Dear Families,

This year the school is making a commitment to focus on “Evangelii Gaudium” (the Joy of the Gospel), an apostolic exhortation written by the Holy Father, Pope Francis. Staff Prayer, held regularly during the term, will focus on the words of Pope Francis and reflect on his writings, as will the School Board which gathers monthly. These opportunities allow, for us as educators and school leaders, for reflection and action as missionary disciples within our own school community.

In our Christian tradition there is much reference made to the image of the shepherd; “The Lord is my shepherd there is nothing I shall want.” Ps 23 “I am the good shepherd... I know my sheep and they know me.” John 10. 14 – 15

There are certain similarities between the role of the shepherd and that of parents and teachers who are entrusted with the care of children. Last weekend we had our daughter and her youngest come and stay with us overnight and I had cause to reflect on parenting and the responsibility we have been blessed with in caring for our children. To tend the flock, the shepherd needs to be strong, dedicated, aware and caring; a steady presence gives certainty and security to the flock.

Perhaps a steady presence can be understood as TIME given to children; we all know how much sacrifice is sometimes entailed for this to happen. To make ourselves available is a sure way to a child’s heart; by our presence we say many things and speak in ways that words cannot express. Our steady presence to children is a sense of great encouragement to them and can do much more than money or material wealth can ever hope to achieve.

For us as parents and teachers hold the values, attitudes, behaviours and dreams that we hold dear and would wish our children to have. There is no way that children will ever be part of these, unless we are present in their lives. It takes a long time for a loving relationship to grow and deepen. It might even be said the love that develops between parents and children develops and matures to the degree to which they can reach out to each other and discover each other as fellow human beings who have much to share and whose difference in age, talents and interests are much less important than their common humanity.
Lord God,  
Thank you for allowing me to share in your creation through parenthood. Please enlighten me as to how I can share the Christian values of my life with my children (and their children).

Please keep the Outred family in your prayers at this time of family loss. (Virginia was the Assistant Principal at St Kieran’s).

St Kieran’s Car Wash  
Thank you to P&F organising committee for the family event car wash on Saturday. Thank you also to those manning the sausage sizzle and cake stall (and the cooks!). Unfortunately I will not be present as I will be spending time with my family in Queensland on the weekend.

God Bless Kevin  
Kevin will be away on leave from Monday 23rd until the end of the term. Kevin will be having some minor surgery and will be taking time for a well-earned rest. Thank you parents for assisting the school with carpark dismissal especially during Kevin’s absence. Our thoughts and prayers are with Kevin at this time. We welcome Kevin back with us on Tuesday 21st.

God bless,

Terri Paterson  
Principal

Assistant Principal

Educational Assessment Australia (EAA) conducts an Academic Competition called ‘International Competitions and Assessments for Schools’ (ICAS) for students in Years 3 – 6 who are achieving at a high level and wish to participate in the competition.

As initiated in 2014 the ICAS Competitions will be held before school rather than during school time. Due to increasingly stringent compliance expectations our school Assessment Policy requires that we implement a comprehensive and detailed program of assessments and as such we are able to gather a very thorough and specific understanding of the students’ individual ability. This then impacts on the time dedicated to teaching and learning and so we are required to monitor that mandated times for teaching and learning are met. Taking all of this into consideration then, we’re conscious of making decisions which will ensure that quality teaching and learning time is not being continually “eroded” by additional activities.

As initiated in 2014, we are offering the competitions in the areas of Writing, English and Mathematics to students in Years 3-6 only.

Dates are as follows:

- Writing Tuesday June 16 - (Cost: $18.70)
- English Tuesday July 28 - (Cost $8.80)
- Mathematics Tuesday August 11 - ($8.80)

Should you wish that your child enter one or multiple subject area/s for this competition you will need to…

1. Fill in the form in the Newsletter Attachment email, indicating which of the competitions will be entered.
2. Enclose cash, a cheque made out to the school or complete credit card details, for the correct amount of money.
3. Ensure that on the day of the competition your child/ren is/are at school by 7.50 am in order to commence the competition at 8.00 am sharp.

