Dear Parents, Guardians, Caregivers and Friends,

During the second semester last year, Mrs Holden and Mrs Colvin approached me about an initiative to support the Bully Bulldozer program currently being implemented at St Joseph’s to stamp out bullying within our school community. The suggestion was to introduce the idea of having a ‘Buddy Bench’ that acted as a safe haven for students who are experiencing feelings of either icy isolation or working through a Roving Random kind of day.

Occasionally students in the early years can find it difficult to express their thoughts and feelings when it comes to playground isolation. The bench is intended to allow students to have a place that they can go where their peers can recognise that they need support without having to ask or necessarily talk about it. We have such a beautiful school environment where students from all grades play together, this bench will seek to support that hospitality within the playground. We intend to build a culture within the playground where students seek to support others to enjoy themselves in place of separation and guarded groupings.

Its location needed to be one that was within sight of the junior playground whilst not being out in the open where students would feel intimidated to sit by themselves. It was determined that a spot between the playground and the GACC Building would meet the needs of the students without it feeling tucked away or out of sight. To make the location more appealing to our junior students, hand painted pavers have been used to decorate the surrounding space on which the chair sits.

Next week as part of our Monday assembly we will formally introduce the concept to students and work with them to recognise the value and the intentions behind the use of the seat. Other schools within Australia have trialled this initiative with great success and one in particular started from the suggestion of a student. On our webpage and the P and F Facebook page you will find a link to a video presentation given by the student who first introduced this concept. Please take the time to have a look, as it will really hit home the importance of how a school can support all childrens’ social, emotional and educational development.

I welcome all parents and extended family to come in and have a seat with your child after school on our newly acquired ‘Buddy Bench’.

On another note, thank you to all of the mums (and helper dads) who made the mummy prom such a wonderful success. The hair was big, the dresses were eye catching to say the least and the music was pumping. The evening was very successful in contributing towards Georgia’s Orange Queen fundraising account and from all reports a wonderful night was had. Mrs Smith promises me that it will be bigger and better next festival year.

Have a wonderful week everyone.

Ben
Dear Jesus,
We thank you for Mothers everywhere
For all who care for us day by day,
Let us not forget that you were a child
And your mother was Mary.
We say thank you for Mums across the world
So let us give grateful thanks and let our voices be heard
For all the Mums, Grans, Nans, Omas, and Nannys
On this very special day.
Amen

Mothers Day
This Friday, we celebrate all our mums and those women who are like mothers to us. We recognise the significant contribution they have made in our lives and take the opportunity to celebrate them in prayer. We also remember those mothers of our community who are no longer with us. Miss Lake and the students of Year 1/2 will lead us in prayer at assembly at 9am in the Hall.

Today, tomorrow and on Friday our Community Ministry will be holding a Mothers Day gift stall on the Year 5/6 verandah. There are lots of lovely inexpensive gifts. Mums encourage your children to bring their pocket money to buy a gift or dads give your kids a few dollars so that they may buy something for mum for Sunday.

Religious Education and Apps
During Religion lessons and prayer time at school, we sometimes utilise apps on I-Pads to assist with student learning. The majority of these apps are free. If you would like to support your child’s learning in Religion at home you may like to access some of these applications. These can all be downloaded from the Apple App Store.

What’s On
Friday Assembly – Friday 8th May—Year 1/2 - Mothers Day
Please bring in photos for Mothers Day, or email them to Kathryn.Lake@bne.catholic.edu.au
By tomorrow afternoon.

The Mum Prom
Lots of fun was had by many Gayndah ladies on Saturday night at the inaugural Mum Prom. This was a fundraiser for our Orange Festival Queen entrant Miss Georgia Melville, which has managed to raised a considerable amount of money, in the race for Charity Queen at the Festival. Mrs Jody Doyle was crowned Prom Queen on the evening for her dazzling 80’s red dress which was accessorized magnificently. Mrs Michelle Dougherty was the winner of the lucky door prize. A big thank you to all those who helped setup the hall, and pack up after the event. It was definitely a case of many hands make light work.
DANCE CREW: Every Thursday afternoon in the hall.
Juniors (Prep - Year 3) - 3.15-3.45pm
Seniors (Years 4-6) - 3.45-4.20pm

Reminder, if parents can let the office know if their child doesn’t require the bus Thursdays. Remember to wear comfortable clothes and shoes. I look forward to seeing you there!

