Dear Parents and Carers,

Thank you to the 1B class for leading us in a beautiful Pentecost prayer last Friday at assembly. Pentecost is the birthday of our church and the coming of the Holy Spirit to give strength and guidance for all of us.

High School Expo: Tomorrow, Wednesday May 18, St Mark’s will be holding a ‘High School Expo’ in Mercy Hall from 6-8 pm. This expo is an opportunity for Catholic High Schools within our catchment area to display, demonstrate and communicate what their school has to offer. As high school selection for your child is an important decision in their educational journey, we would encourage you to attend. Parents know their child best and an expo such as this will make parents aware of the schools that can best cater for their child’s learning and educational needs. Please note, that many high schools request enrolments for students from as early as Year 3-4. Schools exhibiting at our High School Expo are – Our Lady’s College, Annerley, St Augustine’s College, Springfield, St Peter Claver College Ipswich, Ambrose Treacy College, Indooroopilly, St Thomas More’s College, Sunnybank, Brigidine College, Indooroopilly, St Lawrence’s College, South Brisbane and St James’ College, Fortitude Valley.

Photos: Please return your photo envelope to your child’s class teacher. On school photo day, (Wednesday 25th May), all Year 1-6 students need to wear their formal check uniform.

Uniform: Hair: Students are reminded to keep to the school policy regarding haircuts as some students have recently come to school with inappropriate styles. Blade 3 is the shortest blade acceptable for all over cuts and side cuts. Extreme hairstyles which draw attention to the student are not accepted and will not be permitted in any form (eg. undercut, rats tail, tracks, afro, mohawk, buzz cut, dreadlocks). Unnatural hair colouring which distracts from the natural look of an individual’s hair is not permitted. Extreme hairstyles which draw attention to the student are not accepted and will not be permitted in any form. If your child has an inappropriate haircut, then they are requested to grow it out for the next cut.

Staffing news: We are pleased to announce that Angela Bromfield has been appointed as the Guidance Counsellor for St Mark’s Inala. Angela’s days are Tuesday and Wednesday of each week and we welcome Angela to our school community.

Lap-a-thon: Sponsorship forms will go home today with each student.

Enjoy the week ahead.

Allison Malouf,
Principal

“Whenever you feel unloved, Unimportant or insecure, remember to whom you belong.”
Ephesians 2:19-22
Virtue of the Week: Perseverance

What is Perseverance?
Perseverance is being purposeful and steadfast. It is sticking to something, staying committed, no matter how long it takes or what obstacles appear to stop you. Don’t let things stop you or distract you from work you need to be doing. Keep on going!

You are practising Perseverance when you ...
- Think before deciding to commit to someone or something.
- Pace yourself.
- Set goals and stick with them until they are completed.
- Stand by your friends and loved ones, even during difficult times.

On that day, two thousand years ago, the disciples of Jesus were granted the ability to speak in any language so all people could understand what they were saying. This was the first occasion where the disciples knew their mission and began their ministry in proclaiming the Word of God. Every year on Pentecost, we too are enlivened with the Holy Spirit so we are able to proclaim God’s love to the world.

The Hebrews used the word, ‘ruah’, meaning breath or wind, to describe the Spirit of God as a force that gives life and help to creation. It saves, creates and gives inspiration to human beings. In the New Testament the Holy Spirit is the power of God that inspired or gives good ideas to Jesus and his followers. The Holy Spirit is the love shared between Jesus and His Father. Jesus wants his followers to share in this personal Spirit of love with him and His Father. The Spirit sanctifies Christians and helps them to live according to the teachings of Jesus, to pray, and to be united to God. In Christian theology, the Holy Spirit is the third person of the Trinity. The gift of the Holy Spirit to us has continued to impact us on a daily basis. The Mass would just be words said with symbolic actions if it was not for the Holy Spirit. Mary would not have borne Jesus. Why where we given the Holy Spirit? The scriptures are clear, we where given the Holy Spirit to empower us beyond our natural spirit and inclinations. We have been given gifts, each one of us that bear fruits for the building up of others, the Church and society.

