Dear All,

Promote our school

As inner city Brisbane continues to urbanise and develop we are very aware that the need for high quality education will increase with urban density. As part of that, we have spent the last three years working on our school masterplan of buildings, future building and current renovation of existing spaces. As part of this masterplan we have also looked at the promotion of our wonderful little school. This week our promotional video was launched on social media that starred many of our parents and friends of the school. If you have watched the video you would be well aware that Jo Curran was paid but the parent responses were unscripted and from the heart. The genuine nature of those responses is very evident to me and others. On the first night it was sent I personally received over 100 emails saying positive things about our great school and they have continued. Thank you very much for your participation, the response has been overwhelmingly positive as well as letting people know about our hidden gem.

In case you missed it, here is the link for your viewing pleasure.
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=maLS8Ei70zI

Parent & School Partnership

As you have heard me say before the importance of school and parent relationship is integral to the well-being and success of the students in our care. The classroom teachers and I are always very happy to hear things that maybe of concern or that are positive so we are aware and can hopefully address or work on them. Our three school rules are Be Respectful, Be Safe and just as importantly, Be a Learner.

Between birth and three years of age your child grows and develops faster than at any stage in their lives. In the first three years of your child’s life, the brain has done a great deal of its growing and has established important pathways for future development. Researchers have found that the relationship between a parent and child in the early years affects the child’s brain development in many ways. When children are provided with loving and caring experiences in these early years, the connections in the brain for feeling good and learning are strengthened. Early positive relationships with parents promote curiosity, self-esteem and confidence. This is true as children continue to grow as these relationships assist children to better cope with life’s challenges.

These relationships are based on the principle that we slowly allow children to experience independence, responsibility and autonomy with problems and decision making. The challenge for parents is to know when to step back and allow our children to ‘fail’ and when to step in and ‘save’ them. Failure can be more productive for learning than being saved consistently. It is important to remember that we sometimes forget how resilient our children can be. I hope you find the right balance with your children just as I am always trying to find the right balance as a parent and a principal myself. Parenting is not easy but children need us to make good decisions that will help them learn and grow. What I would always stress that is most important, and I stress this to the students as well, is that students need to communicate with their teachers, peers and parents things that they need help with. Something I strongly believe our school does very well is work with parents and students about resolving any issues and I would like to stress I am always very happy to meet, talk via phone or communicate via e-mail if you have any concerns or questions.

Have a good week,
Matthew Beacroft
Principal
APRE
Mr Dean Estreich

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

School and Parish Mass

Thank you very much for all the people who were able to join us for our school and parish mass yesterday. I would like to compliment the students who were so reverent and beautifully behaved during the liturgy. We had a number of positive comments about their singing and involvement during the mass.

National Sorry Day

National Sorry Day is an Australia-wide observance held on May 26 each year. This day gives people the chance to come together and share the steps towards healing for the Stolen Generations, their families and communities. Stolen generations refer to Indigenous Australians who were forcibly removed from their families and communities. The first National Sorry Day was held on 26 May 1998 – one year after the tabling of the report Bringing them Home, May 1997. The report was the result of an inquiry by the Human Rights and Equal Opportunity Commission into the removal of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children from their families. On this day we are encouraged to pause and reflect on the decisions made by our government during the European occupation of Australia and the great impact these decisions had on the Indigenous people of our country. Saying sorry is the first step towards reconciliation. It shows that we are willing to acknowledge the wrong-doings of the past and make an effort to change the future to ensure we treat others the way we would like to be treated.  http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4RpA7nVOcCI

Prayer for the Journey of Healing

Almighty and loving God,

You who created ALL people in your image, lead us to seek your compassion as we listen to the stories of our past. You gave your only Son, Jesus, who died and rose again so that sins will be forgiven.

We place before you the pain and anguish of dispossession of land, language, lore, culture and family kinship that Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples have experienced.

We live in faith that all people will rise from the depths of despair and hopelessness. Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander families have endured the pain and loss of loved ones, through the separation of children from their families.

We are sorry and ask God’s forgiveness. Toughen the hearts of the broken, homeless and afflicted and heal their spirits. In your mercy and compassion walk with us as we continue our journey of healing to create a future that is just and equitable.

Lord, you are our hope.

Amen.

