



St. Matt's Matters Newsletter

12 Tebbutt Street
PO BOX 406
WINDSOR NSW 2756

Telephone (02) 4560 2300
Email: stmatthews@parra.catholic.edu.au
Web address: www.stmatthewswindsor.catholic.edu.au

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

Welcome to our revamped Newsletter. Whilst the look is different the contents will continue to have all the information for families to inform you about what is happening at St Matthew's.

Over the past 2 weeks we have welcomed our new Kindergarten students to St Matthew's during the Kinder Orientation visits. These visits are a special time for families but can also be a nervous time for others. It was great to see the joy and happiness on the faces of the new Kinders as they took their first tentative steps into Kindergarten.

On Saturday our nation will stop to mark Remembrance Day and our community will gather in McQuade Park to observe, with respect, this important day. Remembrance Day marks the anniversary of the armistice, which ended the First World War (1914-18). The quiet respectful reverence that is displayed at the service reminds me of the quiet, reverent stillness I experienced on the Gallipoli Peninsula several years ago. The sense of reverence is heightened during the minute silence and then the singing of the national anthem.

Parents are warmly welcomed to join with our students and the wider community in McQuade Park on Saturday morning. We will meet outside the Church at 10:30 am and then move to the service from there.



God of peace and love,



We remember that in Jesus of Nazareth you have called us to be people of peace saying, "Blessed are the peacemakers"

and reminding us that we are to love our neighbour and our enemy as we love ourselves.

But we also acknowledge that there are times when we, as a global community, fail to live out those words.

We give thanks for all who have chosen to serve their country.

We give thanks for their bravery, their commitment, and their love.

We pause in the memory of those who went and did not return to families left behind.

Amen.

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

Peace and best wishes for the fortnight ahead.

Tim Vane-Tempest,
Principal.

MATHEMATICS ASSESSMENT INTERVIEWS (MAIS) DAY 1 & 2 OF 2018

The first two days of the new school year, 29th/30th January 2018, staff will be conducting assessments in support of our EMU mathematics work.

With this newsletter is a note outlining the process for booking a time for these assessments. This arrangement will allow staff to gather essential data as early in the year as possible. This data will be used by teachers to develop targeted teaching programs to support the individual learning needs of the students.

The assessments will be for all students from Kinder to Year 6. We are in the process of setting up the online booking service to arrange these interviews.

The first day for all students will be Wednesday 31st January.

Nov 11 Sat	Remembrance Ceremony meet outside Church 10:30 am
Nov 13 Mon	Assembly presented by Stage 3
Nov 15 Wed	Kinder Parish Mass 9:00 am
Nov 20 Mon	Assembly presented by Year 2
Nov 22 Wed	Year 3 Parish Mass 9:00 am
Nov 24 Fri	Mufti Day Christmas Hamper
Nov 27 Mon	Assembly presented by Year 4
Nov 29 Wed	Stage 3 Parish Mass

END OF YEAR OPPORTUNITIES FOR FAMILIES

The end of year activities planned to celebrate our year of learning at St Matthew's are outlined below for your information. We look forward to celebrating these events with the whole community.

Thursday 7th December-

- Christmas celebration in the evening

Monday 11th December-

- K-6 end of year awards assembly

Tuesday 12th December-

- Year 6 Farewell Mass, Awards
- Yr 6 celebration in the evening

Wednesday 13th December-

- K-5 will attend the 2018 School Swimming Carnival and Water Fun Day
- Yr 6 students Activity Day

Friday 15th December-

- Last day for students

REPORTS

Teachers are currently in the process of writing the end of year report for all children. A great deal of time and effort goes into constructing the reports for each student, with teachers working to give you the most accurate assessment of your child's progress and achievement for the second semester of 2017. Reports will be sent home in Week 9 of this term.

Target -
90% average
across the school

Every Learner, Every Day

Attendance in the past
fortnight

89.92%



St Matthew's Catholic Primary School

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Dear Parents,

Next year we are continuing with our online process for MAI interviews. Most of our families have used this online process extremely successfully in the past.

