FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Hello to all in the St Brigid's community,

Term 3, Week 11

Sunday's readings informed us that the generous attitude of Jesus to ‘tax collectors and sinners’ scandalised those who saw themselves as the guardians of Israel's true traditions. Luke gives us three parables with which Jesus responded directly to this criticism – he was, he said, giving expression to the merciful ways of his Father. The best known of the three, of course, is the story of the son who, after foolishly squandering his inheritance, is received back by his rejoicing father. The message in these parables is to treat everyone equally even though human nature leads us to be judgemental at times. Forgiveness of others is another powerful theme in these parables which we should strive to emulate in our daily lives.

Assembly This Week

Mrs Vekaci & Mrs Stackman’s 3C class presented the prayer focus at assembly this week. It focused on the way we can give to others, particularly those in need, through supporting organisations such as the St Vincent de Paul Society. To find out more about this organisation please click on the following link: http://www.vinnies.org.au/home-qld

School Wide Positive Behaviour Support

Our S.W.P.B.S focus for this week is related to respecting our school environment:

‘Ensuring all rubbish is placed in a bin’

In our final week of Term 3, class teachers will be expanding on this focus in classrooms in the following ways:

- Rubbish brought to school is taken home or placed in one of the many bins located around our school.
- If you see rubbish, don’t walk past it; pick it up and bin it!
- Each year level has an area that they are responsible for keeping tidy within St Brigid’s. Class teachers will take students out on one or more occasions to ensure the designated area is clean.
- Leaving food scraps lying around attracts the ibis. How do we stop this happening? Put rubbish in the bin.

The final 10 students whose names were drawn out at assembly should be congratulated on their efforts to earn ‘robo reward tickets’. Students can use their tuckshop vouchers Wednesday – Friday of this week. The names of these students are outlined later in the newsletter.

2013 Naplan Reports for Parents

I have been advised that the hard copy NAPLAN student reports will not be available until October 13th. This is a delay of four weeks due to printing errors.

What’s On This Week
On Wednesday September 18th we will be holding a ‘footy colours day’.

On Thursday September 19th students in Years 3 & 4 will be participating in a liturgy in the church at 9.15am. Any parents wishing to join the classes for this celebration are most welcome.

Friday September 20th is the final day for Term 3, school concludes at the normal time of 3.00pm.

Footy Colours Day for St Mary’s Beaudesert

In recent weeks, St Mary’s Catholic primary school in Beaudesert, had a number of their buildings destroyed by fire. The buildings lost were believed to have been built in 1939; they housed four classrooms, toilet blocks, storerooms, an administration block, staffroom and two new photocopiers that were installed the week before the fire. In order to help them get back on their feet we are running a ‘Footy Colours Day for St Mary’s Beaudesert’ on Wednesday September 18th. On this day students are able to wear items from their favourite football team to school in return for a gold coin donation. Lolly bags will be sold at break time in the hall with all monies raised going to St Mary’s Beaudesert to help them with the rebuild. I am sure they will be grateful for any financial assistance they receive.

Bat Safety Message

You would be aware that Australian bat lyssavirus (ABLV) can be transmitted from bats and flying foxes to humans, usually through being bitten or scratched. Infection with ABLV can be fatal. Unfortunately a young boy died earlier this year from the virus. The best protection is to avoid handling bats and flying foxes. It is important to communicate this to young children who may accidentally, or due to curiosity, disturb an injured bat or flying fox, causing it to scratch or bite them. Children should be educated to stay away from bats and flying foxes and to tell an adult immediately if they do come into contact with one. This safety message has been initiated by Queensland Health in the hope that students and families will become aware of the danger of handling bats. Class teachers will be talking to students about this prior to Term 4.

