The Triple Filter Test

In ancient Greece, Socrates was reputed to hold knowledge in high esteem. One day an acquaintance met the great philosopher and said, "Do you know what I just heard about your friend?"

"Hold on a minute," Socrates replied. "Before you talk to me about my friend, it might be a good idea to take a moment and filter what you’re going to say. That’s why I call it the triple filter test. The first filter is Truth. Have you made absolutely sure that what you are about to tell me is true?"

"Well, no," the man said, "actually I just heard about it and…"

"All right," said Socrates. "So you don’t really know if it’s true or not. Now, let’s try the second filter, the filter of Goodness. Is what you are about to tell me about my friend something good?"

"Umm, no, on the contrary…"

"So," Socrates continued, "you want to tell me something bad about my friend, but you’re not certain it’s true. You may still pass the test though, because there’s one filter left—the filter of Usefulness. Is what you want to tell me about my friend going to be useful to me?"

"No, not really."

"Well," concluded Socrates, "if what you want to tell me is neither true, nor good, nor even useful, why tell it to me at all?"

Dear Parents & Friends

Welcome to Week 7 of our nine week term. Please note that our school mass is on Palm Sunday at 5.00pm. I request that all students please attend this Mass with the staff of the school. We are also holding an Easter Mass on Tuesday, 26 March at 12 noon at the school. Each class will be performing a little play. All parents and family are welcome to attend. A reminder that the parent/teacher interviews start today. Please be on time for your interview and be prepared with any questions you may wish to ask. All parents are asked to see their child’s teacher to “touch base” on their progress.

I also ask that all parents sign the interview form to acknowledge the topics covered in the interview. I know that these interviews are a positive and integral part of our education at the school and are a great benefit to all concerned.

The school will be holding activities for our students tomorrow to support the National Day of Action against Bullying and Violence. We strongly support the message of NO BUL- LYING.
28 February 2013

Dear Parents and Carers

Re: Federal Government Review of School Funding

The Federal Government is currently reviewing the way schools in Australia are funded (the Gonski Review). As part of this process a new funding model has been proposed, and this is now the subject of discussions between the Federal government and State governments, and the Catholic and Independent schooling sectors.

Details of the proposed funding model at this stage remain unknown, and so the funding Catholic school students might receive under any new model is very unclear. However, with a Federal election due later this year, and no new funding arrangements yet confirmed for 2014 and beyond, school funding will continue to be an important issue for all political parties and for public debate.

In the lead-up to the review process, Catholic school authorities asked the Federal Government for additional funding to close the funding gap between Catholic schools and government schools. On average, Catholic school students currently receive 20 per cent less government funding than if they attended government schools.

Catholic schools strive to keep fees as low as possible so that more families can choose a Catholic school for their children. Even when school fees paid by parents are included, Catholic schools, on average, operate with only about 90 per cent of the income of government schools.

If Catholic school funding is frozen, reduced or fails to keep pace with government school funding, Catholic schools may be forced to increase their school fees. If fees go up, the extra cost may lead to parents taking their children out of Catholic schools, and in turn put further pressure on government schools and cost government more money. To make sure this does not happen, it is important that governments fund Catholic schools fairly into the future.

Catholic school authorities recognise the vital importance of this situation for families and will provide more information as it becomes available from the National Catholic Education Commission.

For further information on Catholic school funding please visit fundinginfo.catholic.edu.au or view a video on Catholic school funding.

Yours sincerely

John Borsenio

JOHN BORSERIO
Director
**SCHOOL FEES**

School Fees are now overdue. Please endeavour to pay outstanding amounts as soon as possible.

Please remember that these fees help with the smooth running of the school and are vital to pay for most of our everyday expenses.

*It would be appreciated if any families having difficulty meeting this commitment could contact me as soon as possible.*

**2014 Enrolments**

As we are fielding enquiries for enrolments for 2014, we need to know what spaces we have available.

To help in this regard, it is important that current school families who will have a child entering Prep in 2014 complete an enrolment form as soon as possible.

