



Term 1 Week 8  
Wednesday 21st March 2018  
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**PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE...**

Dear Parents

Soon after children are born, they are inoculated against diseases such as diphtheria, whooping cough and measles. Their parents and their local community regard them as precious and act on their behalf to assist their safe passage through infancy and childhood. As they progress towards adulthood, they take on more responsibility for their own health needs.

Likewise, at infant Baptism, parents, Godparents and the local Christian community speak out on behalf of the child as the gifts of the Holy Spirit are bestowed on the child. The adults pledge to assist the spiritual development of the child until a personal response is awakened and responsibility is accepted to exercise the gifts of the Spirit in their own life.

Some time ago Life Magazine carried a beautiful photograph of a mother's hand reaching out in love to embrace her newborn baby. It could be said that when a child is baptised the hand of God's love reaches out to embrace the baby and to bestow upon it the expression of His love.

It is in this way that Baptism makes us members of God's family and as such we are all related to each other and responsible for each other. Through Baptism each of us is attached to Christ; we become an extension of Christ. We become other 'Christs' in the world; Christ is now present in the world through us.

The Sacraments are ways that God visibly loves us during our journey on earth. Our Christian journey begins at Baptism with a call from God to live the Gospel through the actions of our lives. We join a community of faith learners who support one another in a life that is not static but is a continual movement towards making real, Christ's message to our local world.

Baptism is God's gift to us; it is called gift because it is given to us who bring nothing of our own. So, what have we done with our gift? Have we simply left it unopened and so are unaware of its value to us in life. Hopefully, we have not allowed this to happen to our children's "gift".

Because we answered on behalf of our children when they were baptised, there is an emphasis on the importance of faithfulness on our part. In asking to have our children baptised we accepted the responsibility of training them in the practice of their faith. This calls for Christian modelling on our behalf. We are to be strong models to our children as they journey to their own adulthood.

*Special congratulations and welcome to Joshua Tenorio (5LV) on his recent Baptism. Please keep Joshua and the Flint Family (Mum, Robbie and James) who will be baptised at Easter, in your prayers.*

Peace and Best Wishes,

Richard Blissenden  
PRINCIPAL



**DIARY DATES**

**TERM 1 2018**

**Friday 30th March**      **Good Friday (Public Holiday)**

**Monday 2nd April**      **Easter Monday (Public Holiday)**

**Thursday 5th April**      **Year 5 Bathurst Excursion**

**Friday 6th April**      **Year 5 Bathurst Excursion**

**Tuesday 10th April**      **School Photo's**

**Friday 13th April**      **Term 1 Concludes**

**TERM 2**

**Monday 30th April**      **Term 2 Commences School Resumes**

**Tuesday 8th May**      **Diocesan Cross Country Eastern Creek**

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

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

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

**LINDA'S LUNCHES**

A reminder that Linda's Lunches **WILL NOT be available this coming Friday 23rd March.** Normal ordering will resume next week (Mon, Thurs & Fri). Sorry for any inconvenience.

**HAIR CUTS**

Recently we were asked what a number 0, number 1 and number 2 hair cut for boys looked like. We have the following image to assist families with this question. Our Uniform Policy states that "For boys, 0 or number 1 hair cuts, rat's tails, mullets etc, hair gel and hair colouring are not acceptable. Hair length for boys must be above their collars. Girls are to wear their hair tied back in a pony tail or plait and no hair colourings or streaks are permitted." Lines etc, cut into a number 2, shapes etc are not permitted. Hair should be blended when moving from a shorter cut to a longer hair cut to avoid steps and noticeable transitions. Fringes should be not be in children's eyes. Thank you for your support of our Uniform Policy.

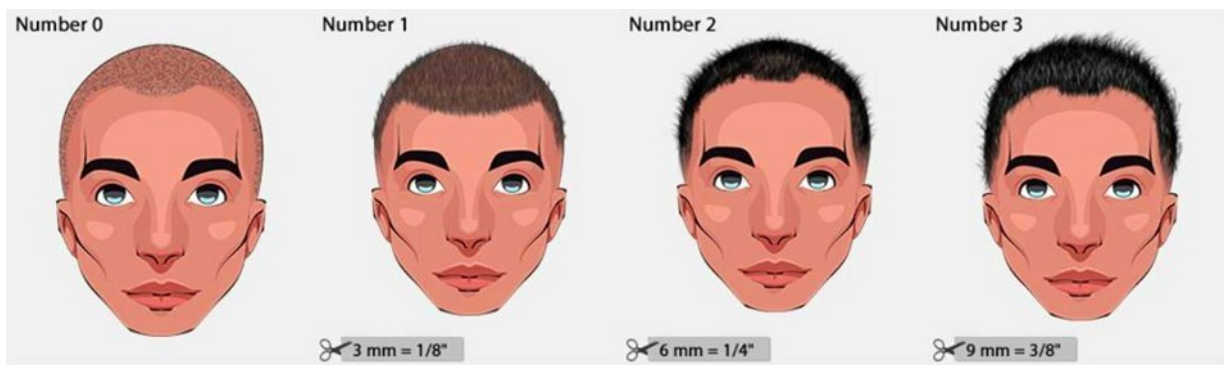
**SCHOOL FEE'S**

CEDP have confirmed that school fee statements for 2018 have been posted to families along with instructions for setting up Flexible Payment Plans. Dates for payment and setting up payment plans have been extended due to the delay in mailing out the statements.

Please note that the additional delay was due to CEDP recalling the statements from Australia Post in order to amend the BPAY Biller Code error. The statements you have received should have the correct **ST MARY'S BPAY BILLER CODE OF 535278.** Any queries regarding fees should be directed to Susan Albertini in the school office.

