Welcome to Term 2 2014. We have a ten week term which includes long weekends. These short weeks make for extra busy days.

Class Masses
We have two Class Parish masses scheduled for this term, Year 7 on Mothers’ Day Sunday 11 May & Year 6 on Sunday 22 June, the Feast of the Body & Blood of Christ. These masses are at 9:00am. Thank you for supporting our school/parish connection. Our students are such wonderful ambassadors for our school.
We also have two class masses scheduled for 12 noon on Friday 2 May for years six & two & Friday 20 June for years five & one.

ANZAC Day
Our sixteen School Captains & House Captains represented St Dympna’s School at last Wednesday’s schools service at the Shrine of Remembrance, ANZAC Square.
We then held a school service in our hall at 2pm on the same day.
On Friday morning well over one hundred students & their families as well as staff, joined the local march & service at the Zillmere RSL Cenotaph. Thank you for your support.

Easter
We held our first Prayer Assembly for Term 2 this morning. 6A led a ‘Resurrection’ prayer reflecting on Easter in our daily lives. Thank you to the many parents who join us weekly to pray as a community.

Parent Information Workshops
We are offering parents opportunities to hear about the secondary schools which are in our area. The purpose of the workshops is to help with the selection of a school for your child & to pass on relevant enrolment information. Our target audience is parents with children in prep & years 1, 2 & 3. The first workshop is on Wednesday 7 May at 7pm in the library & a repeat session Monday 12 May at 9am in the multipurpose hall after assembly.
If your child is in year 4, 5, 6 or 7 please contact secondary schools as soon as possible to seek an immediate enrolment.

Cross Country Carnivals
All year levels participated in our school Cross Country Carnival on Tuesday 1 April. A squad on 10, 11, 12 & 13 year olds will compete in the Bramble Bay Carnival next Wednesday 7 May. The squad for the Zone 6 Carnival on Friday 16 May 2014 was announced today.
Younger students are given the opportunity to participate in the Zone 6 competition. Training sessions are scheduled in the mornings for these selected students

Canberra Camp
Our year six students are preparing for their Canberra camp which is booked for 28 to 31 July, week three of Term 3. The year seven students visited Canberra in March which will be the future time for year six camps.

Musical Performance
A group of our talented musicians & choristers performed at the Catholic Primary Principals Conference on Thursday 3 April at the Royal on the Park. Our students combined with students from All Saints, Albany Creek to present several strings pieces & choral items. The students were very impressive displaying their skills & talents. Congratulations children &
teachers. Mary Hehir & Ruth Skippen, music teacher from All Saints selected & trained the children. Thank you for a job so well done.

**Class Activities**
Many classes ended the term with special open mornings for parents to view children’s work. Teachers are organising a variety of learning experiences such as excursions and guest speakers.
Year five & six classes begin an interschool sports competition this week while the year sevens begin their in three weeks’ time. Please read the school newsletter to keep up to date with what is happening.
Debating for years 5, 6 & 7 will also commence later this term.

**APRE Conference**
Last month Tanya McNeill our APRE was one of a few to attend this year’s International Conference in L.A. Tanya has been sharing her new knowledge with us since her return.
The day Tanya returned to work her husband Andrew was hospitalised with serious illness.
The good news is that he is making excellent progress.

**Congratulations**
Over the Easter holidays one of our year four teachers, Carlie Jackson was married. I wish Carlie & her husband many years of happiness.

**APA Review**
All members of BCE who hold leadership positions undertake regular professional appraisals. This year our Peter Hehir has his five year review.
The review process consists of data collection through a survey questionnaire followed by panel meets with school community members. An online questionnaire was sent out to members of staff & several dozen randomly selected parents. If you did not receive a questionnaire & would like to be included please contact Fran Nave in the school office. Fran will have a copy sent to you.
The survey closes this Friday 2 May 2014.

**NAPLAN Testing**
On 13, 14 & 15 May our year three, five & seven students will sit their literacy & numeracy NAPLAN tests. Please see last Friday’s newsletter for detailed information for parents. The students are being prepared for the testing & it is imperative that families do not put too much emphasis on these tests as they are one small piece of student assessment. We do not want the children feeling unnecessary anxiety on the testing days.

**Reporting to Parents**
At the end of this term all students will receive a written report from their classroom teacher. Parents will be invited to an interview to discuss their child’s report & progress.
Because all of our reports are generated electronically we cannot print out early reports as sometimes requested by parents. If children are away from school reports are posted.

We look forward to a busy, productive term at St Dympna’s School.
God bless

Janet Smith