26th February, 2015

Dear Parents

Our “Meet & Greet“ on Tuesday was a great success and I would like to thank the staff for their excellent presentations. We had an excellent turnout for the evening. If you were unable to attend, a copy of what was discussed is available from your child’s teacher. Thank you to Anne - Maree Bange and helpers from the P & F for the great sausage sizzle.

PARENT TEACHER COMMUNICATION

I would like to make mention of the fact that e-mails are a great tool for parents and teachers to use to positively communicate about general matters concerning the children e.g. weekly teachers’ communication, your child is going to be absent etc (minor matters).

If a parent wishes to discuss a particular issue about their child’s progress it is better to request an interview time to discuss the matter than to write a long e-mail which can sometimes be misconstrued as aggressive or rude to the teachers. We know that in the “busyness” of everyday life it is sometimes difficult to attend an interview but the teachers are more than happy to have a “face to face” or telephonic interview to sort out any issue. Sometimes the stories taken home by the children are not exactly the correct version of events and a teacher can easily set parents minds at ease. My office door is also always open for a chat if you wish to further discuss the matter once you have seen a teacher.

Occupational Therapy Visits

During 2015 and as part of the occupational therapy support provided to St Francis de Sales, the Catholic Education Occupational Therapist (OT), Emma Goddard, will be spending time in some of our classrooms.

In the school setting, the OT is able to work with students and teachers to enable students to more optimally participate in activities that they need or want to do at school. Specifically, the OT may work with teachers to:

- Set up the classroom and school environment for optimal learning e.g. make sure desk and chair heights are a good fit, check pencil grips and scissors
- Plan activities to support development of gross motor and fine motor skills e.g. balancing, climbing, hopping, using a pencil or scissors.
- Suggest strategies and activities to support development of pre-writing and handwriting skills
- Identify when students may require additional support to boost the development of their skills in these areas.

These visits will focus on whole class strategies. They are not intended to replace individualised OT and assessment for students who require that support. If specific support from an OT would be of benefit to your child, you will be provided with information regarding this and an opportunity to give your consent prior to your child being seen.

If you have any questions regarding Emma’s visits, please contact your child’s class teacher.
SCHOOL PHOTOS

School photo Day is fast approaching. (Monday, 02 March 2015). Please return your child’s photo envelopes to school by tomorrow, Friday 27th February.
Sibling Photo order envelopes are available in the office and you may include payment for all children in one envelope.
Please return all forms even if you are not purchasing any photos.

TERM 2 STAFFING

As announced a few weeks ago, Mr Maher will be taking up the position of Acting Principal at St Maria Goretti School in Inglewood during Term 2. Mrs Kelly Maher will take up the position of Teacher of the Year 3/4 Class, with Mrs Tickner taking the class for Science and History every second Monday.
Mrs Maher completes her contract as replacement teacher in the Prep Class on Fridays at the end of Term 1 and will be full time in the Year 3/4 class during Term 2.

Mrs Angela Skillington returns from maternity leave in Term 2 to take up her position as replacement Prep teacher, every Friday for the rest of the year. We congratulate Mrs Skillington on being appointed as Acting APRE for Term 2. She will take up this position on Thursdays and will be working from the Administration Building.

Dates To Remember

March 2015
2nd - School Photos - Formal uniforms and black shoes.
4th - P & F Meeting - (6.30pm)
All Welcome
5th - SD Tennis
5th - P-3 DD Zoo
6th - CD Netball - Allora
   CD Rugby League - Clifton
   CD Soccer - Clifton
19th - Toowoomba Show Holiday - School Closed
20th - SD Netball/Soccer/League
22nd - School Family Mass 5PM - Date Claim.
27th - School X-Country Event
30-1 April Year 3/4 Parent Teacher Meetings

April 2015
2nd- Term 1 Concludes - Easter Liturgy at 2.30 p.m.
12th - Felton Food Festival
20th - Term 2 Begins
20th - 23rd - Parent Teacher Interviews
24th - CD Cross Country

MAY 2015
7th - SD Cross Country
9th - Race Day
12th - 14th - NAPLAN TESTS
22nd - Gala Day
24th - Family Mass 5pm. (Date Claim)
29th - Gala Day

Quote of the Week

If you can't get rid of the skeleton in your closet, you'd best teach it to dance.

George Bernard Shaw

God Bless,

Brett Pollard
Principal

Tuckshop Roster:
27th Feb - Jenny Gillam & Selena Petersen
6th March - Leanne Harrigan & Carmel Stace

This Week’s Mass Roster
Saturday 28th Feb 7p.m.

Welcoming: J Meara
POF/OHP: K & S Flynn
Readers: K Flynn & B Pollard
Offertory: T Fogarty & F Harber
Eucharistic Ministers: H Gillam & L Murphy
Cleaning: P Imhoff, G Imhoff, J O’Leary, M Bowe
School Fun Run

Students have been training hard at school to be fit and ready for our cross country. This year, as we do every second year, we are running the Adidas School Fun Run in conjunction with our school Cross Country. Students that raise enough money are eligible for some great prizes. Approximately 60% of funds raised will come back to school to be spent on resources for your children. All money raised will need to be returned to the school with sponsorship forms prior to our cross country event which is to be held on the 27th March.

P&F NEWS:

Calling all parents.
Our P&F's major fundraiser for the year is approaching at the - Felton Food Festival 'Super Salad Stall'.
We are looking for 12 generous parents to volunteer for a 4 hr shift on the 12th of April 2015 from 10am to 2pm. The money raised from this will go towards minimizing costs for your child/children such as swimming lessons, zoo trip, bus trips, and with other expenses cropping up through out the year to name a few.
We know it's a while away but if you could pledge your support now for this major event it would be appreciated.
Please contact Ann-Maree Bange at either email: dabange77@bigpond.com or mb 0413127398.

P&F NEWS:

Uniform News
The Uniform Shop will be open every Wednesday 8.30-9am until the end of the year. Cash and cheque payments only. Contact Jenny on 0408198538 or email: bbnaumy@bigpond.com

Meet and Greet
Thanks to all who came to the meet and greet. Thanks to the teachers for their presentations which were very informative and well received by all parents who attended.

P&F MEETING

Our next P&F meeting will take place next Wednesday the 4th March at 6.30pm. All welcome to attend.

Email address
Please feel free to contact us on our email address. Clifton.pandf@twb.catholic.edu.au

HELP URGENTLY REQUIRED FOR CHURCH CLEANING DUTIES.
As many of those now carrying out this work are getting on in years, we hope that some younger people may offer to help with keeping the Lord's home clean. You are only required once every six months to be a part of a group. Mostly it will take 1 or 1/2 hours so not a lot of time to devote and help out in the parish. If you are willing to be a part of this, please phone Denise Lyons on 46972163. Thank you.
Congratulations Year 2 Sight Word Champions.

Students of the Week

GREAT WORK !!

YEAR 1 SIGHT WORD CHAMPIONS

Well Done !!!