

OUR LADY OF MT CARMEL

CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

BY PRAYER AND ACTION WE FOLLOW CHRIST



Norfolk St, Coorparoo, 4151 ph. (07) 3397 7125 fax: (07) 3847 2792 www.mtcarmelcoorparoo.qld.edu.au

7th March 2013

Dear Parents

Firstly I would like to thank all who were able to come along and support our swimmers at our Interhouse Swimming Carnival. The weather was kind to us allowing the carnival to go ahead. Congratulations to Ward (Blue) who were the champion team and MacKillop (Gold) who won the spirit trophy. Carnivals as such cannot happen without someone taking charge and I am most grateful to our PE teacher, Luke Thomson, for the wonderful job he did organising the carnival. Thanks also to all of the teachers and parents who contributed in many and varied ways to the success of the carnival. A highlight for me was the level of participation with all children, from our superfish to our least experienced swimmers all getting in the water and having a go. Well done.

Luke is also currently working in conjunction with a number of neighbouring Catholic Schools to organise a Gala Sports day in a few weeks. There is more information about this further into the newsletter.

Future Enrolments at Mt Carmel- Letter to Yr 3 & 4 families

It is around the end of Term 1 every year, at most inner Brisbane Catholic Primary Schools, that much angst is experienced as enrolment processes at schools such as Villanova, St Laurence's, All Hallows and other independent colleges commence. Each year this process brings with it a range of emotions that have a powerful influence on the environment at schools like Mt Carmel.

It is one of my goals as principal at Our Lady of Mt Carmel to try and re-establish a gender balance across our Yr. 5-7 upper primary classes. I am hopeful that by 2015, when Yr. 7 makes the move to secondary school, that we can establish a trend towards a healthier gender balance in the upper years. By reaching this balance our students will be able to further benefit from the great opportunities on offer at Mt Carmel.

Today I have sent a letter home to our Yr. 3 & 4 families in which I share some of my thoughts on why I would like families to consider keeping their children at Mt Carmel through to the end of their primary years. If you would like to read this letter and have not received a copy please feel free to send me an email and I will forward you a copy.

Federal Government Review of School Funding

Below I include a letter from Pam Betts, Brisbane Catholic Education's new Executive Director, in relation to the current developments in regards to the funding of Catholic Schools for your perusal.

The Federal Government is currently reviewing the way schools in Australia are funded (the Gonski Review). As part of this process a new funding model has been proposed, and this is now the subject of discussions between the Federal government and State governments, and the Catholic and Independent schooling sectors.

Details of the proposed funding model at this stage remain unknown, and so the funding Catholic school students might receive under any new model is very unclear. However, with a Federal election due later this year, and no new funding arrangements yet confirmed for 2014 and beyond, school funding will continue to be an important issue for all political parties and for public debate.

In the lead-up to the review process, Catholic school authorities asked the Federal Government for additional funding to close the funding gap between Catholic schools and government schools. On average, Catholic school students currently receive 20 per cent less government funding than if they attended government schools.

Catholic schools strive to keep fees as low as possible so that more families can choose a Catholic school for their children. Even when school fees paid by parents are included, Catholic schools, on average, operate with only about 90 per cent of the income of government schools. If Catholic school funding is frozen, reduced or fails to keep pace with government school funding, Catholic schools may be forced to increase their school fees. If fees go up, the extra cost may lead to parents taking their children out of Catholic schools, and in turn put further pressure on government schools and cost government more money. To make sure this does not happen, it is important that governments fund Catholic schools fairly into the future.

Catholic school authorities recognise the vital importance of this situation for families and will provide more information as it becomes available from the National Catholic Education Commission.

For further information on Catholic school funding please visit fundinginfo.catholic.edu.au or view a [video on Catholic school funding](#).

(CONTD.OVER)

Safety around our school.

Over the last few days I have received a number of reports in regards to dangerous practices in pick up areas around our school, particularly at pick up time in the afternoon. I am aware that our P&F President, Kim Broadfoot, has addressed this topic further into the newsletter and I fully support her. Coincidentally the topic of dangerous parking practices also received attention in Tuesday's Courier Mail with the Council reporting many complaints about poor driver behaviour. The council has announced it will be maintaining a presence around school zones. While Mt Carmel has not been identified as a school currently being targeted I am sure our time will come. In the meantime I would like all to again peruse the Safe Travel plan which is included as an attachment with today's newsletter. This plan was prepared by our P&F and delivered to all families at the start of the school year to help us ensure the safety of our children. Your cooperation with these guidelines will greatly contribute to the safety of all of our students. Thanks in anticipation of your cooperation.

