Many of you will have celebrated Valentine’s Day with a card or gift from your loved ones expressing how they feel, but there is an awful lot of commercialism and preconceptions of what love is. Maybe we could spare a thought for Charlie Brown’s profound words.

This week marks the beginning of the Lenten Season and again our focus is on the love of God. It is a time of preparation through prayer and fasting as we ponder the journey Jesus took for us so that we may become one with God … so we pray …

Lord,
I’m not always eager to do your will,
I’d often much rather do my own will.
Please be with me on this Lenten journey
and help me to remember
that your own spirit can guide me
in the right direction.
I want to “fix” my weaknesses
but the task seems overwhelming.
But I know that with your help,
anything can be done.
With a grateful heart,
I acknowledge your love
and know that without you,
I can do nothing.

May the Lord bless us,
protect us from all evil
and bring us to everlasting life.
Amen.
Dear Parents, Children and Friends,

Congratulations to all involved in organising the Meet and Greet last Friday evening, it was a very relaxed and enjoyable evening for all who were fortunate to attend. We are very blessed to have such a wonderful P&F, a body of people that are continually working to promote a positive culture and environment within our school community. It was a shame that the Bouncy Castle people pulled out late on the day as I am sure the children would have enjoyed jumping around. As my mum use to say, “You can’t control what is not in your control.” While it was a little disappointing there were more than enough activities to keep everyone active as demonstrated on the dance floor and on the basketball courts. In conclusion I thought the evening was a very enjoyable outing for all who attended.

In our last newsletter I forgot to welcome Mrs Jane O’Reilly our new Reading Recovery Teacher. Jane will be working with the children in Years 1 and 2 in assisting them with the development of their reading and literacy skills. If you see Jane around the school please make her welcome.

Thank you to all staff members for organising, preparing and serving the pancakes at the Shrove Tuesday Breakfast. There was a great atmosphere around the school so early in the day and it was wonderful to see so many parents take the time to enjoy breakfast with their children. Thanks also to everyone who helped clean up afterwards.

The day after Shrove Tuesday is Ash Wednesday and this is the first of a 40 day period in the Church’s Liturgical Calendar called Lent. We came together as a school to commence the period of Lent by celebrating mass together. During mass we received the ashes on our forehead as a reminder for us to turn away from sin and be faithful to the Gospel teachings. Lent provides us with the opportunity to reflect on our lives and look forward to creating pathways that will help us to become more Christ like. During Lent we prepare for the life giving gift given to us by God in the Resurrection of His son Jesus on Easter Sunday. I invite you to discuss Lent and what happens throughout this period with your children as they would be doing this in class.

The Reconciliation Parent Information Evening is being held tonight, Thursday 18 February, at St. Andrew’s Church commencing at 6.30pm. Families of children intending to make their Reconciliation this year are expected to attend the information session. This will be followed up next week with two Reconciliation Workshops that will be held at St. Andrews school on Tuesday night 23 February at 6.30pm and here at BCPS on Thursday 25 February at 6.30pm. Families have the option of attending one of the nights but are expected to attend as it is part of the Reconciliation Programme.

It was very encouraging to see just over 25% of our families attend the Parent Information Evening last Monday. The teachers were pleased with the outcome of the meetings and I hope those families that attended felt the same. One of the most important outcomes from nights such as the one last Monday is the ability to create positive working relationships with your child’s teacher. Working together we can achieve the best possible outcomes for your children.

I noticed this morning the City of Wanneroo park rangers walking around the outside of the school checking out where people were parking. Please continue to park in only the areas that are marked for parking, this may mean you have to park some distance away from the school and then walk your child/children into school. Please, under no circumstances, are you to park in the Butler College car park. Remember whenever you are in the car your child/children are watching and observing your behaviour and while at times finding a park can be frustrating you need to continue to model positive behaviour for your child/children. I cannot emphasise enough the need for all adults to continually model patience, courtesy and goodwill to all who are observing.

Another issue that continues to need addressing is the school uniform. As I stated in last week’s newsletter all families in the school signed an agreement on enrolment that they would adhere to school policies and procedures and one of these relates to school uniform. All children are expected to be in the correct uniform at all times, this includes sports and non-sports days. Our uniform has changed over the past two years and over this period we had an adjustment period from the old to the new. That period of time finished last year and this year all children need to be in the new uniform. This may cause some headaches for our Year 6 families but I ask that you support the school policy and if need, please purchase the new shorts etc as expected. If your child wishes to wear the school sports jacket or school track pants they must be the new style. If any families can’t adhere to the Uniform Policy due to finances please come and see me or you can make an appointment via the office.
It appears quite surreal but in the next couple of weeks we will be commencing Kindy Enrolments for new families for 2017. The Catholic Schools in the region made a decision to conduct the interviews early in the year so that planning can begin for the forthcoming year both at a school level and system level. The initial interviews will only be for new families coming into the school in 2017. Families already in the school with children commencing Kindy in 2017 will be interviewed in term three, please make sure that you have filled out an Enrolment Application Form for your child. Children born between 1 July 2012 to 30 June 2013 are due to commence Kindy next year. If you know anyone who is interested in enrolling their child/children into our school please let them know as places are limited.