New School Tents – Opportunity for Business Owners

In the near future, St Brigid’s will be placing an order for 4 new school tents which will be used frequently throughout the school year, for local and interschool sports events and other activities. An opportunity exists for businesses to support St Brigid’s and have their name or logo printed across the top of the tents. The artwork / logos need to be finalised before the tents are manufactured. Any interested business owners should contact the school Principal prior to the end of Term 3 to discuss details.

Holidays

The final day for Term 3 will be Friday September 20th with students returning for the commencement of Term 4 on Tuesday October 8th, as Monday October 7th is the Labour Day public holiday. I would like to take this opportunity to wish all students and families, a restful and relaxing holiday after a very busy and eventful Term 3.

Lost Property

The amount of lost property has built up over the course of this term. As you can see from the picture below there are over 50 unclaimed items and the majority have no name on them. Items that had names have been returned to their respective owners. There remain two large bags of unnamed lost property items which will be available for parents to look through prior to the end of term. After this they will be washed and donated to St Vincent de
Paul. I encourage any parents whose children have lost items, to take the time to look through these before the end of term.

St Brigid's Spelling Bee Champions for 2013
Parish Newsletter

Please [click here](#) to access the current Parish Newsletter.

Have a good week.

Chris Clurey
Acting Principal

APA NEWS

Brisbane Catholic Education Schools Guidelines and Support Material

As a Brisbane Catholic Education School, we are required to apply and follow various guidelines, policies and directives from BCE. As parents of children attending a BCE school, there is an expectation that you too will follow any guidelines and directives for parents, which are issued by BCE.

It is our responsibility to ensure guidelines and support materials are made available to you, the parents. Each week, in this section of the newsletter, we will be providing our school community with this information.

Below is a parent fact sheet: Working Together To Keep Our Schools Safe
Brisbane Catholic Education promotes and aims to provide a safe and supportive learning environment for all students. We strive to ensure a culture where all acknowledge and understand that student safety and wellbeing is the responsibility of everybody.

SAFE AND SUPPORTIVE BRISBANE CATHOLIC EDUCATION

SCHOOLS

PARENT FACT SHEET

WORKING TOGETHER TO KEEP OUR SCHOOL SAFE

We can work together to keep our school safe.

We believe that authentic Catholic schools are founded on the person of Jesus Christ and enlivened by the Gospel; we are committed to Catholic Schools which embrace the vision of Jesus and the teaching of the Gospel.

In Brisbane Catholic Education schools:

• Every student has the right to feel safe and be safe at school.

• No weapons are allowed to be taken to school by students.

• There is no reason for a student to have a weapon at school and it is against the law for a student to have a knife at school.

As a parent, you need to be aware of the laws in Queensland regarding the possession, use or distribution of weapons in schools. The Weapons Act 1990 states that “it is an offence to possess a knife in a public place or school without reasonable excuse” - s51 (1). Possession of a knife or other weapon for protection or self-defense is not a reasonable excuse. If a student has a knife at school, there may be serious consequences including legal and school disciplinary consequences.

How can parents help to keep our school safe?

• Make sure your child knows what the laws and rules are about weapons and knives.

• Do not include knives of any kind or tools in children’s lunch boxes, pencil cases or craft kits.

• Contact your school principal if you are concerned about your child’s wellbeing or safety.

• If you want to talk about students and weapons at school, please contact the school.
Thank you for your support in keeping St Brigid’s safe for all children.

**School Uniform**

Over the course of term 3 we have noticed an increase in the incorrect school uniform being worn among students. In particular, coloured footwear has started to become very noticeable. Correct school footwear includes black shoes. Students wearing incorrect uniform should present a note from home. Please refer to the Parent Handbook, located on the Parent Portal, for full details regarding correct school uniform. Thank you.

**Art Competition**

Students have the opportunity to enter a competition being run by the GCCC: “Think At The Sink” which promotes the message of avoiding environmental damage, nasty blockages and expensive plumbing bills by only sending safe items down the sink.

Entry forms can be obtained from the office and returned to Mrs Sandstrom early in Term 3 or sent directly to the GCCC as per instructions on the forms.

