9 February 2016

OFFICE HOURS

OFFICE HOURS - 8.00am – 3.30pm  
SCHOOL HOURS – 8.30am – 2.50pm  
FINANCE HOURS – 8.00am – 3.30pm (with the exception of every second Thursday)  
UNIFORM SHOP – 8.15am – 9.15am TUESDAYS & THURSDAYS  
TUCKSHOP – MONDAY - FRIDAY  
BANKING – TUESDAYS

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Wednesday Parent Teacher Night  
This year there is a slightly different format. If the times available do not suit, due to most families having multiple students, then both parents may need to attend and if alternate arrangements cannot be made, students may need to attend.

Change from previous years - Teachers do one session but the session is 40 minutes not 30. Principal’s address twice.

6:6-15pm Principal’s address in Dominic Centre- “The big Picture for St. Martin’s”

6:20-7pm Prep; Year 1; Year 4; Year 5 in classrooms

6:45-7pm Principal’s address repeated in the Dominic Centre- “The big picture for St. Martin’s”

7:05-7:45pm Year 2; Year 3 Year 6 in classrooms

Great Spirit Already  
There was great evidence of positive school spirit last week as many parents made the effort to attend the Planning Night and the welcome to new parents drinks. Thanks for making St. Martin’s a very welcoming and warm environment full of friendships and opportunity.

Under the same heading I am very impressed with the school uniform and the conscientious effort to ensure the correct uniform is being worn. Well done parents and children.

Mick Kelleher
FROM THE ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL ADMINISTRATION

School Routines
As we enter into the third week of the school year, it is timely to remind parents of some procedures we have in place to ensure duty of care for our students. This year we will continue to use the ‘Drop and Stay’ and ‘Drop and Go’ areas before school in the Early Years. These routines will also be mentioned at the Parent Information Evening.

‘Drop and Stay’
Parents who wish to sit and wait with their children are asked to do so, on the seats located in the afternoon ‘pick up’ area. We ask that parents sit with their children in this area. A reminder - the fixed play equipment is not to be used at this time.

‘Drop and Go’
The ‘Drop and Go’ area is supervised by a teacher from 8:10am each morning and parents are asked to leave their children in this area under the supervision of the teacher on duty. Students in Prep to Year 2 wait in the Early Years Eating Area and the students in Years 3 to 6 wait in the Assembly Area. We ask that parents do not wait in the Early Years Eating Area with their child, as this causes congestion. If you wish to wait, please wait to the side on the grassed area or above near the toilets.

1 to 1 Student Laptop Program
Last week our Year 5 students were issued their laptops as part of our 1 to 1 Student Laptop Program. The Year 5 students participated in a ‘Laptop Boot Camp’ where they learnt about a range of expectations and guidelines associated with the program, along with some key web based organisational procedures and tools. They worked with their class teachers and myself before taking the laptops home for the first time with their parents. I look forward to sharing news of the Laptop Program with the community throughout the year, especially after the success we have experienced with this way of teaching and learning over the last few years.

Kylie Anderson

FROM THE ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL – RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

2016 Lenten Season: A time to come to know Jesus, rather than just know about Jesus
Today, is Shrove or ‘Pancake’ Tuesday which is a time of feasting that happens before we prepare for the traditional fasting of the Lenten Season which commences tomorrow with Ash Wednesday. As we gather as a community tomorrow morning for our Ash Wednesday Liturgy, the symbol of the cross marked in ashes on our forehead symbolises the physical and spiritual connection that we share as followers of Jesus and is a powerful gesture of embracing a simple way of life. If we think about the change from feasting to fasting, from extravagance to simplicity, we are reminded of just how quickly things can change from one day to another.

Lent provides us with an opportunity for reflection as we are encouraged to seek the changes that we need to embrace a new heart and new spirit that will deepen our relationship with God. This challenges us to come to know Jesus, rather than just know about Jesus. It means taking time from the busyness of our daily lives to discover our personal path to connecting with God.

So what are the changes that we need to make to strengthen our connection with God? For each of us, this is different, but what is the same is that we must see our Lenten practice as part of, rather than in addition to, each activity of our ordinary, often hectic day. In the well-known poem, ‘Footsteps in the Sand’, we are challenged through the words ‘it was then that I carried you’ to recognise that we must trust in God to lead the way.

During this Lenten Season, we must recognise that God is also the starting point for us that will lead us to an even stronger relationship with Him. While we know that during Lent we abstain from those things that keep us from having a right relationship with God and others, it is important to choose to abstain from those things that reduce our spiritual motivation. This can be supported as we ask ourselves:

Can we fast from impatience and give thanks for the blessings of our life?
Can we fast from anger and reconcile with those who have hurt us?
Can we fast from gossip and speak words of kindness and of charity?
Can we fast from busyness and find time for prayer?
If we can do these things, then our Lenten days will be filled with God’s goodness and we will have an opportunity to renew our faith.

