Dear Parents and Caregivers

‘Gratitude unlocks the fullness of life. It turns what we have into enough, and more. It turns denial into acceptance, chaos into order, confusion into clarity…It turns problems into gifts, failures into success, the unexpected into perfect timing, and mistakes into important events. Gratitude makes sense of our past, brings peace for today and creates a vision for tomorrow.’

This quote by Melody Beattie reminds us, as did 3B on assembly last Thursday, that the cultivation of a grateful heart shapes a life-giving response to participation in the world. The absence of gratitude sees us narrowly self-focussed and often unappreciative of the blessings in the everyday.

So, it is with a very grateful heart that I thank Natalie Jarrott, Kellie Elder and the whole team who, so successfully, pulled the Friendship Fair together this year. Natalie and Kellie’s calm assurance, fuss-free organisation and substantial belief in the support of the Stella Maris community, set the scene for the tremendous success of the day. They even managed to organise perfect weather – how’s that for impressive influence? Thanks Natalie and Kellie for making time in your very busy lives to keep the Stella Maris tradition of a great community day alive and well!

Further to this and for fear of missing anyone out, I will simply add - thank you one and all – to everyone who entertained, organised, convened, donated, baked, served, compered, cooked, sewed, delivered, planned, designed, printed, sold tickets, set-up, cleaned-up, welcomed, smiled, volunteered, transported, counted, liaised and attended. Thank you! At a time when school communities are opting to replace time- and energy-intensive events such as the Fair with parent levies, it is a testament to the commitment, generosity and energy of some, and the support of many that we still manage this annual community-building event.

Have a great week everyone. Glenda

Acting Principal and Acting APA - As you know I am taking Renewal Leave for seven school weeks from Friday 23 August, returning to school on Monday 28 October. During this time, Terry Grogan will assume the Acting Principalship and Luke Parnemann will take Terry’s APA position. We wish Luke well for his time as part of the Administration Team. We will shortly appoint a replacement for Luke.

St John’s Interviews for Current Year 6 Students - Parents, please be aware that St John’s has offered to interview Stella Maris Year 6 students seeking enrolment for 2015 in the week starting 19 August to 4 September as our Year 6’s are on camp during the designated week.
Congratulations to all the students who entered the MLTAQ 2013 Italian Door Hanger Competition.

I am so proud to report the outstanding results from our Stella Maris entrants. All entries were creative, original, reflected quality of presentation and recognized how talented our students are. The following students gained recognition:

Year 5/6 - Highly Commended, Zoe Hunter
Year 6 - 1st Lucy Tait
            3rd Bella Blunt
Year 7 - 2nd Sophia Cruise
            3rd Cartia Thompson
            Highly Commended, Makayla Cook.

Students had to design a door hanger to describe whose room it was, in Italian, which reflected the theme of friendship.

Ancora, ben fatto a tutti- Again well done everyone.

Carmel Barbagallo
Italian Language Teacher

Italian MLTAQ 2013 Italian Door Hanger Competition

Congratulations to the children who are celebrating their Confirmation and First Communion this weekend. Our prayers and thoughts are with you and your family as you take this very important step in your lives.

Next program dates:
The Parent Information Evening (Compulsory)
Monday 19 August
Meeting held at Stella Maris Church, Baden Powell St Maroochydore. One or both parents must attend this session. Children do not attend. The family proceeds to the next stage only after parents have attended.

Preparation for First Reconciliation
This has to be completed before the child progresses to Confirmation and First Holy Communion.
October 14  5.30PM Stella Maris, 7.15pm St Catherine
October 15  6.00pm Stella Maris
October 16  5.30pm St Catherine

Confirmation and First Holy Communion
Session 1 - Sunday 27 October 1.30 - 4.30pm
at Stella Maris School Assembly Hall
Session 2 - Wednesday 6 November 6.00 - 8.00pm
venue to be determined
Sacrament of Confirmation - Friday 8 November
Place of Confirmation to be announced
First Holy Communion - Sat 9 & Sun 10 November
at whichever Parish Mass is elected by the family

Dear Parents,
Everyone is faithful to something or someone. The question is, to what or to whom are we faithful? Are we faithful to ourselves? Are we faithful to our feelings? Are we faithful to our friends? Are we faithful to God? Faithfulness is being loyal to our beliefs, remaining firm and steadfast regardless of what happens. With people we love, we are abiding and trustworthy.

