



St Matthew's Catholic Primary School

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NEWSLETTER WEEK 11

6 April 2017

CALENDAR DATES TERM 1 & TERM 2 2017

Apr 6 Thur	Easter Raffle draw n 2:30 pm
Apr 7 Fri	Cross Country End of Term 1
Apr 23 Sun	Father Arthur's farewell All welcome
Apr 24 Mon	First day of Term 2 Easter & ANZAC Day Liturgy 9:00 am
Apr 25 Tues	ANZAC Day Public Holiday
May 2 Tue	Diocesan Cross Country
May 4 Thur	Mother's Day Stall 9:00 am
May 7 Sun	Parish School Mass 9:00 am Parents to provide morning tea
May 12 Fri	Mother's Day Liturgy 7:30 am for 7:45 am start St. Matthew's Church followed by breakfast
May 10- 12	NAPLAN

Dear Parents/Caregivers

Holy Week leads us to the high point of the Church's year – the Resurrection of Jesus on Easter Sunday.

Holy Week begins this weekend with Palm Sunday, when we remember the warm welcome Jesus received as he entered Jerusalem riding on a donkey a humble beast of burden and peace. Hosanna in the highest the people sang, their hearts filled with joy as they welcomed him.

It ends a few days later when these same people turned against Jesus, leaving him, rejecting him, leading him to his eventual crucifixion and death.

It brings out for us how fickle we human beings can be. Accepting and warmly welcoming at one moment and rejecting, enclosing our hearts at the next moment.

We see this when we look at his most intimate friends, his apostles, as close to him as he was too them. Despite this closeness they fled at his hour of greatest need. Jesus' closest friend Peter denied knowing him when challenged. One even betrayed him. What a lesson that is to all of us.

On Thursday we will be commemorating his last meal with his followers. At this meal Jesus showed his Apostles, and us, the true meaning of service. He gave himself to his Apostles in the selfless act of washing their feet. In the simple act of breaking bread and sharing wine the sacrament of Eucharist was revealed. We celebrate this meal and enter this sacrament each time we celebrate Mass. The Last Supper, his whole life, his whole teaching was an expression of service to his fellow men & women. Each time we commemorate this meal we're reminded of Jesus' strength, his love for us, and his commitment to the wider world.

On Good Friday we travel with Jesus as he carries his cross. We suffer with him until he is crucified and dies on the Cross for all humankind. This was his ultimate expression of love.

Easter Sunday morning our sadness, like the Apostles, is turned to joy when we Celebrate the day of his resurrection. The Lord's resurrection is a sign that God will be always with us.

The Easter story is one of love. One of selfless, unconditional love, which is made available to all of if we reach out and give ourselves to God.

As this is the final newsletter for this term I would like to take the opportunity to thank the St Matthew's community for the continuing support of the school and to wish everyone a safe and rest-filled holiday.

We wish everyone a safe Easter break spent in the company of family and loved ones. We look forward to seeing everyone back when school resumes on Monday 24th April for all students for another term of learning and growing together.

In partnership let us continue to work to develop in the children strong minds and gentle hearts

Peace and best wishes

Tim Vane-Tempest,
Principal.

Target - 90% average across the school

Every Learner,
Every Day

**Attendance in the past
fortnight
87.9%**

Attendance Awards

At our Monday morning assembly this week we acknowledged the students who have maintained 100% attendance in Term 1. As is widely known, improving the attendance of each student at school has been a major focus for this year. The aim is to have every student at school everyday when they are well enough and able to be here. Thanks to the support of our families we have seen a significant increase in the daily attendance this term and look forward to that continuing for the rest of this year. On Monday we acknowledged over 80 students who have not missed a day of school so far this year. We will continue to recognise 100% attendance each term and also those who maintain 100% attendance across the year.

Quality Catholic Schooling (QCS) project

Thank you to all parents who completed the QCS survey for this year. Your feedback will be included with that of staff and our Year 3-6 students. We will receive the feedback from the survey during next term.

NAPLAN 2017

Students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 sit for the [National Assessment Program Literacy and Numeracy](#) (NAPLAN) test in May. The assessments are an opportunity for students to demonstrate what they have learned in class. Teachers use these results to meet the individual literacy and numeracy needs of all students. The dates for NAPLAN 2017 are 10th-12th May.

There are four tests covering numeracy, reading, writing and language conventions (spelling, punctuation and grammar).

	Tuesday 10th May	Wednesday 11th May	Thursday 12th May
Year 3	Language Conventions <i>40 minutes</i> Writing <i>40 minutes</i>	Reading <i>45 minutes</i>	Numeracy <i>45 minutes</i>
Year 5	Language Conventions <i>40 minutes</i> Writing <i>40 minutes</i>	Reading <i>50 minutes</i>	Numeracy <i>50 minutes</i>

The NAPLAN assessments will be conducted in the Year 3 and Stage 3 learning spaces. Year 6 will relocate for the assessment times.

Dance Fever

In Term 2 we will have our Dance Fever program running each Wednesday. To ensure all students are best able to participate all students will wear their Sports uniform on **Wednesday**. The days for sports uniform for each class is as follows

Kinder - Wednesday/Thursday
Year 1 - Wednesday/Friday
Year 2 - Wednesday & Thursday
Year 3 - Wednesday/Friday
Year 4 - Wednesday/Friday
Stage 3 - Wednesday/Thursday

Enrolling for 2018

The enrolments are open for Kindergarten 2018. If your child turns 5 before the 31st July, 2018 and you would like them to start at St. Matthew's please contact the school office to pick up or have an enrolment pack sent to you. If you know of any family who are seeking enrolment for this year or 2018 and are not yet connected with the St. Matthew's School please pass on this information. We look forward to welcoming you to St. Matthew's School in the near future.

