Message from the Principal

Dear Parents and Caregivers

Our Ash Wednesday Liturgy proved to be a prayerful occasion with many parents joining us on the day. Your presence on these occasions promotes the continuing development of our faith community. Thank you in particular to Mrs Natalie Tugliaich and Mr James Seguna who prepared the liturgy and to our students who participated. Please remember our Opening Mass this Friday at 9am in McAuley Centre. During the Mass our year seven students will be presented with their leadership badges.

A few reminders:

Two minute parking only is permitted in our pickup zone between 8am and 9am and 2.30pm and 3.30pm. Please do not park in this zone during the above hours if you intend to get out of your car and walk your children into school. As you would understand parking in this area for periods longer than two minutes causes traffic chaos.

The following is an extract from our School Uniform policy:

Hair should be clean and tidy. Hair longer than collar length must be tied back with a blue or white ribbon/band or school checked scrunchie. Extreme hair styles or hair products, which draw attention to the student, are not permitted. eg mohawk, shaved shapes, hair in eyes and excessive use of gel. If a boy has longer hair for a cultural reason, it must be plaited neatly.

Please be aware, if you are picking up your child during school hours, that it does take some time to contact the classroom to ask that your child come to the office. I ask for your cooperation in and patience in this matter.

If you are entering or leaving the school grounds via the gates adjacent to Prep White, please ensure that you close the gate. We will be installing an automatic gate closer on both gates in the near future.

Finally, if you are still using the paper bag system for tuckshop, please ensure that you write your child’s name and order on the bag and include the money inside the bag. These orders are to be delivered to the school office by 9am Thursday morning.

Best wishes for the coming week

Veronica Lawson, Principal

CLASS AWARDS How children have shown care to each other


KWC

Lucy Low, Gout Gout, Thomas Jones, Tara Swan, Jiqvah Leota, Lyji Vaggs, Cassandre Malish, Adrian Durana, Connor Jones, Anneke Levi, Elias Diaz, Tanya Mawdsley, Liam Kember, Bailey Mc Rae, Lachlan Rose, Thuy Pham
**RE NEWS**  Mrs Natalie Tugliach APRE

Wednesday, 13th February, was Ash Wednesday, the first day of the season of Lent. It is one of two days of fast and abstinence set down by the Church, the other being Good Friday.

The Christian practice of fasting and almsgiving is not some form of punishment but rather aims at leading us to interior conversion. Turning our hearts more toward God and less toward food helps make us more disciplined and more charitable. We fast in order to share our time and our treasure with an attitude of love towards God and others. This is reflected in Prefaces III and IV of Lent which are used at Mass on this day: For you will that our self-denial should give you thanks, humble our sinful pride, contribute to the feeding of the poor, and so help us imitate you in your kindness. For through bodily fasting you restrain our faults, raise up our minds, and bestow both virtue and its rewards, through Christ our Lord.

Take the time to ask your child/ren what they have learnt about Ash Wednesday and if they, or their class, is ‘giving up’ something.

Opening School Mass will be celebrated this Friday in McAuley Centre at 9am. Fr Roger will be our celebrant. We will be welcoming our Prep students and commissioning our school leaders. All family and friends of St Francis Xavier school and parish are welcome to attend. There will be a simple morning tea to follow Mass.

The Sacramental program began last Wednesday evening in the Parish Centre. There was no meeting this week as participants and their families attended the Ash Wednesday Mass. The meeting on Wednesday March 20 is a parent’s only meeting.

I had a very productive day last Friday working with APRE’s from across the Brisbane Diocese. We looked at the new Religion curriculum in more depth and established a rough map for 2013. I am pleased to announce that Ms Katrina Bono and Ms Rosey Cavallaro will join me on the RE team to further explore the new curriculum and develop a clearer map. We will join together with a team from Our Lady of the Sacred Heart, Booval, to plan for the new future of Religion and the Religious Life of the School. Research suggests that planning is better when it can be done inter school, so we are fortunate to have this partnership.

I am very excited to announce that students in years 4, 5, 6 and 7 will be attending Mass at St Francis Xavier Church on a weekly basis, beginning next week. Teachers are teaching parts of the Mass to students so they can be active participants. Parents are welcome to attend Mass with their children. Mass is at 9am. Tuesday Year 5/6W & Year 6; Wednesday Year 7; Thursday Year 4 & 5.

_Natalie_

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**FROM THE DESK OF THE APA**  Mrs Michaela Lewis APA

I hope your week is going well.

**Curriculum News** All class teachers have been asked to provide their timetables to the Leadership Team. This helps us to ensure that the children are engaged in the correct amount of work time for each curriculum area. Thank you to the teachers for their work on these documents.