Please return the form and correct money in a labelled envelope to school by Thursday April 2. All competitions, regardless of the sitting date will need to be paid for by this date. This is to facilitate a more efficient processing method. (Please note: Cheques to be made payable to “St Kieran’s School”).

Enjoy the weekend!  
Marisa Bombardieri

Religious Education Coordinator

We are half way through Lent. Our time to re-focus our lives on Jesus through acts of love and sacrifice. How are we travelling? Here are some more ideas to re invigorate a Christ connection.
Please keep in your prayers the families and children who are celebrating their First Reconciliation. We wish to acknowledge and thank the parents, teachers and group leaders for their efforts to prepare the children for this peaceful Sacrament.

Thank you to Father Paul and Father David for celebration the Sacrament of Reconciliation with the children and teachers from Years 4, 5 & 6.

Year 1, Mrs Rose and Mrs Leydon, prepared a beautiful parish family Mass last weekend. Lead by the wonderful children’s choir the children sang and participated in the celebration of the Eucharist with reverence and enthusiasm. Year 1 parents provided wonderful refreshments and welcoming hospitality, a cornerstone of the North Harbour Parish. Thank you to all who contributed in any way to make the family Mass so special.

A special thank you to the children’s choir who enhance our celebrations with their beautiful voices. Thanks to Maria Dunn and Kathryn Williams who practise the children during the week prior to their wonderful singing.

**Holy Week:** This year our Holy Week Liturgies will reflect upon “A Journey with Jesus.” The School community will accompany Jesus on his journey through Holy Week each afternoon at a 2.30pm assembly in the playground or in the church (wet weather). Each grade is preparing a small liturgy focussing on the aspect of the Holy Week that pertains to the area of their Religious Education.

**Dates for your Diary:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Holy Week Liturgies</th>
<th>A Journey with Jesus</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday 30 March 2.30pm:</td>
<td>Palm Sunday Kindy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday 31 March 2.30pm:</td>
<td>Last Supper Year 1</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Washing of the Feet  Year 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday 1 April 2.30pm:</td>
<td>Garden of Gethsemane Year 2</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday 2 April 11.30am:</td>
<td>Stations of the Cross Year 5</td>
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Year 5 will re-enact and reflect upon some of the Stations of the Cross in the form of a pilgrimage commencing at 11.30.

*Mrs Kerrie Wetzlar, Religious Education Coordinator.*

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**Awards**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>KC</th>
<th>Daisy C, Aiden T</th>
<th>KR</th>
<th>Darek P, Jackson G</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1L</td>
<td>Makayla T, Jack H</td>
<td>1R</td>
<td>Amy S, Oskar P</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2B</td>
<td>Noah K, Catherine B</td>
<td>2S</td>
<td>Zya M, Nadia J</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3B</td>
<td>Xavier W, Tessa J</td>
<td>3S</td>
<td>James M, Eliza L, Kelan B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4C</td>
<td>Fraser A Jessica W</td>
<td>4S</td>
<td>Libby C, Amy S</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5L</td>
<td>Sareta R, Aaron M</td>
<td>5W</td>
<td>Dahlai A, Sienna F</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Arianne C, Isaac S, Charley P, Lucia B</td>
<td>PE</td>
<td>Jackson G, Luca S</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Italian</td>
<td>Isabella K, Fraser A, Saxon Y, Sarah H, Jakoby B</td>
<td>Band</td>
<td>Zoe S</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Library</td>
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*School News*
Sibling Enrolments 2016
Enrolments are now open and application forms are available online or from the school office. If you have a sibling starting at St Kieran’s in 2016 we ask that you complete and enrolment form and return to the office ASAP.

Premier’s Reading Challenge and Book Bonus
There has been an issue uploading students for the Premier’s Reading Challenge, hence the delay in getting user names and passwords. We should have these handed out by next week so in the meantime keep a list of books that your child reads.

In library lessons, the students in K-2 have listened to some books that are on the PRC list so please add them to your child’s list of books read. They are: “The Rainbow Fish” by Marcus Pfister, “Library Lion” by Michelle Knudsen and “Dewey, there’s a cat in the Library” by Vicki Myron. There’s 3 books covered already!