ANZAC Dawn Service

Thank you to all the families who have already indicated that they will be joining the Dawn Service remembrance event. St Matthew's students will be participating in the annual ANZAC Day commemoration to be held at McQuade Park on Saturday 25th April. An invitation is extended to all students and their families to attend this important local and national day of commemoration.

The commemoration service will begin at 6:00 a.m. and will conclude by 7am. We look forward to seeing as many from our community in attendance at this important local and national commemoration.



ANZAC School's Commemoration Day

Yesterday Mrs Williams accompanied our SRC students to the school's commemoration of ANZAC Day at the Hyde Park Cenotaph. Our thanks to Windsor RSL for this support in sponsoring our students to attend this important commemoration service. My thanks to Mrs Williams for committing to attend and to our SRC who represented themselves, their families and our school community with great reverence and respect.

Easter Raffle

Thank to all of our generous families for your donations of eggs towards our Easter Raffle. We ended up with close to 100 prizes to share among the school. The raffle raised close to \$700 which will be targeted to the purchasing new reading resources for our Year 3-6 students. Once again thank you all for your generous support of not only this event but the many other events throughout Term 1.



Greetings St Matthew's School Community!

As we move into Holy Week next week, our students and teachers have been preparing for this special time through prayer (words), thoughts and actions.

Thank you to the parents and grandparents who joined us in praying The Stations of the Cross. Even though the weather has been challenging this week, it did not prevent our focus on Jesus and His love for us as we prayed the Stations of the Cross in our classrooms. Thank you to all classes for their prayerful participation.

Holy Week

Holy Week begins with Palm Sunday on Sunday 9th of April. The events of Palm Sunday are a preparation for the week of the passion, death and resurrection of Jesus.

This is a great opportunity to find some time each day as a family and reflect on the events of Holy Week.

Palm Sunday –Jesus served others: let us reflect on how we can serve others in our families, places of work, communities, parish and society.

Monday- Mary of Bethany washes the feet of Jesus: reflect on our Baptism. Look through photos of your children's Baptism and talk about what happened on that day.

Tuesday and Wednesday- Why was Jesus betrayed and denied by His friends?

Pray together as a family. Ask The Holy Spirit for His grace and strength. Reflect on the words of The Our Father.

Holy Thursday- Jesus washes the feet of His disciples: we reflect on how we can serve others.

Family prayer- spend time together in reflection with Jesus in the Garden of Gethsemane.

Good Friday- The Stations of the Cross: we reflect on the many crosses that people are carrying through life every day. How can we help someone? Who can we pray for?

Holy Saturday- Mary Our Mother: reflect on the Sorrows of Our Lady.

During this day of silence, spend time in prayer as a family asking Mary Our Mother for Her help and protection.

Easter Sunday- The Resurrection of Jesus: The reality of the resurrection is the central fact of our Christian faith. Spend time in prayer as a family.

There are many opportunities to go to the Holy Week services at St Matthew's Church or at neighbouring Parishes.

*** **Second Sunday of Easter- Divine Mercy Sunday – 23rd of April.**

First Eucharist

Please pray for the children and their families in our Parish who are preparing for their First Eucharist. May they grow closer to Jesus each day and show the Face of Jesus to others through their Words, Thoughts and Actions.

Voices From The Classrooms.

Next term, every Wednesday, our Year 6 Servant Leaders will be leading prayer in the Library during recess. It will be an opportunity to reflect on the Mysteries of The Rosary and pray for those who are in need of prayer. The Servant leaders will research and organise this prayer opportunity for our students with teacher supervision.

Farewell To Fr. Arthur

Fr. Arthur is retiring from Parish life and leaving the Diocese at the end of April, 2017. A celebration to say thank you for his dedication and hard work is planned on Sunday, 23rd of April. After the 9am Mass there is a morning tea followed by a B-B-Q lunch. This is a great opportunity to say thank you to Fr. Arthur and wish him well in his retirement.

Thank you for your support and have a very Holy Easter.

God Bless.

Ann Climpson

Jesus in our hearts – Forever!

Our Lady of Fatima – Pray For Us.

Dates to remember-

** **Fr. Arthur's Farewell** – Sunday, 23rd of April, 9am Mass.

** **Easter and ANZAC Day Liturgy** – Monday, 24th of April, 9am.

** Term Two – Week Two: Sunday the 7th of May. **Parish/School Mass and Hospitality.** (St Matthew's to provide morning tea for after the 9 am Mass.)

** First Eucharist Workshop Day- Wednesday, 24th of May, at St Matthew's.

** First Eucharist Masses- 28th of May and 4th of June. (11am and 1pm)



Canteen - Trial of 5 days per week for Term 2

During first term our canteen has operated on 3 days during the week - Wednesday to Friday. The move to 3 days per week was caused by a drop in patronage at the canteen during 2016.

Many of our families have expressed their preference for a canteen service 5 days per week. After discussing the current situation with our canteen provider we have agreed to return to 5 days per week in Term 2 as a trial.

The continuation of the 5 day service is dependant on the level of support that the community gives to the service. The more support the greater the case for the 5 day service.

A decision will be made toward the end of Term 2 about the success of this trial.



Please support our canteen service.

ST MATTHEW'S CATHOLIC CHURCH

12 Tebbutt Street, Windsor



MASS TIMES

Monday - Saturday: 9.00am

(Thursday Hospital): 10.45am

Saturday Vigil: 6.00pm

Sunday: 7.30am, 9.00am & 5.00pm

SUNDAY CHISHOLM PRIMARY MASS: 9.30am

INDIVIDUAL RECONCILIATION

Saturday: 9.30-10.30am

Telephone: 4577 3073

Office Hrs: 9.30am-4.00pm ~ stmcc@tpg.com.au

TERM 1 SCHOOL FEES ARE NOW OVERDUE

A big THANK YOU to all the families who have finalised their school fee accounts.

