Dear Parents/ Caregivers,

Last week Year 4s looked after the school! Mrs Ioannides, Mrs Lysaght and I had the privilege of joining staff and students on our Year 5 and 6 camps. The resounding conclusion from both camps was that the experience was a great one for all. My thanks to the teachers, and Mrs de Jesus, who ensured that all was prepared and went well. Each camp offered wonderful facilities and good food. Your children entered into the spirit of what a good camp needs—co-operation, enthusiasm, a sense of fun, and all had a great time. Thank you for your support. I hope you have had a chance to talk with your son/ daughter about their experiences.

We have booked these camps again for 2016.

P and F Meeting
All are warmly invited to the first P and F meeting of the year, tomorrow evening, 11th March, at 6.00 pm in the staffroom. Part of this meeting is the Annual General Meeting where the new executive for the year will be selected. A discussion on learning and homework is also on the agenda. I look forward to seeing you tomorrow evening.

Learning Team Assemblies
Each fortnight, on a Wednesday afternoon, we stop to celebrate learning in the various parts of the school. This is an important time to recognize and congratulate students from the various classes as well as giving an opportunity to share learning that is happening in different classes and parts of the school.

All parents are welcome to join us on these occasions.
Prep and Year 1 gather behind the prep classrooms, Years 2 and 3 gather in the amphitheatre and Years 4—6 gather in a variety of places but we can certainly direct you there!

Monster Easter Raffle
Yes, it’s on again! Please send in donations of chocolate eggs for prizes and buy your tickets. Each year, this has proven to be a great raffle that the children enjoy. With generous donations, over 100 prizes are won. Please send in your donations to either the classroom or the office and thanks, in anticipation, for your support.

Vietnamese Tuckshop
A group of our wonderful parents are again selling Vietnamese food on the next three Tuesdays. You will see the menu/prices around the school—most items are $2.00. All profits will go to Project Compassion. Orders can be placed each Tuesday morning. Again, thanks for your support of this generous offer from our parents.

Sabbatical Leave
I will be on leave for the final two weeks of the term and the first week of next term. I am taking leave and will be studying / travelling in the Holy Land. My Easter this year will be celebrated in Jerusalem!

While away, Mrs Ioannides will be acting principal and Mr Biddulph will be acting assistant principal—administration. I thank both for taking on the responsibility of the respective roles. Year 2B will see a little more of Mrs Neilson—Scott and a relief teacher.

Student leadership and Involvement
Our student leaders are proving themselves worthy of the title through their efforts and involvement at recent school events. Inter-school sport resumes for us this Friday. Those interested in making the cross-country team should start training now. We encourage all eligible children to put themselves forward and “have a go.” Encouragement from Mum and Dad is huge so please do so. We will look to present our Year 6 students with their leadership shirts soon. I know these will be worn proudly, and rightly so.

Fees
School fees go out this week. As always, please attend to this promptly and should you have concerns or difficulties, come and see Ms Barry or myself.

Your local Catholic School

www.stmarksinala.qld.edu.au
Date Claimers ...

This week 6G and 2G will celebrate their buddy class Mass on Thursday 12 March at 9:30am in the Church.

This Friday, 13 March, 1W will lead us for our Assembly Prayer. Parents and friends are most welcome to join us in Mercy Hall at 8:40.

Next Wednesday 18 March, Catholic students from Year 5 and 6 will be given the opportunity to participate in the Sacrament of Reconciliation. As Catholics it is an important part of our Lenten time of preparation to confess our sins and receive the grace of God’s forgiveness. We will gather in the church at 11:30 with a brief liturgy before the students will go to confession with a priest. If you have a child who will be participating in this sacrament it is a great opportunity to take some time to talk with them about the importance of Reconciliation in our church.

NEXT Friday, 20 March, 5G will lead us in our Assembly Prayer.

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.

Mrs Nikki Lysaght
Assistant Principal Religious Education
Free workshop for Vietnamese families for parents and Qúi vị có lo lắng gì về cách con em của mình

• Nói chuyện
• Chơi hoặc giao tiếp với người khác
• Ăn x xor
• Học hỏi

Hãy đ:/nK2SBFn cùng học hỏi thêm về những cách qúi vị có thể giúp con em mình tại nhà và trường học.

Hãy den cung hoc hoi them ve nhung cach qúi vi có thể giup con em minh tai nha va truong hoc.

Buổi hội thảo sẽ nới nâng tiếng Việt.

Kim-Vân Nguyễn là nhân viên phụ trách các gia đình Việt nam tại Victoria và sẽ giúp chia sẽ những thông tin này. Tất cả những gì thảo luận đều được giữ kín tuyệt đối.

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**St Mark’s Parents & Friends**

**ST MARK’S AGM MEETING**
**THIS Wednesday 11th March 6.00pm in the staffroom**

We will be discussing a couple of questions raised by parents on grounds maintenance and homework.

We will also be setting prices for Fiesta rides armbands
Super Sizzler, Cups, Frog Jumper, Triple Screamer.

Jumping Castle supplied thanks to John, courtesy of Inala PCYC.

**Your opinion counts!**

**St Marks MONSTER Easter Raffle**

**Drawn : Tuesday 31 March**

**Cost : $1.00 per ticket**

Raffle books sent out with newsletters this week.

**WE NEED YOUR HELP PLEASE**

Can you bring in Easter eggs, chocolates, baskets, things to make up Easter hampers for the raffle prizes please?

**Thank you to the wonderful staff who supervised Year 5 & 6 Camps.**

They took great care of our precious children!

It was a wonderful experience that everyone enjoyed

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**Thursday 19th March 5.30pm at Mt Maria College Mitchelton - Brisbane Parents & Friends AGM & Expo**

Michelle will cover ‘Managing disrespect in the home’
Why this generation doesn't think they are disrespectful.
Teenage aggression and ways teens bully parents
A step by step guide to saying No to a difficult teenager
A behaviour management system that actually works
The importance of teaching teenagers to apologise
The importance of winning the little battles
Incorporating respect into your home routine

Michael more recently coordinated the QUT Resilience Project involving primary schools in Brisbane and Charleville. He is passionately committed to engaging school communities and taking a creative approach to mental health and wellbeing. He is the Assistant State Manager Principals Australia Institute Programs, Kids Matter and Mind Matters

Please let Agnes know OR call 3336 9242 to RSVP for this free event