Term 2, Week 5

Principal’s News

Last Friday we had an enormous number of mothers and grandmothers join the school for our Mothers’ Day liturgy. On Friday afternoon and into Saturday we had parents join with staff at Chaverim for our annual Instrumental Music camp. Also on Friday night and at weekend masses, we saw a large number of our students complete their Sacraments of Initiation with the proud support of their families. This week on Wednesday afternoon after school, I noticed many parents stayed to support Mr Plumb with footy training and on Thursday after school there were even more parents making time to watch the last part of Shrek rehearsal. I also enjoyed seeing how many parents remained for Courtyard Prayer this week and I love that we have Year 5 Parents running sausage sizzles to support our Whale Watching trip.

It is clear that school and home are closely linked. Families support our school, and our school works hard to support families. On Tuesday afternoon we ran an iPad Parent Session. I am so pleased parents have requested this session, because this is yet another great opportunity for parents and school to support each other. Parents who are familiar with these devices position themselves well to engage in and support student learning at home, and to ensure devices are used responsibly. Our presenter Tyler Wellensiek is recommended by Apple Education, so he will be informative, no matter your own level expertise. All who wish to attend are very welcome and we hope you can join us.

Mark Fox

School Funding is going to be an election issue. As school parents, we will endeavour to keep you informed about developments around this matter as elections approach. Please follow this link if you’d like to know more. http://www.saintpatricks.qld.edu.au/index.php/communication/funding-principles-for-catholic-schools

APRE News

**Pentecost Mass**

This Sunday marks the ‘birthday’ of our Church. Pentecost signifies the end of the Easter Season and is the time that Jesus left us the gift of the Holy Spirit, it is written that the Holy Spirit descended to the Apostles and The Virgin Mary. There is a combined Mass at St Mary’s School this Sunday at 9am to celebrate.

*Tracey Cook*

**Walk Safely to School Day**

Next Friday, May 20 is the National Walk Safely to School Day for 2016. Each year our school participates. Staff and our Year Six leaders kindly volunteer to meet students at different places in Bundaberg and walk to school with them. Our meeting points are still being finalised and will be advertised very soon. Meeting time is 8am and parents and loved ones are very welcome to join us. After the walk a small amount of healthy breakfast will be available for students who walked. Thank you to the Church family and Avoca IGA, who support of this initiative with their generous donations. National Walk Safely to School Day is now in its 17th year and is an opportunity for schools and councils around the country to promote road safety, health, public transport and the environment. Year six students will take this opportunity to educate and promote key messages about all of these important issues. Please refer to http://www.walk.com.au/WSTSD/ for more information about the initiative.

Click the Walk Safely to School Day logo below to go the event details on Facebook.

Mark Fox
12:20pm. The following items are compulsory for the following sports. Please advise the school if you require assistance meeting these compulsory items.

**Hockey** – shin pads and mouth guard

School knee high socks will be provided by the school.

**Soccer** – shin pads – soccer boots are not permitted at school soccer. Normal school shoes or an athletic jogger to be worn. School knee high socks will be provided by the school.

**Rugby League** – mouth guard – school jersey and socks to be provided by the school.

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**Expressions of Interest**

In order to further support the pastoral care of our students, we are seeking Expressions of Interest for a Student Welfare Officer to work approximately 15 hours per week for the remainder of this year. In order to be eligible to apply for this position, applicants must hold a worker’s qualification equivalent to, or higher than, a Certificate IV in Pastoral Care or Youth Work. Please contact Mr. Fox for further information. Expressions of Interest will close Friday May 20th.

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**School Accounts**

A friendly reminder to all families that Term 2 Fees are due for payment. Friday 13th May 2016, if you do not already have a payment plan in place. The collection of school fees is a crucial part of the day to day management of our school and we would not keep operating without the financial support of parents. We are enormously grateful to all of those parents who are able to pay their fees on time.

A further reminder to sign in at reception through our VPASS visitor register iPad to ensure you are entitled to the Participation Levy Rebate. This rebate of $15.00 per term is refunded in full, simply by helping out twice in the school each term through classroom assistance, working bees, attending P&F meetings, helping at sausage sizzles etc.

If you have any queries regarding your school account, please do not hesitate to contact Finance Secretary Maria Davies.

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**Student of the Week**

**FOOTBALL**

ili Haster and Lucy Hamilton

**U12 RUGBY LEAGUE**

Fletcher Ace

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**Student Travel Rebates**

**STUDENT TRAVEL REBATES**

Semester 1, 2016

- **Bus Fare Assistance**
  - Does your child attend a school outside the Brisbane City Council boundary?
  - Does your family spend more than $55/week on fares to and from school (e.g. $25/week if you hold a concession card)?
  - Does your child travel on a publically available bus not owned or associated with the school?

- **Students With Disability**
  - Does your child have a verified disability that requires transport assistance to and from school?
  - Has your child’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.schooltransport.com.au by 31 May 2016. Late applications cannot be accepted.