Families who have not finalised Term 1 payments, will receive a second reminder letter from the Catholic Education Diocese of Parramatta office next week. Term 2 School Fee Statements will be sent in Week 4 of Term 2. Any unpaid Term 1 fees will be included on this statement. Any family that is experiencing financial difficulty is asked to contact Stacey Roberts or make an appointment to discuss with Tim Vane-Tempest.

School fees can be paid by BPAY/EFTPOS or cash at the school office.

Sports News



The St Matthew's Cross Country Carnival will finally be held TOMORROW Friday April 7 2017. The fun will begin around 9:30 am and conclude around midday. For any families wishing to sign their children out early after the carnival they must do so once the children have arrived back at St Matthew's School. Diocesan qualifiers will be announced in the first week of term 2.

Please keep in mind that the Diocesan Cross Country Carnival is being held on Tuesday May 2nd at the Sydney Motorsport Park (formerly Eastern Creek Raceway).

Order of Events (Guide Only - times may vary slightly as the day progresses)

Time	Age Group
9:30	10 year old BOYS - 2 km
9:40	10 year old GIRLS - 2 km
9:45	Kindergarten Fun Run - 500 m
9:50	9 year old BOYS - 2 km
10:00	9 year old GIRLS - 2 km
10:05	Year 1 BOYS and year 2 - 7's - 1 km
10:10	8 year old BOYS - 2 km
10:20	8 year old GIRLS - 2 km
10:25	Year 1 GIRLS and year 2 - 7's - 1 km
10:30	11 year old BOYS - 3 km
10:40	11 year old GIRLS - 3 km
10:50	12 year old BOYS - 3 km
11:00	12 year old GIRLS - 3 km
11:30	Colour House Cheers & Announcements
12:00	Head back to school for lunch

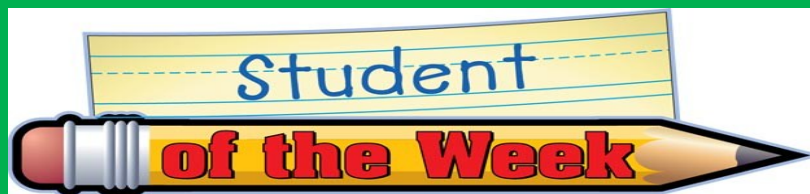
Due to the touch grounds in St Mary's being affected by all the recent rain our Stage 3 Touch Gala Day has been postponed until term 3. As soon as a date is confirmed I will announce it.



Stage 3 girls Soccer Trials will be held on Thursday April 6th.

The soccer gala day will be held mid term 2. Training will be held every Thursday at lunch in term 2 leading up to the gala day.

Bootcamp has been a great success in term 1, excluding the rainy days!! If it is going to be called off due to weather the school will notify you via the Skoolbag app as well as Facebook on a Wednesday afternoon. We are hoping for dry Thursday mornings leading into term 2!



Kinder	<p>Savanah Dale: For encouraging others to learn.</p> <p>Joel Henson: For always striving to do his best.</p> <p>Pierce Reeve: For being ready to learn.</p> <p>Levi Walsh: For always striving to do his best.</p>
Year 1	<p>Abigail Quigley - For writing an interesting and well structured narrative on Pelican Pete.</p> <p>Lacey Deguara - For striving to read fluently in reading, well done!</p> <p>Flynn Buckingham - For great mathematical thinking when creating arrays!</p> <p>Tyler Rowley - For listening to teacher feedback and consistently working to achieve his goals!</p>
Year 2	<p>Darine El Dirani - For writing a well structured and detailed informative text on elephants.</p> <p>Gwenllian Gregory - For writing a detailed informative text including paragraphs, adjectives and scientific language.</p> <p>Zachery Thompson - For writing a well structured and detailed informative text on elephants.</p> <p>Harry Walsh - For being a responsible and respectful class member who always tries his best in all his learning.</p>
Year 3	<p>Emily Su - For always displaying behaviour that is safe, responsible and respectful.</p> <p>Gemma Seget - For always displaying behaviour that is safe, responsible and respectful.</p> <p>Joseph Xerri - For always displaying behaviour that is safe, responsible and respectful.</p> <p>William Crozier - For always displaying behaviour that is safe, responsible and respectful.</p>
Year 4	<p>Noah Burton - Making connections to his own life and experiences when reading .</p> <p>Owen McDonald - Interest and enthusiasm for research in PBL .</p> <p>Holly McKay - Writing more detailed sentences and using time connectives in her excursion recount.</p> <p>Max Turner - Going above and beyond with his PBL work.</p>
Stage 3 Blue	<p>Danijela Prasnicki - For extending her thinking in Mathematics and recording her working out logically.</p> <p>Harry Abdoo - For sharing his ideas during art appreciation activities.</p> <p>Madaleine McDonald - For being helpful and responsible on Stage 3 camp.</p>
Stage 3 Gold	<p>Zac Refalo - For seeking feedback and responding to it accordingly.</p> <p>Kurt Seget - For using intuitive strategies to solve problems in Mathematics.</p> <p>Alyssa Kirk - For always working diligently and setting a great example.</p>
Stage 3 White	<p>Chanel Refalo - For being a positive role model and striving for excellence in all learning areas.</p> <p>Charlie Burton - For being a helpful and responsible Stage 3 student on our camp to Canberra.</p> <p>Madelin Rose - For continually trying her best and persisting in all learning areas.</p>



