Principal’s Report June 2014

The standard of Assemblies – Outstanding!
The school and class assemblies continue to impress and amaze me here at St. Martin’s. The leadership shown by the student leaders in the Faith and other committees to organise and deliver a formal whole school assembly for over 700 students and 70 staff as well as a growing group of parents cannot be underestimated. Added to these occasions are the meaningful and high quality class assemblies for the Wednesday and Friday Assemblies. Thanks to all involved for maintaining these public events as high quality examples of what St. Martin’s believe in and value for our children.

Virtues Banners
The beliefs and values which underpin our mission at St. Martin’s are clearly derived from Gospel values taught by Jesus. Each year level has selected a virtue which they believe really strongly in. We are going to produce advertising banners with these virtues printed on them. We can use these on special days like Harmony Day; Anti-Bullying Day and for assemblies and sports days. Signage will reinforce what we believe in and visually show the children and wider community.

NCCD
National Consistent Collection of Data

NATIONALLY CONSISTENT COLLECTION OF DATA

SCHOOL STUDENTS WITH DISABILITY

Information for Parents/Carers
Schools across Australia are taking part in a new national data collection on school students with disability. This information will be collected in every school across Australia, every year.

What is the Benefit for my Child?
All Australian governments agree that every child in an Australian school should have a high quality education. The aim of this new data collection is to have better information about school students with disability in Australia.

Why is this Data being Collected?
The information provided through this new national data collection will enable all Australian governments to better target support and resources to benefit students with disability.

What are Schools Required to do?
By law, schools are required to make reasonable adjustments where needed to assist students with disability.

What Information will be Collected?
Some students who are not provided with an adjustment at the time of the collection will meet the definition of disability under the Disability Discrimination Act 1992 and will be eligible to be included in the data collection.

**Who will Collect my Child’s Information?**
Teachers and other school staff from your child’s school will collect the above information based on:

- consultation with parents/carers
- the school team’s observations and professional judgements
- any medical diagnosis
- other relevant information.

**How will my Child’s Privacy be Protected?**
Protecting the privacy and confidentiality of all children and their families is very important.

- Personal or confidential information will not be given to anyone not authorized to see it.
- When the information is sent by your child’s school to the local or federal education authority for combination with information from other schools, it will be by school only – student names will not be recorded as part of the data collection.
- When the information is reported from 2016 onwards, it will be by school only – student names will not be recorded as part of the data collection.

**When and Where will the Data be Available?**
The information will be reported on the My School website from 2-16 onwards. It will be by school only – no student names are recorded as part of the data collection.

**Can I decide whether my Child’s Information is included in the National Data Collection?**
It’s your decision about whether you want your child’s information to be included in the national reporting or not.
If you don’t want to have your child’s information included in the national data collection, please contact Maria Brennan or Sally Stevens (Learning Support) by Friday, 27th June.

**Summative Reports**
On Wednesday June 25th this semester’s summative reports of student progress will be sent home. We hope that parents gain a fuller understanding of their child’s progress and importantly their effort and attitude. I thank the teachers for their professionalism and considerable time that is invested in this part of the Learning and Teaching cycle for our students.

Mick Kelleher
Suggested Opportunity for St. Martin’s to Assist Our Lady of Graces Parish

The following is a proposal for consideration by the Parents and Friend’s Group of St. Martin’s in conjunction with the school.

Many families are connected with the parish and assist with Planned Giving or as they can. However many don’t have this connection and perhaps would appreciate the opportunity.

Proposal: The school has staple charities within our school fundraising calendar (This is managed by the APRE) and is part of social justice education. These currently are Caritas during Lent; St. Vincent de Paul at Christmas and soups in winter and Church Missions in Term 3.

With the need being identified ‘closer to home’ we could reassess this for the next few years and take Church Missions off the list and have an Our Lady of Graces Day in Term 3 where we raise funds for the parish. Some ideas include: Free Dress Crazy Hair; Day Disco; Cake Stall and Market.