Enrolments for Prep - 2014

We are now accepting enrolments for Prep for 2014. Enrolment forms can be downloaded from our website (www.mtcarmelcoorparoo.qld.edu.au) or collected from the office. Our enrolment policy can be viewed at our website. I would appreciate you drawing this information to the attention of any new families who may be interested in their children attending Mt Carmel next year. While siblings are given top priority for enrolment places it is very important that enrolment forms for 2014 are lodged as soon as possible. Enrolment interviews will commence early in Term 2.

Below are listed the relevant birth dates for 2014 - 2015 enrolments.

Children born	Eligible for Prep Year in
1 July, 2008 to 30 June, 2009	2014
1 July, 2009 to 30 June, 2010	2015

Have a great week. Go the Broncos and Reds over the weekend!

Peter Delaney

Principal
Our Lady of Mt Carmel Catholic Primary School
Coorparoo
<mailto:pdelaney@bne.catholic.edu.au>

CALENDAR

Thu Mar 14	Catholic Zone Swimming Carnival
Fri Mar 15	Walk for Water Day
Sun Mar 17	Family Mass 5.30pm Church
Mar 18-20	Parent/Teacher Interviews
Thu 21 Mar	P & F Meeting 7.30pm Staffroom
Fri Mar 22	Invitational Disco Yrs 5/6/7
Sat Mar 23	Mt Carmel Mother's Lunch
Thu Mar 28	Cross Country 9am/Whole school Mass 2pm
Thu Mar 28	Last day Term 1
Fri Mar 29	Good Friday
Mon Apr 15	School Resumes Term 2

FROM OUR ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL - ADMINISTRATION

PARENT TEACHER INTERVIEWS:

Interview times for teachers to be available to parents have now been entered into PTO (Parent Teacher Online). The site goes **"live" to parents this Thursday 7th March at 12.00pm.**

You can click on the PTO icon on the school website and you will be directed to enter your email address (the same one you use for school fees). Once you send this address your 5 digit code will be sent to you. You can then go ahead and book interviews with your children's teachers.

You will not be able to book interviews after 12.00pm next Friday 15th March. If you have any difficulties please contact the school office.

Tony Shaw

DATE CLAIMER:

**Mt Carmel School Dinner Dance
will be held on
Saturday 26th October 2013**

News from the Assistant Principal Religious Education

Lenten Reflection

Last Sunday's gospel from Luke describes a fig tree that's been planted in a vineyard. The owner of the tree wants to chop down the tree because it fails to produce fruit and it's taking up valuable space. The gardener suggests to the owner of the vineyard to give the tree one more year so that he can look after it, put manure around it and so on. In other words the gardener doesn't want to give up on the tree just yet. He believes that by nurturing it the tree might bear fruit. This parable highlights the importance of being fed and nurtured in order to grow and produce fruit. Earlier in the week I spoke to my year four class about how we are fed and nourished by others and how we can feed others through friendship, sharing, being a good listener etc. The fig tree is in an unusual location, the middle of a vineyard. However there is still an expectation that it will bear fruit. These words from the parable suggest to us that even though God has high expectations that each person will use her/his gifts for the betterment of others, God is also very patient with us. Like the fig tree, each of us is expected to 'bear fruit'. We can then ask ourselves; What kind of a 'fruit' do I produce? What are my gifts and talents? How can I use my gifts and talents to help others in need? It's good to examine some of these questions during the season of Lent.

Walk for Water

Just a reminder again about our Walk for Water Day next **Friday the 15th March**. Please note the amended timetable for the day below. Caritas has invited Mr Kevin Rudd our Federal Government member to join us on the day. He will do some walking with the children and then join our year seven leaders for morning tea in the hall. During this time our year sevens will conduct a Q and A session with Mr Rudd. Their questions will focus on Mr Rudd's direct experience with the work of Caritas internationally and some general leadership questions. This will be a very good experience for our year seven students.

Family Mass

It appears that a large number of families will be joining us for our first Family Mass for the year. Don't forget to send your Family mass note back to school so that we can organise enough food for the sausage sizzle after mass.

