



MASS TIMES: Saturday Vigil 6.00pm, Sunday 8.00am and 9.30am. All welcome!

2014 - Celebrating 35 years of Catholic Education

11th September 2014

DIARY DATES

Friday 12 September

7:30pm Confirmation with Most Rev. Kevin Manning

Tuesday 16 September

P & F Meeting, 7.30pm

Thursday 18 September

Yr 4 Parent Meeting, 7.00pm

Friday 19 September

Footy Fever & Hot Dog Day

Last day of Term 3

Tuesday 7 October

First day of Term 4

Tuesday 14 October

Parent Information for Reconciliation, 7.00pm

Friday 17 October

Yr 3 & 4 CSIRO IncurSION

Saturday 18 October

Commitment Mass for Reconciliation, 6.00pm

Sunday 19 October

Commitment Mass for Reconciliation, 9.30am

M/T/W 20/21/22 October

Year 5 Camp

Monday 29 October

Kinder 2015 Orientation

Sat/Sun 1/2 November

Weekly Parish based lessons - Reconciliation

Sat/Sun 8/9 November

Weekly Parish based lessons - Reconciliation

Monday 1 December

Christmas Concert led by Andrew Chinn, 7.00pm

Tuesday 9 December

Year 6 Farewell Mass, 7pm

24 Nov to 5 December Swimming, Yrs K-4

Friday 12 December

Year 6 Social, 6pm

Dear Parent, Carers, Students & Friends,

Since the start of his Pontificate, Pope Francis has constantly emphasised the importance of grandparents:

“...A people that does not care for its grandparents, a people that does not respect their grandparents, does not have a future, because they do not have a memory, they have lost their memory.” “Grandparents are a treasure.”



Today we celebrated together with the grandparents of our school community. It was a wonderful celebration. What was evident from the children was the deep respect and reverence that they have for their grandparents and the reciprocal pride and love that grandparents have for their children's children.



The day commenced with a beautiful and moving school liturgy led by the students. This was followed by a special morning tea and entertainment – the three finalists of Voice of Youth; our Creative Arts Expo dance performance and Year 5's presentation of the book “The Ghost of Miss Annabell Spoon” by Aaron Blabey. Next, grandparents had the opportunity to donate a book to the library and visit the classrooms to celebrate the learning within. This was followed by an outdoor family picnic. Year 6 organised a sausage sizzle and the teachers ran a photo booth. We were blessed with a beautiful day that enabled all to relax and enjoy a meal together on the school grounds.

Grandparents' Day is a celebration that connects us at a very human level. It's a day where we pause and give thanks for all grandparents as well as a day where grandparents have an opportunity to show their affection for their grandchildren. The day is also about honouring grandparents who weren't present with us but whom we carry in our hearts and our memories.

The role that grandparents play in the lives of grandchildren may be different, but they all share an important part in helping to influence in a lasting way, their grandchildren's growth and formation. For grandparents, one of the greatest joys in this stage of life is being able to nurture a special relationship with a grandchild.

Grandparents also play an invaluable role in imparting wisdom and common sense. They are equipped to do this because they have lived longer, have had greater experience, and have noticed the patterns of life. In this way grandparents can offer a greater perspective on life. The relationship is reciprocal - grandchildren love and admire their grandparents. They love their grandparents simply for who they are.



Grandparents' Day is a day to collectively give thanks for the treasures that are our grandparents – for their gift of presence, love, wisdom and life.

Pilgrimage

During the holidays I will be travelling with twenty-nine system leaders led by Bishop Anthony Fisher on a pilgrimage to Greece where St Paul and his companions established the first Christian communities. We will be travelling to Athens, Corinth, Kalambaka, Philippi and Thessaloniki; then to the Turkish city of Izmir, Ephesus, Troas and Canakkale. We will then journey to the Gallipoli Peninsula and visit Anzac Cove.

The next part of our trip leads us to Istanbul then Rome, the eternal city, where we will join the Holy Father for an audience. Finally we travel to Assisi where St Francis tended the poor and the sick and founded the Franciscan Order. This is an unbelievable opportunity and as I journey through these historic and faith-filled locations I will keep you in my prayers.

*Have a great week,
God Bless*

Sue Veling

Principal



Teachers on Leave

Mr Mifsud will be Acting Principal while Mrs Veling is on Pilgrimage until Monday 20th October (Week 3).