The library team spoke at assembly last Friday about a fundraising initiative students can participate in while doing the PRC. Please take a look at it and remember that not only St Kieran’s will benefit from this but other schools can too. Book Bonus offers an opportunity to encourage our students to read books for the Challenge while raising funds to help resource the school with high quality books. If every student participating in the PRC raises a few dollars each, it will benefit the school greatly. Please note that this is optional.

Our school will receive books to 100% of the value of funds raised by our students and we’ll also be helping schools in need across NSW. 50% of all funds raised will be used to provide books to schools in Dymocks Children’s Charities literacy support programs.

Note also, there are prizes for the students’ participation with each child raising over $200 receiving a book of their choice (valued up to $20) and prizes for the top fundraisers in the state.

Performance of an Anti-Bullying Play
Mater Maria will be attending our school today and they performed a play about Anti-Bullying for students in Years 4, 5 and 6. The play will be performed in the hall at 9.30 and should last approx. 40 min. This coincides with the National Day of Action against Bullying and Violence which is on Friday 20 March, 2015. This is something we’ve participated in over the past few years and the children do benefit from seeing the performance and discussing bullying issues.

The National Day of Action against Bullying and Violence is on Friday 20 March, 2015.
The National Day of Action against Bullying and Violence is an initiative of all Australian education ministers and is a major activity for the Bullying. No Way! Team. It is in its fifth year and provides an opportunity for schools to promote anti-bullying messages and for students to ‘take a stand together’ sending a clear message that bullying and violence at school are not okay.

Go to the Bullying. No Way! website for practical resources and information to help counter bullying, harassment and violence.

Did you know? Did you know that Bullying. No Way! has produced two free downloadable apps. Download them today!

Take a Stand The Take a Stand Together app for Apple iOS and Android devices keeps tips and advice about bullying close to hand.

The Allen Adventure app Apple iOS and Android designed for children under 8 years. Allen is a visitor from another planet. He has just started at school and he is working out how to get on with kids on Earth.

Robotics - Stage 3
This term the Year 5 and 6 students are participating in a fantastic Science and Technology (or STEM (Science Technology Engineering and Maths) program called Robotics. The robotic immersion workshops provide students with the opportunity to be involved with innovative learning through adventure, discovery, exploration and collective knowledge construction.
During these sessions students learn how to program a robot to complete various combinations of movement patterns. Students use the software to create robotic programs that create various combinations of movement patterns using Rotation Sensors, Ultrasonic Sensors and Touch Sensors on the Lego Mindstorms EV3 robot. The robotic workshops reinforce sequencing of ideas and logical progression of thought patterns; they assist with developing problem solving and deconstructing more difficult challenges. Students thoroughly enjoyed working cooperatively as they developed their ICLT programming skills.

See the school website for more information on the Robotics Program!

Class Weeblys!
Just a reminder about the fabulous Class Weebly's that each class has at St Kieran’s. As we are nearing the end of the term, parents can look back over the learning that has taken place throughout the term in each grade. Class Weebly's are full of photographs, links to learning and different key learning experiences that have happened in the classrooms. There are also copies of the Homework Grids and any important notes or documents you might need. Class Weebly’s are accessible via our school website (see below). Each grade has a unique password to keep their Class Weebly secure. Please ask your child or the classroom teacher if you are unsure of the password.
http://www.skmvdbb.catholic.edu.au/

Wellbeing Workshops
What a lovely day we had on Saturday, thanks to the generous and skilled ladies who shared their knowledge with us - Bec Schopen (Bec Schopen Art), Tamara Madden (Mad on Nutrition), Tracey McConnell and Carmel Hewitt (CSO).

It was great to see the mums from St Kieran’s take the opportunity to learn a bit about the ways in which they can nurture themselves. We all left feeling informed, revitalised, relaxed and energised. Thank you to all of you who supported this event.

Looking forward to next time.

Priscilla

Sport News

PE Lessons
Just a reminder that if your child is NOT able to participate in PE due to an injury or illness a letter stating such is to be written and sent to Mrs Leathem. Thank you.

