Make the Ordinary Come Alive...

Do not ask your children to strive for extraordinary lives. Such striving may seem admirable, but it is the way of foolishness. Help them instead to find the wonder and the marvel 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.”

William Martin - The Parent’s Tao Te Ching: Ancient Advice for Modern Parents
PARENT INFORMATION SESSION
On Monday 15th June at 2:00pm, Occupational Therapist and Star of the Sea Parent, Fiona Canny, will be offering an information session for parents.

The session will provide practical tips on:-
- how to develop fine motor, organisational and self-care skills at home (from pre-Prep to Grade 6)
- supporting sensory needs of children
- understanding when a child may need support from an OT and what this form of therapy can offer.

The information provided in the session is aimed at supporting children to develop the skills that they need to successfully negotiate their home and school environments, to know what helps them achieve and to be increasingly independent. We look forward to seeing you there.

A MESSAGE FROM THE GUIDANCE COUNSELLOR
At Star of the Sea the Federal Government initiative ‘KidsMatter’ informs our support of student wellbeing. This week staff participated in training that highlighted the second component of this initiative, ‘Social Emotional Learning’.

What was immediately apparent was the depth of social emotional learning that already takes place across all year levels on a weekly basis.

While in Term 1, there was an emphasis throughout the school on our goals of respect for self, others and the environment, this term each year level is focusing on a particular aspect of the Personal and Social Capabilities of the Australian Curriculum. (Please note: The Personal and Social Capabilities, along with all General Capabilities, underpin all learning throughout the year.)

The following is an overview of the focus for each year level:-

- Prep..................... Recognising emotions and working independently, showing initiative
- Grade 1 ................. Understanding relationships
- Grade 2 ................. Developing self-discipline and setting goals
- Grade 3 ................. Understanding relationships
- Grade 4 ................. Negotiating and Resolving Conflict
- Grade 5 ................. Recognising emotions and expressing emotions appropriately
- Grade 6 ................. Recognising personal qualities and achievement and understanding relationships

Often teachers use evidence-based resources to guide social emotional learning, such as the 'Bounce Back' program or the Daniel Morcombe Curriculum. Currently, for example, the Grade 4 class are participating in the 'Stop, Think, Do' program to support them in developing their ability to negotiate and resolve conflict. For more information, please don’t hesitate to contact me or to discuss with your child’s teachers.

Kathy Casley  Guidance Counsellor

SPARE UNDERCLOTHES
We keep a stock of spare underwear in the office for life’s little accidents. Our supply of small size (4-6) boys and girls underwear has diminished over the years. If you have any spare you would like to donate please send in to the office.

THURSDAY LUNCHES
A reminder that Thursday lunch orders MUST be in on WEDNESDAY MORNINGS. We can no longer accept any late orders. If you miss the 10:00am Wednesday morning deadline please pack a lunch for your child on Thursday.
REDLAND BAYSIDE DEANERY APPEAL FOR ROSIES AND BABI

Year Three has chosen to support Redland Bayside Deanery appeal for Rosies and BABI as our Lighthouse Keepers Project. We are asking families to donate an item from the list below to help people in need in our local community.

ROSIES:
- Coffee
- Cup-A-Soup
- Small-sized Toiletries (soap, toothbrush & toothpaste, deodorant, razors, shampoo, shaving cream, small tissues).

BABI:
- Tinned Meals
- Tinned Soups
- Tinned Vegies
- Cup-A-Soup

We will be collecting items for the remainder of this term. Please bring your items to the Year Three learning area. Thank you for your support and generosity!

SCHOOL FEES

School fees were emailed out last Friday 8th May. The due date for these is Friday 22nd May. Please ensure prompt payment of these accounts. If you have not received your fees statement email pcleveland@bne.catholic.edu.au and an account will be forwarded to you immediately.

We will be actively pursuing late payers this term. If you are having any difficulties making payments please make an appointment with Karen to discuss.

SCHOOL SPONSORED MASS

Prep students along with their buddies in Year 6 will be taking on roles in our school sponsored parish mass on Sunday 31st May from 8:30am to 9:30am. We have had a great response from families who will be coming along.

If your families will be attending, please advise so that your children can be involved in practices.

MUSICAL

Venue: Redlands Performing Arts Centre
Date: Wednesday 16th September
2 performances: Matinee and Evening
Full dress rehearsal: Tuesday 15th September

We are getting to the exciting stage of our musical preparation where we need to start discussing costuming, set design and props. Thank you so much to all the fabulous parents who offered to help with one or more of these areas.

I would like to invite all those that are available and interested to a meeting next Tuesday morning at 9:00am in the before school care room. We can go through our lists of what needs to be covered over the next month.