Miss Reynolds will be Acting Religious Education Coordinator while Mrs Day is on leave from Friday 19th September to Monday 20th October. Mrs Mitchell will be in Year 5.

Mrs Scott will be Acting Sports Coordinator until Monday 20th October.

Mrs McGregor is on leave to attend her daughter's wedding in England. She will return on Wednesday 15th October. Miss Kathy Crooks will be taking music classes in her absence.

Sacrament of Confirmation

Congratulations to the children who will receive the Sacrament of Confirmation on Friday. The Most Rev Kevin Michael Manning, Bishop Emeritus of Parramatta, will perform this beautiful celebration. Children need to be reminded about the importance of 'being a friend to Jesus.' One way to do this is by speaking to Jesus and showing that they want to be like him in the things that they do each day. Parents also need to talk about their relationship with Jesus and share the importance of their faith with their children.

Please keep these children and their families in your prayers.



Fathers' Day Breakfast and Prayer

Last Wednesday we joined as a community to celebrate Father's Day with our breakfast and prayer. This successful event was patronised by hundreds of dad, granddads and father figures as they ate breakfast with their children, shared stories and cuddled together to keep warm. We pray for the fathers and father figures in our school and community and for those fathers who are no longer with us and we thank God for the guidance and love that they give their children.

Creative Arts Expo

On Monday and Tuesday evening, *Our Lady of the Way* students performed at the Joan Sutherland Centre with four other schools from the mountains area to showcase their talents through music, drama and dance using the theme of 'Journey'.

OLOW had children represented in the choir and the strings ensemble led by Mrs McGregor as well as the dance performance celebrating the 45th anniversary of the epic Apollo 11 flight to the moon. This was organised, written and choreographed by Mrs Blazek and Miss Colyer, Mrs Kuipers, Mrs Aikens and Mrs Flanagan. I wish to thank everyone who contributed to this wonderful celebration.

Individual Plans Data Collection

Across the Diocese of Parramatta, all staff have been working together to clarify the standards for Education under the Disability Discrimination Act and our response within each school environment. The Catholic Education Commission has taken an active role in collecting information across Australia and their central aim is to help each child "to experience their possibilities". This means that the CEC will be

- collecting comparable information about the diversity of the population of students with disability and the level of adjustments that are provided for them – this is a much bigger group than previously.
- working directly with the Federal Government to ensure the distribution of funding potentially reaches an agreed disability loading across all sectors of education.
- helping us to meet the needs of all students with regard to equity, diversity and inclusion of all children.
- Enabling the Federal government to measure the participation, progress and attainment of students with disability against national standards and enable education authorities to examine the factors which may impact on the education of students with disability.

Summer School Uniform

Please note that from next week (Monday 15th September), children must come to school in either full winter uniform or full summer uniform. Students should return in Term 4 in their summer uniforms. The summer uniform requirements are listed below.

| <i>Girls' Summer Uniform</i> | <i>Boys' Summer Uniform</i> |
|---|---|
| Green and white check dress with green, white or gold hair accessories | Grey 'blocker' school style shorts (cargo style or corduroy are not permitted) & mint short sleeve shirt with school logo |
| Plain white ankle socks (not anklet socks) | Grey ankle socks (not anklet socks) |
| Bottle green jumper, zip jacket or school sloppy joe with school emblem | |
| Black leather school shoes (no black joggers) | |
| Bottle green school hat with school emblem | |

Hairstyles

A number of boys are coming to school with inappropriate haircuts. School is not a place to display the latest fashion trends. Boys' haircuts should be a conventional cut, the same length all over using a minimum number 3 or 4 blade. Gel and hairspray should not be used to make spikes.

Sports Shoes

If you are buying your child a new pair of sports shoes for school, please make sure they are white (predominantly) with white laces.



Letters will be sent home to parents whose children come to school with inappropriate haircuts and who wear the incorrect uniform.

LEARNING NEWS

Creative Arts Expo

Audiences at this week's Creative Arts Expo were treated to a wonderful evening of song, dance and music. The evening began with a combined orchestra of students from Our Lady of the Way and St Thomas Aquinas who delighted us with music from Pachelbel's Canon.

Next it was time for the combined schools choir who sang a number of toe tapping songs including Under the Sea from the Little Mermaid. Finally, it was the turn of our individual dance item to wow the audience. The team performed a musical enactment of the Apollo 11 Luna landing.

