I Said a Prayer for You Today

I said a prayer for you today
and I know He must’ve heard –
I felt the answer in my heart
although He spoke not a word.
I didn’t ask for wealth or fame
(I knew you wouldn’t mind)
I asked Him to send treasures
of a far more lasting kind!
I asked that He be near you
at the start of each new day
to grant you health and blessings
and friends to share your way!
I asked for happiness for you
in all things great and small –
but it was for His loving care
I prayed for most of all!

Unknown

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

Kylie Williamson – Acting Principal
Kate MacArthur – Acting APRE
Kathy Casley ------ Guidance Counsellor

Click on link below for
Brisbane Catholic Education’s Student Protection Process

Brisbane Catholic Education Student Protection

2015 Term Dates

TERM 1
Jan 26 – April 2

TERM 2
April 20 – June 26

TERM 3
July 13 – Sept 18

TERM 4
Oct 6 – Dec 4 (12noon)
TERM FOUR CALENDAR
Some dates to lock into your calendars now….

- **Book Week** - Monday 9th – Friday 13th November
- **Book Fair** - Tuesday 10th – Friday 13th November
- **Swimming Carnival** - Friday 13th November
- **Volunteer Morning Tea** - Friday 20th November
- **New Parents and Staff Social** - Monday 23rd November 6:00pm – 7:00pm
- **Graduation** - Thursday 26th November
- **Orientation for 2016 Preps** - Friday 27th November
- **Transition Day for all students** - Friday 27th November
- **Dance Fever Concert** - Thursday 3rd December at 5:00pm

**Assembly in Week 8 will be on Wednesday 25th November at 2.20pm!**

HOME READING PROGRAM
As the 2015 school year comes to an end, at SOTS we are always looking to WHAT’S NEXT??

We will need to re-vamp our Home Reading Infographic collection, as well as the online digital texts and stories online. Can we ask all parents to please save all infographic material, that could help to replenish our collection.

Please send these in to the office or your child’s classroom teachers as soon as possible, as it would be great to have the Infographic collection ready for borrowing prior to Day One 2016.

Just in case you aren’t sure what we need, please see the list below…and don’t forget, if you are travelling this Christmas Holiday, maps and travel brochures are very popular with all children in all year levels. Thank you so much for your contributions!

- Food boxes and packets
- Birthday, Christmas etc cards
- Envelopes with addresses
- Letters
- Maps
- Travel brochures
- Kids Magazines (eg K.Zone)
- Advertising brochures (letterbox drops: Woolworths/ Coles, Big W etc.)
- TV Guides
- Menus
- Instructions: Games, Lego Creations etc
- Recipes

ENROLMENTS FOR 2016
If your family is not returning to SotS in 2016 could you please notify us in writing as soon as possible.

MUSICAL DVD!
One of our fabulous school parents is just completing the final touches on our DVD for our musical, Little Stars. If you would like a copy of this could you please email the school before November 13th to give us an idea of how many we need to produce.

The cost of the DVD will be $5. Please drop this into the school office or send it in with your child in a labeled envelope with your child’s name, grade and DVD written on the front.

FR ASHLEY
We welcome Fr Ashley back on Tuesday – we’ve missed you lots!

SPORTS UNIFORM
With our swimming program now over, students are to wear their Sports Uniform on Mondays and Wednesdays please.
**VOLUNTEER MORNING TEA**
On Friday 20th November at 8.30 am we invite all members of our community who have volunteered in any capacity to our special morning tea. If you have not received a formal invitation please accept our apologies.

Whilst every effort was made to include as many people as possible, it's simply impossible to keep a track of everyone who has volunteered their time helping out with word sorts etc at home.

Please allow us this opportunity to thank you for your contribution!

**CELEBRATION OF LEARNING!**
Please come along and celebrate all that we’ve achieved in Term Four on Wednesday 18th November at 8.30 am in each Learning Area. Each classroom will be open and students will have the opportunity to share their learning with you. This will replace our Reading Morning for Week 7.

**RETREAT**
A very special thank you to the parents and parishioners who joined us for the day on Wednesday at Santa Teresa Spirituality Centre at Ormiston. The day was facilitated by James Kirby and Catherine Foley, and we are so blessed by their wisdom, generosity and support!

**GROUNDSMAN**
We would like to recognize and thank John Clarry for his work as Groundsman this year and extend a welcome to Chris Larsen, who has taken on the role. Please welcome Chris if you see him around the place!

**COLLECTION – QUEEN STREET**
We have an increasing number of students waiting to be picked up in the afternoons at the gate in Queen Street. Students have been observed leaving the fenced area and waiting under (or in!) the large tree. There is no supervision in this area and we are asking for all students to be collected from the Pick Up Zone please. Thanks for your assistance in helping to keep our students safe!