‘If anyone wishes to come after me, he must deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow me.’ Luke 9:23

(Sources: Finding God in Ash Wednesday, Julianne B. McCullagh; Daybreaks, Kay Murdy; We pray as one, Liturgy Brisbane)

Opening School Mass Thanks

Last Friday at our St Martin’s Opening School Mass, the school and parish communities joined together in hope, in prayer and in friendship, to look to the 2016 school year ahead. We thank Fr Maurice for leading our Eucharistic celebration and for his enthusiastic approach that helps to bring the Eucharist alive for the all in our school, particularly our children. It was wonderful to see so many of our parents and parishioners joining us for mass and we look forward to journeying together with mercy throughout the coming year.

Ash Wednesday Liturgy: 10th February 2016

We will gather together in prayer as a school community to celebrate Ash Wednesday and the beginning of the 2016 Lenten Season. You are warmly invited to attend our Ash Wednesday Liturgy in the Dominic Centre, tomorrow, Wednesday, 10th February, 2016 at 11:00am.

2016 Project Compassion: Great Change Happens with Love in Action

During Lent, the St Martin’s community generously supports Caritas Australia during Project Compassion. In 2016, Caritas celebrates 50 years of Project Compassion. The theme this year of ‘Learning More, Creating Change’ highlights the importance of education in bringing hope to the world’s poorest people. Yesterday, we launched the Project Compassion appeal at our whole school assembly and I discussed with the children our goal of raising $570 through our classroom donation boxes to provide training for health centre staff so that they can share new knowledge about childhood nutrition with local communities and improve health. We will monitor our efforts to reach our goal at Assembly each Monday and reinforce to the children that it only takes a little from people working together to make a big change in the life of another. Project Compassion continues until the end of term.

2016 Before School and St Martin’s Ministered Masses

This year, we will continue the tradition of Before School and St Martin’s ministered Sunday masses. These masses provide an opportunity for students from St Martin’s to participate in the ministry roles and are held at Our Lady of Graces Church.

Before School Masses occur once per month on a Thursday morning at 7:45am and the 2016 dates are outlined below:

- 10 March
- 14 April
- 12 May
- 9 June
- 14 July
- 8 September
- 13 October
- 10 November

St Martin’s Ministered Masses are held at the 5:30pm Sunday mass and the 2016 dates are outlined below:

- Term 1 - 20 Mar
- Term 2 - 15 May
- Term 3 - 17 July
- Term 4 - 20 Nov

At these masses, the children are invited to read the readings and the Prayers of Intercession, participate in the offertory procession and join in the singing. These masses provide an opportunity for our community to join together and celebrate the Eucharist. Importantly, within the community of St Martin’s, opportunities for participation in these masses enhances the rich prayer life that exists between family, school and parish which is a valued relationship within our faith community.

An invitation is extended to all students and families to attend these masses. Each of the masses will be advertised in the newsletter closer to each date along with an invitation to email me should your child like a role in the mass.

Veronica Tomerini-Smith
CRH is all about the welcome we offer when people set out to come back to where they feel spiritually at home. Their starting place may be different, their journey to get there is uniquely theirs, but their destination is the same – home. ‘Home’ is such a beautiful and evocative word and it’s how we want people to feel about being Catholic and part of ‘Parish’. It may simply have been a long time since they’ve ‘felt the need’ to be part of our community, or it may be that Father such and such, or this or that ‘pillar of the church’, has left them angry and disillusioned, but we want them to know there is always a place for them at our table and they are welcome.

The church has changed a lot over the years and is still doing so and we’d like them to join us on a journey of discovery. Starting on Thursday 18th February in the Parish Library at 7.00pm and going for six consecutive Thursdays, we invite anyone to whom the journey appeals or who is just curious to come and join us. Each session runs for approximately 2 hours and even includes a light supper. There is no need to book, simply turn up. However if you do have questions, contact the parish office on 3398 2977.

Kellie Corbett, Pastoral Associate
sc.carina@bigpond.com 3398 2977

Welcome back to 2016!

Weekly Class Borrowing
Monday PD, 1G
Tuesday PR, PM, 1C, 1M, 3M, 3R, 4M
Wednesday 1D, 3G, 4C, 4G, 5G, 5D, 5M
Thursday PC, 1R, 2C, 2G, 2M, 4D
Friday PG, 2D, 3C, 3D, 6D, 6G

2016 Scholastic Book Fair: MONSTER BOOK FAIR

2016 Book Fair will be held from Wednesday 9 March to Monday 14 March. This event is held every consecutive year and alternates with the St Martin’s Sunday Fun-day celebrations.

