Dear Parents, Caregivers and Children

Class Groupings for 2013

I would like to provide the following information for the parent community in order to assist you in understanding how important the task of class groupings for 2013 is and also the many aspects that the teachers and administration take into consideration when working on class groupings for the year ahead.

Teachers and administration spend an enormous amount of time on this task and in doing so they consider some of the following points:

- What are the best learning combinations (from what we know of students this year / last year / other years) for each class;
- The special learning needs of each student, for example, a student with a disability, a student with learning difficulties or a difficulty being experienced within a particular key learning area, a gifted student;
- A balance of fast / independent learners;
- A balance of slow / reliant learners;
- Cultural considerations;
- Boys and girls ratio;
- Friendships between students;
- Special family considerations, for example, keeping twins together or in separate classes.

The process takes many weeks. Parental input is always welcome and considered seriously by the teachers and administration. However, it should be obvious that friendships cannot always be catered for, especially if teachers/administration knows that such friendships hinder good classroom learning. Therefore, requests for particular placement need to have educational reasons and need to be forwarded to me in writing by Friday, 9 November. All requests will be considered in conjunction with the points outlined above. Class lists are always a difficult task, as together we endeavour to provide the best learning environment for your child/ren. You will be advised of your child’s class/teacher when you receive your child’s end of year Report which will be sent home on Thursday, 29 November.

Term 4 School Fees

We have recently posted the final School Fee Statement to all families, including those that pay by Direct Debit. Please check your letterbox or postal box to ensure you receive your Statement. Any requests for your Statement to be emailed will commence in the 2013 school year.

On Thursday, we celebrate the feast of All Saints. We honour all holy women and men, known or unknown, lowly or mighty. All-powerful God, you always call your people to holiness. Give us poverty of spirit, a thirst for justice and purity of heart. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Peace and Best Wishes

Sr Ann-Maree Nicholls, sgs

PRINCIPAL

END OF YEAR SCHOOL CONCERT
THURSDAY 29TH NOVEMBER AT 6.30PM
Sts PETER & PAUL’S GOOD SAMARITAN HALL
**APRE News – Mr Brendan Schostakowski**

Halloween is slowing becoming more recognised in Australia...perhaps because of all the American television we watch! However, Americans didn't come up with Halloween - it is actually a pagan festival that honoured the dead. *Halloween* is an Old English word and literally means *holy* and can be used to describe saints. *Hallow* actually means *All Hallows Eve* - or the day before All Saints Day.

**Thursday 1 November – All Saints**

*All Saints Day* We remember all the saints of the Church on this day - those people who have revealed the Good News by living extraordinary lives often in the most challenging of circumstances.

**Friday 2 November – All Souls**

The Commemoration of All the Faithful Departed (*All Souls’ Day*). On this day we remember those who have gone before us. Praying for and remembering those that have passed away is an ancient tradition within the Church.

When someone passes away, Catholics have a special prayer that is commonly said: *Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May the souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen*

**Life and Death - the bigger reality**

*All Saints Day* and *All Souls Day* which follows are significant feast days in the Church’s calendar and together celebrate one of the more beautiful beliefs of the Catholic tradition. They make us remember and connect into a greater reality of being that explodes past the everyday into something deeper. Now and then we have glimpses of this kind of reality in our life journeys - often at times of great joy or great sadness that take us beyond ourselves, and it is the poets and the prophets who seem best at naming and describing these experiences. But we believe that the ones we call saints - and celebrate on All Saints Day - understood this deeper, larger reality and lived their lives by it; and we believe that those we have loved and who have passed away - and remember especially on All Souls Day - have passed away into this wonderful communion. And even the uglies which come out to play at ‘Halloween’ in all kinds of ways cannot change this deeper stronger reality of love and life, living and dying.

**Jill Gowdie**

Principal Education Officer | Evangelisation and Spiritual Formation
Office of Executive Director (Brisbane Catholic Education)

Wishing you God’s blessings for the coming week.

Brendan

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**Assistant Principal's Message...Mr Damien Sullivan**

**Years 1 to 3 Swimming Carnival**

The Junior Swimming Carnival for 2012 is scheduled for the third last week of school on **Wednesday 21 November**. It will be held at the St Oliver Plunkett School pool at Cannon Hill.

Swimming commenced a fortnight ago for children in Years 1, 2 and 3. Students travel by bus each week to the Churchie school pool for their swimming sessions which will continue up until the last lesson in the week of Monday 26th and Thursday 29th November. Please note there will no swimming next week for Years 1 and 2 as the pool is unavailable on Thursday 8th November.

