The Stella Star

Term 1 Week 9

Dear Parents and Caregivers
Over the holidays I watched the movie,
'Lincoln' based on the life of the great
American president. The movie covers the
period of his life towards the end of the Civil War,
and highlights Lincoln's absolute single-mindedness
in ensuring the passing of the 13th Amendment to the
Constitution which abolished slavery.

The portrayal of Abraham Lincoln by the marvellous actor, Daniel Day-Lewis, provides a fascinating insight into the wisdom, commitment, humility, perseverance and humanity of the man. One could easily think that this was someone born into privilege and accustomed to the exercise of power, but this is, in fact, far from the case. Consider this brief synopsis of Lincoln's life journey:

Lincoln was born into poverty in 1809. In 1816, his family was forced out of their home and he had to go to work to help support them. In 1818, aged 9, his mother died. In 1831, Lincoln failed in business.

In 1832, he ran for the Illinois House of Representatives and lost. He also lost his job. Later that same year, he applied to law school, but his application was rejected.

In 1833, Lincoln borrowed money from a friend to begin a business, but by the end of the year he was bankrupt and he spent the next 17 years repaying the debt.

In 1834, he ran for state legislature again and lost. In 1835, Lincoln's fiancée died and it broke his heart. The following year he suffered a total nervous breakdown and was confined to bed for six months.

In 1838, he sought to become Speaker of the state legislature and was defeated.

In 1840, he sought to become elector and was defeated. In 1843, he ran for Congress and lost. In 1846, he ran again; this time he won and finally made his way to Washington. In 1848, Lincoln ran for re-election to Congress and lost. In 1849, he sought the job of land officer but was rejected. In 1854, he ran for the Senate of the United States and lost. In 1856, he sought the vice presidential nomination at his party's national convention. He got fewer than one hundred votes and lost.

In 1858, he ran for the United States Senate again and lost again.

Then, in 1860, at the age of 51, Lincoln decided to run for president ...and won and went on to become one of the greatest presidents in the history of the United States and one of the finest models of a leader in modern times.

Commenting upon his life history, Lincoln said, "The path was worn and slippery. My foot slipped from under me, knocking the other out of the way, but I recovered and said to myself. 'It's a slip and not a fall.' "

Lincoln certainly had a lot of 'slips' in his life leading to the presidency; so many disappointments, in fact, one would wonder how he could have entertained the notion of running for the office of president of the United States. We would probably find it easier to understand if, with confidence lost, Lincoln had given up in defeat. All I can think is that here was a man who knew his true self; he did not measure his worth against the things of this world.

17 April 2013

Living from one's true self, rather than one's ego-driven self, is explained thus, by Father Richard Rohr, "... you have become God's full work of art, love is now stronger than death and Christ is surely risen in you." This is the resurrection to which each of us is called.

We, like Lincoln, can use our knocks, failures and shortcomings to lead us into the larger life and love of God which connects us with everything and everyone. In this sense, our difficulties make us more understanding of self and others and open us to wisdom beyond our own.

Lincoln allowed every roadblock, every heartache, every setback to construct a core of love and compassion, of perseverance, courage, integrity and patience, and self-understanding. We all love the beauty of a diamond, but we forget the time and pressure it took to make it. Yes, we mightn't like it, but without the test of tough times and our loving response to these, we will not know the brilliance and strength of our true selves.

As the Easter season continues, we are reminded that this is Jesus's story. At some stage, of course, each of us is confronted by the choice, 'Will the tough times fire and polish me, make me stronger and more fully human or will I quit, blame and complain or turn to bitterness, self-pity or despair?' We each make the choice and God is always there for us and ready to use our mistakes, our pain and hurt to draw us closer to him/her.

Have a great week everyone. Welcome back. **Glenda**

Timberrrr - You may have noticed that we have lost a couple of trees from the centre of the ring-road. One of the huge trees was uprooted due to its water-logged surrounds and came crashing onto the car-park. How fortunate that it was holidays without the usual cars and people! Following advice received, two other trees, whose situations were similarly precarious, have been felled. It is always sad to lose these wonderful trees but, in all things, safety comes first.

It's a Girl - Over the holidays, Denise Heffernan delivered a beautiful baby girl named Chiara. Congratulations to Denise and husband, Anthony on the birth of their second child and a sister for Mitchell.

