Dear Parents

On Friday afternoon last week, the Principals and Religious Education Coordinators from St Matthew's, Bede, Chisholm and St Monica's gathered with Fr Walter and a representative from the Catholic Education Office, Parramatta. For some years now these schools have been part of the Hawkesbury Spirituality Initiative. The staff from these schools have gathered on several occasions over the years as part of our individual and collective spiritual formation and mission.

We are currently planning around our local implementation of the guidance given to us recently in Bishop Anthony’s Pastoral Letter to the Priests and Faithful of the Diocese of Parramatta on rediscovering the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

Reconciliation is central to our mission in Catholic Schools. Not only is Reconciliation a sacrament but it is a critical value that we are called to live by. In our partnership together, students, parents and teachers, Reconciliation must be an essential element of the faith we share and a lived experience in our community or else we are not a Catholic School. To live out our belief in the importance of Reconciliation, we must continue to put out our hand in partnership, relationship and openness. Like the crowd at the condemning of Mary Magdelene, when Jesus challenged them that the one who was without sin could cast the first stone, we must look to own our sins before condemning anyone else. All of the crowd were self-righteous, blameful, judgemental, aggressive, one-eyed and ignorant to the implications of their actions. Mary Magdelene was a model of a reconciled, humble and forgiving person. Forgiven by Jesus, she knew forgiveness. Loved by Jesus, she knew love. She changed her life because of this encounter with Jesus. Have we? Do we model Jesus to our children? To model Jesus, we must not advocate revenge, hate, gossip, violence or blame.

Currently, I am interviewing families for 2013 enrolments. All are seeking an environment for their children, which lives out the values of our faith. They seek to work in partnership with the school, together caring for and nurturing their children. As the prime educators of your children, you began the work of teaching your children about reconciliation and relationship at birth. We are proud of and committed to the work we share.

The mob who trapped Mary Magdelene, who systematically cast out the unwell and the afflicted, had amongst them the wealthy and the self-righteous. But they are the true “poor” of which Jesus speaks in his parables. Those who do not have the gifts of faith, hope and charity may not know and value Reconciliation and relationship.

The gift of Reconciliation is one of the most important you can give your child. Relationships without Reconciliation simply fail. To teach our children Reconciliation, we must live it out - as hard as that sometimes is.

Bishop Anthony calls on all of us to live out Reconciliation. Knowing the importance of the lessons and the grace that come with Reconciliation, are we up for the challenge?

Stephen Dowd
Principal

CALENDAR DATES
TERM 2

May 15-17 Naplan Testing
May 18 Fri Assembly 9-00am Purple Day
May 24 Thur Musica Viva
May 25 Fri Writer’s Festival Stage 3 Parish Mass 9:00 am
June 1 Fri Assembly 9:00 am
June 3 Fri Parish Mass Stage 2- 9:00 am
June 11 Mon Queens Birthday Public Holiday
June 15 Fri Assembly 9:00 am
June 28 Thurs Athletics Carnival
June 29 Fri Last day of Term 2

NAPLAN TESTING
May 15-17

ST. MATTHEW’S SCHOOL FOCUS FOR WEEKS 3 & 4
“Hands off keep us safe”

2013 ENROLMENTS NOW OPEN
Enrolment Applications available from School office

ST. MATTHEW’S Catholic Primary School
2 Tebbutt Street
Windsor 2756
Telephone: (02) 4577 3463
Facsimile: (02) 4577 6461
Email: stmatthews@parra.catholic.edu.au
Web Address: www.stmatthewswindsor.catholic.edu.au

ST. MATTHEW’S NEWSLETTER
WEEKS 3 & 4 MAY 15 2012

ST. MATTHEW’S SCHOOL FOCUS FOR WEEKS 3 & 4
“Hands off keep us safe”
School fees statements have been issued and fees are due for payment by 12th June 2012. If you have made payment thank you.

Should you be experiencing difficulty making payment or are unable to pay your school fees by the due date, please phone the school office and make an appointment for arrangements to be made for payment of fees. Thank you.

Congratulations to the winners of the Mother’s Day Raffle

1st Carissa Finch
2nd Amy Hodge
3rd Celeste Refalo
4th Lola Layton
5th Scott McLachlan
6th Tyrell family
7th Julie Anne Zahra

The 2012/2013 Entertainment book is being sold from the front office. Thank you to Jacqui Russell (Michaella Year 1). Place your order as soon as possible as the savings commence from 1st June.

For only $65 you’ll receive over $15,000 worth of valuable offers!

The school receives $13 from every book sold.

Stage 2 Fundraiser

PURPLE FUN DAY

FRIDAY 18TH MAY

Wear something purple eg: ribbons/socks etc and bring a gold coin donation.

Normal uniform to be worn on the day

There will be lots of games and activities during recess and lunch on the day at just 20c per entry

Funds raised will aid student’s Alana, Ryan, Taryn & Kayla who will be walking the Relay for Life to raise money for the Cancer Council on 26th & 27th May.
Students of the Week

Kinder

Zac Refalo: For his outstanding work in Mathematics
Georgia Boulos: For participating enthusiastically in all class activities.
Linkin Cowled: For his scientific skills in investigating things that move.
Stephanie Demech: For consistently showing respect and kindness to all of her classmates

Year 1

Keira Gaul: For always trying to do her best
Anwen Gregory: For her outstanding information report on the T-Rex
Joshua Buchanan: For always showing respect for his teacher
Beau Price: For being a responsible caring class member.

Year 2

Annalise Dimech: For being an amazing thinker in Modelled Reading.

Ellie Galea: For an outstanding effort in learning how to use the jump strategy in Mathematics.

Year 3

Calvin Refalo: For his mature work habits in class.
Olivia Keegan: For her enthusiasm in her new open learning area.