Kiss Photography

As a way of supporting Project Compassion, Margherita from Kiss photography is offering for a limited time a Family Portrait package worth \$485 for just \$80. Kissphotography is donating the entire \$80 to Caritas to help continue their great work. If you'd like to find out more please contact Margherita on **33551576**.

Thanks to Rotary Club, Stones Corner

Mr Russ Morgan and Mr Phil Gough from Rotary Club, Stones Corner joined us at our assembly on Monday afternoon to present us with a donation of \$5000 which was used to purchase special equipment for Jack Parry, one of our wonderful new prep students. This will help to make life a lot easier for Jack and as a school community we are incredibly grateful to the Rotary Club for their generosity and kindness.

If you're interested in finding out about the work of the Rotary Club or would like join please visit their web-site- <http://stonescorner.hanta.com.au>

Project Compassion boxes can be sent to the school office at any time before the Easter break.

Enjoy the rest of the week!

John Bates

Timetable for the Our Lady of Mt Carmel

Walk for Water Day Friday 15th March 2013

Preps and Yr.6	8.50 for a 9.00 start
Yr.3	9.35 for a 9.45 start
Yr.5	10.15 for an 10.20 start
Yr.2	10.55 for an 11.00 start
Yr. 1 and Yr.7	11.35 for a 11.40 start
Yr.4	12.15 for a 12.20 start

◇ **Please note that you are more than welcome to walk with your child's class.**

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

OUR LADY OF MT CARMEL SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM

FOR EUCHARIST AND CONFIRMATION 2013

For those of you who have enrolled your child in the Mt Carmel Parish based sacramental program with Confirmation and Eucharist to take place in second term this year (your child would have celebrated their reconciliation in November 2012) the date for the sacramental information evening is – Tuesday 12 March at 7.30pm in the School Hall.

At this meeting you will hear from Fr Jerome, receive all your preparation material for the sacraments and organise your groups, dates and times for the four mandatory preparation sessions.

For the sacrament of Confirmation the children are asked to wear a stole. This can be made at home and we can supply the sash and the red felt. The red felt is used to put your child's confirmation name and a symbol on the sash ie dove (a symbol sheet will be provided). It is not hard but it does take a little time. Or you can pay \$23 to have your sash personally embroidered by a private company in Holland Park.

Could you please think about what would suit your lifestyle and dare I say talents!! At the meeting on 12 March you can then come prepared to either collect a sash and a brochure on the company who will embroider the sash for you or you can take all the material to do it yourself at home. As the 'red felt' is very hard to obtain I wish to limit people taking it home and then not using it. Any questions please call Kate McGuckin in the Parish Office on 33971587 (Tues-Fri).

PARISH WORKING BEE – OUR LADY OF MT CARMEL SATURDAY 16 MARCH commencing 7.30am Volunteer sheet for this will be in the foyer of the Church from this weekend so please put your name down to help. Many hands make light work!

Congratulations to the following Mt Carmel students who in 2012 completed their Australian College of Music Speaking and Communicating exams. Special mention to Sophie Mednis who will be awarded a silver medal for coming second in the state and will receive it on the 16th March. The following received A+ to B gradings:

Elizabeth Aboud, Sarah Aboud, Tom Arnaud, Jonathan Alford, Edward Alford, Bereneice Bloder, Oliver Box, Eve Beconsall, Sophia Burns, Lydia Blunt, Audrey Blunt, Evelyn Blunt, Max Craig, Charlotte Craig, Nick Chay, Sophie Carroll, Gemma Cummins, Jimmy Collins, Eilish Chopra, Olivia Davidson, Audrey Davidson, Amelie Dang, Cassidy Elsey, Fergus Farrell, Liam Farrell, Lindsey Fletcher, Georgia Gunew, Anna Gunew, Charlotte Green, Gen Green, Georgia Ganim, Charlotte Green, Eva Garbati, James Grigson, Patrick Grigson, Aisling Hennessy, Connor Hennessy, James Horton, Nick Hartley, Sue-Jee Jeong, Siobhan Lyons, Pippy Murphy-Ward, Charlie McCahon, Hannah McCahon, Hannah Moran, Gabriella Nucifora, Sarah O'Bryan, Robbie O'Donnell, Juliette Parer, Hugo Panizza, James Panizza, Jessica Quinn, Tiana Rukavina, James Reid, Emma Reid, Charlie Seymour, Maddie Sakalariou, Tom Southwood, Lachlan Southwood, Elizabeth Shaju, Anna Shaju, Anastasia Tsockallos, Cameron Wallis, Tamara Wolf.

