths, you will receive a sticker to place on a sticker card.

Completed sticker cards can be brought to the school office or placed in the collection box with our school name at your local Woolworths store. The program closes on Tuesday, September 8th.
What a very busy week we have had in Prep this week! We have been reading Alison Lester’s book ‘Are we there yet?’ a familiar catchphrase for most parents.

The book is about her journey around Australia with her family, it tells us all about their adventures. We have been painting and writing about our favourite parts of the story.

We have written postcards, looked at a map of Australia and have been practising writing the words are we there yet? Preps love reading stories!

It has been a TERRIFIC week in year 1 this week with our Discovery Learning well and truly in full swing. We were overwhelmed with excitement after we opened our Immersion box on Friday, which was full of great books, including Charlotte’s Web.

We have been exploring the features of these narratives and have already started to write our own. We love writing and are all striving to achieve our individual writing goals. We are reading the novel of Charlotte’s Web after we were able to watch the movie earlier in the week. We are all looking forward to being great authors this term.

Rain, rain go away! Come again.....NEVER! We are ready for the sun to return. We are in serious need of some outdoor play. If this rain keeps up, we might need to turn our classroom into an indoor exercise studio on Friday to get our bodies moving!

This week in literacy we have been exploring the narrative writing structure and had our first go using sizzling starts. We are learning so quickly and are thoroughly enjoying letting our imaginations run wild! In maths, we have been looking closely at the features and properties of 3D shapes.

You will see on the homework that this is our class concept for the fortnight. We hope you have fun finding these 3D objects around your home!

Discovery Learning has been awesome this week! We are using our new Discovery Learning wall to watch our progress through the Design Thinking phases (Immersion, Synthesis, Ideation, Prototype, Feedback) and it is so interesting.

Yesterday we looked at Extinct and Endangered animals. You might have noticed the enormous number of tweets sent out and the whole school email.

We came up with our own Immersion ideas including researching on the iPads, in books, through our Discovery ‘Stuff’, YouTube videos and teacher/student interviews around the school.
We decided on the epic question ‘How might we persuade people to stop killing endangered animals?’ for our Synthesis. We shared many different prototype ideas and cut them down to 4 that passed the NUF (New, Useful, Feasible) test. Then we got creative!

We made posters, wrote an email with a song, wrote a persuasive text and sent out many tweets. For our feedback of this session, we decided the colour and pictures on our prototypes were awesome, but that next time we could look at adding even more factual information.

Did you notice how we kept saying ‘We’? Well, that is because it was all OUR idea! Yes that’s right, our teachers let go of control (as they do in Discovery time) and we ran the show! But what was most impressive you ask? Our teachers were amazed with how much we have learnt and now understand about the Discovery Learning process and the resources we can use to help us with our research and prototyping. We are awesome! And we know it!

Well that’s all for now, be sure to check in again next week to find out what other amazing things we are accomplishing here in grade two!

Welcome to Week 2 of Term 3! In our social skills lessons this week, we have been learning about feelings, and what expressions to look out for on other children’s faces. We were given 8 different paper faces, and had to predict what expressions they were showing.

Some of them were very tricky! At the end of the lesson, we played a game where we had to guess the emotion of other children in the class, based only on their facial expression; this too was tricky!

In our Art lesson this week, we learnt about shadows. We created some 3D people made of aluminium foil, and used sticky tape to secure them to a piece of cardboard.

There were lots of creative characters being made, including characters doing handstands, running or showing their foil muscles. We then went to the back of our classroom, where there was some sunshine, and sketched our character’s shadow. Take a look at our pictures below!

During Religion, we have been learning about the Images of God, and God’s beautiful creations! Using the leftover rocks from our Dreamtime unit of work in Term 2, we created ‘prayer rocks’. We used lots of coloured paint, to paint one or two of God’s creations on our rock. These rocks will stand as reminders to always appreciate God’s creations.

During Literacy this term, we are learning about Information Reports, and how to write them! We created a brainstorming bubble about what information reports are, and then read an information report about the Sun, where we discussed why it was an information report. We can’t wait to get into the writing process ourselves! We have lots of cool ideas, and things we would like to research.

In Year 4 we have been blown away by the Discovery Learning topic this term. It was revealed in our immersion session that we will be designing and making a billy-cart. To get started we wrote googleable and non-googleable questions.

Then we researched about what makes a billy-cart fast. Some of these things are weight, size, pressure and the angle. Our final activity was to design prototypes and write a list of materials that we will need. We are doing these in groups.

In Maths we have been doubling and halving numbers. We have been continuing to practise our multiplication tables. This week we finished all our work on angles and we look forward to our next topic.
In English we have been finishing our Holiday Recounts and now we are writing explanations. We had to choose a topic about following a process, for example ‘How to make a paper plane, and we have written explanations about them. We are then going to present an explanation to the class over the next few weeks.

In Art last term we created ‘selfies’ where we drew a picture of ourselves with a back ground of an activity we love. We are now laminating them to decorate our walls.

Another exciting week we have had in Year 5 this week. Lots has been happening and it’s only the second week of the term. Science Steve came and spoke about; what is matter and how solids, liquids and gases work in all different ways.

We even got to take home what we created in our experiments with him and we were amazed what we did. The science shows and workshops were fantastic and we learnt lots that we can implement in our Discovery.

In Religion, we are continuing to look at the Beatitudes and are now singing our prayer song without the words, that's how much we love singing our song at the start of the day.

In English, we are hard at work preparing for the greatest debate to hit SOTS. Everyone has their side that they have picked and soon it will be a battle to persuade the audience that we are right.

In Maths, we are eating our fractions and they are delicious. Pizza was on the cards for our treat in learning fractions and mmmm very yummy they were indeed. Our teachers are Kicking it with us and Mr Azzopardi, Miss Manicaros and Mrs Larsen took it on and slow and steady Mr Azzopardi, took his time and got all of them right under the 1 minute time.

This week in year 6 we have continued reading our class novel, “Blueback”. The children are really enjoying it so far and have finished off drawings depicting the area where Abel and his mother live.

We certainly have some amazing artists up here! We also enjoyed catching up with our buddies earlier in the week. They certainly love seeing us!

Tomorrow a group of parents will meet with Mrs Clough and Mrs McLucas to start discussing Graduation. It's hard to believe that the children's time at SOTS is coming to an end.

We hope to be able to plan a wonderful celebration for them all! We hope too, to get as much input as we can from the children so that the graduation reflects what they want. Stay tuned for more details!

Enjoy your weekend.
We are super excited to bring this new children’s fitness program from Les Mills to Star of the Sea! This class introduces fundamental movement skills using fun rather than formal exercise routines. Children of this age are primarily visual learners and emphasis is on easy to copy moves. The content is co-created with young people and music is drawn from their world. The class incorporates games, martial arts, dance plus heaps more and is suitable for both boys and girls!

BORN TO MOVE will run at Star of the Sea every Tuesday for 5 weeks from 18 August to 15 September in the O’Dea Centre.

Suitable for Prep - Year 2 children
Tuesday 3.15pm-4.00pm
Cost is $5.00 per class or $25 for the 5 week block.

Please email kacie@healthworksfitnesscentres.com.au for more information or to register your child!

Payment can be made in cash to the school office in a marked envelope.

Healthworks Fitness Centres