



St Margaret Mary's School

A Dynamic Community of Learners in Action

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Wednesday 14th May 2014

Newsletter No 14

Notes Sent Home

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School Photos

Students are reminded to wear full Winter Uniform. Hair should be tied back with blue hair ties, neat and tidy out of eyes. School shoes should be polished, uniforms should be clean and tidy. All students must have the correct neck ties.

Next Weeks Happenings

Thursday 15th May

NAPLAN Testing for Years 3 & 5 (Numeracy)

Friday 16th May

Year 6 Return from Canberra Excursion at 7.00pm
Assembly: Kindergarten 2pm in the hall

Monday 19th May

8:40am Morning Assembly and Prayer Service

Tuesday 20th May

School Photos

Wednesday 21st May

Bookclub Due

Dear Parents, Boys and Girls,

"Excuses, Excuses: Need for Personal Ownership of Our Actions."

Sometimes in my office I get overwhelmed with the number of excuses that students give for their poor work or effort with regard to behaviour. I always try to question them and narrow down what is really happening and this does take time. I was reading an article on this matter last week and thought it said very plainly what I struggle with every week.

"We all make mistakes from time to time, but it seems to be an inbuilt tendency to blame others for our faults. There can be strong emotional pressures that motivate us to make excuses and so blame our upbringing, our circumstances, the way we have been treated by others and, of course, these days we can blame our genes. Unfortunately, the fact is that all excuses boil down to one common element: a lack or a denial of personal responsibility."

By refusing to make excuses and to embrace responsibility, we reap the rewards of self-respect, pride and confidence. Psychologists tell us that the happiest people are those who accept total responsibility for every part of their lives. What a wonderful gift we can give to our children".

This thinking and view plays an important role in how children see themselves. If they accept responsibility, develop self-respect and confidence they will be less likely to see themselves as victims or unable to deal with life's challenges when they get older. It is one of the hardest, but most important traits we can encourage in our children.

God Bless

Kevin Mills
Principal

STAFF DEVELOPMENT DAY FRIDAY 6th JUNE

This is a pupil free day

Kindergarten Enrolments

Enrolments for Kindergarten 2015 are now being taken. If your child was born between 1st August 2009 and 31st July 2010 you will need to collect an enrolment form from the school office. For enrolment enquires please contact the school office.

Head Lice

Parents are reminded to check their child/ren's hair regularly and treat accordingly. We have reported cases of head lice in our school.

New Staff

Last Friday we farewelled Mrs Debes as she began her maternity leave. We are fortunate to welcome Ms Melissa Diterlizzi who is joining our Yr 3 Team. Ms Diterlizzi was in class last week to meet with Mrs Debes and be briefed on the students. This team is coordinated by Mrs Ellen Haurdic and we look forward to a smooth transition.

Congratulations

Congratulations to Mrs Maire & John Debes on the birth of their baby son, George, on Monday 12th May.

CRUNCH AND SIP

Crunchy carrots, good to eat.

Ripe bananas, very sweet.

United children eating well.

No more waiting for the bell

Concentration is very high.

Hungry children sigh and sigh.

And that's no longer at our school.

Never sleep, we just rule.

Delicious apples, red and green.

Strawberries the biggest ever seen.

I love to crunch and sip in class.

Perfect food, I'll never pass.

By Charlene Pickering 2Y

Parish Building

Over the next three weeks the completion of the Parish Centre will impact on the functioning of the School. This weekend the tree at the front entrance will be removed and digging started to accommodate the parish storm water. This may result in limited access to the entrance of our school. It will be important for all parents and carers to take note of any information that may come home from school with regard to this matter. The Builders are excellent and are making sure there will be little interruption to the school. The parish are also upgrading the power that will result in a shutdown (after hours) when the new building comes online.

We are most excited about the new Parish Centre and see this as a major initiative at St Margaret Marys.

School Photos

This year Advancedlife School Photography will be taking our school photos on Tuesday 20th May

The Photo envelope will be sent home for you to complete and send with the **correct payment on Tuesday 20th May.**

Each child must have their own envelope even if the payment is in a sibling's envelope.

Change will not be available. The school office will be closed before school and the canteen will not be able to provide change nor will the photographers provide change.

Family Photo envelopes will be available at the school office.

All students will wear their full winter uniform on the day (no sports uniforms).

Tuckshop

Roster

Thursday May 15th

Friday May 16th

Monday May 19th

Tuesday May 20th

Wednesday May 21st *A.Essay, C.Hitti,*



PARENT TO PARENT



Happy Mother's Day to all the mothers and grandmothers in our community. We hope you all enjoyed your day and were very spoilt.

I wanted to take a minute to give a special mention to some special mums who are working tirelessly in the backgrounds to put together special events such as last week's mother's day stall. So many lovely mothers and grandmothers gave up their day to ensure the stall was a success - AND IT WAS.

It was the best stall we've had with a worthy cause as motivation. We had pledged 10% of our proceeds (ie before costs) of the day to PINK HOPE FOUNDATION.

We also had a very generous donation of jewellery and accessories from **SHARON TILBROOK** (KINDY MUM) of which every dollar from those sales also went directly to the charity.

In total, I am proud to announce we donated **\$700** to the PINK HOPE cause. After costs, we also made \$1547.92 for the school.

