Dear Parents/Carers,

Last week saw a number of activities conducted to celebrate Catholic Education week throughout the archdiocese. Our whole school Mass was a wonderful occasion made all the more special with live music from Robbie and Dennis, parent with friend. We congratulated Mr Fergusson for his nomination for the “Excellence in Teaching” award and thanked all who contribute to the on-going work that is Catholic education. We are proud of the work that we do, gains made and continuing efforts to meet the needs of this school community.

Catholic Leader
You may have seen and read the article on the front page of this week’s Catholic Leader. It follows the results of a survey done looking at the disadvantage that exists in the State and in the Inala area.

From the school’s point of view, we know of how much you, the parents value the work of teachers and staff here at St. Mark’s. Our work is focussed on providing a great education, giving support and opportunities to children and families here. We are very proud of the work that we do. Where that is valued, wonderful successes follow.

I commend the article to you.

Sacraments
This Saturday, a number of our children will receive the sacraments of Eucharist for the first time and Confirmation. Please hold these children and their families in your prayers.

A number of our teachers have assisted with preparations for this celebration—many thanks.

This Thursday, Catholic children in Years 4, 5, and 6 will go to Reconciliation.

Fiesta
There has been some wonderful support for the fiesta throughout the week with many donations being received. This week we are asking for contributions of articles suitable as prizes on various stalls such as pencils/ rubbers, bubbles, tattoos, other small prizes.

Again, in anticipation, thank you. Please send them into either the classroom teacher or the office.

Tickets in our super multi–draw raffle are going steadily—have you bought your tickets yet?

It is not too late to also take advantage of the discounted prices for the rides.

The steering committee for the fiesta met last week and all are getting excited with the prospect of just how good this year’s fiesta promises to be.

Please keep the day free.

Fiesta— 13th September.
Mass from 9.00 am with all the fun of the fiesta to follow. The day concludes at 3.00 pm.

Student Protection
Lessons continue this week. Again, ask your child/ren about what they are learning

Happenings
* This week we welcome back Mrs Kathy Moses from leave. It is good to have her again looking after us from the front office. Special thanks goes to Ms Barry, Mrs Sinitsky and Mrs Williams who “covered” in varying measures in the office while Mrs Moses was away.

* Mrs Mandy Chapman has accepted the position of support school officer to assist teachers to cater for a number of our children with special needs. Mandy will begin work in classrooms later this week. Please make her welcome when you get to meet her.

* The first principal’s afternoon tea is scheduled for next week. Again, one child is invited by their teachers from those selected as students of the week.

* Work in the flexible Outdoor Learning area begins this week. This is away from the school proper and should have minimal impact on our activities. We look forward to this development and all that it will add to the school in the weeks and months ahead.

* It is good to see a number of families enrolling their children in tennis lessons. Wayne Guse conducts these lessons on a Monday morning. Information is available through the office.

* The tuck shop operates every Wednesday, Thursday and Friday. It needs your on-going support. Traditionally, the menu is revised in the third term each year and this process has begun again. Information will come to you in due course.

Practical Matters
There are still positions available for prep classes next year. Please spread the word should you know of families with children born between 1/7/2010 and 30/6/2011.

Families with children in Years 5 and 6 should have enrolled their children into high school to avoid disappointment. Information for a number of local Catholic high schools is available through the office.

Safety is a major focus for us all. Please ensure that your child knows where you want them to be for collection each afternoon. Should there be any variation, please let the office know.
Happy Catholic Education Week!!

The theme for this year’s celebrations is: Engaging Minds. Igniting Hearts. Serving Others.

A HUGE thank you to one of our dads, Roby Curtis, Prep teacher, Mrs Wilson, and their friend, Dennis, for leading us in beautiful musical worship! Here are some photo highlights ...

**Catholic Missions:** Our student leaders are serving others by running a number of activities to raise money for Catholic Missions for the next week. Please bring along a dollar or two to support them!

- Tuesday 4 August: Disco in Mercy Hall
- Wednesday and Thursday 5 & 6 August: Shoot a Hoop and Kick a Goal in Mercy Hall
- Friday 7 August: Decorate a Leader.

The Feast of St Mary of the Cross MacKillop

This Saturday we celebrate the feast of St Mary of the Cross MacKillop. Mary MacKillop was born in Melbourne in 1842 and died in Sydney in 1909. Responding to the isolation of colonial families she pioneered a new form of religious life to provide education for their children. She and her sisters shared the life of the poor and the itinerant, offering special care to destitute women and children. Mary is remembered for her eagerness to discover God’s will in all things, for her charity in the face of calumny and for her abiding trust in God’s providence. Mary was canonised as Australia’s first saint on 17 August 2010. She is the patron saint of our Archdiocese of Brisbane.

