Dear Parents,

This week is Catholic Education Week. As a Diocese we take the time to stop and celebrate the wonderful contribution Catholic Education makes to the development of children all over the world, and in particular, the Diocese of Sale. Here at Trinity we are encouraging all parents to come into the classrooms each morning this week and join your child’s grade for Morning Prayer.

Over the first few days of this week we have held our 2016 Prep Information sessions for new families. Once again there has been a large amount of families wanting to enrol at Trinity and our year 6 students need to be commended for the wonderful job they did conducting tours of the school. The new parents were delighted by the students welcome, knowledge and passion for the school. If there are any existing families who have a sibling coming to Trinity in 2016 and you have not yet filled in an enrolment form you need to do asap, otherwise you may not get a place.

Today our grade three students enjoyed an excursion to the Cranbourne Botanical Gardens where they had the opportunity to further their understanding of Indigenous Culture. Thanks to the grade three teachers for their organisation.

Tomorrow our grade four students will be heading off on camp to Sovereign Hill, the students need to gather in the Multi-Purpose Room at 8.30am with their luggage. Georgie Nettleingham, Ange Schinck, Andrea Berryman, Liz Jones, Casey Watson, Leisa Finkelde, Maria Scarton and I are the teachers attending. Georgie is the teacher in charge of the camp.

A reminder that we have our Mother’s Day Breakfast at 7.30am on Friday. We are expecting a large turnout of Mum’s to enjoy the morning with their children. Thanks to the Dads who are serving and Sr. Joy for organisation and preparation. Well done thanks also to our Parents and Friends Committee for coordinating the Mother’s Day Stall on Tuesday.
The National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) tests are on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday next week. Families with students in years 3 and 5 should have received a detailed letter outlining the NAPLAN process. If you have any issues or concerns regarding NAPLAN please contact Liz Jones or your child’s teacher.

'Quality time’ is an interesting term. It is worth considering whether our children have the ability to decipher if a short period that we may be giving them is ‘quality time’. Is it a way for us to justify to ourselves why we don’t give our children as much time as perhaps we should? It was once said to me that there is no such thing as quality time with children, it is just time – and as much of it as you can give. In a world where we seem to be endlessly reaching into our pockets to spend, the best investment we can make for our children is in fact free. The best thing to spend on your child – is your time.

The following reflection from Diane Loomans is well worth consideration;

If I had my child to raise all over again,
I'd finger paint more, and point the finger less,
I'd do less correcting, and more connecting,
I'd stop playing serious, and seriously play,
I'd run through more fields, and gaze at more stars,
I'd take my eye off my watch, and watch with my eyes,
I would care to know less, and know to care more,
I'd do more hugging, and do less tugging,
I would be firm less often, and affirm much more,
I'd build self-esteem first, and the house later,
I'd teach less about the love of power, and more about the power of love.

I hope that all Mum’s enjoy a wonderful Mother’s Day on Sunday!

Regards,
Simon Dell’Oro
Principal

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**SCHOOL CLOSURE DAYS**

Please note the following School Closure & Student Free Days

**MONDAY 8th JUNE** (Queens Birthday)

**FRIDAY 26th JUNE** (End of Term 2 student free day)

**MONDAY 13th JULY** (Start of Term 3 student free day)
Trinity’s House Cross Country will be held on Thursday 14th May 2015. The course will include the car park, oval and surrounding parkland. The course will be clearly set out and teacher and parent supervision will be provided, ensuring the safety of all children.

Year 3/4 will run a 2 kilometre course while the Year 5/6 will run a 3 kilometre course. Students will be running the course in year levels.

All students in Year 3-6 are expected to participate as this is part of the Physical Education Curriculum. Students have been training during lunchtimes and P.E. lessons to help prepare for this event.

We are hoping to have a carnival atmosphere and students will be spectating and cheering on their House Team. Students are encouraged to make banners and flags at home and bring them along to this special school event.

Some students will qualify to compete in the District Cross Country on Thursday 28th May at the Cranbourne Race Course.

LUNCHTIME TRAINING: Monday, Wednesday and Friday. Students are allowed to wear Sports uniform if this suits or must bring runners and change before training. Students who qualify for Trinity’s District Team must commit to training at lunchtimes and are encouraged to train in their own time.