Chris Gordon-Brown

Student of the Week

Prep A Addison Yared

Prep A Rocco Faranda

Prep B Daniel O'Gorman

Prep B Bobby Vedelago

Prep C Mia Makras

Prep C Oliver Nasser

1A Katie McCosker

1B Alice Jensen

1C Patrick Hales

2A Charlie Kemp

2C Charlotte Everingham

3A Harper Tunney

3B Zachery Vedelago

3C Patrick Grigson

4A Matthew Ransom

4A Kiara Vedelago

4B Theodore Vu

5B Joshua Woodard

6B James Livingstone

7 Tamara Wolf

7 Maddy Kelley



3rd Week of Lent

(School week beginning 4th March)

Project Compassion, Week 3, brings you the story of Salma.

Expectant mothers in remote communities in Bangladesh used to live with constant worries during pregnancy, due to a lack of knowledge about the causes of illnesses and good nutrition. Newly-trained community midwives are enabling women like Salma to live a healthy pregnancy and look after their babies better.

Your donation to Project Compassion enables marginalised communities to access services that would otherwise be too remote or expensive for them to access.

www.caritas.org.au



Photo: Majed Chowdhury

Learning Centre Corner

I recently attended a professional development day which talked about the importance of oral language in the early years of our children's development. As parents and educators, we are becoming increasingly conscious of finding the best ways to approach the task of building this fundamental skill : "What is it?" "What do we do?" and "Where do we start?" are the common questions asked.

Oral Language plays an important role in the development of literacy skills. It is through talk that we build oral vocabulary; develop the ability to process and produce complex sentences and form the foundation blocks for reading and writing. Therefore, as parents, researchers recommend that we don't push our children to read too early but instead build strong oral language and the rest will follow. As parents, it is valuable to spend quality time talking with your our children. When we talk about what we have done on the weekend, talk about what happened in the book we have read or the movie we watched, or how we made something, we are using oral language skills including selecting vocabulary, forming sentences, organising and sequencing ideas so they flow.

When we talk about our experiences, in a sense we are 'telling a story'. Research has indicated that children who practise telling stories, including recounting, are more prepared for many of the literacy tasks in school. Building oral language skills can also enhance our listening skills which is the key to learning. When we converse with others, we are not only expressing our thoughts but we are training our brain to hold the information we hear in our memory and use that information to make a meaningful response.

As parents, probably one of the best things we can do for our children in their early years of life is talk to them.

Here are some tips that I am sure you will already be doing with your children:

- Talk with children about what they are doing /what you are doing.
- Tell stories about things from the past or an upcoming event.
- When talking to your child, don't use too many words or too few words. Just enough words so they keep up and understand.
- Respond and expand on your child's talk eg. If they say I like puppies, prompt them with more questions.
- Ask them to tell you a story about something of interest to them. Try to help them sequence their ideas so it becomes meaningful and flows well.
- Read to them often as this acts as a great stimulus for building vocabulary and conversations.
- Encourage them to make up games and be imaginative in their play.

Most of all enjoy your time talking and interacting with your children as this will form the solid foundations for future learning.

LEANNE CROFT AND KERRY KEARNS

Tuckshop News

Fri 8 Mar Ermana Garbati Lisa Kratzman Lisa Watson Shalini Matthews Mary Pappas

*Thu 14 Mar Janelle Tsockallos Paula Roberts Ornella Lazzarini **HELP NEEDED***

Fri 15 Mar Rachael Paterson Susan Gunew Tess Sherlock Joannah Ings Amanda Smith

*Thu 21 Mar Sonya Cotelli **HELP NEEDED***

*Fri 22 Mar Louise Weir Anita Marshall Sally Grigson Kate Solofa Melissa Young Maria McCosker Jackie Kerr
Catherine Parer Libby McGahon*

Please call Kelly on 3395 5236 if you cannot work on your rostered day.

P&F Update

New Library Space

In last week's newsletter, our librarian Tracey Halstead showcased the improvements to the outdoor space at the library. It looks so good I wish I was back in primary school so I could hang out there at lunchtime! The P&F was pleased to support this work, which was funded from commissions earned in 2012 – approximately \$1600 from the Commonwealth Bank, \$400 from Ezibooks (book covers) and \$200 from That's Mine name labels. Thank you to these businesses, the School Banking team of mothers, and all the families whose deposits or purchases have helped earn these commissions.

