Dear Parents and Carers,

What a wonderful launch to our Book Week on Monday. The Year 7 students began the celebration of Reading by showing us their dance moves. Oh how talented are our students. The week continues with a large number of activities for all of the school. A huge thank you to Claire-Louise Perrers and Cheryle McMahon for all of their work.

Today I am visiting the Catholic Primary School at Murgon as a member of a School Renewal panel. All schools are regularly visited as part of our Renewal program. I am privileged to be a member of the panel and I look forward to learning new ideas from another school community.

On Monday morning we congratulated Mrs Alish Conley on her appointment as Assistant to the Principal (Religious Education) at Southern Cross College (Kippa-ring campus) as from the beginning of the 2013 school year. We wish Alish every success for her new appointment.

We have been advised that NAPLAN material will soon begin flowing to schools. There will be a national response later this week (Friday) but we will need to check all of the material before sending it home. If we have problems with the results of individual students we can ask to have it checked. It is my intention to send results home to all families towards the end of the first week of next term (Thursday 11th October).

Third term is rapidly drawing to an end. Students will break for the September/October holiday break on Friday 21st September (3.00pm finish) and return on Monday 8th October. Please note that there will be a pupil-free day on Monday 22nd October (in the third week).

Have a great week.

God Bless.

Jeff Hall
Principal
Reflection on Sunday’s Gospel  (Mark 7:31-37)

The Gospel reading from Sunday we know very well. A deaf man is brought to Jesus who put his finger in the deaf man’s ears and then spitting, touched his tongue, and praying looked up to heaven and said “Be opened” and immediately the man’s ears were opened and his tongue was loosed.

Those who are profoundly deaf frequently find themselves on the edge of human and earth communities. Without access to birdsong, to spoken discourse, to the vast range of media communication, they often struggle to understand and to be understood. Their capacity to communicate their deepest wisdom, their hopes and dreams, their anxieties and fears, is limited not only by personal disability but also by the incomprehension of others. In our contemporary technological world, sophisticated hearing devices and cochlear implants transform the lives of many who previously suffered from serious hearing loss and its social consequences. These devices bring insertion into the life of family and community and workplace. It opens up new horizons and unimagined possibilities.

In first century Palestine, the chances of relief from hearing deficiency and associated speech impairment were minimal. Desperate people put their faith in folk healers who used their healing hands and drew upon their knowledge of the medicinal properties in certain herbs and other plants. It seems clear that Jesus was known as an effective healer and that he used some of the same methods as other healers of his time.

We are told in Mark what followed the healing:”Jesus ordered them not to tell anyone. But the more he ordered them not to, the more they proclaimed it. The word the author of this gospel used is proclaimed which carries with it the notion of a public announcement. The deaf man proclaimed the good news of his healing. The result of his healing was his announcing of good news. To announce the good news, to proclaim the mighty works of God, one must first of all hear and then proclaim. All of us baptised and confirmed have the vocation to proclaim the good news, the mighty works of God. This vocation demands then of all the baptised and confirmed that our ears be opened and our tongue loosed if we are to fulfill the vocation which we have accepted through baptism and confirmation.

The fact is that often in life we are unable to fulfill the vocation of proclaiming the mighty works of God and we are unable to fulfill this vocation because our ears are blocked because of the sounds and voices in the modern world, sounds and voices which distract us from being aware of the mighty works of God being realised under our very noses; voices and sounds which call us to live lives totally different to what God’s asking of us. When this happens it is impossible for us to proclaim anything; our tongues are indeed impeded. Our minds transmit nothing to our tongues and our lives do not allow us to speak with authenticity about God. Our tongues are only loosed when we are aware of God’s mighty works and our lives are in accord with God’s desires.

All powerful and ever-loving God, we thank you for having for the persons who touched our ears and loosed out tongues. They have enabled us to proclaim your mighty works. Help us Father to never let the voices of the world overwhelm us so that they cloud our hearing and impede our speech, so that proclaiming your mighty works in this life we may praise and glorify you forever in heaven. Amen

(Reflection extract: Catholic Commission for Social Justice & Year of Grace Website)

2012 Inter-School Disc Golf Tournament

Year 7 students from Pine Rivers district primary schools were invited to take part in the 12th annual Disc Golf Tournament. Disc Golf is already well established in the United States, Japan and Europe. It has featured on Brisbane Extra as well as Totally Wild and is a game that all ages and skill levels can enjoy. It is played the same way as golf with a tee for the first shot and a pole hole with a basket instead of a hole in the ground. It is played with a disc similar to a Frisbee.

