



Term 1, Week 6, 5 March 2015

## From the Principal

Welcome to the third newsletter for the term. It has been a busy two weeks as per usual. Please take the time to read the newsletter in full as lots of information is contained in this.

By the time you receive this our year 5 students will be well and truly into their camp if not heading for home from camp. Thanks to Mrs Newton, Mr Carter, and Chaplain Kerry for their involvement in this activity as it provides a great opportunity for our students. Also thanks to Mr O'Leary for attending on Thursday for the day.

On Wednesday this week we had a visit from Kerri Jones our Assistant Regional Director. Kerri's role is to work with school leaders to build their capacity and in turn the students learning outcomes. It was a day that saw Kerri work with Mr O'Leary and myself. Kerri also visited a coaching session with Miss Callaghan and Miss Waters.

**NAPLAN** is approaching for those students in Years 3 and 5. The testing occurs on 12 –14 May 2015 . There are three days of testing. Education Queensland encourages all children to be involved in this program as a means of collecting data on student performance. However as parents you have options as to whether your child is involved.

**Exempt students**—students can be exempted from one or more of the tests (i.e. Reading, Writing, Language Conventions, or Numeracy). But the parent/carer will need to provide the school with a signed consent form prior to testing. Students with a language background other than English, who arrived from overseas and have been attending school in Australia for less than a year before tests, should be given the opportunity to participate in testing, but may be exempted. Students with significant disability and/or those with significant co-existing conditions which severely limit their capacity to participate in the tests may be exempted from taking the national tests. This is determined after consultation has occurred between the principal, student, and the relevant parent/carer and it is agreed that the student is not able to access the tests with adjustments.

**Withdrawn Students**—students may be withdrawn from the testing program by their parent/carer. This is a matter for consideration by individual parents/carers in consultation with their child's school. Withdrawals are intended to address issues such as religious beliefs and philosophical objections to testing. A former notification must be received by the Principal prior to the testing.

The forms for exemption or withdrawal from Naplan are available through the school office.

The Australian Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Authority (ACARA) is responsible for Australia's national reporting program, which includes *My School*. Based on *My School* data, our school has been identified as demonstrating above average NAPLAN gain compared to schools with similar students. This gain is deemed to be statistically significant and worthy of highlighting and acknowledgement. This is a great affirmation of what we already knew, that our students have been performing well and making positive gains.

**Coaching** is a concept that many are familiar with. In 2015 our teachers will receive coaching in the teaching of writing and problem solving. This is a proven way of increasing students results which is very clearly our focus at Geebung State School.

**Car parking** remains an issue around the school. In particular at the moment we have cars parking on Newman Road taking up nearly two car parks which makes the problems around shortage of space even more obvious. Can you help? Of course you can. Please talk to your fellow parents and be considerate and make sure we get as many cars as possible in the spaces available.

**Language at school.** I have had a few reports regarding poor language at school by parents usually before school and before pick up in the afternoons. There are a number of parents involved and I have spoken to some parents. Parents need to know that we need to all be aware of what comes out of our mouths. We are the model for the children and certainly foul language is not acceptable in the school grounds. Your help here would be much appreciated!

**Clean up continues.** With the storm season coming to an end and some major works hopefully commencing next term in the pool area we have some more trees and shrubs to be removed. Also we have discovered more Sheena's Gold and a number of dead trees on site down near OSHC and two dying pencil pines in the memorial garden near the hall. These will be removed on the 30th of March 2015. We will seek advice as to what plants we reinstate near OSHC so that the area is planted with appropriate and attractive plants to lift the frontage of the school. We will order a Lone Pine from Canberra which has been grown from seeds from the Lone Pine at the Canberra War Memorial which in turn was propagated from seeds from Gallipoli. If you are a parent with skills who could advise us on a direction to take with the OSHC garden we will happily take your advice.

**Attendance** is currently running at almost 93%. This is slightly up on 2014. Our target is 95% for the year so we need to lift the attendance of the students from Prep to 6 to achieve this. The older students are on track. Remember EVERY day counts.

*continued overleaf . . .*



# From the Principal

In weeks 8, 9 and 10 of this term I will be away from school and Matthew Meharg will return to Geebung as Acting Principal. Sam O'Leary will continue as Acting Deputy Principal. I know that both Gentleman will do a great job. During my absence I will be part of a review team and this will allow me to see other schools at work. Have a great fortnight.

