Dear Parents/Caregivers,

Last Wednesday, we welcomed new prep aged children who have brothers or sisters already here at St. Mark’s. Most came along very confident and ready to start! I hope that all eligible children have now been enrolled as places available are getting smaller.

Tomorrow, 4th November, we welcome children and families new to the school. There is a big number this year, over 40, and it is good to have them come and join us. We will all get the chance to welcome them at the start of next year.

World Teachers’ Day
On behalf of the whole staff, let me say thank you for your well wishes and contributions to a truly magnificent morning tea celebration. It was great to have a good number of you take up the invitation to come and join us on this occasion. We all appreciate your on-going support.

Orphanage
Thanks, too, for your support of our Vietnamese tuckshop over previous weeks, we can pass on nearly $1900. Today we had a free dress day and disco during the lunch break. Money raised here will be added and that will be our total donation to the orphanage. Your generosity has ensured that our support of the Vietnamese orphanage has been significant and has continued for another year.

November prayers
Today all classes were involved in a liturgy to remember our saints and all souls. Throughout the month of November we will pray in classes and as a school for those whose names have been recorded on class scrolls. Please pray as a family for those you hold very near and dear.

Semester Two Reports
Teachers have been busily finishing assessments and writing Semester Two Report Cards for all students. This is an important review of gains made throughout the last two terms and will be issued in a few weeks time. Once you receive them, there is an opportunity to see the relevant teacher, if required.

All report cards need to be kept safely for future reference.

School Outings
As is usually the case, there are a good number of class excursions/incursions scheduled during the coming weeks, along with the normal end of year celebrations. Please ensure that you know what is happening through talking to your children, the notes that come home and the newsletter. I encourage you to join in where you can.

P and F Dinner
It’s on again this Friday evening. See the P and F page for details. I hope you can come. Already there is a good response. I look forward to welcoming you and enjoying a wonderful evening with you. It’s a great time to meet with the staff and other parents.

Uniform Shop
Mrs Edna Britten and Mrs Jill Eyre do a fabulous job in the Uniform Shop. While open each Friday morning throughout each term, they will also be opened on other days to accommodate your child’s “uniform needs”. Notices have been placed around the school, and the office door for your information.

Swimming
Lessons begin for all classes next week. Please check that all swimming gear is the correct size, named and ready to go. These lessons are vitally important to ensure that all children are “water safe” for the Summer. If for any reason your child is unable to swim, simply send along the doctor’s certificate.

Projects
Further work in our Outdoor Learning Area will commence soon. This has come about from some unexpected funding from BCE for which we are very grateful. Keep your eyes on this area.

For Peacefulness:
PG: Remy Pham
PW: Zachary Alo
PB: Desley Menefata
1G: Serena Le
1W: Quynh Nguyen
1B: Joseph Tovia
2G: Emma Tierney
2W: Uyen Vu
2B: Howard Tria
3G: Monica Nguyen
3W: Peter Williamson-Field
3B: Madison Nguyen
4G: Huy Pham
4W: Leanne Vu
5G: Bing Lowal
5W: John Nguyen
6G: Maite Sandoval
6W: Kynan Tran
6W: Iverson Rizo

For Effort:
3G: Charles Rajab

2015 TERM DATES:
Term 4: 6 Oct - 4 Dec
2016 TERM DATES:
Term 1: 27 Jan - 24 Mar
Term 2: 11 Apr—24 Jun
Term 3: 11 Jul—16 Sep
Term 4: 4 Oct—2 Dec
Virtue of the Week: Determination

What is Determination?
Determination is focusing your energy and efforts on a particular task and then sticking with what you are doing until the task is done. Determination is using your will power to do something even when it is really hard. You try and try, you work and work, until you get it done.

You are practising Determination when you ...
- Believe what you are doing is important.
- Resist being distracted.
- Keep going even if it gets difficult.
- Ask for help when you need it.
- Finish what you start.