National Council of Churches in Australia (NATSIEC)

Have a peaceful week,

Dean Estreich
Assistant Principal Religious Education (APRE)
Sr Anne Cannon

Dear Parents

Last week I spoke about Joan Chittister’s thoughts on ‘gifts’. Today, she speaks about the “gift of difference”. As we reflect on National Reconciliation Week, on the terrorist threat and its overflow into a negative impact on Muslims, on the choosing of athletes for the Olympic Games and Paralympic Games, it is timely to reflect on the gift that our own and others’ differences can be.

Joan says, “Difference is the gift that unlikeness brings us. Because of our openness to differences we learn to be in the world in new and exciting ways. We learn that there is more than one kind of way to go through life and do it morally, artistically, happily.

We discover that other foods are equally as good for us as anything we have become accustomed to eating. Differences bring us out of ourselves into a newer, fuller way of being human. We see other models of family life and begin to reexamine our own in the light of them. We begin to recognize likenesses among us that enlarge our understanding of what it means to be human beings together. Finally, we begin to realize in blazing new ways that no particular people have a monopoly on goodness or a corner on criminal character, an option on God or an ascendency on godlessness. We have a great deal to learn from one another if we are ever going to be fully developed, deeply sensitive and wholly human adults.

Then, perhaps, stunned by the sameness in us, we will no longer lose sleep worrying about the danger of immigration, the danger of strange religions, the danger that comes clothed in other colors, other accents, other ways to marry and bury and pray and be alive.

Most of all, we will all come to understand that the human race has a great deal more in common than it has difference.

Mary MacKillop would say: “Reject no-one. You never know what God is doing in them”

Have a wonderful week, seeing the hidden gifts in yourself and others.

God bless

Sr Anne

HEALTHY LUNCHES

This week’s information comes from www.cyh.com produced by the South Australian Government. The site is well worth a visit for many different ideas about children’s health. It includes a ‘Kids Only’ section which presents information in a colourful format, including games.

Fillings

Try using different sorts of bread, e.g. high fibre, brown, wholemeal, wheatmeal, rye, fruit, cheese and chives, pumpkin, pitta, Lebanese or try rice cakes, English muffins, crispbreads and cracker biscuits.

Spreading a little butter or margarine on the bread will help keep the sandwich from getting soggy if you have a runny filling to put into it, but most sandwiches do not need a lot of butter or margarine.

If you are going to have fillings which are normally kept in the fridge, such as cooked meat, you need to keep your sandwich cold. An ice brick or frozen drink can help with this.

- Cream cheese, chopped celery and sultanas
- Grated carrot and cheese with ‘lite’ mayonnaise (mayo).
- Chopped cooked chicken and mayonnaise, with lettuce.
- Grated cheese and chopped celery, or carrot.
- Leftover roast meat with grated carrot, chopped lettuce and chutney or tomato sauce.
- Lean ham, sliced cheese and a pineapple ring (make sure you dry it well).
- Peanut paste and grated carrot.
- Vegemite, cheese and tomato.
- Take a roll/sliced bread and a banana to eat together.
- Take a roll/slices, a sliced boiled egg wrapped in food-wrap, and lettuce to build your sandwich when you are ready to eat it. A good idea is to wrap any strong smelling foods separately then build your sandwich just when you’re ready to eat it, or they tend to be a bit smelly by lunchtime.
- Take toast and a slice of cheese or a small container of baked beans (they’re yummy)! Try to include a piece of fruit and a drink. Frozen water or juice (not fruit drink) can keep your lunch box cool in summer.
- If you want to drink milk at lunchtime you could freeze a milk drink (one in a sealed carton) - or you could freeze a small tub of yoghurt.

St Anne’s Community Disco Party

Saturday 28th May, 3pm

The Disco Party will be held at St Anne's Hall and there will be a sausage sizzle, chips & lollies for sale as well as soft drinks and it’s a BYO event.

We want it to generally be a great afternoon for the family where the St Anne’s community, parents and friends can relax while the kids have some fun with the disco that’s being run by Star Parties Entertainment.

We hope you can attend. We also warmly welcome any volunteers that can provide assistance with setting up, packing away or serving food.
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From every Membership we sell, 20% of the proceeds go towards the fundraising for our school.

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MINI VINNIES WINTER APPEAL
On Friday, 2 June, we will have the Winter Appeal. You may wear woolly socks or a scarf with your uniform, BUT you will be fined. You will have to pay with either a gold coin, some warm Winter bedding or Winter food such as a tinned meal, longlife/powdered milk/custard, soup, pasta, tinned veges.

From Cerys and Jenny, for Mini Vinnies.

***Mrs Dos Santos has already challenged the other classes because she believes her class will bring in the most items per child!***