HOLY WEEK MASSES AND SERVICES

EASTER 2017

Sunday, 9th April – Palm Sunday

Normal weekend Masses



Monday, 10th April

9.00am Mass

7.30pm Communal Rite Reconciliation at Richmond Parish

Tuesday, 11th April

9.00am Mass

5.00pm – 6.00pm Individual Reconciliation

Wednesday, 12th April

9.00am Mass

7.30pm Chrism Mass (*St Patrick's Cathedral Parramatta*)

Thursday, 13th April

No Morning Mass

9.30am – 10.30am Individual Reconciliation

4.00pm – 5.00pm Individual Reconciliation

7.30pm Mass of the Lord's Supper followed by "Reflecting with Jesus in the Garden" - until 10.00pm (Jesus in the garden is when groups and individuals spend time before the Blessed Sacrament to pray)

Good Friday, 14th April

No Morning Mass

10.00am Family Stations of the Cross

3.00pm Celebration of the Lord's Passion and Death

Holy Saturday, 15th April

No Morning Mass

6.00pm Easter Vigil

Easter Sunday, 16th April

7.30am Mass

9.00am Family Mass

9.30am Family Mass at Bligh Park

NO 5PM EVENING MASS



Invitation to Fr Arthur Cook's farewell: 23 April

Fr Arthur Cook is retiring from parish life and will be leaving the Diocese of Parramatta at the end of April. To mark the occasion and to thank Fr Arthur for his years of service to the parishes of the Diocese, there will be a celebration on Sunday 23 April at St Matthew's Catholic Church, 12 Tebbutt Street, Windsor. An invitation is extended to anyone who would like to farewell Fr Arthur. The celebration will start with morning tea after the 9am Mass and will be followed by a BBQ lunch. For catering purposes, please RSVP by 12 April 2017 to the parish office, tel (02) 4577 3073 (BH) or send an email to stmcc@tpg.com.au

Winter Uniform

As we head into Term 2 students should make the change from Summer to Winter uniform. By the start of Week 3, Monday 8th May it is expected that all children will be wearing the correct Winter uniform. The uniform is:

Girls: Check tunic, yellow blouse, check ribbon tie, navy jumper/vest, navy blue tights, navy knee high socks, black leather shoes

Boys: Grey trousers, long sleeve blue shirt, navy jumper/vest, grey socks, black leather shoes

Sport: School sports track pants & jacket, school sports shirt, white socks, sports shoes.

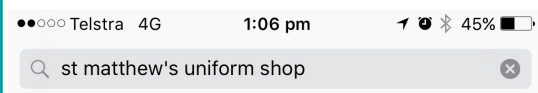
As a reminder to parents our uniforms are available online from OZ Fashion by accessing their website or via their app. The details to access both these options are included below. Please check with the front office if you have any questions regarding the school uniform.

The St Matthews Uniform Shop App is now available for ordering uniforms.

Please search St Matthews Uniform Shop in the App Store to download- a guide for first time users of the app is below.

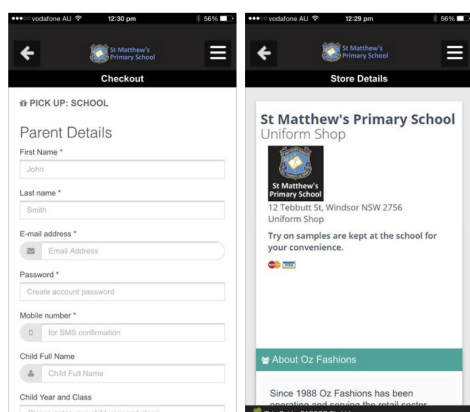
Orders will be delivered to the school on a fortnightly basis. To receive delivery in time parents will need to place orders by close of business on Monday the week of delivery. The next delivery date is located on the top of the app and will change accordingly.

Try on samples are held at the school.



St Matthew's Primary
Uniform Shop
SASSCO Pty Ltd

OPEN



St Matthews Uniform Shop App Guide for First Time Users:

Step 1: Download St Matthews Uniform Shop App from the App Store.

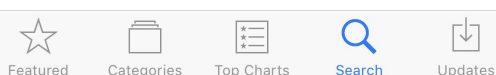
Step 2: Choose the school uniform items you would like to purchase and add them to your cart/basket.

Step 3: Once in your cart/basket please select the delivery option you would like- either pick up from school (the next delivery date) or delivery to your home or work address. Please note the next school delivery date is located at the top of the app and is changed regularly.

Step 4: Click checkout and fill out your details, child's details and your credit card details. Please note you will be able to use your email and password to login and reorder the next time you wish to place an order.

Step 5: Click send order. Once your order has been approved you will receive an email confirmation within a few days stating that your order has been received and when it will be delivered.

If you have any problems please email elle@ozfashions.com.au.





Uniform Shop Hours

Friday 9:00 am - 12 noon

Uniform orders for socks, bags and hats can be placed at the front office or the form can be downloaded from the website.

Amanda will be able to assist you on Fridays only between the hours of 9:00 am & 12 noon.

As winter is approaching remember we sell jumpers and vests.

TO THE FOLLOWING STUDENTS WHO CELEBRATE THEIR
BIRTHDAY DURING THE MONTH OF APRIL

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

															
	Kindy	Addison Summerfield	Samuel Manosalva												
	Year 1	Lacey Deguara	Hollie Robinson												
		Mingi Su													
	Year 2	Mia Smith	Jacob Dimzeh												
		Jed King	Indiana Charles												
	Year 3	Miles Reeve	Jordan Ide												
		Joel Birdsey	Emily El Hindy												
	Year 4	Camryn Brunker	Xander Ridgeway												
	Year 5	Ava Kerri	Hannah Kerri												
		Isabella Spiteri	Zac Refalo												
	Year 6	Nicholas Touma	Jayden Kerri												
															

Mothers Day Stall, Prayer & Breakfast



As in previous years we will have our annual Mother's Day Stall. The stall will be held on Thursday 4th May.