- MONSTER BOOK FAIR will be held in the Dominic Centre
- Information letter sent home few weeks before Book Fair
- Proceeds go to St Martin’s and a portion donated to a disadvantaged school in the Diocese (percentage amounts still to be decided)
- Payment by Credit Card or Cash
- 2 options for visiting and purchasing:
  - Classes visit during their weekly borrowing times
  - Parents & students visit during the following time
“Books are Lighthouses in the sea of time” E.P. Whipple

SPORTS NEWS

Cross Country Training
Students in Years 3-6 are invited to cross-country training. There will be training twice a week, on Wednesday and Friday. Training will be around the school grounds and starts at 7:45 am, training will commence Wednesday, 10th February. Children are to meet in the undercover assembly area. Mrs. Mellon and Mr. O’Leary will be running the training. Years 1-2 will be invited to participate on Friday mornings.

We suggest that the children wear old clothes to school to run in and change when finished. We also recommend that they bring a water bottle and a piece of fruit for when they are finished. All students are to meet at the assembly area at 7:40am.

Swimming Lessons
Years 3-4 start swimming lessons next week. This year’s swimming program involves two weeks of lessons with children participating in four lessons a week. This will provide great benefits for both stroke development and fitness. Parents please ensure your child has sunscreen, a swim shirt, bathing cap, towel, adequate footwear and goggles for each session. If you have not returned parent permission and medical forms please do so as soon as possible.

Swimming Carnival
Don’t forget to add our first sports carnival of the year to your diary. The Years 3-6 swimming carnival will be held on Friday 4th March from 9:15am-2:15pm (approx. finish) at the Clem Jones Centre, Carina. Our focus for the day will be on fun and participation. There will be more information in the coming weeks.

Lytton District Netball
These trials are on Tuesday 9th February. Best of luck to our St Martin’s representatives Tailah Ashfield, Emilee Salqhist, Eden Taylor, Bianca Heffeman, Abbey Mulholland, Madalyn Bugler and Isabella Dardengo.

Lytton District Swimming
These trials are on Tuesday 12th February. Good luck to our St. Martin’s representatives Jorja Blossom, Jack Gordon, Danielle Maguire and Haley Willington. Go St. Martin’s!

UPCOMING LYTON DISTRICT TRIALS TERM 1

Lytton District AFL
Lytton District AFL trials are open to boys aged 11 or 12 and who play for a club. These trials are on 16th February.

Nathan Jacobs
HPE Teacher
Tuckshop operates from Monday to Friday each week (5 days). Orders for Tuckshop are to be made via the Flexischools ordering system.

Michelle Lewis & Cheryl Mathieson
Tuckshop Convenors
3900 9100 (school)
camathieson@bne.catholic.edu.au

UNIFORM SHOP

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<th>2016</th>
<th>TUESDAY</th>
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<td>THURSDAY</td>
<td>8.15am – 9.15am</td>
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Uniform Roster
Thurs 11/02: Brad Reid, Carol Cran
Tues 16/02: Antonia Tomadon

Kym Fisher
Uniform Shop Convenor
3900 9100
kym.fisher@bne.catholic.edu.au

PLEASE LABEL ALL UNIFORMS, LUNCH BOXES AND DRINK BOTTLES WITH YOUR CHILD’S NAME SO THAT IF AN ITEM IS MISPLACED, IT CAN BE RETURNED TO ITS OWNER.

WINTER STOCK SALE

FOR A LIMITED TIME ONLY

V-NECK JUMPERS - $20.00
ZIPPERED JUMPERS - $26.00
TRACK PANTS - $20.00

SALE ENDS MARCH 3

Kym Fisher

BOOK CLUB

SCHOLASTIC BOOK CLUB - Issue 1

DON'T FORGET!

Book Clubs orders are due:
Thursday 11th February 3.00pm

Issue 1 for Book Club is due back by Thursday 11th February, 3.00pm. Please place all cash or Credit card orders along with payment into the box in the Library.

Remember you can order and pay online now.

You will receive the books you have ordered approximately two weeks after the due date above. These will be sent home with your child.

Michelle Wilkinson
Bookclub Co-ordinator
0427 307 407

BANKING

Banking starts back on Tuesday 09th February 2016. New reward items are available for 2016 along with some old favourites from 2015.

Starter packs will be distributed to the lower years over the coming week so keep an eye out in your satchels. For those who can’t wait just pop into your nearest Commonwealth Bank with ID for both yourself and your child (eg. A birth certificate) and open a Youth Saver account. Banking will be done every Tuesday so place the deposit book and money into the Banking satchel in your
classroom and let us do the rest. Every 10 electronic tokens enables you to order a reward.

