Dear Parents/ Carers,

Welcome to the start of the 2014 school year! It is good to be able to welcome back familiar faces and welcome those new to St. Mark’s. Currently, there are 509 children in 19 classes, the biggest that we have ever been. There are limited positions available in Prep, Years 1, 2 and 5!

Mrs Tanya Brehmer, Mrs Jacqui Lerkenfeldt, Mrs Brigid Low and Mrs Sam Eddy have joined the staff. We also welcome back Mrs Nicole Quinn. I’m sure you will make yourself known to these teachers when the opportunity arises.

Parent/ Teacher Information Evening

Different from previous years where individual meetings were held, next Wednesday evening, all parents are expected to attend the parent/teacher information evening. Our vision for learning is that of “building success together”. To that end, the evening will be to highlight some of our approaches, introduce the teachers and give you time in classrooms to hear of class expectations and how, together, we can ensure success.

Time: 6.30—8.00 pm
Place: Mercy Hall, then classrooms
Who: All Parents/ Carers

This is a most important event in the life of the your family and the school. Please mark it on your calendar. See you on the night.

P and F Meeting

The first meeting of the year is tomorrow evening at 5.30 pm in the staffroom. All are invited to come along and get involved in this most important group.

This year, all meetings will start at 5.30 pm

Welcoming BBQ

Our P and F is again running our annual Welcoming BBQ next Friday afternoon—3.00-5.00 pm. This has traditionally been a fabulous way to start the school year and I’m sure, with your support, this year will be no different. Come along and join the fun with the usual great food, music and raffles. More details on the P and F page. Come and support St. Mark’s! Our special guest for the afternoon is Annastacia Palaszczuk.

School Captains

At the end of last year captains and student leaders were announced. Congratulations to - School Captains: Nhi Do and Ethan Green (Year 6) and Zoe Gavarra and Nathan Chu (Year 7). A full list of student leaders appears in this newsletter. We look forward to their development as student leaders and all that they will bring to these roles.

Support—Clubs

Thanks to wonderful support from teachers, we again will run a Breakfast Club (Tuesday and Wednesday mornings) and a Homework Club (Tuesday afternoons) to assist students and families. There are changes to the way in which the Homework Club will run this year. Please see inside for details and how to register your intent.

Groundsman

I am looking to employ a maintenance/groundsman for 10 hours per week. The job would involve mowing as well as general repair and maintenance of the school grounds and property. If you are interested, please apply in writing to me, outlining your experience and qualifications, by Friday, 14th February, 2014.

Practical Matters

For the safety of all, please use the pick-up drop off zone correctly. Children are being trained to be ready for you. Stay in your car and do not park in the loading zone. Always proceed carefully. Thank you.

For Fr Gerard Mulholland svd
Commencing on 3/02/14
Concluding on 11/02/14

Novena Prayer

Ever generous God,
You inspired Saint Mary MacKillop to live her life faithful to the Gospel of Jesus Christ, and to be constant in bringing hope and encouragement to those who were disheartened, lonely or needy.

With confidence in Your generous providence we join with Saint Mary MacKillop and ask that You grant our request for Father Gerard to regain his health.

May our faith and hope be fired afresh by the Holy Spirit so that we too, like Mary MacKillop, may live with courage, trust and openness.

Ever generous God
Hear our prayer.
We ask this through Jesus Christ. Amen
Welcome Back for 2014

Welcome to 2014! We are pleased everyone had a safe Christmas and has returned to St Mark’s refreshed and re-engergised, ready for another year where we set about making St Mark’s a better place to be.

A warm welcome to new families who are joining the St Mark’s community for the first time this year. 2014 brings with it many exciting challenges as we encourage our students and staff (and parents) to put into action all the wisdom that have heard from Jesus and our teachers.

This year we will learn to engage both our heart and hands in a delicate balancing act as we get in and get the “job” done (just do it) - but also recognise the need to stop and listen to the wisdom around us.

St Mark’s is a community that strives to share the Good News of Jesus in all we do by living Clearly and Boldly. We invite you and your children to embrace this theme with us by looking for opportunities to contribute to our school. There will be many ways in 2014 for you to get in and “just do it” around the school.

Date Claimers ...

This Friday, 7 February, 2B will lead us for our Assembly Prayer. Parents are most welcome to join us in Mercy Hall at 8:40.

Our Welcoming and Commissioning Mass for 2013 will on Friday 14 February at 9:30am in St Mark’s Church. It will be a special time when we commit ourselves to “just doing it” in 2014. Our Year 6 and 7 leaders will also be presented to the community and they will be commissioned as they promise to lead St Mark’s to the best of their ability. Once again it promises to be a joyous occasion to start our school year. All parents are most welcome.

