



Term 2 Week 2
Wednesday 9th May 2018
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DIARY DATES

TERM 2 2018

Wed/Fri **Year 6 Canberra Excursion**
9-11 May

Friday **Mother's Day Breakfast**
11th May **8:00am**
 Mother's Day Liturgy
 9:15am

Monday **Kinder Excursion to**
14th May **Calmsley Hill**

Tues/Thurs **NAPLAN for Years 3 & 5**
15-17 May

Saturday **Prep for Sacrament of**
19th May **Penance 3:30–6:30pm**

Monday **Pentecost Liturgy 9:00am**
21st May

Tuesday **P&F Meeting 7:00pm**
22nd May

Wednesday **National Simultaneous**
23rd May **Storytime 11:00am (TBC)**

Wednesday **Kinder 2019 Interviews**
23rd May **1:00–3:00pm**

Thursday **Kinder 2019 Interviews**
24th May **1:00–3:00pm**

Friday **Captivate Rehearsal**
25th May **(Choir) 11:00-2:00pm**

Saturday **Prep for Sacrament of**
26th May **Penance 3:30–6:30pm**

Tuesday **Stage 3 Girls Soccer**
29th May **Gala Day**

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE...

Dear Parents,

Welcome to Term 2. I hope that you had an excellent holiday and that everyone has returned to the routines of school.

We have a very busy term ahead of us, which includes major excursions and events like Mother's Day, the Athletics Carnival and Mid Year Reports and Three Way Interviews. In discussing the term ahead with the children I have used the analogy of "The Bees in a Bottle"... Sometimes, human beings behave like bees. If you put several bees in an open-ended bottle and lay the bottle on its side with the base toward a bright light, the bees will keep on flying to the bottom of the bottle towards the light. It never occurs to them to reverse gears and try another direction. This is a combination of genetic programming and learned behaviour.

Put a bunch of flies in that bottle and turn the base towards a bright light. Within a few minutes, all the flies will have found their way out. They try all directions—up, down, towards the light, away from the light, often bumping into the glass and into each other—but sooner or later they find the neck of the bottle and fly out the opening.

This term the children will be faced with many challenges as they seek the bright light of learning. Will they be a bee and stick to the way they have always done things or a fly, trying everything they can until they find the answer? We often allow ourselves to become locked in our comfortable ways of doing things, even if we are getting nowhere and really want to be reaching in a new direction. What we're doing may not be helping us, but at least it's familiar.

One of the most important factors in achieving success at school and in life, is the willingness to try things out, to experiment, to test new ground. In fact, this is the only way to learn and progress - by trial and error.

Like the fly, try one way and then another until you succeed. Don't worry about making mistakes along the way. That's the way we all learn. *(Adapted from Denis Waitley.)*

Best wishes for a successful Term 2.

Peace and Best Wishes,

Richard Blissenden
PRINCIPAL



MOTHER'S DAY BREAKFAST & LITURGY

A reminder that our P&F are holding a Mother's Day breakfast for all of the beautiful mum's here at St Mary's. Breakfast will commence at 8:00am outside the School Hall (near the canteen).

You are then invited to join us for our Liturgy being held in the church from 9:15am. All mum's, grandmother's etc are invited to join us for this special celebration.

**P&F MEETING**

Please mark 22nd May in your diary for the next P&F meeting where special guests from the local council will discuss and present a Road Safety presentation.

ANNUAL SEMINAR—MARRIAGE ANNULMENTS IN THE CATHOLIC CHURCH

Each year CatholicCare Solo Parent Services hosts an Information Seminar to help people understand the process of Marriage Annulments in the Catholic Church. The evening is open to anyone who is interested.

Venue: St. Patrick's Cathedral Hall,
1 Marist Place, Parramatta

Date: Wednesday 16th May

Time: 7pm – 9pm.

Registration Essential: PH: 8843 2575 or
Email: soloparentservices@ccss.org.au

BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS

May 5	Isabelle Cesar
May 10	Jacob Nassima Archer Weeden Sierra Lake Catherine Lim
May 11	Lara Kable Joel Heiler Luke Heiler Christopher Mansour
May 12	Yomika Dodampegama Thomas Hill
May 13	Eleanor Park
May 14	Connor Percovich
May 15	Amelia Newman Joshua Tenorio
May 17	Alysha Milic
May 18	Josie Christopherson
May 19	Audrey Lampasona Jake Ban Olivia Campos
May 22	Emma Biviano

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

NAPLAN 2018

In May 2018 the National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) will be completed by students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9. NAPLAN has the support of all state and territory Education Ministers and assesses the literacy and numeracy skills of students across Australian schools. The results of the tests will provide important information to schools about what each student can do, and will be used to support teaching and learning programs. Parents will receive a report indicating their child's level of achievement. Each student's level of achievement will be reported against the national minimum standard. Student background information (student name, gender, date of birth, language background and Aboriginality) will be collected as part of the National Assessment Program. This information is treated confidentially and held securely to ensure that every student's right to privacy is maintained.