Year 4

Holly Higginson: excellent worker
Harrison Rose: excellent worker

Stage 3

Erin Calder: For using some very persuasive language in her writing. Well Done!
Michael Shan: For working well in maths groups and assisting others.
Thomas Moncrieff: For working hard on his Antarctica assignment.
Cody Valente: For completing his research assignment on Antarctica with enthusiasm.
Matthew Galea: For sharing some great information on the animals in Antarctica.

R.E News

Thank you everyone for such a wonderful Mother’s Day breakfast and Mass. I hope all our mothers and grandmothers had a lovely day.

Thank you to everyone who helped in any way, it was much appreciated.

Have a wonderful week

God Bless

Ann Climpson
What’s happening in your class? Term 2 Week 4

Kinder
In Kinder we are preparing for our presentation at assembly on Friday about our school rule ‘Hands Off Keeps Us Safe’. We have some very interesting ideas to share.
In Kinder we are also talking about our lives as babies. We have lots of fond memories, toys and photos to share.

Year 1
Year 1 have been learning some interesting facts about dinosaurs. We have used these to write some great information reports. We have also been looking at the history of transport and watched footage of olden day bikes, comparing them to today’s bikes. We are looking forward to designing and making our own mode of transport.

Year 2
In Science, Year Two are continuing to learn about different forms of Transport and the special purposes different forms of transport have. We are having great fun walking like Egyptians, riding along on our push bikes (honey) and doing the locomotion. Check out our classroom window to see our amazingly animated expressions as we ride along in our hot air balloons that we made in Creative Arts recently!

Stage 2
We are learning about British Colonization and how the Aboriginal people lived before the settlers arrived.
NAPLAN this week for Year 3.
Everybody reading lots of books. Well Done!

Stage 3
Stage 3 are working extremely hard! We have been writing some fantastic expositions in preparation for the NAPlan tests in Week 4. Our classroom is looking magnificent with artwork related to our Antarctica unit and Natural Disaster unit.
RICHMOND COMMUNITY SERVICES - MAY COURSES

Tools for Parents activities:

“Communicating with Kids” – Weds 23rd May, 6.30 – 9pm – for parents/primary carers of children aged 0 – 12 years, free childcare

Older & Wiser activities:

“Growing New & Lasting Relationships” – Weds 23rd May – 1-3pm – for those 60 and over, free afternoon tea
“Making Connections & Looking Ahead” = Weds 30th May – 1-3pm – for those 60 and over, free afternoon tea

TIMEOUT for MUMS activities:

“Anger Control Tips for Mums” – Monday 21st May – 10am – 12 noon – for Mums of children aged 0 – 8 years, Free childcare

FOR ENQUIRIES AND BOOKINGS, PLEASE CONTACT RICHMOND COMMUNITY SERVICES
20 WEST MARKET STREET, RICHMOND.
PHONE: 4588 3555 / 4588 3502

CANTEEN ROSTER

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<tr>
<td>Lisa Toth</td>
<td>Tracy Houston</td>
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<td>Suzy Calder</td>
<td>Kim Cotter</td>
<td>Lynette Higgins</td>
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<tr>
<td>Samantha Naylor</td>
<td>Geoff Kerin</td>
<td>Liza Tabone</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tylie Kerin</td>
<td>Mr Cotter</td>
<td>Lisa Bugeja</td>
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<td>Joanne Moore - 9-11.30</td>
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<td>Josephine Muscat</td>
<td>Sharon Allen</td>
<td>Dana Bobart</td>
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<td>Louise Law</td>
<td>Natalie Miskelly</td>
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<tr>
<td>Samantha Naylor</td>
<td>Cheryl Crozier</td>
<td>Rosanna Palazzolo</td>
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URGENT NOTE RE CANTEEN

Our canteen is desperately in need of volunteers. It is becoming increasingly difficult to fill the roster, and it is now a possibility that the Canteen may not be able to operate permanently three days a week. Please consider putting up your hand to help. Even a couple of hours a month would be a great help!

Contact Ros Brassil on 0419 745 146
INFORMATION REQUIRED TO HELP DETERMINE FUNDING ARRANGEMENTS FOR NON-GOVERNMENT SCHOOLS

PRIVACY NOTICE

This notice is from the Australian Government Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations (DEEWR), to advise you that DEEWR has requested your child's school to provide the following three pieces of information to DEEWR:

- Students' residential addresses (not student names)
- Students' level of education (primary or secondary)
- Students' boarding school status (boarders or day students)

DEEWR is bound by the provisions of the Privacy Act 1988 (the Privacy Act). Section 14 of the Privacy Act contains the Information Privacy Principles, which prescribe the rules for handling personal information about individuals. DEEWR will not use or disclose the information provided by your child's school other than in accordance with the Privacy Act.

Purpose of collection

DEEWR is collecting this personal information for the purpose of administering funding to non-government schools, and to determine payments of Australian Government assistance to non-government schools, including under relevant legislation such as the Schools Assistance Act 2008 (Cth). DEEWR will only use this information for this specific purpose.

Disclosure of information

The information provided by your child's school may be disclosed by DEEWR to contractors working for DEEWR for the purposes of verifying the information. The contractors will not use the information for any other purpose.

DEEWR may also provide this information to the Australian Curriculum Assessment and Reporting Authority (ACARA). ACARA will use this information in developing and evaluating Index of Community Socio-Educational Advantage (ICSEA) formulas and school values.

In other instances the information will not be disclosed without your consent, unless where authorised or required by law.

Contact

If you have any questions regarding this Privacy Notice please phone the DEEWR SES Funding helpline on 1800 677 027 (free call) or send an e-mail to: SAAMailbox@deewr.gov.au.