Please [click](#) this link for more information

**Wipe Out Waste**

This is a Primary School Education Program supported by the GCCC to promote sustainability within our city. In term 4 the team from Wipe Out Waste will be visiting and each class will be attending a lesson delivered by educators from Natura Education on behalf of the GCCC. Sustainability is recognised as an important priority of the Australian National Curriculum - one which crosses all curriculum areas.

Please [click](#) this link for more information

**Thank you**

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Mrs Penny Chesters for her contribution to St Brigid’s music program during my absence from the role.

Safe holidays to all families.

Regards,

Maryanne Sandstrom
Acting Assistant Principal

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**APRE NEWS**

Thank you to the few parents who have been able to join their children for Mass in the past 2 weeks. I have been very impressed with the reverence and the knowledge displayed by the children during the Masses and Father Rafal has also commended them for their prayerfulness and stillness.
A very big thank you must go to the teachers who have prepared the children so well for their Buddy Masses. This week, parents of Year 3 and 4 students have had the opportunity to join the students in celebrating the Eucharist. The Year 4s who have just made their Confirmation and First Eucharist, will be able to fully participate in the school celebration for the first time.

It was lovely to be able to join so many families on Thursday night and over the weekend as our students completed their Sacraments of Initiation. The Church was full of life and community spirit.

Karen Petherick

GUIDANCE COUNSELLOR NEWS

Parenting Kids Who Struggle

As a parent it is important to be realistic about what each child can achieve. Parenting educator Michael Grose has identified some ideas to keep in mind if you are parenting a child where success, at school, sport and other common childhood activities, just doesn't come naturally. Please click here to download the tip sheet.

Please do not hesitate to contact me, the class teacher or other school personnel if you are concerned about the social or emotional well-being of your child.

Weekly quote: “While we try to teach our children all about life, Our children teach us what life is all about.” Angela Schwindt

Kind regards,

Cilla Stent
Primary Guidance

LIBRARY NEWS

As part of the St Brigid's Library Book Week Celebrations we had a 'cool' young author, Tristan Bancks, visit our school on Thursday. Tristan discussed his books and the writing process. The year 5, 6, 7 students & teachers were fully engaged and found him insightful, entertaining and most importantly, really tuned into how kids think and behave. Some students purchased personally signed copies of Tristan's books and we look forward to further author visits.
Jan Knowles

**DATE CLAIMERS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Thursday 17th October</td>
<td>School Photo Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday 18th October</td>
<td>Grandparent's Day at St Brigid's</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday 21st October</td>
<td>Pupil Free Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>Saturday 26th October</td>
<td>St Brigid's Race Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday 6th - 8th November</td>
<td>Year 5 Camp - Bornhoffen PCYC</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday 12th November</td>
<td>GC Catholic Schools’ Reader's Cup</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday 13th November</td>
<td>GC Catholic Schools’ Aquathon</td>
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Term Dates

Please refer to the Brisbane Catholic Education website for term dates for 2014 and 2015.

http://www.bne.catholic.edu.au/students-parents/Pages/TermDates.aspx

Term Dates 2013

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Term 3:</th>
<th>Monday 8 July - Friday 20 September</th>
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<tr>
<td>Term 4:</td>
<td>Tuesday 8 October - Friday 6 December</td>
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<tr>
<td>Professional Development and Planning Days</td>
<td>Monday 21 October</td>
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BIRTHDAYS

Happy birthday this week to the following children:


Also Happy Birthday to those children who will be celebrating their birthdays over the school holidays:


MR GUDGEON'S SPORT REPORT

Joshua came 3rd in sumo & 4th in sparring with an encouragement award, at ISKA (International Sport Karate Association) state titles. The titles were held at All Saint's Anglican School, on the 8th Sept 2013. (Also competing were Harry P 1st in Sumo, 3rd in kata, 3rd in point sparring, Jess A 1st places in Kata, point sparring, Sumo and Sword combat, Daniel A 3rd in extreme musical weapons, 2nd in point sparring, and 1st in Sumo, sword combat and Kata, Ruby B, 1st place in Kata & point sparring, and 2nd in Sword combat.