If you could spare sometime from 9:00 am to help with the Mother's Day stall would be greatly appreciated.

Gifts start from \$2.

The stall will be set up under the shade area.

All mothers and grandmothers are invited to join us at this early morning celebration. Fathers are welcome to attend the special liturgy and breakfast.

To assist with catering please complete the slip below.

Mother's Day Invitation

*~ God could not be everywhere and therefore
He made mothers. Proverb*

Dear Mothers and Grandmothers,

You are invited to attend a special Mother's Day Liturgy and Breakfast.

We would like to honour all our wonderful mothers and grandmothers.

Date: Friday, 12th May, 2017

Time: 7:30 am for a 7:45 am start

Place: St. Matthew's Church (for Liturgy)

followed by breakfast at 8:00 am – 8:30 am in the Parish Hall

R.S.V.P: Thursday 4th May



For catering purposes, please r.s.v.p. by returning this slip to the school or providing your details via email.

email: stmatthews@parra.catholic.edu.au

Name/s: _____

No. Adults _____ No. Children _____

Special dietary requirements: _____

Fathers are welcome to attend the special liturgy & breakfast.

FREE EXHIBITION

INFORMATION FOR PARENTS - Free tickets are now available to Australia's largest and most complex travelling exhibition, the Spirit of Anzac Centenary Experience.

The Award Winning, interactive exhibition displays over 200 artefacts from the Australian War Memorial, which tell the story of our nation's involvement in the First World War.



It really is a once-in-a-lifetime, not to be missed experience.

If you don't want to attend a holiday activity but just want tickets for the exhibition,

visit: www.spiritofanzac.gov.au/book-tickets

PACER

Students from Stage 3 have recently undertaken, an education tour of the national capital. Students were given the opportunity to participate in a variety of educational programs with a focus on Australia's history, culture, heritage and democracy.

The Australian Government recognises the importance of all young Australians being able to visit the national capital as part of their Civics and Citizenship education. To assist families in meeting the cost of the excursion the Australian Government is contributing funding of \$20 per student under the Parliament and Civics Education Rebate program towards those costs. The rebate is paid directly to the school upon completion of the excursion.



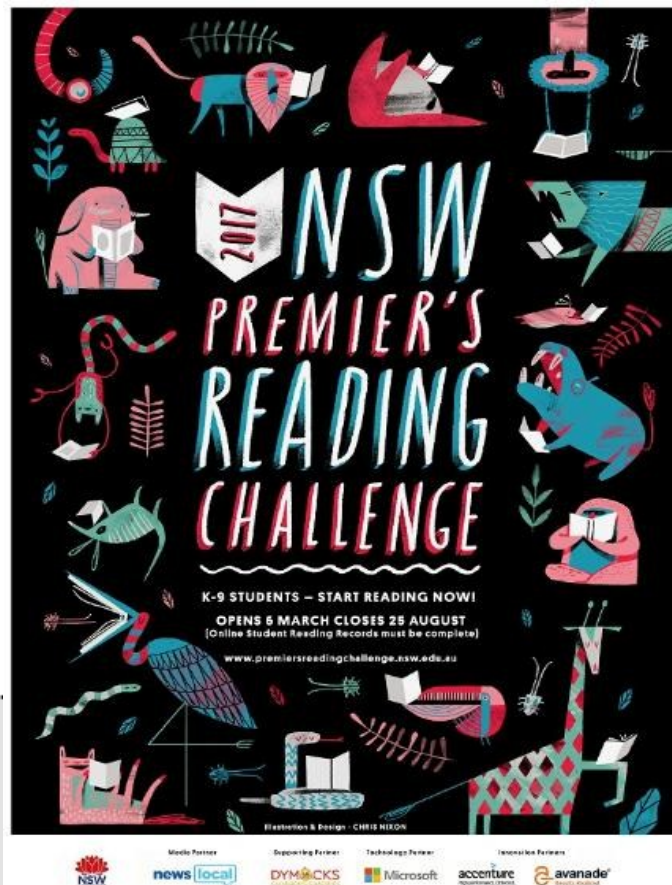
Mrs Richards has now distributed reading logs to all children.

Should you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact the office.



Premier's Reading Challenge

Tips for parents and carers for participating in the Challenge



- ☐ Find out the name(s) of your school's Premier's Reading Challenge (PRC) coordinator(s) and how they plan to administer the Challenge.
- ☐ Familiarise yourself with the [PRC website](#). Logon is not required to view the [Booklists](#) or read the [Rules](#).
- ☐ Visit the new [Premier's Reading Challenge Support website](#). It allows you to search for information about the PRC and also [contact the PRC team](#).
- ☐ Set reminders for Challenge [opening and closing dates](#) in your and your child's calendar.
- ☐ Find out your [child's logon details](#). For public schools, students' logon will be the same one they use to access computers and the internet at school.
- ☐ Assist your child to borrow books from the school or local library. Listen to your child read and talk about the story/ characters/ information. Read to or with your child if she/he is participating in the K-2 Challenge.
- ☐ Help your child to add books to her/his Student Reading Record regularly. Log on and go to: Student Reading Records > enter books by ID or Title or Author. To [enter a Personal Choice book](#), select the 'Add a Choice Book' tab > enter part of the title or author > select 'Search'. If your book appears as an option, select 'Add'. If it does not appear, scroll down to the 'Still can't find a book?' section > enter the full title and author > select 'Add'.
- ☐ Check your child's [Challenge history](#) – log on to the website, go to Student Reading Records and select tab 'My Information'. If Challenge participation at a previous school is not listed, contact your child's PRC coordinator.
- ☐ Contact your child's PRC coordinator if:
 - Your child has any difficulty using her/his logon details to access the PRC website.
 - You are concerned that your child's name is spelt incorrectly in the PRC website.
- ☐ Your child's online Student Reading Record (SRR) must have the required number of books recorded to complete the Challenge by the [student closing date](#). School PRC coordinators have an extra week to validate the SRR. Only students with a validated SRR are eligible for a certificate.
- ☐ In the final weeks of the Challenge, log on regularly to the website to check the status of your child's SRR. Contact your child's PRC coordinator if you are concerned your child's SRR has not been validated.



