



# St. Mark's Catholic Primary School

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**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

**17 March 2015  
Week 8 Term 1**



**Please support our Easter raffle**



Dear Parents/ Caregivers,  
Last Wednesday saw a good number of parents and friends come to the first P and F meeting for the year. The executive for 2015 was voted in. Congratulations to -  
**Agnes Sio**—president  
**Anna Sinitsky**—vice president  
**Veronica Tierney**—secretary  
**Ena Miranda**—treasurer.

Both Agnes and Anna have agreed to be part of the wider Brisbane P and F as council representatives.

I look forward to all the direction and energy that will come from the executive and ask that you fully support your representatives.

My thanks to all who came along to lend support to this process. We find ourselves with the same executive as last year and this will bring continuity to the work that is being done.

A number of issues of concern were raised at the meeting. As with most concerns, particularly in this case homework, please see your sons/daughters teacher to address the issue.

As with almost all issues, please see classroom teachers first, then come and see Mrs Lysaght, Mrs Ioannides or myself.

### Monster Easter Raffle

Ticket sales are going well—thank you. As with all raffles, you have to be in it to win it!

We are in need of donations to be able to have the number of prizes that we would like to have. Simply send chocolates and eggs to the school. The raffle will be drawn in the last week of term.

### Lent

Older Catholic children will have the opportunity to receive the sacrament of Reconciliation this Wednesday. I thank Fr Stephen for his support at this time. Project Compassion continues, as does Wednesday Mass for teachers, parents and children. I invite everyone to contribute and be part of the religious life of the school, so important, especially at this time of the year. I wish you all the blessings of Lent and Easter. Thanks for your well wishes while I am away.

### Sport

**Inter-school sport** concludes this Friday. While a short season, students and teachers have made great gains during this time. In addition, this Thursday, selected children will represent St. Mark's at a **GALA Day** in AFL. We wish them every success in their games.

along with the teachers, Mr Biddulph is also co-ordinating, runners who will prepare to possibly represent the school in the annual **cross country** championships just after the holidays. Parents please give your support and encouragement to those who have been prepared to nominate and "give it a go"! Nearly 50 have nominated and now must challenge themselves to train on a very regular basis. This is where you, as parents, can do so much.

### Book Fair

This traditional focus on reading, and books, takes place next week. Again, I encourage you to take advantage of what is on offer. Many thanks to Mrs Keaton and the library staff for the work done to allow this to be a great success. See inside for details. This is a great way to buy some excellent reading material for the Easter break.

### For your attention

\* **Dance Cart** performance evening is Friday, 27th March in Mercy Hall commencing at 6.00 pm. All children are performing. I know you will enjoy the occasion.

\* Friday, 3rd April is a holiday—it's Good Friday. School resumes for Term 2 on Monday, 20th April.

\* Thanks to many for your attention to school fees. All families should have received them. If not, please contact the school as soon as possible.

\* There are currently no positions available in Years 4, 5 and 6. Enrolment interviews for Prep 2016 begin in May.

Garry Montgomery  
Principal

## Congratulations Student Awards

### For Joyfulness:

Because the Bible says  
'The joy of the Lord is my strength' *Nehemiah 8:10*

PG: Amity Mellon  
PW: Andy Tran  
PB: Emmanuel Anju  
1G: Sarah Kirakous  
1W: Lily Jakavicius  
1B: Susana Rajab  
2G: Reuben Vickerson  
2W: Catherine Luu  
2B: KC Ferazol  
3G: Steven Pham  
3W: Jaydon Chu  
3B: Stephy Lamaro  
4W: Manicarl Ferazol  
5G: Ben Trinh  
5W: Jordan Le  
6G: Harry Nguyen  
6W: Morgan Thai Nguyen

### For Respect:

Because Jesus says  
'Treat others as you want them to treat you.'  
*Matthew 7:12*

4G: Elaine Nguyen

## Project Compassion: Sharing Food for Life

### 4th Week of Lent: Sarita from Nepal



This week Project Compassion focuses on Nepal. Mother-of-three Sarita attended school until the eighth grade, making her one of the most educated women in her village. Yet, like the majority of people in rural Nepal, her family was very poor.

In 2007, Sarita's life changed. Caritas Nepal, supported by Caritas Australia, initiated the Kolkatla Fish Raising Group, an innovative, collaborative program that works for the common good of the wider community. Sarita and 11 other villagers were provided with the funding and training they needed to establish and run a business raising and selling fish.

