Dear Parents and Friends,

Thank you to all the parents who came along to last Tuesday evening’s Parents & Friends meeting. We had an excellent attendance and the spirit evident was certainly positive.

Congratulations to our incoming Executive and a special thanks to those who held recent executive positions.

The new Executive are:

President: David Fryer
Vice President: Kim York
Secretary: Karena Durden
Treasurer: Joanne Coleman
Board Representative: Christine Elves
Fund Raising Coordinator: Jeni Barbara

Our next meeting has been planned for Tuesday evening (7.00 pm) on 14 May in the main computer lab. It would be fantastic to see as many of you there as possible.

Jackson Blake and Lachlan Knight recently competed at the NSW Swimming Championships in Sydney. Jackson came second in the 50 m Freestyle and won a silver medal.

Wow!!!!!

This is a spectacular achievement and a very rare occurrence.

Lachlan finished mid field in his breast stroke event.

Both of these swimmers have done us proud and are a credit to their families and school.

I have received reports (once again) of potentially dangerous activity each morning when parents are dropping children off out the front of the school. I implore you to ensure the safety and wellbeing of your precious children (and others) when dropping off your children. Please do not park anywhere near the bus zones and please be vigilant in supervising your children across the road. Remember…buses and children do not mix!

Another reminder to not use the staff car park as this is also an extremely dangerous place for young children.

A reminder that we finish the term next Friday 12 April and return Tuesday 30 April. All staff will be having a spiritual retreat on Monday 29 April 2013.

Have a great week everyone. Blessings, David
Dear Parents

Thank you to those who were able to join us, and to the classes who assisted us celebrate Jesus’ resurrection on Tuesday. It is important that we continually reflect on the events on Holy Week, as these are the basis of our faith:

O God of the Last Supper
God of the Cross
And God of the Empty Tomb
We come before you now and we pause.
And we listen.

Holy Week has passed.
But how we long to live by the marvellous story we have heard.
Let us remain ever beside you at the table of the Last Supper.
Show us who is hungry.
And give us the courage to offer them bread from your table.
Show us who is thirsty.
And give us the strength to lift up the cup of your love.
Most of all, show us how to linger at the table, serving others -
Doing ALL that we do
In remembrance of You,
And the way You were when You walked this earth.
We lift these simple, limited words
Up to you, O God.
Amen

Adapted from A Prayer After Easter - Erin M. Cline

As we are quickly approaching the end of the term, I would like to extend an invitation to all of our students to consider representing St. Bernard’s at the ANZAC Day March. ANZAC Day will be in the holidays, but we would strongly encourage students who are here in Batemans Bay to join us, dressed in full school uniform, to remember those who fought for our country. More details will be provided in next week’s newsletter.

Wishing you a blessed week with your family.

Jacqueline Lee

Assistant Principal

SCHOOL FEES

There seems to be a little confusion regarding payment of school fees. Each term fees are generated in the first or second week of term. This is a 28 day account with the due date clearly stated on the account. It would be appreciated if this account is paid by the due date as is the case with St Bernard’s having to meet their payments on time. However you can elect to pay them weekly fortnightly or monthly ensuring that the balance is paid off by the end of term. If this is the case payment should commence immediately so that the account is cleared and standing at a nil balance before receiving your next term’s fees. If you are experiencing difficulty with meeting your payments please phone the office on 4472 4446. Thank you.
Dear Parents and Carers

At Saturday evening’s Vigil Mass there was a wonderful feeling of peace as the darkness of the church gave way to a soft light from the candles, lit from the new Paschal Candle. The Vigil Mass is a little challenging due to its length but as one former student said to me on Thursday “Will you be there? It is just so great!”

Our new Pope continues to show us ways to share Jesus’ mission. It was most interesting on the weekend to follow some of the tweets and posts about the qualities Pope Francis is demonstrating.

Easter Thought

“We could cope—the world could cope—with a Jesus who ultimately remains a wonderful idea inside his disciples’ minds and hearts. The world cannot cope with a Jesus who comes out of the tomb, who inaugurates God’s new creation right in the middle of the old one.” - N. T. Wright

You’ve probably heard people say that when we die, we’ll go to heaven, somewhere “up there” to be with Jesus. We’ll escape this corrupt world and fly around in the clouds for all eternity. There’s an escapist mentality in our popular understanding of life after death that doesn’t begin to capture the astounding implications of Jesus’ resurrection for the here and now.

It was Sunday morning, and the Teacher that so many had followed and believed in was seemingly lost to them. Then a few of His followers discovered something remarkable— “He is not here; He has risen!” (Luke 24:6). Over the next several days, Jesus appeared to His followers. He talked with them and ate with them. He didn’t appear to them simply as an ethereal ghost, but as a real person, resurrected by the power of God.

