Dear Parents/Guardians,

On 16 August, 2010 we held our second Parent Information Evening. Again, we had a good attendance and those present were informed about the present focus in our Diocese in the areas of Religious Education, Learning and Pedagogy, Pastoral Care and meeting the Diverse Learning Needs of students.

Thank you to the many parents who have expressed an interest to be involved in various areas connected with the new school. Parents who nominated themselves for involvement on committees will be emailed as committees commence their work. Most of that will happen in 2011. We do of course have the support of parents on the Enabling and Education Brief Committees which have met almost monthly since the beginning of the year.

The following is a summary of planning in relation to the new school.

1. The Education Brief

The committee has almost finished a first draft to go to the Enabling Committee on 22 September. Staff and Parents will have a chance to respond to the Brief in Term 4 before it is finalised.

2. Vision/Mission/Logo and Motto

The first step in this process is a Reflection Day on 15 September, facilitated by Sr Meg Kahler sgs on the spirituality of St Benedict and the Sisters of the Good Samaritans which has been part of the history of the two schools and will inform the vision for Good Samaritan Catholic Primary School.

3. Uniform Process

In November, selected suppliers will be presenting a brief to some members of the Enabling Committee. After a supplier has been selected they will be working with parents and staff to prepare a proposal for the new uniform to the Enabling Committee early in 2011.

4. Building Update

Negotiations are continuing with the preferred builder. It is anticipated that the building of Stage 1 will commence in the next few weeks. Safety of the building site will be a key aspect of regular site meetings.

5. Planning for 2011

On 8 November, key staff from the two schools will be planning many meetings and events for 2011. Fr Ron and Ms Jennie Werakso (principal of St Brigid’s) will be joining us for part of the day. Planning will include dates for enrolments, school events, joint staff meetings, professional development, opportunities for student visits, student leadership, moving into new facilities.
6. **Joint Staff Meeting**

The second meeting of all staff to plan the learning and teaching program was held this week. Staff shared in stage groups, topics such as:

Reading Recovery; Learning Support; Student Leadership and buddies, Kinder Orientation; Sacramental Programs; NAPLAN; and Year 6 Graduation Mass and Farewell.

Three more joint staff meetings are scheduled this year.

7. **The Next Parent Information Evening**

Will be held on Tuesday, 16 November at 7:30pm at Vila d’ Oro. The Agenda for the evening will be as follows:

a) Brief Explanation of the Education Brief

b) Small group discussion to seek parent ideas on:
   
   - Transport and parking;
   - Uniform;
   - P&F joining together;
   - Transition of students to new school;
   - Student Leadership; and
   - Sacramental Programs.

   c) Each group will record their ideas and share them with the large group. These ideas will then become part of the committees’ work in 2011.

8. **Staffing**

Each staff member has had an individual meeting to discuss their preferred future position. Training is being provided at both schools and a Human Resources Committee meets regularly to provide positive outcomes for all staff.

As you can see from the above, staff of both schools have spent many meetings planning for the new school, and that on top of their normal duties! It is good to see people so committed to working together to make the best possible learning environment for your sons and daughters.

Kind regards,

[Signature]

Netty Broekman
Project Officer