Dear Parents/ Caregivers,

Last Friday, the school body was treated to the skills and flair of our verse speaking choirs and winners in individual events. We are very proud of their achievements as was the rest of the school. The pizza party that followed was well received—the result of prize money won.

The children and school also made big impressions on the principals from this cluster who all gathered here on Friday. Each term these meetings take place in various schools and it was our turn! The welcome, hospitality and fine Vietnamese food all made an impression! My thanks to all who contributed in any way to the day.

Friday night also saw the first disco of the year. It was well supported by parents, teachers and children and was a great success. Well done to all who had a part. The children certainly look forward to them and enjoy them immensely.

Harmony Week
This week we celebrate Harmony Week. Each day this week we will hear music from the main cultures here at the school. Mr Johnstone and others have worked with some of the children to record songs from each culture. We will hear these throughout the week. Of particular note, I invite parents to come along to our special assembly this Friday morning at 8.50 am in Mercy Hall. Thanks must go in advance to Mrs Miles and 2W who will be co-ordinating this special prayer assembly. It will be a time for us all to be very proud of our heritage and share/ enjoy a little of the music of the cultures that are so important to this school. Do come along if you can.

Make and Take Maths Session
If you have a child in Year 1, then this is for you! After a very successful Prep session, it’s now the opportunity for Year 1 parents. I hope you will come and find out about how you can support your child’s maths learning. The session is on the 17th June in the Learning Support Centre. The session is free!

Winter Appeal
It’s on again and it started today! We are looking to help those less fortunate than ourselves through our annual St. Vincent de Paul Winter Appeal that runs from now until the end of the term. Please send along donations of non-perishable goods, warm clothing and the like to the classroom teacher. My thanks to our Faith and Mission student leaders who are adding their energy and drive to this appeal this year. Please give generously.

P and F Meeting
This month’s P and F meeting will take place tomorrow evening, 5.30 pm in the staffroom. All are invited to attend. High on the agenda will be the Lap-a-thon, the major fundraising event for the year which is scheduled to happen next term. I hope to see a good number of you at the meeting.

Congratulations
We congratulate Fr Stephen and Fr Joseph who were installed by His Grace, Archbishop Mark Coleridge last Saturday night at the 6.00 pm Mass. We look forward to continuing the development of close links with the parish over the months and years ahead.

Staff Award
Congratulations go to Mr Adrian Biddulph who has been short listed for the Brisbane Catholic Education’s Excellence in Teaching Award. We are very proud of Mr. Biddulph and this recognition for the great work that he does. (He is but one of many stand-outs among the teaching staff). Be sure to congratulate him when you next see him.
At St Mark’s we are so blessed to be able to live, work and play amongst many different cultures. This week we are celebrating our diverse cultures here as we celebrate **HARMONY WEEK!**

This year’s focus is **MUSIC.**

Over the past couple of weeks our choir and some other students have been working hard with Mr Johnstone (our music teacher) and Mrs Tauasosi (school officer) to practise 6 different cultural songs. Then, with the help of Mr Fergusson (Yr 7 teacher), we recorded these songs. These songs will form the basis of our Harmony Week celebrations. Every morning and again in the afternoon we will all stop to listen to a different cultural song followed by a time of prayer for that group of people. Over the next 3 days we will hear music from the following cultural groups: Australian Indigenous, Colonial Australians, African, Samoan, Vietnamese and Spanish speakers.

On Friday morning Harmony Week comes to a close as we join together for assembly prayer, which will be led by 2W. We will hear some more songs from different cultures, all sung by the talented St Mark’s students, and take some time to pray for unity. All parents and friends are invited to assembly to celebrate the multicultural dimension of our community.

In preparation for Harmony Week our art teacher, Mrs Tigani, has been working with students from Years 4-7 to create beautiful artwork to celebrate the diverse and unifying nature of music. Pop down to the art/music room to check out some of these pieces.