**MRS BAKON’S TRAVELS!**
Mrs Bakon has now touched down in London after some time in Belgium. We hope she is having a wonderful time and counting down the sleeps till she sees us again!

**BOOK WEEK**
Thank you to Mrs Porter for her hard work organizing our Book Fair and Book Week Parade. A special thanks also to Mrs Clark and the team for giving up their time to operate the Book Fair!

**HOLIDAY PROGRAM**
Could you please indicate if you would access a holiday program at our After School Care Facility during the school holidays.

RSVP to pcleland@bne.catholic.edu.au

**AUDITIONS - The Iona Passion Play**
Experience Easter 2016 as part of the cast or crew of The Iona Passion Play. Everyone is welcome – you can involve the whole family! All 2016 performances will be in Brisbane. There are plenty of speaking, non-speaking and support roles available.

Auditions are being held on Sunday November 22nd at 1:00pm at Wynnum West. If interested please contact Veronica Kim on 3333 1993 or info@ipp.org.au  www.passionplay.org.au
A MESSAGE FROM SNUG HARBOUR

Yesterday our parent and parishioner retreat was a wonderful opportunity to learn skills to calm our minds through mindfulness. We also learned about the growing interest in the area of compassion and how being compassionate towards ourselves and others can help to liberate through freedom from judgement, kindness and forgiveness. But for compassion to exist there needs to be struggle and out of this mix, people can learn and grow.

I have been watching the series on the ABC recently, ‘Making Families Happy’ where 3 families worked through their struggles with the support of 2 psychologists, with the goal of achieving greater happiness as a family.

One of the most impactful tools given to these families was the ability to listen to the concern of another family member with compassion – that meant not trying to fix it, provide an answer, defend one’s position or lay blame, but simply reflecting back what the upset person was saying.

The interactions were challenging for those doing the listening, as they often wanted to justify their actions or fix the distress, but for the person who was expressing their upset, it was transformative as they felt that their concerns were being heard and understood by someone who really mattered and really cared. This series is still available on iView.

Sometimes our interactions with others can be challenging, particularly if we are upset and we want to get our point across. It is especially hard when our children are involved and we feel we need to advocate for them, or accept their misgivings. But when we come from a place of compassion, understanding and non-judgement, that is where real growth can happen, and we can move forward with a sense of hope and happiness.

Kathy Casley  Guidance Counsellor

QLD PRIMARY ALL-SCHOOLS TOUCH FOOTBALL

Last weekend Star of the Sea participated in the QLD Primary All-Schools Touch Football Championships held here in Cleveland. The SOTS mixed team had a very hard pool to play in on Day 1, only winning one out of four pool games in the blistering heat. The pool games that were lost were very close as well.

As a result of the pool games on Day 1, SOTS made it through to the mixed plate division of the carnival to participate in on Day 2. The SOTS team won the quarter final against Wishart 5-6 in the pouring rain before narrowly beating Merrimac in a close Semi-final 3-2.

The SOTS team went into the grand final against Oxenford with some injuries and a lot of fatigue from the previous 6 games. Oxenford were a great team, and the SOTS team found themselves down 3-0 at half time. However, with true SOTS passion, great teamwork, fantastic communication and some excellent skills, SOTS fought back in an absolute nail biter to take the win 5-3.

A come back like this after being down 3-0 at half time shows that our SOTS kids have plenty of heart, determination and a willingness to push themselves to the limit; they really were out on their feet. The team did SOTS proud and a lot of people were talking about the amazing comeback and the mental strength need to come back after being down by so many points.

The school would like to thank all of the parents and supporters who turned up to cheer the SOTS team on over the weekend. We would have had the largest support crew in the whole competition, which definitely kept the kids going. We would especially like to thank Sharon and Craig Searston for their support of the team over the weekend.

And last but not least, SOTS would like to acknowledge the contributions of Stephen and Kelly Gough for giving up their time to coach the team. Not only for this carnival, but this team also plays on Friday nights in the Redlands Touch Competition and has been training every Wednesday after school since August. The effort shown is really appreciated.

SWIMMING CARNIVAL TOMORROW

If your child requires transport to or from the pool on Friday 13th November please email polleveland to advise. This will be relevant to students attending Before or After School Care and some of our Straddie kids.
**SOTS STAFF DAY**

A big thank you to those families who recognized the contribution made by our wonderful team at Sots!