If you are unable to make this meeting and would like to help in any capacity please let me know on the following email address and I will email you the outcome of the meeting and what needs to be done.

I am looking forward to meeting with you next week & am so thrilled with the incredible support we have for this exciting project!

Regards Erin Hardy

PROGRESS MEETINGS

Year Level Teams will be contacting some parents to discuss the progress of their child starting next week. Communication is a two way medium and parents are encouraged to make contact with their child’s teacher if they have any concerns.
**PCG MEETING**

Our May meeting will be held in the staffroom on Thursday 28th May from 7:00pm to 8:00pm. Items for General Business need to be emailed to pceleveland by close of business Wednesday 27th May. It would be great to see more Mums and Dads coming along.

Our Parent Community Group is keen to hear from all parents as to suggestions for improving resourcing, facilities, and our community. Please feel welcome to email these suggestions also.

We will also be providing a parent education session on our new Spelling Program “Words Their Way” at this meeting. This program does not focus on lists of words learnt by rote and then tested in a weekly spelling test.

Words Their Way enables teachers to assess, clearly identify and document each student's spelling stage, and tailor activities to improve a student's spelling knowledge.

Words Their Way is a teacher-directed, student-centred approach to vocabulary growth and spelling development whereby students engage in a variety of sound, pattern and meaning activities, sorting pictures and words.

It caters for differentiated learning in the classroom, rather than a one-size fits all solution.

Words Their Way is now listed as an Instructional Intervention Tool on the National Centre on Intensive Intervention at American Institute for Research (NCII) website.

**GALA SPORTS DAYS**

Our Year 5 and 6 students will participate in an inter-school competition next Friday 29th July. Students will play one of the following team sports: hockey, newcomball (volleyball), cricket, touch or European handball. We have been unable to secure a bus for this day so parents are asked to help out with transport. Please let us know if you are able to assist.

**QUEEN’S BIRTHDAY HOLIDAY – MONDAY 8th JUNE – SCHOOL CLOSED**

**CLASSROOM NEWS**

There was a Commotion in the Ocean in Prep this week as we had sea creatures diving, darting and dashing around our learning area! We are now fully immersed in our Discovery Unit about animals and are posing many questions about our discoveries and enjoying this style of inquiry based learning.

A highlight of our week was making necklaces to celebrate our letter of the week being ‘n’. We also showed off our measuring skills, using a trundle wheel in our Numeracy Rotation to measure the length of a sperm whale.

Earlier in the week we had discovered that these whales can be up to 18 metres in length, so we just had to find out exactly how long 18 metres is! Learning is so much fun in Prep.

We have progressed to some Guided Reading in our Literacy Rotation in the afternoons. We are very excited to be working in small groups as we put together what we know about letters, words and picture clues to read! We are Prep All Stars!
Congratulations to Isobel, Henry, Tom, Isabella, Keaton, Anna and Lilly who were selected to run in the Bayside Cross Country event that was held today.

Yesterday they were so excited about the coming event that they started warming up in our learning area.

Every afternoon we have Reading Training. We love finding our own special place to read quietly, stay focused and work on our stamina to read the whole time.

This week we have been involved with brain gym exercises. These are short activities we do to release stress, expend excess energy and enhance learning. They are fun movements that we have been doing with a character called McPufferson.

With each activity we have seen him grow and on Wednesday we received a certificate for reaching level five. We love participating in brain gym!

This week in Year 2 we have been learning about Synonyms and Antonyms during our literacy lessons and rotations. We are working on identifying synonyms and antonyms of common words using matching activities and QR codes.

Watching the 'Synonyms are Similar' and 'Antonyms are Opposites' songs on YouTube, really helped our understandings of this topic. We have also been working hard to improve our punctuation skills, looking at when we should use and edit sentences with full stops, capital letters, question marks and exclamation marks. Next week we will be having a go at writing a full description independently about a significant place in Cleveland's history.

In Maths this week we have been finishing off our studies of time and exploring this concept through many games including bingo, time apps, memory and more! We were challenging ourselves to understand time in 5 minute intervals! Next week we will be moving onto location and using simple maps to describe locations and represent positions of objects.

In Discovery Learning this week we have started researching many significant people, places and events in Cleveland's history to add to our very own Golden Book.

We will be continuing this research next week and will be presenting this information in a range of text types including descriptions, labelled maps, picture stories and posters.

We finally got to put our teachers to work on Wednesday afternoon when we had our Year 2 Boot Camp exercises from the homework grid last fortnight. It was very funny watching them try to do so many burpees! We really got them working, but we decided to join in too. It just looked like so much fun!

