



**2014 DATES TO  
REMEMBER:**

Term 1: 29 Jan—4 April  
Term 2: 22 April—27 June  
Term 3: 14 July-19 Sept  
Term 4: 7 Oct—5 Dec

**4 March 2014  
Week 6 Term 1**

**Ash Wednesday tomorrow**

Dear Parents/ Caregivers,  
Last Saturday found a good number of parents, children and teachers here at school for the first working bee of the year. It was great to see many familiar faces and new ones as well. Much was accomplished in the two hours and the Preps are certainly enjoying the new sand in their pit!

**Swimming**

Continuing from last week, swimming is tomorrow, Wednesday, in readiness for the annual swimming carnival on Friday, 7th March at Dunlop Pool, Corinda. All parents and friends of St. Mark's are warmly invited to come and be part of this special day. There is always great fun and good competition. May the best house win!

**Year 6 and 7 Visits**

Putting faith into action has always been a focus here at St. Mark's. Again this year, with the support of teachers, we have started our regular visits to the Tri-care Aged facility at Jindalee. We were well represented by a group of Year 7 students last week who gave of themselves to make an older person's day a little brighter. It was a wonderful outing and I look forward to our student leaders growing from the experience.

**Lent**

Ash Wednesday begins the season of Lent tomorrow. All classes will be going to the church for these special liturgies during the day. As is a custom, staff will be attending Mass each Wednesday morning at 8.00 am throughout the Lenten season. Children and families are encouraged to come too. In a good school we need to be able to work, play and pray well together. Mrs Ioannides will accompany our Faith and Mission student leaders to the cathedral on Tuesday as Caritas launches Project Compassion in schools. Please support and give generously to Project Compassion again this year.

**Principal's Afternoon Tea**

From the student of the week recipients, teachers have chosen one child to join me this Thursday for a principal's afternoon tea. It is aimed at recognizing outstanding children who live the virtues day after day and week after week. I am looking forward to this particular celebration and all involved should have brought home their invitation to show you. I look forward to congratulating them with a simple afternoon tea. At the end of the term, we will have a second such celebration!

**Homework Club and Breakfast Club**

There has been great interest in our homework club that operates each Tuesday afternoon in the library. At present some 45 children have registered and this is near capacity. Thank you for your response. Breakfast Club operates each Tuesday and Wednesday morning from 8.00 am. For \$1.00, children can buy a simply breakfast to ensure readiness for good learning throughout the day. I commend this service to you.

**Welcome**

Last Friday we welcomed Fr Stephen and Fr Joseph to St Mark's. We look forward to continuing the wonderful association between parish and school with them. We bade a fond farewell to Fr Michael and Fr Truc and hope they will visit in the future.

I welcome Mr Mosa Rajab as our new groundsman. He will begin duties shortly. I congratulate him and welcome him to the staff. You will see him at work most afternoons around the school.

This week we will interview for a Year 2 teacher for when Mrs Neilson- Scott takes maternity leave in a couple of week's time.

**Student of the Week**

**For Resilience**

- PG: Trong Dao
- PW: Jamieilyah Tran
- PB: Aria Chadburn
- 1G: Howard Tria
- 1W: Reuben Vickerson
- 1B: Noah Curtis
- 2G: Marley Ngatai
- 2W: Sharlene Nguyen
- 3G: Liam Pham
- 3W: Kevin Trinh
- 4G: Flora Ombeni
- 4W: Ellen McCormack
- 5G: Ryan Nguyen
- 5W: Eby Lawrence
- 5/6B: VyVy Dinh  
Loretta Tui
- 6W: Christopher Vo
- 6G: Paul Nguyen

**For following expectations**

- 2B: Nicholas Sinitsky

*Garry Montgomery*  
Principal

## Lent: A time to use our hearts and hands

This Wednesday we celebrate the start of the Church's Season of Lent when we gather in the Church for Ash Wednesday. On this occasion we will be marked with a cross of ashes on our forehead as a reminder that we are beginning our journey through Lent and towards Easter. The ashes on our foreheads are not only a reminder of the ideals of this Lenten season but also our commitment to them.



The Church gives us Ash Wednesday to mark the beginning of the time called Lent, which lasts for 40 days. 40 Days is a number with symbolic meaning. The Jews spent 40 years in the desert on their way to the Promised Land. Jesus spent 40 days and 40 nights fasting in the desert before beginning his ministry.

Lent is a time of preparation for Easter when Jesus will rise from the dead. During Lent we will see a difference in our Church as we say goodbye to green colour of Ordinary Time and change to the purple of Lent. Lent is a special time when we can think about changing ourselves and putting other people first. Lent ends on the evening of Holy Thursday. We then begin the Triduum, the most sacred three days of the year, lasting through Easter Sunday morning.

During Lent we try hard to focus on 3 elements: PRAYER, FASTING and ALMSGIVING. Generously giving money to Project Compassion and praying for those people who will receive our donations of help is one way we can actively participate in the Lenten expectations of Prayer, Fasting and Almsgiving.



## Project Compassion

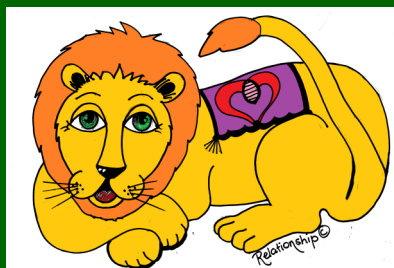
Again this year we will support Project Compassion. This year's Project Compassion stories are about our desire for a full and beautiful life within the surroundings of home. Not just a house to live in, but a life filled with certainty, free from the burden of poverty with access to food, water, education, healthcare and shelter. Donations to Project Compassion allow Caritas Australia, the Catholic Agency for International Aid and Development, to work towards this creation of a more just and fair world for whole communities. Each class will receive a Project Compassion box and we ask you to give generously over the next 5 weeks.