We already have a healthy enrolment for the Prep class next year and there are only limited places available.

**Interviews will be held in May.**

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**PREP/1 EASTER MULTI-DRAW**

Each family received a book of 10 tickets last week. Tickets cost $2 each. The proceeds of the multi-draw will be donated to Shepherd’s Keep, an orphanage for Abandoned AIDS babies in Durban, South Africa. Please return the money and the tickets back to the school as soon as possible.

Prizes include: An Easter Cake and Easter hamper. If you wish to donate an Easter gift for the hamper, please drop it into the Prep/1 classroom.

**Dates To Remember**

**March 2013**
- 14th - 21st Parent/Teacher Interviews
- 25th - School X-Country Event
- 26th - School Easter Mass - 12 noon
- 28th - School closes at 3.00pm for the Easter Break
- 29th - Good Friday
- 31st - Easter Sunday

**April 2013**
- 1st - Easter Monday
- 9th - Pupil Free - Teacher In-service
- 10th - Pupil Free - Teacher In-Service
- 11th - Toowoomba Show Holiday
- 15th - Term 2 Begins (MONDAY)
- 18th - DD Netball trials
- 23 rd - P & F Meeting
- 24th - CD X-Country Trials
- 25th - Anzac Day

**May 2013**
- 2nd - S.D. Tennis Trials
- 8th - S.D. X-Country Trials
- 9th - Feast of Ascension
- 10th - (Fri) Mother’s Day Assembly 2pm
- 14th - 16th - NAPLAN
- 18th - P & F Inaugural Race Day

**DATE CLAIMERS:**

**JUNE:**
- 14th - SFDS ART SHOW (Friday - 6pm)
- 19th - Athletics Field Events (Wed -10.30 am)
- 21st - Track and Field Carnival at school

**AUGUST:**
- 31st - Father’s Day Bush Dance (Saturday Evening)

**SOLAR POWER - 15 kW system**

Our solar power panels have been installed and we now await the arrival of Ergon Energy to install the new meters. Thanks goes to the Federal Government for the funding of this wonderful project to help our environment.

**Quote of the Week**

I have found that if you love life, life will love you back.

Arthur Rubinstein

God Bless,

Brett Pollard
Principal
Into week 7 of the school year and we have been very busy already as we become familiar with the routines of the school day. We are enjoying the characters in Letterland every morning and as we recognize them we make sense of what they do to help us learn to read, write and spell.

We are already into reading. As our sight word recognition improves we will become very confident. Some of the year ones are gaining their certificates and next week the preps will start taking their sight words home.

We have learnt during religion, that until Easter we are in the church season of Lent. We have also become aware of some of the important features of the church and also our church school.

During this season we must remember to think of others who have less than we do. If we can sacrifice something we enjoy in our daily or weekly life and spare a coin for our Caritas money box then we can show how we accept God into our lives and live according to his teachings. If we make lots of money with our Easter raffle we will also help the babies without parents in South Africa that Mr Pollard told us he had met.

Mrs Sharman has been working with us on Fridays and some of us get special help from her on Wednesdays which we are enjoying. Mrs Tickner is helping some of also with some tricky things we find a little difficult at times.

We enjoy sharing books with our buddies from 6/7 and we have been very well behaved in church as our buddies help direct us on the expectations of sitting and participating in church.

Music is lots of fun with Mrs Skillington and we make quite a lot of happy noise when we are with Mr Spranklin on Wednesdays.

We are having fun in our room and some of us are working very hard so that we can be the best we can be.
SCHOOL CROSS COUNTRY
Our annual school cross country event will be held on Monday, 25 March, 2013 starting at 9.30 a.m. at the Clifton Golf Club.

We are arranging a bus to transport the children to the Golf Club. Please indicate on the reply slip whether you are transporting your own child or if they are catching the bus. Parents and friends are encouraged to come along and support their children.

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SCHOOL CROSS COUNTRY

……………………….., Year ………., will/ will not require Bus Transport to the Golf Course on Monday, 25/03/13, for the X-Country Event.

Signed…………………………(Parent)