St Mary of the Cross MacKillop pray for us!!

Date Claimers ...

- 4 weeks of Child Protection lessons are continuing this week—remember to keep the lines of communication open with your children.
- Two weeks of Catholic Missions fundraising activities continue this week. Thanks for your support.
- This Thursday our Catholic students from Year 4, 5 and 6 will receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation.
- This Friday, 7 August, 3G will lead us in our Assembly Prayer.
- Many of our Year 3 students will receive the Sacraments of 1st Holy Communion and Confirmation this Saturday 8 August. Please keep these children and their families in your prayers. We also have a special choir singing at this event—thank Mr Johnstone!
- Next Thursday, 14 August, 4W & 1B celebrate their buddy mass at 9:30am in the Church.
- Next Friday, 15 August, 2B will lead us in our Assembly Prayer.
- St Mark’s Fiesta is on Sunday 13 September.

Virtue of the Week: Kindness

**What is Kindness?**

Kindness is being concerned about the welfare of others. Kindness is showing you care about anyone or anything that crosses your path, knowing that everything is a part of God’s creation. You can be kind to people, to animals, and to the environment. Kindness means to care for others and the earth as much or more than you care about yourself.

**You are practising kindness when you ...**

- Notice when someone or something needs care.
- Think of things that would make others happy.
- Remember your connection to all of God’s creation.

Mrs Nikki Lysaght:
Assistant Principal Religious Education
Coffee and morning tea will be provided for you at the Mothers Group every Wednesday morning 9.30am - 11.30am at Lobelia House. All welcome!
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 School.

SPORTS NEWS

AFL
This Saturday, 18 students from St Mark’s will have the opportunity to play at the Gabba at halftime of the Brisbane Lions v Gold Coast Suns game. This is part of the AFL’s celebration of ‘Multicultural Round’ for this weekend’s games. Our school was fortunate enough to be selected to take part in these festivities. The 18 students will be divided into 2 teams of 9 to play against each other. This will be a wonderful opportunity for the students to play in front of a large crowd, at a premier sports venue and proudly represent St Mark’s in celebration of our multicultural diversity. Mrs Barry and I will accompany the team on the night.

District Athletics
This Wednesday, Mrs Eaton and I will take 18 students to the District Athletics at Glenala High School. They will participate in a number of track and field events: Sprints, Long Jump, High Jump, Shot Put and 800m. This year the format is a little different, with events all being completed in 1 day rather than 2 as has been the practice in previous years. Students are aware of the events they are in and should have returned all permission forms I sent out last week.

Inter School Sport
The 4 week Inter School Sports season for Year 5 and 6 will commence on Friday August 14. It is an 8 game season, with 2 games played per Friday to reduce the time students are out of the classroom. I will send out permission notes this week for these teams.

Should you have any queries, please don't hesitate to contact me. Kind Regards Mr Biddulph

CATHOLIC EDUCATION WEEK
Last week saw a number of activities conducted to celebrate Catholic Education Week throughout the archdiocese. The highlight for us at St. Mark’s was our whole school Mass last Friday.

St Mark’s had a wonderful week.

LIBRARY NEWS

Book Week is coming!!!
In Week 9 we will celebrate Harmony Week and Book Week together. The theme ‘Books Light up our World’ fits in lovely with the cultural respect and diverseness in our world.

Stay tuned to find out more!!!

Mrs Keaton and Mrs Badke
Teacher Librarians
St Marks Catholic Primary School
92 Lilac Street Inala

Multicultural Fiesta

SUNDAY
13TH SEPTEMBER
10AM — 3PM
FREE ENTRY

International Foods & Home-Made Goods
STALLS Galore
MEGA Fiesta Raffles
FAMILY FUN Activities & More!

Fun Rides
$5 Single or $30 Unlimited

St Marks P&F would like to thank the following organizations for their generous support: Robert Head & Team from Oxley Bunnings, Michelle Cooper and Team from Wyndham Hotel Group - South Pacific, John Dougherty and Team from Inala PCYC, Annastacia Palaszczuk MP and Cr Milton Dick.

St Marks
Clearly and Beautiful

RAMADA
Bunnings Warehouse
PCYC
Ramada
St Mark's

St Mark's
Chirnside Park

PCYC
Bunnings
PCYC