MAI interviews will be held in the classroom at various times on the 29th and 30th January 2018.

You will be able to book an interview at a time that suits **YOUR FAMILY BEST** from the 8th November 2017.

Go to www.schoolinterviews.com.au and follow the instructions below.

BOOKINGS WILL CLOSE 21st January 2018

The image shows a four-step process for booking an interview. Step 1: A green box with a downward arrow containing the text 'School event code' and a text input field with '6rddb' and a 'Go' button. Step 2: A green box with the number '1', an icon of a person, and the text 'Enter your details'. Step 3: A green box with the number '2', an icon of two people, and the text 'Choose teachers'. Step 4: A blue box with the number '3', an icon of three people, and the text 'Choose times'. Above the icon in step 4 are three time slots: '4:30', '4:40', and '4:50', each with a checkbox.

When you click finish, your interview timetable will be emailed to you automatically - check your junk mail folder if you do not receive your email immediately.

You can return to www.schoolinterviews.com.au at any time, and change your interviews, until bookings close - 21st January 2018.

Interviews are strictly 30mins. We ask you to arrive 5 minutes earlier to ensure a smooth transition between interviews.

Parents can change their interview bookings, any time prior to the closing date, by re-visiting the www.schoolinterviews.com.au website, and using the event code. Remember to use the same name and email address that you used when you made your original booking. Parents wishing to change their interview times after the closing date, should contact the school directly on: (02) 4560 2300.

We look forward to meeting with you soon and thank you for your support.

St Matthew's Teachers

Following our recruitment process, all positions, with the exception of our Japanese teacher have been filled for 2018. Below is the full staffing list for next year:

Principal	Mr. Tim Vane-Tempest
Assistant Principal	Mrs. Joanne Digwood
Kindergarten	Mrs. Annette Larnach & Miss Sarah Chircop
Year 1	Miss Noreen Keane
Year 2	Miss Stephanie Viviani Miss Jessica Grima (Mrs Moussa once returned from leave)
Year 3	Miss Rosemary Sant Mrs. Ann Climpson
Year 4	Mrs. Fiona Baldock Mrs. Ann Burke
Stage 3	Mrs. Sharon Williams Miss Jacqui Mortimer Miss Lauren Schembri
Support Programs Learning Support	Mrs. Janine Whiteman (Numeracy Leader) Mrs. Mary Thornton (Mon, Tues, Wed) Mrs. Rhona Hughes (Thurs, Fri)
Teacher Assistants	Mrs. Kathy Richards (Mon, Tues, Wed) Mrs. Joanne Liso (Thurs, Fri)
Japanese	TBC
Teacher Release Coordinator	Mrs. Sarah Thompson (Wed) & Mrs Alyssa Bennett (Wed)
Music/Drama	Mrs. Vanessa Butchard (Thurs, Fri)
PE	Mrs. Karen Brand (Thurs, Fri)
Library	Mrs. Alyssa Bennett (Thurs)
Administration Staff	Mrs. Stacey Roberts (Mon-Fri) Mrs. Sophia Babazogli (Tues, Wed, Thurs)
Grounds/Maintenance	Mr. Terry Munsey (Tues/Thurs mornings)

CHILDREN NOT RETURNING IN 2018

Thank you to the families who indicated that they will be moving away from St Matthew's at the end of this year. If there are families who are not returning to St Matthew's in 2018 it is important to inform the school, in writing, about your intention. To be compliant we are required to notify which school the children will be attending in 2018. Your notification to us assists with the organization of classes for next year. It also assists us with enrolment enquiries that we are receiving for next year.



OUR LADY OF MERCY COLLEGE PARRAMATTA

College Open Morning Tour

Wednesday November 15, 2017

expanding beyond what we know we can be

Greetings St Matthew's School Community!

School/ Parish Mass

On Sunday 4th of November we had our last School/ Parish Mass for the year. Thank you to all the students and their families who attended and participated in such a prayerful celebration. All the students who came participated in one way or another – as altar servers, readers, the liturgical movement and choir. Your presence at Mass helped to create a strong sense of family and community.