We have had a very busy week in Year 2 and welcome Mrs Hanham and Mrs Staley into our room for Thursday and Friday.

Last week, as well as completing our NAPLAN assessments, we had lots of fun with some other activities in Religion and Discovery Learning.
On Wednesday Fr Frank came to visit us to talk about the churches at Stradbroke Island, and the Quandamooka people. He was extremely knowledgeable, and we had lots of questions for Fr Frank…

? Who were the people responsible for building the churches at Stradbroke and introducing the Catholic Religion?

? How are the churches at Stradbroke different to how they are today?

? Did the Quandamooka people have their own religion at first?

Also in Discovery learning, we learnt about the dreamtime story of the rainbow serpent. We looked at why the dreaming stories are sometimes ‘scary’. It is because they were often used as lessons for the young children.

We even created some colourful rainbow serpents of our own! Come and take a look in our Discovery learning area to see them hanging from our ceiling.

In Religion, we had a discussion about the difference between superheroes and non-superheroes. We cut out pictures, words and symbols out of magazines to create a visual representation of this.

Enjoy the rest of your week!  
Miss Willis, Mrs Porter and Year Three

We can’t believe it is almost half way through Term 2! In Year Four we are having such fun learning that time is flying by!

In Maths we have continued to learn multiplication strategies and our mental computation is really improving. We know though that we need to continue practising our multiplication facts so that we can easily tackle larger problems.

In English we are well on track with our writing, reading and spelling. After researching our world famous explorer we are now writing our information reports, ensuring that we have an introduction, body and conclusion. We are also writing information reports and preparing presentations about a topic of our choice that we are experts at. We have been refining our presentation skills and we will put them into practice next week when we do our presentations.

In Discovery Learning our newspapers are beginning to take shape! We are sharing what we have learnt each week with our classmates and have discovered some very interesting information! Why not quiz us about our time period?

Ned Kelly (Australian bushranger), Edward Hargraves (first person to find gold in Australia), Mary MacKillop (Australia’s first saint) and Mary Reibey (a successful business woman who began life in Australia as a convict), are just some of our choices for Person of the Century.

On Tuesday we started looking really closely into the lives of these influential Australians from the 19th Century and discovered some really interesting things. To write our ‘Time Magazine’ articles, we are focusing on their achievements, obstacles and influences and how their actions changed the lives of Australians, including us, for good.

Did you know that some really important inventions came out of Australia in the 1800s? The refrigerator, Aussie Rules Football and the electric drill are just a few. We hadn’t even become a nation yet and we were already changing the world!

In Literacy this week, we have been working on our use of apostrophes. We love using them in our writing, but it’s important to know when it’s appropriate and when it’s not. Quiz us over the weekend and we should be able to tell you that they are definitely NOT to be used for plurals! We are working really hard at using them only for a contraction or to show possession.
Next week we will look even closer at the rules for possession and soon we will be better than even some adults who still get them confused. We have also been investigating dependent and independent clauses and how they can make more complex sentences.

The words dependent and independent also helped us with our work on word origins. We broke down the word in-depend-ent: in – meaning not; depend – meaning to rely upon; and ent – meaning something. Therefore, the word independent means not relying on something. Genius!

In Maths we have been working on capacity and mass. We looked at food packaging and containers to investigate units of measurement and estimate their weights. We loved using the cereal boxes, and some of us even got a sneaky taste. Maths is delicious!

Tomorrow we are heading to the gold fields so be sure to come dressed in your 1850s mining gear, be at school by 7.45am and bring lunch, water and a hat in your school bag. Eureka!

We’ve had another extremely busy week in Year 6. Our netballers started the week pumped and ready to go to the Qld Catholic Netball Association Cup but unfortunately due to bad weather it had to be postponed.

Thankfully though the weather held for us yesterday for our trip to the city to Parliament House. It was a fantastic day. Parliament is actually sitting this week and although we didn’t get to see any rigorous debate, we still did see lots of familiar faces.

Our own member, Dr Mark Robinson met us there and answered lots of interesting questions for us. We saw both the Upper House (which was abolished in 1922) and the Lower House.

We also were taken through the reading room which held every Hansard from Queensland, NSW and Victoria.

Another highlight of the day was our lunch and play in the Botanical Gardens.

A big thank you to Mrs Sticher and Mrs Hazelton who both accompanied us into town for the day.

Today half of our class are at the cross country. At this stage we don’t know any results but we hope that all the children have completed fairly and to the best of their ability.

Enjoy your weekend.
Dear God

I want to take a minute, not to ask anything of you, but simply to say thank you, for all I have.