That I was able to be there with her. I had never looked more beautiful or more at peace and I felt thankful to put aside the belief that we see life as really is and that is all easy to be tricked into believing that the truth lies only in what the unseen, waiting for a little attention to be paid to its needs. It is to the deformities that severely disfigured his face, head and body. 

The 1980 movie of his life left a deep and lasting impression on me. (Please see notice elsewhere in this newsletter for update.)

Joseph, the Elephant Man, was better known as the Elephant Man due to the deformities that severely disfigured his face, head and body. Having a school located in a bushland setting also affords us the opportunity to appreciate its beauty, while both the snake and the students stopped to marvel at the rather large and beautifully-patterned python that was sunning itself at the back of the chapel. To be able to appreciate its beauty, while both the snake and the students kept their safe distance, is to take advantage of a rare opportunity. To be able to appreciate its beauty, while both the snake and the students kept their safe distance, is to take advantage of a rare opportunity.

Having a school located in a bushland setting also affords us the opportunity to appreciate the beauty of nature and not only in the forms that are more readily admired by most. The many colourful birds and ‘cute’ creatures are easily accepted and appreciated but it is much more difficult to find the beauty in those creatures that regularly receive a ‘bad rap’ so to speak. There is something to be said for the fact that our students are learning to co-exist (wherever possible) with many of God’s creatures. For instance, after assembly last Thursday, many of the classes stepped up in support and many stepped well outside their comfort zones in doing so. To Peta, Todd, Inez, all performers, behind the scenes’ helpers and to all who supported through attendance, thank you for great entertainment but more than that, thank you for your generosity and selflessness. It’s time like these when the real beauty of the community is on show and one can only be grateful for that.

Thank you also to the P&F for the wonderful support in donating the first prize in the multi-draw raffle, to all staff and parents who donated the remainder of the prizes, to Kellie Loe and her helpers for taking care of the catering so well and to Office staff for ticketing and promotional materials. Simon Kirch at the Alex Beach Resort must also be thanked for donating the night’s accommodation for Liam Dougherty, Principal at St Joseph’s, Gayndah. Liam thoroughly enjoyed the evening and was thrilled not having to drive the 3-4 hours back to Gayndah afterwards. Thank you very much Simon for your generous and unsolicited support. Total raised is $6075.65. Well done everyone.

Yes, beauty comes in all forms and in unexpected places, events and people. I do believe true beauty has more to do with a spirit that outshines the beauty of face or body or other traditional beauties. Thank you for adding your very own beauty to the community at Stella Maris. Have a great week everyone and Happy Mother’s Day to all Mums out there. I hope you are thoroughly spoiled as you deserve!

Glenda
Celebrating the Flying Foxes

The latest news on the Flying Foxes includes updates on their management plan and the contribution of new residents. The plan has been presented to Council and is currently being considered for approval. Once endorsed, it will be implemented and guide Council decision-making processes for actions required at roost locations.

Father Joe and I have, at this stage, verbally agreed to the first two options, preferably as staged interventions. I will keep you informed as I learn more.

L.O.T.E.

Congratulations to all the students who entered the MLTAQ 2013 Italian Poster Competition. We are so proud to report the outstanding results from our Stella Maris entrants. All entries were amazing and reflected how talented the students are.

The following students gained recognition:

Year 5/6 D - 1st Zoe Hunter 2nd Sarah Baillie, Highly Commended—Bella Smith-Leishman
Year 6 - 1st Shelby Mills, 2nd Neve Hulsman-Benson, 3rd Bella Blunt
Year 7 - 1st Lauren Bellamy, 3rd Jackson Woodforth, Highly Commended, Kyra Bellamy

Students had to take themselves on a Language Safari and discover the Foods of Italy. They designed a poster using Italian language with the title in Italian; researched the foods of Italy; illustrated the poster with colourful and relevant images and added words in Italian which reflected the theme. Ben fatto a tutti - Well done everyone

Signora Carmel Barbagallo

Dear Parents/Caregivers,

This Sunday coming we celebrate Mothers’ Day.

Many Australians celebrate Mother’s Day by showing their appreciation for the achievements and efforts of mothers and mother figures. It is annually observed in Australia on the second Sunday of May. The Mother’s Day date in Australia is the same as the date observed in the United States, which is the second Sunday of May each year. However, it is an Australian who is credited with having started the tradition of giving gifts on Mother’s Day: Janet Heydon, a resident of Leichhardt Sydney, started a campaign in 1924 to collect gifts for lonely aged mothers. This tradition has spread so that all mothers are honoured on this day.

Who will you show appreciation for this Sunday?

Many people appreciate their mothers or mother figures, which include stepmothers, relatives, guardians (eg. foster mothers), and close family friends. Some organizations have Mother's Day patrons who work together with the media and general community to raise awareness of Mother’s Day events that aim to raise funds for charitable or non-profit causes.

Mother's Day is about more than just giving a gift. It's about showing the significant women in our lives that we love and appreciate them. It's a time to thank them for who they are and what they do. It's hard to think of a better way to show your appreciation than by spending time with this special person and creating a new memory. That can be so much more meaningful than any other type of gift.

What do people do to celebrate Mother’s Day?

Mother’s Day events and activities may include:

- Organized walks or runs to raise money for causes such as breast cancer research.
- Visits to the zoo, movies, or botanical gardens, or other places of interest.
- Breakfasts, brunches, lunches, afternoon teas or dinners at restaurants, cafes, or at home.
- Handmade gifts or cards being presented to mothers or mother figures.
- Flowers, chocolates, clothing, gift vouchers and other gifts that are given to mothers or mother figures.
- Mother’s Day poems being printed, broadcast, or presented to mothers and mother figures.
- Mother’s Day stories being publicized in magazines, newspapers, radio, television or the internet.