DIOCESE *of* PARRAMATTA

Sign up to be the first to find out when the app is released!

The Diocese of Parramatta is developing an app to help you keep in touch with what is happening in the Catholic Church in Western Sydney and the Blue Mountains

Available soon on



Download on the
App Store



ANDROID APP ON
Google play



With the latest news from

CatholicOutlook

Go to www.parracatholic.org/app or scan the QR code



‘Come and See’ Weekend Retreats for Women

The Sisters of the Holy Family of Nazareth offer weekend retreats for women aged 18-35 who want to discern their vocation to religious life. These retreats offer a one-to-one encounter and include prayer time, talks and accompaniment. Bring only a holy Bible and a smile! Holy Spirit Convent, 120 Capuchin Way, Plumpton. For more information contact Sr Paula tel 0451 965 638, vocationscsfn@gmail.com

Journey through Holy Week with Catholic Youth Parramatta: 9 & 14 April

All are invited to join youth and young adults of the Diocese for the Palm Sunday Procession, WYD Mass & Event at St Patrick's Cathedral in Parramatta on Sunday 9 April. The procession down Church Street with Bishop Vincent will depart at 5.30pm from Parramatta Town Hall following a short liturgy.

On Friday 14 April the Good Friday Night Walk will take place at 10.00pm through the night departing St Patrick's Church at Blacktown and concluding at St Patrick's Cathedral in Parramatta at 7am.

Building on the success of more than 1300 participating last year, the journey will again take us through the parishes of Blacktown, Seven Hills, Toongabbie, Wentworthville, Merrylands and Parramatta.

Further details on [Catholic Youth Parramatta](#) Facebook Events. Inquiries to James Camden, Director of Catholic Youth Parramatta, (02) 8838 3428 or jcamden@parra.catholic.org.au

The Office of Tenebrae: 10 April

Celebrant: Bishop Vincent Long OFM Conv. A Holy Week reflection liturgy with Scripture, psalm chanting and motets. St Patrick's Cathedral, 1 Marist Place, Parramatta, at 7.30pm.

Chrism Mass in St Patrick's Cathedral: 12 April

Bishop Vincent Long OFM Conv will preside at this year's Chrism Mass, which will be concelebrated by the priests of the Diocese of Parramatta, assisted by the deacons. During the Mass, the Oil of the Catechumens and the Oil of the Sick will be blessed and the Oil of Chrism consecrated. These holy oils will then be given to the parishes for use during the year. During the Mass, the priests renew their commitment to priestly service. Everyone is welcome. Mass at 7.30pm in St Patrick's Cathedral, 1 Marist Place, Parramatta.

Stations of the Cross at Mt Schoenstatt on Good Friday: 14 April

Commences at 10.00am in the valley to the Shrine. Please arrive early as the walk to the valley will take 5-10 minutes. Bring your family and church communities. You may wish to have a picnic in the grounds after the Stations. Mt Schoenstatt, 230 Fairlight Rd, Mulgoa. Details on Facebook event <https://www.facebook.com/events/2182862411940142/>

Good Friday – quiet meditation at the end of the day: 14 April

The traditional candlelight presentation of music of JS Bach, complemented by Sacred Readings from the Passion of Christ, will be held at St Finbar's Church, 46 Levy St, Glenbrook, at 7.30pm on Good Friday evening. The Blue Mountains Chorale conducted by Robert Ampt will sing poignant excerpts from St John's Passion and all will be encouraged to participate in singing congregational hymns, accompanied by the magnificent pipe organ. The service will conclude with quiet meditation. There will be a retiring collection. Suggested donation: \$15 and \$10 conc. Inquiries tel (02) 4754 1780.

Girls' Camp at Mount Schoenstatt: 17-20 April

Girls aged 13-15 are invited to a three-day camp at Mount Schoenstatt. Our theme is: Reflected in Our Lady's image: What is real beauty? Program also includes a movie night where family and friends are invited, prayer, craft and fun activities. From 4.00pm on Easter Monday 17 April to 4.00pm on Thursday 20 April. Venue: Home of Light at Mt Schoenstatt, 230 Fairlight Rd, Mulgoa. Cost: \$100 includes food and accomm. RSVP: Friday 7 April (registration form and deposit required). Inquiries: Sr M Luka tel 0439 537 843, fax (02) 4773 8530, sr.m.luka@bigpond.com

Discover Retreat for Young Women: 21-24 April

A self-knowledge weekend on identity and personality, dignity, womanhood, personal ideal, vocation and mission. From 7.00pm on Friday 21 April till 4.00pm on Sunday 23 April. Mt Schoenstatt, 230 Fairlight Rd, Mulgoa. For more information or to register: Sr M Julie Brcar ISSM, tel 0408 728 334, juliebrcar@gmail.com Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/events/1094246107354311/>

Shrine Time for Young Adults 18-35: 23 April

One Holy Hour with prayer, reflection, meditation, praise & worship. This year is devoted to Praying for Vocations and Devotion to Mary as per our Holy Father's intentions for WYD 2018 in Panama. From 7.30pm-8.30pm followed by social gathering.

