BEST FRIENDS
ARE THE PEOPLE IN LIFE
THAT MAKE YOU
LAUGH
A LITTLE LOUDER
SMILE
A LITTLE BRIGHTER
AND LIVE
A LITTLE BETTER

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)
RETREAT DAY
On Wednesday 11th November we will be having our annual Parent and Parishioner Retreat Day.

It will be at the beautiful venue of Santa Teresa Spirituality Centre at Ormiston. The focus of the day is on Compassion – towards others and ourselves! Our day will begin with a cuppa and chat just after school drop off and will conclude by 2.45pm at the latest.

We will be blessed with the company of two amazing presenters – James Kirby and Catherine Foley. A beautiful morning tea and lunch will be served. The cost for the day is $25.

Those who have participated in the past have thoroughly enjoyed taking this time for themselves. Please save this date in your calendars. RSVP to kwilliamson@bne.catholic.edu.au with an expression of interest. Final numbers and payment to the school office by Friday 6th November please!

TERM FOUR CALENDAR
Some dates to lock into your calendars now….

PCG Meeting------------------------------- Thursday 29th October
School Sponsored Parish Mass ------------------ Sunday 1st November 8.30am
Year 5 & 6 Camp------------------------------- Wednesday 4th – Friday 6th November
Parent and Parishioner Retreat ------------------ Wednesday 11th November
Book Week ----------------------------------- Monday 9th – Friday 13th November
Book Fair ----------------------------------- Tuesday 10th – Tuesday 17th November
Book Week Parade------------------------------- Thursday 12th November
Swimming Carnival------------------------------- Friday 13th November
Volunteer Morning Tea-------------------------- Friday 20th November
New Parents and Staff Social------------------ Monday 23rd November 6 – 7 pm
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

Assembly in Week 8 will be on Wednesday at 2.30pm!

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

SCHOOL SPONSORED PARISH MASS
Our Year 1, 2 and 5 students will lead us in celebrating All Saints Day this Sunday 1st November at 8.30am. Please come along and join us on this special day. There will be a shared morning tea and cuppa after Mass.

PCG MEETING
Our meeting will be held in the staffroom this evening at 7 pm. Thanks to those who have emailed through agenda items. All welcome!
ST VINCENT DE PAUL CHRISTMAS APPEAL 2015

The year Six Lighthouse Keeper’s project for 2015 is the St Vincent De Paul Christmas Appeal. We ask that you all help us assist the less fortunate families across Queensland to celebrate Christmas, as this time of year can be difficult for those families who may not be able to afford all of the trimmings and traditions that the celebration brings.

This year St Vincent De Paul is asking for donations of either canned goods or toys. The aim is to collect 100 cans or 100 toys to help people this Christmas.

Year 6 would appreciate your help with this appeal and ask you to bring in donations of new and unused toys and also canned food items. We are hoping to reach the goal of 100 toys and 100 cans that has been put forward by St Vincent De Paul. It would be fantastic if we as a school could exceed this goal.

Donations will be collected in each learning area until Friday the 27th of November. We really appreciate your support and we hope to make a difference and brighten up someone’s Christmas.

SOTS STAFF DAY

It’s a tradition at SotS to celebrate one day for World Teacher’s and School Officer’s Day – as we are all teachers and equally important to our students. It’s officially World Teacher’s Day tomorrow, but with many of our School Officers not working on a Friday, we are not able to celebrate it this week. After a close look at the diary we are looking at celebrating on Tuesday 10th November. It may be a nice opportunity to talk to your child about the role of teachers and to encourage them to take a moment to thank their teachers for all they do!

CAMP

Next Wednesday the 4th of November, the Year 5’s and 6’s will be attending their 3 day/2 night camp at Emu Gully Adventure Camp in Helidon. We are sure that the students are looking forward to the many challenges that are ahead of them with activities such as:

- Escape from Colditz
- Commando Cable Crossing
- Bridge over the River Kwai
- Siege of Tobruk
- Tunnel Rats of Vietnam
- Kokoda Track
- Storm the Fort

Mrs Clough, Mrs McLucas, Mr Azzopardi and Mr Bermingham will accompany the children on camp this year. Mr Bermingham attended this same camp with the Year 5, 6 and 7’s in 2013, so he knows what adventures are ahead of our Year 5’s and 6’s!

Students are to be reminded to adhere to the ‘please bring’ and ‘please DO NOT bring’ item lists and to make sure that ALL ITEMS ARE CLEARLY LABELLED.

