Dear All,
As always it is another busy week in our wonderful school.

Community Disco
This Friday night we are having a joint disco with WSACC, our wonderful OSHC, in Baratta Stadium. The highlight, besides the great dancing, games, prizes and food will be our illuminating LED dance floor for the children to dance on. As the disco is outside it is important to remember warm clothes as it will get cold and dark by 6pm. This will work very well with our glow sticks and dance floor but it is something to keep in mind as you dress for dancing. For safety it is also important that children wear enclosed shoes for the disco. This will only help them for the limbo and chicken dance anyway. If children are attending after school care they can bring casual clothes to change into after school. Included in this newsletter is pricing for the food and drinks for sale on the afternoon. Staff will be available to look after children after school for them to get ready for the disco if they do not usually attend WSACC after school.

Active School Travel
Last Friday saw our whole school participate in Scooter Skills Training. The children learnt about road skills, stopping safely, the importance of helmets and how to move your scooter in different ways. As a life-long learner I know I have a lot more to learn about scooting but I enjoyed the challenge and skills as much as the students. Next term we look forward to the RACQ helicopter landing at Windsor Park as part of the Brisbane City Council Active School program.

Tomorrow because of pending weather and staff commitments there will be NO ACTIVE SCHOOL TRAVEL ORGANISED WALK FROM PARK. We still encourage all of you to actively travel to school by yourselves or with friends.

Touch Gala
Good luck today to our older students as they compete along with 14 other catholic schools at gala touch. This is a culmination of them having NRL lessons in PE time and now putting their skills of stepping, passing and teamwork into play.

Reports
Even though we are moving into the last couple of weeks of the term, the pace is not slowing down. Students are completing final pieces of assessment and teachers are preparing reports on student achievement. Report cards will be mailed out next week on Monday 21st June. As always if you have any concerns or questions please contact the classroom teacher for clarification or a meeting.

In reading reports, please keep a few key ideas in mind:

A 5 point scale is used to report on student progress in subject areas. For mid-year reports, if your child receives a ‘Achieving at expected standard’ it means that they are on track to be at the expected level for that particular subject by the end of the year. Should your child receive a ‘Above the expected standard’, this means that they are on track to be above the expected level, and an ‘Well above the expected standard’ means your child is progressing to be well above the expected level. Conversely, a ‘below the expected standard’ represents below and ‘well below the expected standard’ means well below by the end of the year.

Marks for effort and our Programme Achieve skills of organisation, getting along, persistence, confidence and resilience are awarded as ‘Consistently’, ‘Generally’, ‘Sometimes’, or ‘Rarely’. All students can aim to achieve ‘Consistently’ across all areas even if they may be struggling in specific subject areas. These skills are life-long skills which help us all every day.

Teacher judgement is a valid form of assessment to be used in reporting. Our teachers work hard to ensure they have a thorough understanding of a child’s progress at school. Formal assessment items are not the only method of identifying student attainment and ability. Observations, classwork, conversations and anecdotal information helps to create a complete picture of your child’s progress.

As a staff we work with other schools and consultants in our planning, giving feedback and setting of assessment tasks to ensure we have consistency of judgement and best practice.

Have a good week,
Matthew Beacroft
Principal
Dear Parents and Caregivers,

School and Parish Mass next Wednesday 22\textsuperscript{nd} June

We invite all St Mary of the Cross families, friends and our Parish to our next celebration of Eucharistic on Wednesday 22\textsuperscript{nd} June. Mass begins at 9a.m. in Holy Rosary Church and we are looking forward to singing the new hymns that we have been practicing with Mrs. McCourt including the exciting actions as well.

World Refugee Day

Monday 20\textsuperscript{th} June is World Refugee Day. This is a day to honour the courage, the struggles, and the contributions of refugees. The Australian Catholic Bishops’ Social Justice Statement for 2015-2016 states that ‘when we Australians support policies of cruelty and rejection, we close our ears to Christ’s call and turn him away from our doors’. The statement calls us to ‘hear the call of Jesus and to take the path of generosity and leadership’. We pray for all people who seek refuge and asylum from the terror and danger that they face and we pray that our government can rise to meet this challenge with fairness and compassion.