Mary, honoured as the Mother Thrice Admirable, offers 3 graces in the Shrine, this monthly event is a unique opportunity to experience them regularly: Discover your HOME in the hearts of Jesus and Mary; See breakthrough TRANSFORMATION in your life; and Get your spiritual boost to be an authentic WITNESS. In the Shrine at Mount Schoenstatt, 230 Fairlight Road, Mulgoa.

Nigerian Mass in Igbo: 23 April

Rev Fr Chukwunonyerem Akamadu, Chaplain to the Nigerian Catholic community, will celebrate Mass at 11.30am at Our Lady Queen of Peace Parish, 198 Old Prospect Road, Greystanes. Contact Fr Akamadu tel 045 11 744 38, Stella Nwosu (02) 8834 8504.

Time for Us to go on a Date: 29 April

An evening for couples to dance, dine and prayer together at Mount Schoenstatt on Saturday 29 April from 5.00pm-10.00pm. For more information or to register: Sr M Julie Brcar ISSM, tel 0408 728 334, juliebrcar@gmail.com Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/events/1494512160560110/>

Parishes Making Connections NSW Conference: 2 May

Shane Dwyer, director of the National Centre for Evangelisation, keynotes this year's NSW Catholic Pastoral Conference. Includes presentations and networking with parishes and schools offering successful ministries with small faith groups and with youth engagement. For parishioners, school staff and clergy. Lidcombe, 10.00am-4.00pm, optional dinner. \$60 registration: www.trybooking.com/PBCM Endorsed by our Pastoral Planning Office. For inquiries and flyer: Greg Byrne tel 0427 918 568, gregbyrne3@bigpond.com

New Testament Workshops: 10, 12 & 13 May

The internationally respected Scripture scholar Prof vanThan Nguyen SVD will be conducting three face-to-face workshops at The Broken Bay Institute which will be of practical interest to teachers, parishes and religious communities. Prof Nguyen is the Chair of Catholic Missiology at the Catholic Theological Union in Chicago and the Director of its widely respected Master of Divinity Program. He has published extensively in the areas of New Testament Studies and on Spirituality in a Pluralistic Society. Topics: Interpreting and Preaching the Gospel of Matthew (10 May), The Lukan Spirituality of Jesus (12 May) and Reading the Bible in the Context of World Christianity (13 May). For further information and to register: www.bbi.catholic.edu.au/BBites

LIFTED Live! Featuring Steve Angrisano: 13 May

Join Catholic Youth Parramatta for our first LIFTED Live! in 2017 at our new central venue in the Rooty Hill RSL. Last year, more than 400 young people were inspired by Catholic musician, singer, songwriter and storyteller Steve Angrisano. You can expect music, prayer, worship, adoration, drama, laughs and a great night as the LIFTED Band and Steve join forces in faith, formation and fun! \$5 entry fee to be inspired and upLIFTED for your ongoing ministry! From 7.00pm-10.00pm at Rooty Hill RSL, 55 Sherbrooke Rd, Rooty Hill. RSVP thru the Catholic Youth Parramatta Facebook event. Inquiries to James Camden, Director of Catholic Youth Parramatta, tel (02) 8838 3428 or jcamden@parra.catholic.org.au

NORTH RICHMOND YAT AND HAWKESBURY CITY COUNCIL PRESENTS

Youth Fest

APRIL 7
4PM TO 8PM



FREE EVENT

DJ / PRIZES / GIVEAWAYS
BUBBLE SOCCER / OBSTACLE COURSE
FREE FOOD & DRINKS
+ PLenty MORE!

RICHMOND PARK OVAL



Activities

Softcore (exhibition) - Soft Core, March 31 – 14 May

Presents the many facets of 'softness' - Hawkesbury Gallery.

www.hawkesburygallery.eventbrite.com

Contact the gallery: (02) 4560 4441

Hawkesbury Youth Summit April 5

9.30am-2.30pm – Richmond High – High School Students Only – Bookings Essential.

facebook.com/ypo.council

Contact Rohan: (02) 4560 4562

AFFORD - Information Forum April 5

Lunch & Disco, 10.00 am – 2:00 pm Tiningi Hall Cnr Colonial & Rifle Range, Bligh Park.

www.afford.com.au

Contact Belinda: 0427 851 824

Optus Digital Thumbprint Workshops, April 6

Digital Insight, Digital Impact, Digital Ambition, Windsor High – (Windsor High Students Only)

www.digitalthumbprint.com.au

Contact Jessica: (02) 4587 7122

Youthsafe - What's The Plan? Safe Party Planning Workshop, April 6

10.00am – 11.00 am – Western Sydney Training & Education Centre, 1 Philip Place McGraths Hill (WSTEC Students Only).

www.youthsafe.org

Contact Robyn: (02) 4577 7179

Image & Theatre - Youth Issues Workshop, April 6

11.00am – 2.00pm - Western Sydney Training & Education Centre, 1 Philip Place McGraths Hill (WSTEC Students Only).