Miss Lake

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**Class Teacher Email Addresses**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Teacher</th>
<th>Email Address</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Kate Colvin</td>
<td><a href="mailto:kcolvin@bne.catholic.edu.au">kcolvin@bne.catholic.edu.au</a></td>
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**TUESDAY 12TH MAY:** Parent Information sessions, starting at 5pm —Literacy focus

**P & F NEWS:**

- Next meeting date is **NEXT Tuesday 12 May**. If you are unable to attend the meeting but would like something discussed, please email our P & F president Laura Parr: laura@glengrove.com.au
- Uniform order forms for Term Two are available at the office, or let us know if you would like one sent home with your child. Orders and payment are due back to the office by **Friday 8 May**.

**MOTHER’S DAY RAFFLE**

Win a pamper basket filled with treats or lovely bromeliad for mum. Tickets still available from the office—drawn this Saturday!

$2 each or 3 for $5.

Support Miss Georgia Melville in her quest for Orange Festival Queen.

**READ ALL ABOUT IT—LIBRARY NEWS:** Date Claimer: Book Fair -Theme— “Kings Queens and Castles, Enter the Kingdom of Books” **Tuesday 19th May to Wednesday 27th May**. Family reading morning will be **Tuesday 26th May**. During the library lesson on Tuesday 12th May students will complete their “wish list”. We are working on Medieval activities to fit in with the theme.

Have a great week, Mrs McGregor & Ms Madden.

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**TENNIS HOT SHOTS:** Do you want to become a Tennis Hot Shot? Friday afternoon at the Gayndah Tennis complex, Barrow Street is the place to be. Come and join the Tennis Australia's National program conducted by Tennis Professional, Kevin Banner and the Gayndah Tennis Association, with lots of fun & games to suit all levels. Times: 3.30pm-4.15pm (5-7 years); 4pm-5pm (7-10 years); 5-6.30pm (9-12 years); 6.30pm- 8pm (Advanced & High Schoolers). **Registration is essential - (confirmation to join the program must be given for old and new players)** to guarantee your spot with Kevin: 4152 0753 / 0409 520753

**JUNIOR SOCCER:** Open to all Junior players including high school. Training Thursdays 4.5 pm Gayndah Sports field. Fees only $25 per player/season. Come and have a go!!

**SOUTH PACIFIC TAEKWONDO:** Held at the Gayndah State Primary School every Tuesday and Thursday 6pm. Our classes include: family classes, childrens classes age 5 & up, adult classes, stranger danger and anti bullying, increase coordination and discipline, weight loss and stress relief, build your self confidence and self control. Unlimited training plus free uniform offer. You don’t have to be fit, flexible or have any prior experience! South Pacific Taekwondo is suitable for anyone of any age. Reach your goals with us! For more information contact 4724 1000 or www.southpacifictkd.com.au

**GAYNDAH JUNIOR NETBALL:** Monday afternoons, 4pm at the Gayndah State School Courts. Contact Leanne 0400 611 072 or email gayndahnetball@hotmail.com

**UNDER 8'S DAY 2015:**
**Tuesday 19th May 9:30-12:00pm, Gayndah State School Oval**
Fun activities for all under 8’s inc. Stories, bubbles, music, water play, disco, jumping castle, Old McDonald’s Farm and lots more! Australia’s biggest Morning Tea will also be available for adults for a gold coin donation.

**MOTHER’S DAY CHAMPAGNE BREAKFAST AND GOLF:** Breakfast from 8:30 followed by golf at 10am. Fundraiser for Orange Festival Entrant Hannah Emmerton. For bookings please call 0400906461

**SAINT MARY'S CATHOLIC COLLEGE:** Combined Anniversaries Celebrations. Calling all past students and staff.
**Saturday 30 May:**
1pm: Nanango races
6pm: Combined Anniversaries Mass
7-11pm: Combined Anniversaries dinner and live entertainment

**Sunday 31st May:**
10am - 2pm: College Open Day, memorabilia sales, classroom displays and tours
12.30pm: Official welcome, past student and staff time line and past staff and student roll call and plaque dedication.

**RSVP at:** https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/RSVP_SM2015

**WORLDWIDE MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER:** A weekend away for married couples in peaceful, picturesque surroundings—away from the distractions of everyday living. Take time out of your busy schedule, to invest in your most precious asset—your marriage! This is a unique opportunity to recharge your relationship batteries, refocus on each other and fall in love all over again!

**Weekend date:** 15th -17th May 2015
**Venue:** Santa Teresa Spirituality Centre, Ormiston (QLD)
For bookings/details contact: Maria and David Murphy, ph (07) 3342 1456, dandmmurphy@optusnet.com.au  Information website: www.wwme.org.au