Social Justice- Christmas Appeal

As the end of the year is approaching and Christmas will be here before we know it- St Matthew's will again collect food for the St Vincent de Paul Society. This is an annual event and St Matthew's families have always been so generous in providing great quality food items to go to the poor and needy in our community. You will receive a letter in the coming weeks with more information.

Every class at St Matthew's have been working towards helping another community who are in need and reaching out to them in practical ways. Thank you, St Matthew's students, and your families. You are helping a great number of people and imitating Jesus by your actions. Well done.

Advent

Next month we will be going into the season of Advent. Advent is the season of expectation of the Christ. It is a period of four weeks and marks the beginning of a new liturgical year. Each week a candle is lit on the Advent Wreath, signifying our longing for the light of Christ in our lives- for our hearts to become more compassionate. We celebrate the birth of Christ – God is with us- God who became man. This is a great opportunity to pray together as a family, go to Church and to reach out to the lonely or someone in need.

"In this life we cannot do great things. We can only do small things with great love."

Mother Teresa.

"It is not the magnitude of our actions but the amount of love that is put into them that matters."

Mother Teresa.

Next Sunday's Gospel: Matthew 25: 1- 13

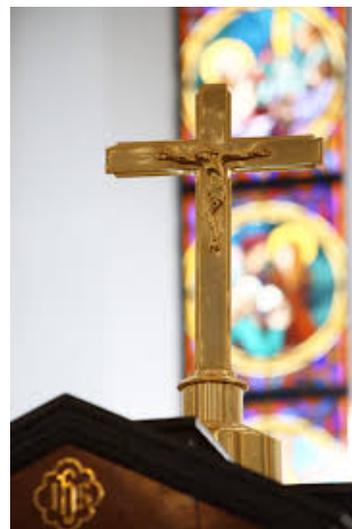
God Bless.
Ann Climpson

Jesus in our hearts – Forever!

Mary Our Mother- Pray for us.

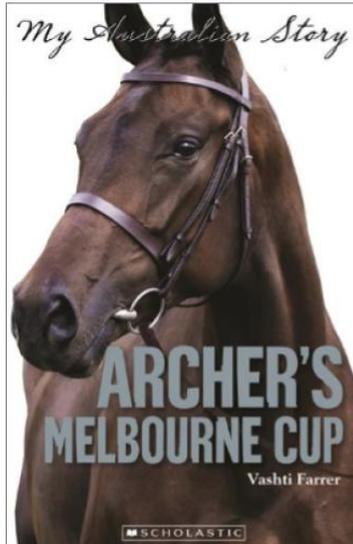
St Matthew- Pray for us.

Dates to remember-
School Christmas Concert



06/11/2017
Primary Schools

Student ebook of the Week



via Student eBook Platform



<https://goo.gl/XMaHU1>

Premier's
Reading
Challenge

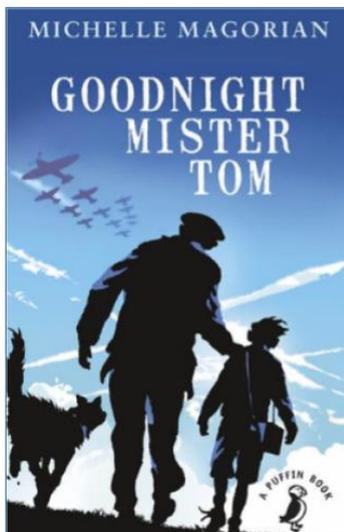
Suitable for years 5 - 6

Archer was magnificent... His mane flew out as a ribbon behind him and his tail streamed like a flag in the wind. There was a fire in him as if he smelt danger on the wind and raced for it. When a brand-new horse race called the Melbourne Cup is announced, Robby is sure Archer has what it takes to win - if he can overcome injury.



06/11/2017
Secondary Schools

Student ebook of the Week



via Student eBook Platform



<https://goo.gl/EfFHGX>

Suitable for years 7 - 9

Young Willie Beech is evacuated to the country as Britain stands on the brink of the Second World War. A sad, deprived child, he slowly begins to flourish under the care of old Tom Oakley - but his new-found happiness is shattered by a summons from his mother back in London.