Our P&F Welcome BBQ is also on Friday 14 February at 3pm. See you there!

Virtue of the Week: Responsibility

What is Responsibility?
Being responsible means that others can depend on you. Being responsible means to do something well and to the best of your ability. When you are responsible, you keep your agreements. If you agree to do something – make sure it gets done. When you make a mistake, you take responsibility for it.

When you are responsible others know they can count on you.

You are practising responsibility when you ...

• Take your agreements seriously.
• Do things to the best of your ability.
• Accept credit or correction for what you do and how you do it.
• If you make a mistake, explain what happened without making excuses. Make it right if you can.
UNIFORM SHOP
St Mark’s Uniform Shop is open every
Friday between 8am and 9am, for all
your uniform needs.

LAY-BY IS AVAILABLE, PLEASE ENQUIRE

Library Bags are available at $9 each
Thank you

MESSAGE FROM THE DENTIST
Reminder—if you have received a letter from the
dentist or have any questions please
telephone the following number:-
3278 7041
Thank you!

STUDENT LEADERS FOR 2014
In this special year, the final year of primary
education for our Year 6 and 7 children,
congratulations to our student leaders
announced last year.

Faith and Mission Captains
Jemma Watkins and Andy Le (Year 6)
Fony Victorio (Year 7)

Sports Captains
Melanie Tenisio and Patrick Dodd
(Year 6)
Melody Alo (Year 7)

Culture/ Arts Captains
Shalom Latu Mulumu (Year 6)
Vy Dinh and Aaron Iulio (Year 7)

Stewardship Captains
Florence Seumanutafa (Year 6)
Jennifer Ha and Chan Le (Year 7)

HOMEWORK CLUB
Homework club is run on a
Tuesday in the library (NOT
the 1st and last week of
term) from 3-3.45pm. It is a time when two
teachers are present to assist the students in
completing their weekly homework. In 2014
we will be changing the procedure for those
attending homework club. Parents need to
register their whole family using the form
below. ALL family members are to remain in
the library during this time. Afterwards, the
students will be walked up to the office to be
collected by the parents. Many of these
changes were brought about for the
students’ safety.

TUCKSHOP
St Mark’s Tuckshop is open on
Monday, Thursday and Friday each week.
Please support our tuckshop.
If you can spare any time to help please
contact Anna at the tuckshop.
Thank you

LIBRARY NEWS
Please note that all students
should have a library bag. If
they do not, please buy one as soon as
possible.

These are available from the uniform
shop on a Friday morning between
8am to 9am.

Thank you

REGISTRATION FOR HOMEWORK CLUB
Please complete this section and return it to the school office if you wish
your children to attend homework club.

FAMILY NAME .............................................

STUDENT NAME: .................................................................CLASS:..............
STUDENT NAME: .................................................................CLASS:..............
STUDENT NAME: .................................................................CLASS:..............
STUDENT NAME: .................................................................CLASS:..............
STUDENT NAME: .................................................................CLASS:..............
WELCOME

It is wonderful seeing so many smiling faces around St Mark’s. We encourage families to come and support their P&F activities.

P&F Meeting on this Wednesday 5th February
5.30pm at St Mark’s Staffroom—Everyone Welcome!
We also need helpers for our Welcome Back Sizzle on Friday 14th Feb, 3pm at St Mark’s—we need cooks, servers and raffle ticket sellers PLEASE

PLEASE JOIN US

WELCOME BACK SAUSAGE SIZZLE
Friday 14th February 2014
3.00pm to 5.00 pm

At St Mark’s Catholic Primary School

FREE LIVE MUSIC,
FREE FACE PAINTING – special thanks to Mrs Wilson & friends
1 COMPLIMENTARY RAFFLE TICKET PER FAMILY

RAFFLE TICKETS $1.00 each
DRINKS $2.00 each
SAUSAGE ON BREAD $2.00 each

All proceeds go to subsidize school leader shirts so our students pay $10 for one shirt.

Major Raffle Prize donated by Physics 3D

TOTAL RRP $165.00
Pair of youth shorts in blue, short sleeve shirt in blue & hat

St Mark’s Parents & Friends wish to thank
Physics 3D for the revamped school leader shirts and their valuable contribution to supporting this community event.

SPECIAL SALE NOW ON PHYSICS 3D COMPRESSIONS – MILLENNIA SERIES
http://physics3d.com.au/ OR email mail@physics3d.com.au