**Stephen Auer**  
Principal

# From the Deputy Principal

What a packed week! It was great that so many Year 5 students were excited about their camp to Mapleton. Mr Carter was well prepped in the use of Twitter before he left, so make sure you are following us for regular camp updates. Well done to all involved in providing this opportunity to our students. I was most fortunate to travel to Mapleton for the day on Thursday and as well as our usual high standards of behaviour, saw some great teamwork and leadership on display from our future school leaders.

With NAPLAN approaching early next term we will have a few announcements and reminders to parents and students. The first is that we have submitted our student details for the testing. Student names on the test are the legal names we have been given upon enrolment. If your child's name has changed and is not the same as it appears on the test, please inform the office so we can update the records.

Attendance, I know Mr Auer has already mentioned the importance of attending school every day, but this is an extremely important part of schooling and a legal obligation of parents. Research confirms a strong link between attendance and student outcomes. While some student absences are unavoidable and understandable due to illness and the like, or enforced through

school disciplinary absences, many are not. These could be unexplained or unauthorised absences. Poor school attendance can be linked to a number of related short and long-term adverse outcomes for students including lower academic outcomes, early school leaving, substance use, poverty, unemployment and negative health outcomes. We will keep you informed of how the school is tracking with attendance and parents will be notified if we have concerns about your child's attendance.

We also have a high number of unexplained absences. If your child is absent, please notify the office with a phone call our absentee line on 36238760, note or visit to explain the reason. We also ask that, where possible, specialist appointments be made outside of school hours to minimise the impact on student learning.

I look forward to working with you all until the end of the term and possibly beyond.

**Sam O'Leary**  
Acting Deputy Principal

## Does Your Child Have a Chance of Being Successful?

1 or 2 days a week doesn't seem much but.....

If your child misses....	That equals....	Which is.....	and over 13 years of schooling that's...	Which means the best your child might perform is ...
1 day per fortnight	20 Days per year	4 weeks per year	Nearly <u>1.5 years</u>	 Equal to finishing in grade 11
1 day per week	40 Days per year	8 weeks per year	Over <u>2.5 years</u>	 Equal to finishing in grade 10
2 days per week	80 Days per year	16 weeks per year	Over <u>5 years</u>	 Equal to finishing in grade 7
3 days per week	120 Days per year	24 weeks per year	Nearly <u>8 years</u>	 Equal to finishing at grade 4



# Dates to Remember

Date	Event
<b>March</b>	
4-6	• Year 5 Mapleton Camp
6	• Gardening Committee Meeting –9:00am Principal's office
9	• Middle School Problem Solving Challenge
10	• P&C Meeting Library 7pm
11	• Book Club orders returned before 9:am
15	• Chaplaincy High Tea 2-4pm Geebung Uniting Church
20	• National Young Leaders Day • Deadline for Tuckshop Treat Day forms
25	• Junior Swimming Carnival (Yrs 1-3) 9am –1pm • Tuckshop Treat Day
<b>April</b>	
2	• Last Day—End of Term 1
3	• Good Friday
6	• Easter Monday
20	• Day 1 Term 2
22	• ANZAC Ceremony at Geebung State School
23	• ANZAC Ceremony in the city
24	• ANZAC March
<b>May</b>	
7	• Mother's Day Stall
12-14	• Naplan testing
<b>June</b>	
24	• School Disco
<b>August</b>	
28	• Shine Alright - whole school performance
<b>September</b>	
3	• Father's Day Stall
8	• School Photos
<b>October</b>	
6-9	• Year 6 Currimundi Camp
<b>December</b>	
2	• School Disco
9	• Year 6 Graduation Dinner
11	• Last Day of Term 4

PIZZA CAPERS **WAVELL HEIGHTS** IS OFFERING  
**FREE KIDS PIZZA**  
 WITH THE PURCHASE OF ANY LARGE PIZZA

FOR ALL GEEBUNG STATE SCHOOL FAMILIES & STAFF



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 0412 781 529

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 Day Care




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www.wmb.org.au

## STUDENT ABSENCE

If your child is away from school please let us know by either phoning the absence line on **(07) 3623 8760** or emailing us on **info@geebungss.eq.edu.au**.

# Music

Just a friendly reminder that there will be choir practice this Thursday and Friday after the second bell at big lunch for both Senior and Junior choir in the Music room. Both choirs are combined this term due to an up coming performance. More information will be given to you soon as it comes to hand.

