Dear Parents/Caregivers,

Last week, a number of important meetings took place to prepare for the activities being held in the remainder of the term and beyond.

♦ The P and F meeting last Wednesday sees them well placed with preparations for the fiesta. Certainly there is a need for lots of help and where you can, please volunteer your time. It will be very much appreciated.

♦ I met with the developers of our flexible outdoor learning area and they are well pleased with progress. This area should be ready for us this week!

♦ A revised plan for the re-development of the administration building has been forwarded to me. We look to see if this revised design can meet our needs and budget.

♦ A submission has been made, fully supported by our P and F and Fr Stephen, to officially increase student enrolments throughout the entire school. As you may know, we currently have 3 classes in Prep through to Year 3. We are seeking to continue this into the remaining classes as the years progress. If successful, a new master plan of the school will be necessary. More details on that as the process continues.

♦ Mrs Jo Patrick will complete her time at St. Mark’s at the end of this term. We will welcome Mrs Kerry Kearns next term. Please make her welcome when you meet her.

We wish Mrs Patrick all the best as she takes on a new role on the Sunshine Coast. We are very thankful of the wonderful work that she has done as our Guidance Counsellor.

Dental Building

The old dental facility will be removed during the September holidays allowing for a new carpark area to be installed. If/when approved, the re-developed admin area will see this building extending forward into the present carpark. Part of the plan will also see a number of spaces provided for “disabled” parking.

We look forward to these enhancements to the school over the next period of time.

Fiesta

There is less than 3 weeks now until our multi-cultural fiesta. We are calling for donations to support the many stalls being operated.

Thank you for your continuing assistance. We continue this week with calls for chocolates, suitable small prizes for stalls, as well as a containers, plastic cutlery and the like.

We need your support of the rides. The best value will come from pre-paid arm-bands. Please buy these to ensure your child will not miss out.

Our programme of entertainment is full! Many cultural groups will take great pride in performing their songs, stories and dances throughout the day. Be sure that you do not miss these.

Please note: there is no parking in the school grounds during the fiesta.

Mark the date—13th September.

Mass—9.00 am in Mercy Hall

Fiesta—10.00 am until 3.00 pm.

All welcome to what we hope will be our best fiesta ever!

Subjects

At a P and F meeting, and again last week, the question of the teaching of Spanish at St. Mark’s has been raised. I shared my response then and now with you.

The teaching of languages in schools, like the teaching of other “arts” subjects, is undertaken as part of a wider education, not confined to the more “academic” subjects (considered more desirable by some) like English and Maths, to open your children to the wider breadth of human study and activity. As with the teaching of music, art, technologies and drama, these subjects seek to broaden the learners experiences, open up their world and give expression to their “creativity”. ‘Spanish’ is not intended to teach the language but give awareness and knowledge of another culture. These subjects form a vital part of the curriculum and as such, we are well pleased with the balance of subjects offered here at St. Mark’s.

I am happy to speak further on this matter should you have further queries.

For Self Control:

PG: Balcarra Gray

For Consideration:

Because the Bible says ‘We should think about others!’

1 Corinthians 10:24

2015 TERM DATES:
Term 1: 28 Jan - 2 Apr
Term 2: 20 Apr - 26 Jun
Term 3: 13 July-18 Sept
Term 4: 6 Oct - 4 Dec

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Prayer Requests!

"Because of Jesus" a special part of what we do at St Mark’s is regularly join together as a community of staff and students to pray for those in need. We pray as a whole school, as staff and as classes. Over the years we have found that St Mark’s devotion to praying for others has had a significant and positive impact on the people we pray for. We even have a prayer request list of special intentions that we especially offer to God in prayer. If there are situations in your own life, family life or that concern you in the wider community and you would like the community of St Mark’s to pray for them, please drop in to the office and speak to me, or leave me a note, or email the school: pinala@bne.catholic.edu.au and we will add your intention to our prayer list.

Familiar Faces Return!

Last week we had the pleasure of farewelling Mrs Cook after 30 years of teaching at St Mark’s. It had been a joy to work with Mrs Cook and we wish her well in her retirement. Mrs Daley also popped in to say hi to us all and help us say bye to Mrs Cook. We were also blessed to have past student, and current Broncos player, Anthony Milford come to visit us and talk to the students. It is always a delight and inspiration when Anthony visits.

Date Claimers ...

- This Thursday, 27 August, 3W & Prep W celebrate their buddy mass at 9:30am in the Church.
- This Friday, 28 August, Prep G will lead us in our Assembly Prayer.
- Next Thursday, 3 September, 6G & 2G celebrate their buddy mass at 9:30am in the Church.
- Next Friday, 4 September, 1G will lead us in our special Father’s Day Assembly Prayer.
- Harmony & Book Week Parent Reading Circles will take place on Friday 11 September. Please see Library notice for more information on how YOU can help!
- St Mark’s Fiesta is on Sunday 13 September.

Official Confirmation & 1st Holy Communion Photos

Parents can collect photos from the recent Confirmation & First Holy Communion Masses from the parish office. You will need a usb stick that has 2.28 gb of memory. The parish office is open Monday to Friday from 9am to 3pm; and will also be open Sunday August 30th from 10.30am to 11am for any parents who cannot come during office hours.

Virtue of the Week: Truthfulness

What is Truthfulness?

Truthfulness means your words and actions are full of truth. Telling the truth means you don’t tell lies, even to protect yourself or anyone else. You don’t live a lie either. You show people who and what you are without exaggerating to impress them or trying to look like something you are not.

You are practising truthfulness when you ...