The bus will be departing Star of The Sea on Wednesday the 4th November at 9:00am sharp and will return by 3:30pm on Friday 6th November. Please follow all of the action on Twitter!

We wish our happy campers a memorable experience!!!

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 a special morning tea.

Whilst every effort was made to send a formal invitation to all volunteers, it’s simply impossible to keep track of everyone who has volunteered their time helping out with word sorts etc at home.

Please accept this as your invitation to the morning tea. We look forward to thanking you all for your contribution.
Fr Ashley will be on holidays for the first two weeks of November. We wish him a safe and happy time away! We’ll all miss you Fr Ashley and look forward to your return in Week 7.

INTER-HOUSE SWIMMING CARNIVAL
With the Star of the Sea Swimming Carnival on the 13th of November, we are asking that you nominate events that you would like your child to participate in. Today your child received an events nomination form. Please tick the boxes to nominate and return the tear off slip to the school office by Friday the 6th of November. If the note is not returned by this date, your child might not get to go in ALL of their nominated races!!

Guidelines for nomination:

- **Your child cannot participate in more than one distance for each stroke.** For example if you select your child to participate in 50m Freestyle, they cannot compete in the 25m Freestyle. However, they can participate in a different distance for another stroke.

- **Please ensure that when you are selecting events, that you take into consideration your child’s ability.** For example, if your child can swim 50m in Freestyle, do not nominate them for the 25m Freestyle event.

- **We are keeping Kickboard and Noodle races to a minimum for each grade.** Your child should only be nominated for Kickboard or Noodle if they cannot swim 25 metres in any other stroke.

Parents are required to drop their child off at the Cleveland Aquatic Centre before 9am and they are required to be picked up prior to 3pm (the carnival is scheduled to finish before 2:30pm).

A full marshalling list of events and participants will be emailed out to parents in the week leading up to the carnival. This will ensure you will know exactly what events your child is participating in.

GRADE 4 GALA COME AND TRY DAY - TOMORROW
Each year in Term 4 students from Year 4 participate in a ‘Come and Try’ gala sports day. The aim of this day is to give the Year 4 students a chance to try out some of the sports that they will be playing at gala sport days whilst they are in Year 5 and 6.

These carnivals are a great opportunity for students to have some fun, and play sports against some of their peers from other local schools. Next year there are two gala sport carnivals in Term 2 and two gala sport carnivals in Term 3.

Parents are reminded that students are to wear sports uniform for the day. Students meet at school as per normal as the bus will be departing Star of the Sea at 9:00am sharp and returning to school by 3:00pm for normal pick up.

Students are to bring a normal lunch - sufficient food for lunch and afternoon tea – as well as plenty of water to drink! All students must wear a HAT, and sunscreen is to be applied before coming to school. Sunscreen will be reapplied during the day. NO HAT NO PLAY!

Year 6 – Bake Sale
Remember to bring a gold coin to buy some yummy treats!!
Friday morning @ 8:15am
in between Year 1 and Year 3 classrooms
A MESSAGE FROM SNUG HARBOUR

Last week’s newsletter talked about the Growth Mindset. This is one important aspect of the Visible Learning strategy adopted by schools throughout Brisbane Catholic Education. As a hot topic for research in educational circles, a study conducted by Paunescu in US high schools highlighted the positive impacts of educating students about a growth mindset. Students were shown a 30 minute slide show of ‘how and why students learn’.

Half the group watched a slideshow of the anatomy of the brain, while the other half received a ‘growth mindset treatment’. The second group learned that, in the same way that people get stronger by working their muscles, so too people can get smarter through learning. As part of the presentation they also learned different studying strategies, and to write a note of advice to a struggling student.

For example, one student wrote, “The more you practice or study the more you learn. Your brain has neurons inside that grow whenever you learn something new. Even though you may struggle in a certain subject the neurons in your brain are making new connections and your brain is getting stronger and smarter. … Struggling in school is absolutely normal and we may feel and call ourselves ‘dumb’ during these times. If you practise using better ways to study and learn you will get smarter and might struggle less.”

The results of this study found that, among those students who participated in the trial, there was a rise in satisfactory grades from 43 to 49%. Paunescu said, “The hypothesis would then be that later on, when the students take the AP classes or when they just encounter a more challenging concept or when they go off to college, that having these more adaptive academic mindsets will serve them well,” he said.

We are very excited about the way in which conversations about the growth mindset will continue to help our students engage with and love learning.

