Dear Parents/Carers,

With great weather last Friday, we gathered in large numbers to celebrate Mothers’ Day with our Mums. I think it was our biggest turnout and a fabulous time was had by all. My thanks to our P and F for once again organising and running the afternoon, the teachers for their great support, our children who had the very important task of making sure that every Mum was made to feel special and you for your attendance and joining in the fun of the occasion.

Of special note, thanks goes to Anna Sinitsky and her helpers for organising and conducting our Mothers’ Day stall last Thursday and Friday. Many children appreciated the chance to be able to buy a gift for Mum.

P and F Meeting

This month’s P and F meeting is scheduled for tomorrow night, Wednesday, 13th May, from 6.00 pm in the staffroom. All parents and friends are invited to this, and every, meeting.

The fiesta, scheduled for Sunday, 13th September, is drawing nearer and while preparations are well in hand, many hands would be appreciated as we look to make this a great community event.

The P and F have so far conducted a wonderful welcome to the year, Mothers Day BBQ and subsidised Year 6 leaders shirts. These are now worn proudly by our student leaders, and rightly so. I am looking to finalize all $10 payments this week. Should this be your son/daughter, please send along the money as a matter of urgency now.

Prep 2016

This week I have started interviewing student for the Prep year in 2016. Should you have a child born between 1st July, 2010 and 30th June, 2011, please inform the office now to secure a position. If you have not yet done so, please collect an enrolment form from the office.

Prep 2016 interviews are not a good enough excuse!

Student Leadership

I am looking forward to hearing proposals from our student leadership groups in the next week or so. Each year, we give our students the opportunity to put forward initiatives that will positively impact the school. Stay tuned!

School Photos

These were taken last Tuesday. Processing takes some time and should be ready in four to six weeks. These will pass them on as soon as we receive them.

Prep photos will be available in the first week of June; students need to order their pictures. 

Practical Matters

• As the weather cools, all children need to have, and wear, their green school pullover. Please ensure that your child’s name is clearly written. Each year I have to give away bags full as I simply cannot find owners!

• All children must wear black school shoes to complete the uniform as well as the green school hat, of course. Again, thanks for checking that your child is dressed correctly.

• As the days shorten, ensure that your child arrives at school by 8.30 am. “Sleeping in” is not a good enough excuse!

• School fees go out this week. Thank you for your prompt attention to them. Come and see Ms Barry or myself if you have any difficulties.

• Please check the “lost property” regularly.

For Loyalty:

Because the Bible says ‘Love is supportive, loyal, hopeful and trusting.’

1 Corinthians 13:7

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Many thanks to our P&F for organising a wonderful afternoon
May is the month of Mary

This month we honour Mary, the mother of God. If you go back into the history of the Church after the crucifixion, the apostles, the followers of Christ who were scattered, scared and a fragmented group, met in an upper room in Jerusalem totally demoralized, completely in the dark as to what their future course of life would be. There was one woman present who really took over and that was Mary, the mother of Christ. She encouraged them, she motivated them, she soothed them, she comforted them, she dynamized them in such a way that they left that upper room in Jerusalem and went to the ends of the world preaching not only about the teachings of Jesus Christ, but about his mother, Mary. There is no question that Mary, the mother of Christ, had this dynamic and profound influence on the Church that enabled the Church to grow and prosper. One way to remember and honour Mary is by praying some of the prayers especially dedicated to her:

Hail Mary
Hail Mary, full of grace. The Lord is with thee. Blessed art thou amongst women, and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus.

Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners, now and at the hour of our death. Amen.

Hail Holy Queen
Hail, holy Queen, Mother of mercy, hail, our life, our sweetness and our hope. To thee do we cry, poor banished children of Eve; to thee do we send up our sighs, mourning and weeping in this vale of tears. Turn then, most gracious advocate, thine eyes of mercy toward us, and after this our exile, show unto us the blessed fruit of thy womb, Jesus. O merciful, O loving, O sweet Virgin Mary! Amen.

Memorare
Remember, O most gracious Virgin Mary, that never was it known that anyone who fled to thy protection, implored thy help, or sought thee intercession was left unsaided.

Inspired by this confidence, I fly unto thee, O Virgin of virgins, my mother; to thee do I come; before thee I stand, sinful and sorrowful. O Mother of the Word Incarnate, despise not my petitions, but in thy mercy hear and answer me. Amen.

The Angels
The Angel of the Lord declared unto Mary, and she conceived by the Holy Spirit.

Behold the handmaid of the Lord. Be it unto me according to thy word. Hail Mary.

And the Word was made Flesh
And dwelt among us:

Pray for us, O Holy Mother of God, that we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ. Amen.

What is Trust?
Trust is having faith. It is relying and believing in someone or something. It is having confidence that the right thing will happen without trying to control it or make it happen. Trusting others is believing that people will do what they say they are going to do. It is having faith in your own ability to learn and grow.

You are practising Trust when you ...

- Have faith in God’s love and follow your own guidance.
- Let trust chase away your fears.
- Ask God for help with anything that scares you.
- Know that your best is good enough.
- Trust others unless you have good reasons not to.

Mrs Nikki Lysaght
Assistant Principal Religious Education
High School Expo

On Wednesday May 20, St Mark’s will be holding a ‘High School Expo’ in Mercy Hall from 6-8 pm.

This expo is an opportunity for Catholic High Schools within our catchment area to display, demonstrate and communicate what their school has to offer. As High School selection for your child is an important decision in their educational journey, we would encourage you to attend.

You, as parents know your child best and an expo such as this will make you aware of the schools that can best cater for your child’s learning and educational needs. Closer to the time we will be able to give you a list of the schools that will be attending the night. Please note, that many high schools request enrolments for students from as early as Year 3-4.

High School Exhibitors

Schools exhibiting at our High School Expo – St Mary’s, St Edmund’s, Our Lady’s, St Augustine’s, St Peter Claver, Ambrose Tracey, St Thomas More, St Lawrence’s, St James

Prep 2016 Enrolments

We are now accepting applications for enrolments from all our school families and the wider community for Prep 2016.

A child born from 1st July 2010 to 30th June 2011 will be eligible for Prep in 2016. Please come to the office to collect an application form.

Brigidine College Indooroopilly OPEN DAY

Have fun and learn more about the options for your daughter’s secondary education. Enjoy free face painting, free sausage sizzle, many creative performances and lots of hands-on workshops as well as guided tours, over 20 displays and much more on Sunday 17 May 10am – 1pm. More information at www.brigidine.qld.edu.au

STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES TRAVEL REBATE

Semester 1, 2015

Does your child have a verified disability that requires transport assistance to and from school?

Has your school’s learning support teacher assessed your child’s travel capability rating as ‘semi-independent’ or more dependent?

Visit our website to see if you qualify for financial assistance to help with the cost of transport and apply at www.schoolltransport.com.au by 31 May 2015.

Late applications cannot be accepted.

St Mark’s Uniform Shop

open every Friday during school term between 8am and 9am.

Brisbane West Deanery

Picnic in the Park

Youth & Young Adult Picnic in the Park

Sunday 17th May 2015 - 10.30am onwards
Rocks Riverside Park,
Counihan St, Seventeen Mile Rocks
BYO something to share.....
drinks/nibbles/salads/meat/sausgaes/desserts
Games, fun, & friendship.
Come along for a great day out!
For more info please contact Michael Doherty on 0409 235 480 or at bwdeanery@bne.catholic.net.au
Thank you to DJ Manny, Teachers, Parents & Students who contributed to Mothers Day BBQ Success!

Wed 27th May
State of Origin
Free Dress Day Bring in a gold coin to wear your team colours!