Welcome - We welcome Mrs Natalie Edwards who is filling Denise's maternity leave vacancy. Natalie will work with Beth Kipping for the remainder of the school year. Welcome also to Colleen Tonkes who replaces Joan Jenkins in the library while Joan is on Long Service Leave. Allison Brown is back for the next two terms running the Fast ForWord program and Raquelle Viera returns working with some of our young ones. We also welcome Leigh Abrahams who is working with Year 5.

Car Park Space Raffle - Congratulations to the Seeta family who won the car park raffle recently conducted by the P&F. Thank you to all those who bought tickets. The parking bay closest to the large tree on the footpath near the Year 4-7 pick-up zone is the space designated for use by the winning family. During drop-off and pick-up times this parking bay is exclusively for use by the Seetas. Until marking is finalised, a large witch's hat will be placed in this spot as a reminder not to use this park. For school events (eg SOS Concert in May), outside the usual drop-off and pick-up times, the Seetas will let me know if they have need for the spot. If the family is not attending then the place will be available for general use. Thanks everyone for your assistance in making this work.

Traffic Calmers - Parents you will remember expression of interest was called for anyone willing to help out with the safe and efficient running of drop-off and pick-up. A big thank you to a small group of Mums and Dads who have volunteered and attended a briefing session in readiness to start this week. The volunteers can be recognised by the fluoro yellow vests and lanyard identification tag they will be wearing. We thank you in advance for your cooperation with these generous volunteers. Motivation is quite simply the safety of your children and all those who frequent Stella Maris and the smooth and efficient running of the whole system of movement within school grounds. If you would like to join the traffic calming group, give your name and best contact number to office staff, and I will be in touch. Thanks again to all helpers.



SOS (Stars On Staff)
CONCERT UPDATE
THURSDAY MAY 2 6.30PM
SCHOOL HALL

- in aid of flood affected St. Joseph's School in Gayndah

TICKET ORDER FORMS AND DETAILS GO HOME TODAY IN THE NEWSLETTER – Purchase your tickets early to avoid

disappointment. Seating is limited.

PIZZA, SNACKS and DRINKS CAN BE PURCHASED BEFORE THE SHOW —For catering purposes please indicate on the ticket order from the number of people requiring food

SEND ALL TICKET ORDER FORMS TO THE SCHOOL OFFICE ALL SOS RAFFLE DONATIONS CAN BE SENT TO THE OFFICE MARKED – SOS BU NEILL

Some more of the fabulous entertainment on offer:

A Quintet of Stella Maris' talented instrumental tutors perform two snazzy numbers

A group of Stella Maris' most melodic voices sing a beautiful Irish ballad

African Drummers – feel the rhythm, and be AMAZED by the hats

Peta Neill, Todd Wynyard &Inez Durrer





APRE News

Dear Parents/Caregivers,

The Virtue for this fortnight is Honour, chosen so that the community may better focus on the ANZAC day celebrations next Thursday, 25th April to honour the Australian and New Zealand Army Corp who fought on the shores of ANZAC Cove in Turkey during the First Word War, many of



whom lost their lives or were wounded in battle. More information about our participation as a school in the ANZAC Commemoration at Cotton Tree next week.

As I write this, the news is carrying the reports of several bomb blasts which exploded near the finish line of the Boston Marathon this morning, killing two people and injuring at least 23 others in a terrifying scene. A third bomb exploded in the John F. Kennedy Library several kilometres away more than an hour later (http://www.cp24.com). In today's society, the characteristics of Honour need to be understood so that terrorist actions can be put in their proper perspective so that we can deal with it rationally and name it for what it is, rather than cause fear and hatred.

Honour is deep respect for what we know is right and true and involves living up to the virtues of our character. We honour our abilities by using them for a meaningful purpose, rather than to hurt others through neglect or unconscionable violence. Honour is appreciation in action. We honour others when we treat them with the dignity they deserve, even if we disagree with their philosophies. We act with integrity. Not to be admired but because it is the right thing to do. When we do things we are ashamed of, we restore our honour by taking responsibility and making amends.

In the practice of Honour:

I live by my principles;

I cultivate the virtues and talents I have been given;

I treat all others and myself with dignity and respect;

I am trustworthy in keeping my agreements;

I strive for impeccable integrity;

I do what I think is right no matter what.