What started with the idea of an outdoor table soon grew into something infinitely more fun – thanks to Tammy Spiller, Jayne Preston and Tracy Laidlaw for their imagination, energy and hard work at realising this lovely project.

Class Co-ordinators

Thank you to Laura Palmer and Kate Thurecht for organising last week's Class Coordinators' Breakfast. It was great to see so many mothers and children enjoying the delicious food from Ashton & Old. The whole school benefits from the involvement of our coordinators and the breakfast is one way of acknowledging this. (Particular thanks to Bec Macpherson, Simone Vasiliou, Julianne Burke and Leisa Kratzmann who are each covering two classes.)

Prep A	Maria McCosker Louise Weir	3B	Orla Thompson Larissa Mar Fan
Prep B	Brianna Wall Rachel Dang Bec McPherson	3C	Paula Hoctor Julianne Burke
Prep C	Anita Marshall Sophie Hales Maria Becconsall	4A	Lisa Watson
1A	Maria McCosker Catherine Parer	4B	Sue Godwin Alison Burgess Leisa Kratzmann
1B	Clare Godwin Sweet McDonald	4C	Leisa Kratzmann Jane Read
1C	Kate Thurecht Libby McGahan	5A	Tess Sherlock Anne Moran
2A	Merrin Rains Dana McMahan	5B	Julianne Burke Jo Crowe
2B	Sharni Cotter Bec McPherson	6A	Sharon McCulloch Brianna Wall
2C	Rachael Patterson Simone Vasiliou	6B	Joanne Georgiou Simone Vasiliou
3A	Andrea Ibrahim Helen Polson	7A	Melissa Liddy (and others)

Change of date for March meeting

Please note that the March P&F meeting will now be held on **Thursday 21 March at 7.30pm** (this is a change from the original date of 14 March).

SAFETY ALERT - Dangerous driving in The Crescent

The Crescent entrance to the school seems to be getting busier and extra caution is needed so that everyone is safe.

Please do not drive into the dead-end section of the street beyond the Rossmore Avenue intersection near the school gate, either to park, or to turn around.

This is not a proper cul-de-sac so anyone driving down that section then needs to perform a U-turn in driveways in order to come out of the street. This involves driving across a footpath and reversing in an area that is crowded with people, including toddlers and pre-schoolers waiting on, or running along, the footpath. (It also places continual wear and tear on our neighbours' driveways, which – understandably - they don't like). It may not be illegal but is very dangerous, which is why we have designated this as a no-go zone for the school. Please do not give into the temptation, especially in the rain, of snagging a park right next to the school gate. It is important to also inform grandparents and other carers who may collect children from the school.

To assist reducing this risk, could we ask parents who wait to collect children at that entrance to avoid blocking the footpath, as children often dash around groups of parents and on to the street to get past.

Finally, there are too many people using the Rossmore Avenue/The Crescent corner as an informal drop off zone – either by stopping next to the yellow line, or even just stopping in the middle of the street to let children out. No matter how quickly your children are able to jump out, this is still unsafe - please park further down the street and let them walk a little bit further, or use the official drop-off zone in Norfolk Street.

RESOURCE CENTRE NEWS

The Outdoor Space photo slideshow

I have loaded some more photos of the new outdoor space, including some shots of children thoroughly enjoying the new area . It is on the Resource Centre Home page on the Mt Carmel web page or just click on this link:
<http://www.mtcarmelcoorparoo.qld.edu.au/resource-centre/Pages/default.aspx>.

Outdoor Space naming competition

Next week, all students will be given details of the competition to name the outdoor space when they come up to the Resource Centre. The winner will receive a book prize pack and a private outdoor space lunchtime popcorn party for their class.

More boxes!

Poor Mrs Allan! We just get the mystery outdoor space boxes cleared and another mountain of boxes has arrived! However this is an exciting arrival because these are all of the resources that we have received through your participation in the Woolworths Earn and Learn promotion last year. I can't even remember exactly what is in them but I will give a bit of a breakdown when they have been opened and distributed.

Thank you to everyone who collected stickers – I am sure that the students will be thrilled with the new resources.



World Read-Aloud Day (March 6) –

We celebrated World Read Aloud day on Wednesday with a read aloud session at lunchtime.