Good luck to Noah Beattie & Christian Dagher (Year 4) in their trials for the Parramatta Diocese Basketball Rep day next Tuesday November 14. We wish you all the best on your day.



BOOTCAMP

Every Thursday morning before school 8:00 am - 8:30 am

At Bootcamp we will continue working on our fitness skills every Thursday morning with fun innovative ways to get fit, stay fit and be active!! This is optional and families do not have to commit to each and every week, however, it is a great opportunity to get active and get the body and brain active before the school day begins!



Week 10

- ❖ St Matthew's Swimming Carnival
- ❖ Wednesday December 13 2017. Notes have been sent home last week and are due back by Week 7. Please keep in mind that if your child is turning 8 - 13 years of age in 2018 and are competent swimmers they can compete in the 50m and 100m races for a possible place on our 2018 Zone Swimming team.

2018 Parramatta Diocese Team Sport Trials

This information only affects students currently in Year 4 or Year 5 who are enrolled to attend St Matthew's again next year.

Dear Parents,

Parramatta Diocesan Primary students enrolled in Year 5 and 6 in 2018 are invited to participate in the Parramatta Diocesan Team Sport Trials during Term Four in 2017 and Term One in 2018. It is important to note that these trials are generally for those children who display an **above average ability and/or have representative experience in their chosen sport**. While teams are open in age it is strongly recommended that only children of a representative standard in years 5 & 6 in 2018 be invited to attend. To facilitate this, Parramatta Diocesan trials will be held in the following sports:

SPORT

Sport	Age Group	Trial Date	Registration Closing Date
AFL	Open Boys & Girls	Term 1 2018	Friday 2nd Feb 2018
CRICKET	Open Boys & Girls	Term 1 2018	Friday 2nd Feb 2018
DIVING	10/11 Boys & Girls & 12/13 Boys & Girls	Term 1 2018	Registration via CSSS 2018
FOOTBALL (SOCCER)	Open Boys & Girls	Term 1 2018	Friday 2nd Feb 2018
GOLF	Open Boys & Girls	Term 3 2018	Registration via CSSS 2018
HOCKEY	Open Boys & Girls	Term 1 2018	Friday 2nd Feb 2018
NETBALL	Open Girls	Term 1 2018	Friday 2nd Feb 2018
RUGBY LEAGUE	Open Boys & Boys 11 yrs	Term 1 2018	Friday 2nd Feb 2018
RUGBY UNION	Open Boys	Term 1 2018	Friday 2nd Feb 2018
SOFTBALL	Open Boys & Girls	Term 1 2018	Friday 2nd Feb 2018
TOUCH	Open Boys & Girls	Term 1 2018	Friday 2nd Feb 2018

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If you would like your child to participate in one of the Parramatta Diocesan trials, please complete the Team Online Registration Form that can be accessed via the website www.primarysportparra.catholic.edu.au ~ Click on "REP SELECTIONS" tab and scroll down to the SPORT you wish to register for and click on the "REGISTER" button below the heading "PDCPSSC Expression of Interest Registration Form".

NOMINATIONS - entries close Friday 2nd February 2018.

Mrs Brand

Quick and easy breakfast ideas:
Make sure your child starts every school day with a nutritious breakfast that includes foods from at least two of the five food groups.

