

Dear Parents

It is hard to believe that we are half way through Term Two already. The children are well and truly into their units of work and have completed many activities to build their knowledge and skills about a variety of interesting topics.

On a recent visit to one of the classes we had a discussion on the terminology 'Learning Intent' and 'Success Criteria'. I represented learning as a winding road which at the summit had the learning intent. Another way this can be explained is the road to achieving a learning goal and is often associated with what we want to know, understand or do. Examples of a learning intent could be; to be able to write a recount, know how energy works or to understand how the internet can assist research. I explained to the children that along the road there are flags which indicate the success criteria. These indicators tell us how we are going in the achieving of the learning goal such as, if we are to write a recount we must be able to write an introduction, use time sequence words and sequence events accurately. You may have noticed that the teachers are using learning intents and success criteria for many of their lessons across the Key Learning Areas. These are displayed in the classroom and children are made aware of the goal during the lesson. The use of these tools helps the students to focus and assess if they are achieving success.

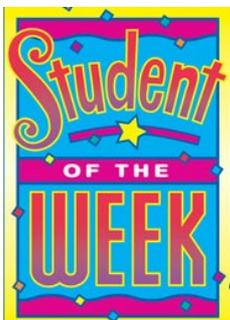
Another concept explored during my visit was the image that the road never ends, in other words learning never ceases even when we are older. Helping children to be life-long learners is a great attitude to develop. Looking at our learning heroes – people that we admire for their interest in learning is another strategy to encourage a good learning attitude. In his work in 'Teaching Values for Life' writer David Koutsoukis lists some key points to encourage children to become life-long learners. They are as follows;

- Be positive about learning
- Seek knowledge about self, others and the world around us
- Recognize the value of knowledge
- Have an enquiring mind – be curious
- Determine how we learn best
- Have an open mind
- Be a critical thinker
- Have a global perspective
- Seek learning opportunities everywhere
- Keep learning
- Read every day
- Read non fiction as well as fiction
- Buy lots of books and start your own book collection at home (this can be digital as well)
- Ask lots of questions
- Look up answers to questions or solutions to problems on the internet
- Find learning heroes
- Read newspapers
- Watch documentaries
- Keep a learning journal – 'what I have learned today is

God Bless you and your family

Bernadette Fabri





Student of the week is awarded to the child who demonstrates outstanding application across any Key Learning



st patrick's award

The St Patrick's award is given to the child who lives their life through Faith in action

3L	Riona Pais
3T	Amelia Beacroft
4B	Alecks Delgado Lopez
4G	Isabella Loader
5C	Jessica Liang
5T	Ashleigh Grubba
6P	Rachel Corpuz
6W	Jacob Monks

3L	Nikhil Sawant
3T	Pierre Onano
4B	Sophie El Bayeh
4G	Connor Younes
5C	Mariella Maaraoui
5T	Caitlin Vilches
6P	Isabella Moses
6W	Lea Barakat

MASS TIMETABLE FOR ST PATRICK'S CATHEDRAL PARRAMATTA

Weekend Masses
 Saturday 8.00am
 6.00pm (Vigil)
 Sunday 8.00am
 9.30am (Family)
 11.00am (Solemn)
 6.00pm

Weekday Masses
 Monday to Friday 6.45am
 12.30pm
 Public Holidays 8.00am

Pastoral Team
 Bishop Anthony Fisher OP
 Rev Fr Andrew Bass
 Rev Fr Robert William
 Rev Robertus Kim
 Sr Susan Ward rsj

STAFF DEVELOPMENT DAY

Just a reminder, that the next **Staff Development Day** will be on **Friday 6th June**. On this day the staff will be analyzing data recently released from the Quality Catholic Schools Survey, continuing to work on the implications of the Disability Discrimination Act on the Teaching and learning in the classroom and will be further exploring strategies that better cater for the diverse needs of students. **Students do not attend school on this day.**

LOST PROPERTY

Lost a jacket, jumper, hat? Then it maybe in the pile of lost property we have received this week .

We would really like to be able to return them to their owners unfortunately there are NO names on them. As winter is fast approaching we may have some very cold children



2014 COMPETITION NOW OPEN FOR ENTRIES (YRS 3 TO 6)

Calling all good writers in Yrs 3 to 6. The 9th annual Sydney Youth Writing Competition 2014 is now open for entries. The signature words for 2014 are: **Drop. Wind. Keep.** Each entry must contain one signature word. Entries do not need to be about these words and they can be used in any form ie plural, noun/adjective/verb etc . All entries will need to be submitted online from home. For more information go to <http://www.sydneyyouthwriting.com> Closing date for entries is Friday 6 June 2014.