PARENT HELPERS: If you are available to help with the Cross Country on Thursday 14th May or during lunchtime training sessions please contact the office or fill in the form below and return to the office by Monday, May 11th. Parent helpers please meet Mrs Charman in Readman Hall at 11.00am. All parent helpers are welcome to share lunch in Readman Hall during lunch break.

Kind Regards,
Catrina Charman
P.E. Teacher/Sports Co-ordinator

PARENT HELPER – TRINITY HOUSE CROSS COUNTRY – Thursday, MAY 14th, 2015

I am available to assist with Trinity House Cross Country (please tick box):
Time: [ ] 11.15-12.45  [ ] 1.45-3.00  [ ] 11.15-3.00

I am available to assist with Cross Country Training at Lunchtimes

Please write day/dates you are available ________________________________

NAME: ____________________________________________________________

CHILD’S NAME: _____________________________ CLASS: __________

WORKING WITH CHILDREN NO. _________________________________

CONTACT PHONE NO. _____________________________________________
Dear Parents,

RE: NAPLAN – National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy

The National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) 2015 for Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 students will be held on Tuesday 12 May, Wednesday 13 May and Thursday 14 May 2015. NAPLAN tests assess student knowledge and skills in Writing, Reading, Language Conventions (spelling, grammar and punctuation) and Numeracy.

The results of the tests provide information for students, parents, teachers and principals which can be used to improve student achievement.

A more detailed letter regarding NAPLAN has been sent home to parents of our Year 3 and 5 students. The NAPLAN testing timetable is shown below. If you have any questions, or concerns, regarding NAPLAN, please contact Mrs Jones.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Monday 11 May</th>
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<td>Catch-up tests (any) permitted</td>
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<tr>
<td>1. Language Conventions</td>
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<tr>
<td>Catch-up tests (Language Conventions and Writing) permitted</td>
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<td>3. Reading</td>
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<td>Yr 5: 50 mins</td>
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<td>Catch-up tests (Language Conventions, Writing and Reading) permitted</td>
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<td>4. Numeracy</td>
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<td>Catch-up tests (any) permitted</td>
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Accounts for Term 2 fees have been sent home. Payment is to be made by 11th May. Grade 4 Camp fees of $170 have been added to this account.

Payments can be made by Cash, BPay ($50 min amount), Cheque and EFTPOS. Payments can be made in instalments. Direct Debit facilities are available.

SACRAMENT LEVY APPLIES TO ALL STUDENTS ENROLLED AT TRINITY

Sacrament Levy of $22 per child per year. This levy is now OVERDUE and must be paid as soon as possible. Payment can be made by Cash, Cheque or EFTPOS.

This levy is to be paid irrespective of your child celebrating a sacrament in 2015. the levy will be charged annually for the duration on your child’s primary school years.

CARNIVAL MEETING

MONDAY 11th MAY at 7pm

in the Staffroom

Anyone interested in joining the committee for the next carnival is invited to come along. For further information please contact Michael on 0439 158 816.
Moving with the Spirit

Our school, along with the 43 other Catholic schools in the Diocese of Sale are celebrating Catholic Education Week this week. The theme for this year’s celebrations is Moving with the Spirit. As Catholic schools, we are called to do more than just pass on the faith: we are invited to translate our faith into deeds so we are truly living God’s Word.

Yesterday, our Yr 6 student leaders attended the Diocesan schools Mass, representing Trinity with pride and respect for the tradition this Mass. The students met our new Bishop, Patrick O Regan, who engaged with them and commended them on their participation. During the homily, the bishop asked the students to reflect on some questions:

What did you understand the them, Moving with the Spirit to mean?

- It means you’re connecting with God and moving with him – Paige
- It means having the Spirit in you and that way you can help others have the Spirit in them - Imasha
- It means that you follow in Jesus’ footsteps and choose the right path – Zayne
- It means to follow God - Lance

How does this apply to you personally and as a school?

- This applies to me personally by being able to start the day with enthusiasm and pray to God each night so I can become closer to God – Imasha
- It helps me get closer to God – Zayne
- It changes some points of view that I have and some of the things I think – Lance
- It applies by learning about God and to believe - Dylan

What are you happy about, belonging to a Catholic school and having a Catholic education?

