**Principal's Report**

Dear Parents and Friends of St Brendan’s,

Everyone in our community was deeply touched and affected by the tragic events that occurred at the Tyabb Cricket Club last week. Some of the students and parents of our community had direct involvement in the same team as young Luke Batty who died so tragically. The staff and I are watching our students very carefully for any signs of emotional upset due to trauma and grief. It is at times like these that we must ensure that our school and home routines are reliable and that we make children feel safe and secure. Counseling and support are available for anyone who feels that they need it. Fact sheets on grief and trauma and how to manage children who are affected are available from the school office. Please do not hesitate to contact me should you need to discuss your child’s reaction to this event. Please keep Luke’s mother, other family members, the members of the Flinders Christian College and the members of the Tyabb Cricket Club in your thoughts and prayers over the coming days.

**SAC Meeting**

Thank you to the parents who attended the first School Advisory Committee meeting for 2014 last evening. I thank you for your input, energy and commitment to working to help make St Brendan’s an even more wonderful and effective school this year. Please watch out for and support the social and fundraising events that they organize this year. If you feel able to assist in any way, please come along to the next meeting that will be held on Monday 17th March at 7:00pm. If you would like to be a Hospitality rep or a Displan rep for your child’s class, please return the tear off slip attached to this newsletter and return it to the office.

**Twilight Sports**

Our Twilight Sports will be held at school next Thursday 27th February from 5:00 – 7:00pm. This event is an opportunity for parents to mix with each other and to meet those new to our school community. During this time, the children are involved in fun sporting activities and games designed to build social connection and teamwork. Sausages and hamburgers will be available at this event. We look forward to seeing you there.

**Transport to Padua College**

Children who travel by public transport to Padua College Tyabb are experiencing difficulties arriving at school on time due to overcrowding and the scheduled times of the public bus service. Mr. Neil Burgess the State Member for Hastings will take the issue to appropriate government authorities if enough community members sign a letter or petition. A copy of the letter that is will be sent out to the eldest in the family and the petition is available at the school office. Please lend your support to this worthwhile initiative.

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**DATES FOR DIARY**

- **Wednesday: 19/2**
  - No prep
- **Thursday: 20/2**
  - Assembly at 8.45am
  - Garden Relocation 10.00am
- **Monday: 24/2**
  - Incursion for Preps—2
- **Wednesday: 26/2**
  - Swimming Trials 7.00-8.30 am at Pines Pool
  - Parent Teacher Exchange 2.00pm-8.00pm
- **Thursday: 27/2**
  - Tabloid Sports 5—7pm
- **Sunday: 2/3**
  - Clean Up Australia
  - **FRIDAY: 7/3**
    - SCHOOL CLOSURE DAY
  - **MONDAY: 10/3**
    - LABOUR DAY HOLIDAY
Dear Parents,

Wow, what a productive school we have been in such a short time. We have gone around the classrooms last week and we are very proud of the way the classrooms are running. There are beautiful displays in every room and the children’s work books show the pride they are taking in their learning. Well done St Brendan’s on having a positive and focused start to your learning.

Even though it is not as hot as it was, I thought it was a good idea to put some sunscreen tips in the newsletter because even though the sun is not out even with cloud cover we can still be exposed to UV rays.

**SUNSCREEN TIPS**

- If you can see skin, UV can reach it. Please ensure your SunSmart measures are all in place to help protect students and staff from too much UV.

- **From September to the end of April**, please ensure all children and staff:
  - Wear a sun protective hat for all outdoor activities
  - Apply SPF 30 or higher broad spectrum sunscreen during the day (please see sunscreen tips below)
  - Play in the shade when it is very hot
  - Wear wrap-around sunglasses (if practical)

*Teachers at school are not expected to apply sunscreen to students but SunSmart does ask that schools have strategies in place to help remind children to apply sunscreen before they go outside.* Regular use of sunscreen has been shown to reduce the incidence of melanoma and squamous cell carcinoma, both in the short and long term.

*Parents could you please put sunscreen in your child’s bag if you would like them to reapply during the day. Your child must be able to apply it themselves and the teachers will give them time before they go outside for recess or lunch to apply it.*

Choose SPF 30 or higher broad spectrum, water resistant sunscreen. Make sure it is within its use-by date and is stored below 30 degrees. It is best to apply a generous amount of sunscreen to any exposed skin around 20 minutes before going outdoors. Sunscreen should be reapplied every two hours even if the stated level of water resistance is 4 hours.

Regards

Wendy Sullivan

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**Principal Award Winners**

Last week’s Principal’s award was for ‘Starting work quickly and trying my best’. The recipients were:

| Bridget Mott | Griffinn Argus | Jed Godrey | Jordy Burrell |
| Khian Taylor | Leela Monterosso | Lily Mercuri | Michael Roberts |
| Ty Godfrey | Molly Griffiths |

The award for this week is for ‘Having beautiful manners and using people’s names’.

We look forward to seeing as many parents as possible at assembly on Thursday at 8:45 am.

Have a great week.

