### Principal’s Message

I ask parents to excuse the length of my column in this newsletter, however this is the last opportunity I will have to share important information with you before the end of the 2014 school year.

**Please make a special effort to support your children as they work their way through this last fortnight of term.** They will need your encouragement as they tire towards the end of a hot and demanding final term of the school year. I urge you to continue working alongside your children’s teachers as they seek the best for each child.

I have asked teachers to keep children’s focus on learning programs through until the end of the school year. Apart from our Carols preparations, we will not be engaging in Christmas activities until the last week of term. Therefore we ask that children not exchange Christmas cards until next week. Children should not bring sweets or candy canes to give to other children while at school ... do not assume that other parents want their children to be eating such sweet foods without their permission. Children bringing these treats will be asked to take them home again as teachers report this practice has caused unnecessary grief in past years.

I wish to acknowledge the wonderful work of staff and P&C Volunteers for the successful conduct of a number of school events and activities in the last fortnight.

Over $2800 worth of books will be added to our Library collection as a consequence of our recent **Book Fair.** We thank families for supporting this activity.

Our **Prep** - Yr 3 students completed their Swimming Lessons and we thank all families for their support of this important learning program. **Successful P-3 and Yrs 4-7 Swimming Carnivals** provided opportunities for students to display their skill in the water. Congratulations to Boldon House for winning the senior swimming carnival. Champion swimmers were … Female – shared by Helana Ohl & Saskia Koelbel; Male – Darcy Canavan. We were impressed with the enthusiasm of students as they completed their events during these carnivals.

Our **Instrumental Music students and Choirs** shared their talents with our older citizens during Christmas performances at aged care facilities. Thanks to families for supporting these excursions.

Today Mr Lyons organised a ‘**Thank You Morning Tea**’ for our Volunteers who have assisted our school in a variety of ways during the 2014 school year. We acknowledge their generous contribution to our school and hope they will be able to continue giving of their time and energy again next year.

We are having to delay sharing student’s class placements until the second last day of term as we continue to receive news of staffing changes and hear of families leaving or enrolling at our school.

On this day students will spend a little time with their new teacher (if possible) in the classroom they will report to on the first day of the new school year. Children will be given a note to take home advising parents of these details.

**Please note that once class lists are made public in this way, there will not be any changes made to classes unless necessary as a consequence of new enrolments early next year.**

We will have to respond to enrolments in the first week of school but plan to have all students’ 2015 class placements finalised by the end of the first fortnight. Therefore I would request that parents delay putting a class on books and materials when naming and marking your child’s school requirements for next year.

I wish to advise parents of some **late changes to school staffing** for 2015. Mr Makemson has accepted a position as Special Education teacher in the North Brisbane Region. We congratulate Miss Kayla Hawkins who has been appointed to the role of Master Teacher at East Ayr SS as of 2015. Miss Kelsey King is taking a year of leave and Mrs Cage is moving into a role of Teacher Librarian and Support Teacher. Mrs Duncan and Miss O’Hare are both transitioning to teach at Mirani State High School next year. I would like to sincerely thank those teachers leaving Marian for their hard work and professionalism during their time as teachers of our school and wish them all the best for their future.

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### STATE SCHOOL

**Making a difference**
- Achievement focused
- Relationships matter
- Inclusive
- Altogether
- **Never give up.**

### UNIFORM SHOP

**HOURS:**
Monday - Thursday
8:30AM TO 9:00AM

### ABSENTEE PHONE LINE:
0749594460

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### DATE CLAIMERS:

**DECEMBER**

| Wk 9 | 2nd — Volunteers Morning Tea |
| Wk 9 | 3rd — Prep Open Morning, Yr 7 to High School Orientation |
| Wk 9 | 4th — Yr 6 to High School Orientation, P&C Cards Evening |
| Wk 9 | 5th — 2015 Student Leader Speeches & Election |
| Wk 10 | 8th — Yr 7 Awards evening |
| Wk 10 | 9th — Yr 5 & 7 Big Day Out, Sam 2 Reports |
| Wk 10 | 10th — Yr 6 Awards Evening, Yrs 3-5 Awards, Sam 3 |
| Wk 10 | Term 4 Rewards Activities |
| Wk 10 | 11th — 2015 classes ‘Meet Your 2015 Teacher’ |
| Wk 10 | 12th — Yrs 4-7 Spinal Educ. Awareness lessons |