- ◆ wholegrain cereal with reduced-fat milk
 - ◆ fruit smoothie
 - ◆ boiled eggs and toast
 - ◆ slices of fruit with yoghurt
 - ◆ raisin toast with sliced banana
- muesli, chopped fruit and yoghurt



STUDENT OF THE WEEK

KINDERGARTEN	Henry Smith - For demonstrating excellent collaborative skills during PBL time. Pierce Reeve - For solving a variety of rich tasks by providing multiple solutions in Mathematics. Sienna Crozier - For her hard work in writing time. Savanah Dale - For her hard work and commitment to her learning.
YEAR 1	Gabriella Lupi - For always following the school rules and striving to do her best Jaime Langford - For striving to read with fluency and phrasing Sophia Coles - For her excellent effort in Reading and Writing Shelby Mitchell - For writing a very persuasive letter to her teacher
YEAR 2	Jamie Crinnion - For his hard work and commitment to writing procedures last week. Great work! Eden Falkenmire - For her excellent focus and consistent effort during reading groups. Savanah Flewin - For always trying her hardest and showing improvement in mathematics Mia Perrett - For her hard work and commitment to writing procedures last week. Great work!
YEAR 3	Chaise Jordan- For marked improvement on listening skills and completing set tasks. Cooper Howlett- Boyd- For being positive and helpful in class. Jada Regan- For working consistently on her PBL. Noah Leighton- For working hard on his STEM project.
YEAR 4	Noah Beattie - For persevering with challenging tasks in his learning Noah Burton - For consistent effort with all his learning Rachael Gaul - For consistent effort with all her learning Holly McKay - For consistent effort with all her learning
STAGE 3 WHITE	Ava Xerri - For demonstrating a more focused approach in all key learning areas Madison Rowley - For consistent effort across all key learning areas. Isabella Matthews - For her positive attitude towards learning and regular contributions to class discussions.
STAGE 3 GOLD	Edward Kennedy - Using descriptive and complex vocabulary to enhance meaning in his writing. Olivia Ryman - Using a variety of comprehension strategies to interpret information and ideas. Hannah Xerri - Using a variety of comprehension strategies to build literal and inferred meaning when reading.
STAGE 3 BLUE	Michaella Russell - For logically recording her working out when solving problems in Mathematics. Georgia Boulos - For persevering with challenging tasks and developing a Growth Mindset in Mathematics. Willam Machin - For displaying initiative in independently completing Literacy Contract tasks

Special edition of Catholic Outlook

At the request of Bishop Vincent Long OFM Conv, Catholic Outlook will be back in print for a special, one-off December 2017 Christmas edition. This special edition will be a beautifully bound, 40-page, A4 magazine and will showcase the work of the parishes, ministries and agencies of the Diocese of Parramatta. Look out for copies in your parishes and schools from Monday 4 December.

Health Carers and the Assisted Dying Bill 2017

The proposed legislation to legalise assisted suicide and euthanasia will be debated in the Parliament of New South Wales on the 16 November. A similar bill has passed the Lower House in the Victorian Parliament. Such changes will place at risk the most vulnerable patients as well as undermining the relationship between patients and Healthcare Professionals which is based on trust and mutual respect. Rather than the legalisation of assisted suicide and euthanasia all Doctors, Nurses, Allied Health Professionals are asked to let your Members of Parliament know that you support increased access to better aged care and mental health services, disabilities assistance and excellent palliative care.

There is an open letter against the legalisation of assisted suicide and a petition which has been organised by concerned healthcare professionals. You are asked to add your name to their petition by going to the link: www.healthprofessionalsayno.info

Bishop Vincent Long OFM Conv statement on Manus Island

Bishop Vincent Long OFM Conv, Bishop Delegate for Migrants and Refugees has issued a statement on behalf of the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference, following the closure of the Manus Island Centre. He states: "The policy of offshore detention has failed and it is time for us to deal with the issue of asylum seekers and refugees according to this nation's proud tradition and the best nature of its citizens. We can

do a whole lot better, just as we did welcome "those who've come across the seas" after the wars in Europe and in Southeast Asia. The concern for maritime border security does not have to make us into a mean-spirited people. The policy of offshore detention has cost Australia dearly. But it has cost the detainees and their families even more. I appeal to the government and political leaders to act in accordance with our honourable tradition. It is time to find an alternative and conscionable solution, including accepting New Zealand's offer of resettlement and bringing the remaining detainees on Manus Island to Australia for further processing."