"This program embraced the poorest of the poor like us, gave us skills and supported us with funds to invest and make something of ourselves," says Sarita.

With steady income from the Fish Raising Group, Sarita's family has been able to feel secure. They've bought additional farming land, diversified their crops and now share a secure, sustainable source of healthy food for life.

"The program has provided our family with good health and hope," says Sarita. "And it has become a platform for the unity and growth of the community."

Your donation to Project Compassion 2015 helps people like Sarita. Please give generously by encouraging your children to bring along a dollar or two for their classroom box during Lent. Last week we raised over \$409 —keep up the good work! And bring along some money next Tuesday for Vietnamese Tuckshop.

## Date Claimers ...

**Tomorrow, 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.

**This Friday, 20 March, 5G** will lead us for our **Assembly Prayer**. Parents and friends are most welcome to join us in Mercy Hall at 8:40.

**NEXT Friday, 26 March, 2W** will lead us in our Assembly Prayer.

Our next liturgy will be on Holy Thursday, 2 April at 9:30am. The whole school will gather in the Church to remember the Passion of Christ.



## Virtue of the Week: Creativity

### What is Creativity?

You are a new creation of God. No one has ever been born who is just like you, with your special combination of gifts and talents. God gave you these gifts. Creativity is how you might use them. It is a way to use the spark of God within you. It is a way to let the light of originality within you shine out for the benefit of others.

### You are practising creativity when you ...

- Discover the gifts that God has given you.
- Do things in your own, unique way.
- Use your talents and abilities to serve your family, school or community.



Mrs Nikki Lysaght  
Assistant Principal Religious Education

## St Mark's Sacramental Program 2015 Confirmation and First Holy Communion for children in Year 3 and above.

An enrolment form with payment of \$50 per child or \$75 per family and a copy of your child's Baptism Certificate must be lodged by **Friday 24th April** at the parish office. **Parents must also attend a Parents Information Session on Wednesday 29th April** at 7pm in the church. **For the children, the program commences on Saturday 2nd May.**



Enrolment forms can be collected from...

- The table at the church entrance
- The school office
- The parish office  
(Office hours are Mon-Fri, 9am to 3pm)

**Or by..**

Contacting the Parish Secretary:

Email: [stmarks@bne.catholic.net.au](mailto:stmarks@bne.catholic.net.au);

Phone: 3372 5658

Downloading from parish web page:  
[www.stmarksinala.com](http://www.stmarksinala.com)



## Success for past St Mark's students

Our Lady's College Annerley has advised of the success of some past St Mark's students.

**2015 College Captain: Louise Clarke**

**2015 College Vice-Captain: Emma Tran**

**2014 OP 1-5 recipients: Jamie Nguyen and Anita Tran**

*Clearly St Mark's produces wonderful students!*



## COME TO OUR BOOK FAIR! Your Ticket to Read! Book Fair next week

**Mon 23<sup>rd</sup> March - Fri 27<sup>th</sup> March**

**You are Invited!**

The Book Fair is coming!!! The children will be making their Wish Lists next week when they go with their class to view the books. It will be explained as a Wish List – some wishes come true others don't! You **are not** expected to buy everything on this list – please do not let your child convince you of this. You may prefer to select a book with your child. This should ensure that both you and your child are happy with the purchase. You are most welcome to visit the Book Fair. If you are unable to attend but want your child to purchase a book then please send money for purchases by Friday.

**MANY BOOKS ARE IN THE \$4 TO \$10 RANGE.**

*Should you wish to donate a book from the fair to the school, please see Mrs Keaton or Mrs Badke.*

### Class Viewing Timetable

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday
Book Fair Set Up	Book Fair Tidy and Restock	Book Fair Tidy and Restock
9.40-10.10am 2G	9.30-10.00am Prep B	9.30-10.00am Prep G
10.10-10.40am 2W	10.00-10.30am 4W	10.00-10.30am Prep W
11.30-12.00pm 5G		
12.00 – 12.30pm 3B	11.40-12.10pm 1W	11.40-12.10pm 4G
12.30-1.00pm 3W	12.20-12.50pm 6W	12.20-12.50pm 1B
1.00-1.30pm 5W	1.00-1.30pm 6G	
2.00-2.30pm 3G		2.00-2.30pm 1G
2.30-3.00pm 2B		

### Parent Viewing Times Next Week:

Monday: 3:00-3.30pm

Tuesday: 3.00 - 3.30pm

Wednesday: 8.00 – 8.30am & 3.00 – 3.30pm

Thursday: 8.00 – 8.30am & 3.00 - 3.30pm

Friday: 8.00 – 8.30am (Last opportunity to purchase. Books returned later in the morning.)