- I get to learn Religious Education and I love being in a Catholic school because it gives me an opportunity to learn and pray with Jesus. – Dylan
- I get to learn more about my religion – Lance
- You get the chance to thank the Almighty God for making mankind, animal, earth and heaven – Zayne
- I’m able to make the Sacraments and celebrate my sacrament with my school and community. Catholic education is very important to me and I will continue to move closer to God – Imasha
- I make my Confirmation and get to learn RE – Paige
Moving with the Spirit - Celebrating Catholic Education Week

As we celebrate Catholic Education Week, it is timely to revisit the purpose and role of Catholic schools and reflect on how we are alert to where the Spirit is moving and where it is calling us to move.

Catholic schools have been a major component of Australian education for over 175 years. During that time they have adapted to changing circumstances and changing times.

Parents, students and staff of Catholic schools strive to be Christ-centred communities which witness to the Faith. Like all Australian schools, Catholic schools are accountable to governments and their local communities for meeting all the teaching and learning requirements of the state. They also have distinctive goals and features which derive from a core of philosophical and theological truths which are central to their character and mission.

Catholic schools seek to contribute to the creation of an Australian community that is highly educated, skilled and cultured with an ability to promote and embrace a critical analysis of social issues, the expansion of knowledge and the pursuit of truth. Such a community will be marked by a vigorous intellectual and cultural life, accessible to all. Education has individual and private benefits, but it is also very much a public good whose benefits enhance the whole community. Catholic schools emphasise the contribution of education to the common good of the Australian community.

As Trinity undertakes renewal, informed by the Enhancing Catholic Schools Identity Project (ECSIP) data, completed by parents, students and staff, it is timely to stress some of the fundamentals of Catholic education: education is for the person and for society, for inviting students to find meaning in their lives through forming a mature relationship with their God, for developing communal obligations and aspirations. The challenges for Catholic schools will continue to change, but their overall goals and ethos will remain and be incorporated into a new vision which is more appropriate to the multicultural and pluralistic faith dimensions of modern Australian society.

Why do we have Catholic Schools?

Catholic schools:

- contribute to the Church’s mission to proclaim the Good News of Jesus Christ;
- contribute to the Church’s to offer the Catholic community and the people of Australia an educational foundation for life to the full, meaning the full development of the person - intellectually, spiritually, physically, morally and emotionally;
- fulfil parents’ rights in a democratic, free society to choose the schooling for their children which reflects their own values, beliefs and hopes as Australians; and
- have proven over successive generations that they contribute significantly to the development of the Australian community.

What is distinctive about Catholic Schools?

- Promoting a particular view of the person, the community, the nation and the world, centred on the person and teachings of Jesus Christ.
- Challenging students to find, through God, meaning and value in their lives.
- Forming an integral part of a church community in which all generations live, worship and grow together.
- Critiquing our culture, and challenging community values, as an integral part of their Gospel mission.
- Aiming to be welcoming and reflective communities whose most distinctive sign is the discernment of God’s presence and their spiritual life.
- Espousing values which unite Australia by promoting a citizenship infused by a commitment to social justice.
- Encouraging students to develop an international perspective on their own country and how their country can identify and respond justly to its international obligations.
- Developing a sense of historical perspective by reflecting on the development of societies and cultures over time, a story of human frailty but of continual efforts to live the Gospel message.
- Giving priority to educating the spiritually and financially poor and being their advocates.
What do Catholic schools do?

Catholic schools:

- challenge students to discover God and to make value of their lives;
- encourage students to appreciate the intrinsic worth of who they are now and where they are now;
- utilise students’ experience as the basis for developing a synthesis of faith and culture, and of faith and life;
- seek to provide a high-quality academic and vocational education for all their students, giving due emphasis to the fundamental literacy and numeracy skills required for both learning and life;
- actively and systematically promote the faith development of students in a conducive environment;
- provide religious education programs which make students knowledgeable about their faith;
- emphasise personal and social development as fundamental enduring values and requirements in an ever-changing world;
- take an international perspective on human development based on cooperation and collaboration, not competition;
- give priority to activities involving active community service and issues of social justice;
- strive to be a welcoming and effective community and provide a genuine experience of community for students, teachers, parents and priests;
- form part of an active ministry which reaches out to parents and responds to their expectations;
- view their teachers as being committed to and interested in the whole development of their students in a faith context;
- acknowledge, promote and celebrate the particular God-given gifts of each student; and
- encourage engagement and commitment by students, teachers, parents and priests.