I am sure that we all want our children to grow into honourable people who care for the rights of others just as much as their own. It is through developing these characteristics in distressing situations and giving good example in the way we speak and deal with difficult issues that the children will get the best that we have to offer in dealing with violence and aggression with dignity and respect.

God bless Judith.

Worldwide Marriage Encounter:

A weekend away for married couples in peaceful, picturesque surroundings – away from the distractions of everyday living. Take time out of your busy schedule, to invest in your most precious asset . . . your Marriage! This is a unique opportunity to recharge your relationship batteries, refocus on each other and fall in love all over again!

Weekend date: 24 - 26 May 2013 Venue: Santa Teresa, Ormiston QLD

For bookings/details contact: Tamara and Scott Menteith, ph (07) 4634 3559, stjmen@aapt.net.au Information website: www.wwme.org.au

National volunteers week 2013

An invitation from Fiona Simpson MP:

"In celebration of National Volunteers Week 2013, I am joining with Volunteering Sunshine Coast to recognise the valuable work of volunteers in our not for profit groups on the Sunshine Coast."

What: National Volunteer Week Celebration

When: Friday 17 May

Time: From 11.00am to 1.00pm

Where: Cotton Tree Park (Rotary BBQ area, opposite Second Avenue)

RSVP: by 10 May to Maroochydore@parliament.gld.gov.au



~ St. Augustine of Hippo ~

TIP OF THE WEEK - Ask your family (or friends and relatives) to sit down during the week and you can play a mini concert for them. This can include your favorite pieces. Be sure to perform with good posture, clearly introduce the pieces you are playing and most importantly - take a bow at the end!!

CONGRATULATIONS to our Term 1 Music Award winners (names are shown elsewhere in the newsletter)! Certificates will be presented at assembly on Thursday this week. Awards are nominated in each year level for classroom music and by each tutor and for each choral group.

CHOIR REMINDERS - Students in Piccolo Choir, Stella Fellas, and SM Singers are reminded to return their choir commitment form ASAP. Extra forms are available from Mrs Durrer.

TEN FACTS ABOUT SCHOOL MUSIC - Continuing from last term, the following is the sixth fact about music education.

6. Playing music improves concentration, memory, and ability to express feelings

A 2001 study in Switzerland involving more than 1200 children found that, when 3 other curriculum classes were replaced with music classes, young children made more rapid developments in speech and learned to read easier. They also learned to like each other more, were less stressed, and enjoyed school more.

INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC NEWS - Lesson timetables have been emailed to all enrolled families. If you did not receive yours, please email us at StellaMarisMusic@bne.catholic.edu.au and we will get it to you ASAP. Timetables are also shown on the music noticeboard. All ensemble sessions will also commence as usual this week and parent support to ensure students are present and prepared is always very much appreciated. If you need to contact your child's tutor, details are shown on the top left corner of the lesson timetable.

If you have gueries regarding anything musical – please feel free to catch up with us before or after school, by contacting us in writing or via email.

Inez Durrer Classroom Music Specialist idurrer@bne.catholic.edu.au

Todd Wynyard

Instrumental Music Coordinator twynyard@bne.catholic.edu.au

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Tamsin Linnett, Wahida Kelm, Sienna Coghlan, Alec Franklin, Cooper MacMinn, Rachel Edbrooke, Hollie Nichols, Liam Parker, Bella Laurie, Connor Brunswick, Gabrielle Brown, Bianca Peters, Enya McNabb, Savannah Maas, Joseph Taylor, Tahlia O'Rourke, Ethan Sinclair, Rachel Edbrooke, Sophie Crowe, Elly Scanlon, Nathan Linnett, Lily D'Souza.

AFFIC CONTROLL

	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Monday	Tuesday
	April 17	April 18	April 19	April 22	April 23
AM	M Austin	V Jones M Lennon	L Abrahams	D Faux	D Faux
PM			M Austin	N Hughes B Johansen	D Faux

April 18	ANZAC DAY Assembly /S	chool Board
Anril 25	ΔΝΙΖΔC Day Procession a	t Cotton Tree

April 26 Stella Maris Cross Country

May 2 Stars on Staff Concert Fundraiser for Gayndah

May 14 P & F Meeting 6.30p.m. in the staffroom June 11 P & F Meeting 6.30p.m. in the staffroom

June 18 Year 6's to visit Siena June 21 Last Day Term 2 July 8 1st Day Term 3 July 25 Grandparent's Day

Congratulations to Lachlan (7B) and Thomas (5A) McClure who competed

at the State Swimming Titles in Brisbane on the 24-26

March. Thomas has been selected for Nationals in Adelaide in September.