Please put your compassion into action this Lent by supporting **Project Compassion 2014**.

## Date Claimers ...

- Tomorrow, **Wednesday 5 March**, is **Ash Wednesday**. It is a special day which signifies the beginning of Lent. During the day every class will participate in a special liturgy where they will receive the ashes.
- There will be no Assembly on **Friday 7 March** due to our school **Swimming Carnival**.
- **6G and 2G** will celebrate their buddy class mass on **Thursday 13 March at 9:30am** in the Church.
- Friday March 14th, **4W** will lead us in our **Assembly Prayer** at 8:45 in Mercy Hall.
- **All parents and friends are warmly invited to join us for all these events.**

Markus tells us that when we are serving others we are helping to build positive **RELATIONSHIPS!!**



## Virtue of the Week: Service

### What Service?

Being service-oriented is wanting to make a difference in the lives of others. Helping other people is one of the very best ways to serve God. One of the best ways to pray is to do a service and dedicate it to God. Having an attitude of service means looking for ways to be of help rather than waiting to be asked.

### You are practising Service when you ...

- Look for opportunities to be of service.
- Think of thoughtful things to do for your family.
- Do your part to recycle, reduce or reuse.
- Do things for the love of God.

In particular let's serve others by giving to Project Compassion during Lent this year.



Mrs Chantale Wilson

Acting Assistant Principal Religious Education

## DANCE CART CONCERT

The students are now half way through their Dance Cart lessons for 2014. The celebration of learning, for this unit of work, will be a **concert on Friday 28th March**. Please keep this date free and more details of the evening will follow in coming weeks. This years theme is **"A Night at the Movies"**.



## THANK YOU AND FARWELL FRs GERARD, MICHAEL AND TRUC.



## SPORTS NEWS

Dear Parents,

On Monday March 10 & Thursday March 13 the **ARL (Australian Rugby League)** will be holding a coaching clinic free of charge for school students in the Inala district. The Monday session will be held at St Mark's from 3:30pm until 4:30pm and the Thursday session will be held at Wests Inala club on Freeman Road from 5:30-6:30. If you are interested, please see me for a Registration form.

**On other matters Sport**, a reminder that our **School swimming carnival** will be held at Dunlop Park swimming centre, Corinda, on Friday March 7 from 9-1pm. Thank you.....Mr Biddulph

## OUR LADY'S COLLEGE ANNERLEY

Inspiring Young Women  
Celebrating 50 years of Educating Girls in  
the Tradition of St Mary Mackillop

**Our Open Day is  
17 May from 10am—1pm**

Enrolling now for 2016 and 2017  
Limited places for Years 7 and 8 in 2015  
For further details contact 3848 7492  
Or visit our website  
[www.ourladyscollege.qld.edu.au](http://www.ourladyscollege.qld.edu.au)

## St Peter Claver College, 10 Old Ipswich Road, Riverview 2014 Principal Twilight Tours

Mr Diarmuid O'Riordan, Principal of St Peter Claver College, extends an invitation to parents and families to attend a personalized tour of the College during a Principal's Twilight Tour. Please register your interest by contacting the College Enrolment Secretary on 3810 5907 or [mhunt@bne.catholic.edu.au](mailto:mhunt@bne.catholic.edu.au)

Tours will commence at 5.00pm and 5.30pm on selected evenings. We will contact you to arrange a suitable time once you register your interest. Tours go for approximately 1 hour with an opportunity to ask questions over a cup of tea/coffee and light refreshments.

There are **12 good reasons** for you to consider enrolling your child at St Peter Claver College. It is a place:

Where students' learning needs are central to all we do.

Committed to Catholic education – where all students are valued and nurtured.

Where our first Australians have a home and where their elders past and present are respected.

Where we welcome and celebrate cultural diversity. With a dynamic curriculum – lots of choice and catering for all learners.

With heaps of extra-curricular opportunities.

Where your child can excel in a number of sporting programs including Rugby League, Dance, Netball, Futsal and Soccer to name a few.

With a pastoral care system that promotes belonging and well-being.

Offering student leadership pathways and opportunities.

With a deliberate focus on social justice and outreach in our region.

Located amongst beautiful grounds with new facilities and close to major roads and railway.

With a sponsored bus system to ease parents' concerns about transport.



**Thank you for a successful Working Bee!**

Thank you to the families and teachers who joined us at the working bee as many jobs were completed by these hard workers. Thankyou to Anna Sinitsky for organising the delicious morning tea!



**Wednesday 12th March 5.30pm—St Marks P&F AGM**

All positions are available for nominations—President, Vice President, Treasurer and Secretary.

Each position requires a time commitment to organise events, help with the banking, shopping and event set up.

**Mothers Day Order Forms will be sent out this week.**

\$3.00 Mothers Day gifts will be available again this year and order forms will be sent out this week to ensure you get a choice of fantastic gifts.

Please return the form and money inside an envelope to the office within the next 2 weeks.

**Brisbane Archdiocesan P&F Council AGM**

**Monday 17 March 2014—5.30pm start**

**@ St Anthony's Hall, St Anthony's School, Kedron**

Dinner will be provided.

**Special Guest Speaker : Carmel Nash**

**Parent Engagement with Children's Learning**



**Monster Easter Raffle Tickets will be sent out next week.**

In keeping with the St Mark's Easter tradition, we will be asking families to send in donations of Easter eggs, chocolates, baskets or cellophane.

Have a GREAT week!