In 2018, the NAPLAN tests will be conducted from 15 – 17 May 2018. Friday 18 May – A 'catch-up' day is scheduled for students who missed a test or were absent on a test day.

Students may be exempt from the tests if they:

- Are newly arrived in Australia (less than one year before the test) and with a language background other than English, or
- Have significant intellectual disability and/or significant co-existing conditions which severely limit their capacity to participate in the tests.

Additional information about NAPLAN can be found at:

<http://www.nap.edu.au/naplan/parent-carer-support>

ENGLISH UPDATE...



The start of the term immediately had students writing with our "shoe" writing installation. Thank you to all families who dropped off shoes before and during the holidays to assist our aspiring student writers! Year 1 wrote about climbing mountains and visiting Unicorn Land. Ana from Year 5 wrote a newspaper report and Brianna from Year 5 was inspired to write a poem. Kiera from year 4 was inspired to use her personal experience with fairytales and inject herself into the story!

Name: Keira

It was a normal and sunny day at school, I was running around playing tip when I tripped over my feet. I saw a pair of ruby red slippers instead of white sports shoes on my feet. I felt like I was falling forwards. All of a sudden I weirdly transported to the land of Oz. I think I hit my head on the universe! By the time I reached Oz the ruby slippers had become even shinier than before. I was now in Munchkinland where I was greeted by Glinda, the adorable Munchkins (well, most of them) and Dorothy. I said to Glinda, "how do I get back to school?" Glinda answered, "you must go see the Wizard of Oz with Dorothy." So Dorothy took my hand and we skipped down the yellow brick road, waving goodbye to Munchkinland. On our way to the Emerald City we passed the hayfield and the apple patch and the

There were many great writing examples from our students right across the grades. You may like to engage in some discussions with your children about what they wrote and what was interesting about all those shoes!

And.....just a library update. A big thank you to all the families who have taken books cover. The P&F were kind enough to allocate significant funds to update our multiple readers and we will soon have these great new literature titles circulating in the classrooms. Thanks again!

**These slippers I wear
Take me anywhere
In my house
Being quiet as a mouse
As I walk
The slippers, they talk,
And ask me where to go.**

Name:



Deep, dark wood. By the time we reached emerald city so Scarecrow, Tinman and Lion were already there. Scarecrow said "would you like a makeover Keira?" I said "sure" so me and Dorothy got our eyes matching with my or our gowns. I went thro to see the Wizard of Oz and he said "Glinda did this to Dorothy to get her home, click your heels 3 times and say, there's no place like school." So I did and all of a sudden I was back to school, completely normal! Instead of ruby red slippers I had normal, plain white sports shoes on my feet. Honway

PROTECTIVE BEHAVIOURS...

During this semester the children will be participating in a Personal Development module on Protective Behaviour.

The module focusses on identifying actions students can take when they feel unsafe. It also helps them identify warning signals and how to go to a network of people who can help them.

Enclosed with this newsletter is a note outlining what will be discussed from week to week in the module. We ask that you please keep this insert handy so you can discuss any questions your child/ren may have whilst the module is taking place.

CROSS COUNTRY...

On Tuesday 1st May, 36 children represented St Mary's in the Parramatta Diocesan Cross Country Carnival at Eastern Creek. With over 150 competitors in each race we achieved some outstanding results. More than half our team came in the top 70 in their race, with special congratulations to Lukas Luburic 7th place, Mia Northwood 15th place, Josie Keyser 27th and Angela de la Roche 29th place. All students were worthy ambassadors for our school and are to be congratulated on their behaviour, sportsmanship and support for one another, reminding me of why I love teaching at St Mary's Rydalmere.

Thank you to Mrs de la Roche, Mrs Keyser and Mrs Laguzza who volunteered to assist on the field and to the parents who assisted and supported the team in the stand. We wish Lucas good luck as he moves on to the next carnival, representing the Parramatta Diocese.

Could all representative shirts be returned to school ASAP. Thank you to Mrs Kirkness for her supervision on the course and to Mrs McFarlane for organising the entries and all the other work behind the scenes.



YEAR 6 CANBERRA...

Our Year 6 students and staff are in Canberra from today (Wednesday) until Friday. Mr Blissenden is traveling to Canberra as well, while Mrs Gosper will remain at school (should you need to contact her).

We wish the staff and students a safe and successful visit to the Nations Capital.

