“the principle goal of education in the schools should be creating men and women who are capable of doing new things, not simply repeating what other generations have done; men and women who are creative, inventive and discoverers, who can be critical and verify, and not accept, everything they are offered.”

— Jean Piaget

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 28 – 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….

◨ Volunteer Morning Tea ------------------------------- Friday 20th November 8:30am – 9:30am
◨ New Parents and Staff Social ------------------------ Monday 23rd November 6:00pm – 7:00pm
◨ Graduation ------------------------------------------ Thursday 26th November 5:00pm
◨ 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!

STAFFING 2016
We are pleased to share the following information about our Teaching Teams;

★ Prep .......................Laura Robinson and Sarah Gibbs
★ Year 1 .....................Sally Kirby and Danielle Manicaros
★ Year 2 .....................Danielle Golle and Paul Holmes
★ Year 3 .....................Tanya Porter and Bridie Willis
★ Year 4 .....................Olivia O'Donnell, Lauren Mill and Dave Bermingham
★ Year 5 and 6 ..............Louise McLucas, Nicole Clough and Jason Waters

Sarah Gibbs is an experienced teacher who is currently working at St Peter and Paul's at Bulimba. She has a specialisation in Early Childhood and is currently studying her Masters of Religion at ACU.

Thank you to Angelique Mackillop, Therese Staley and Chris Azzapardi for their time with us this year. Ange and Therese will continue to work as part of our teaching staff in a relief capacity. Chris has accepted a Year 5 position at St Rita’s next year.

We wish Nicole Cantwell all the love in the world as she takes maternity leave to look after her new baby boy!

Kathy Casley has accepted a shared Guidance Counsellor role at St Anthony’s, Alex Hills and St Peter’s, Rochedale.

School Officer allocation to year levels is yet to be organised.

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

WHITE RIBBON SPELLING BEE
As you know we are running a spelling bee next Wednesday 25th November. We will be raising money for the White Ribbon campaign. Information about White Ribbon has been sent as an extra attachment to the newsletter.

It costs one gold coin to compete, 50c for a contemporary white ribbon tattoo and $1 for a cookie. It will be hosted in the O’Dea Centre and parents and guardians are welcome to join us and cheer on our amazing spellers.

Thank you Amelia, Amy, Alana and Mimi

UNIFORM SHOP
The Uniform Shop will be open on Saturday 28th December at 9:00am – 11:00am for anyone wanting to get in early for the 2016 school year! Other dates for January will be on our website at a later date.

SPORTS UNIFORM
With our swimming program now over, students are to wear their Sports Uniform on Mondays and Wednesdays please.
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

VOLUNTEER MORNING TEA
This 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. Please allow us this opportunity to thank you for your contribution!

SWIMMING CARNIVAL
A huge THANK YOU to the Swimming Carnival Committee for organising and running a very smooth and successful day. I don’t think Mr Bermingham, Mrs McLucas or Mr Waters had a break all day! Also to our staff and parents for their involvement. From all reports the students had a wonderful day and it wouldn’t have happened without Dave, Louise and Jason!

Congratulations to the Elandra House for taking out the day and to the parents for their big win in the relay – we’ll get you next year!

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 Brisbane and is looking forward to joining us for our Yr 6 Graduation next Thursday.

SCHOOL HOLIDAY CAMP AND SWIM PROGRAMS AT ORMISTON
Ormiston Swim Academy, a privately owned swim school operating out of the Ormiston College pool, is offering a variety of swim programs and camps over the Christmas school holidays. Please see the attached brochure outlining some holiday activities they have planned. All enquiries are to go directly to the Ormiston Swim Academy.

STAR OF THE SEA SCHOOL NEW WEBSITE
If you haven’t had a chance yet, please make your way to www.staroftheseacleveland.qld.edu.au. Our website has been updated and is looking fantastic! Staff are still putting the final touches onto the site, and linking all information to the homepage. Moodle access is still available from the website, find it down the bottom of the home page, on the right under Quick Links.

SPEECH AND DRAMA CONCERT
The Drama Group will be holding a performance in the Parish Hall next Thursday morning 26th November 2015 at 8:00am and would like to invite the school community to watch their performance.

DRAMA CONCERT COSTUMING
Costuming has been discussed with the children and for the most part the costumes can be as simple as a Christmas T-shirt and school shorts/culottes. I have quite a few elf hats that the elves are welcome to wear.

I will also see if I can borrow outfits for Mary and Joseph. Please email me at tlarsen@bne.catholic.edu.au if you have any questions.
Terry Larsen Speech and Drama Teacher
What a wonderful day we had at our Inter-House Swimming Carnival on Friday, the weather was perfect. We were so proud of the Preps and the way they participated in the carnival.

They all swam well and cheered on their friends, family and buddies in their first ever SotS Swimming Carnival. Well done to our Prep All Stars! Congratulations to Elandra on a very close win.

This week in Discovery Learning we are looking at Paddington Bear - the old Paddington Bear and the new version of Paddington Bear. It has brought back such wonderful memories of the teachers’ childhood.

Our Toy Talks have continued this week, we love how the Preps are so confident about talking in front of the class about their favourite toy.

Thank you for celebrating our last Assembly performance as Prep All Stars.

A special Thank You to our buddies who have supported and guided our Preps this year and who have been wonderful role models. We wish them all the best for next year!

We have had a great week celebrating mental health and wellbeing by playing games, watching a movie and having a class dance-off! Tomorrow we are having a class talent show and we are going to wear something tropical. This week has been such a lot of fun!