Peta McGrory
0421 993 244

P & F NEWS

Hi Everyone,

Welcome Drinks
Firstly, a huge thank you to all the Prep Parents who attended the Welcome Drinks on Friday night. With approximately 80 parents in the Dominic Centre, it was one of our best turn outs for this event. This was a great opportunity to make connections and to hear more about how the school and P&F work. I look forward to seeing you all around the school and at events throughout the year.

A big thank you to the parents who came along to help out as well. Your hard work was greatly appreciated.

Class Convenors
We are also looking for volunteers to help out with being class convenors this year. This is a fantastic way to make new friendships and extend your network within the school. If you are interested please contact Emma-Jane directly on ejmconsulting@bigpond.com.

The meetings for this year will be at 8.45 am on: 11/03, 22/04, 22/07, 14/10.

So far we have confirmed convenors for the following classes -
- PM
- PG
- 1R
- 1G
- 1 D
- 1C
- 2C
- 3M
- 3G
- 3R
- 4G
- 5M

If you are in any of the other classes and want to get involved, please feel free to help out.

Parent Participation Program
The PPP roster will be available from tomorrow so please log in to find an event that you would like to be involved in. Being part of the PPP is a great way for you to meet other parents and have fun helping our community spirit shine even stronger. Attached is a document containing details for logging into and registering with both SchoolInterviews and CareBookings.

With the two booking systems they are both set up to do different jobs.
Care bookings is where the majority of one off events are booked in with exception of the Uniform Shop. The benefit of this is volunteers can nominate which day they are available to help with an event.
The school interviews booking system is used for volunteer roles that involve a small amount of training at the beginning of the year, or for roles where volunteers are working with students and a level of consistency is more beneficial.

If you have any questions, please contact Ursula Helios directly on heliosfamilyhome@gmail.com

Upcoming Events
- Wednesday Feb 10 - Parent Information Evening
- Friday Mar 4 - Swimming Carnival (Yrs 3-6)

We will be holding the Golden Goggles Event again this year. This is a team based novelty event that parents can get involved in. More information to come.
- Saturday Mar 5 - Term 1 Working Bee
- Tuesday Mar 8 - Parent Engagement Evening: Cyber Safety
- Friday Mar 18 - Term 1 Disco (National Day Against Bullying)

And don’t forget to check out our Facebook page as well.

Matthew Schultz
P&F President

FOUND

A pair of prescription sunglasses with green and black frames was handed into the office last week.
A small gold ear-ring with a little heart was also handed into the office.
A Frequent Flyer Velocity card is also in the office.
If anyone is missing any of these items please see me in the office.

Bev

SPEECH AND DRAMA TUITION

Speech and Drama  Prep – Year 6
Vacancies exist in Speech and Drama for 2016.
Come and learn performing art skills from qualified teachers.
Monday afternoon in the Dominic Centre.
Prep and Year 1’s are collected from their classes.

Melissa Webster
Let’s Talk Kids
melissa@ltkspeechanddrama.com.au
www.ltkspeechanddrama.com.au
AUSTRALIAN GIRLS CHOIR

The Australian Girls’ Choir is holding free trial classes in February for girls in Prep to Grade 2 at the Mt Gravatt High School. For more information go to www.aspargroup.com.au or phone The Australian School of Performing Arts on 3256 0207.

TRANSDEV BUS SERVICE

Transdev Queensland (TDQ) have revised school services for the commencement of Term 1 2016. A number of changes to both routes and timings have been made to create route efficiencies and ensure the continuous safe carriage of students. These changes will commence on 25 January 2016.


SETON COLLEGE

OPEN MORNING: SETON COLLEGE

Tuesday 1st March starting at 9am in the College Chapel with an Information Session followed by a tour of the College

The Open Morning will conclude at 10.30am.

SETON COLLEGE, MT GRAVATT EAST, a Catholic Co-educational College, is now accepting enrolment applications from students wishing to attend the College in Year 7, 2017 and 2018 (maximum Year 7 enrolment is 60 students).

The College accepts students of diverse abilities, but seeks to provide opportunities for students who need to ‘pick up the pace’ of their school work in the primary school years. This is done through a curriculum in which core subjects are offered at many levels and classes with a very favourable teacher – student ratio.

In the Senior years, (Years 11 – 12) the College offers students the opportunity to do QCE subjects and a variety of VET pathways.

Please visit the College website at http://www.seton.qld.edu.au or phone 3291 5333 to obtain an enrolment package.

MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER

Weekend date: 3 – 5 June 2016

Venue: Santa Teresa Spirituality Centre, Ormiston QLD (on Brisbane’s bayside)

For bookings/details contact: Maria and David Murphy, ph (07) 3342 1456, dandmmurphy@optusnet.com.au

Information website: www.wwme.org.au