All of our students performed to the highest standard and captivated the audiences with their talent and enthusiasm.

The staff of Our Lady of the Way would like to congratulate each of the students who participated in the Expo. Their commitment to the regular rehearsals and willingness to work as a team was amazing. Thank you also to our wonderful families who assisted in preparing their children for this very special event.

| | | | | |
|---|---|--|---|--|
| Riley Bahlmann Billy Pearson Chelsea Taber Madeline Renny | Miah Green Isobel Campbell Emilia Di Prinzie | Clarice Sagun Brianna Mangan Sophia Lusk | Kaitlyn Spring Emma Jones Charlize Risse | Daniel Prendergast Tailyn Tupaea Blake Skinner |
| Lara Sullivan Alyssa Eekman Layla Woods Talesha Spooner Matthew Sekulic | Jessica Dray Madeline Godfrey Tahlia Robinson Emma Fowler Jack Gale | Kiah McNulty Ashley Hurley Ethan Dempsey Isabella Clarke Lachlan Aitchison | Tristan Isaia Noah Clifford Bailey Gregory Olivia Craig Flynn Starr | Hannah Carroll Tyanna Kubik |
| Maddison McCarry Amber Dempsey Kirrilly Filla | Sophie McDonald Lara Roser Jessica Daley | Mikayla Flanagan * Madalyn Jones | Jill Downie Dominic Sagun Bailey Sultana | Ciaran Rudge Olivia Downie |
| Joshua Patterson Lucas Horne Jake Grosse | Isaac John Jerry Crumpton Angus McIntosh | Luke Mathison Aroha Tupaea Lucy Vinci | Ellie Tsahtaris Isabella Nardi | Emilie Donohue- Thompson |





Pizza Lunch

A pizza lunch has been organised for all the students who participated in the Creative Arts Expo. Pizza will be served at second break on Monday 15th September. Yum! Yum!



Year One Narratives

Year One have been imagining what it would be like if there was a SEA IN THEIR CLASSROOM! Here are some excerpts from their narratives.

CASSANDRA:

As I held the shell, water began to gush out fast and I felt scared. It sounded like a herd of elephants. I saw big waves picking up pencils tubs. They were floating. My teachers were quickly swimming to get the pencils. My classroom looked like an ocean!



BRODY:

Suddenly salty water came rushing out like Flash! I saw everything floating. My classroom looked like an ocean! I looked behind me and saw ten electric eels trying to sting me, and nearly stinging my friends.

GABRIELLE:

I couldn't control what happened next, the water trickled out of the shell like a waterfall. I felt so scared that I screamed. My heart was beating like a drum. The water started to fill up the classroom so that there was only a little bit of air up at the top and everyone started to go underwater. I looked across the classroom and saw Miss Proctor dancing in the water and doing somersaults in the breaks.

AVA:

I felt scared and lonely. I had butterflies in my tummy. The water started to crash against the windows and flooded the classroom. The water got up to the kid's faces. I looked across the classroom and saw Jade doing somersaults in the water. The next thing I knew, a graceful dolphin glided past me.



MIA:

The water burst out of the shell like a volcano exploding. I felt worried. The water started to crash against the doors and the windows. The children started to scream. I looked across the classroom and saw Scarlett swimming with a dolphin!

CAMERON:

The water started to fill up the classroom and rose up to the windows. The books and pencils were floating around the classroom. I looked across the classroom and saw Sophie swinging on the light. The next thing I knew I was a merman. I had a spear and a killer whale was chasing me.

Becoming Resilient Learners

Developing virtues or character strengths is of crucial importance in helping children enjoy learning and become proficient in it. Self-value, self-awareness and self-discipline all impact on an individual's learning resilience.

Self-value: Children need to be valued and capable if they are to be successful in their lives. Praise and appreciation is a key part and can communicate very effectively that an individual is valued. Unregulated or inauthentic praise, however, can be detrimental to long-term development as it lacks the solid foundation of tried and tested competency. It is important that children be given the opportunity to try, and fail, and try again so that they can build a sense of self-value based on competency rather than unearned praise.

Self-awareness: It is important for students to know their strengths and weaknesses so that they can plan around them. Self-awareness helps a person to read their body and mind so that they can respond appropriately when under stress or at their peak. Symptoms indicating that their body or mind is hungry, fatigued or sluggish need to be recognised so that they know when to take a break. Similarly, recognising when they are most alert and energised can help them plan to use that time for important study rather than recreation. Understanding what motivates them can help students to manage the fluctuations in their enthusiasm.

