Dear Parents

**Delivering Excellent Teaching and Learning**

Next Monday I will be attending a BCE Principals’ Forum where we will be working with Professor Lyn Sharratt. She is one of three international leaders in education working with BCE and schools in 2015 as part of the *Delivering Excellent Learning and Teaching 2014-2016 Strategy (DELT)*. During the year there will be further possibilities of engaging with John Hattie (*Visible Learning*) and the work of Michael Fullan (*system improvement*). Fullan’s focus is to frame new learning partnerships between and among students and teachers aiming towards deep learning goals enabled by pervasive digital access. His ultimate goal is to develop independent learners who have the abilities to create new knowledge and connect to the world, which is very much in alignment with our own beliefs about learning as stated in our Learning and Teaching Framework. In short Fullan believes that the walls between schools and the outside need to be more permeable.

**Parent Teacher Interviews**

Over the coming weeks, we look forward to meeting you for the first and important part of our assessment and reporting program for the year. The Parent teacher interviews are commencing for some classes before the holidays and for others just after the holidays. These interviews highlight the value to our children’s learning that the parent partnership brings. Christ the King School recognises, and values highly, the active role that parents play in your child’s learning. Your classroom teacher will be contacting you to arrange interview times.

**Learning at Home**

There has been much interest in the media recently about the impact of home on a student’s learning achievements. The home can be a place of nurturing and encouragement and high expectations or it can be a place of low expectations, lack of encouragement in learning and a lack of understanding of the language of learning resulting in a disadvantage to student learning achievements. Professor John Hattie in his book “Visible Learning” suggests that parental aspirations and expectations for their children’s educational achievement has a strong relationship with achievement, while communication (interest in and assistance with homework, discussing school progress) has a moderate size effect and parental home supervision (e.g. home surroundings conducive to doing school work) has the weakest. Professor Hattie believes that “parents need to hold high aspirations and expectations for their children, and schools need to work in partnership with parents to make their expectations appropriately high and challenging, and then work in partnership with children and the home to realise, and even surpass, these expectations.” Parental expectations have a powerful effect on learning achievement – more so than the structural makeup of the family or socio economic factors. Parents’ beliefs matter and make a difference and teachers’ beliefs matter and make a difference. Positive teacher-student relationships are critical to student learning achievement where teachers demonstrate care for and knowledge of each student as a learner and provide valuable feedback in the learning process. At Christ the King we understand the importance of such relationships and each staff member is committed to the development of a joy for learning for each student.

**Final Reminder - Prep Enrolments - 2016**

Prep enrolment details for 2016 are now required from our existing families. If you have a child due to commence Prep next year (born between 1st July, 2010 and 30th June, 2011) and already have children attending Christ the King School please ensure that the enrolment form together with a copy of your child’s
birth certificate, baptismal certificate and immunization record is returned to the school office by Friday 2nd April. The demand for Prep enrolment in 2016 is once again extremely high; therefore it is essential that we have our current families accounted for.

Have a peace filled week.

Trudy

APRE NEWS

RAINBOWS PROGRAM

In 2015, Christ the King is again offering families the opportunity to participate in the Rainbows Program.
What is Rainbows?
Rainbows' programs help children who are grieving the loss of a parent or guardian due to death, divorce, deployment, or trauma. It does this through programs that provide a safe place for children in crisis, enabling them to express their feelings in relation to grief and loss.

How Does It Work?
Rainbows groups consist of a trained facilitator and 3-5 participants. These participants are grouped according to age and often types of loss. We have four CTK teachers who are trained facilitators.
Site groups meet weekly for twelve weeks, for up to forty minutes.
Sessions are usually conducted during school hours but may also be conducted after school.

Why We Do It
Rainbows Will Help Your Children
• Develop and strengthen problem-solving skills and appropriate behaviour and anger management
• Alleviate depression and anxiety
• Reduce emotional pain and suffering
• Improve communication in families

For questions about our program, contact Mrs Cassidy, Mrs Halpin or Mr Marsh.

WALK TOUGH TO SCHOOL DAY
This Thursday we will be having a tough walk to school day.
Some people in other countries are very unfortunate facing many obstacles getting to school.
So when you come to school there will be an obstacle course set out for everyone to go through to get to class.
We will do this so that we can see how fortunate we are. Everyone is allowed to join. That even includes the parents. So we hope to see you this Thursday.
By Lara and Georgina (6 Red)

ICE CREAM DAYS
On Monday 16th March there will be an ice cream day for the Preps, Years 1 and 4.