Once again, thank you all the volunteers who came on Friday 2nd May to wrap all the gifts and make them look like a million dollars, and all the amazing ladies and even our younger sibling helpers who sold their socks off last Friday. Your enthusiasm and commitment is greatly appreciated. Without you all, the day would not have been the success it was.

Can't wait for Father's Day.....

Sincere thanks

Pauline Poumale
P&F President.

Diocesan Works Fund Appeal

On **Friday 23rd May** we will be asking the eldest member of each family to take home a DWF APPEAL envelope.

The Diocesan Works Fund Appeal gives us the opportunity to act together as one church family to support ministries and services that no single parish or school can offer. It is Faith at Work!

Every gift, regardless of the size, is vital to the success of the Diocesan Works Fund. All envelopes need to be returned to the school office by **Wednesday 28th May 2014**.

Preferred method of donations are online at www.parra.catholic.org.au or by credit card and/or cheque as indicated on the envelope.

We will accept cash donations as well.

With all payments **please ensure that the envelope is completed correctly for receipting and processing as all receipts can be used by families as a tax deduction on their income tax return.**

Did you know that CatholicCare responds to more than 20,000 calls for help each year? Many request relationship or gambling counselling or are dealing with a disability, mental ill health or ageing.

Did you know that DWF supports the 14 seminarians in training and more than 1000 Catechists working in state schools in Western Sydney?

Did you know that DWF supports Youth ministry and Faith Education in Western Sydney to!

Your donations either through school or your parish will be put to good work.



BIRTHDAYS



Jospeh El Rassi

Andrea Boutros

Lian Chen

Tania Younan

Jasmine Ezenwa-Nduk

Alice Mitchell

Andrew Boulos

David Khamis

Jonathon Hanna

Reegan Pine

Rian Gardoce

Matthew Fakhr

Reece Fakhr

Sarah Fakhr

Bongiwe Mpofu

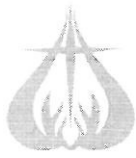
Max Antony Ramos Montoya

Lisa Maree Mitry

Christina Rizk

Jagger Cunningham

Congratulations to all those children who celebrate their birthday around this time.



GBW:vt

7 May 2014

Dear colleagues

In 2013, the NSW/ACT Bishops asked the Catholic Education Commission NSW to administer a survey addressing the goals of their 2007 Pastoral Letter, *Catholic Schools at a Crossroads* across a sample of NSW parish-school communities.

An online survey has now been developed and your school community has been selected to participate in a representative cross-section of parishes from all Dioceses in NSW/ACT.

Parish priests from selected communities will also be asked to complete the clergy version of the survey and will be asked to invite members of their parish, whether they have children at the local Catholic school or not, to complete the parent/parishioner version of the survey.

A link to the online survey will be sent via CEC shortly for direct electronic distribution to parents of students in Years 2, 6, 8 or 10 as relevant. A sample newsletter insert will also be provided so that a reminder can be included in your school newsletter.

Should you have any questions, please direct them to Peter Grace, State Co-ordinator – Student Wellbeing and Executive Officer of the CEC's Mission and Identity Working Party on 02 9287 1583 peter.grace@cecnsw.catholic.edu.au

This is an important survey for the NSW/ACT Bishops to reflect on progress of the pastoral aims outlined in *Catholic Schools at a Crossroads* and they greatly value your cooperation in encouraging your parents to complete this survey.

Thank you for your assistance.

Yours sincerely

Gregory B Whitby
Executive Director of Schools
Catholic Education
Diocese of Parramatta



I love my Mum...

I love my Mum because she gives me comfort and tells me to never give up on my dreams. Suzanne 6R

I love my Mum because she always loves me and helps me in everything I do. Simeon 3R

I love my Mum because she cooks yummy food. Kesha KR

I love my Mum because she helps people she doesn't know. Rebecca 6R

I love my Mum because she always cares about me and gives me what I want. She loves me and she is the most beautiful woman in the world. Emma 5R

I love my Mum because she takes care of me and hugs me. Joey 2B

I love my Mum because she is always there for me and she always puts me first in every situation. Alaura 5B



I love my mum because she is a great cook. Steven 5R

I love my Mum because she helps me get ready for school. Mayullah Lamin 1R

I love my Mum because she is creative and has lots of ideas. Mikaela 5R

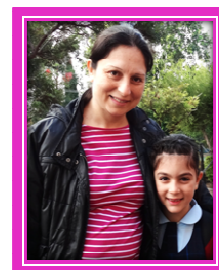
I love my Mum because she hugs me and loves me. Cristiano KB

I love my Mum because she helps me get ready for school. Mayullah 1R



I love my Mum because she is always nice and helps out. Jarrod Lee 5R

Our Mums Are Special



On the 10th of May the students of St Margaret Mary's, celebrated Mother's Day. We started off by having a liturgy to thank God for our wonderful mothers, grandmothers and great-grandmothers. Afterwards, we were allowed to buy gifts from the Mother's Day Stall. Thank you to all the mothers who gave up their time to help conduct the stall and help with fund raising. Charlize 6R



Compiled by: James Bejjani, Shania Biber, Charlize De Souza, Sima Gem, Aryan Gupta, Maddison Laing and Anthony Poulmale.