The P&F are conducting a fundraiser at Bunnings in Clarkson on Sunday 21 February, this coming Sunday. They have been rostered on by Bunnings to conduct the Sausage Sizzle and are still in need of people to cook and serve. If you are able to give a couple hours of your time to help please contact Donna Leitch on 0405 910 740. The Sausage Sizzle commences at 8.00am and finishes at 3.00pm. If you can’t help on the day you may still be able to support the P&F by turning up and buying lunch. All support would be greatly appreciated.

Take care and God bless,

James Danaher

ATTENDANCE AT SCHOOL

Below is the process for notifying our school if your child is not at school.

Child away from school
- If your child is not coming to school please email admin@brightoncps.wa.edu.au prior to 9am.
- If you are unable to email, can you please call the school absentee line on 9562 9515. A written note is required upon your child’s return.
- If you are unable to do either of these, please send a signed note with your child when they return to school.

Child away from school for an extended time (eg Family Holiday)
- If your child is not at school for an extended time, please fill in the Absentee form available from the school office or provide an email or written note to Admin.

Child arriving late to school
- If your child is arriving late, i.e. after 8.35am, can you please fill out the Student Attendance Book in the front office before sending your child to class. A written note is still required if a parent/guardian has not signed the student in.

Child leaving school early
- If your child is leaving school before 2.45pm can you please sign them out through the Student Attendance Book in the office.

Child leaving school and returning again before the end of the day
- If your child is leaving for an appointment and then returning to school, please sign them OUT and then back IN through the Student Attendance book at the front office.

SCHOOL FEES

2016 school fee statements will be sent out next week to all families via the eldest. School fees can be paid by direct debit, Bpay, cheque or cash. No eftpos facilities are available at the school. Direct debit forms are available at the office for those families who are interested in paying by direct debit. Families on Health Care Cards please ensure that you have provided your updated copy to the school office in order to receive the discount towards tuition fee only.

If you are experiencing financial difficulty, please see me in the office or email me on bastian.geneve@cathednet.wa.edu.au

Kind regards,

Mrs Geneve Bastian, Finance Officer
The Year fives were fantastic in Library this week. They looked at lots of books on the shelves and then chose which books they wanted without any fuss. Great titles were taken out and hopefully are being enjoyed. Congratulations to the Year threes who have made a great start to the year.

Our Library days are listed below –

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<th>Day</th>
<th>5B</th>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday</td>
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<td>Wednesday</td>
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<td>Thursday</td>
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<td>3B</td>
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Please remember all students require a BCPS Library bag to borrow a book. They can be bought at the front office for $5.00

UNIFORM SHOP

**Uniform pre-orders went home last week with the eldest child in each family from Years 1 – 6. If you need to order ANY item of clothing for the winter uniform please fill in this form and return to the office by no later than Wednesday 24th February. Spare forms are available in the office.

The uniform shop hours are:

- Tuesday afternoons 2.00pm – 3.00pm
- Friday mornings 8.00am – 8.30am

- If you cannot make these times, please come to the office and fill out an order form along with payment and the order will be filled on the next opening day. Orders will not be filled outside of these hours.

- We can only accept cash or cheque – the school does not have facilities at all for Eftpos/credit card payments.

- Students in Pre-Primary have the option of wearing the sports polo shirts and school hat. All students in Kindergarten do not wear the school uniform.

JOHN BUTLER DENTAL THERAPY CENTRE

Dental forms have gone out today to new families and families with children in Pre-Primary. These forms need to be returned ASAP to our school office. If you have any queries, please phone John Butler DTC on 9562 5312 or email johnbutler@dental.health.wa.gov.au
DATES TO REMEMBER:

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday 18 February</td>
<td>Reconciliation Parent Information (6:30pm)</td>
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<td>St Andrews</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday 19 February</td>
<td>Year 5 Mass (8:45am)</td>
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<td>Saturday 20 February/</td>
<td>Reconciliation Commitment Masses</td>
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<td>Sunday 21 February</td>
<td>Sat 6:00pm/Sun 9:00am/5:30pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sunday 21 February</td>
<td>Bunnings Mindarie P&amp;F BBQ</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday 23 February</td>
<td>Reconciliation Workshop (6:30pm)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>St Andrews</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday 24 February</td>
<td>Board Meeting (6:00pm)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday 25 February</td>
<td>Reconciliation Workshop (6:30pm)</td>
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<td>Brighton Catholic PS</td>
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<td>Monday 1 March</td>
<td>P&amp;F Meeting (8:30am)</td>
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<td>Friday 4 March</td>
<td>Year 3 Mass (8:45am)</td>
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<td>P&amp;F cake stall</td>
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<td>Monday 7 March</td>
<td>Labour Day public holiday</td>
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<td>(No school for students)</td>
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BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS

Congratulations to the following students who have recently celebrated a birthday or who will be celebrating their birthday over the next two weeks:
We wish you all a fantastic day!