Mr and Mrs Barker, Finnegan’s grandparents, visited our learning area on Wednesday and told us what it was like to live in the olden days. They showed us things like an old telephone, dolly pegs, an old drill, a tape recorder and a gramophone. Mr Barker also showed us some video clips about the past.

On Wednesday we also had a surprise visit from Father Ashley. He was so interested in what we were doing that he stayed for a while and listened to the talk by Mr and Mrs Barker.

We were very disappointed on Tuesday as Wilbur had to be sent to the office for taking someone’s chocolate. Miss Williamson kept him in her room until he said he was sorry. Then during the lunch break Mr Waters found Wilbur jumping up on the furniture! Unfortunately, Wilbur was sent to sit on a disc!

On Wednesday Wilbur was much better behaved and was able to go home with Sebastian. We all hope Wilbur remembered his manners!

This week in Year 2 we have been using our passports to travel all around the world! We are exploring ‘Celebrations around the World’ and have so far been to China, India and Israel. The celebrations we have been exploring in these countries include Chinese New Year, Diwali and Hanukkah.
First we find the most important information including the date and significance of the celebration. Then we research symbols and traditions related to the celebration. Next we explore interesting facts about the celebrations. Finally as a group, we create an art piece inspired from the celebration.

This week so far, our art inspirations have included a painted blossom tree to represent the Chinese New Year, Door Hangings and a Diya (lamp) collage to represent Diwali, and hand candle prints to represent Hanukkah. We have really enjoyed visiting these countries and are looking forward to more travel next week!

In literacy, we are focusing on writing poetry including acrostic, shape and rhyming poems. We have explicitly focused on acrostic so far and will be exploring shape poems in more detail next week. In maths, we are continuing to explore simple multiplication and division strategies, as well as revising our double digit addition and subtraction rules.

In Religion, we are researching and presenting information based on a chosen saint. Many of us have realised that we have the same name as a particular saint, it is exciting to find out the kind acts that made them a saint. We cannot believe we only have 2 weeks left in Year Two! We are growing up too fast!

3 During rotational activities in Mathematics this week, we have been playing lots of different math games. We love the game where we match the ice-cream cones with their ice cream. This is a quick-facts game.

We have also been playing some multiplication games and practising our times tables in preparation for the ‘Times Tables Challenge’ on Friday! Good luck to everyone.

This week during Art lessons, we have been focusing on the birth of Jesus and the images of the Three Wise Men. We read the story in the Bible about how the Three Wise Men gave special gifts to Jesus upon his arrival.

Mrs Porter has guided us through the steps to create our very own piece of art, based on the guiding star and the birth of Jesus. Take a look at some of our masterpieces!

Reminders for Year 3;
- Year 6 St Vincent De Paul Christmas Appeal – We are still looking for gifts and non-perishable food items to be brought in to brighten the lives of less fortunate families on Christmas day. Every little bit counts! Thank you to those who have already donated – this is much appreciated.
- Book Fair is now closed. Happy reading!
- Friday – Maths day ‘Times Tables Challenge’.

Enjoy your week!

4 In Discovery this term we have even learning about living things. Because the term is almost finished a lot of people have started their projects with all the information that they have collected and put it into either film clips, slideshows, books or posters.

This term in Math we have been working on equal number sentences and we are having a bingo game with our times tables and division. We have been working on our times table booklets to practise for the bingo game. We have also been working on our Maths worksheets about division and equivalent number sentences.

For English this term we have been focusing on narratives. It has been loads of fun writing our own interesting and exciting stories. We have learnt how to write sizzling starts, backfill and tightening tension. We had loads of inspiration from a famous author Justin D’Ath.
He told us heaps about narrative writing and how he got ideas to write his books. We learnt loads and we appreciate all of the information he gave us.

5 Well Being Week in Year Five has been re-laxing! We have been very conscious of our minds, bodies and souls, and have been taking care of ourselves and each other this week.

Each afternoon we have participated in some great activities designed to improve our mental health, wellbeing and happiness.

We’ve watched short movies, played games, had a dance off, and tomorrow there will be a talent competition. Don’t forget to wear your tropical gear to fit in with our Well Being Week theme: Go Troppo, and bring a gold coin donation for charity!

We also continued working on our Discovery Learning this week, designing and constructing houses to keep families safe in the event of a bush fire. Some of us really pushed the boundaries of conventional house design, thinking of ways that we could fire-proof houses in areas that are prone to bush fires.

Not only did we have to use our knowledge of natural disasters, we also had to use our group work and problem solving skills to bring our designs to life!

Throughout the term we have been discussing the role of Mary as both the mother of Jesus, and as the mother of the Church. This week we began looking at the infancy narratives through Mary’s eyes.

We gained even more respect and admiration for her, as we discovered how much she went through in her life, and we realised how much trust she must have had in God. It made us wonder how we too can have this much trust in God and how we can be more like Mary.

Just another two weeks before we finish up the year! Senior Year here we come!

6 We are on the countdown. We only have a total of 11 school days until the last day of school and the end of our time as seniors at SotS. We have been busy rehearsing for our graduation ceremony for next Thursday, which we are sure will be ‘a night to remember’.

We have also started on some of our Christmas gifts and can’t wait to create some more next week.

A big congratulations to everyone who swam for their teams at the inter-house swimming carnival last Friday. It was an awesome day and the final tally count has never been so close!!!

Excellent effort Elandra and well done to Iluka and Barinya!! Our last swimming carnival was a memorable one!!!