Mission and Religious Education

- Our Opening School Mass will be celebrated this Friday, 12th February at 9am. Our Year 6 leaders will also be commissioned and commit to the year ahead.
- Children in Years 4 to 6 will join the parish community for Ash Wednesday Mass this Wednesday at 9am.
- Children in Prep to Year 3 will participate in an Ash Wednesday paraliturgy at 11am in the school hall.
- Thank you to Loretta and the Year 2 parents and caregivers who have co-ordinated the pancakes for Shrove Tuesday tomorrow.
- Our Year 6 leaders spent the day last week engaged in a leadership program called “Project Hatch”. The children participated in a variety of activities that focussed on building leadership skills.
- The school’s RE Curriculum was successfully validated (for a period of 5 years from 30th November, 2015). The school community received commendations for:
  (a) Teachers engaging in collaborative planning for the effective delivery of Religious Education through “wrap around meetings” inclusive of the APRE, ST-IE, Teacher Librarian, Technology Specialist Teacher and Class Teacher; and
  (b) Our school’s Religious Education Program provides evidence of student engagement with the mission and outreach of the Church through specific and targeted participation in social justice initiatives within the wider Parish community.
- Lent is our major focus for Term 1 – Project Compassion, Rice Day activities etc.

Learning and Teaching

- Continue our journey with Delivering Excellent Learning and Teaching by focussing on a shared language of learning, learning intentions and success criteria, feedback and further building teacher capacity of “good practice” through collaboration.
- Continue to build a positive school environment using the principles and strategies that underpin the Kids Matter program.
- Year 6 go on camp in Week 6 (Noosa North Shore Retreat).
- Sports calendar for 2016 is nearly finalised. Term One events include: Years 3 to 6 Inter-house Swimming Carnival on Tuesday, 16th February, Zone 2 Swimming Carnival on Monday, 29th February, Gala Day on Thursday, 17th March and our Inter-house Cross Country on Thursday, 24th March.

Professional Practice and Collaborative Relationships

- The 2016 School Goals will be finalised when Liz (APRE), Penney (PLL) and myself attend the South East Cluster Days at the end of the month.
- The staff engaged in a variety of professional learning opportunities at the beginning of the year. These included:
  (a) Part 2 of the “Growth Coaching” model as a strategy for staff to use when having focussed conversations with others to help them maximise their capabilities.
  (b) Visible Learning – focussed on Mind frames, Model of Pedagogy and how to use data effectively to inform teaching and learning.
  (c) RE – Meditative Prayer.
  (d) Student Protection Training
  (e) Work Place Health and Safety training.
- Congratulations to the P&F on organising another very successful Welcome BBQ and disco last Friday. It was a wonderful way to start the New Year and welcome new (and old) members to the community.
Strategic Resourcing

- Enrolment of 328, 216 families.
- Welcomed new staff Sally Peace (Year 1), Emmi Thomas (Year 3), Emma Brown (Year 4) and Geraldine Robertson (School Officer)
- Charlotte Smith (Guidance Officer) and her husband Tim are expecting their first child in July.
- A number of staff will be taking Long Service Leave in 2016 – Liz Jones (APRE) 3 weeks at the beginning of Term 2, Ros Kelly (ST-IE) June/July and Pattie Linning (Admin Officer) May/June.
- Installation of 7 new tables (under shade sails) and 2 more coloured tables for Early Years eating area.
- Received approval from CCI re fixing of the fence on Perth Street.
- Installation of soft fall in the Early Years playground has commenced.