Why not have your own read aloud time at home with your children. Here is an interesting excerpt from an article by Jennifer Bryan on why reading aloud to children is so important. The focus of this article is young children, but children of any age enjoy a read aloud story:

In an era of high-stakes testing and education reforms and revolutions, research has repeatedly proved that one simple parenting technique is among the most effective. Children who are read aloud to by parents get a head start in language and literacy skills and go to school better prepared.

“Reading aloud to young children, particularly in an engaging manner, promotes emerging literacy and language development and supports the relationship between child and parent,” concludes a review in

this month's Archives of Disease in Childhood.

In other words, reading that bedtime story may not only entertain and soothe Johnny, it may also develop his vocabulary, improve his ability to learn to read, and - perhaps most important - foster a lifelong love of books and reading.

Developing that passion for reading is crucial, according to [Jim Trelease](#), author of the best-seller, “The Read-Aloud Handbook.” “Every time we read to a child, we're sending a ‘pleasure’ message to the child's brain,” he writes in the “Handbook.”

“You could even call it a commercial, conditioning the child to associate books and print with pleasure.”: <http://www.washingtontimes.com/news/2008/sep/16/benefits-of-reading-aloud/#ixzz2Mhyps4bB>

Outside School Hours Care

We offer some suggestions and children can choose to participate or be involved in other tasks:

Monday Pom- poms, Uno game, Poppa's pizza topple, Colour creations, Jelly spike ball games Active after school sport, Baseball.

Tuesday Dream catcher activity, Connect four, Weaving art and craft, Skipping with a partner, Tiger feet, Hand ball.

Wednesday Flower shapes , Freeze frame, Stained glass pictures, Sea mobiles fun, Bee net paddle ball, Scoop ball.

Thursday Pipe cleaner craft, Heads down thumbs up, Bumper stencil set, Mosaic pieces pattern, Hockey activity, Rhythm ribbons.

Friday Fantastic shaped bead board, Simon say's, Fabulous paper planes, Word find activity, Hula hoops, Hit and catch, Soccer games.

P: 07 3847 9585 F: 07 3847 9858 Norfolk Street, COORPAROO 4151

INTERNET BANKING DETAILS : BSB 064-786 Account# 310861800 Account name: OSHC Mt.Carmel Reference No: Child's full name

Before school capped at 15 /After school capped at 30 PARENTS NOTE: Please come and see Grace personally about casual bookings.

Permanent bookings are charged on being ABSENT or in ATTENDANCE.

SPORT NEWS

Swimming Carnival

Our swimming carnival took place last Friday at the Griffith university pool. This year every student was required to swim with a number of students participating in events in the trainer pool with others raced in the 25m pool. It was great to see so many students getting in and having a go, especially many of the year 3 students who participated for the first time. Blue house won the overall trophy with the following students winning age champion medals:

2005: Lucy Hales Alex Kerr
2004: Lizzy Bryant Nicholas Green
2003: Bronte Job Max Craig
2002: Charlotte Green Jordan Curd
2001: Eloise Reick James Livingstone
2000: Ruby-Leigh O'Brien

Thank you to all of the staff who helped out on the day and to those parents who also volunteered to assist so that the carnival ran smoothly.

Swimming news

We recently had four students take place in the Met East swimming trials at Chandler after being selected in the Lytton team three weeks ago. Bronte Job gained selection in the Met East team and will now progress to the state titles to swim for selection in the QLD swimming team. We wish her well in all events at this meet.

The zone swimming carnival is on Thursday the 14th March at Chandler. I will be posting the team in the next few days and sending letters home with those swimmers who have been selected.

Netball

Congratulations to Hannah Johnson, Ellie Ryan and Maria Georgiou who were all selected in the under 11 Lytton Netball team. It is a very competitive trial process and the girls were selected in the team after roughly 60-70 girls trialled.

Cross Country

We will begin cross country training next week on Monday and Thursday mornings at 7.50am. This training is open to all students with the aim of gaining some fitness and improvement in the lead-up to the school XC on the last day of the term. After Easter, training will be restricted to those students who are in the squad as they look to train toward the carnivals later in that term.

DRAMA NEWS

We have had a great start to the year in Drama. All classes have been developing skills in Improvisation, Movement and Mime. We have also been focusing on developing listening, concentration, communication and co-operative skills through a variety of drama games and activities.

Now for some exciting news in the Performing Arts Area!!!!

