PARENT PARTICIPATION

Mary Immaculate extends an open and warm welcome to all parents, and encourages your participation and involvement in the on-going process of the education of your child. There are many opportunities for parental involvement, in classroom programs such as the Support-a-Reader, Tuckshop, Class Excursions, Working Bees, Sports programs, Parents & Friends Committee and the Tuckshop and Uniform Shops. Parents who volunteer to work in the school in any capacity must undergo the Mandatory Volunteers Induction Process. Please contact the office for further details.

CLASSROOM ASSISTANCE
The range of ways in which parents can assist the teacher and their child is varied. Activities will depend on the year level and particular teacher. Assistance may be sought for reading, writing, perceptual motor, art, craft or any other curriculum activity. Parents may also be invited to support with sports programs, particularly for the middle to upper primary years.

SUPPORT-A-READER
The Support Teacher Inclusive Education teacher (STIE) runs a Support-a-Reader training program at the beginning of each year. Parents, grandparents, friends and parishioners are encouraged to participate in this training as it is a vital support for students, particularly those for whom English is their second language.

PARENTS AND FRIENDS’ ASSOCIATION
Mary Immaculate Primary School is fortunate in maintaining a strong and interested Parents & Friends Association led by a capable and enthusiastic committee. The association aims to provide an avenue for parents and supporters to work with the School Administration to further enhance children's education, to maintain, care for and develop the school and grounds, and to promote the interests of the children and the school.

In recent years, thanks to the efforts of the P&F Committee, we now have a refurbished tuckshop, new playground equipment and a range of resources to support support classroom and sporting programs.

At Mary Immaculate Primary School there are many opportunities for parental involvement, in classroom programs such as Support-a-Reader, Literacy/Numeracy blocks, Class Excursions, Sports programs, Working Bees, Parents & Friends Committee and sub committees such as Tuckshop, Uniform Shop and Parent Liaison Officers. Parents who volunteer to work in the school in any capacity must undergo the Mandatory Volunteers Induction Process. Please contact the office for further details.

The P&F are committed to building strong community relationships. Regular social events for families, including BBQ’s with a theme, are one way that the association demonstrates it’s commitment to making every family in our school feel welcomed and valued.
All parents are encouraged to come along to the monthly meetings – first Tuesday of the month at 7pm in the library. Parents are also encouraged to support the P&F initiatives in a way that fits with their particular home and work commitments.

**TUCKSHOP**
The School Tuckshop operates each Wednesday providing a range of choices for lunch. Children must have orders written on a paper bag with money secured inside and delivered to school by Tuesday prior to Tuckshop day. These are placed in a tuckshop basket in each classroom. On Friday, students may purchase snacks only during the lunch break. A menu/pricelist is available from the School Office and also on the school website. Every now and then there is a special day, eg ‘Sausage Sizzle’ or ‘Pizza’ day. Limit for purchasing is $5.00. The tuckshop coordinator is a volunteer parent who relies on other parents to assist in providing this service. Any profits from the tuckshop are used for improving school resources through the P&F Association.

**UNIFORM SHOP**
Similarly, the Uniform Shop operates with a volunteer coordinator and parent supporters. Support is critical at the beginning of the year and Winter and at orientation for new students time. Volunteers are vital for this service to the school.

If you have a query for the P&F please send it via email to pannerley@bne.catholic.edu.au and it will be directed to the appropriate P&F personnel.

**MARY IMMACULATE SCHOOL BOARD**
Brisbane Catholic Education requests that School communities give consideration to shared policy making groups. This is achieved through the development of a School Board. Collaborative strategies in the domains of School Board, school leadership and parent leaders together with parish leadership enhance and co-ordinate communication, policy direction and community engagement.

The Mary Immaculate School Board was first formed in July 2007. Board members (staff, parents and a parish representative) participate in Board meetings with the understanding that they are participating in the broad ministry of pastoral support and that board membership is essentially a collaborative ministry using the shared wisdom model, where decisions are reached through discernment. The Parents and Friends Association of the school remains the official parent body in the school.
The Board’s responsibilities include:

- Functioning in accordance with the shared wisdom model of speaking, listening, and allowing ideas to blend;
- Collaborating in nurturing the Special Religious Character of the school;
- Participating in the planning of the ongoing development of the school; through the School Strategic Renewal process.
- Reviewing the school’s statements of vision, mission and special religious character;
- Developing, reviewing and maintaining policies;
- Participating in the selection process for the appointment of the principal;
- Supporting staff;
- Providing advice on any matters referred by the Principal and
- Establishing and maintaining the process for informal and formal communication.

It remains the aim of the school to develop a School Board that is reflective of the diversity of our school community.