What contribution do Catholic schools make?

Catholic schools:

- educate young Australians to be highly skilled, informed, tolerant, open and just;
- enhance, by emphasising the common good, the development of Australia and the building and improvement of a socially just Australian society that is multicultural and multi-faith;
- offer a voice which challenges current and future generations to reflect on their world in the light of Christ’s message;
- provide a perspective which extends beyond national and temporal borders, encouraging students to have an open mind on contemporary issues as a foundation for becoming good Australian and world citizens;
- provide the potential to combine the spirituality of our Indigenous people and the different spiritual traditions of the various migrant communities since 1788, as a basis for valuing our diversity and promoting social justice; and
- encourage and provide a basis for students to seek to develop their relationship with their God and to continue their faith journey throughout their lives.

How will each of us be focused on being open to the presence and action of the Spirit in our Parish and school community in order to build God’s kingdom and Australian society?

(NCEC)
FIRST EUCHARIST Reminders

Parent and Child Workshops
Parent/s and their child must attend one of these workshops. Please bring a pencil and some textas to the workshop.

Monday 11th May at 5pm or 7pm
Tuesday 12th May at 5pm or 7pm
Wednesday 13th May at 5pm or 7pm
Thursday 14th May at 5pm or 7pm

NEPAL EARTHQUAKE Donations to assist victims of the Nepal earthquake can be made through Caritas Australia www.caritas.org.au who have people on the ground in Nepal and who are working closely with Caritas international to deliver aid and assistance. As mentioned on Caritas website: according to initial estimations, 8 million people in 39 districts have been affected. Caritas Australia staff are currently on the ground and working alongside local Caritas Nepal staff to co-ordinate the emergency response, which will include providing emergency shelter, food, water and hygiene kits.

SPREAD JOY! PARISH AND SCHOOL DAY Celebrating our joy in the Gospel through song, prayer and praise. 10am — 3.30pm Saturday 16th May 2015 at St Michael's Parish School Hall, Church St Traralgon. Registration forms are available from the back of the church.

This event is for everyone. The day will be engaging and joyful with a mix of prayer and praise, keynotes and workshops, presented by Genevieve Bryant, Michael Hansen, Jane Mitchell and Br Michael Herry fms.

The day is for everyone in parishes and in schools. You don’t have to be involved in music ministry or liturgy planning.... Just come and share the day with others.

TRINITY FAMILIES MAY APPEAL Bishop Pat O’Regan has urged the members of the diocese to generously support the annual appeal for Trinity Families, in our parishes this year. He said “As good stewards of the gifts that God has given us, we must always find a necessary place for those who need our help.” To achieve this funds such as our own home-grown fund of Trinity Families, needs to grow its funds that this mission of service can be more effective. “I have been reliably informed that the demand placed upon Trinity Families’ funding is actually three times more than is currently available for distribution”. “It is important to keep forefront of our minds that this is our own charity arm specifically set up to serve and support the needs of families in the Greater Gippsland area. While there are many calls upon our donations at this time, what is both worthwhile and unique about Trinity Families is that it is locally based and supports the particular needs of our area.” The Bishop urges everyone to give generously to the May appeal by either donating via the envelopes available in the churches, or by making a direct debit or a credit card payment via the website www.trinityfamilies.org.au Our Parish will be having a special collection on the weekend of the 16th and 17th May at all Masses.
### MAY 2015

