Dear Parents,

Today is Ash Wednesday and this morning we held our Liturgy in the Hall. As in previous years, we were joined by the staff and children from Christ the King as well as many of our parishioners. It was, as always, a prayerful occasion and a fitting start to Lent. Thanks to our APREs – Mr Malone and Mr Marsh, our musicians, Father Gerry and all the staff and children for the preparation that made this liturgy so prayerful and meaningful.

Last night we held our first School Board meeting for the 2012 school year. We welcome new members to the board: Ann Fitzpatrick (Clare - Yr 3 ), Berend Lockefeer (Elke - Yr3 and Lotte - Yr 5 ), Simon Hewlett-Smith (Harry - Prep) and Huong Dinh (An Nguyen). Bronwyn Clark (Greta - Yr 6 ), Damian Mohr (Toby - Yr 3) and Fiona Enevoldsen (staff rep) will continue as members and Bronwyn will continue as Chair.

Our Parents and Friends Association also met last night. The planning for the Welcome Dance is, of course, well under way. Our Year 7 children will be busy putting together 400 lolly bags for sale on the night and they will also staff the lolly stall during the evening. We do however, 

need volunteers to help set up and to volunteer to help with the Jumping Castle on the night. If you are able to give us a little time, please contact the Office. Thank you. Remember:

DATE – FRIDAY 24 FEBRUARY
TIME – 6.00P.M. – 8.00P.M.

This is one of our most enjoyable events!

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Staff have been very busy with professional development recently:

Yesterday, two of our teachers attended a workshop focussing on teaching children with hearing impairments. Yesterday afternoon all staff attended a workshop on Student Protection. This keeps us up to date with mandatory reporting requirements as laid out in legislation with regards to children suspected of being abused or at risk of harm. It also reminds us of some of the indications that a child might exhibit which might be cause for concern.

This afternoon two of our teachers will be attending a workshop from 3.00p.m. to 5.00p.m. on Active Supervision. The information and ideas gained from this will feed into our School Wide Positive Behaviour plan which we started last year.

Our teachers new to the Brisbane Catholic Education system attended an induction day at the O’Shea Centre at Wilston. I was privileged to be able to join them after school for their Commissioning Ceremony.

We have also held a number of days we call ‘Focus Days’ where teachers have a chance to meet with Miss Godfrey and Miss Coleman (Support Teacher and Guidance Counsellor) about any children for whom we
might have a concern. Sometimes these concerns are addressed easily - perhaps by a short term intervention or by discussion about strategies that are effective – and at other times the plan may be more long term. These days are very beneficial for both teachers and students.

YEAR 7 RETREAT
Next Monday our Year 7 children will have their Leadership Retreat here in the Hall. This day is led by members of the National Evangelisation Team (NET). This is another way for our children to bond as a leadership group in this early part of the year. As Christ the King has only a few Year 7 children, they have been invited to join our children for the day. I’m sure the group will learn a great deal which will contribute to their own personal development as well as to the growth of the group.

Please note that there will be no Assembly next week because of the Retreat.

I look forward to seeing you all on Friday night.

God Bless,
Maryanne Riley  PRINCIPAL

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION IN FOCUS:
FROM THE APRE
ASH WEDNESDAY REFLECTION
22 February
Matthew 6:1-6. 16-21

Today’s Gospel calls us to the three great opportunities for renewal and enrichment during the season of Lent.
Prayer – strengthening the connection with God and the whole human family
Fasting – making individual sacrifices and turning away from selfish concerns
Giving – offering something of ourselves or giving material help, with a focus on others, including those we will never see.

Project Compassion extends these opportunities - inviting us to work for justice through prayer, selflessness and generosity. During Lent, we will share six stories of positive partnerships between communities and those who support them. Together they are working towards a world where there is justice for all.

Lent is about transformation. Working for justice is about transformation.
It is about personal transformation, as we move outside our individual concerns towards selflessness and care for others.
It is about transforming the ways we relate to others – building right relationships between God’s people.
It is the way to transform the world into one that God would want to see - a world of peace.

As Pope Paul VI said, “Peace is not merely an absence of war ... it is ... an enterprise of justice.”

If we want peace, we must work for justice.