Due to the timetabling this year, Preps to Year 2 have an extra Music and Drama lesson scheduled this year. So, we have decided to incorporate a **new developmental creative dance programme** during our extra Drama and Music lessons on Friday mornings for the Preps to Year 2. I

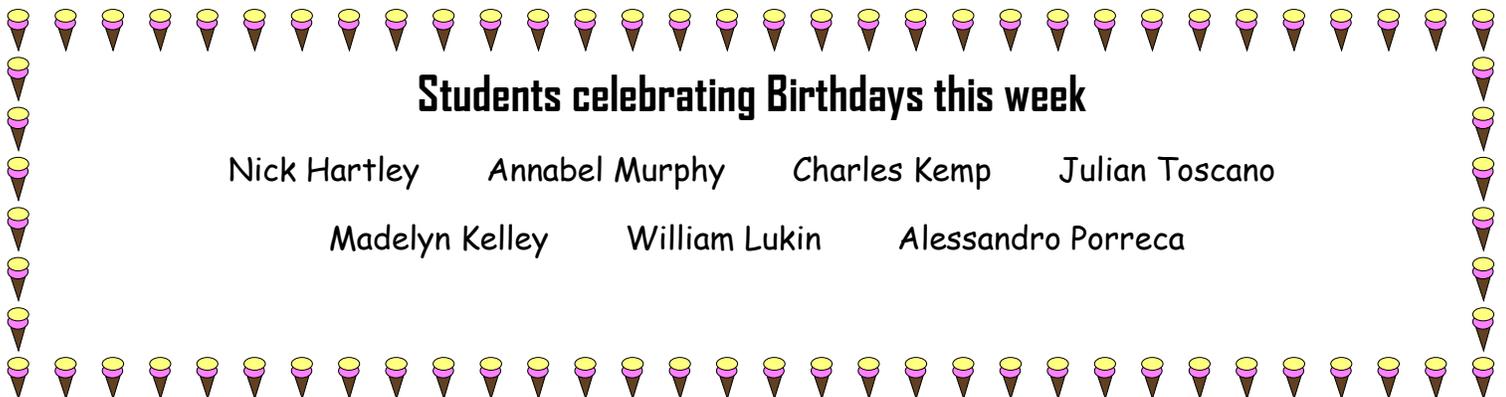
We are a few weeks into the creative dance programme and enthusiasm abounds. It is a fresh, fun and easy programme that develops skills in, and understanding of the elements of dance: **Action, Space, Time, Energy and Form**. The students are experiencing performing, creating and responding to the Arts.

I'm sure you have heard your child singing and moving to "Twinkle, Twinkle, Rock Guitar" already this term. Perhaps by next term we will be ready to invite the parents to come and watch our 'creative dancing'.

I will let you know the date early next term.

Many thanks,

Bernadette Egan.



Students celebrating Birthdays this week

Nick Hartley Annabel Murphy Charles Kemp Julian Toscano
Madelyn Kelley William Lukin Alessandro Porreca

Mt Carmel Mothers' Lunch

SATURDAY, 23 MARCH 2013

Come to the Mt Carmel Mothers' Lunch and you could leave with champagne, beauty products, gift vouchers and more!

Congratulations to Sarah Prestridge who bought her ticket to this year's lunch early and won a bottle of Veuve Clicquot champagne in return.

If you haven't bought your ticket yet, please do so soon so we can get a better idea of final numbers for the day. To RSVP simply complete the form attached to this week's newsletter and return to the school office with your payment (thanks to Gail and Briha for your ongoing assistance which is much appreciated).

This year's lunch will be held at the 1920s French-inspired Martini Room at the Story Bridge Hotel. The ticket price of \$45 includes fine finger food, a glass of bubbly on arrival, the chance to win a lucky door prize – and an opportunity to catch up with other Mt Carmel Mums. New Mums are especially welcome and past Mums are invited back too.

Raffle tickets will be available to purchase on the day and funds raised will support the activities of the Mt Carmel Mothers' Club including assisting Mt Carmel families in need and the ongoing sponsorship of Fernando Gusmao ('Nando') at St Maria High School Ainaro, Timor-Leste. A big thank you to those who have kindly donated prizes including:

