



St Mary's Rydalmere Newsletter

Term 1 Week 6
Wednesday 2nd March 2016
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PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE...

Dear Parents,

This year from 6 - 12 March 2016, all Catholic schools in the Parramatta Diocese will celebrate Catholic Schools Week (CSW).

Dioceses across NSW and the ACT are joining together to celebrate the theme for CSW 2016 which is **'I Belong, You Belong. We Belong.'** The theme aligns with the Church's mission to support refugees and asylum seekers and the need to foster a more compassionate global community. The CSW theme and our compassion for those seeking safety on our shores, also ties in with the global Catholic Church celebration of the Extraordinary Jubilee of Mercy which centres on pardon, strength and love.

In this Year of Mercy, Pope Francis is calling on all Catholic communities to extend mercy to those in need, particularly refugees. "Faced with the tragedy of tens of thousands of refugees fleeing death on account of war and hunger and who are travelling toward a hope of life, the Gospel calls us to be 'neighbours' to the smallest and abandoned and to give them a concrete hope," Pope Francis said.

During Catholic Schools Week, schools will be opening their doors and showcasing the themes of belonging and mercy in action. Catholic Schools Week is also about strengthening relationships between all those that have a stake in our schools – students, staff, families, priests, parishioners, and members of the wider community – by showcasing what happens in our schools every day.

It is important to celebrate and strengthen the close relationship between school and parish, and it is for this reason that parishioners from Holy Name of Mary are encouraged to connect with St Mary's Primary and visit us for during our 'Learning in Action' morning which will follow Mass on Friday 11th March.

We look forward to welcoming new and existing families along with members of the Parish to our school next week.

Have a great week!

Richard Blissenden
PRINCIPAL



DIARY DATES

TERM 1 2016

| | |
|---------------------------------|--|
| Monday 7th March | Catholic Schools Week Commences |
| Monday 7th March | Open Classrooms for Prospective 2017 Parents 9:30–10:45am |
| Monday 7th March | Year 2 Assembly 2:15pm in the Hall |
| Tuesday 8th March | Cross Country |
| Friday 11th March | Catholic Schools Week Mass 9:15am |
| Friday 11th March | Open Classrooms K-6 10:15–10:50am |
| Monday 21st March | Harmony Day |
| Monday 21st March | Year 3 Assembly 2:15pm in the Hall |
| Friday 25th March | Good Friday "Public Holiday" |
| Monday 28th March | Easter Monday "Public Holiday" |
| Wednesday 31st March | NSWCPS Swimming Championships Homebush |
| Tuesday 5th April | School Photos |

WYD RAFFLE TICKETS

Last week every family in the school received a book of Raffle Tickets to sell for World Youth Day. These booklets are due back Monday 7th March. Please send in any **sold** or **unsold** booklets to the office no later than this Monday. Thank you.

YOUTH GROUP

Young people in Years 5 & 6 are invited to our Parish Youth Group in the Parish Hall on Saturday 5th March after the 5:30pm Saturday Vigil Mass. The Youth Group begins at 6:30pm and will conclude at 8:00pm. Come along and have a great time as well as learning about the faith.

CHILDREN'S LITURGY

Our parish has a team of dedicated parents and young people who teach our children K-6 Catholic faith. The children leave the church after the beginning of Mass and return at the Offertory. The children are given scripture activities that coincide with the Sunday readings. If you can assist please contact Allison on 0411 013 032. All parents are invited to Mass and they are also invited to involve the children in the Liturgy.

ANTI-BULLYING—PARENT CONTACT

A note was sent home asking you to indicate if you would like to be notified if your child/children are being interviewed at school. Can you please return this slip by Thursday 6th March if you wish to be contacted.

VISITOR KIOSK

A new sign in iPad has been installed in the foyer of the office. This is for all volunteers and contractors visiting our site. All schools in the Diocese are receiving these Visitor Kiosks where all visitors to the site will be required to 'sign in'. Once signed in the visitor is provided with a printed visitors badge that includes a photo and information about the person you are visiting (usually the classroom teacher you will be working with). This replaces the paper sign in sheets and provides the office with a record of who is on the site at any time and would be used in the event of an evacuation etc. The first time you sign in there are some additional details recorded but for following visits you are only required to complete your name and a phone number. Thank you in advance for your assistance as we move to this new signing in procedure.

ATTENDING SCHOOL EVERY DAY

Thank you to those families that have been making every effort to have their children at school, ready for learning, every school day. A reminder that children need to arrive for school before 8.50am each day. Remember every day counts!

SCHOOL FEES

All schools fees have now been sent out by CEO. The due date for payment is Monday 7th March. If you are having problems with the payment of fees, please see Kate in the office.