- Speak only the truth
- Practise justice
- Admit when you have made a mistake
- Know when you are enough.

Mrs Nikki Lysaght:
Assistant Principal Religious Education

Mrs Nikki Lysaght: Assistant Principal Religious Education
Book Stall Donations
Mr Everett and the class of 4W are collecting 2nd hand books, CDs, DVDs and video games for the fiesta. All donations can be delivered straight to the 4W classroom.

Year 5W’s Fiesta Viking Pot
Only 65 Tickets left!
Only 1 Prize of $500!
$10 per Ticket
Last ticket drawn is the winner. Tickets selling fast Don’t miss out!

Multicultural Fashion Parade!
We have been doing many multicultural lessons in the library this term in preparation for the fiesta. Our Book Week theme also blends with the Fiesta—Books light up our world. As our library contribution, we have decided to put on a Multicultural Fashion Parade at the fiesta. We know that many children in the school have national costumes from different countries. We cannot have everyone in the parade but we will take from 1-6 children from different countries. The first six children who have their own costumes that return the form to us in the library will be able to be in the parade for a particular country. Teachers/school officers are welcome too! We will contact you to let you know if your child was in the first 6 to reply. Extra children may be put on standby. WE NEED MORE CHILDREN FOR THE FASHION PARADE. Only 16 have replied. We were hoping for 50! The Fashion Parade will be early in the fiesta and we would probably require your children for 30 to 45 minutes. They will need to be lined up and ready for their turn. If your child wishes to participate please fill in the form below and return it to the library as soon as possible.

My Child _________________________________ in Yr _______________ has a costume for __________________________________ (Country Name) and would like to be in the Multicultural Fashion Parade at the Fiesta Sunday 13th September.

Email __________________________________
Phone __________________________________
Parent Signature _________________________
Library office/ Date received: ______________

From the Library
Book Week will be celebrated the week leading up to the Multicultural Fiesta. We decided to have it here as the theme “BOOKS LIGHT UP OUR WORLD” works wonderfully with our Fiesta.

For this reason, we will have a slightly different format to our Friday Book Week Assembly. We are asking for children volunteers to participate in our Multicultural Fashion Parade where children will come in costumes from different countries on Sunday 13th September at the fiesta.

We are also looking for parent volunteers to assist on Friday 11th September. WE HAVE NO PARENTS YET! The children are not being asked to parade in fancy costumes this year, INSTEAD we are looking for parents from different cultures who are happy to read or tell a folktale from their own country. If you are happy to read but don’t have a story, we can find you one from our library. We have heaps of folktales from around the world. We will then ask these parents to read or tell their story to one of the year levels (it may mean reading it 2 or 3 times so that a few classes have the joy of hearing a story).

Our Book Week Assembly will start at 9.00am Friday 11th September. We will have prizes to award for our competitions and we will show our winning imovie from Yr 6. The winning books will be shown and to finish the morning, our volunteer parents will be assigned to a different class and stories will be told across the classes possibly until first break.

If you can assist please fill in below and return it to the library as soon as possible.

___________________________ parent of _________________________________
in Yr ________________.

Would like to volunteer as a parent to read/tell a story from ____________________________ (country) on Friday Sept 11th after the Book Week Assembly.

Email __________________________________
Phone __________________________________

(Please return this slip to the Library)

When you shop at Woolworths, you can collect stickers from the checkout operator. There will be one sticker for every $10 spent. These stickers can be handed to classroom teachers or to the office. The more stickers we collect the more educational resources we can get for the school. Thank you for your support!

So far we have collected 8940 stickers!
ST MARK’S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL P&F

PREPAY & SAVE $$$

$25 for 1 All Day Rides Armband
$20 each if you buy 3 or more Armbands

Armbands give you Unlimited Access to the Animal Farm, Jumping Castle, Tea Cup Ride and the NEW RIDES—Frog Hop, Super Sizzler & Triple Screamer!

Thanks to Anna & Ena for selling raffle tickets on the weekend after Mass services & raising $220

$2.00 Raffle Tickets still available from the office.

Over 25 prizes including:
- 2 Night’s accommodation for 4 people in a 2-bedroom apartment Marcoola Beach
- Mini iPad, 4xVIP Tickets to Illusions Magic Show, 3 Burner BBQ, Car Service Voucher, Bike & Helmet, $100 Gift Card, Magic Bullet, Wheel Barrow, $75 Oxley Hotel Voucher, $50 Forest Lake Voucher and MORE!

FOOD GLORIOUS FOOD

Cafe—Tea/Coffee/Cakes/Biscuits
- Fabulous Filipino Food
- Tasty Tongan Dishes
- Delicious Indian Dishes
- Four Vietnamese Food Stalls
- Tasty Tongan Dishes
- Four Vietnamese Food Stalls

Sri Lankan Food: Roti Bread with veg, chicken
- Samoan Youth Group: Fried Chicken Wings
- Australian Group- Kebabs & Hot Chips
- Youth Group: Cold Drinks

PREPAY & SAVE $$$

2 Night’s accommodation for 4 people in a 2-bedroom apartment Marcoola Beach
Mini iPad, 4xVIP Tickets to Illusions Magic Show, 3 Burner BBQ, Car Service Voucher, Bike & Helmet, $100 Gift Card, Magic Bullet, Wheel Barrow, $75 Oxley Hotel Voucher, $50 Forest Lake Voucher and MORE!

Super Sizzler

Animal Petting Zoo

Frog Hop

Tea Cup Ride

Armbands give you UNLIMITED RIDES
10AM—3PM
Includes
Jumping Castle & Animal Petting Zoo

Triple Screamer