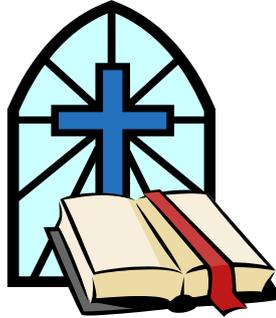
Happy Birthday to the following children who will celebrate their birthdays in the following week:

- Kaitlyn Chiha, Chanel Nader, Elias Nakhle, Sophie El Bayeh, Daniel Motilal, Michael Farah, Gabrielle Murphy, Paul Romanos, Jordan Moubarak

ST PATRICK'S CATHEDRAL JUNIOR YOUTH GROUP

Last week the boys and girls in Years 5 and 6 received an invitation from Father Andrew Bass to attend a Junior Youth Group.

As made explicit in the letter handed out, this is a Parish organized program so thus staff will not be supervising the children. The school does however encourage any parent who can spare some time to assist Father Andrew with the supervision of the children down at the cathedral. Children will be expected to display their very best behaviour and to remember that this expectation will be monitored and communicated with Father regularly.



DIOCESAN WORKS FUND APPEAL (DWF)- MAY 2014

On Monday, 19th May each family received a gift envelope for the Diocesan Funds Work Appeal. 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 .

Please read the story of one of the many ways funds generated from this appeal supports services and ministries. The Confraternity of Christian Doctrine (CCD) provides Special Religious Educators (catechists) in Government schools with training programs, personal support and ongoing faith formation and education. At the parish level, the CCD provides the service of evangelisation through the religious education and pastoral care of Catholic students attending State Schools.

ST PATRICK'S

2ND PARENT GROUP MEETING

Date: 12th June
Time: 1.30pm
Venue: School Library

Agenda

Welcome and refreshments

Principal's report including information about new mid year report

Educational Input , 'Growth and Fixed Mindset' and the impact of mindset on learning

Everyone is most welcome

2014 SCHOOL FEES

Term 2 School Fee accounts have been sent out by the Catholic Education Office. The due date for payment is Friday 4th June, 2014. We would appreciate your prompt payment of these fees.

If you are experiencing difficulty in making fee payments, please contact Mrs Nutter.



Tim is a 19 year old university student. He enjoyed a close relationship with his own grandfather who passed away two years ago and always encouraged him to "better himself". Tim decided to look into the **Blacktown Neighbour Aid** and became a friend to Norman. Norman is a 70 year old widower, who lives alone.

Although he has a daughter, her work and young family mean he sees her rarely, so Norman looks forward to his fortnightly visit and cup of tea with Tim.

"It's wonderful that he visits me. It gives me companionship" says Norman.

"We enjoy each other's company" says Tim and "It gives me a really good feeling, I think my grandfather would be proud".

Blacktown Neighbour Aid is run by CatholicCare Social Services and has existed for around 20 years. They currently have around 70 clients and 30 volunteers but they would like to double their client base and triple their volunteers.

Your gift to the Diocesan Works Fund will make a difference to the life of Norman and thousands more who participate in the programs and services offered by the Church's social outreach agency, CatholicCare Social Services. It is faith at Work!

Please show you care with a gift to the Diocesan Works Fund.

CatholicCare makes a critical difference in the lives of tens of thousands of women, men and children across Western Sydney through practical and compassionate support to the elderly, unemployed, bereaved, homeless, people living with disabilities and mental illness, young people and families in crises. **Donate via the gift envelope or on line via www.parra.catholic.org.au**

REMINDERS FOR PRIMARY ATHLETICS CARNIVAL AND INFANTS FUN DAY

A reminder that the Athletics Carnival will be held on Friday 13th June 2014 at Old King's Oval, Parramatta Park. It is a fun day for the children and they have the opportunity to experience teamwork, good sportsmanship and physical activities. All of the students from Years 3 to 6 and students in Year 2 who are already 8 years old or turning 8 years old **this year** will be participating. The Carnival will commence at 9:30am and conclude at approximately 2:30pm. The children will be walking to and from the park. The infants will be joining the Primary students for a sausage sizzle lunch at approx. 1pm.

This year our Infant's Fun Day will be held on Friday 20th June 2014 at Old King's Oval, Parramatta Park. It is a fun day for the children and they have the opportunity to experience teamwork, good sportsmanship and physical activities. **All** of the students from Kindergarten, Year 1 and Year 2 will be participating in the activities, even those who have already attended the Primary Athletics Carnival. The Fun Day will commence at 9:30am and conclude at approximately 11:30am. The children will be walking to and from the park.
Parents are welcome at both events.