KATHY CASLEY
GUIDANCE COUNSELLOR

NO HAT NO PLAY

With the weather getting warm very quickly, we are very concerned about the number of children who are coming to school without a hat. A blue school hat is part of the children’s compulsory school uniform, and needs to be brought to school each day for play time, and for outside learning activities.

For their own sun protection, children who do not have a hat will not be allowed to play on the Adventure Playground, or on the Oval. Children without a hat will be sent to the O’Dea Centre for undercover play.

If you need to replace your child’s hat, the uniform shop is open every Monday from 8:15am- 9:15am, or an order can be made through the office. We do not supply spare hats for health reasons.

WEBSITE

The NEW Star of the Sea School website is in the final stages of construction, and will be live within the next few weeks… stay tuned for more information!

MORNING DUTY

Just a reminder that teacher supervision is provided from 8.30am each morning. Many students are arriving much earlier than this 8.30am time. If your child arrives prior to 8.30am, they must sit on the chairs outside the Year 1 classroom. Ball games, running games or moving around the school is not permitted prior to 8.30am.

BOOK WEEK

Book Week is coming! In Week 6, Book Week celebrations will commence. The theme for 2015 is Books (Light Up Our World!) There are a few things you need to know...
• Book Fair arrives on Tuesday 10th November, and will finish on Tuesday 17th November.
• Book Fair will be open from 8:30am each morning closing at the 9am bell, then re-opens at 3:00-3:30pm
• Book Week Parade: Thursday 9:15am.
• There will be prizes for best costume for a boy and girl in each year level. Get your thinking caps on to come up with a great book character or a costume about Books Lighting up our World that reflect the theme.
• There will be many great activities and competitions that will run throughout the week.

SEWING CLASSES
Sew with Jo have a range of sewing classes for kids 10+years on this Christmas 2015/2016 school holidays. For beginners there are cushion making, skirt making and pillowcase making on offer as well as other classes for students with some machine experience such as soft toy making and bunting making.

Classes are held at Sew with Jo studio Wellington Point which is fully equipped with Husqvarna sewing machines. Classes include a delicious snack. For more information visit: www.sewwithjo.com.au or phone Jo on 0409 072 609

AUTHOR VISIT
On Wednesday 4th November Justin D’Ath, the author of many well known children’s chapter books, will be visiting our school as part of our pre Book Week celebrations. Mr D’Ath will be running mini-workshops with our classes from Prep to Year 4.

If your family is a fan of Mr D’Ath and you would like to purchase a book, please bring along the money in a named ziplock bag on Wednesday 4th November. Otherwise, you can order books after his visit using the order form

**Extreme Adventures**, 12 titles @ $12.00 each
- Crocodile Attack
- Bushfire Rescue
- Shark Bait
- Scorpion Sting
- Spider Bite
- Man Eater
- Killer Whale
- Grizzly Trap
- Devil Danger
- Anaconda Ambush
- Monkey Mountain
- Tiger Trouble

**Lost World Circus**, 6 titles @ $12.00 each
- The Last Elephant
- The Singing Ape
- Secret Superhero
- Boy Vs Rat Dog
- Plague Island
- Animal Planet

**Mission Fox**, 8 titles @ $10.00 each
- Snake Escape
- Panda Chase
- Horse Hijack
- Dolphin Rescue
- Zebra Rampage
- Puma Rumour
- Go Goanna
- Koala Rescue

If however, our families order books after Justin’s visit using the order form he will provide on the day, there is an additional $1 postage fee applied to each order.

In Prep we are getting very excited about 'Toys', our Discovery Learning theme this term. This week we have looked at old toys from the past and new toys that the Preps play with today. We have had a lot of fun looking at toys from the past and what they were made of.

We have watched Mrs Staley's favourite old story of the 'Velveteen Rabbit' showing us toys from the past such as wind up soldiers, Jack-in-the-box and a beautiful old rocking horse.

We have finished our swimming lessons for the year.

Don’t forget to try and bring in some small boxes / construction materials and craft as we are collecting items for our 'Christmas Toy Workshop'. A reminder that the Preps are performing on assembly in week 7.
This week we have been reflecting on our trip to the Caboolture Historical Village. While we were there we looked at so many things from the past such as the old wringer washing machines, boilers, washboards, telephones, typewriters, printing presses, the blacksmith’s shop, the butchers shop, a school, old cars and the corner shop. We even went on a train ride and got held up by bushrangers!

On arrival at the Caboolture Historical Village we had to assemble at the old school house so the principal could speak to us. Everyone kept very quiet and still while the principal spoke because he became angry if anyone moved!

While we stood at attention for God Save the Queen, the boys had to take their hats off and then we said a verse about our country.