A special thank you to Year 5 students for our tea, herbs, dip and lemonade. We were very impressed with your ‘home-grown’ skills of creating treats from produce grown in our very own backyard…!*

**CHOIR PERFORMANCE**

We are having a choir performance for our parents and grandparents in the O’Dea Centre on Friday 20th at 9.30am. We will be performing the Christmas program we are preparing for our concert at Mandalay Retirement Village the following week. We would love to see as many of you there as possible!

**WHITE RIBBON SPELLING BEE**

On Wednesday 25th November a group of Year 4 girls, Amelia, Amy, Mimi and Alana are hosting a spelling bee to raise money for a fundraiser called “White Ribbon”. White Ribbon is a charity against domestic violence.

It will cost one gold coin to enter the spelling bee. There will be cookies for $1 and tattoos for 50c at the fundraiser.

First up will be Prep and Year one competing – but not against each other! Then Year Two and Three. Year Four and Five will be together and Year Six will be on their own. The spelling bee will take place in the O’Dea Centre and it will be for most of the day.

Balloons will be put up with the White Ribbon logo on them. The four girls running the spelling bee will be wearing white ribbon t-shirts so you know where they are and who they are.

Parents can come and watch. The more the merrier. We would love to see you there!

Thank you *Amelia, Amy, Alana and Mimi*

**SAN SISTO COLLEGE ENROLMENT APPLICATIONS FOR YEAR 7 2016**

All parents and caregivers of prospective students for Year 7 are invited now to make contact with San Sisto College to organise enrolment for 2016.

Educating young women in Years 7 – 12 is an extraordinary privilege. We provide a challenging, innovative and exciting learning environment with a focus on seeking excellence in academic achievement and performance. We strive to provide quality learning and teaching experiences that cater for all learning styles with the right balance of education and fun.

At San Sisto College, we offer state-of-the-art facilities and a wide range of subject choices in both O.P. and Vocational Educational courses. Both Italian and Japanese languages are offered and prove popular with students. We also have strong arts, drama, and sporting departments that continue to profile students’ talents at competitive levels.

Our values of truth, joy, hope, compassion, justice and attributes such as passionately loving learning and seeking and appreciating beauty and creation are central to our way of life at the College.

Families wishing to enrol at San Sisto College can complete an expression of interest form available on the website at [http://www.sansisto.qld.edu.au/enrolment/Pages/Application-Enquiry.aspx.](http://www.sansisto.qld.edu.au/enrolment/Pages/Application-Enquiry.aspx)

To find out more about your daughter's prospective San Sisto College education, please contact our Enrolment Officer, Mrs Helen Steffan on 3900 39800 or email hsteffan@bne.catholic.edu.au
Our Prep Toy Workshop is officially open, the children have been very busy creating their own special toys.

This week in Prep we have started our talks on our favourite toy. Our teachers are very impressed by how confidently we are able to talk about our toys and answer questions from our class mates.

In maths we have been sorting objects – we have sorted ourselves into groups as well as many other objects.

Thank you parents for the children’s Baptism photos. It has been fantastic to be able to share such a special day with the class.

Don’t forget our Prep Assembly is next week.

Today at 9:15am we gathered at The O’Dea Centre for our Book Week Parade. It was so exciting to see the children dressed up as their favourite character from a book and walk around for everyone to view their costume. Days like this make it so much fun to come to school.

Yesterday we briefly discussed Remembrance Day and created our own poppy flower to remind us of those who died during a war.

On Tuesday Mrs Casley visited our learning area to talk to us about safety and how to recognize if a situation is unsafe.

We discussed unsafe activities in pictures and the meaning of some signs that we see in the community. We now know that if we Recognise that something is unsafe, we must React to it and then Report that situation to an adult.

This week in Year Two we have been exploring our new Discovery Learning topic for the term. We have discovered so far, that we are investigating different events like celebrations.

This week, we were researching Christmas, Indigenous and Australia Day celebrations. We are researching the name and date of such events, their significance, traditions related to these events and symbols used to represent them.

During our investigations of the immersion box, we also came across some passports. This has made us think about travelling overseas. We wonder if this means we will be researching celebrations all around the world. We are looking forward to more Discovery Learning activities next week so we can find out if our prediction is correct!

Even though we are coming to the end of the term, we are working on new literacy topics to finish up our Year Two learning. For the rest of the term, we will be recognising and experimenting with types of poems including shape poems, acrostic poems and rhyming patterns.

Through a variety of text types, we will also be revising many of our writing mechanical skills that we have used throughout Year Two including capital letters, sentence boundary punctuation, simple and compound sentences, spelling strategies and handwriting.
We are revising many of our skills in mathematics as well, we are also continuing to work on our multiplication and division strategies.