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**Term 1**
- Tues 27/1/15 - School Starts
- Thurs 2/4/15 - Finishes

**Term 2**
- Mon 24/1/15 - School Starts
- Fri 26/6/15 - Finishes

**Term 3**
- Mon 13/1/15 - School Starts
- Fri 19/8/15 - Finishes

**Term 4**
- Tues 6/10/15 - School Starts
- Fri 11/12/15 - Finishes
Next year we will welcome Mrs Lauren Fraser and Mrs Cathrine Van Moolenbroek as teachers at Marian.

I would like to thanks Miss Volker (P/1V), Mrs Wilson (2S), Miss Beere (5L) and Mrs Myers (6V) for their relief work with classes during this term. It has been a pleasure working with people who have gone out of their way to ensure curriculum continuity for our students.

We also congratulate Mrs Fleming for being officially acknowledged as our Head of Special Education Services after acting in that role for quite some time. Congratulations also and welcome back Miss Mel Benjamin who will return to Marian SS in the role of Master Teacher. Mrs Renita Moore will also return to us in a part time capacity as Head Of Curriculum in 2015.

Students will bring home their Semester Two Reports next week. I express my gratitude to teachers for the time and effort that goes into the preparation of student reports. Parents are requested to read and review your child’s report with them now and again in the week before school recommences next year. As I read student reports, two very noticeable and obvious features again became apparent.

Firstly, when a student’s effort and attitude is positive, teachers report they are progressing to the best of their individual ability. Our very best teachers struggle to support disinterested and unmotivated learners. Some students will have received a Gold or Silver Principal’s Award on their reports if their Effort and Attendance was noteworthy.

Secondly, student achievement was directly influenced by their school attendance. Students with few absences maximised their achievement. Children who have had regular absences, holidays in term time and/or ‘long weekends’ have been frustrated in their learning and poor results are often evident as a consequence. There is no doubt that daily school attendance is a critical factor that significantly contributes to student success. Parents of students who have recorded 10 or more days absent in Semester Two should reflect on this and ensure they give their children make the best of their learning opportunities by ensuring they are at school every day unless they are genuinely ill (i.e. sick in bed).

Our 2015 Booklist will also be distributed with report cards next week.

Before the end of the year our school community will come together for a number of special occasions.

Tomorrow students have a further opportunity to engage in transition activities. Our 2015 Prep students are welcome to engage in a Prep Open Morning during which time they will complete a rotation of activities in and about our Prep classrooms led by our 2015 Prep teachers. Our Year 7 students will spend an Orientation Day at Mirani SHS tomorrow, with Year 6 students given the same opportunity on Thursday this week. Yr 6 and Yr 7 students are reminded that they can catch Trans North school buses to and from Mirani on these days.

This Thursday (Dec 4) our P&C will host our annual Carols By Candlelight. Come along early to enjoy the BBQ from 5.00pm (with last sales at 6:15pm) and then the Carols will begin in the hall at 6:30pm.

We trust families will support the efforts of our P&C is by planning to have a BBQ tea Thursday evening and by buying raffle tickets in the Christmas Hamper which will be drawn on the night. Have some change ready to buy a lucky Ham Wheel ticket and then enjoy student performances on stage in the hall.

We have been talking with students about our expectations for good manners, respect and great ‘audience skills’, during our Carols Evening. Last year I was disappointed to note the number of people who thought it OK to talk throughout a carols performance. We will be making it clear to students that there should be silence in the audience while a group is performing. Conversations should be had only between items or outside the hall. We appeal to our families to reinforce these messages so that all performing groups ‘get a fair go’.

This Friday, Year 5 students who have been shortlisted for Student Leadership positions in 2015, will present election speeches. Shortlisted students have been advised and asked to invite their parents to this activity. After speeches students and staff will complete ballots with the elected students advised at the end of the Yrs 3-5 Awards Ceremony in the last week of term.

