Dear Parents and Caregivers,

Less than a week to go to the Fair and hopefully dry weather will see us through until Monday at least! I do wish Natalie and all her helpers well this week as the lead-up preparations move into overdrive. I also urge you all to help out as you are able as the old saying, ‘Many hands make light work,’ certainly proves true at Fair time. If you can help with set-up on Saturday, or work on one of the stalls between 10am and 3pm on the day or give a hand with clean-up and pack-up on Sunday afternoon, your helpfulness will be greatly appreciated and will go a long way towards making the day a great success in terms of supporting and building community. The other urgency is donations for the stalls—sweets, cakes, plants, books ...

Yes, it’s been a week of events! Tuesday’s Welcome Morning Tea was a relaxed affair. Our new parents were very friendly and I thank our existing parents for making them welcome. A big thank you also to the Year 7 students from three of the committees for proving to be exceptional tour guides. Our new parents were very complimentary of their knowledge of the school, their enthusiasm and pride and their confidence — and I think the students enjoyed the important work they undertook as well. I said to them afterwards that Stella Maris does not advertise in any way; we believe our staff, parents and students are our greatest and most effective advertisements and last Tuesday our students were walking, talking billboards!

Grandparents’ Day on Thursday, yet again, proved to be a real highlight of the school calendar. What a pleasure and privilege it was to speak to so many interesting and interested visitors who came from near and far to be here for their grandchildren. I know that many more would have loved to have joined us and were there in spirit. Of course, many people contributed to the success of the day and none more so than Luke Parnemann. I thank Luke profusely for his leadership and organisation in pulling the event together so well and for the gentle spirit of the day. Certainly the video of student responses to various questions about their grandparents provided some entertaining moments. Thank you to Todd Wynyard and the Concert Band, Inez Durrer and Carolyn Worthy and the Piccolo Choir.

Rob Burr and the Percussion Ensemble, the Prep teachers, school officers and all the Prep students. Thanks also to students who had major speaking roles and the Year 7 teachers and students for bringing great dignity to the Irish Blessing at the conclusion of the ceremony and for making sure that visitors found the right classrooms. Feedback from grandparents was very positive and appreciative.

Thank you to Kellie Eva and helpers for their efficiency and generosity in serving morning tea and to Jenny Day for making the memento for grandparents to take home as a reminder of the day. Thanks to office staff for their assistance in multiple ways and to Allan and Ivan for having the grounds looking a picture in the sunshine. And to all staff and students who welcomed grandparents into their classrooms – thank you! A memorable day everyone – thank you one and all!

One of my favourite images of the day was arriving in the Year 1 quadrangle to find two boys from 1C, standing on the seating under one of the shelters, necks arched and eyes intent upon the pathway that leads from the Hall. When I asked what they were doing they replied, ‘We’re waiting for our grandparents!’ They were very excited – and impatient – for their arrival and it took quite some convincing on my part to get them to return to their classroom with assurances that their grandparents would find them soon. I guess that’s why the day is so special.

See you all at the Fair. Have a great week everyone.

Glenda

THIS SUNDAY!
10.00am - 3.00pm
URGENT! Your donations coming in every day this week.
PLANTS - CLOTHES - BASKET ITEMS – BAKING - CENT RAFFLE ITEMS - SWEETS - etc.
RETURN YOUR RAFFLE TICKETS TO WIN AN IPOD TOUCH
ARMBANDS ON SALE EVERY DAY THIS WEEK
**STELLA’S GOT TALENT - NEWS FLASH!**

The Semi-finals for Years 4 – 7 were conducted last week, and the following students will battle it out on stage for the title of **STELLA MARIS SENIOR IDOL** at this Sunday’s Fair.

A panel of judges – teachers, school officers and music tutors allocated points for each performance, based on set criteria. Points were totalled – the winning act was the one which achieved the most points. All performers did a wonderful job, and the final results were very close. Congratulations to all performers for their enthusiasm, their talent and the spirit in which they competed.

The finalists are:
- Year 7 – Sophia Cruise & Laura Magao
- Year 6 – Baylee Hankin
- Year 5 – Zoe Hunter & Sarah Baillie
- Year 4 – Kaiden Smales

The Prep – Year 3 Semi-finals will be conducted this week, and the finalists will be announced on Thursday afternoon.

**PLEASE NOTE:** The 8 final acts will perform on stage at the Fair to determine the Stella Junior Idol & Stella Senior Idol winners.

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**Principal’s Awards**

01 August 2013


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**Rainbow’s**

**REMINDER**

MEET OUTSIDE THE LIBRARY AS USUAL FOR AFTERNOON TEA

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**LIBRARY NEWS**

**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

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**ABSENTEE LINE: 54098989**

All absentees to be notified by 9.30am

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Dear Parents/Caregivers,

I came across this blog about putting Wisdom, our Virtue of the Week, into practice as there is nothing as clear as hindsight (adapted from www.deeperfaith.com):

**Putting Wisdom into Practice:** “I have a confession to make: I spend large amounts of time thinking. Have you ever been asked what you would wish for if you could wish for anything in the world? That’s a difficult question! Imagine that pressure. I’ve thought about what I’d ask for, because (I know it's unlikely) what if someone did ask you that question and had the power to fulfill your requests and you didn’t have an answer ready? That would be terrible! Don’t worry, it doesn’t keep me up at night. I’m just saying, that’s a tough question. I think Solomon was wise to ask for wisdom when he had only one wish. What gets me is that even this man, which the Bible says was the wisest man who ever lived, struggled with the very issue we’re looking at today—that is actually putting wisdom into practice!