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<td><strong>4 OPEN DAY</strong>&lt;br&gt;9am—10.30am&lt;br&gt;5pm—6.30pm</td>
<td><strong>5</strong> 7.30pm Eucharist&lt;br&gt;Enrolment Mass&lt;br&gt;Mother’s Day stall</td>
<td><strong>6 OPEN DAY</strong>&lt;br&gt;9am—10.30am&lt;br&gt;Grade 3 Excursion</td>
<td><strong>7</strong> Yr 4 Camp to Sovereign Hill&lt;br&gt;7pm First Reconciliation Celebration</td>
<td><strong>8</strong> Yr 4 Camp to Sovereign Hill&lt;br&gt;Mother’s Day Breakfast&lt;br&gt;MASS Prep Assembly Yr 6</td>
<td><strong>9</strong> 10.30 First Reconciliation Celebration</td>
<td><strong>10</strong> MOTHER’S DAY</td>
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<td><strong>11</strong> 7pm Carnival Meeting&lt;br&gt;5pm &amp; 7pm Eucharist workshop</td>
<td><strong>12</strong> NAPLAN 5pm &amp; 7pm Eucharist workshop</td>
<td><strong>13</strong> NAPLAN 5pm &amp; 7pm Eucharist workshop</td>
<td><strong>14</strong> NAPLAN Trinity Cross Country&lt;br&gt;5pm &amp; 7pm Eucharist workshop</td>
<td><strong>15</strong> MASS Year 1 Assembly Yr 4</td>
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<td><strong>18</strong></td>
<td><strong>19</strong> Prep H &amp; W Excursion to Safety Village</td>
<td><strong>20</strong> Prep N Excursion to Safety Village</td>
<td><strong>21</strong> 7pm School Board Meeting</td>
<td><strong>22</strong> MASS Year 4 Assembly Yr 1</td>
<td><strong>23</strong> 6pm First Eucharist Celebration</td>
<td><strong>24</strong> 9.15am, 11am &amp; 6pm First Eucharist Celebration</td>
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<td><strong>27</strong></td>
<td><strong>28</strong> District Cross Country&lt;br&gt;9—10.30am Biggest Morning Tea</td>
<td><strong>29</strong> 11am whole School Mass at OLHC</td>
<td><strong>30</strong></td>
<td><strong>31</strong> TRINITY SUNDAY</td>
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### JUNE 2015

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<tr>
<td><strong>1</strong> 7pm P &amp; F Meeting</td>
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<td><strong>5</strong> MASS Year 5 Assembly Yr 3</td>
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<td><strong>8 NO SCHOOL QUEEN’S BIRTHDAY</strong></td>
<td><strong>9</strong></td>
<td><strong>10</strong> 7pm First Reconciliation Celebration</td>
<td><strong>11</strong></td>
<td><strong>12</strong> MASS Year 6 Assembly Yr 5</td>
<td><strong>13</strong> 10.30 First Reconciliation Celebration</td>
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<td><strong>18</strong></td>
<td><strong>19</strong> MASS Year 3 Assembly Prep</td>
<td><strong>20</strong> 6pm First Eucharist Celebration</td>
<td><strong>21</strong> 9.15am, 11am &amp; 6pm First Eucharist Celebration</td>
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<td><strong>22</strong> Baked Potato Day</td>
<td><strong>23</strong></td>
<td><strong>24</strong></td>
<td><strong>25</strong> STUDENTS FINISH TERM 2</td>
<td><strong>26 END OF TERM SCHOOL CLOSURE</strong></td>
<td><strong>27</strong></td>
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Happy Birthday to the following children who will celebrate their birthday next week.

11th MAY  Austin and Ryleh
14th MAY  Max
15th MAY  Liam

Canteen Roster

TUESDAY — PREP and JUNIOR
THURSDAY — MIDDLE and SENIOR
+ 8.45—10.30approx  # 11.45—1.30approx

THURSDAY 7th MAY
+ Annie Lacey
# Celeste Vogrig

TUESDAY 12th MAY
+ Naomi Sanchez
# Andrea MacIntosh

THURSDAY 14th MAY
+ Suzanne Wells
# Linda Vozzo

TUESDAY 19th MAY
+ Kerryn Abu-Jaber
# Adele Pettenuzzo

THURSDAY 21st MAY
+ Nina Gore
# Kerryn Stow

TUESDAY 26th MAY
+ Paola moutien
# Mary Amalraj
A reminder to all Parents/Carers, supervision by School Staff begins at 8.30am before school and after school only at the drop off area until 3.30pm.
Please observe and supervise your children, as they play on the equipment.

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**ABSENCE FROM SCHOOL**

In the case of illness a phone call in the morning on the day they are absent.
If you are going on holidays or your child will be away for an extended period you must advise in writing BEFORE you leave.
Thank you.

All parents/Guardians wishing to help in the classroom, canteen or attend excursions MUST have completed the PARENT HELPER WORKSHOP and hold a current WORKING WITH CHILDREN CARD.
Further details are available from the school office. All parent/guardian helpers must sign in at the office before proceeding to the classrooms. Your current Working with Children card must be displayed at all times when working in the classrooms and attending excursions.