**Mirasol Andres**  
**Classroom Music Teacher**

# Library Resource Centre

## Authors of the Week

Prep students have been listening to stories by Pamela Allen and Alison Lester during their library lessons. Grade 1 shared several books by Anthony Browne, Babette Cole and Peter Carnavas, while Grade 2 enjoyed stories about Preston Pig and the Wolf created by Colin McNaughton. Reading together is an important part of the library program, nurturing a love of reading at all ages. Many students have been borrowing regularly and discussing their choices with us in the library. It is great to see so many of them reserving books and becoming very excited when their books arrive!

## Lunchtime Activities

Students from all year groups have been coming to the library at lunchtime to read books together, play games, draw and make origami shapes with Sensei. Everyone is using their library manners and tidying up before they leave. Well done!

## Scholastic Book Club

The Book Club order forms have been distributed this week. Would families wishing to purchase books please put orders and monies in an envelope and place the order in the box at the Administration Office. All orders must be returned to school by 9.00 am Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> March 2015. Payment can be made online or by phone. If paying by credit card, please follow payment instructions on the student order form and return completed forms to the Administration Office. Thank you to the community for your support towards the Book Club, as our library benefits from bonus points.

**Helen Waters**  
**Acting Teacher Librarian**

“Children are made readers on the laps of their parents.” Emilie Buchwald

# P&C Fundraising

## P & C Easter Raffle

Our first P&C fundraiser this year is our Easter Raffle.

A notice was sent home last Friday asking for donations from the school community.

We are hoping to have several hampers as prizes this year so all donations, big and small, are very much appreciated.

Donations can be handed into the Tuckshop and School Office.

Keep an eye out for your raffle tickets, which will be sent home in the next couple of weeks.

Thank you for your continued support of the Geebung Fundraising Team.

**Julie McMahon**  
**Fundraising Coordinator**



# Assembly Awards



## HPE News

The HPE Award acknowledges exceptional effort and attitude in HPE lessons. This week's winners were Jaidee P (2B) for an outstanding improvement in her swimming this term and Frank M (4A) for a strong breaststroke kick.

**Leigh Stagg**  
HPE Co-ordinator

## JUNIOR SWIMMING CARNIVAL

Years 1—3

Wednesday 25 March 2015

9am to 1pm

# P&C News

Hi everyone!

While we say goodbye to summer and welcome the cooler months which are fast approaching, it is still important to make sure our children have applied sunscreen before school. The sun can still be brutal at this time of year.

We had a great turnout on Saturday afternoon at the Nundah Experience Swimming Carnival. Out of four clubs, Geebung came a convincing third place. Congratulations to all our swimmers, most of you swam all four strokes as well as multiple relays, not to mention those that swam up in age against older swimmers and the girls that swam against boys due to our lack of older boys in the club. Also, a special thank you to Emma Sharley for co-ordinating the carnival selection process, marshalling on the day and acting as Team Manager. Thank you!

A reminder that Swimming Club Championships are just around the corner and nominations must be in by Friday 6<sup>th</sup> March 2015. If you have not received a nomination form, please email the Swimming Club President Chantal Watson at [geebungswimmingclub@hotmail.com](mailto:geebungswimmingclub@hotmail.com) as soon as possible.

Treat day is coming up on Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> March 2015 – don't forget to return your forms to the Tuckshop by Friday 20<sup>th</sup> March 2015. If you can lend a hand on the day, please see Leanne or Helen in the Tuckshop. Remember, this is a big lunch treat so children will still need a nutritious morning tea.

We had a good turnout at the cake stall and sausage sizzle on Election Day. Thanks to all of those who volunteered their valuable time with either providing goods for the stall or helping out on the day. Also, notices went home this week for the P&C Easter Raffle asking for donations of Easter items. If you are able to donate anything with an Easter theme (non-perishable foods, gift vouchers, baskets, ribbons...just to name a few!) it would be greatly appreciated. Any donations can be dropped off at the Office or the Tuckshop.

All parents and carers are encouraged to join our Facebook group, Geebung State School P&C Association, for reminders and updates about school events. We currently have 86 members, but would love to see that increase.

And finally, a friendly reminder that the P&C meetings are held every second Tuesday of the month (except during school holidays). Our next meeting will be held **this Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> March at 7pm** in the library. Everyone is welcome and we love to see new faces at these meetings!

Thanks again.

