Dear Parents and Carers,

Your child’s first year at school, or last year, or some year in between, is coming to a close. I hope you have seen growth and development both academically and socially with your child. I also hope you have noticed that not everyone is the same. Different children learn different things at different times even though they may be born in a certain time period they are all distinctly different.

- Some children know how to get along with others, some not yet.
- Some children can keep all the school rules, some not yet.
- Some remember their manners, some not yet.
- Some recognise all the letters of the alphabet, some not yet.
- Some read very well, some not yet.
- Some have an emotional age close to their chronological age, some not yet.
- Some know how to take turns, some not yet.
- Some can name all the states in Australia, some not yet.
- Some can count to about a billion, some not yet.
- Some can do perimeter, volume and area problems, some not yet.
- Some can run around the oval games, some not yet.
- Some can do a fair test in science, some not yet.
- Some can write a persuasive text using conventional spelling and punctuation, some not yet.

The most important word is ‘yet’, because ‘yet’ lets us know that things will change. It suggests that things are temporary. It tells us to be optimistic and optimism is a highly sort after commodity. (Who actively searches for people who are pessimists?)

In all things though, our learning intentions for all children are based on optimism; we have the audacity to teach children to:

- Be self governing and self directed
- Be cooperative and considerate
- Be respectful and assertive
- Make strong and supportive relationships
- Be resilient and persevere
- Be productive and purposeful

Thank you for being supportive of children who have only been on earth for 5–12 years. Thank you mums, dads and carers for understanding that all our children are different. Some can do things, some not ‘yet’. Thank you for building, strengthening and valuing our commitment to being a Catholic Multicultural Inclusive Primary school.

I hope your holidays are safe and happy.

Ariba Enuba

Advent is a ‘yet’ time. It is about being optimistic… something is going to change.
From the Acting APRE

2nd Week of Advent—In Advent we prepare to celebrate the greatest miracle we will ever encounter, the miracle of our Lord and Saviour taking on our humanity. Isaiah and John the Baptist call on us to tear down our mountains and fill our valleys to make straight the path of Our Lord. Our valleys are the times when we do not live as Jesus has taught us. Our mountains are times when we live against those teachings. We are to make level the uneven ground of our lives turning our rough places into a plain. We are to make straight the path of Our Lord to our hearts and our souls.

Farewell Liturgy and End of Year Mass—We will farewell our Year 7 students at a liturgy on Thursday night at 6pm in the Church and then celebrate the year that was as a whole school community on Friday 11am, again in the Church. You are most welcome at both celebrations.

Masses to celebrate Christmas—St Flannan’s Catholic Parish—

Saturday DECEMBER 24
6.00pm Mass (especially including children)
8.00pm Christmas Vigil Mass

Sunday DECEMBER 25
CHRISTMAS DAY
7.00am Mass of Christmas Morning
9.00am Mass of Christmas Day
(NB: No Evening Mass)

Monday DECEMBER 19
7.00pm Communal Celebration of Forgiveness.

Thank you for your continued support throughout the year. I hope you enjoy a happy and holy Christmas Season and that the new year is a peaceful one for you and your family.

See you in 2012! Bernadette

Flarana Fair – Saturday, 12th May 2012
Pick-a-box Convenor, Amusement Co-ordinator, & car park attendant vacancies remain. Contact the Parish Office (3265 3977) if you would like to help. NEXT MEETING: 23/01/12 7pm Parish Meeting Room.

SCHOOL BUS SERVICE On Friday 2nd December there will be one bus running only. Leaving @ approximately 12noon.

UNIFORM SHOP NEWS Back to School Uniform Shop Extra Opening Times for 2012! 18th January 2012 9am—12.00 noon, 20th January 2012—2.00pm—4.00pm, & 21st January 2012—8.00am—12noon

A BIG thank you to all the helpers, bakers, and donators of St Flannan’s tuckshop. All of you made the tuckshop an asset to the school community.
Have a great Christmas & enjoy your holidays!
Mina & Penny (Tuckshop Convenors)

SCHOOL RESUMES
TERM 1 TUESDAY
24TH JANUARY 2012

TUCKSHOP NEWS
We have two wonderful ladies who have decided to take on the Tuckshop Convenors job next year! Michelle Perger & Janelle McCarthy
Notices will go home Term 1 for Helpers, Volunteers, Bakers & donators. Keep a look out for these forms.
Thanks Michelle & Janelle

Darnum Park Estate 100% Australian—
Thank you to everyone who has bought oils & olives, thanks for the support! We are at the Twilight Markets, Sandgate Hawks Club, on Saturday 3rd December, come along and say ‘hello’!
Christmas orders are still being taken Ph. Renee Ph. 0421 039 053.