**ENROLMENTS FOR KINDER 2019**

We are now accepting enrolments for Kindergarten 2019. If you have a child who is eligible to start school next year, please complete an enrolment form, which can be found on our website or can be collected from the office and send it to the school office as soon as possible. Interviews will commence in early April.



**PRINCIPAL AWARDS**  
**TERM 1—Week 7**



- KA Ned Dowdell & Isabella Ward
- KT Rayn Godfrey & Eva Carr
- 1R Jamie Jabbour & Tabitha Machimbidza
- 1W Brodie Hart & Majella Craze
- 2H Michael Kim & Alessandro Brownlie
- 2M Joshua Adams & Riley Watson
- 3G Irene Baek & Hayden Green
- 3S Samuel Myhill & Eddie Appleby
- 4J Lochlainn Melville & Elizabeth Samuel
- 4K Sami Boustani & Samuel Peddell
- 5E Kimiko Cooper & Gordon Boulous
- 5LV Brianna Ward & London Ardeleanu
- 6B Max Cimillo & Philippe Jendruch
- 6K Mia Northwood & Oscar Moy

**CARE AWARDS**  
**TERM 1—Week 7**



- KA Paris Sclavos & Siena Chisari
- KT Mitchell Biviano & Amelia Newman
- 1R Renae Adams & Odhran Connolly
- 1W Eunice Kim & Abeera Malik
- 2H Scarlett Silvera & Ellie Smith
- 2M Stephen Azar & Ellie Hart
- 3G Luca Biviano & Ela Torres
- 3S Ashley Adams & Aren Simonyan
- 4J Leiden-Aree Tohovaka & Tadhg O'Riordan
- 4K Rosalea Brownlie & Lucas Piper
- 5E Ana Ogrizek & Joel Heiler
- 5LV Joshua Tenorio & Romaisa Malik
- 6B Marc Jabbour & Sanjana Norris
- 6K Larissa Laguzza & Christopher Mansour

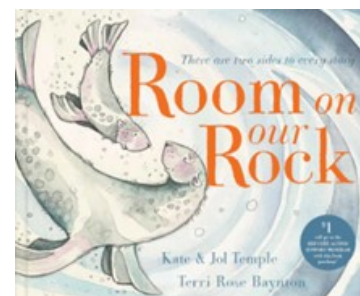
## LITERACY...

### 'A RAD REVIEW' by Mrs Radocchia

If you want to be amazed by a book that can be read from front cover to back cover and then from back cover to front cover *and* make perfect sense, then you will love the library's new book, *Room on our Rock* by Kate and Jol Temple.

This clever picture book highlights the power of words and how their order on the page can create not only different tones and moods but also totally different meanings.

A lovely book about the importance of sharing and having compassion and empathy.



### NEWS IN LITERACY

A St Mary's 2018 literacy goal for students:

Collaboration and reflective writing is a strategy that we are all working on with our students as part of our whole school writing goal.

#### **What does collaboration on writing look like in the classroom?**

- Students planning and sharing ideas for writing
- Students giving feedback on writing
- Students celebrating writing in the classroom
- Students sharing their writing with their peers

#### **What does reflective writing look like in the classroom?**

- Students actively re-crafting their own writing
- Students thinking about writing criteria – purpose and audience
- Students actively selecting creative vocabulary to enhance writing
- Students using teacher and peer feedback to improve writing

#### **How can parents and caregivers promote a positive mindset towards writing?**

- Write about holidays and family celebrations together
- Volunteer to support writing activities in the classroom
- Visit the local library during the holidays (usually author visits)
- Share great literature with your children <https://cbca.org.au/notables-2018>

### **AUTHOR VISIT—PHIL KETTLE** (author of the 'Too Cool' series)

On Tuesday, 20<sup>th</sup> March we were lucky enough to have Phil Kettle run writing workshops for our primary students. It was a great opportunity for students to talk to an author about planning and writing techniques. The students were able to get an insight of the process of writing from generating ideas right through to publishing. Take the opportunity to talk about his visit and perhaps ask your child for some simple tips for story planning! Phil has also been kind enough to leave a range of his books for purchase at just \$5 each. Please see Mrs Kemp – available from the Year 4 classroom or email

[dkemp@parra.catholic.edu.au](mailto:dkemp@parra.catholic.edu.au)

**Happy writing!!**

## A WORD FROM YEAR 6...

### AUTHOR PHIL KETTLE PRESENTATION

On Tuesday our school was lucky enough to have a very successful author named Phil Kettle visit our school. Phil is an inspirational author that gave some tips to Years 3 to 6 on how to write a more interesting story.

He is currently writing an adult book and is about to get a picture book published in a few months. Phil has been writing children's books for 22 years. He has written many series of books such as 'Too Cool' and 'Boyz Rule'. His books have been translated to many different languages and sold all over the world. Phil's ideas mostly come from what he does. Sometimes it's from what he sees or hears.

We are really appreciative for Phil Kettle coming to our school and teaching us some great writing tips and how to think of ideas quickly.



### **BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS**



March 22	Brandon Eum, Monique Gallagher and Thomas Holman
March 23	Caleb Filardo, Manuel Sabella, Sebastien Pericaud, Flynn Smith
March 24	Dominic James
March 25	Nishaan Venkateshwar, Thomas Lowery, Amilia Garcia
March 26	Cooper Kennedy
March 27	Zoe Anderson
March 28	Amber Adams
March 30	Mina Simili, Mia Iacono, Kiara Zwatzka
March 31	Mathew Cotsinis
April 1	Eddie Appleby, Maxwell Norton
April 2	Phoebe Kim, Luca Napoli

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