Dear Parents/ Caregivers,

Yesterday, a letter from ACARA was sent out. This was to comply with the requirement to ensure a copy of the ACARA Privacy Notice was distributed (by hand out or via email) to all parents/legal guardians by Monday 11th August. If parents/legal guardians make a request with the school to withhold their child’s information, we are to advise the relevant eMinerva BCE Student ID to Brisbane Catholic Education Office by the close of business Wednesday 20th August. Upon receipt of this information, BCE will ensure that any student’s records that are to be withheld, are removed from the report to be sent to ACARA. If no eMinerva BCE Student IDs have been returned for a school by Wednesday 20th August, it will be inferred that all students with an active enrolment record at the school are able to be included in the report to ACARA. We have been doing this for many years now. I hope this explains the letter for you.

Sports
At last Friday’s assembly, we presented the age champions to the school. Congratulations to our winners, listed on page 3 in this newsletter. Many of our athletes competed in the district championships with some success last Wednesday and Thursday. I thank Mr Biddulph and the other teachers who assisted with the events on these days, or with transport. Thanks, too, to our parents who helped with transport so that all children had the opportunity to compete.

Lap-a-thon
As you know, we are conducting the lap-a-thon this Friday to raise much needed funds for the school. We need your support as the children walk or run laps for money. Parents are invited and welcome to come and “do some laps” yourself. It’s a great way to join the fun and encourage your children. Children need to have hats, sunscreen, comfortable shoes and water in their own bottle. Come on. St. Mark’s!

Principal’s Afternoon Tea
Yes, invitations for my first afternoon tea for the semester went home yesterday! Congratulations to all who were nominated by their teacher. They have obviously impressed with their living out of the virtues.

Ekka Holiday
Tomorrow is the annual holiday for the Brisbane Exhibition. I trust all will enjoy this mid-week break and may indeed enjoy what the Ekka has to offer.

Sacramental Programme
This Sunday will see the conclusion of the parish sacramental programme for 2014. Some of our children will be involved in the celebrations. I would ask that you hold them in your prayers please.

Prayers please
Last week, with sadness, we passed on our sympathy to Mr. Ebzery and his family as they mourned the death of his father. Please continue to hold Mr. Ebzery and his family in your prayers.

Sharing with Friends:
PW: Joseph Tovia

Effort in Class:
Lachlan Rowsell

Kindness:
Monica Nguyen
Kaaviyan Thevar

Effort in Science lessons:
5/6B: David Ngo

Hard Work:
6G: Daniela Pham

Student Awards
Compassion:
PG: Manuela Lado
1G: Charli Dinh
1W: Trinity Samu
2W: Joanne Nguyen
2B: Ata Mata‘afa
3G: Phuong Anh Le
3W: TJ Tran
4G: William Nguyen
4W: Tahlia Williamson-Field
5G: Emma Lu
5W: Maliqua Tenisio
6W: Ethan Green
7G: Maggie Timaloa

PLEASE NOTE:
School Fees are included with this newsletter
Pray for Peace In Iraq

The news of conflict in Iraq over the last month has shocked the world because of the brutality and rapid growth in power of the Islamic State military extremists. The front pages of our newspapers this morning contained disturbing images and reports of military responses. Let us remember in prayer the people of Iraq who have been living in a state of crisis for so many years. Let us especially remember the thousands of Christians who have fled Mosul and those who are seeking refuge in Erbil.

Over the weekend, Pope Francis has been constant in his tweets in calling for prayers and help for the people of Iraq. His words express the prayers of our hearts:

Aug 10: “The news coming from Iraq pains me. Lord, teach us to live in solidarity with all those who suffer.”
Aug 10: “Those driven from their homes in Iraq depend on us. I ask all to pray, and for those who are able, to give material assistance.”
Aug 9: “Violence is not conquered by violence. Lord, send us the gift of peace. #prayforpeace”
Aug 9: “I ask the international community to protect all those suffering violence in Iraq.”

Let us pray, Lord send the gift of peace to the people of Iraq.

Prayer for Peace in Iraq and the Middle East: At a time of war and rumours of war - We come to you, God Creator. - You are the source of life and beauty and power. - Your son Jesus is the way of faith and hope and love. - Your Spirit is the fire of love, the font of wisdom, the bond of unity. - You call us at all times to be people of the beatitudes, Witnesses to the Gospel of peace and love and forgiveness. - You call us at this time, when war and rumours of war, weigh heavily on the peoples of Iraq and the Middle East. - Their lives are already broken by suffering and violence. - We renew our acceptance of your call. - We promise to work: To bring the light of the Gospel to those living in darkness, To bring the hope of the Gospel to those living in despair, To bring the healing of the Gospel to the lonely, the disadvantaged, the marginalized, and to bring the peace of the Gospel to a divided world. Amen.

Date Claimers ...

- Ekka Public Holiday is on Wednesday 13 August.
- This week Year 4 students will receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation on Thursday 14 August at 9:30am in the Church.
- Assembly Prayer on Friday 15 August will be run by Prep B at 8:45am in Mercy Hall.
- Our Lapathon will be on Friday 15 August.
- Next Thursday, 21 August, 2W and 6W will celebrate their Buddy Class Mass at 9:30am in the Church.
- Book Week runs during Week 6. Our assembly this week will be our traditional book week parade.
- St Vinnies Sleepover will be held on Friday night 12 September for Year 5, 6 and 7 students.
- Holidays start on Friday 19 September.