Athletics Carnival
Our Athletics Carnival is the first day back to school next term Monday 20 April. Towards the end of next week the program and parent helper list will be placed outside the Kindy classrooms on the display board. Please check that your child is in all the compulsory events and anything else they may have entered in. Please also check they are in the correct age group and colour house. There will be a change of entry form available outside the office if any changes need to be made. This is NOT an opportunity to add your child to extra events. No more changes will accepted after Wednesday 1 April. Teachers will also be checking the program with the children in class next week.
Thank you

Ali O’Brien

Cross Country
Last Friday 13 March, many students from Year 2 -6 competed in the school Cross Country Carnival at Millers Reserve. Congratulations to all students that participated in their event. A special congratulations to the following students who have been selected to represent St Kieran’s at the Peninsula Cross Country Carnival.
"CAR WASH,.....TALKING 'BOUT THE CAR WASH, YEAH........."

Just a few more sleeps to the big car wash! We are so grateful for all those who have volunteered their time to help on the day. Now we need to make sure we’ve got cars to wash! It would be helpful for capacity planning if you could pre-book. Please pass the word onto Grandparents, neighbours and friends as well! Go to www.trybooking.com/HBVC to secure your time slot.

Also a reminder about the cake stall we’re holding on Saturday. Don’t forget to drop your delicious baked goodies to the canteen on Friday morning or afternoon. Or you can bring things directly to the car wash from 10am Saturday. If you didn’t pick up a cake box on Monday morning, it’s fine to package the cake in another way – just remember to mark the ingredients on your packaging and safe food handling practices.

Thanks in advance for your help – it’s going to be a great day!
St Kieran’s P&F

Uniform Shop

- **Opening hours:** every second Monday from 8.30am - 9.30am – next open 23 March.
- **Orders** will be filled alternate Tuesdays. Orders placed through the office will be filled each Monday. Order forms available at reception or on the website.
- Stock held at office: ties (girls & boys), hats, excursion bags, & scarves. Please have the correct money as only small change is held.
- EFTPOS and credit card facilities are available at the Uniform Shop.
- If you have any uniform queries please email: lizsnell72@gmail.com

Canteen

We have some new “homemade” menu items coming in Term 2. These will be: Butter chicken and rice ($4.50), Spaghetti Bolognese ($3.50), and “Taco Thursdays” wraps ($3.00).

Thank you to all the Volunteers, without you our Canteen could not operate.

Next Week’s Roster:
**Wednesday 25 March:** C Day (M), S Barbieri (M), A Hardy (L), M Noble (L)
**Thursday 26 March:** A Perry, J Ruddock, K Sui (M)
**Friday 27 March:** J Hull, A Obson, V Marsh, K/P McCahey (M)

- Full day Volunteers are required from 9.00am to 1.45pm.
- Morning Volunteers are required from 9.00am to 11.30am (M).
- Lunch Volunteers are required from 11.30am to 1.45pm (L).

https://www.flexischools.com.au

Any changes to the canteen roster, please contact: Jo Nesbitt -SSKMV.canteen@dbb.catholic.edu.au or 0410 629 135

Jo Nesbitt

Attention Dads: Volunteers needed for the Mother’s Day Breakfast Thursday 7 May 2015:

Dads! We need your help to make this event special for our deserving Mums, Grandmas and Children. We would greatly appreciate your assistance with the following:

- A couple of dads to assist with setting up the Parish Hall on Wednesday evening 6 May 2015 from 6pm.
- On Thursday morning 7 May from 6:30am; preparation and serving of the breakfast, including making tea and coffee.
- Dad’s serving to stay and help tidy up.