Self-discipline: Success in any endeavour takes focused and often sustained effort. Feelings such as tiredness, boredom, impatience, frustration and discouragement can thwart a person's desire to succeed. Students who develop mastery over such feelings will accomplish their academic and life goals with greater ease.

As parents and teachers we work together to create circumstances in which our children can develop self-value, self-awareness and self-discipline.



Purposeful Talk

We all need time to talk so that we can:

- Process our thinking
- Connect to the topic
- Engage through participation
- Build new ideas and create new understandings

Purposeful Talk is one of the main ways children develop their understandings of new concepts.

New ideas and connections are triggered through opportunities to:

- Talk
- Question
- Discuss
- Clarify



The NSW English K-10 Syllabus

The English Syllabus aims to enable students to:

- Understand and use language effectively
- Appreciate, reflect on and enjoy the English language
- Make meaning in ways that are imaginative, creative, interpretive, critical and powerful

Purposeful Talk supports these aims by developing student knowledge, understanding and skills in order to:

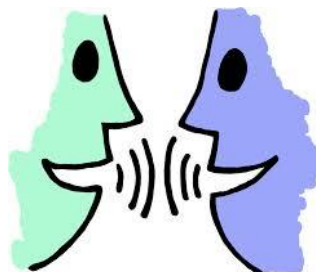
- Communicate through speaking and listening
- Express themselves and their relationships with others and their world

Through **Purposeful Talk** students will value and appreciate:

- The power of language to explore and express views
- The power of effective communication
- The role of language in developing positive interaction and cooperation with others

In working with the English Syllabus teachers will support students to be able to:

- Demonstrate active listening
- Follow instructions
- Ask relevant questions
- Respond constructively to different opinions
- Communicate clearly and purposefully with others to express well-developed and well-organised ideas
- Understand how people use language for different purposes
- Deliver effective presentations
- Collaborate with others to share and evaluate ideas and opinions



In the Learning Space:

Purposeful Talk takes place throughout each day across all Key Learning Areas. Students are engaged in learning opportunities where they will:

- Listen to one another and share ideas
- Engage in purposeful talk before, during and after reading and writing activities
- Consider and evaluate alternative viewpoints
- Plan, rehearse and deliver presentations
- Justify personal opinions and negotiate with others

At home:

You can support the work being done in the Learning Space by:

- Looking for meaningful opportunities to talk with your child (if your first language is not English then it is important to talk to your child in your first language)
- Reading to your child regularly (discuss the characters, setting and any changes that occur in the story)
- Giving your child opportunities to ask lots of questions
- Discussing meaningful situations and events (encourage your child to offer opinions and clarify understandings)

Please contact me at mmifsud@parra.catholic.edu.au if you have any questions relating to the **OLWCURRICULUMSPOT**.

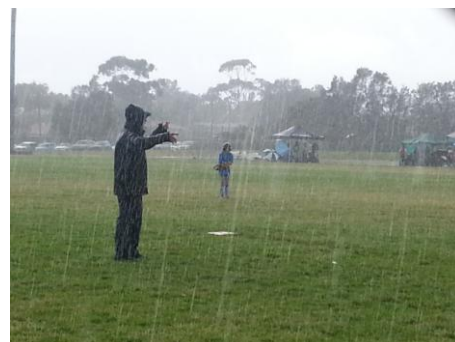
Michael

SPORTS NEWS

MacKillop PSSA Softball

Last week (25/8/14) I went over to Manly to play softball for MacKillop at the PSSA tournament. We ended up finishing in 5th place out of 13 teams. On Monday we got to meet the whole team for the first time and everyone was really nice. Then the rain started, so the day 1 games started 4 hours late and we only got to play 1 ½ games, we played 3 games on day 2 then all games for day 3 except the grand final which were called off, it was a shame as we were only one point off the grand final. CIS (Combined Independent Schools) and Sydney North played with Sydney North Winning the competition. We missed out on about 4 games due to all the bad weather but at least we got to play. The grounds were so wet and muddy, and the games were played on temporary diamonds, and we all got so dirty – that was the fun part!. My mum had to dry my cleats every night with the hairdryer so I could wear them the next day! I played first base and outfield and I had some good hits and bunts, we all played really well together and our coach was great!