God gave Solomon a warning not to follow other gods. So, here’s this young king with all the wisdom in the world and he starts having to make decisions about running his kingdom. Economically, politically and militarily, it’s wise to make treaties with other nations around you for stability. Better yet, as a young man, you could marry the princesses of the nations around you, and that’s exactly what Solomon did. The thing is, we all come with baggage, right? And marrying a princess comes with a lot of baggage. Specifically, in this context, marrying a princess came with religious baggage. You can’t marry the princess and cart her off to a foreign land where she can’t worship her god, can you? Not to mention that, in this context, political, economic and militant success was dependent on it; so when you ally with a nation and marry the king’s daughter, you have to acknowledge their god at some level. And in the end, it was this that lead him astray to worship these other gods. In the eyes of the world, Solomon’s actions were brilliant, even wise, but in the evaluation by God, he fell significantly short of the potential his wisdom allotted him. If this issue was hard for him, it will be hard for us. Often we don’t like that, because sometimes we know what the wise thing is, and it takes some of the joy out of doing the unwise thing. So what do we say? “You’re probably right.”

“Aren’t you on a diet? I don’t think you should eat that chocolate fudge brownie.” “You’re probably right.”

“You’re going to go where with him? Or do what with her? Is anyone else going to be there? I don’t think you should do that.”

“You’re probably right, but I’m going to do it anyway.”

The Holy Spirit is whispering things to us, and we go, “You’re probably right”, but we keep on going anyway.

So while it’s really simple, it’s really hard to do. You can learn Wisdom from other’s mistakes, you can learn Wisdom from the Bible, you can even take time to learn Wisdom from your own personal experiences, but you have to actually put Wisdom into practice. We know what the wise thing is, we just don’t do it! But beating ourselves up about the past is only going to do so much. Here’s what I do know: God’s mercies are new every morning, and you still have time to make wise decisions. Imagine what that would look like! What if you did make wise decisions, not in every area of your life, but even in just one area? What’s one thing about you you’d like to change? You may already know how to change it, or you may know at least how to go about starting to change it. You can do it. You just have to pause and put your wisdom into practice, even if you don’t like doing it. The more you do that, the easier it will become”

God bless,

Judith.
**MUSIC NOTES**

**QUOTE OF THE WEEK**

“Being in a band is always a compromise. Provided that the balance is good, what you lose in compromise, you gain by collaboration.”

~ Mike Rutherford ~

**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 all of the students who performed for Grandparents’ Day. With such a large number of students involved, it was wonderful to see your focus during the celebration as well as hearing you perform in each of the ensembles.

Thank you to the students in the Concert Band, Percussion Ensemble, and Piccolo Choir. Thank you also to Mr Burr, Mrs Durrer, Mr Wynyard, and Ms Worthy for preparing the students for this performance and to the classroom teachers for their extra support and assistance. Well done everyone.

**Stella Fellas & SM Singers** are reminded that they will be performing this Sunday at the Fair. Students are asked to meet Mrs Durrer near the stage during the finals for ‘Stella’s Got Talent’.

**REMINDER**

Notes have gone home with all ensemble members who are participating in the Queensland Catholic Schools Music Festival in August 16th. Please ensure these are returned to school as soon as possible to finalise bus numbers.

**DATE CLAIMERS**

Stella Fair - **Saturday 4 August** - Stella Fellas and SM Singers
Piccolo Choir and Strings on Assembly - **Thursday 8 August**
Queensland Catholic Schools Music Festival - **Friday 16 August**
Piccolo Choir, Stella Fellas, SM Singers, Concert Band and String Ensemble
Stella Spotlight - **Wednesday 16 October** All Choral and Instrumental Ensembles

The Sunshine Coast Junior Eisteddfod began on Sunday and continues for about three weeks at various venues all over the Sunshine Coast providing performance opportunities for every imaginable performing arts discipline! Many individual students will be involved in solo and party items. If you are able to attend any events, you will be amazed at the talent on show. Parents are reminded that the cost to stage such an event is huge and many volunteers work tirelessly to provide these opportunities. A $5 entry fee is payable for each session you attend or you can purchase a season ticket for $25. Best wishes to all students who are entered and please email us with your results.

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

Todd Wynyard
Instrumental Music Coordinator
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**BUDERIM CRICKET CLUB – SIGN ON DAY**

**Sat 3rd August 10am-1pm & Sun 11th August 1pm-4pm**

Ballinger Sports Park, Cricket Nets Training Facility
Ballinger Road, Buderim
Junior and Senior players welcome

N.B. Due to W.H & S rules food cannot be sent in for warming/toasting. Now Available Gluten Free Chicken Nuggets 3 for $2.00
Get your Rides Armbands
Don’t forget to return your Multi-draw Raffle Tickets!