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**TRINITY CAR PARK**

- For greater safety and visibility, we are requesting that all drivers **reverse** park into the marked bays.
- Thank you all who use the pedestrian crossing area. You are demonstrating to your children correct road safety practices. Once children cross the pedestrian crossing into the parking area, they, for their safety, need to be placed into vehicles promptly. The car park is **NOT** a meeting area.
- The lane around the edge of the car park (closest to the oval) are for vehicles waiting to pick children up from the Pick-up Zone **ONLY**.
- The two parking bays closest to the office path are the **PICK-UP ZONES**. These are **NO STANDING** zones. If your children are not ready to get into your car as you pull up to the pick-up zone, you must continue on and rejoin the end of the pick-up queue.
- There is **NO RIGHT TURN** when exiting the car park. All vehicles must turn left for the safety of others and to maintain traffic flow.
- **THE GATES CLOSE AT 9.00am AND RE-OPEN AT 3.00pm**. Occasionally they might re-open slightly later due to school activities.

Thank you for your patience and consideration of others.

---

**OUR LADY HELP OF CHRISTIANS PARISH**

496 Princes Hwy
Narre Warren 3805.
Phone-9704 7935
Fax – 9704 7023

**Parish Priest**
Fr. Brendan Hogan
**Assistant Priest**
Fr. Stephen Onuoha

**Permanent Deacon**
Rev Peter Stringfellow

**Pastoral Associates**
Connie James

**Sacrament Co-ordinator**
Emily D’Sylva

**Mass Times**
Saturday- 6.00pm
Sunday– 8.00am, 9.15am 11.00am & 6.00pm

**PARISH OFFICE HOURS**
Monday 12noon – 3.30pm
Tues-Friday 9.00 - 3.30pm

---

**SCHOOL BOARD**
board@trinitynarre.catholic.edu.au

**Ex-officio:**
Fr. Brendan Hogan

**Principal**
Simon Dell’Oro

**School Representative:**
Rebecca Todisco
Tania Mitchell

**Parish Representative:**
Denise Ryan

**Pastoral Coordinator:**
Sister Joy

**Chairperson:**
Tim O’Meara

**Secretary:**
Lisa Ferracane

**P & F Rep:**
Jenny Haigh

**Parent Representatives:**
Stuart Woolf
Michael Locandro
Vanessa Burgos
**PASTORAL CARE NEWSLETTER**

**6TH MAY 2015**

**We pray for:** Scott McLardie’s Father (Hamish PrepN) who died last Friday; Vineth Jayasuriya (past pupil of Trinity – Nisali 6E) who was in an accident; all our Mothers, living and dead.

**VERY URGENT:** SOMEONE SENT IN A BOOKING FOR THE Mother’s Day Breakfast on the last day first term without the bottom of the form containing the details of name etc… **SR JOY NEEDS TO KNOW WHO YOU ARE!!!!!!**

**PARISH FETE IS SATURDAY 7TH NOVEMBER** – A date for your diary. (Anyone who has small pots which they would like to recycle please pop them into me.) Also anyone who is trimming back and could pot up some cuttings for the Parish fete that would be terrific.

**TOILET near the playroom.** MUM’s please take soiled nappies with you when you leave and dispose of them at home and NOT in the rubbish bin here. Also make sure your little ones flush the toilet for the convenience of the next user. Thank You.

**MOTHER’S DAY BREAKFAST** is this Friday beginning at 7.30pm. **Bookings have now closed.** Thank you to those who are coming to enjoy this treat for our Mothers and a BIG THANK YOU to those Fathers and Staff who are helping.

**A MOTHER’S BEATITUDES**

_Blessed is the mother who understands her child._

_Blessed is the mother who knows how to comfort,_
_for she shall possess a child’s devotion._

 she shall inherit a kingdom of memories.

_Blessed is the mother who is never shocked,_
_for she shall receive and know confidence and security._

_Blessed is the mother who teaches respect,_
_for she shall be respected._

_Blessed is the mother who emphasises the good,_
_for her children shall follow her example._

_Blessed is the mother who answers questions honestly,_
_for she shall always be trusted._

_Blessed is the mother who treats her children as she would like to be treated,_
_for her home will always be filled with happiness._
Hello everyone,

**Mothers Day Raffle**
Don’t forget Mothers Day raffle tickets and money are due back by Wednesday 6th May 2015. The raffle will be drawn on Friday 8th May 2015 at Assembly.