**Supervision**

A friendly reminder for parents and students that children arriving before 8.20am must sit quietly in the undercroft – this includes any children waiting with parents. After this time Prep children and Year One gather in the morning before school in the adventure playground. Other students will use the undercroft and Good Samaritan Hall. The library is also open every morning before school. Supervision of these areas begins each day at 8.20am and we strongly discourage students from arriving at school before this time.

**Riding to School**

At Sts Peter and Paul’s we are lucky to have quite a number of students who sometimes or regularly ride to school on bikes, scooters and skateboards. To help keep everybody safe at school we have rule stating that bikes, scooters and skateboards must not be ridden in the school grounds or on the footpaths that surround the school. These areas before and after school are very busy places. Children should also be wearing a helmet. At school this week we will give all students a reminder of these rules. We ask that any parents with children who ride to school reinforce this message from home and that any parents who also ride respect these rules too.

**A request for parents regarding entering classrooms**

Parents and students are asked to please not enter school buildings before school, during the lunch breaks or when the teacher is not present in their classroom. This includes internal hallways where port racks are located outside classrooms. These areas should be clear until the teacher brings their class inside. If parents wish to speak to a teacher or retrieve something from a classroom, before and after school are the appropriate times. At other times parents should call by the school office.

**Bee Champions**

Congratulations to Grace (4G), Ruby (2R), Olivia (1R) and Jed (1G) who were drawn out of the box as Bee Champions at last week’s assembly. They have been helping our school to be a happy and safe place for students.

All the best for the week ahead.

Damien Sullivan
Child of the Week

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>7G</th>
<th>Grace Cooney</th>
<th>4B</th>
<th>Isaac Rogers</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7B</td>
<td>Thomas Stamatziou</td>
<td>3R</td>
<td>Emily Backhurst</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6G</td>
<td>Kelsea Wright</td>
<td>3G</td>
<td>Theresa Catchpole</td>
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<tr>
<td>6B</td>
<td>Lachlan O’Donnelly</td>
<td>3B</td>
<td>Bronte Downs</td>
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<tr>
<td>5G</td>
<td>Brooke Smith</td>
<td>2R</td>
<td>Emilia Nardone</td>
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<tr>
<td>5B</td>
<td>Nathan Spencer</td>
<td>2G</td>
<td>Wil Strambio</td>
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<tr>
<td>4R</td>
<td>Ella Martinelli</td>
<td>2B</td>
<td>Xavier Kingstone</td>
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<tr>
<td>4G</td>
<td>William Gruber</td>
<td>1R</td>
<td>Hannah Brind</td>
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<tr>
<td>1G</td>
<td>Bridie Carpenter</td>
<td>1B</td>
<td>Ruby Armstrong</td>
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<tr>
<td>Prep Y</td>
<td>Ava Mitchell</td>
<td>Prep R</td>
<td>Tiana Stephanos</td>
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<tr>
<td>Prep G</td>
<td>Elle Larsen</td>
<td>Prep B</td>
<td>Alice Hovey</td>
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Library News

Mark your calendars for library events during term four:

Library Working Bee: 20th November 9:00am
Library Book Chat & MorningTea @ Riverbend: 22nd November 9:00am

Our Year 6/7 Book Club only has one more meeting this year. We have had to reschedule our last meeting. These students will meet on 8th November to discuss their latest books, A Wrinkle in Time and Wonder. We look forward to their book discussions on these book choices.

The October Birthday Author draw will be held on Friday. Students may complete Birthday Author Forms if they have read any books by authors celebrating birthdays this month. We will post the November Birthday Authors who have books in our library collection on our library web page this Wednesday. There are some great authors to read in November!

Students will have the opportunity to help the library decide if books that have never been borrowed are worth keeping in our collection. We have a basket of ‘Never Been Touched Books’. Students may borrow one of these books, read the book and fill out a form to help us evaluate whether to keep the book or send it on to another school to use. We hope to have a number of students participating to help us in this effort.

Happy Reading,
Mrs Ballentine, Mrs Rimmer, Mrs Brooks, and Mrs McEniery


P&F News

Halloween Disco – Thank You
Thank you to all the 448 children who came along to last Friday’s Halloween disco. Hope you all had a great time! The P&F raised over $1000 which will go towards our new school playground on the oval. We would like to thank Jill Hrstich and the social committee for organising the event and also the wonderful parents and teachers who helped out on the night - your assistance was invaluable!

Volunteer Thank You Drinks
The P&F would like to invite all school and P&F volunteers to a ‘thank you’ drinks and nibbles night at the Good Samaritan Hall on Wednesday 7th November at 7:30pm. We appreciate your time and efforts and would love to see you there.