Jesus’ example of love and commitment to his Father (Abba) in heaven and to the Spirit within that guided him, is testament to Jesus’ faithfulness and life giving sacrifice.

Through the changes and tests of time, faithfulness is a sign of lasting love. When our faith is tested, we stay strong and learn from the experience. We do our work with meticulous care and excellence, faithful to its true intent. What mother has not experienced being tested when after many sleepless nights, she faithfully gets up to feed/comfort her new born baby or sick child. They, in turn, trust that she will not abandon them nor violate the sacred trust between them.

Be faithful till death and I will give you the crown of life (Revelation 2:10)

The Practice of Faithfulness:
➢ I am committed to my beliefs;
➢ I seek the lessons in difficulties;
➢ I give my work the care it deserves;
➢ I stand by my friends and loved ones;
➢ I have abiding relationships; and
➢ I cherish my friendships.

At the beginning of this school year, students, with the help of their teachers, prepared their class vision statements and celebrated their commitment to it with parents, staff and admin, within the context of a covenant liturgy. In working with the young children, the focus is on helping them to identify examples of those things worth striving for, understanding that faithfulness is the way that we carry out commitments, and applying faithfulness to daily life in relationship with others. At this time of the school year, students can feel confident if they have kept their agreements about shared values and behaviour. As we contemplate the virtue of Faithfulness for the next fortnight, let us ponder the source of love that is bestowed on us that gives us the strength and courage to face each new challenge and helps us to grow stronger in negotiating decisions in life.

God bless, Judith.

YEAR 6 PARENTS: MESSAGE FROM ST JOHNS COLLEGE
Due to the Year 6 Camp at the end of the month, St John’s have extended their Enrolment Interview times for Year 6 students (who will be enrolling for 2015) from 19/8/2013 – 4/09/2013.

Father’s Day Stall
A Father’s Day Stall will be held outside the Uniform Shop from 8a.m. until bell time from Monday, 26 Aug.— Friday, 30 Aug.

DATES TO REMEMBER
19 -23 August - Book Week
20-22 August - Author Visit in Library for Years 3-7
23rd August - Book Week Parade in Hall for Prep - yr. 4 Friday 9am

From the Library desk
**QUOTE OF THE WEEK**

“When I was a teenager, I began to settle into school because I’d discovered the extracurricular activities that interested me: music and theatre.” ~ Morgan Freeman

**TIP OF THE WEEK** - Encourage and support your child to listen to artists who play their instrument. This can include good recordings and better still, go to a live concert!!

**ENSEMBLE NEWS** - Congratulations and thank you to the Stella Fellas and Stella Maris Singers who performed at the Stella Maris Fair. You performed beautifully and worked very hard to entertain family and friends. Thank you also to Ms Worthy for accompanying both choirs.

Please note the date change for Piccolo Choir and Strings to perform on Assembly. These groups will NOT be performing this week, but will instead, perform next week, August 15th.

**DATE CLAIMERS**

- Piccolo Choir and Strings on Assembly - Thursday 15 August
- Queensland Catholic Schools Music Festival - Friday 16 August
- Stella Spotlight - Wednesday 16 October

The Sunshine Coast Junior Eisteddfod is well under way and we are beginning to hear of many wonderful results. Please remember to email Mrs Durrer with your results so they can be published in the newsletter next month.

Remember, if you need to contact your child’s tutor, details are shown on the top left corner of the lesson timetable. If you have queries regarding anything musical – please feel free to catch up with us before or after school, by contacting us in writing or via email.