Concert at St. Finbar's, Glenbrook: 12 November

From 3pm, The Mystery of the Earth concert is a choir and organ, exploring our connection to the earth and beyond. This will be a wonderfully relaxing concert performed by Academy Singers, an experienced and well-known choir, directed by the esteemed Paul Terracini and accompanied by organist Amy Johansen. Amy will play music by Haydn and Mendelssohn. Choral music by Bainton, Mendelssohn, Lauridsen, Whitacre and young Australian composer Ban van Tienen. Adults \$25, Concession \$20, Child \$10. Enquiries on 4754 1780.

St Philomena Association Holy Mass: 18 November

St John Vianney was very devoted to St Philomena. Pope Gregory XVI called her "the great wonder worker". Mass at noon with Confession from 11.30am: St John Vianney's Church, 17 Cameron St, Doonside. A short walk north from Doonside station, the one past Blacktown. Please bring a snack to share. Elizabeth tel or text 0423 15 44 63, peoples9@gmail.com Facebook: Libby Peoples (events)

Christian Meditation Day: 19 November

The last Christian Meditation Introduction and Renewal Day for 2017 at St Benedict's Monastery, 121 Arcadia Rd, Arcadia is on Sunday, 19th November. Arrival is 10am for 10:30am. Presentations, Meditation and Mass. BYO picnic lunch, tea and coffee provided. Books and DVDs available for purchase. Registration on arrival. Voluntary Donation to the monks. Day closes around 3pm. Accommodation may be available at the monastery, ring: Br Terry 0438 282 318. Enquires: Ann Lomas 9456 4775 /atlomas@bigpond.com or Ann Bergman 9498 2625 /anniebergman@hotmail.com

Holy Hour for Vocations: 24 November

Everyone is welcome to join the Holy Hour for Vocations from 6:30pm-7.30pm for an hour of adoration, prayer, music and quiet time at Our Lady of the Rosary Parish, St Marys. For information about priesthood in the Diocese of Parramatta and Holy Spirit Seminary, please contact Fr John Paul Escarlan, Director of Priestly Vocations, vocations@parra.catholic.org.au

Ordination to the Diaconate of Galbert Albino: 25 November

Most Rev Vincent Long OFM Conv, Bishop of Parramatta, will be the principal celebrant for the Vigil Mass of the Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe with the Rite of Ordination to the Diaconate of Galbert Albino on Saturday 25 November 2017 at 6.00pm. The ordination will take place at Our Lady Queen of Peace Church, 198 Old Prospect Road, Greystanes 2145. Light refreshments to follow. RSVP by 17 November 2017: For catering purposes please RSVP to parish secretary tel (02) 9631 8135, parishoffice@olqp.org.au.

Reflection Day for Women: 25 November

Preparing our Hearts for Advent Reflection Day for Women at Mt Schoenstatt, Fairlight Rd Mulgoa 25 November 9.30 am – 3.00 pm. Cost: \$25. BYO lunch. Take some time out to reflect on the Season of Advent Day includes talk, prayer, Mass and much more! For

more info contact Sr Mary Louise (02 8838 3457). Register by 22 November – info@schoenstatt.org.au or 02 4773 8338.

Westmead Old Boys' Association: 26 November

Members of the St. Vincent's Westmead Old Boys Association are invited to the Annual Mass and 96th Reunion on Sunday 26 November at 11.00am, Sacred Heart Church, 14 Ralph St Westmead, BBQ Lunch at 12.30pm. Enquiries to Bob McDonald 0417 214 822.

Shrine Time for Young Adults 18-35: 26 November

One Holy Hour with prayer, reflection, meditation, praise & worship. 2017 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.

Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend: 24-26 November

your most precious asset . . . your Marriage! Weekend date: 24th -26th A Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend is a Marriage Enrichment experience for married couples – set in peaceful, picturesque surroundings, away from the distractions of everyday life. During the weekend, couples have a unique opportunity to reconnect, rekindle and refresh their relationship. Take time out of your busy schedule, to invest in November, at Mt Carmel Retreat Centre, Varroville, NSW. Bookings online at www.wwme.org.au or Adrian and Janet Sullivan: on 0490 774 419 or radrian.janet1@bigpond.com