**History Workshop** On Wednesday evening, the teachers participated in a professional learning workshop on the Australian Curriculum: History. The workshop started with a session on the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander focus in the curriculum, including the use of appropriate sources, choice of language and a consideration of our own beliefs and practices. The workshop concluded with the teachers spending some time on planning a History unit, under the guidance of Brisbane Catholic Education Consultant, Ms Helen Hennessy. The Melbourne Declaration calls for students to “understand and acknowledge the value of Indigenous cultures and possess the knowledge, skills and understanding to contribute to, and benefit from, reconciliation between Indigenous and non-Indigenous Australians” (Melbourne Declaration on Educational Goals for Young Australians).

**Art Show:** “Arty-facts- Art through Time” The paint brushes are poised, the clay is rolled and the glue pots are filled... as the children and their teachers prepare for our annual Art Show.

**Date Claimer:** 18th March, 2013    **Time:** 5-7pm     **Stay tuned.....**

A thought for Valentine’s Day:  _If you have only one smile in you, give it to the people you love._ (Maya Angelou)

Enjoy the week, _Michaela_
THE ARTS  Sue Vassella

Our extra-curricular groups are up and running. Please ensure permission forms are collected, signed and returned to the music room.

Tuesday  Guitar group 11am. We welcome Mr Bromilow (7R) who is helping with this club. Mr Harding and Mrs V are also involved.

Wednesday  Junior Choir 11am. Thankyou to our Yr 7 student helpers assisting with the choir.

Drama 1.20. Thankyou to Therese and Mrs Hunt for co-ordinating this group of Year 7s for the upcoming Art Show.

Thursday  Dance Club (first break) for Year 5-7, directed by Mrs Bono (1W)

Chorc 1.40. Years 5-7. Mrs Parker and Mrs V

Friday  Samoan Dance Troupe 1.40, with Mrs Anna Timu.

Queensland Police Pipes and Drums: The drum corps are giving a performance at our school on Monday 18th February at 10am in the McAuley Centre. Parents and friends are most welcome to attend. No cost involved. Be prepared to start off the school year with a BANG!!!

Sports News – James Seguna

Reminder  Health Club is still happening on Tuesday and Thursday mornings from 8.00am. We are in preparation for our cross country coming up in a few weeks time. Congratulations to Ben Deutscher, Francesco Ro, Brittany Higgins and Elijah Ventayen who have been selected to represent Central District in the Met West Swimming Carnival. Congratulations to all our swimmers who competed last Tuesday. A big thankyou must go to all parents and supporters for transporting and cheering on our students. Check out the sports board to see our swimmers in action.

Little Bytes from eMouse

Hi everyone, welcome back to Little Bytes for 2013. As we all know, the internet is a great way to research school assignments, gain knowledge and communicate with other people. While there are great benefits to the internet, we also need to be careful. It’s important to teach your child not to provide any personal details to people they don’t know online, and not to open any messages from anyone they don’t know. Using the internet carefully and safely will help to ensure a positive online experience.

TUCKSHOP  Anna Timu, Tuckshop Convener

I’d like to say a BIG thank you to all who volunteered in the tuckshop last Friday. Our first day back in was very challenging getting used to everything again but we did it. Well done ladies! I hope that every family has received a new menu for the tuckshop. If you did not get one, please collect one from the office or come into the tuckshop on Friday and pick one up. There is a pricing error for the Potato Top Pie - they are now $1.00 each rather than $1.60. Our FLEXISCHOOLS online ordering system is working well. You need to register to be able to use the online ordering system. If you need any assistance logging on please contact me on 3818-0033. During the Lent season I am adding a fish burger to the menu for only $3.50. Volunteers for this week Friday 15/02/2013 are: Chrissy Peters, Shona Schick, Megan Kinder, Ina Salapo, Cameron McCormack and Otila Timu. Volunteers for Friday 22/02/2013 are: Chrissy Peters, Rachel Grant, Sarah Warner, Shona Schick and Ina Salapo. Thank you

Our Lady’s College, Annerley. Enrolling Now  Currently finalising for Years 8 to 11 in 2014, Year 7 in 2015 & 2016 and Year 8 for 2014 & 2015 (Year 7/2016 interviews Commencing now). Phone 3848 462 for an Enrolment Pack and Interview Time .. Inspiring Young Women

ST MARY’S COLLEGE, IPSWICH ARE NOW ENROLLING FOR YEAR 8 2014 AND YEAR 7 AND YEAR 8 2015  Applications for Enrolment are available from our website at www.stmarys.qld.edu.au or call the College Office on 3432 5444 for a prospectus. All other enquiries to enrolments@stmarys.qld.edu.au. Apply now to avoid disappointment.

Brigidine College, Indooroopilly invites you to Visitation Day on Monday 25 or Tuesday 26 February 9.30-10.30am.

Enjoy a student guided tour of the College followed by morning tea with the Principal. Phone 3870 7225 to secure a booking or obtain an enrolment pack. Brigidine College is an independent Catholic girls’ secondary school—Strong in academic achievements; Gentle in the tradition of the Brigidine Sisters. Parents with daughters currently in Year 2 and upwards are encouraged to lodge applications now to avoid disappointment. A waitlist is operating for Year 8 2014; limited places are available for Years 7 and 8 2015 and offers for Year 7 2016 will be confirmed later this year.