Virtue of the Week: Joyfulness

What is Joyfulness?
Joyfulness is being filled with happiness, peace, love and a sense of well-being. Joy is inside us all. It comes from a sense of being loved. It comes from an appreciation for the gift of life. It comes when we are doing what we know is right. Joy is related to fun but is not exactly the same thing. Fun comes from what is happening outside – having a good time. Joy comes from what is happening inside.

You are practising Joyfulness when you …

- Look for your inner happiness.
- Believe that God created you and loves you always.
- Allow sadness to come and then remember to let it go.
- Learn something from the hard times in your life.

Markus says when you are joyful you are showing REVERENCE!!
**From the Library**

**BOOK WEEK 2014**

**Connect to Reading**

“Connect to Reading!” is our theme this year for Book Week. Each class has been working on an art or technology display for Book week. These will be displayed in the library from Monday 18th – Friday 22nd August. **ALL PARENTS ARE WELCOME TO VIEW DISPLAYS IN BOOK WEEK.** After Assembly on Friday, before or after school are good times to see the children’s work. **To help with dressing up** for Book Week Assembly, we have helped Prep to Yr 3 in dressing up by making masks, hats etc which they can wear. However if they would prefer to dress up as a book character and use costumes/dress ups from home, then they are very welcome to use these too. **Author visit** – on Friday after the assembly, Yr 2 – 7 will be doing a Workshop with Phil Kettle an author (we have over 50 of his books in the library). This is a great opportunity for the children to **Connect with literature and an author.**

**Book Week Assembly Friday 22nd August**

All parents are welcome.
8.50am Dress-Up Parade in Hall
Prep to Yr 3 are expected to come dressed up. Yr 4-7 are also welcome to dress up if they wish. Winning books will be announced. Prizes for library competitions will be presented and best book trailer and e-book will be shown.

**Beautiful New Hair Accessories**

Available Now!
Stop by the office or the uniform shop to have a look!

**Sport News**

Congratulations to our sports carnival Age Champions for 2014!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year Level</th>
<th>Boys</th>
<th>Girls</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Year 3</td>
<td>Silesh Belayneh</td>
<td>Aluel Awag</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 4</td>
<td>Rony Andria</td>
<td>Siyama Wani</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 5</td>
<td>Patriss Tawor</td>
<td>Emily Dodd</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 6</td>
<td>John Dhel</td>
<td>Marchlina Awag</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 7</td>
<td>Chan Le</td>
<td>Tran-Uyen Nguyen</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Experience what it is like to be homeless!**

**Save the Date!**

**Friday 12th September**

The St Mark’s St Vincent de Paul Sleep-out is open to students and parents of Year 5, 6 and 7 students. The $7.00 fee will be donated to St Vincent de Paul. Boxes will be provided to sleep on. **Money and permission form needs to be in as soon as possible.**

Breakfast will be available the next morning. St Mark’s tuckshop will serve a couple of hot drinks on the night, similar to a charity van. We will have guest speakers on the night. Pam Betts, director of Catholic Education, will be attending the breakfast on Saturday the 13th of September.

**Brisbane Women’s Forum**

**Circle of Life**

**VENUE:**
LOURDES HILL COLLEGE, 86 HAWTHORNE ROAD, HAWTHORNE

**DATE & TIME:**
Wednesday, 27 AUGUST, 6 pm for a 7pm start – 9.30pm
Come early and enjoy a bowl of soup and a crusty roll $5 per serve

**ENTRY:**
$10 each book at www.trybooking.com code FITA or 93782 or purchase at the door

**RSVP:**
Friday, 22 August email: womensforumbrisbane@gmail.com or phone 0408 735 720
Thank you for supporting the Lap-a-thon!

Dear Parents, Staff & Children

Thank you for supporting the Lap-a-thon this Friday.
We would like to organise your child’s prizes promptly, so can please send in your completed forms with money in an envelope by Friday.
Thank you to Anna Sinitsky for her work on this event as well as organising the Fathers Day gifts orders.
This year the P&F will sponsor the sashes for our graduates and the school will look after the printing of the Mark Times magazine for each student.

All funds received from any P&F event is reinvested in your children, either through the purchase of additional learning resources or upgrading of a learning or play area.

Thank you to Evie Dorsamy
for connecting us with her musical family!
“DJ Manny” will provide the music for our
Family/Fathers Day BBQ
on Friday 5th Sept 3pm—4.30pm

Thank you to the Watkins Family
For their generous donation of a prize towards the Fathers Day BBQ raffle

Thank you to Annastacia Palaszczuk
For her generous donation of a hamper prize towards the Fathers Day BBQ raffle

Thank you to The Hon Bernie Ripoll MP for his generous donation of a hamper prize towards the Fathers Day BBQ raffles.

Please keep Sunday 15th Sept free for your family portrait!
Family portraits are valuable memories of your children, especially as they grow up so quickly! Please see information with this newsletter.

Do you have children from 0 to preschool?
Come and meet other mothers for friendship & support?
Coffee and morning tea will be provided for you at the
Mothers Group every Wednesday morning
8.40am—11.30am at Lobelia House
For further details, please call Carrie McCormack 043 429 0540
or Christine DaCosta 043 458 1406. This ministry is sponsored by
St Mark’s Parish and St Mark’s School

IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER!
Fri 15th Aug  -  Lap-a-thon
Fri 5th Sept  -  Family & Fathers’ Day BBQ
Fri 12th Sept  -  St Vinnies Sleep-out
Sun 15th Sept  -  Family Portraits

Thank you to the Gavarra family
For their generous donation of sausages & bread towards the St Vinnies Sleepout on Friday 12th September.

Happy 7th Birthday to Jamai Tran!