- A beauty treatment from Renew Relax Maintain (thanks to Fiona Corkill)
- 2 x bottles of Mumm Champagne (thanks to the Nucifora and Sherlock families)
- 2 x \$100 Westfield gift vouchers (thanks to HKS Financial Planning)
- 2 x Sing's Asian Kitchen Coorparoo vouchers
- A \$250 skincare gift basket (thanks to Cath McCahon)
- A voucher for a style cut and blow dry from Flavr Hair Studio
- Vouchers from Kylie Ryan, Flute, Chris' Supa IGA
- A \$100 Hotel Grand Chancellor Brisbane Restaurant voucher (thanks to the Yared family)
- 2 x beach gift packs (thanks to Bev Walters Mobile Travel Agents MTA)
- A haircare pack (thanks to the Makras family)
- 3 x professional photo portrait vouchers from Deep Grey Photography
- A gift pack from the Go Vita Health Food Store, Chermside (thanks to Leah Peck)
- A gourmet gift pack (thanks to the Ings family)

A Glasshouse candle/soap gift pack (thanks to the Tunney family)

Raffle prize donations are still welcome! If you can help, please contact Susie Gunew (0418 151 117 or mgunew@optusnet.com.au) or Maria White (0400 264 116 or blairandmaria@vpnsol.com.au).

Chess News

Congratulations to all the students who entered the Somerville House chess tournament last weekend 3rd March 2013.

They were very happy children as they took home Merit Awards. Great team work!



LETTER FROM MR THOMSON

7th March 2013

Dear Parents

On Thursday the 21st March Our Lady of Mt Carmel students from years 4 to 7 will be participating in a gala sports day with four other local Catholic primary schools. It is our aim that students will be able to experience fun, social sports played inclusively against like-minded students.

As this is our first gala day, sports are designed to be inclusive and open to all players. Teams will all be of mixed ability and where possible mixed. No competition ladders will be recorded and no results kept. The aim of the day is to (be):

1. Inclusive for all students
2. Open to all students
3. Encourage social interaction
4. Provide an opportunity for all students to represent their school
5. Have fun

The two sports are 'zone based' sports where every student will rotate through each zone providing them with a varied experience of all position on the field/court.

There will be two sports for students to choose from, with both games containing only basic rules to allow students to pick them up easily. The first is 9-a-side Australian Rules and the second is modified Korfbal (inclusive zoned netball style game). Both sports are open to both boys and girls, however the Australian Rules will be played separately, while the Korfbal will be mixed. In the next few days students will be asked to choose which activity they would like to participate in on the day and while I do aim to include everyone in their first choice sport, some may miss out if numbers dictate.

Any parents who are able to help out on the day would be greatly appreciated, as it would allow us to place one adult per team.

If you have any questions regarding this day please feel free to contact me at school or if you are keen to help out please do likewise.

With thanks

Luke Thomson



MT CARMEL MOTHERS LUNCH

SATURDAY 23RD MARCH

12 NOON TO 5PM

THE MARTINI ROOM, STORY BRIDGE HOTEL

Don't miss the most anticipated social event on a Mt Carmel Mum's calendar.
Delegate your regular Saturday afternoon commitments and take some time out for you!

This year's lunch will be a cocktail-style affair featuring fine food and an array of great raffle prizes
- plus live music in the 1920s French-inspired Martini Room.

The lunch provides an opportunity to catch up with Mums from all year levels.
New mums are especially welcome!! Past Mums are welcome back too.

Cost: \$45 per person
Includes fine finger food and a glass of bubbly on arrival.
Beverages can be purchased from the bar.

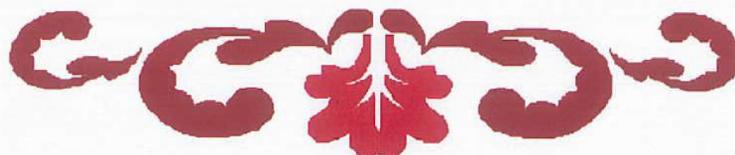
RSVP: By Friday 15th March 2013

Please complete the attached slip and hand it into the office with your payment in an envelope.
Payment can be made by cash or cheque (cheques made payable to the Mt Carmel P&F).

Funds raised help support Mt Carmel families in need and the ongoing sponsorship of Fernando Gusmao "Nando" of Timor-Leste.

We have proudly supported Nando for the past 6 Years.

If you can help with raffle prizes for the day, please contact Susan Gunew (0418151117 or mgunew@optusnet.com.au)
OR Maria White (0400264116 or blairandmaria@vpnsol.com.au)



MT CARMEL MOTHERS LUNCH RSVP
12 NOON TO 5PM, SATURDAY 23rd MARCH 2013

NAME _____
NAME OF ELDEST CHILD AND CLASS _____
DIETARY REQUIREMENTS _____
PAYMENT METHOD _____