Musically Yours,

Inez Durrer    Todd Wynyard

Classroom Music Specialist    Instrumental Music Coordinator
durrer@bne.catholic.edu.au    twynyard@bne.catholic.edu.au

**STELLA’S GOT TALENT**

**THANKYOU TO ALL COMPETITORS.**

A big thank you to all the students who committed so much time, energy and enthusiasm to the 2013 STELLA'S GOT TALENT competition. Thanks to all the staff who supported the event, and to the teachers and parents who were judges.

The 8 year level finalists who competed on Sunday were: Katrina Penman (prep) Stefan Smith (yr2) Zoe Hunter & Sarah Baillie (yr5) Laura Magao & Sophia Cruise (yr7)

These students gave outstanding performances at the Fair to an appreciative crowd.

The results were very close.

**Junior Idol Winner 2013**

Ethan Vagg with his very confident poetry recitation of “Gentlemen, Ladies & Bald Headed Babies”.

**Senior Idol Winners 2013**

Laura Magao & Sophia Cruise who sang and danced (with an original choreography) to “Price Tag” by Jessie J.

Thanks to the P & F for providing engraved trophies for the winners. Sincere thanks to Olivia Robins (of XFactor fame) for providing each finalist with a signed copy of her latest CD as prizes.

**Principal’s Awards 01 August 2013**

Lucy Corcoran, Katrina Penman, Bailin Dougherty, Matilda Austin, Summer Van Der Helm, Toby Wills, Abbey Lumsden, Savana Da Silva, Hugo Furniss, Poppy-Mae Clegg, Georgia Sealey, Daragh Goergen, Makedde Cranley, James Reid, Ethan O’Donnell, Campbell Gigney, Kaiden Smale, Jorja Spivey, Ella Cook, Jessie Lane, Jada Cleary, Daniel Johnson, Hudson Mills, Phoebe Broderick, Aleesha Caruana, Daniel England, Damian Collins.

**AssistSafety App** helps children learn protective behaviours. Using a hand IAssistSafety allows a child to identify 5 adults whom they could ask for help if feeling unsafe. The hand assists children to remember their safe people. These 5 adults will help the child to be safe if they are scared, worried, sad or just need help. This App helps to give your child a voice in keeping themselves safe.

Available in Google Play or the Apple Store.
Dear Mum & Dad,

Don’t spoil me. I know quite well that I ought not to have all I ask for - I’m only testing you.
Don’t be afraid to be firm with me. I prefer it. It makes me feel secure.
Don’t let me form bad habits. I have to rely on you to detect them in the early stages.
Don’t make me feel smaller than I am. It only makes me behave stupidly “big”.
Don’t correct me in front of people if you can help it.
Don’t make me feel that my mistakes are sins. It upsets my sense of values.
Don’t protect me from consequences. I need to learn the painful way sometimes.
Don’t be too upset when I say, “I hate you”. It isn’t you I hate but your power to thwart me.
Don’t take too much notice of my small ailments. Sometimes they get me the attention I need.
Don’t nag. If you do, I’ll have to protect myself by appearing deaf.
Don’t forget that I cannot explain myself as well as I’d like. That is why I’m not always accurate.
Don’t put me off when I ask questions. If you do, you will find that I stop asking and seek information elsewhere.
Don’t be inconsistent. That confuses me and makes me lose faith in you.
Don’t tell me my fears are silly. They are real to me, and you can do much to reassure me if you try to understand.
Don’t ever suggest you are perfect or infallible. It hurts and disappoints me when I learn that you are neither.
Don’t ever think that it is beneath your dignity to apologize to me. An honest apology makes me feel surprisingly warm towards you.
Don’t forget that I love experimenting. I couldn’t get along without it; so please put up with it, within limits.
Don’t forget how quickly I am growing up. It must be very difficult for you to keep pace with me, but please do try.
Don’t forget that I don’t thrive without lots of love and understanding.
Please keep yourself safe, fit, and healthy. I need you and I love you.

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

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