**Ashley Carradus**  
**P&C Secretary**

## Tuckshop

- **Monday & Tuesday Special** Smokey BBQ Chicken Wings 3 for \$1:50 add a small salad for \$4:00.
- Thank-you to the families who donated tinned tomatoes and milk last fortnight.
- Many thanks to the Sadler family for the donation of a large stainless steel pot for soup, etc.
- Helpers are needed for Treat Day Wednesday 25 March 2015 12:30 to 1:30pm. Please phone or call in and put your name down.
- Thursday big breakfast sausage sizzle continues every week \$1:50.
- There are still vacancies on the roster—some Monday, Tuesday and Fridays are still available.
- Thank you for all your support.

**Leanne & Helen**  
**Tuckshop Convenors Ph 3265 5959**

## Uniform Shop

The shop hours for term one will be Wednesday's 8.15-9.15am.

Eftpos is available on all purchases over \$10.

Year 6 Seniors shirts have been ordered and should be delivered before the end of this term.

Grown out of your uniform or school shoes? Why not sell them in the shop. The shop takes 30% commission from all second hand sales.

Second hand items are ever changing and stock is always welcomed. Items may be left at the office, tuckshop or in the shop during open hours.

Items should be placed in a bag with contact details and clearly marked if they are a donation or to be sold on commission.

Bucket hats and swimming caps are available everyday at the tuckshop.

### LOST PROPERTY

The lost property rack will be on display out near the art room stairs all day Wednesday's.

Named items are returned to students as soon as convenient via the office.

Due to circumstances beyond our control or our stockists control with the material for our girls and boys formal uniforms, Rowena's and Lowe's have been unable to supply our formal uniforms. After discussions with both stockists, I am pleased to announce that our formal uniforms are now in stock in both shops.

**Fleur Stanford**  
**Uniform Shop Convenor**



# Chaplain's Corner

Hi,

This week I have the privilege of attending the year 5 camp at Mapleton. I look forward to sharing some great stories with you in the next newsletter.

Mrs Smith will still be running POP Club.

Last week we made cats eyes these were very popular so we have decided to make them again this week. A couple of weeks ago we made picture frames. Brett kindly made us a photo booth so we got out the props and took some photos to put in our frames.

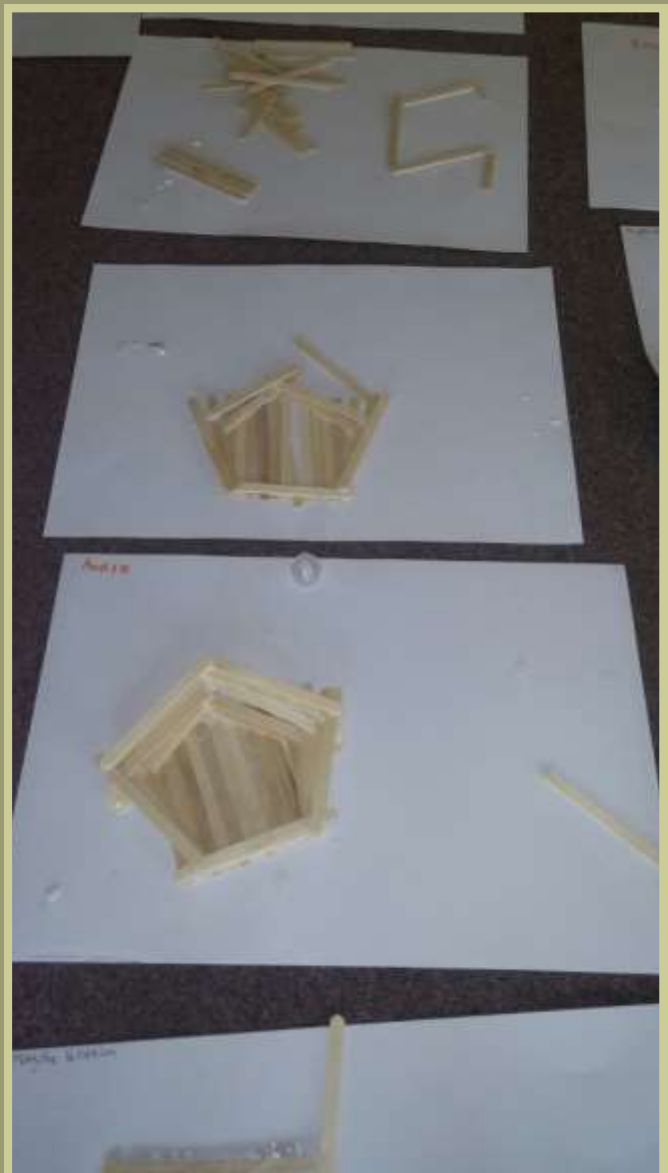
The chaplaincy service at Geebung is holding a High Tea on Sunday 15 March 2015 2-4 pm at the Geebung Uniting Church corner Simla Ave and Mayflower St Geebung. "Alfresco" A Capella singing group who are a part of the Second Wind Community Band will be performing for us. There will also be lucky door prizes , silent auction and GREAT FOOD.