At assembly this week Councillor Mick Gillam presented Madeline Sarri with a trophy and cheque for $50. Madeline was the winning girl on tournament day. Congratulations Madeline.
WOOLWORTHS SHOP FOR YOUR SCHOOL
We have received notification that our final tally was an amazing 69 830 points! Our school library ladies can now have a fun time exchanging these points for wonderful resources for your children to use. Thank you to everyone who supported this event 😊

ASSEMBLY AWARDS
Congratulations to the students who will receive an award at next Monday’s Assembly:
Prep Mind: Gaby F and Xavier W
1 Mind: James J.
2 Spirit: Jancy
3 Heart: Georgia E.
3 Spirit: Beau M., Ruby Mc., Oliver M.
4 Mind: Casey A.
5 Heart: Braiden
5 Mind: Christian

FATHER / CHILD CAMP
October 25th – 28th.
95% of attendees for the 2011 camp are coming back this year! Your family is invited to come along. On arrival we will have a free sausage sizzle and drinks and lots of activities for kids and dads alike. If you wish to do your own thing there is a pool, tennis court and sports oval. The cost for all meals, activities and two nights’ accommodation is $75.00 for children and $90.00 for adults. All registrations and payments can be made through the school office. For more information please phone John on 0410 594 625.

INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC
Congratulations to Max Smith 3H for the most improved drum roll this week! A reminder that next week is a make-up week for all instrumentals music students. Mrs Frith

UNIFORM STORE
SALE - SECOND HAND UNIFORMS - FOR NEXT TWO WEEKS - Boys Second hand formal shorts $5 - All other items $5 off the marked price.

YE HA! MUSICAL DVD
The Musical DVD is now available to order. Cost is $10 per disk. Both shows will be on the disk and you are able to order as many copies as you like.

Orders close Thursday 13th September and all money must be at the office by 3.00pm. Delivery will be by 21st September.

The Disk is being formatted by a professional company and we are only able to make one bulk order. If you want a DVD please email Sue York madjiji@bigpond.com so that we can make sure you receive a copy.

P & F HAPPENINGS

BOOK FAIR
Book Fair is open every morning and afternoon up to and including next Tuesday 18th September – 8.00am – 9.00am and 2.00pm – 3.15pm. Today it is open 2.00pm – 4.30pm. It is located in the room next to the old uniform shop in D block.
Thank you for your support so far! There are great books for sale and we look forward to seeing you there!
**TUCK SHOP NEWS**

Hi all,
Next week we will be giving out the new menu for the summer term. This week is your last chance to get those ideas in.
Just drop in to the tuckshop.
Reminder: Vouchers are to be used by next week please.

**Roster:**
Fri 14/9    Jennifer, Penny, help please (B) Linda
Mon 17/9    Julia (B) Jane, Paula
Wed 19/9    Gail, Amanda (B) Gail
Thur 20/9   Lauryn
Fri 21/9    Stephanie, Tracey, Raelleen, (B) Tracey

Have a great week and remember: A hug is like a boomerang - you get it back right away:
Keep smiling, Sharyn ☺

**SPORTS NEWS**

Holy Spirit School competed at the Zone 6 Athletics Carnival last Thursday. All the students enjoyed themselves competing against and being with other students from Catholic schools in our area. There were some very good individual performances on the day, with quite a few students making the top 4 in their events. Joshua Smith set two new records for 8 years boys, 8.99 seconds in the 60m sprint and 3.85 metres in long jump. What was the most pleasing was the way the students conducted themselves during the day by encouraging and supporting their teammates and other competitors. Well Done All!!

**SCHOOL BANKING**

This week our school banking is back to Thursday and all deposits will be processed and returned to class teachers Thursday afternoon.
Remember each time you make a deposit you will receive a token and when you have ten tokens they can be redeemed for some great rewards.

We have been advised that there are some great new rewards being released in February 2013 so keep collecting your tokens by making regular deposits.