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**Date Claimers ...**

- St Mark’s annual **Harmony Week starts today** and runs till Friday.
- St Vincent de Paul Winter Appeal starts on 10 June and runs until the end of term.
- Our Harmony Week assembly prayer this week will be led by 2W at 8:45 on Friday morning, 13 June.
- Year 6 & 7 Retreat Days 17—19 June.
- 1B will lead us in our assembly prayer on Friday 20 June.
- “Onesie” Day for Winter Appeal on Tuesday 24 June.
- 1B and 3Ws buddy class Mass will be on Thursday 26 June.
- Assembly Prayer in the last week of Term 2 will be led by 1W on Friday 27 June.
- Holidays start 3pm Friday 27 June. Term 3 starts Monday 14 July.

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**Virtue of the Week: Patience**

**What is Patience?**

Patience is quiet hope and expectation based on trust that, in the end, everything will be all right. Patience means waiting. It is enduring a delay or troublesome situation without complaining. It means having self-control and perseverance.

**You are practising patience when you ...**

- Calmly tolerate a delay or confusion.
- Set goals and stick with them until they are completed.
- Are gentle with others when they make mistakes.
- Rely on God to help you persevere.

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**Mrs Nikki Lysaght**  
Assistant Principal Religious Education
Make and Take Number Session

Who: Year 1 parents
Where: Learning Support Centre
When: Tuesday 17th June 2014
Time: 2.00-3.00 pm

FREE take home kit and have some fun with number 1

UNIFORM SHOP

St Mark’s Uniform Shop is open every Friday during school term between 8am and 9am, LAY-BY is available

Thank you

Positive Parenting for Healthy Living is an adaptation of the successful Triple P - Positive Parenting Program offering practical ideas and support for parents of children with type 1 diabetes. This innovative group program is designed to help parents manage their child’s illness, assist children in coping with their illness and emotions, and prevent and manage difficult behaviour. It teaches a variety of skills such as maintaining good illness control, reducing child and family stress, and communicating with other caregivers. In addition, it equips parents with the skills to prevent and cope with their child’s anxiety, and use effective discipline strategies for preventing and managing difficult behaviour.

Over the next few months, parents of children with type 1 diabetes are able to access Positive Parenting for Healthy Living Triple P as part of this University of Queensland research project. Parents wishing to participate will be able to attend the program free of charge, and will be asked to complete 2 sets of assessment measures (questionnaire and family observation) over a 6 month period, as part of the study.

EISTEDDFOD
Four classes went off to the 69th Annual Ipswich Speech and Drama Festival recently. All classes gave spirited performances, competing against four other schools and did us all proud. Congratulations go to 7G and 6G for first and third places in the ‘Speech Choir’. The students also enjoyed lunch in the park and a visit to the Art Gallery where we experimented by making flying machines and testing them in wind tunnels.


Overall, our students stood out for their originality, personality and sense of purpose when facing the judges in this enjoyable competition. Well done!!!

TUCKSHOP

St Mark’s Tuckshop is open on Monday, Thursday and Friday each week. If you can help at any time please contact the tuckshop

Please support our tuckshop.
Thank you….Anna Sinitsky

All past students, staff and parents are invited to attend 85th Anniversary celebrations at Brigidine College Indooroopilly

Sunday 27 July 2014 …Celebration Mass at 2pm in Holy Family Parish Church Cnr Ward St and Central Avenue, Indooroopilly followed by Afternoon Tea around the Holy Lawn at Brigidine College from 3 – 5pm

Optional tour - Discover all of the latest developments as you enjoy a student guided tour of the College campus.

RSVP by Monday 14 July 2014 (for catering purposes) on (07) 3870 7225 or 85thanniversary@brigidine.qld.edu.au. It is anticipated that Mass and High Tea will become an annual event during Brigidine Week as the College moves towards its centenary in 2029.

Worldwide Marriage Encounter

A weekend away for married couples in peaceful, picturesque surroundings – away from the distractions of everyday living. Take time out of your busy schedule, to invest in your most precious asset . . . your Marriage! This is a unique opportunity to recharge your relationship batteries, refocus on each other and fall in love all over again!

Weekend date: 13th – 15th June 2014
Venue: Santa Teresa Spirituality Centre, Ormiston QLD (on Brisbane’s bayside)
For bookings/details contact: Tamara and Scott Menleith, ph (07) 4634 3559, stjmen@aapt.net.au Information website: www.wwme.org.au
Thank you to the teachers & parents who helped at the Disco!

Next Week..
We will include photos of new St Mark’s babies Benjamin Nuygen & Rainen Chase Par.