Years 2, 3, 5 and 6 will have an ice cream day on Tuesday 17th March.

$1.00 for a plain ice cream with a cone
$1.50 for an ice cream with chocolate syrup in a cone

$1.50 for an ice cream spider (with soft drink and ice cream)

Money raised goes towards Caritas Australia.

(By Emma Burton)

**SPIRITUAL LIFE OF SCHOOL**

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<th>Prayer</th>
<th>Assembly</th>
<th>Mass</th>
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<td>Year 4 Red</td>
<td>Year 2 Red</td>
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<td>Year 4 Blue</td>
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<td>March 27</td>
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**AROUND THE SCHOOL**

**Chess Club**

Today we continue with Chess Club. It has certainly proven to be a popular activity amongst students. Children from each year level were involved and judging by their enthusiasm, we’re in for some fun challenges ahead.

John Fitz-Walter

**LEARNING SUPPORT**

**E.L.F. and P.A.L. Programmes**

Over the past few weeks the Learning Support team have been finalising assessment and the collation of data from that assessment, to select candidates for intervention through the E.L.F and PAL programme. For those unfamiliar with these programmes, they are literacy based interventions that target phonological awareness. E.L.F stands for Early Literacy Intervention and P.A.L stands for Phonological Awareness for Literacy. Both programmes are Australian based and designed by speech therapists, with input provided to E.L.F. from occupational therapists also.

Phonological awareness is a skill that underlies all elements of literacy. It involves the ability to identify sounds within words, to rhyme, syllabify, segment and blend sounds together. Along with oral language, comprehension, knowledge of phonics and prosody it is considered by most to be at the heart of the development of good literacy skills.

If your teacher has selected your child to participate in either of the programmes, a letter will be sent to you over the course of the next week.

Should you have any questions about your child’s inclusion, or the programmes themselves, please speak to your child’s class teacher or myself.
Maths Intervention at CTK
Over the last couple of years, a need has been identified among our staff to place a greater emphasis on support in the area of Mathematics. As such, we are lucky enough to have Barbara Kiernan join our Learning Support Team on Thursdays of each week. Barbara will be focusing on ways that we can help to provide additional assistance to children who struggle in the area of number. We are very lucky to have the assistance of such a dedicated and knowledgeable teacher.

Sensory Processing Workshop
Last week all teaching staff and many of our school officers were lucky enough to attend an afterschool workshop held by Magnetic Moves about sensory processing disorder. The workshop focused on the presentation of sensory processing issues among children and strategies teachers and school officers can adopt to support children with needs in this area. It was a fantastic workshop with some great ideas – many of which will help benefit all learners.

Being Bucket Fillers
Finally, I want to speak briefly about our need to see all children at our school as valued and important community members. In learning support, I speak to countless parents and work with a wide variety of children with a diverse range of needs. If I have learned anything during my time as a learning support teacher, a classroom teacher, or indeed a mum, it’s that every child brings to the table a host of strengths and weaknesses - even the brightest, most school ready child.

Our role as educators – both formal and informal, is to ensure that the children in our care are able to make mistakes and to learn and grow in a safe environment that upholds the respect and dignity of all. At CTK we endeavour to teach our children to be “Bucket Fillers” - to fill our lives with positive thoughts, words and actions. Dr Temple Grandin once said, “There needs to be more emphasis on what a child can do, rather than what they can’t”. This quote really is essence of inclusive education. Furthermore, it reflects the gospel values that Jesus so beautifully taught us.

If we can promote and model good “Bucket Filling” in all aspects of our lives, our children cannot help but follow our example.

Have a great week
Bern Jennings

Below is a link to a Ted Talk called The Power of Belief – mindset and success. If you have a spare 10 minutes it is worth a look. The talk by Eduardo Briceno clearly explains and gives examples of fixed mindsets and growth mindsets. (Published on Nov 18, 2012)

The way we understand our intelligence and abilities deeply impacts our success. Based on social science research and real life examples, Eduardo Briceño articulates how mindset, or the understanding of intelligence and abilities, is key. When students or adults see their abilities as fixed, whether they think they're naturals or just not built for a certain domain, they avoid challenge and lose interest when things get hard. Conversely, when they understand that abilities are developed, they more readily adopt learning-oriented behaviors such as deliberate practice and grit that enable them to achieve their goals. But this belief is itself malleable, and there are clear actions we can all take to establish a growth mindset and enable success for our children, our peers and ourselves.

http://youtu.be/pN34FNhOKXc
Alternately if the link fails google The Power of belief - mindset and success Eduardo Briceno

Now for the kids.
Giraffes can’t Dance by Giles Andre and Guy Parker Rees
In this story Gerald struggles with a fixed mindset believing that he can’t dance because he is told so however when he finds his own music following the whisperings of a cricket, things change for Gerald.

http://youtu.be/kVzblgpqQnk
Alternately if the link fails google Giraffes Can’t Dance U tube.
Hear Ye, Hear Ye… Dost thou know the time?