We are very excited to participate in our school swimming carnival tomorrow and wish everybody the best of luck!

Last week during Religion, we created our very own ‘You, Who, Do, Through’ prayers about Jesus. This prayer structure makes it easier to set out our writing, and use language that we have been learning about this term. We have been looking at Jesus the Messiah, and how he is our saviour. Miss Willis and Mrs Porter were very impressed with our thoughtful and reverent prayers. Take a look at Jennifer’s work!

Throughout Discovery learning this week, we had the opportunity to choose and research a country, either independently or in a small group. We were given a planner and an iPad to conduct our research, and we have loved finding interesting facts and information about the many different cultures all around the world!

Here are some photos of us working diligently and enthusiastically.

Reminders for Year 3

- Year 6 St Vincent De Paul Christmas Appeal – If you can, please bring in non-perishable food items and new toys to brighten the Christmas of those less fortunate than us.
- Book Week Raffle – This has been drawn at today’s assembly.
- SOTS Swimming Carnival is tomorrow! Good luck to everyone with their races.

We have been very busy this week in Year Four. In English we have had a visitor! His name is Justin D’ath and he is a famous author. This was a good thing because we are writing narratives. Our narrative ideas are excellent and some people are up to redrafting their narrative to improve their sizzling starts, tightening tension and resolutions.

This week also happens to be Book Week! We have gone down to the library and looked at all the books. They looked very good. Every year level also did an art piece to go up in the Lighthouse for Book Week. For ours we got to cover our hands in paint to create leaves and fire on a tree.

Art this term has been very good. This week we made Halloween art, which was fun. We got to design scary things in black card and stick them on our spooky backgrounds that we coloured in to match the black picture! This term in drama we have been able to act out our own stories! And they’re looking pretty good!

In Maths this week we have been preparing for a whole class multiplication Bingo competition. We have also continued investigating equivalent number sentences; currencies around the world, shape transitions and some of us have even been experimenting with division of 3-digit numbers!

On the weekend we had a Touch Carnival. It was year 4, 5 and 6 and they won their quarterfinal, their semi-final, their finals and won the mixed division plate! Well done to everyone who participated!

What a week we’ve had in Year Five! We are feeling revived after a few days away on camp at Emu Gully last week! We had the best time. Miss Manicaros was so excited to hear about stories of flour bomb fights, rock climbing and mud runs.

For many of us it was our first stay away from home and teachers who went along had nothing but wonderful stories to tell about how everyone represented SOTS while they were away.
Haiku, Acrostic and Limerick are just some of the types of poems that we have tried our hand out over the past couple of weeks. It is such a relaxing exercise and many of us have enjoyed tapping into our emotions and really writing from the heart. Hopefully you had a chance to see some of our acrostic poems for Remembrance Day on Twitter yesterday. We made a great effort to show respect for our fallen and injured soldiers and yesterday we stopped for a minute’s silence at 11.00am.

On Tuesday, we showed our teachers how much they mean to us by sharing some kind words with them. The Gardening Club got together and organised some amazing goodies for the Staff Room. All of the SOTS staff thoroughly enjoyed their home made lemonade, tea bags and pesto. Yum yum!

Last week in Maths we had a great time researching how likely certain horses were to win the Melbourne Cup by gathering data on winners from the past ten years. We worked out which colours, ages and numbers had won the Cup most often and chose who we thought would win this Year based on these statistics – no one was successful® Prince of Penzance beat all the odds and stumped us all!

This week we are focusing on the location and transformation of 2D shapes. We are reflecting, translating, rotating and enlarging shapes. This has been a great topic for some artistic Maths.

We can’t wait for the Swimming Carnival tomorrow. Next week, don’t forget about our Liturgy on Thursday at 9.15am in the Church.

The biggest highlight of the past 2 weeks would definitely be our camp at Emu Gully. This was a fantastic experience for both the children and the teachers.

The children were challenged in ways that they wouldn’t usually be. Highlights would have to include Harrison Lane and William Kolomeitz who worked together so well to cross the Bridge over the River Kwai, Campbell Garner for his leadership and encouragement of others and Jack Ibbotson who was the crate pull champion. They participated in so many different activities and thoroughly enjoyed themselves.

Today they have entered into the spirit of Book Week by dressing up as some of their favourite book characters. Well done to Catelyn Kenmuir and Alex Austin who were judged the winners for Year 6 this year.

We are busily planning graduation at the moment. We ask that each child please return their lantern that they took home at the beginning of the year so that we can use it as part of our Graduation Ceremony in Week 8. These will then be returned to you for the children to keep as a momento of their time here.