Ash Wednesday 22nd February

This week the season of Lent begins with Ash Wednesday, which also marks the beginning of the annual Caritas Australia Project Compassion appeal. Donations to Project Compassion allow Caritas Australia, the Catholic Agency for International Aid and Development, to work with local communities around the world to alleviate poverty, hunger, oppression and injustice. Each class has been given a Project Compassion box for their donations, or if you would prefer to handle the donation yourselves, you can donate online via the website at www.caritas.org.au

Please put your compassion into action this Lent by supporting the Project Compassion 2012 appeal.

Bryan Malone - APRE

DATE CLAIMERS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Welcome Dance</td>
<td>24/02</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Board/P &amp; F Meeting</td>
<td>20/03</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Last day of Term 1</td>
<td>30/03</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Easter Sunday</td>
<td>08/04</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School resumes for Term 2</td>
<td>16/04</td>
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</tbody>
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TUCKSHOP

Wednesday 29/2: Siby Thomas; Jenny Crowhurst; Nicola Hewlett-Smith. Cake Roster: Jenny Crowhurst; Tanya Oghanna.
Friday 02/03: Malene Bentzen; Claire Neumann; Catherine Medhurst. Cake Roster: Simone Purdy; Michelle Shearer.

SPORTS NEWS: Any girls who were born in 2000 or 2001 (11/12yrs) who currently play and are skilled at Netball and would like to trial for the West Taylor Bridge Netball team, please come and see Mrs Stevenson in 6/7 Green by next Monday 27th February for further details. The trials will be held from 3:30-5pm at Graceville on Friday 2nd March. If selected for a further trial, your child will need to return on the 9th March at the same time.

A big CONGRATUALTIONS to Emelia Conaghan in year 3 who represented our school at the West Taylor Bridge District swimming trials last Thursday. Emelia came 2nd in her 50m Freestyle event and 3rd in her 50m Breastroke event. Well done Emelia!!!

St Joseph’s Netball club is looking for players. If you are interested in joining a team please contact Bob on 0412879637. Any girls turning 8 and above this year are eligible to play.

Deanery Youth Mass: 5.30pm Sunday 4th March 2012 at Our Lady of the Rosary Church, 1 Kenmore Rd, Kenmore. Followed by Pizza and Youth Night with Guest Speakers and Question and Answer time. Evening finishes at 8.00pm. For more info or to join youth choir and musician group please contact Michael Doherty on 0409 235 480

TRIPLE P have a useful website for parents of children who suffer from anxiety regarding bad weather. It has a free tip sheet and 14 minute video for parents. [www.experiment.psy.uq.edu.au/prepqld/preparing.html](http://www.experiment.psy.uq.edu.au/prepqld/preparing.html)

The office has some second-hand St Lawrence’s uniforms available, various sizes. Please call the school for further details.

If anyone has any second-hand girls uniforms for sale (in smaller sizes) please call Leanne 0411 484 230.

Lost and Found: A swimming bag was picked up by accident at tennis Monday 13th February. If you have a bag of girls togs, goggles, and a towel that don’t belong to you could you please return it to the office.

WE CARE PAMPER DAY INVITATION: To all women in the suburbs from Chelmer to Rocklea and across Fairfield and Yeronga areas who have been affected by the floods of early 2011. Date – Sat 10th March; Time – 1.30pm to 4.00pm; Venue – St David’s Anglican Church Hall, Chelmer; RSVP – for catering purposes, please contact Barbara Leis on 3300 2495 or 0407 174 013. This is a free event with a special afternoon tea and pampering with beauty treatments.

PARK PLAY REMINDER: Join us after drop-off at George Scarlett Park (cnr Cliveden Ave and Pratten St Corinda) every 2nd and 4th Monday of the month. Everyone is welcome. Look forward to seeing you Monday. Any queries call Anne Juillerat 3278 2575 or 0412 336 820.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Corinda Graceville Catholic Parish</th>
<th>Weekend Mass Times</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Saturday 6pm – St Joseph’s Corinda</td>
<td>Sunday 8am – St Joseph’s Corinda</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sunday 9.30am – Christ the King Graceville</td>
<td>Sunday 6pm – Christ the King Graceville</td>
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