Mrs Nikki Lysaght
Assistant Principal Religious Education
Please join us for Garry Montgomery’s Retirement Farewell Assembly November 20 2015 Mercy Hall at 2:00pm All Welcome!

This is a fun way to raise funds for the parish and the odds of winning a prize are better than Lotto! Closing Date for Applications: 13th December.

Please support our annual P&F Christmas Raffle

Prizes:
1st: $300 School fee credit
2nd: $200 School fee or Uniform credit
3rd: $100 Gift Card
4th: $50 Tuckshop Credit

Great Prizes! Only $2.00 per ticket

St Mark’s Uniform Shop is open every Friday during school term between 8am and 9am.

Also open:
Wednesday 20th January 2015: 9-11:00am
Wednesday - Friday 27-29th January 2015: 8-9:00am

Get in early and avoid the rush! Lay-by is available

Children aged 5 - 7 years old are invited to attend Children’s Liturgy on Sundays at Mercy Hall from 9.30am. Parents please bring your child to Mercy Hall before the mass begins. Your child will return to the church at the offertory. The children will hear a simpler form of the scripture readings, learn prayers and do fun activities. Sr Jana and Sr Gracja are the teachers. All teachers and volunteers attending have a Blue Card.

For more information please contact the parish office.

Co-ordinators of our Vietnamese Tuckshop would like to say thank you for your generous donations to Vietnamese orphanage:
Mrs Alina Wikarjusz ($100)
Mrs Nhung Vu ($25)
Liam Pham in Year 4W ($100)

Thank you our Parents and Friends for the wonderful morning tea provided on Friday.

Sport News

Year 6 Gala Day
On Friday, all Year 6 students will attend the Term 4 Inala district Gala Day in either Basketball or Water Polo. Basketball will be played at Richlands East SS and Water Polo at Acacia Ridge State School. These Gala Days are an excellent opportunity to develop skills, while also experiencing the sport in a non-competitive environment. Mr Fergusson, Ms Donato, Mrs De Jesus and Ms Fitzgerald will accompany the teams on the day.

Year 4 NRL 9’s Gala Day
On Thursday this week, Year 4 students will participate in a 9’s Rugby League tournament run by the NRL. They will compete in mixed teams with other schools from the Inala District. The tournament will be played at Centenary JRLFC at Wacol. Mr Everett and Mrs Morrow will accompany the teams on the day.

Should you have any queries with any matters relating to sport, please don’t hesitate to contact me at school.
Kind Regards,
Mr Biddulph

2016 St Mark’s Parish 100 Club
7th January 2016 to 31st December 2016
Purchase a number for only $5 a week.
Payment to be made in advance: $260 for the year or $65 per quarter.

Prizes:
Weekly draws of $75 gift card.
3 Quarterly draws of 1 x $500, 1 x $100, 1 x $50
And the big prize draw on Saturday December 31st, 2016:
1 x $5000, 1 x $500, 1 x $200

If you would like to participate in this club and help raise funds for St Mark’s Parish, please complete an application form and forward with payment to the parish office. Application forms are available from the school and parish office and as a download from the web page: www.stmarksinala.com.

Children’s Liturgy

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Closing Date for Applications: 13th December.
Thank you, Thank you & Thank you

The teachers morning tea was a success because of the families who generously provided the delicious food & guests who attended; staff, Fr Stephen, Sister Gracia & mothers.

A teacher takes a hand, opens a mind and touches a heart. ♥♥

Congratulations to Bo Tran (Yr 4) with Mrs Williams who passed 5 levels of reading in a short period. Determination and practice goes a long way.

Congratulations to Zoe Gavarra for earning seven 2015 Academic Awards at St Thomas Moore.

Good luck to all the students who are representing St Marks at the Qld Primary Schools Touch All Schools Championships held at Redlands this coming weekend. Happy Birthday to Amelia Chadburn for Friday.

Happy Birthday to Mrs Savage & Mr Toso for Friday.

Students Enter this Online Writing Competition — bigthankyou.com.au

Here is a simple writing competition and all you need to do is write about your favourite teacher.