Tickets are \$15 and can be purchased from Chappy Kerry or by emailing [kerrye@chappy.org.au](mailto:kerrye@chappy.org.au).

"Start by doing what's necessary; then do what's possible; and suddenly you are doing the impossible" Francis of Assisi.

## Chappy Kerry

### POP CLUB



# Student Contact Details Update Form



## Geebung State School



Each and every member of our school community, believes that each and every child can and will achieve.

250 Newman Road, Geebung QLD 4034  
 PO Box 134, Geebung QLD 4034  
 P: 3623 8777 F: 3623 8700  
 E: Info@geebungss.eq.edu.au

### STUDENT CONTACT DETAILS UPDATE

Please complete the details below and return to the school Administration Office for records to be updated. For finance and newsletter correspondence please add your current email.

#### CHILD/CHILDREN'S NAMES

SURNAME	GIVEN NAMES
1.	
2.	
3.	
4.	
5.	

#### PARENT/GUARDIAN/CARER DETAILS

1 <sup>st</sup> Parent/Guardian/Carer	2 <sup>nd</sup> Parent/Guardian/Carer
Mr/Mrs/Ms/Miss Surname: _____	Mr/Mrs/Ms/Miss Surname: _____
Given Names: _____	Given Names: _____
Address: _____ _____ Postcode: _____	Address: _____ _____ Postcode: _____
Home Phone: _____	Home Phone: _____
Mobile Number: _____ (This mobile will receive notifications via text message)	Mobile Number: _____
Work Phone: _____	Work Phone: _____
Email: _____	Email: _____

**BILLING DETAILS:** Parent/caregiver will receive invoices via email. If Fee Allocation is to be shared between parents, please contact the Office for further information.

#### EMERGENCY CONTACTS

**[NOT PARENTS/GUARDIAN/CARERS LISTED ABOVE]**

Please ensure that the emergency contact names you provide are people you feel are totally trustworthy to collect your child from school if you cannot be contacted. A friend, neighbour or relative may be your choice but ***it is important you check that they are willing to be recorded on your child's records as an emergency contact.***

	Contact 1	Contact 2	Contact 3
Name			
Relationship			
Home Phone			
Work Phone			
Mobile Phone			

Parent Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_



# Notices

## Learn to Swim Classes with All About Aquatics

Term 1, 2015

Where: Geebung State Primary School Pool

- Water familiarisation
- Learn to Swim: Toddlers - Adults
- Stroke Development: Children - Adults
- Squad Training: Children - Adults
- Adult Fitness



All About  
Aquatics

Accredited and experienced staff  
For more information and bookings, please contact Kylie Dunn.  
Email Address: [kyliedunn@icloud.com](mailto:kyliedunn@icloud.com).

A program by  
  
BICYCLE  
NSW-WEST

Join in and celebrate  
**NATIONAL  
RIDE2SCHOOL  
DAY 2015**

**RIDEWALKSCOOTSKATE  
FRIDAY 13 MARCH**



# Notices



**Bubble Dome**  
www.bubbledome.com

**TERM ONE HOLIDAYS**  
April 2015

PERTH  
BRISBANE

**MINECRAFT MOVIES AND ANIMATION**  
Time: 9am - 3pm \$399\*  
Perth: 7-10 April  
Methodist Ladies College  
**STANDARD: AGES 8-12**  
**MASTER CLASS: AGES 10+**  
If you have ever watched those awesome Minecraft movies on YouTube and wanted to have a go yourself, then now is your chance. Set your stage in Minecraft then take it into Blender to create your own animation and then render it out to a high quality movie. You will learn about storyboarding, cameras, lighting, animation, and modelling UV unwrapping and rendering techniques. The final movie can be uploaded to YouTube and make you famous!

**ARCHITECTURE AND DESIGN MASTERCLASS**  
AGES 9-14  
Times: 9am - 5pm \$329  
Perth: 14-16 April  
Methodist Ladies College  
Take your architecture skills to the next level in this master class where you will learn to model your prototypes and designs using CAD software.  
Develop professional skills that will help with future careers in many fields.