Also in the last week of term, Year 6 & 7 students will enjoy their Big Day Out. Students in other classes who have consistently demonstrated responsible behaviour will be acknowledged with Rewards Day activities on Thursday Dec 12.

Next week we will enjoy three different Awards Ceremonies. Year 7 students will be acknowledged at their Awards & Graduation Ceremony on Monday evening, Dec 8. Year 6 students will similarly be acknowledged on the evening of Wednesday Dec 10.

For the first time we will acknowledge the achievements of Years 3-5 students at an Awards Ceremony from 9am on Wednesday Dec 10. Parents of award winners will receive an invitation via their student this week. Year 2 students will be invited to this ceremony so that they might aspire to be an award winner next year.

Given that we have Yrs 3-5, Yr 6 & Yr 7 Awards Ceremonies next week, we will not have our usual end of term Whole School Assembly until 2:30pm Thursday Dec 11.

Trans North have advised that there will not be an early collection of students on the last day of school as has been the case in past years. School buses will depart Marian SS after 3pm as usual on Friday Dec 12. However it is not uncommon for parents to treat children to an
early departure on the last day of school. Please be sure to ‘sign children out’ in the usual way if you are planning to do this.

A fond farewell to our Yr 6 and Yr 7 students and their families. This is an extraordinary year in which we have two year levels leaving us for High School. Our current Yr 7 group were the first students to enter a Prep year in Queensland and our Yr 6 students will be the first group of students to complete Yr 7 as High School students. We look forward to hearing of our students’ achievements as they continue their educational journey. Thanks to our Yr 6 and Yr 7 teachers for preparing these children for their successful transition to High School next year.

Next week will be Mr Kent Lyons last week with us as Deputy Principal. Kent is retiring after over 40 years of service to public schooling in Queensland. Kent has been a teacher, Deputy Principal and Principal in a number of schools across the state, with students in each of these schools benefitting from his knowledge, skill, dedication and enormous commitment. In addition to his regular school duties, Kent has volunteered countless hours to Primary School Sport each year of service with Education Queensland. We have been fortunate to have Kent with us this year and I wish to personally thank him for his wonderful support during what has been a very demanding first year for me in my role as Principal.

As a parting gift to our school, Mr Lyons has coordinated an upgrade of our school oval during the summer vacation. The main oval will be ‘top dressed’ and we wish to thank in advance Mr O’Riely and parent volunteers who have indicated their preparedness to fertilise and water the oval until our wet season commences. We are hoping children will return to a well grassed and much flatter playing surface. A special thanks to our P&C for their significant contribution of funds to this important project.

This being the last newsletter for the year, on behalf of the staff of our school, I wish all families a Merry Christmas, Happy New Year and a safe vacation period. All the best to families who leave our school in 2015 so that we can best plan staffing and resourcing to meet their needs. Please contact our school office staff as soon as possible to complete enrolment requirements.

Children born between 1 July 2009 and 30 June 2010 are eligible to enrol in Prep for 2015. Prep is an early education program, only offered in primary schools. Prep is a full-time program and children attend from Monday to Friday during normal school hours. Prep is fully integrated into the rest of the school. Prep provides the foundation for your child’s success at school by developing:

* A positive approach to learning
* Independence and confidence
* Thinking and problem-solving skills
* Oral language skills
* Early literacy and numeracy
* Physical abilities, gross & fine motor skills

**ENROL NOW FOR PREP IN 2015:** Children must have completed a Prep Year before they can begin Year 1. We would appreciate early notice from parents who have Prep aged children enrolling at our school in 2015 so that we can best plan staffing and resourcing to meet their needs. Please contact our school office staff as soon as possible to complete enrolment requirements.

From the Deputy

Prep Open morning session (2015 Prep student session) is on Wednesday, 3 December. Arrival time, at the hall is 8:45am for 9am start and finish at 10.30am. Please feel free to pack a light snack, water bottle and hat.

Happy Holidays

Thank you to all staff, students and parents for your support and commitment this Semester. I have enjoyed the challenges and rewards of returning to work as mum and look forward to an outstanding 2015. Take care over the holidays, travel safe and enjoy the break with your loved ones.

P&C - Uniform Shop

Wednesday 3 December 2014

Uniforms will be sold from the Hall 8.30 - 10.00, due to the Prep Open Morning.