Taryn participated in the All Star Cheerleading Federation State championships & her team came second. The State Titles were held at Brisbane entertainment centre, on 15th Sept 2013. Also participating in another cheer team was Eiley P, whose team did an amazing job.
STUDENT AWARDS
Awards to be presented at assembly

NO AWARDS UNTIL TERM 4 WEEK 2

S.W.P.B.S

ROBO

Winners of Robo Tuckshop Awards are:

P-3

Ayssa PA
WORKPLACE HEALTH & SAFETY NEWS

St Brigid’s Sunsmart Policy realises the need to protect children’s skin and educate them about Sunsmart behaviour, thus reducing the risk of skin damage from exposure to the sun.

Kids and Bats Can’t be Friends

Parents, please read the following important information and take some time to discuss this with your child. Classroom teachers will be doing the same with the children in class, but as it is an important health warning, it will help to reinforce the message. Thank you.
Sign In and Out Procedures

- All visitors are required to sign in and out at the office.
- Children arriving after 9:00 am are required to report to the office to be issued with a 'late slip' to be handed to the teacher on arrival at class.
- Parents collecting children prior to the end of the school day must now report to the office first, to be issued with a 'permission to leave early' slip, and then hand this slip to the class teacher before the child is dismissed.

1. If you see a bat or flying fox, don't go near it or try to touch it—even if it looks hurt.
2. You are much bigger than a bat and it may get scared and try to scratch or bite you if you go near it.
3. The bat's germs can be passed on to you if you get scratched or bitten—this can make you very sick.
4. If you do get scratched or bitten by a bat or flying fox tell your parents, a teacher or an adult straight away.
5. An adult can help you wash where you were scratched or bitten with soap and water for about five minutes.
6. They will then need to take you to a doctor very quickly, who will look at the scratch or bite and then treat you to stop the germs making you sick.

If you do see a bat or flying fox that's hurt you should tell an adult and they can call:
- RSPCA—1300 ANIMAL (1300 264 625)
- Department of Environment and Heritage Protection—1300 130 372
- Your local wildlife care group/rescuer/carer for assistance.
The importance of the school's Sign In and Out Procedures was highlighted recently when St Brigid's conducted a Fire Drill. Your co-operation in following the above procedures is always appreciated.

be SAFE be WELL

OSHC

St Brigid's Nerang OSHC - Vacation Care Program Details

Please click here to access the Vacation Care Program information for the September/October school holidays.

TUCKSHOP

THE TUCKSHOP WILL BE OPEN ON THE LAST DAY OF TERM - FRIDAY 20th SEPTEMBER

Slushies are coming in Term 4 and will be $1.50 each

The following children have items to collect at the tuckshop which have already been paid for. Please see Miss Mel.
Term 3 Tuckshop Menu

Please note that pizzas are now $3.00 and sausage rolls are $2.20.

Please check out the new tuckshop menu.

Miss Mel
Tuckshop Convenor

UNIFORM SHOP

Backpacks and sport shorts have arrived, skorts will be here at end of the week.

Hours

Tuesday and Friday 8:30am - 9:30am

P & F COMMITTEE

Date Claimers

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
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<td>Grandparent's Day</td>
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<td>Monday 21st October</td>
<td>World Teacher's Day</td>
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RACE DAY

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<th>Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Saturday 26th October</td>
<td>St Brigid's Race Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday 21st - 22nd November</td>
<td>Christmas Stall</td>
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Race Day tickets are $60 each & the full $60 must be paid for a seat to be reserved.
If you would like to reserve a table of 10 the whole amount of $600 must be paid for the table to be reserved.