**Happy reading!**

*Leesa & Therese - Teacher Librarians*

## Vietnamese Tuckshop Every Tuesday until the end of Term 1

All profits go to support Project Compassion.

Menu includes:

Spring rolls : 3 for \$2

Fried rice; \$2 / container

Chicken-chips \$2

Stir fired noodles : \$3/container



**Thank you for your support**

## Dance Cart Concert Friday March 27

This term in dance the students have been working on dances from different periods of time. We would like to invite you to join us for an evening of dance as we present for you



**TIMEWARP**

**When: Friday 27 March at 6.00pm**

**Where: School Hall**

All students are to meet in their classroom at 5.30pm and will be taken over to the hall in their class group. Students can be collected from the hall at the end of the performance.

All students with the exception of Prep W and 2G are to wear the following:

**Girls: Black T shirt and knee length black leggings/tights**

**Boys: Black T shirt and long black/dark pants**

**Prep W and 2G** please ask their class teacher for costume requirements.

## *St Mark's Parents & Friends*

Dear Parents,

The great homework debate at our general meeting gave parents a chance to voice their concerns.

- (1) If parents have concerns on their child's work they **need to speak with their class teacher first.**
- (2) If parents have spoken to their class teacher and still feel their concerns were not addressed, then they need to call either Mr Montgomery, Mrs Lysaght or Mrs Ioannides for an appointment.

Research supports the value of parents and teachers working together to provide a supportive learning environment in both the home and school, making a positive contribution to children's academic achievement throughout the schooling years. (Gutman & Midgley 2000, in Henderson and Mapp 2002; Epstein & Sheldon 2006).

*Remember everyone wants your child to succeed!*

Regards,  
Agnes Sio  
St Mark's P&F President.

Refer to the St Mark's Grievance Policy listed on the St Marks School Webpage <http://www.stmarksinala.qld.edu.au>.

### What if I have a specific problem/question that needs to be addressed?

Who do I speak to?	About...	When is a good time?
The class teacher	Class programs, projects, homework, discipline, friendship issues, issues outside of school that affect learning	Ring and make an appointment. Do not interrupt classroom time as the teacher is responsible for the whole class.
Mrs Christine Ioannides Assistant Principal Curriculum Support Teacher	Curriculum matters, reporting and assessment, behaviour issues, family issues, medical plans for students.	Ring the school and ask if Mrs Ioannides is available. If not, leave a message for Mrs Ioannides to return your call.
Mr Garry Montgomery Principal	Matters to do with overall procedures, policies and functions of the school, school fees, major issues involving your child, issues involving the school's reputation.	Ring the school, ask if Mr Montgomery is available. If not, leave a message for Mr Montgomery to return your call.
Mrs Nikki Lysaght Assistant Principal Religious Education	Social and emotional issues, sickness or death in the family, celebrations or births in the family, situations which may impact on your child's ability to cope at school, complaints referring to physical, sexual, emotional abuse.	Ring the school and ask if Mrs Lysaght is available. If not, leave a message for Mrs Lysaght to return your call.
Mrs Jo Patrick Guidance Counsellor	Educational assessments, behaviour issues at school and home, social and emotional issues, complaints referring to physical, sexual, emotional abuse.	Ring the school and ask Mrs Patrick to ring you to make an appointment.
Mrs Patricia Williams Support Teacher – Inclusive Education	Learning support, additional help for children who need it, speech issues, educational assessments.	Ring the school and ask Mrs Williams to ring you to make an appointment.

**WE NEED YOUR HELP PLEASE!**  
Please bring in Easter Eggs, Chocolates, Baskets and things to make up Easter Hampers for prizes. Thank you.



### Congratulations

Tahlia (Yr 5) & Micheala.  
On 1st March they competed in the Junior Mixed Martial Arts Comp on the Gold Coast. Both girls took home the Gold Medal for their divisions. They were very happy.