**LEGO ENGINEERING AND ROBOTICS**  
Times: 9am - 3pm \$299, 3am - 5pm \$329  
Perth: 7-9 April  
Methodist Ladies College  
**STANDARD: AGES 6-11**  
Students will explore an exciting range of robotics, architectural and engineering challenges, while gaining practical construction and programming skills.  
**ADVANCED: AGES 8-14**  
Students will be put to the test with new and exciting challenges using Lego Mindstorm Robots. Take problem solving skills to new levels using sensors and programming.

**MINECRAFT INVENTIONS AND CHALLENGES**  
AGES 5-10  
Times: 9am - 3pm \$299\*  
9am - 5pm \$329\*  
Perth: 7-9 April  
Methodist Ladies College (BYOD)  
Brisbane: 7-9 April (BYOD)  
University of Queensland, St Lucia  
During this workshop students will learn to work within the 3D world of Minecraft taking part in a range of architectural and engineering challenges. Students are given exciting goals and challenges, both individually and in a group.

**ARCHITECTURE, DESIGN AND MODEL MAKING**  
AGES 7-12  
Times: 9am - 5pm \$329  
Perth: 14-16 April  
Methodist Ladies College  
Discover how to make your very own architectural models that an architect would use to develop a prototype for their ideas and concepts.  
Don't miss the opportunity to become involved in this creative and practical course, designed to give students skills and knowledge for future use.

**MINECRAFT TEKKIT**  
Times: 9am - 3pm \$299\*  
9am - 5pm \$329\*  
Perth: 14-16 April  
Methodist Ladies College  
**MINECRAFT TEKKIT STANDARD: AGES 7-12**  
The Tekkit Mod adds electricity and machines into Minecraft so you can use engineering technology to automate your inventions while taking part in a range of challenges!



**SMARTPHONE, WEB AND APP DEVELOPMENT: AGES 10+**  
Time: 9am - 5pm \$399  
Brisbane: 14-17 April  
Craggies State High School  
Students will learn to design an app, learning invaluable skills in such a fun and ever-growing field. They will be exposed to the programming, scripting and designing of apps using amazing 3D development programming tools.

**MINECRAFT TEKKIT ADVANCED COMPUTERCRAFT: AGES 9-14**  
Students will explore additional Mods and discover different and exciting Tekkit plugins while pushing their brain with extreme challenges. With the exciting ComputerCraft mod students use built-in Minecraft computers to programme all sorts of very useful functions.



**LEARNING TO CODE: AGES 10+**  
Time: 9am - 5pm \$399  
Perth: 14-17 April, Methodist Ladies College  
Students will utilize a range of inspiring software and are exposed to different learning styles and tools, empowering them to discover the exciting world of information technology. The course focuses on teaching programming concepts and correct syntax through coding challenges and mini games and also develops problem-solving skills.



**BOOK ONLINE AT**  
[www.bubbledome.com](http://www.bubbledome.com)  
Email: [info@bubbledome.com](mailto:info@bubbledome.com)  
Phone: 0800 115562 Office Hours: 6:00am-2:30pm

**www.bubbledome.com**  
\*Perth is an assessment challenge and requires to have their own Microsoft account. The workshop is by appointment only. This is not included in the price of the course and can be purchased at [www.microsoft.com](http://www.microsoft.com).  
\*BYOD - requires students to bring their Laptop, tablet or Tablet.  
Email: [info@bubbledome.com](mailto:info@bubbledome.com) Phone: 1800 1155 00 Office Hours: 6:00am-2:30pm





**St Kevin's Parish  
Fundraiser  
Friday 13<sup>th</sup> March 6pm**

Come along and get an early start on St Patrick's Day celebrations.

Join us for a meal and an evening of fun and friendship  
At St Kevin's Parish, 251 Newman Rd, Geebung

Trivia quiz      Activities for the children      Irish Dancing  
Live Entertainment      Sing-a-Long  
Lucky door prize, prizes for best Irish Costumes, Best Irish Joke

Tickets: (Must be pre purchased)

Adults: \$20 Children: \$5.00. BYO drinks. Soft drinks will be on sale.

For tickets contact:  
Laonnie on 3265 3454, Judy on 3865 5730 AH or Denis on 0417 007 290

Funds raised will go towards the Fence Project and Parish Maintenance.