Ye Olde Library Book Faire will commence next Wednesday at three in the noon.

Come hither and stroll into a medieval delight of words, mayhap ye will fetch some parchment for thy offspring’s entertainment.

Perchance we will meet then. I will see you anon.

Lady Smithwick

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**HAPPY BIRTHDAY**

Birthday wishes to Joseph Bartley, Alistar Daykin, Lillian Halpin, Evie Rutherford, Edward Stephens, Elise Claudius 13.3; Georgia Bennett-Allen, Sophia Bentley, Felicity Horrocks & Dom Hourigan 15.3; Toby Smith 16.3; Justine Behan & Chloe Manikot 17.3; Mrs Edney, Dane Lagueras & Astrid Rowell 18.3.

**SPORT**

**Interschool Sport**

**Netball – 6 March, 2015**

CTK Senior A lost against St Aidans: 2-0
CTK Senior B won against St Aidans: 11-1
CTK Junior A won against Sherwood: 11-0
CTK Junior B won against St Aidans 1: 9-0
Well done girls 😊 Kim Fannin and James Vandermaat

**District Netball Trials**

Abby Read, Charlie Eastment, Georgia Bennett-Allen, Lara Kenny, Evie Rutherford, Georgina Williams, Emma Burton, Sophie Roach, Georgia Colburn, Mikaela Claudius, Kate Plant and Elizabeth Nolan attended the West Taylor Bridge Junior and Senior District Netball Trails over the past week. Charlie Eastment, Abby Read, Lara Kenny and Evie Rutherford were selected in the Junior Team. Congratulations to all the girls. Well Done.
UNIFORM SHOP

Unfortunately we are still waiting on suppliers for some uniforms eg. Sports Shirts. I will let you as soon as stock arrives. There are lots of second hand fleece winter uniforms available for purchase at the moment with all proceeds going towards the P & F. The Uniform Shop is open every Friday morning from **8.15am until 9.00am** & is “run” by an amazing group of volunteers.

CTK P&F

**P&F MEETING**
The next P&F Meeting will be held on **Monday 16th March 2015 at 2.45pm in the CTK staffroom.** Please let us know via email if you would like any items placed on the agenda. You can reach me at djlonergan@gmail.com or let any of the committee members know if you see them at school this week.

**WELCOME NIGHT:**

28th March 2015

4.00pm until 7.00pm

We have rescheduled the welcome night to the 28th March. Other than the date and hopefully the weather, everything else remains the same!

We are looking forward to welcoming our new CTK families as well as catching up with our CTK friends.

**EASTER CADBURY FUNDRAISER:**

The second delivery of eggs will be distributed today, and hopefully everyone who wishes to participate has a box of eggs to sell and in the process help with raising funds to support the school. We appreciate your help!

Please contact Tanya Grambower if you need any assistance.

**PARENTING TIPS:**

The P&F is looking to share some resources around parenting tips and advice. This will range from useful websites, podcasts, blog posts, and seminars. The first instalment is a blog post on how to help teach your children about gratefulness. I found this section of the article very useful:

"You can model gratitude to children of all ages through your own appreciation of family members and of your life. Recognizing the small everyday tasks can make a big difference in people’s feelings of being appreciated. “I noticed you helped set the table without my asking.”"

http://confidentparentsconfidentkids.org/2014/11/20/a-rush-of-gratitude/

We are also interested in hearing feedback or useful information you have come across that has been helpful in your parenting journey.

Enjoy, David
CORINDA/GRACEVILLE CATHOLIC PARISH

MASS TIMES
St Joseph’s, Corinda
Saturday 6:00 pm, Sunday 8:00 am
Christ the King, Graceville
Sunday 9:30 am and 6:00 pm
St Joseph’s Catholic Church, Cnr Oxley Rd & Martindale St, Corinda.
Christ the King Catholic Church, Churchill Street, Graceville

STUDENT BANKING

Student Banking is each Tuesday.