If you haven’t already purchased your race day ticket, please do so ASAP as there are only a few tables left.
CLASS NEWS

Prep News

This week the Prep children are revising the letters b, j, z, w, v, y and all our word families for the term.

In Science we have been studying the weather and filling in a daily weather journal. At the end of this week we will then tally up and graph our results.

In Maths we have started discussing 3D shapes...cylinder, cube, sphere and cone. For ‘holiday homework’ we would love you and your child to design a simple mobile using the above 3D shapes. Please use everyday objects around the house to represent these shapes and hang them from a coat hanger for display.

We would like you to keep Jonte and his family in your prayers at this time. He had an unfortunate accident involving a scooter and has undergone surgery at Mater Children’s hospital in Brisbane. At this stage we are pleased to announce that he is in a stable condition.

We wish Anna from Prep A all the best at her new school. We will all miss her and her family. Good luck!

We hope you all have a restful and happy holiday together.

Year 1 News

Term 3 has provided the Grade Ones with many extra curricular activities. We have celebrated many culturally-rich, sporting and religious occasions during a very long 11 week term. These opportunities have included: Spelling Bee, Mary’s Assumption, NAIDOC Day, the School Fete and Ball Games, just to re-cap a few.

The launch of Robo tickets for the school wide behaviour program has been a positive thing for the Grade One children as they actively strive to improve their behaviour. The enthusiasm and energy of the Grade One children has been outstanding this term. It is both rewarding and delightful to see the smiles on the children’s faces. This makes the extra effort people go to, to create these very special memories for the children, very worthwhile.

It is a good idea to check and illiminate any physical difficulties children might experience. The holidays provide an ideal opportunity for family and friends to check their child’s hearing and vision for any difficulties. It is advisable that these checks be periodically maintained on the recommendation of the specialists.

Year 2 News

On Wednesday the Year 2 students gathered with their Year 5 buddies to celebrate Mass. The students were very reverent, responding confidently to the prayers and participating in the singing. Father Rafal made positive comments, regarding the children’s behaviour throughout the Mass.

This week in Science we have been investigating what constitutes a mixture. The students have carried out their own investigations, in small teams, to separate the ingredients that make up muesli.

We wish all of our students and families a happy and safe holiday.
**Year 3 News**

Thank you to the children and their families for their generous donations to St Vincent de Paul. The children all did a wonderful job at explaining Jesus's message about sharing and looking after those who are less fortunate. We look forward to our Grade 3/4 buddy mass this Thursday where we can present our donations to St Vincent de Paul. Mass starts at 9:15am. All are welcome!

This week we will focus on completing some assessment and our day and night models.

Congratulations to Isaac Cashman who is our Grade Three Spelling champion.

We wish everyone a happy and safe holiday. See you in Term Four.

**Year 4 News**

As we reach the end of term 3, it is hard to believe it has been nearly 11 weeks since the mid-year break! That doesn’t mean we’re done yet! Congratulations to all the students of Year 4 who have just celebrated their Confirmation and First Eucharist. It was wonderful being part of their welcome into the Church family.

The finals of the Year 4 spelling bee had to be postponed, so we don’t know who the winner is, but we will let you know as soon as we have a name to announce.
During this last week of the term, the students are going to be constructing their ships and trying to create their own ‘Fleet’. Watch this space at the beginning of Term 4 – we will include some of their creations. And finally …

Year 4 Visit to the Bike Safety Centre:
Year 6 News

Grade 6 has had a very exciting week. We had the amazing author Tristan Bancks come to visit us and read some of his new story. It was very funny.

We would like to congratulate Ronan O, Samuel W and Vince R on their confirmation last Thursday night.

This week we have also been working on a persuasive writing essay on the topics "Junk shouldn’t be sold at tuck-shops" or "Children should receive a mobile phone when they turn ten years of age". We had to choose either one or another.

Rob from The Australian Youth Choir came in on Friday to hear our great voices; there will be auditions on Monday at Keebra Park High School!