Reading with your Children

Experts say that those children who have been read up to 5000 books (many of which will be re-reads of favourites) prior to starting school are more likely to be the students who perform better in literacy whilst at school. This number may seem impossible, but a daily routine of around 20 minutes of reading from a young age will just about get to that point, and just as importantly, will set a clear reading routine for children. Some of the best things that parents can do to help their child is to read to them, read with them or be read to by their child. Literacy is the basis for so much not just at school, but in the wider world. In the immortal words of Dr Seuss:

> “The more that you read, the more things you will know. The more that you learn, the more places you will go.”

Have a peaceful week,
Dean Estreich
Assistant Principal Religious Education (APRE)

WORKING BEE

Borrow a Barrow

In conjunction with Gregory Terrace we are having a Working Bee at our school this coming Monday 20\textsuperscript{th} June.

To help the young lads maneuver loads of mulch and sand around our school (i.e. up and down stairs), we are putting a call out to our community for wheelbarrows.

Do you have a wheelbarrow that we could borrow for the day?

If you are happy to lend our school a wheelbarrow, please drop it to the playground gate on Grafton St, Monday morning, clearly marked it with your name.

Thank you in advance.
Mr Beacroft
PASTORAL CARE CORNER
Sr Anne Cannon

Dear Parents,

You are the most important people in your children’s lives. How you relate with your children will influence more than anything else, how they grow and mature into wonderful adults. Kidsmatter offers some tips for you:

Ways parents and carers can convey warmth, caring, and security

• Using words to reflect the child’s experience – don’t expect them to understand ‘adult speak’.

• Using open-ended questions where appropriate enables the child to express their feelings (e.g., "What did you enjoy the most about going to the park?"); or "What else can you make with playdough?"). Keep these questions positive. Don’t start with what went wrong.

• Reflecting in your own words but kept simple, what you understand the child has said—repeat back to them, in their language, to make sure you understand.

• Remain close to the child, with no things or other people between you when you speak to them.

• Being at the same level so the child feels more comfortable – get down on the ground or at least a low stool.

• Demonstrating interest in the child through eye contact.

• Having an open, relaxed body posture.

• Having a positive facial expression.

• Listening to children and responding in a timely manner.

• Speaking in a soft to normal volume, using a normal to low pitch and a slow, even tempo.

Mary MacKillop would say: “I have every confidence that by working together the common good will be secured.”

Have a great week, working together to bring out the best in your family.

God bless
Sr Anne

HEALTHY LUNCHES

YELLOW OR AMBER FOODS are those, according to Qld Government ‘Smart Choices’ for school lunches should be served only sometimes, certainly no more than once a week.

Milk (plain and flavoured), yoghurt, frozen yoghurt, custard and cheese, savoury pastries, spring rolls and dim sims, pasta products such as lasagne, pizza, oven-baked potato products, sausages, frankfurters, meat patties, meat balls, chicken drumsticks, processed meats, eg ham, polyunsaturated margarine/spread and use sparingly, sauces and gravies, breakfast bars, cereal bars, fruit bars and other snack bars, savoury snacks, sweet biscuits, cakes, muffins, fruit drinks with at least 50% fruit (95% is labelled ‘fruit juice’ and is a green item).
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ST MARY OF THE CROSS & WSACC PRESENTS

THE WINTER WARMING DISCO

FRIDAY 17 JUNE | 4 - 6 PM
BARATTA STADIUM

- Dance to the latest tunes mixed by DJ Steve
- Free dress
- Prizes to be won
- Singing contest
- Dance offs
- Items for sale
- Cold drinks $2
- Snacks 50¢

This disco is a joint community event, open to all students from our school and students attending after school care. All parents, friends and siblings are very welcome to attend this event.

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