PRINCIPAL AWARDS
TERM 1—Week 4



- KA Scarlett Silvera & Riley Watson
- KE Anna Ivanova & Michael Kim
- 1B Eddie Appleby & Aanya Singh
- 1F Aren Simonyen & Misha Kim
- 2D Lochlainn Melville & Joseph Nam
- 2Q Keira Dixon & Luke Phelan-Walsh
- 3G Orlando Ballout & Olivia Marshall
- 3M Kingston Luburic & Zoe Park
- 4J Mitchell Peaty & Olivia Bagnall
- 4K Sarah Iacono & Cooper Twyford
- 5E Ben Fairall & Nicole Pitchfork
- 5L Ryan Vaughan & Carissa Gallagher
- 6B Karissa Spinetti & Craig Zvidzo
- 6L Emily Radford & Patricia Tipones

CARE AWARDS
TERM 1—Week 4



- KA Kayden Barron-Logan & Gigi Truesdale
- KE April Burns & Hugh Porter
- 1B Genevieve Boumalhab & Jake Ban
- 1F Ashley Adams & Xavier McGilly
- 2D Lilliana Nsair & Katerina Hart
- 2Q Monique Gallagher & Brian Lim
- 3G Adam Rowlands & Lina Yoo
- 3M Yanisha Rodrigo & Elena Sheslow
- 4J Massimo Cimillo & Dakota Prudnicki
- 4K Bonnie Finch & Chloe Williams
- 5E Lilla Ward & Sanaya Padukkage
- 5L Hannah Jalil & Myles Panagiotopoulos
- 6B Celine Boustani & Mia Boulous
- 6L Jade Hewkins & Erin Suffling

FAITH JOURNEY...

SACRAMENTS FOR CHILDREN 2016

Below is another reminder of the dates for the Sacraments for this year:

RECONCILIATION - Children must be in Year 3 or above.

Parent Night: 5th April – 7.30pm.

Celebration of Sacrament: 30th June – 7.30pm.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION - Children must be in Year 3 or above and have made their First Reconciliation.

Parent Night: 5th April – 7.30pm.

Masses for First Holy Communion – Sundays 21st & 28th August – 12.00pm

CONFIRMATION - Children must be in Year 5 and have made their other sacraments.

Parent Night: 2nd August – 7.30pm.

Mass for Confirmation: 21st October – 7.30pm.

All other relevant dates, such as Enrolments, session times etc., are in a handout at the back of the church.

Rebecca Boidin

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION COORDINATOR



FROM MR BLISSENDEN...

Questioning - I was listening to the radio one afternoon last year and the discussion was about why children respond with “*nothing*” when asked what they did at school that day. In an effort to avoid that answer here are some alternative questions you might like to try with your children (my personal favourite is the first one) which should give you something other than “nothing”:

- Can you **teach** me something you learnt today?
- Tell me about your **favourite moment**
 - ♦ in the classroom today?
 - ♦ on the playground at break time?"
 - ♦ What was an interesting question **you** asked at school today?
 - ♦ Tell me a good decision you **made** today?
 - ♦ Did you have any **good/new/different** ideas today?
 - ♦ How did you **work** with (or share with) someone in class today?
 - ♦ What did you **read** at school/in class today?
 - ♦ Can you **explain** the Mathematics Warm Up you did today?

OPEN DAY

ST PATRICK'S MARIST COLLEGE

7TH MARCH 4:00 TO 6:00PM

You are most welcome to attend the St Patrick's Marist College Open Day (151 Kirby St, Dundas)

At our Open Day you will be invited to take part in a tour of our school where you will meet current students and experience the many aspects of College life. You will be welcomed to our new Hospitality learning space where you will taste some of the food that you could learn to make. There will be hands on experience in the Science Department, Music and Drama displays, various academic subjects to explore and much more.

BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS



| | |
|----------|---|
| March 4 | Ria Iyer Sarah Nam James Huntly |
| March 5 | Cameron Menin Emily Bagnall |
| March 8 | Indiana Liu |
| March 9 | Samantha Giarratano Georgie Hennessy |
| March 10 | Mia Ezzy |
| March 13 | Laila Riccardi Genevieve Boumalhab |
| March 14 | Abigail Tipones |

We would like to wish all of these children a very happy birthday!!

LEARNING IN ACTION...

Following our School Mass next Friday, 11th March, parents are invited to observe 'Learning in Action' with their child / children's class. Our plans (weather permitting) are that grades will be involved in the following 'learning'...

| CLASS | "LEARNING IN ACTION" |
|-------|------------------------|
| KA | English—Reading Groups |
| KE | English—Reading Groups |
| 1B | English—Reading Groups |
| 1F | English—Reading Groups |
| 2D | English—Reading Groups |
| 2Q | English—Reading Groups |
| 3G | English—Reading Groups |
| 3M | English—Reading Groups |
| 4J | Music |
| 4K | Religion |
| 5E | Maths |
| 5L | Maths |
| 6B | Sport |
| 6L | Drama |