Thanks ~ Ella J, Jake H and Shakira G

JAPANESE NEWS

On Tuesday the 9th, 6B had their first Skype call with a Japanese primary school in Tokyo (Musashino Gakuen Primary School). 6B students started their conversation with their names and asked lots of questions in Japanese.
such as “Do you have a pet? What is his name?” “What do you like?” “What sports do you play?” and so on. 6A will have their Skype call on the 28th October.
Year 5 students have been very busy learning lots of expressions in Japanese since they first started Japanese this year. They can ask and answer their name, age, where they live, what they like, hobby, what they can do and including some country names and sport names.

Year 7 students have made an “Interview movie” and a “Before Tasmania Trip Movie”. I will be able to upload some of their movies to the Student Portal very soon.

Mariko Saito
Japanese Teacher

COMMUNITY NEWS

Administration of Medication

At times medication needs to be administered to a child at school ie, antibiotics, ear drops etc. If you need us to administer medication to your child during school hours, you must complete the attached Student Medication Request form.

- Medication is to be provided in the original pharmacy labelled container/box to the school.
- Please ensure medication is not out of date and has an original pharmacy label stating the student's name, dosage and time to be taken.
• The student needs to have previously received a dose at home without any ill effects.
• The medication must be collected when it is no longer required at school.
• A new form must be completed if the student is prescribed a change.

NB: Where possible, medication should be administered to your child at home at times other than during school hours.

Spare Uniforms

URGENT - All of the spare shorts that we had have all been issued out and have not been returned.

If your child has recently borrowed a St B's uniform please return immediately.

Dental Van Offer of Oral Health Services at St Brigid's

Students in grades 1 - 7 have been provided with an offer of oral health care pack to take home.

The pack includes:

• Child & Adolescent Oral Health Service Brochure
• Examination Card

If your child is enrolled in one of the grades listed above and did not receive an offer of care pack and you would like to arrange for your child to receive oral health care, please contact the Oral Health Call Centre 1300 300 850. Monday to Friday 8.00 am – 4.30 pm, excluding Public Holidays.

If your child requires disability access, please identify this requirement with the Call Centre Operator.

ORAL HEALTH CARE MATTERS

Did you know that Gold Coast Hospital and Health Services – Oral Health Services in both the community and school dental clinics, accept Medicare Teen Dental Scheme Vouchers?

Good oral health care is important for young people. The government has provided Medicare Teen Dental Scheme Vouchers to help enable and maintain good oral health and preventative care. These vouchers can be presented to private dentists or Gold Coast Hospital and Health Services – Oral Health Services, including a community or school dental clinic.

Children attending schools up to the end of Year 10 who present a Teen Dental Voucher with Gold Coast Oral Health Services, will receive a comprehensive examination, x-rays, scale, clean and a full course of care. Children in Years 11 and 12 in receipt of a voucher can only be seen by Gold Coast Oral Health Services if the eligibility criteria is met. They will then be placed on a waiting list to receive a comprehensive examination, x-rays, scale, clean and a full course of care.
If the Teen Dental Voucher has been used at a private dental practice, completion of the private dentist’s treatment plan will need to be undertaken privately at own cost. Gold Coast Hospital and Health Services will only be able to provide Emergency Care for these children, not a full course of care as prescribed by the private dentist.

Gold Coast Hospital and Health Services – Oral Health Services have qualified and experienced dentists, oral health therapists, dental therapists and dental assistants who work together to provide a range of oral healthcare services to meet your child’s specific oral health needs in a caring environment.

As the Teen Dental Voucher expires by 31.12.13, it is important that you arrange your appointment as soon as possible by telephoning the Gold Coast Oral Health Services Call Centre on 1300 300 850. Oral health services are also provided during all school holiday periods.

For more information on the nearest community or school dental clinic, the Oral Health Call Centre will be able to assist you with your enquiry.

**Commonwealth School Banking**

Please [click](#) the attached link for more information.