GREAT EFFORT BOYS AND GOOD LUCK TO THOMAS!

Congratulations to **Madison Edgerton** on her selection in the Coastal District Girls Soccer team to compete at the Regional Carnival in May. **WELL DONE MADISON!**

STELLA MARIS CROSS COUNTRY CARNIVAL 2013 Friday 26th of April week 2 of term 2

Students born in 2001, 2002 and 2003 (turning 10, 11 or 12) who wish to trial for District Cross Country MUST nominate in PE THIS WEEK and complete the longer qualifying course. All other students are to run with their year level. Students aged 13yrs may choose to run the longer course and compete for a place ribbon and extra points or run with their Year Level for 1 point.

9.00am - 11 & 12 Yrs Boys & Girls start. - District Trial

9.15am - 10 Yrs Boys & Girls start - District Trial

9.25am - Yr 7 Boys & Girls start.

9.35am - Yr 6 Boys & Girls start.

9.45am - Yr 5 Boys & Girls start.

9.50am - Yr 4 Boys start.

9.55am - Yr 4 Girls start.

10.00am - Yr 3 Boys start.

10.05am - Yr 3 Girls start.

10.10am - Yr 2 Boys start.

10.15am - Yr 2 Girls start.

10.20am - Yr 1 Boys start.

10.25am - Yr 1 Girls start.

10.30am - Prep Boys start.

10.35am - Prep Girls start.

All students need:

· School hat

Sports uniform

Running shoes

(change back into school shoes after race)

Water bottle

· Sunscreen applied before school

· Asthma puffer – if required.

Regards,

S Mann

Mr Jones - PE Teacher



NEW MENU PRICES APPLY

Thank you to Emily Ryan for being so honest.

Wed 17/04	Thurs 18/04	Fri 19/04	Mon 25/04	Tues 26/04
A Fais	M Austin	L Corcoran L Wallace J MacMillan	J Reginato	H Cruise

Ingredients Rost

Week Ending 19 April - L Wallace, L Wiseman, M Austin, S Kelm, M Champron, M Hunter, M MacDonald, M Murray, M White, N Burrows, N Edwards, N McMinn, N Michael, N Pace, N Parkinson-Hubbard, O Robbins, P Siddans, P Vontas, R Brady, R O'Donohue, S Hattingh,

Powerful Parenting: Building Relationships and Instilling Confidence Part 2

Get Involved in Schoolwork

When you are involved in your children's schooling, it gives the message that school is important and that you value this significant part of their lives. It also helps children achieve higher grades, finish more homework, and have better attendance, behavior, and attitudes. Here are some ways to be involved:

- Ask your children about their day. Use open-ended questions: "What was the most fun thing about school today?"
- Communicate frequently with your children's teachers about your children's progress and how to help them out at home.
- ♦ Be aware of your children's homework. Set a time and place for them to do it. Be around to answer questions, but do not do the homework for them.
- Attend school activities as often as possible.

Teach Social Skills

Model and teach your children social-emotional skills. These are skills people use to deal with their feelings and dilemmas and to interact with others. Social-emotional skills include the following:

- Empathy, which is knowing one's own feelings and being able to recognize and respond sensitively to others' feelings.
- Emotion management, which is managing strong feelings such as anxiety, frustration, and anger before they become overwhelming.
- Problem solving and decision making, including conflict resolution.

Many of the parenting skills outlined in this article can help you model and teach social-emotional skills:

- By listening to your children and respecting their feelings, you model and teach empathy.
- By responding to misbehavior with caring, thoughtful, and consistent consequences, you model emotion management and problem solving
- By giving children choices, you give them opportunities to practise decision making.
- As you talk through plans and problems at dinner, you model and teach problem solving, decision making, and conflict resolution.
- By reading with your child and talking about the stories, you provide opportunities to learn about empathy, emotion management, and problem solving.

As a parent you have power: power to influence, model, and listen, and power to connect with and love each of your children. By using your power in positive and thoughtful ways, you can provide a measure of protection for your children.

Christine Craig (Guidance Counsellor) email:ccraig@bne.catholic.edu.au

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