Halloween on Oxford Street Community Celebration
We are looking for volunteers to help out with a sausage sizzle with all proceeds going to the parish St Vincent de Paul group to help with those in need over Christmas.

Date: 31st October
Time: 3.30pm - 5.30pm
Venue: Memorial Park, Oxford St

If you can help please contact Paul at paulbron@optusnet.com.au

Online Tuckshop Ordering is Here!
If you haven’t done so already, please go to
www.flexischools.com.au and click “Register Now”. It only takes a few minutes to register. You will be sent an email with further instructions on how to complete the registration. Once registered, you can start placing orders immediately. If you have any questions, FlexiSchools provide a great help desk on 1300 361 769, or you can contact them via their website.

P&F AGM
The P&F Annual General Meeting will be held on Wednesday 21st November at 7:30pm in the Staffroom. At this meeting all elected officers will stand down and all positions are open to nominations.

Positions to be filled on the 2013 P&F Committee are:
- President
- Vice president
- Secretary
- Treasurer

If you wish to stand for one of these positions please download http://www.stspp.qld.edu.au/our-community/parent-and-friends/ and drop it into the office (attention P&F Secretary). If you have any questions about any position please contact Tim Goodsell at tim_goodsell@hotmail.com. Please consider standing for an official position or coming regularly to meetings and assisting at events.

After the AGM a normal P&F meeting will be held, drinks and nibbles will be served at this event.

Sports News

State Athletics Results:
Congratulations and welcome back to Miela Goodchild and Tara McCarthy from your trip to Cairns last week for the State Athletics Championships. Well done on your performances we are all very proud of your results:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Tara McCarthy 10 yrs Girls</th>
<th>Miela Goodchild 12 yrs Girls</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3rd Long jump, 3rd 4 x 100m Relay, Competed in 100m and 200m</td>
<td>5th Girls Multi event - 100m/800m/Shot Put/Long Jump, Competed in Shot put and Long Jump</td>
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Met East Aquathon/Triathlon nominations:
Nominations close this week so remember to get your paper work into the office for your application.

Save the date:
The Junior Swimming Carnival is almost upon us. I hope to see you there to support your child one for the Years 1, 2 and 3 Carnival on the 21 November being held at St Oliver Plunket School Pool, Cannon Hill. Stay tuned for more details next week.

Yours in Sport
Mrs Conaghan
Tuckshop News

The Tuckshop Breakup will be held on Tuesday 13th November at The Jetty Kiosk, William Gunn Jetty, Fairlead Crescent, Manly (limited parking behind Manly Pool). Time 10.15am $8 per head. RSVP 7th November—all tuckshop helpers are welcome.

ROSTER: WEDNESDAY, 31/10
Jodie Chapman, Kelli Rogers

ROSTER: FRIDAY, 2/11
Claire Malyon, Lucille McNamara, Barb Bowden, Leigh Gaeta, Cindy Nordberg

ROSTER: MONDAY 5/11
Natalie Wildermuth

Many Thanks,
Chris Watt  Tuckshop Convenor Home: 39010853  (M)0413590109

GARAGE SALE - The annual Garage Sale on behalf of the St Francis Orphanage in Sri Lanka will be held in the Church Hall Saturday 1 December. We are seeking personal/household goods that can be easily sold (no electrical goods or large items of furniture - thank you). Goods can be left at the Hall on the Friday before the Sale, alternatively, phone Brian Wellington 3399 5928 or Janet Mylne 3399 3342 for pick up arrangements.

DATES TO REMEMBER
7th Nov  Volunteer Thank You Drinks 7.30pm Good Samaritan Hall
13th Nov  Tuckshop Breakup 10.15am
15th Nov  Orientation Day for new families
20th Nov  Library Working Bee at 9.00am
21st Nov  Junior Swimming Carnival
21st Nov  P & F Annual General Meeting
22nd Nov  Library Book Chat & Tea at Riverbend 9.00am
29th Nov  End of Year Concert 6.30pm Good Samaritan Hall
7th Dec  2012 School Year ends

STS PETER AND PAUL’S PARISH NEWS

PARISH CAKE STALL– 3rd and 4th November - The final Parish Cake Stall of the year will be held at the Saturday night and Sunday morning masses on the 3 and 4 November. As usual the Stall will be full of delicious goodies including cakes, muffins (sweet and savoury), biscuits and brownies, patty cakes, and slices.

If you are in a position to support the Cake Stall, your help would be greatly appreciated. Baked goodies can be dropped off either to the school office on Friday (2 November) or to the stall before either of the masses. Please contact Ann Goodsell on 0409 988 326 or email anngoodsell@yahoo.com.au for how to package and label your items, or if you would like more information. All money raised is used by the Parish to support families within our school and parish community.