Aimee Wagner, 5H



Congratulations Aimee, we are all so proud of you!

GENERAL INFORMATION

Thank You From Vinnies

The Emu Plains St Vincent de Paul group would like to thank the students, parents and staff for the Pyjama Day Winter Appeal. The \$500 that was raised will be used to help the needy families and individuals in our community. There are many who are struggling to make ends meet, and they rely on the St Vincent de Paul Society to help them through crisis times.

Without your generosity these people would not receive this emergency help. Again, and on their behalf, many thanks.

CANTEEN NEWS

Crunchy Munchy Café Meal Deals \$ 4.50

Available until Friday 19th September

Meal Deal 1

Salad Wrap & Small Water Bottle

Meal Deal 2

Hot Cheese Roll, Juice Popper and Frozen Juice Cup

COMMUNITY NEWS

Scorchers Holiday Clinic: Monday 22nd September - Wednesday 24th September, 9am to 3pm.
\$70.00 includes 3 days of basketball fun and skills. Lunch is included each day and the canteen will be open. Register your interest and book your child's place by contacting Springwood & Districts Basketball Association on **4739 8999** and leaving a message; or Emailing: scorchers1@bigpond.com. If your child is not a registered member of Springwood & Districts Basketball Assoc. we will require your medicare card on the day.

POST SEPARATION RECOVERY PROGRAM

CCSS Solo Parent Services are offering its seven week Post Separation Recovery Program again, commencing on Wed 22nd October 2014. This has proven to be an excellent Program that guides and supports those whose marriage or long-term partnership has ended. Venue: DAC Centre 1-5 Marion St Blacktown, Time: 7.30pm – 9.45pm. Further information and registration PH: 99330205 or email soloparentservices@ccss.org.au

ANNULMENT INFORMATION NIGHT

Each year the Catholic Tribunal Staff and CCSS Solo Parent Services present an Information Session to help people understand how the process of Annulments in the Catholic Church is conducted. Questions are answered on details such as the length of time it takes, the cost, the role of witnesses, the number of interviews required, the grounds for an Annulment and how to start the process. For the first time we will be holding an Annulment Information night at **Springwood**. The evening is open to anyone who is interested in gaining greater understanding about the Annulment process. **Venue:** The Parish Centre, 168 Hawkesbury Rd, Springwood. **Date:** Tues 14th October **Time:** 7.30 – 9.30. **Cost:** \$5.00. Registration Essential: PH: 9933 0205 or Email: soloparentservices@ccss.org.au

PRAYER AND REFLECTION DAY

Come along for a lovely day of quiet, peaceful prayer and reflection in beautiful surroundings led by Sr Eileen Quade. The invitation is open to all on Sunday 12th Oct, from 10.30am-3pm. Venue: Marymount Mercy Centre, 36 David Rd, Castle Hill. Cost \$10.00. BYO lunch. Bookings essential: Solo Parent Services PH: 9933 0205 Email: soloparentservices@ccss.org.au

A **Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend** is a *Marriage Enrichment* experience for married couples – set in peaceful, picturesque surroundings, away from the distractions of everyday life. During the weekend, couples have a unique opportunity to reconnect, rekindle and refresh their relationship. Take time out of your busy schedule, to invest in your most precious asset . . . your Marriage!

Weekend dates: 7 – 9 November at Mt Carmel Retreat Centre, Varroville, NSW

Bookings: Ardell & Bill Sharpe tel. 02 4283 3435 or wsharpe@bigpond.net.au

www.wwme.org.au www.facebook.com/WWMEasternUnit

The Blue Mountains Creative Arts Centre Inc. (Corner Hare And Moore Streets Glenbrook)

ENROLMENT DAY: Saturday 11th October 10:00AM TO 2:00PM

TERM 4, 2014 starts Monday 13th October (8 weeks)

Enquiries: See our website for enrolment forms and more information: www.bmcac.com or you can enrol online by emailing bmcac.mail@gmail.com or phone Ingrid on 4739 1118.



**Boys and Girls, 7 – 13 years
are invited to join**

Penrith City Children's Choir

for its next project

The Snow Wolf

**a mini-opera
directed by Lucy McAlary**

If you love to sing, please join us.

No auditions.

Applications close 8 October.

For further information,
contact the Administrator:
Liz Strasser
0418 202 849

pccc@penrithcitychoir.com.au