Wednesday 21, Thursday 22, Friday 23 January 2015

Uniforms will be sold from the Hall 8.30 - 11.00 on each of the above days prior to school commencing on Tuesday 27 January 2015.

Casey Harej

From the Library

All library books due back this week. (No later than Friday, 5 December please.)

No more borrowing. Stocktake is under-way!
By the time you are reading this we would have had two heats for the Talent Quest. Please see below for the rest of the roster for the Talent Quest.

### 2014 Talent Quest Heats

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Heat 1</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday 1 December</td>
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<tr>
<td>Judges (back to old playground timetable)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mrs Durnsford &amp; Mrs Richies (Music – Mrs Duncan)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Act 1</td>
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<tr>
<td>11.00am</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hip Hop</td>
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<tr>
<td>Blane Hammond, Dylan Bartolo (2S)</td>
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<td>Purple Pandas</td>
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<tr>
<td>Samira Bayad (3P)</td>
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<tr>
<td>The Mad Surgeon</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kalan, Corey, Nathan, Gage (Yr 4)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Guitar recital</td>
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<td>Lachlan Klippert (5/6M)</td>
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<tr>
<th>Heat 2</th>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday 2 December</td>
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<tr>
<td>Judges (back to old playground timetable)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mrs Wales &amp; Mrs Pruden (Music – Miss O’Hare)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Act 2</td>
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<tr>
<td>11.05am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Poison Bottle</td>
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<tr>
<td>Holly Vock (5/6M)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Popstar</td>
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<tr>
<td>Chloe de Groot (3E)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Master Joker</td>
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<td>Jett Lindores (2H)</td>
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<tr>
<td>The Two Radio Stars</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jayda Mellor, Skye Duncan, Jaydah Bullimore, Brielle (4K, 2/3 K)</td>
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<th>Heat 3</th>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday 3 December</td>
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<tr>
<td>Judges (back to old playground timetable)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mrs Evers &amp; Mrs Emms (Music – Miss Brett)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Act 3</td>
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<tr>
<td>11.10am</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ghost of Jonah</td>
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<tr>
<td>Karrie Burton (Yr 3)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sparkles and Diamonds</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rachael Norman, Rhianna Metcalfe (5W)</td>
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<tr>
<td>The Dark Ballerina</td>
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<tr>
<td>Evie, Enga, Paker, Lilly B, Lilly M (Yr 2)</td>
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<tr>
<th>Heat 4</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Friday 5 December</td>
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<tr>
<td>Judges (back to old playground timetable)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mrs Cage &amp; Miss Hawkins (Music – Miss Ford)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Act 4</td>
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<tr>
<td>11.15am</td>
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<tr>
<td>Double A Double J</td>
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<tr>
<td>Amber Aslette, Jorja Jeffs (PS and 3F)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friends 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chloe Mogg, Isabella Balchin (3P)</td>
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<tr>
<td>The Silly Sisters</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ashlee Galea, Kalani Carson Porter</td>
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</tbody>
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<table>
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<tr>
<th>Finals</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Thursday 11 December</td>
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<tr>
<td>Judges (back to old playground timetable)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr Mandryk, Mr Lyons, Mrs Harej (Music - )</td>
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The Student Council has been able to achieve quite a few of our tasks that we originally thought of. For example > Autism Day – blue day > Tiggy Rules > Jeans for Genes Day > Scripture Union Coin Drop > Hand Ball Rules > Bandanna Day > Talent Quest. A huge Thank You goes out to a dedicated team of students who regularly turned up to our meetings. Another thank you to the teachers for their time also. To Marian State School students and their families, none of this would have been possible without your support too!

We hope that each class gets involved again next year. Start thinking now about whether YOU would like to be apart of the Student Council.

Cheers, and a Merry Christmas from The Student Council.

### Chappy Chat

Christmas greetings! My hope for you is that you’ll find time to rest, reflect and rejoice over the holidays.

