The term has flown by and we have very little left before we break for the Easter holidays. The term has progressed well and we continue to attract new families within our midst.

**Students**

**Religious**

To begin the Church season of Lent all children had the opportunity to participate in a ceremony to receive the ashes on Ash Wednesday. Thanks to John Brown, our school APRE for making this possible.

This Sunday we celebrate the installation of Fr Modestus as our new Parish Priest. We are enjoying working with him & seeing his involvement with the children.

**Academic**

School is a busy place these days with many activities occurring within our classrooms.

Year 4, 5, 6 & 7 are all involved this term in the implementation of the Brisbane Catholic Education initiative – embracing a Learning Management System. All classes by year’s end will be involved in this project which will see a component of each child’s learning conducted on-line throughout the school year. Parents too will have greater access to their child’s work, & the digital age will become very real for all our learners.

Coupled with this our Year 4, 5 & 6 will all begin a 1:1 laptop program in Term 2. The IT age is well & truly with us & as educators we are working to ensure systems are in place to put our learners in the best possible position for learning in a contemporary world.

Year 5 & 6 attended their Leadership camp last week & were fantastic ambassadors for our school. They succeeded in **extending their boundaries**, whilst **reaching out to others**, for **God, Others & Self**.

Year 2 held an incursion based on their unit of work as they explore ‘mini-beasts’ within their world

Plans are well under-way for schools as they prepare for the move for Year 7 into Secondary. I attended a meeting at SRC with other catholic primary schools to assist them with their understanding & preparation for our students to make the transition.

**Sporting & Active**

Presently we are preparing our team to attend the Zone 6 swim trials next Tuesday. A number of time-trials have been held over the past few weeks & I thank all those who attended, provided breakfast for the swimmers & the Staff who conducted the trials.

**The Arts**

We have once again been allocated a horse to paint in preparation for the winter racing carnival. We keep getting closer to the prize money so here’s hoping for 2013.

**Other:**

We celebrate Grandparents’ Day tomorrow & look forward to our grandparents joining with us for the day.

Our Year 7’s have taken on the Student leadership role with great gusto this year & are eagerly preparing activities for their team houses as well as the whole school. They all attended the GRIFFPS Leadership day recently where they learnt a lot about being organised & efficient leaders within our school.

**Staff:**

Sadly in the last month we saw the departure of two of our School Officers within our school – Mrs Karen Hall & Mrs Rosemary Butt. Both ladies have spread their wings & are taking on new ventures & we wish them the very best in their endeavours.

We wish Ms Hayley Wells the very best for her upcoming wedding during the Easter holidays.

**Parents:**

Thanks to the many parents who attended the parent information session that accompanied the start of the 1:1 laptop program for their child. These have been informative sessions & assist parents in being partners in the learning process.

Thanks too to the parents & children who attended the working bee last weekend. Small in number but huge in effort.

Our Class co-ordinators have had an active & enthusiastic start to the year & I thank them most sincerely for being the community glue that keeps our school connected. Their often unseen efforts are to be congratulated. Same too to Catherine Murdoch & team for their co-coordinator of Meals from the Heart, Helpers of the Heart & Friends of the Heart. A huge community effort to enact our school mission & bring our community to life.
Other:
At last our school website is up & operating & being populated with new information. The new sites have been released by BCEC with full control to the schools. We look to future developments.

Our School Board meet last night with the topic of the meeting being on the marketing strategies of the school. For 2013 we are looking at:

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>FUTURE DIRECTIONS</th>
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<tr>
<td>Build relationship with St Patrick’s College - Shorncliffe</td>
<td>To build pathways to enable a smooth transition for our boys to St Patrick’s at the end of Year 4 or Year 7.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Build relationships with Mary MacKillop College - Nundah St John Fisher College – Bracken Ridge &amp; St Rita’s College - Clayfield</td>
<td>To build pathways to enable a smooth transition for our girls at the end of Year 7.</td>
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<td>Build relationships with our local childcare providers – particularly Kids Kapers Sandgate C &amp; K Boondall C &amp; K Nash Street Childcare</td>
<td>Sandgate Childcare The Pink House Bramble Bay Family Daycare To create a pathway for children at these centres to enrol at Sacred Heart.</td>
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<td>Develop a Sacred Heart Playgroup in the OSHC facility</td>
<td>To build a relationship with families in the local area with children of pre-Prep age.</td>
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<td>Develop a culture within our Front Office whereby a regular daily time is set for interested prospective parents can drop in &amp; tour the facilities</td>
<td>To provide a welcoming &amp; ‘accessible’ face to the School</td>
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<td>Foster the culture within our Front Office which is welcoming &amp; inviting – - Information accessible ‘on the spot’ - Ability to enrol ‘on the spot’ - Positive PR on the phone - Well-presented information</td>
<td>So that we elicit a response of ‘There is no-where else for my child but here’ and capitalise on each and every enquiry.</td>
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<td>Create a targeted marketing letter each month to people on our booking/enquiry list that informs them of the various aspects of our school Suggested areas of: IT use and facilities Co-curricular activities Use of the available spaces incl Lagoon Sports involvement Instrumental program Australian curriculum + Learning management System (LMS) Year 7 leadership &amp; ministries Girls in Education program OSHC Outreach program – Faith in Action Community building incl functions, Buddy program, Class co-ordinators, Friends from the Heart, Meals from the Heart. ‘Man’ stalls at major community events to enable prospective families to put a friendly face to the ‘Sacred Heart’ name. - Billycart Markets - Einbunpin Festival - Sandgate Music Festival</td>
<td>Better inform the community what we as a school have to offer.</td>
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Two storage cages – to house the groundsman’s gear + gardening club gear.

Parking around the school continues to be an issue but we are in negotiations with Fr Modestus & look forward to a workable solution.

New classroom desks were delivered to two classrooms recently.

We have begun a school Twitter service – follow us on SHSandgate

Thanks for your attendance here tonight and for your continued commitment to our school.

Chris