Many families may also spend the day having a picnic in the park or the beach on Mother’s Day, if the weather permits.

So how will you say ‘thank-you’ to that special mother figure in your life on this Mother’s Day?

Are there people in your life who are mother figures for you? If so, why not acknowledge their special place in your life this coming Sunday.

Even a phone call or a card might just make someone’s day!

God bless! Judith.

Principal’s Awards

9 May 2013

**MUSIC NOTES**

QUOTE OF THE WEEK

“You know what music is? God’s little reminder that there’s something else besides us in this universe; harmonic connection between all living beings, everywhere, even the stars.” ~ Wizard ~ “August Rush”

**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!!

**SOS CONCERT** - Many thanks to the Stella Maris community for their support of our SOS concert this past Thursday. It was a wonderful opportunity to put our talents to the test for a most worthwhile cause. Perhaps we will see and hear more from the many talented Stella Maris staff members. A point of interest – the school population of St. Joseph’s School, Gayndah is the same as the current enrolment in our Piccolo Choir!

**CHOIR** - An email was sent on Saturday 4 May to parents of choir members who have already returned their choir participation form. If you did not receive an email please let me know so that I can add your email to our database. In some cases, my email was returned due to an incorrect address. I will endeavor to correct these addresses in the coming week.

**GUITARS** - We have just 6 full-size guitars left to sell. The cost is $50 per guitar. Please contact Mrs Durrer or Mr Wynyard if you are interested.

**MUSICA VIVA** - This Thursday afternoon, we welcome music teachers from the Sunshine Coast and Brisbane to Stella Maris for a Musica Viva inservice. The PD is designed to prepare us for the musical group Entourage who will be presenting three concerts to the Stella Maris staff and students in October. I look forward to sharing my new tidbits of information with the students during Term 3 and 4.

**TEN FACTS ABOUT SCHOOL MUSIC** - Continuing from last week, the following is the ninth fact about music education.

9. Learning music is good for Australia’s social and economic growth

The Australian business community wants kids to learn music at school. The Australian Chamber of Commerce and Industry (ACCI) last year delivered its ‘Skills for a Nation: A Blueprint for Improving Training and Education Policy 2007 – 2017’. Among its fifteen recommendations for improving children’s education in the primary years was: ‘There should be an opportunity for all students to learn a musical instrument in primary school.’

**INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC NEWS - DATE CLAIMERS**

**STELLA SOIREE WEEK** will be held in week 7 this term on Monday 27, Tuesday 28 and Thursday 30 May in the Hall. All enrolled students will have an opportunity to perform and each day will have two performance sessions – 5pm to 6pm and 6.30pm to 7.30pm. Tutors will advise students of their performance day and time in coming weeks. Other dates for this term are:

- Friday 17 May – Sunshine Coast Honours Music Program at Stella Maris (selected Concert Band students)
- Thursday 23 May – Assembly Performance by Concert Band and Stella Fellas
- Sunday 2 June - MUSICFEST Sunshine Plaza (Concert Band and SM Singers)

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 Instructional Music Coordinator

durrer@bne.catholic.edu.au twynyard@bne.catholic.edu.au

**MUSIC IN THE COMMUNITY**

Sunshine Coast Youth Orchestra Mother’s Day Concert – SCYO presents its annual Mother’s Day Concert on Saturday May 11th at 6:30pm featuring all the ensembles - from our String Groups to our full Symphony Orchestra and Concert Band. (Our youngest String Ensembles have four members from Stella Maris. Featuring Stella Maris Students - Tajah Godfrey, Gabriel Low, Roxene Larkin-Young and Chloe Edwards. A very family friendly concert and a great way for your budding musicians to hear and see what they can achieve in the future. Tickets available online www.trybooking.com/CQLN

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**STUDENT TRAVEL REBATES**

Semester 1, 2013

Visit website to see if you qualify for financial assistance to help with the cost of transport and apply at www.schooltransport.com.au by 31 May 2013.

Late applications cannot be accepted.

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**Tuckshop News..**

**NEEDED PICKELET MIXES AND MUFFIN MIXES**

**Week Ending 10 May**

MEDIA VIOLENCE

The recent violence at the Boston Marathon followed by the pursuit of the perpetrators was covered repeatedly and with intensity by the national press. Television reporting was especially graphic, with both verbal descriptions and images of violent encounters. As adults, we express outrage and attempt to understand the forces that motivated such aggression and brutality. But what do we tell our children who view the carnage on television news programs? Here is some advice you can share:

1. Limit the amount of news violence children watch on TV.
2. Sit with children when they are watching the news and talk about what you are seeing.
3. For young children, a helpful statement might be: "Many people are working hard to make sure this doesn't happen again. We will always make our home a safe place."
4. For older children, encourage them to talk about what they experience when they watch violence on the news. Talking about fears in a safe environment when a trusted person is listening is often therapeutic. Do not attempt to provide definitive answers to all their questions. Practise active listening to allow for anxieties, fears, and rage to be expressed in the safety of your home.
5. Give all children the space to express themselves with words and emotions. Clinicians know the value of silence during a challenging clinical interview. Use it with your children. A quiet moment allows them to consolidate their feelings and respond (verbally and nonverbally) with greater clarity.
6. The relationship of trust you as parents have with your children can promote a dialogue and a sense of safety when it is needed the most.

— Martin T. Stein, MD

Published in Journal Watch Pediatrics and Adolescent Medicine April 24, 2013

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