"All depends on prayer. Begin with it and end with it"

(1890) St Mary of the Cross MacKillop



sub tuum praesidium

Our **VISION** is to be a child centred faith community within an innovative, interactive learning environment.

Our **MISSION** is to –

Live out the Gospel Values in a visibly Catholic tradition

Nurture students for Christian Leadership

Create a range of learning experiences which allow children to progress at their own level

Assist our students to develop into independent thinkers with a deep sense of responsibility and justice

Lead each individual towards reaching his/her potential

Generate a sense of community and compassion in which all experience belonging.

Opportunity for all

TERM TWO – DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Week Five

Thursday 29th May

Youth Group Yr 5 & 6

Friday 30th May

Primary Assembly Yr 5 School Hall 2.15pm

Week Six

Wednesday 4th June

ICAS Science skills – **7.50am**

Thursday 5th June

Youth Group Yr 5 & 6

Friday 6th June

Pupil Free day – **NO school for students**

Week Seven

Monday 9th June

Queen's Birthday – Public Holiday NO

SCHOOL

Thursday 12th June

Youth Group Yr 5 & 6

Friday 13th June

Parent Meeting School Library 1.30pm

Primary Athletics carnival

Infants to join sausage sizzle at 1.00pm

No assembly

Week Eight

Monday 16th June

Captivate Performance 7.00pm

Reports home to parents

Thursday 19th June

Youth Group Yr 5 & 6

Friday 20th June

Infants Fun day

Infants Assembly Kinder School Hall 2.15pm

Week Nine

Thursday 26th June

Youth Group Yr 5 & 6

Friday 27th June

Last day of Term 2

Whole School Assembly Yr 3 School Hall 1.30pm

STEPPING BEYOND: SUPPORT FOR THOSE SEPARATED OR DIVORCED

If you have been separated or divorced and would benefit from regular shared discussion evenings with others who are in a similar situation to you, come along to STEPPING BEYOND on the last Tuesday of each month at CCSS Centre, 51-59 Allawah St, Blacktown, at 7.30pm! You are very likely to be supported and helped through the sharing of experiences on matters such as *“How well are you stepping beyond? What do you want to step beyond? What are you currently stepping beyond? What is stopping you from stepping beyond? What have you learned as you keep stepping beyond?”*

Venue: CCSS centre 51-59 Allawah St, Blacktown.
Time: 7.30 – 9.30. Cost: \$5.00. Registration: soloparentministry@ccss.org.au or Ph. 99330205

Our Lady of Mercy College Parramatta 125 Years Anniversary Concert – June 5 & 6, 2014

You are invited to join with the OLMC Parramatta community in celebrating our 125th anniversary at a special concert at Riverside Theatres, Parramatta, on Thursday June 5 and Friday June 6, 2014. Visit olmc.nsw.edu.au/125years for details and to book your tickets.

Win a share of the sunken Treasure from the Lost City Of savings

Here's how to win. If you have a Youthsaver account and are aged between 5-13 years, simply make three or more School Banking deposits between 21 April and 4 July 2014 and you'll be automatically entered into the competition. See the website for a list of prizes



Catherine McAuley Westmead

School Open Morning

9.15 – 11am

Tuesday 12th June 2014

If you missed out on our Open Day or would like to come back and see the school on a normal school day please take this opportunity to come along to our School Open Morning. Tour around our school grounds, view our facilities and meet our students and teachers. You will have the opportunity to go into classrooms and see them in action. Both children and adults are most welcome.

School tours will leave from Mercy Square at 9.15am. Car parking is available after 9am on site via Gate 3 (opposite Westmead Private Hospital) in our bus bay area.

Morning tea will be served following the school tour.

Please contact School Reception on 9849 9100 if you would like to attend.

NSWCPS GOLF TOURNAMENTS

Individual Entries Invited to Register
(Conducted in conjunction with JNGF)

MONDAY 28TH JULY, 2014

ENTRY CLOSING DATE 26TH JUNE 2014

Registrations **MUST** be completed online – www.csss.nsw.edu.au Go to GOLF - REGISTRATIONS.

(NB: You must have a CASS Online account to register - Go to HELP to create an account)

18 Hole handicap players hit off 9.00am, players **MUST** be at the course by 8.30am.

18 hole players must have a Golf Australia Handicap and be able to provide a Golf Link number

9 Hole non-handicap players Hit off at 9.30am, players must be at the course by 9.00am.