Sue Carr
Principal

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**NEWS FROM YOUR DEPUTY!**

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Regards

Wendy Sullivan
Dear Parents and Friends,

It was wonderful to see many family members at our first whole school mass. The children love to celebrate these special occasions with their family and as always an open invitation is extended to the whole community to celebrate our next school mass which will be held on Thursday 13th March at 11:30 am in the Multi Purpose Room.

The grade students will be planning and organising this celebration for us all.

Praying the Lord’s Prayer
When we feel insignificant and have lost our sense of worth, Lord, teach us to pray:
Our Father, who art in heaven
When we want to withdraw from involvement in work to be with you in prayer, Lord, teach us to pray:
Hallowed be thy name
When we think of the future as fixed and impossible to change, Lord, teach us to pray:
Thy kingdom come
When we evade life’s deep demands by saying they are too idealistic, Lord, teach us to pray:
Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.
When we are satisfied and forget that others are hungry, in need, homeless, deprived, Lord, teach us to pray:
Give us this day our daily bread.
When we allow bitterness and resentment into our lives, Lord, teach us to pray:
Forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us.
When we are faced with pressures that are likely to be too much for us, Lord, teach us to pray:
Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil.
When we become self-centred and seek our own satisfaction, Lord, teach us to pray:
For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

Yours sincerely,
Kay Donovan    REC

Head Lice
If you are experiencing the effects of head lice, please be aware of a product that a new family is promoting. She is happy to hold an information session to talk about head lice facts and fiction and help with any questions you might have. Have a look at her website for any more information.
**Student Levies (Due Now) School Fees**

The Student Levy of $330 per student was due and payable as of Wednesday, 29th January. Some families have not yet attended to this payment and we ask that this be paid this week. School invoices were sent home with your eldest child. Please note the term fees have been billed and an amount of $470.00 is due for payment for Term 1, prior to 28th February, 2014.

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**EMA PAYMENTS**

The Education Maintenance Allowance (EMA) is provided to assist eligible families with the costs associated with the education of their children. To be eligible for receipt of the EMA you must:

- Be either a parent or guardian of a primary or secondary school student up to the age of sixteen
- Be an eligible beneficiary of a Centrelink pension, allowance or benefit within the meaning of the State Concession Act 2004 or be a Veterans Affairs (TPI) pensioner or be a foster parent.

Consequently parents/guardians are able to access the EMA if they have a valid Health Care Card or valid Pension Card.

**Conveyance Allowance**

Any new families to the school who live over 4.8 kilometres from St Brendan’s School (and St Brendan's is the closest Catholic school to your home) may be eligible for Travel Allowance. If you believe that you are entitled to this benefit, please contact the school office for the relevant form as.a.p.

**Asthma Management Plan**

Students who are known to be asthmatic; be it occasional or regular, are asked to provide the school with an Asthma Management Plan and their own named personal medication.

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**Hospitality Duties**

- Co-ordinates contact list of Mums/Dads in the class (obviously this is only if people want to give these details).
- Contact point if any parent requires assistance (ie. Mums in hospital, can other Mums help out with cooking, pick ups etc).
- Responsible for organising flowers/small gift for teacher and parents on special occasions (ie. Birthdays/Christmas/New Baby/Bereavement etc).
- Fundraising contact point (this would be part of a bigger group of parents in forming a fundraising committee who are responsible in conjunction with yourself in planning what activities will take place in 2014, dates for said activities and organisation of activities.)
The Uniform Exchange

The Uniform Exchange is opening its doors for the first time for parents to EXCHANGE, PURCHASE or DONATE uniform items. We will be trading from the Uniform shop (located at the back of the multipurpose room), on the following days for Term One:

Monday 17th February - 3.15 to 3.45pm
Tuesday 18th February - 3.15 to 3.45pm
Wednesday 19th February - 3.15 to 3.45pm

Please note the Uniform Shop will not be open for you to purchase NEW uniforms on these days. If you are wanting to exchange an item they MUST be in saleable condition, this is at the discretion of The Uniform Exchange to ensure a respectable uniform standard is maintained. All sales are STRICTLY cash only.

If you have any items you wish to donate throughout the term please drop them into our labelled boxes at the office and in the multipurpose room.

Thank-you
Cristy and Liz

Happy Birthday to...

Nikola Varga
Jaymie Longmuir
Eleanor Watt

Wishing you a fabulous time with your family and friends!

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Hello to the Staff and Parents at St Brendan’s Primary School,

My name is Samantha Piercy, I’m a mother of two beautiful children, my daughter Tabitha started prep this year in Mrs Donavan’s Class.

In the month of August 2013, I registered to complete a 60km walk in March 1st & 2nd 2014 for a fundraiser called The Weekend to End Women’s Cancers benefitting Peter Mac.

Along with other beautiful people we are walking to honour those we’ve lost and celebrate the lives who have survived and lived through women’s and other cancers.

I was a part of my mother’s journey who was diagnosed with Ovarian Cancer. This is my passion to bring awareness to all our mothers, daughters, sisters, aunties and grandmothers.

If you would like to donate to my fundraiser or to come and cheer some very brave and remarkable people on that weekend, please contact me on baumas1@bigpond.com or 0421566914.

