Minutes

**Religious Education Department Meeting May 1st 2014**

**Present:** Cathy, Donna, Carla, Cher, Rachel, Megan, Claudia, Paul, Stacey, Michelle

Apologies: Lee, Harry, Tarita, Gabrielle, Scott, Laura

1. Prayer: Cathy shared Pope Francis’ Easter message about hope and maintaining hope for our students
2. Sefo presented information regarding his availability and talents in the RE classroom for the rest of the year. He outlined his ability to run meditation, prayer, social justice activities etc but highlighted the fact that he needs to be asked and won’t just ‘jump in’ unless invited.

Action: Teachers asked to forward their needs or ideas to Cathy regarding the use of Sefo and or Wong Kee in the classroom so that time can be allocated.

1. General Business

Cathy thanked Scott in his absence for the excellent project with Year 12s and the delivery of chocolate to the hospital over Easter. Cathy reminded staff that if they want folders for storage work they are available from her office. She highlighted that teachers will be out on professional learning in the next couple of weeks, Michelle to year 12 Religion and ethics moderation and Donna and Tarita to REAP.

Year 7s will be planning and participating in a year level Mass this term. Years 8 and 9 next term.

1. CTJ this year will focus on Teaching Scripture-and specifically the three worlds of the text. Rachel presented a short seminar to outline to teachers what the three worlds of the texts are and how learning about them brings life to the text and helps the text user to make meaning. The world behind the text includes the cultural context of the author and audience of the text. The world of the text is about the text itself, its genre, location in the bigger text of the Bible and the world in front of the text –its meaning for today. Discussion was had about examples of where it is hard for students to make meaning if they don’t know context, for example what is a shepherd? Why might the Hebrews have needed ten commandments? Etc. Cathy highlighted the resources available on the RE portal about the three worlds of the texts and the fact that more are being produced.

Action: All staff to use the three worlds of the text to analyse scripture at least once this term. Construct an activity for students to do this

1. Unit outlines and assessment

Teachers worked in year level teams to finalise unit outlines and discuss assessment tasks for term 2. Guidelines were given for this task. See attached powerpoint.

Action: Unit outlines and assessment tasks to be finalised and sent to Cathy by the end of week four.

Meeting closed at 4.30pm

Next meeting Tuesday 10th June at 3.10pm in N1 as per our agreement. Please make it your highest priority to attend.