Congratulations to the Westerhaut family (Amaya in PP and Tiarne in Kindy) on the arrival of a little girl ‘Siara Jade’.

Another big congratulations to the Byrom family (Lily G. in Year 1) on the arrival of a little girl ‘Alexis’.

ST ANDREW’S PARISH, CLARKSON (Cnr Belleville Gardens & Victorsen Parade)
Parish Priest:    Father Robert Carrillo   9407 7512
Assistant Priest:    Father Israel       
Mass Times:    Saturday 6.00pm
              Sunday 7.30am/9.00am/5.30pm

Prayer - Being Yourself Before God: This short course will explore what prayer is, the difference between “saying prayers” and praying, the many ways we pray as Catholics, and our daily call to deepen our unique relationship with God. Where: St Andrew’s Church, Clarkson.
When: Wednesdays 17th February - 9th March, 7pm-9pm. Presenter: Dr Margaret Scharf, OP.
Suggested Total Cost: $25 (or whatever amount, if any, suits you). Contact: For more information or to register, call the Centre for Faith Enrichment on 9241 5221, email cfe@perthcatholic.org.au or visit www.cfe.org.au
The Council and Staff of the Parents and Friends Federation of WA would like to welcome everyone back to the new school year. We trust that at this stage, into week 2, you are all back into the routine of lunches, uniforms and searching for those elusive permission slips at the bottom of school bags.

The staff here in the office have hit the ground running and are currently working hard to get information about our upcoming conference in May out to all schools. The dates for the conference this year are Friday 20th and Saturday 21st May. The Awards of Excellence in Building Positive School Communities will be presented at the conference dinner on Friday 21st May. Nomination forms for the Awards of Excellence are already available on our website, so get your entry in early!

We are also receiving lots of calls in the office from parents who are working hard to ensure P&F’s and parent groups get off to a good start for the year. If you need any information about office bearer’s roles, governance or just some general advice please don’t hesitate to contact us.

Theresa McDonnell, the new Liaison Officer at the Federation, has settled beautifully into our small office and she, along with Siobhan Allen (our Executive Officer) is looking forward to getting out and about and meeting with parents and parent groups in Catholic schools throughout the state. If you would like to arrange a visit from PFFWA to your school, please contact the office or email theresa@pff.wa.edu.au and we would be delighted to organise a time.

Best wishes

PFFWA Council and Staff

https://www.facebook.com/pffwa  www.pff.wa.edu.au  9271 5909  103 Wood St, Inglewood, WA 6932
Quinns FC In-house Program 2016

U5 – U7

What is Quinns FC In-house program?

Quinns FC In-house program is a smaller version of football (soccer) that provides boys and girls aged 5-7 with a fun introduction to the world game. The In-house program is designed for kids: it is all about having fun, learning new skills and making life-long friends.

Previously known as "Small-sided Football", Quinns FC have been running an in-house programme for a number of years.

8 week program starting with a FREE ‘come & try’ and family fun day on 18th February

To register please go to www.myfootballclub.com.au and follow instructions on registering your child. For more information please contact Vicki Frost on 0417095557.

Cost is $230 – payment instructions will be given once your child is registered via the www.myfootballclub.com.au website.

Your child will receive full playing strip which is yours to keep.
Parent-Child Connection – Wednesday 9 March x 4 weeks - 6.30-9pm $50 per person/$75 per couple

Raising children should be one of life’s greatest experiences, but as any parent knows, it is not an easy task. People with children under ten are invited to this four-week course to learn new skills, feel better about their parenting and gain confidence. For further information please 6164 0200.

Successful Single Parenting - Wednesday 30 March – 6.30-9pm $25.

People become single parents through a range of life choices and circumstances. Parenting alone is different in many ways compared to a two parent household and can have its difficulties and challenges. Whatever the challenges it is important to live your life in ways that shows your children you are happy. This will help them accept and value their lifestyle. If you are a single parent and are through that initial break-up stage this course will provide strategies that will help you develop a close and special relationship with your child. For further information please 6164 0200.

Understanding Stepfamily Relationships – a weekend course 1 2 3 April - $75 per person/$120 per couple.

Stepfamilies and blended families operate in a different way to intact biological families. The dynamics of a stepfamily are more complex and there is a need for special understanding and management from both biological and stepparents working together for a healthy stepfamily growth to happen. For further information please 6164 0200.