**Mothers Day Stall**
Thank you to all of the parents, grand parents, teachers & students that helped at our Mothers Day Stall on Tuesday. Your help and support is greatly appreciated.

**Fundraising Events For 2015** – (don’t forget to put these dates in your diary)

- **Term 2** - Potato Day – Monday 22nd June 2015
- **Term 3** - Fathers Day Stall – Wednesday 2nd September 2015
  - Fathers Day Raffle drawn on Friday 5th September 2015
  - BLINGO (Adults only night) – Saturday 8th August 2015
- **Bunnings – 4th October 2015 (updated)**
- **Term 4** - Disco – Halloween Theme – Friday 23rd October 2015

**Donations**
We would greatly appreciate donations towards our Blingo (adults only event) in August, and Fathers Day raffle. If you have any new items you would like to donate, please drop them off at the office.

**Join our Committee**
We welcome any new members to the P&F Committee, it’s never too late to join us. If you cannot make our monthly meeting, that’s ok, we love helpers on the day of our events. Joining our committee is a great way to meet new people. Contact Melissa on 0416025494 if you are interested.

From your P&F Committee

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**Committee Members**

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<th>Position</th>
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<tr>
<td>President</td>
<td>Melissa Moore</td>
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<td>Vice President</td>
<td>Carolyn Burge</td>
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<td>Secretary</td>
<td>Kerryn Cerchiaro</td>
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<td>Asst Treasurer</td>
<td>Nicola Schultze</td>
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<td>Board Rep</td>
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<td>Allison Hellier</td>
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**Next P & F Meeting** -
- **TUESDAY 1st JUNE** at 7pm in the Staffroom.
- **Tuesday 5th May**—Mother’s Day Stall
- **Friday 8th May**—Mother’s Day Raffle
Help your children make sense of natural disasters

As adults we all want our children to live carefree lives and keep them from the pain and even horror of tragedies such as natural disasters. In reality we can’t do this.

Recent natural disasters wreak incredible havoc on so many people’s lives and will no doubt leave an indelible imprint on our collective psyches. Graphic images have been brought into our living rooms via the media over the last few weeks, and will continue to do so in the immediate future.

As adults we all want our children to live carefree lives and keep them from the pain and even horror of tragedies such as natural disasters. In reality we can’t do this.

So what is a parent, teacher, or other caring adult to do when the natural disasters fill the airwaves and the consciousness of society? Here are some ideas:

1. Reassure children that they are safe
   The consistency of the images can be frightening for young children who don’t understand the notion of distance and have difficulty distinguishing between reality and fiction. Let them know that while this event is indeed happening it will not affect them directly.

2. Be available
   Let kids know that it is okay to talk about the unpleasant events. Listen to what they think and feel. By listening, you can find out if they have misunderstandings, and you can learn more about the support that they need. You do not need to explain more than they are ready to hear, but be willing to answer their questions.

3. Help children process what they see and hear, particularly through television
   Children are good observers but can be poor interpreters of events that are out of their level of understanding.

4. Support children’s concerns for others
   They may have genuine concerns for the suffering that will occur and they may need an outlet for those concerns. It is heartwarming to see this empathy in children for the concerns of others.

5. Let them explore feelings beyond fear
   Many children may feel sad or even angry with these events so let them express the full range of emotions. They may feel sadder for the loss of wildlife, than for loss of human life, which is impersonal for them.

6. Help children and young people find a legitimate course of action if they wish
   Action is a great antidote to stress and anxiety so finding simple ways to help, including donating some pocket money can assist kids to cope and teaches them to contribute.

7. Avoid keeping the television on all the time
   The visual nature of the media means that images are repeated over and over, which can be both distressing to some and desensitizing to others.

8. Be aware of your own actions
   Children will take their cues from you and if they see you focusing on it in an unhealthy way then they will focus on it too. Let them know that it is happening but it should not dominate their lives.

9. Take action yourself
   Children who know their parents, teachers, or other significant caregivers are working to make a difference feel hope. They feel safer and more positive about the future. So do something. It will make you feel more hopeful, too. And hope is one of the most valuable gifts we can give children and ourselves.

   Children’s worlds can be affected in ways that we can’t even conceive of so adults need to be both sensitive to children’s needs and mindful of what they say and how they act in front of children. In difficult times, it is worth remembering what adults and children need most are each other.