When we went into the classroom we had to sit at a desk and keep our arms folded. We weren’t allowed to talk! We are all happy that schools have changed from the way they were in the past!

This week in Year two we have been exploring Forces! On Tuesday, we had a lot of fun experimenting with the forces that make toys move. We rotated through inside and outdoor play equipment and discovered that many of the toys we love and use, require a push, pull or even both forces to work!

On Wednesday, we started investigating Gravity and experiments we can complete to understand this force in greater depth. We have decided, we would like to participate in an egg drop experiment and have already started planning our designs! We will be making our prototypes and dropping these designs tomorrow. Keep your twitter account handy to view our experiment trials!

In Religion this week we have been focusing on Saints, as we will be celebrating All Saints Day in our class liturgy this Friday and in our School Sponsored Mass this Sunday.

Please keep in mind the time change to 10:15am for our liturgy tomorrow, with morning tea to follow in the classroom during the first half of our lunch break. We look forward to seeing some of our Year 2 families this Sunday at 8:30am for our Sponsored Mass.

During Literacy in the past couple of weeks, we have been focused on writing our book reviews. We are writing our book review about the book ‘The Duck and the Darklings’ by Glenda Millard and Steven Michael King.

This week during Discovery Learning, we have been learning about a new festival called ‘Diwali’.

This celebration, also known as the Festival of Lights, is an ancient Hindu festival celebrated in Autumn annually. Diwali is the largest and the brightest festival in India.

It represents the triumph of light over darkness! It is known to be the celebration of the marriage of Lakshmi with Lord Vishnu. Here is a picture of Lee and Owen depicting Lord Vishnu, and of Dash and Chloe having fun with the brightly coloured sand art! Well done!
We are officially half way through our last term of Year Four. We cannot believe the year is almost over.

In English we are continuing to write great narratives. Our Sizzling Starts have been sizzling and our Tightening Tension scenes have been full of tension.

On Monday we put all the techniques we have learnt into practice. We wrote a plan for our narrative, which included characters, settings, problems and resolutions. We also ensured that we had dialogue between the characters in the text.

In Mathematics, we have been using our knowledge of decimals to calculate amounts of money. We have also been creating equivalent number sentences using addition, subtraction and multiplication.

We had our final swimming lesson for the year on Wednesday. We learnt about water safety and then were rewarded with time in the play pool for all our hard work in the water!

Oh how the weeks are flying by in Year Five! The end of the year is firmly in sight, but don’t worry, we are still learning lots and working hard on new topics.

In Maths this week we have been focused on 3D shapes. “That’s not a new topic,” we hear you say. But as we quickly discovered there is still so much to know about the world of Geometry. We are looking at the nets of 3D objects and the link between 3D objects and 2D shapes. We have been hard at work matching, creating and even constructing different 3D objects and now we have the Year Five curriculum sorted.

In Discovery Learning we have been investigating climatic conditions in different places around Australia. It has been interesting to hypothesise why most Aussies live close to the coast rather than inland parts of our country. It was also great to see the inland towns that some of us visit on our holidays, thanks to Google Maps.

For the next few weeks we will be looking at the roles of Mary, as both the mother of Jesus and as the mother of the Church. This week we have reflected on images and song lyrics about Mary, and have discussed what these reveal about her humanity. We have also been examining Marian prayers and how they reveal God’s trust in Mary.

Please excuse our absence from the newsletter next week – we’ll be on camp! That’s right, for many of us it will be our first camp and we could not be more excited. There is a list on Moodle of everything that we need so get packing!

There is much excitement in Year 6 at the moment with camp coming up next week. Mrs Clough and I have had a small taste of what the bus trip will be like during our trips to school swimming – hope we survive! But between now and then all the children will be presenting their orals.

The presentations so far have been of a very high standard – good luck to those of you who will present next Monday and Tuesday.

Our maths focus this week has been on angles. The children are getting very good at working out the value of the unknown angle.

Tomorrow morning we have the Year 6 Bake Sale in between the Year 1 and 3 classrooms at the bottom of the steps. This will commence at 8.15am. See you all there.
ENROLMENTS
YEAR 7, 2018

Applications for enrolment for Year 7, 2018 are invited from parents of students who are currently in Year 4.

Carmel College’s enrolment process for this year level will begin Term 2, next year. Enrolment information can be obtained via the Carmel College website www.carmelcollege.qld.edu.au or by contacting Mrs Donna Cook, College Enrolment Secretary on 3488 7791.

‘LET YOUR LIGHT SHINE’