Contact Robyn: (02) 4577 7179

Gardening in the Hawkesbury April 6

"Ask an Expert" Free plants and exotic plants for sale, 2.00pm – 4.00pm, Tebbutt Room, Deerubbin Centre, 300 George Street Windsor.

www.hawkesburylibrary.eventbrite.com

Contact the Library: (02) 45604 4460

Youthfest, April 7

4pm-8pm, Free Event, DJ's, prizes, obstacle course, free food and much more – Richmond Park Oval

facebook.com/events/420600714942705

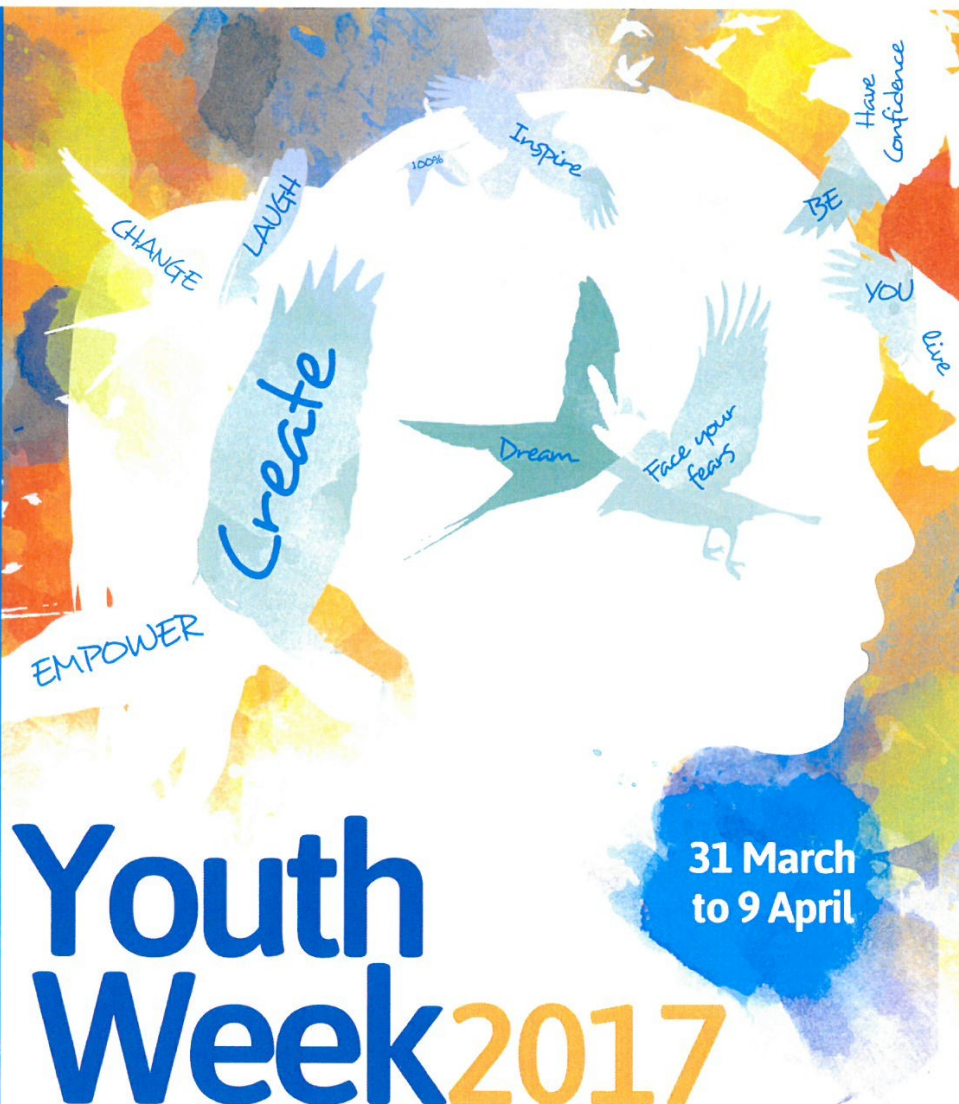
Contact Rochelle: 0481 367 677

Pop-Up Library & Gallery @ Youthfest, April 7

Giveaways, fun giant games and activities! 3pm – 8pm, Richmond Park.

www.hawkesburylibrary.eventbrite.com

Contact the Library: (02) 4560 4460



Youth Week 2017

31 March to 9 April

Get involved, be heard,
make a difference!



Activities into the holidays...

Superheroes & Villains Drawing Workshop April 11

2.00pm-2.30pm, \$7, Tebbutt Room, Deerubbin Centre, 300 George Street Windsor.

www.hawkesburylibrary.eventbrite.com

Contact the Library: (02) 4560 4460

Meccano Machines, April 18

2.30pm-4.30pm, \$7, Tebbutt Room, Deerubbin Centre, 300 George Street Windsor.

www.hawkesburylibrary.eventbrite.com

Contact the Library: (02) 4560 4460

www.youthweek.nsw.gov.au



Macquarie Towns Arts Society's

School Holiday Art & Craft Workshop Program

Easter Holidays, 2017

Monday 10th April

10 am - 12pm Make Easter Cards

1pm - 3pm Make Clay Bunnies

Tuesday 11th April

10 am - 12pm Make Colourful Easter Animals

1pm - 3pm Decorate Easter Eggs

Wednesday 12th April

10 am - 12pm Make Bunny Puppets

1pm - 3pm Make Easter Dragon Eggs

Thursday 13th April

10 am - 12pm Draw Chickens and Bunnies

1pm - 3pm Make Easter Wind Chimes

Friday 14th - Mon 17th Public Holidays - no workshops

Tuesday 18th April

10 am - 12pm Decorate Photo Frames

1pm - 3pm Draw Fairies, Elves and Mermaids

Wednesday 19th April

10 am - 12pm Draw Cartoons

1pm - 3pm Pottery

Thursday 20th April

10 am - 12pm Make Fairy Lanterns

1pm - 3pm Paint a Landscape

Friday 21st April

10 am - 12pm Jewellery

Cost: \$15 per 2hr workshop; all equipment supplied.

Venue: Richmond Art Supplies, (new location)

Shop 1, 328 Windsor St, Richmond (next to Brynorms).

Bookings Essential: phone Deidre 0412 979731

MTAS After School Art Classes for Term 2, 2017, also Now Enrolling.