NEXT WEEK will be our DOUBLE DOLLARMITE DAY!
Deposit $5 or more to your School Banking Account and you will receive double tokens.
Available for deposits received only Thursday 20th September.

**NEWS FROM THE ARTS PRECINCT**

---Christmas in the Park---

Something very exciting is coming up for the Holy Spirit Dance Team! It's beginning to look a lot like Christmas!

I have been involved in these Carols for several years now, and have now been asked to co-ordinate some of this year’s ‘Christmas in the Park’ entertainment! Very exciting indeed.

The free family event is a huge community event funded by the Government and Sponsors. On Saturday 24th November, starting at 5pm, the Pine Rivers Park becomes a flurry of stalls, activities and entertainment.

Along with many local talents, our Holy Spirit Dance Team will be performing for the many thousands of people who attend.

Permission forms have been sent home. All forms must be returned by the end of this week. The Dance Team is for years 2-7. As this is such a large event, a commitment is required from all involved. There will be a couple of
outside school hours practices when the time is closer. This is such a wonderful opportunity to show case our talented students and I hope you all save the date in your diaries to attend this year's Christmas in the park. With such an event, there comes costumes. I need a couple of mums/grandmas/volunteers to make some costumes for us please. If you can assist, please leave a message for me at the office or email kwhittington@bne.catholic.edu.au.

Yours in Drama & Dance. Kym Whittington

CARNIVAL NEWS

CAKE AND SWEETS STALL
Thank you to those parents who have donated ingredients. Anyone willing to bake or make sweets please don't hesitate to contact me (Jennifer 3285 5544) and I will supply you with the ingredients we have available. Homemade jams and chutneyes are always sought after at our stall so if you have a talent for jam making your goods will be most welcome. Thank you Raeleen and Jennifer.

ADULT BOTTLE STALL
Last week we asked for alcohol for the Adult Bottle Store. A huge THANKS to those of you who donated last week. Congratulations to Year 6H - your donations were very generous! You are last week’s winners! Very well done!!

We are still EXTREMELY short on bottles. In order to make this a success we have decided to ask for only alcohol in the remainder two weeks of “Bring Weeks”. We understand it’s a big ask, but if everyone donated just one item our costs would be lessened immensely.

We will be at the pickup and drop off zone between 8.10am and 8.40am, Thursday and Friday this week and next week, for those of you who would like to deliver to us there without leaving your car. You can also deliver to the office at any time. Please DO NOT send any alcohol to your child's classroom! And do not forget to label with your child's class!

TRASH AND TREASURE/ PRE LOVED CLOTHING AND BOOKS
Final Call, the last day for collection will be Friday September 21st. Please drop off at the Parish Garage, between 8.35am - 9.15am or Monday between 8.35am - 9.15am or by appointment.
Please no electrical items.
Karen Davenport will pick up book donations if required. Please call 3882 4149.
For more information for Trash and Treasure, please call: Corina Todd 0418 700 624
For more information for Pre-loved clothing, please call: Rosey Bonser 0416 795 244

ARMBANDS
On sale next week and first week back at school, outside the office, between 8.00am - 9.00am Monday to Friday. Also money can be dropped into office or after school care.
$25 for Children of the school and Parish
$5 for meal deal: Hotdog, Python Snake and drink
$30 outside school
$15 for toddler arm bands, parents ride free

RAFFLE TICKETS
Please return your tickets and payment to office by this Friday 14th September. All lost tickets will require a stat dec. Please help us by selling all your tickets! Additional tickets are available from the school office if you are able to sell more 😊

COMMUNITY NEWS

GIVE LOVE and GET ART - Art Exhibition
Sunday 16 September 2012
2.00pm – 5.00pm
Duhig Hall, Lourdes Hill College
86 Hawthorne Road, Hawthorne
Cost: $10
20% of proceeds will be donated to Caritas.
QUEEN OF APOSTLES PRIMARY SCHOOL'S
50TH JUBILEE
Sunday 16th September 10.00am – 3.00pm
Thuruna St Campus, Stafford
Rides, BBQ and beer garden, International food, cakes, sweets, books, plants, raffles, high tea, Memorabilia, student performances. All welcome