Kind Regards
Samantha Piercy
AWARDS

Angus Kasbach
For making an improvement over the weeks and focusing on his work.

Aspen Hunter
For trying really hard to write an M and S in Literacy.

Catelyn Malone
For being helpful and a responsible student in 3/4B.

Chloe Fly
For helping Miss Thomas in the classroom.

Christian Hills
For always being happy in class and sharing his beautiful smile!

Elizabeth Morris
For your positive start to Italian with lots of participation!

Emily Wiebrecht
For always being helpful and for always cleaning up without asking!

Emmasen Bryant
For being respectful and trying her best in the classroom.

Georgia Evans-Holt
For always starting her work quickly and having a go at everything.

Grace Campbell
For great focus and neatness on Italian tasks.

Isabelle Roberts
For her fabulous effort during art. Very creative patterns Izzy.

Jasper Cook
For always using your 'have a go' book in class.

Jorja Stylianou
For being a co-operative and friendly member of the class.

Lindsay Drew-Goard
For a fantastic start to school life at St. Brendan's and a positive attitude to his work.

Lochlain Dale
For holding his pencil correctly using crocodile fingers. Well done.

Mitchell Johnson
For sharing his insightful knowledge during Guided Reading.

Mollie Conlin
For her clever thinking about odd and even numbers in maths.

Ryley Noonan
For being an absolute superstar at Quick Count!

Scarlett Marsh
For your fabulous start to learning Italian!

Sofia Gazzola
For starting work quickly and staying on task.

Venetia Teisini
For always listening and following directions.

GARDEN RELOCATION

It's an exciting time for the children involved in the Garden Club this month as we are finely relocating the veggie boxes and adding 4 more boxes to our garden. With the help of Bunnings Hastings the relocation date is the Thursday, 20th February between 10.00am and 3.00pm.

If anyone could spare a few hours to come and help us we would really appreciate it. It’s quite a big job clearing trees and moving dirt, as you know many hands make light work. So feel free to bring along some gloves and maybe even a hand saw or two and lend a hand.

We look forward to seeing you there.

Carina, Hayley and Tracey.
INTERNET USAGE
HOW MUCH IS ENOUGH???

Young children are unlikely to have issues with spending too much time on the internet due to limited access and ability. If children are using computers or interacting online it is valuable for parents to start to educate them about appropriate usage levels.

The following tips can help your child to manage the time spent online and maintain a healthy balance.

- Consider establishing rules about when children can play online games or use the internet and how long they can play each day. You might consider agreeing with your child a set balance of online activities and offline activities such as outside play or drawing.
- Establishing rules with children when they are young can help manage their online activities as they get older and their online activity increases.
- Try to locate the computer in a shared or visible place in the home so you are aware of how much time your child spends online.

If you have concerns about your child’s online behaviour explore your concerns with them. If necessary seek professional support, including support through the Cybersmart Online Helpline at www.cybersmart.gov.au/report.aspx. The Cybersmart Online Helpline provides free, confidential online counselling for children and young people.

More information

The Cybersmart program provides a range of cybersafety materials for parents and their children. For more information, resources, advice and tips, visit the Cybersmart website at www.cybersmart.gov.au. Encourage your children and teens to take a look around the website. If you have young children, you may like to explore it together to help them understand how to protect themselves against online risks and make the most of their experiences online.

Michelle Bruitzman

Dear Parents,

Many of our students use the “My Classes” page on our website which has the facility to give students access from any terminal, at school or at home. They can access activities, information and links to assist their learning.

The Italian page is regularly modified and updated to reflect the work we are doing at school. The children can access song lyrics, number sheets, responses to questions, poems for the poetry competition, worksheets that we have used in class and links to good educational websites where the students can practise Italian.

They can even listen to songs we are learning and have recorded in class. You can also take a visual trip around Italy, Un Giro d’Italia, via a powerpoint show with wonderful scenes of Italy.

The Links to some excellent websites on this page provide access to hundreds of activities for the students who wish to consolidate and extend themselves beyond the work we do at school.

To access this page:

Log onto: www.sbsomerville.catholic.edu.au/myclasses
Students must enter their school username and password
  For Preps, use room22 for username and password

2. In Class Summary, scroll down to “ITALIANO” and click.
3. Check each window to find the resources or activities you are searching for.
HOSPITALITY REPRESENTATIVE REPLY SLIP

NAME: _____________________________________
CLASS: __________________
DATE: __________________

DISPLAN NETWORK REPRESENTATIVE REPLY SLIP

NAME: _____________________________________
CLASS: __________________
DATE: __________________

SAVE A TREE! GET YOUR NEWSLETTER VIA EMAIL

Yes, I would like my weekly newsletter via email.

Name:_________________________________________
Email:_________________________________________
Eldest Child’s Grade:___________________________

ACTIVITY HELPER
I can help to run an activity on the night of our Tabloid Sports Carnival.
Name: ___________________

BBQ HELPER
I can help out on the BBQ
4.30 – 5.00 ________________________________
5.00 – 5.30 ________________________________
6.00- 6.30 ________________________________