“Let the Holy Spirit know exactly where you’re at - and will MEET you where you’re at. But the Holy Spirit doesn't want to leave you there! Don't pretend. Don’t be safe. You don’t need to be perfect for the Holy Spirit to work in your life. God didn’t create you to live so you could hide! God created you with purpose.” ~ Jumbo Cumbo [NET Ministries & Real Talk]

Date Claimers ...
- Our annual HIGH SCHOOL EXPO will be on this Wednesday, 18 May from 6pm. If you have a child in Yr 3-6 we encourage you to come along to chat to some local Catholic high schools about enrolling for Yr 7 onwards.
- 6G + 2W will celebrate their buddy class mass this Thursday, 19 May at 9:30am.
- I W will lead us in Assembly Prayer on Friday 20 May.
- SCHOOL PHOTOS are on next Wednesday 25 May. Children need to wear their formal CHECK uniform on this day.
- Next Thursday, 26 May, 5W & 2G will celebrate their buddy class mass at 9:30am in the Church.
- Next Friday, 27 May, 1G will lead us in our Assembly Prayer.
- Our school Disco will be at 6:00pm on Friday 3 June in Mercy Hall.
- The bi-annual school fundraising Lapathon will be on Friday 10 June.
- St Mark’s Athletics Carnival will be on Friday 17 June.
- Year 5 & 6 Personal Development workshop with NET Ministries and Real Talk will run Monday – Wednesday 20-22 June.
- School Holidays start at 3pm on Friday 24 June.
For Determination:

| PG: Mylie  | 4G: Marley and |  
| PW: Piper  | Benjamin       |  
| PB: Gabe   | 4W: Adrian and |  
| 1G: Jonah  | Kaaviyan       |  
| 1W: Trey   | 4B: Ruby       |  
| 1B: Charlie| 5G: Darra      |  
| 2G: Alan   | 5W: Daisy      |  
| 2W: Sinna  | 6G: Ding       |  
| 2B: Obama  | 6W: Dylan      |  
| 3G: Selihom| 5W: Uyen       |  
| 3W: Uyen   | 5W: Lisa       |  
| 3B: Joshua | 5W: Benjamin   |  

May is National Family Reading Month!!! Please take the time to read with your children as it improves language and literacy skills, builds relationships and role models great reading habits!! We are building a collage to celebrate this initiative and would love photos of your family reading.

Please send them to lmcollins@bne.catholic.edu.au.

Thanks
Leesa Keaton
Teacher Librarian

Crossing Supervisor — Casual Position Vacant

A casual position exists for a School Crossing Supervisor at St Marks Catholic School.
The hours of work for the School Crossing Supervisor may be up to an hour in the morning and half an hour in the afternoon.
School Crossing Supervisor/s may be required to work five days per week in all weather conditions.

Commencement of work for the successful applicant is dependent on:
The favourable outcome of a health assessment carried out by a duly qualified Medical Practitioner according to the guidelines in the “Notes for Medical Practitioner” on the School Crossing Supervisor Scheme - Health Assessment Form;
The applicant either holding a current Blue Card or having submitted an application for a Blue Card to the Commission for Children and Young People and Child Guardian. An applicant will not be employed by the Department of Transport and Main Roads unless they meet this criterion.
Department of Transport of Main Roads will organise and fund both for selected applicant.
Application packs are available from the School.

Completed applications should be returned to the school office.

Library News

English as an Additional Language or Dialect

Currently we are trying to build up a bank of bi-lingual books in the school’s library. Students are now able to borrow books in their first or main language, although at this stage the books are mainly suitable for younger children. Currently we have books available to borrow in Vietnamese, Spanish, Samoan, Tongan and Arabic. We are hoping to add other languages to our book collection soon.

It is beneficial for bi-lingual students to develop print literacy in their first, main and/or addition-language and it would be a wonderful experience for you and your child to share one of these books together.

If you have any children’s bi-lingual books at home and you would like to donate them to the school’s collection, your generosity would be greatly appreciated. Please bring them to the library and they will be happily received.

Kind regards,

Tina Winterflood and Leesa Keaton
Congratulations
To Amielia Chadburn for achieving her Black Sash Level 1 for Kung Fu. In Karate terms she is now equivalent to 1st Dan. Amielia has worked hard for the past 6 years to reach this goal.

Congratulations
To Sally, Nia, Amielia, Marley, Kruz and Jacob for representing St Mark’s in the District Touch Team.
This is a fantastic result!

Congratulations
To Justin Lupe who won the Inala Tennis Trials. His parents, Justine & Costell were very proud and happy that their son’s hard work paid off. Justin and Iosefo Connolly both qualified to represent the Inala district at the Metwest Tennis Trials in June.

State of Origin Wear your Team Colours Day
Wed 1st June 2016
Gold Coin donation please

St Mark’s School Disco
Fri 3rd June 2016—6.00-8.00pm at Mercy Hall
Gold Coin Entry—Chips, poppers and LED candles on sale.
Parents please attend with your children.

Lap-a-thon or Walkathon our Major Fundraiser
Friday 10th June 2016
All Students raising $10 or more for the school will win a prize.
The Student that raises the most money for the school will Win a Major prize.
The classroom that raises the most money for the school will Win a pizza party.
We are raising funds to provide a shade cover over the steps in the oval.
This is the area were our children participate in the sports carnival and cross country district events.
The shade will provide cover and protection from the sun because cancer is a big risk in Queensland.