Here are a few Holiday Ideas: Bake cupcakes and give them to a neighbour * Use an underwater camera * Make green eggs and ham * Invite friends over for high tea * Have a picnic * Play tag in the rain * Create something out of duct tape * Make a time capsule to dig up once you’ve finished high school * Sketch your pet * Collect rocks and paint them * Make fun origami decorations* Most importantly, find time to help and lend a hand to people this Christmas. Please continue collecting cans for crushing over the festive season, then bring them to school at the start of first term. Thank-you for supporting chaplaincy this year.

Kind regards

Chappy Liz

**Thought for today:** “Love them now, not after they’ve gone away” Avery and Marsh
SCHOOL BOOK PACKS
For 2015 we have been offered an exciting opportunity to raise a bit of extra money for the school through News Express Newsgency Victoria Street. They have given us priced book lists which you can select what you would like to order, send the form in with payment details and the guys at News Express will pack the order and deliver it to school the week before school starts next year. The more orders they receive from us the more money the P&C will receive as a donation. PLUS supporting this means you avoid the task of battling the shops for school books! If you would like to take advantage of this offer you can find copies of the different grade lists in the office with more details available on the forms and from Newsexpress. Or you can contact Nikki, 0439 77 22 17.

THANK YOU
I would just like to say massive thank you to everyone involved with P&C this year. To the tuckshop – your team is fabulous and I don’t think people realise how much work goes into feeding our hungry kids each week! Bernie, you are our hidden gem and we would be lost without you. Thanks to the Tuckshop exec for keeping the paperwork side running smoothly! To all of the volunteers at our various functions – your participation makes our job easier, thank you for your time! To Kylie in Uniforms, Robin and Toni – your efforts are also much appreciated – Kylie you have done an amazing job taking on the role this year!! To the P&C Exec – thank you for your constant contributions to our fantastic group! Corenne Jonas – your last year with us has gone so fast. You have been a constant support and one who does so much to help with no expectations, the work you have put into the P&C (along with your sidekick Elaina) over the last years can not be measured and Marian State School will sorely miss you…. Thank you just doesn’t cover it! Also a special mention to Sue Sant, tuckshop, banking, ham wheel ticket selling ;), you are a doer and we thank you for it – good luck for next year but I am sure we will see you around! A final thank you to Tina and Julia in the office for your printing and office expertise – thank you for making my job a little easier.

I would like to wish all your families a wonderful Christmas and safe holiday season. Enjoy the break and we will see you next year ready to start it all over again!

See you soon!

Sue Sant.
CAROLS BY CANDLELIGHT

Sunday 7th December at the rear of the Mirani Catholic Church
Gather at 6.30pm for a 7pm prompt start.
A cuppa will be served before and after the event.
Carols, Mirani Singers, Children’s Play, Decorate a Christmas Tree

School holiday Activities Sessions now available
Small groups of 10 kids. Sessions run for 3 hours with snacks, drinks and equipment provided. $80 per child.
Group 1- Prep to Year 3, Group 2- Year 4 to Year 7
Booking essential. Tanya 0448262891

Dates are as follows:
Tuesday December 16th 2014, Thursday January 8th 2015
Tuesday January 13th 2015, Wednesday January 21st 2015

Blue card, first aid certificate holder.

Music Education

Professional Keyboard & Guitar Tuition at Your Child’s School!

Register Online Now!
www.musiceducationaustralia.com.au

LIMITED PLACES ARE AVAILABLE - ENROL NOW!

Maths Tutoring for Primary School Aged Children 2015 — Phone Deb — 0432177601

Marian School P&F

Christmas Raffle

$1 ticket

Major Prize over $500 value!

Bike, Gift Cards, Wheelbarrow, John Bungy Rm, Baileys, Wine, Log Set, Hot Mehls, Chocolates, Choc Slugs & More

Drawn at Marian School Carols Night, 4th Dec

If you would like to purchase tickets, please fill in the following form and return with money to red box by Wednesday 3rd December.

Names or Tickets

Student Name: ____________________

Number of Tickets: ____________________

Total: ____________________

Phone Number: ____________________

Address: ____________________

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Volunteers

2.00 - 3.00pm
Gathering area
Gather before 3pm

3.00 - 4.00pm
Building set up

4.00 - 5.00pm
Cooking Slinging

5.00 - 6.15pm
Building set up

A cuppa will be served before and after the event.

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