As resurrection people, who live through the very same power that Jesus was resurrected by (Ephesians 1:18-21), we are called “…to allow the Holy Spirit to do the work of Christ through us. We are His hands and feet in the world. We are still “real people” who need to engage in this world rather than look forward to escaping it. As we anticipate Jesus’ return, let us live out our calling to operate in the same Spirit that He has—to love and worship God with all that we have and to love others with the love of God. simpletruths@newsletter.simpletruths

The blessings of the risen Christ on you and your families.

Helene Boller
MESSAGE FROM THE LIBRARY

Many thanks to all those who kindly sent in some library bags. Those children who occasionally forget their own, are very appreciative. Just a reminder that there are some outstanding loans and with the term nearing to a close it is essential to return all overdue books. If your child has misplaced a book please send in a letter stating the situation so we can make arrangements. Could students in Years 3-6 also bring in their library exercise books if they have not done so already, as these are needed to complete their resource centre activities.

CANTEEN—WEEK 11

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Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend for married couples
14 – 16 June 2013 at Mt Carmel Retreat Centre, Varroville, NSW
bookings: 02 4283 3435 or wsharpe@bigpond.net.au
Information: www.wwme.org.au
The Children’s Extra

READING EGGS

Whether you’re learning how to read or reading chapter books, reading eggs is an all age reading website. There are two sections, one where you can play grammar games and learn more about reading, and another where reading is only part of the adventure!

For older readers, reading eggspress is the perfect site for you. There are over 1000 eBooks in the library that you can read and mark with bookmarks. After you read the books you do a quiz to earn eggs. With these eggs you can go to the mall and buy pets, furniture, clothes and decoration for your apartment. There is also a gym and stadium; these both contain fun school games! So if a book isn’t handy, then go onto reading eggspress, where reading is only the beginning.

SpongeBob SquarePants

Colour in spongebob and hand it into Hannah Carthew 6G by 14 April for your chance to win a prize. Write your name and class on the back.

A VERY UNUSUAL PURSUIT BOOK REPORT

“A Very Unusual Pursuit” is by Catherine Jinks. This is an amazing book with twists at every corner. I bet who you think is the threat to Birdy is really her friend who helps in the battle against the greatest enemy. This book is a thriller for everyone, girl or boy. Ages for 9 and up. Rated 10/10. For the adventure seekers and someone who wants action. You’ve got to read this book!
We continue to have a very busy time with a variety of sports over the coming week -- a good way to finish the term.

Firstly we would like to extend an enormous “Congratulations” to Jackson Blake and Lachlan Knight who travelled to Sydney on Tuesday to compete at the State PSSA Swimming Trials.

Lachlan competed in the 50m Breaststroke and achieved a personal best time. Jackson competed in the the 8 years boys 50 metre freestyle and won a Silver Medal for the event. Looking back over our records, it seems that Jackson is St Bernard’s very first 8 year old to compete at a State carnival.

What an amazing achievement --- Congratulations Jackson on your fantastic achievement and to Lachlan for reaching a State level.

As mentioned last week we have also had several students trial for various sports and some have gained further selection.

Early in the term we had Caleb Reisima, Maddison Blewitt, Harrison O’Keeffe, Emily Byrne and Edwina Howard trial for Basketball. Emily Byrne, Edwina Howard and Maddison Blewitt were selected to trial for the MacKillop basketball team. Maddison was selected in the MacKillop Basketball team.

Jack Gallen and Sean Griffin travelled to Young for Cricket Trials and after a fine display of their skills gained selection to trial for the MacKillop team.

Sam Ryan trialled for Soccer, Cory Buchanan and Regan Drew trialled for Australian Rules Football and all boys gained selection to the next level.

Last Monday we had the following students go to Sport Trials in Queanbeyan for:

**Open Rugby League**

Caeden Devane    Luke Barnicott    Jaryn Doran    Aidan Gaffey    Ryder Brown    Jake Spence

Aidan and Jake were both selected to trial for the MacKillop Team.

**11yrs Rugby League**

Thomas Gaffey    Jacob Collins    Jade Briggs

Jacob and Jade were selected to trial for the MacKillop Team

**Netball**

Maddison Blewitt    India Jenkin    Charlotte Armstrong

Maddison gained selection for the MacKillop Trials.

It is wonderful to see the students have the opportunity to participate in these various sports and we congratulate them on their outstanding efforts.

Our Cross Country Report will be in next week’s Newsletter.

Kim Dent - Sports Coordinator