We had fantastic support from our team of Dads last year for our inaugural Mother’s Day Breakfast, with glowing feedback from our mums. We are hoping that the dads can step up to the plate again this year.
If you are able to assist with all or any of the above, please email Deb or Sunny via the school office

Thank you in advance

Deb Sweeney and Sunny Saady

Lenten Gathering

Looking for something to do for Lent? I would like to welcome any mums & dads (children most welcome too) to my home for a low key gathering each Wednesday morning from 9am - 10am during Lent. Join us for a cuppa and morning tea as we are guided through Lent with some beautiful reflections and discussions. My aim is to include everyone, wherever they feel they are, in their faith journey. It is always wonderful to hear your comments or perspectives from wherever you are in life. If you can only make one session or all six, we would LOVE you to come. The sessions will run each Wednesday during Lent from 9am – 10am at 46 Quinlan Pde, Manly Vale (which is quite close to school, just off King St on the way to Manly Dam). No need to RSVP, just come along, we’d love to see you! Bring your children if they’re not yet at school, there’s a great backyard and plenty of toys! Feel free to contact me on 0402 202 135 if you have any queries. Dates: Wednesdays: Feb 25, March 4, 11, 18, 25 & April 1.

God bless, Maria Dunn (Jessica Yr 6 & Emily Yr 3)

School Banking

BE AN ‘OUTER SPACE SAVER’ WITH SCHOOL BANKING

School Banking is back again on Friday mornings from 8:20 in the playground.

This year you can earn tokens with every deposit you make. Get 10 tokens and select one of the super rewards. You also earn St Kieran’s commission with every deposit you make – that’s a WIN WIN!

If you would like to join, go to your nearest Commonwealth Bank branch and open a YOUTHSAVER account then come along and start saving.

Community News

- **Enrolment at Mater Maria Catholic College** Important Information for Year 5 Parents - This is a reminder that the applications for the 2017 cohort at Mater Maria Catholic College close on April 1, 2015. The College will process all applications received by the closing date and offer enrolment places for Year 7 (2017) in May this year. The College will be following the guidelines of the Diocese of Broken Bay Catholic Schools Office Enrolment policy. Being the only coeducational systemic Catholic school on the peninsula, Mater Maria is keen to support all local Catholic primary schools. Although submitting an application on time does not guarantee an immediate offer of enrolment due to the policy guidelines, it does inform the College of your intent and give you the best opportunity to be offered a position in the first round of offers. Over the past couple of years, late applications have been placed on a waiting list and it is highly likely that this will occur again for the 2017 cohort. If you have any queries on enrolment at Mater Maria Catholic College please call the registrar on 99977044.

- **Catholic Care Parenting Programs**: 1,2, 3 Magic, Tuning in to Teen, Bringing Baby Home, Circle of Security, Tuning in to Kids. Further information may be found at www.centacarebrokenbay.org.au

- **Manly OOSH Inc** has vacancies for the upcoming holidays. If interested please contact info@manlyOOSH.com.au or phone 9976 2147

- **NSW Health Parenting Course and Workshops**: Term 2 courses now available. For further information go to www.nslhd.health.nsw.gov.au/services/CAP or phone 9887 5830

Return Slips

PREMIER’S READING CHALLENGE:
I would like to participate in the Premier’s Reading Challenge:

Name........................................................ Class................

_____ I have lost my password
_____ I am doing the PRC for the first time.

OFFICE USE ONLY:
Username:_____________________________________
Password:_____________________________________

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St. Kieran’s Car wash

Cake Stall

The more we bake; the more we make!

Last years car wash was such a success and there was a huge demand for cakes, slices and cookies. We need to call on the baking talents of our St. Kieran’s families to try and meet demand!

Please collect packaging outside the canteen on Monday 16th March and bring your baking joys to the uniform shop on Friday 20th March or directly to the cake stall on Saturday 21st March from 10am.

HUGE THANKS IN ADVANCE!

Don’t forget to label ingredients, practice safe food handling and adhere to the school’s NO NUT policy.
**DID YOU KNOW?**

Non-government schools educate more than one-third of all NSW students, yet receive just 12% of the capital funding provided to schools by the NSW Government.

Furthermore, non-government schools will receive almost 20% LESS funding in 2014/15 than they did six years ago – despite educating 33,600 more students in that time.

This is why funding support from Federal & State Governments must keep pace with rising education costs - **to maintain education quality and to ensure a Catholic education remains affordable for all families.**