Dear Parents/Carers,

Last week saw two wonderful experiences offered and enjoyed. First, the school got involved in “Reading Across the Universe” for this year’s celebration of Book Week. Special thanks go to Mrs Badke and Mrs Keaton, along with teachers and library staff who made it happen. The week was full of wonderful activities and enjoyed by all.

Our Year 5 students had a fabulous camp experience at Tunnel Ridge Ranch, near Landsborough. The teachers, and camp operators, were very impressed with your children and rated it “a most successful camp.” Special thanks go to Miss Davy for her organization and running, together with Mr Ebzery, Miss Donato and Miss Glinkiewicz. I hope you have had a chance to hear all about either, or both, these events.

Last week we also completed our Prep Orientation mornings. It was great to meet prospective parents and children, as well as those families with children currently enrolled. Presently, I have 7 places available in Prep and a limited number in other year levels. Should you know of families looking to come to St. Mark’s next year, please have them contact the school now.

P and F News

The final meeting for the P and F this year takes place tomorrow morning at 9.00 am in the staffroom. All are invited. We have our end of year P and F Dinner this Friday night at Hotel Richlands. It’s a 6.00 pm arrival for a 6.30 pm start. As part of our 50 year celebrations, I look forward to seeing a good roll up. It’s going to be a lot of fun so organize a group and make a booking.

Swimming

Dates for this term’s swimming lessons were published last week. Please ensure that your child is ready to swim this Thursday with all gear organized and named. We aim to have all children “water safe” and that requires all children to swim. Caps will be provided by Dunlop Pool.

Book Lists

As mentioned previously, the purchasing of books and stationery is the responsibility of parents. No packs are being sold, however, Brodies provides a wonderful service should you wish to take advantage of it. Ask your son/daughter for the book list, this week. Thanks for your assistance in this vital preparation for next year.

Date Claimers

This year the Christmas Concert will be staged on Wednesday, 27th November, starting at 6.30 pm. It is always a wonderful occasion and all children are involved. Mercy Hall is certainly proving to be a wonderful venue for this concert. The Year 7 Graduation ceremony takes place on Wednesday, 4th December. It commences with Mass at 6.30 pm in the church—another wonderful occasion. The school year concludes on Friday, 6th December at 12 noon. Necessary arrangements for pick ups should be made.

Uniforms

There is always a heavy demand for uniforms at the start of each school year. To assist you, the uniform shop offers lay-bys for those interested. I commend this service to you.

Mark Times

All children will again receive a copy of Mark Times in the last week of school. Many thanks to the teachers for their work in writing and publishing this year’s edition. Enjoy!
What is Resilience?

Being resilient means that you have the ability to overcome odds and demonstrate the personal strengths needed to cope with different kinds of hardship. Resilience is the ability to bounce back after encountering difficulties, negative events, and hard times and to return to almost the same level of emotional wellbeing.

You are practising Resilience when you …

• Find ways to solve your problems.
• Exercise control over negative thoughts and take responsibility for choosing how to act and feel.
• Persist with a task and persevere.
• Possess a sense of fun.

Mrs Nikki Lysaght
Assistant Principal Religious Education
**Library News**

**Book Week**  We had an amazing week for “Read Across the Universe - Book Week”. Many thanks to everyone who participated – parents helping with costumes, children actively involved in all the fun and art work and the teachers who inspired the children throughout the previous weeks with their book week activities both technological and artistic. Many, many thanks to our library staff Mrs Paola Rangel and Ms Pilar Itoy-Pile who worked tirelessly in the background making sure everything went smoothly during Book Week.

The Space theme inspired our astronaut costumes in the library. The children loved the trip in the alien spacecraft, the moon rocks, viewing the book trailers and e-books, the competitions and wonderful art displays. It was good to see some parents come and see the fun had in the library too. Many thanks to all the teachers who helped with the edible moon rocks that were eaten in the spacecraft.

The Trivia afternoon was a great success and the children’s knowledge of the books was very pleasing. Dress up on Friday is always a highlight. Prizes for competitions were given to all year levels and for book trailers and best e-book.

**Book Club** – please send orders in by Friday 15th November.
Mrs Leesa Keaton and Mrs Therese Badke (Teacher-Librarians)
P&F MEETING — Everyone welcome!
Wednesday 13th November 9am in the school staff room

What’s On This Weekend...

FAMILY FUN DAY TECHNICOLOUR MULTICULTURAL FESTIVAL
SATURDAY 16TH NOVEMBER, 10AM—5PM
VENUE: 23 FOSTER STREET, NEWMARKET

IPSWICH ART GALLERY — Visit Construction Site for an awesome hands-on experience the family can enjoy! Be your own architect and use giant foam blocks to build whatever you can imagine.
Construct the ultimate cubby house or work together as a team and create your own city
Sat 16th Nov 2013 — 10am—5pm,
Cost $3 per person OR $10 for a family pass (up to 5)

CAROLE PARK SWIMMING POOL — FAMILY PASS (1 Adult & 2 Children) $10.50

Robelle Domain Waterpark SPRINGFIELD, Queens Park IPSWICH, Rocks Riverside Park SEVENTEEN MILES ROCKS, River Heart Parklands Waterpark IPSWICH

St Mark’s English Mass Times — Saturday 6pm, Sunday 9.30am OR 5pm

You are invited to join us for Christmas Dinner

This Friday 15th November @ 6pm
In a private function room at Richlands Tavern

$35.00 pay at the office (includes buffet dinner & soft drinks)

Buffet Dinner Includes

Salads and Starters - Mixed Fresh Bread Rolls, Garlic Bread, Fresh Homemade Soup, Salad bar including: Coleslaw, Potato Salad & Cold Cuts

Seafood Selection — Baked Fish, Crumbed Fish, Salt & Pepper Calamari

Hot Buffet — Potato Bake, Steamed Vegetables, Beef Lasagne, Roasted Root Vegetable, BBQ Pork Ribs, Selection of Pasta and Sauces, Roasts, Pizza, Honey Sesame Chicken, Hokkien Noodle Stir Fry, Singapore Noodles, Marinated Chicken Wings, Fried & Steamed Rice, Prawn Crackers, Stir Fry Vegetables

Dessert Bar — Pavlova, Cheesecake, Caramel Tart, Cherry Slice and Fresh Fruits

KARAOKE

FREE DOOR PRIZE!