

St Matthew's Catholic Primary School

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NEWSLETTER WEEK 7

31st August 2017

CALENDAR DATES TERM 3 2017	
Sept 1 Fri	Father's Day Breakfast & Liturgy
Sept 4 Mon	Literacy & Numeracy Week Assembly Presented by Year 3 2:45 pm
Sept 5 Tue	Mathematical "Warm Up" Games 9:00 am Sunshine Reading 9:30–10:00 am
Sept 6 Wed	Year 1 & Year 4 Parish Mass 9:00 am PBL Showcase 6:30 pm
Sept 7 Thur	Author visit Michael Salmon 12:45 – 1:45pm: Kindergarten, Year 1 and Stage 3
	1:45 – 2:15pm (Afternoon Tea): Michael will be selling and signing books for students in the hall.
	2:15 – 3:15pm: Year 2, Year 3 and Year 4 3:15pm (After School): Michael will be selling and signing books for students and parents in the hall.
Sept 8 Fri	Stage 3 Touch Gala Day
Sept 11 Mon	Assembly presented by Kinder 2:45 pm
Sept 13 Wed	Year 2 Parish Mass 9:00 am New classrooms meeting 6:30 pm
Sept 15 Fri	Stage 2 Touch Gala Day
Sept 18 Mon	Assembly Presented by Stage 3 2:45 pm
Sept 21 Thur	St Matthew's Day Mass 9:00 am Stage 3 Spring Fair
Sept 22 Fri	Staff Development Day Last day of Term 3

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

Over the past fortnight young parishioners, many of them students of St Matthew's School, received the sacrament of Confirmation from Monsignor Ron McFarlane. This is a significant moment in the faith life of these children and strengthens the bond they have in their relationship with God and Jesus.

During his homily Monsignor Ron reminded those present that the gifts of the Holy Spirit are always available to us but we need to be "tuned in" to the presence of the Spirit to activate these gifts. The analogy used by Monsignor Ron was like a television it is only useful if it is tuned in and turned on.

As a community we are called also to support these young parishioners to live the lives of Christians and to be witnesses to others through our words thoughts and actions - to make the world a better place. As followers of Christ we are called to do great things in the service of others.

It was wonderful to be able to share this important milestone with the families and extended families of the children.

May the God of Light who was pleased to enlighten the disciples' minds by the outpouring of the Spirit, grant us gladness and make us always abound with the gifts of the same spirit.

Amen.

New Classrooms

Following on from items in recent newsletters about additional classrooms for our students and the expansion of the COSHC service, a meeting was recently held to refine plans for this work. To share the information around this work a meeting will be held on Wednesday 13th September at 6:30pm. At this meeting information about the plans, work that will be carried out and timeline for the project, as well as give the chance to raise and address questions that you as parents may have. A note is accompanying this newsletter for you to indicate if you will be attending this meeting.

Staffing Update

Mrs Stockman and Mrs Neave will begin their maternity leave at the end of this school term. I am pleased to share with the community that we have appointed Miss Maggie Sullivan to replace Mrs Neave to work in Yr. 1 on Wednesday and as our music/drama teacher on Thursday and Friday. Also Miss Rosemary Sant has been appointed to replace Mrs Stockman in Stage 3 for next term until the end of the year. Both Miss Sullivan and Miss Sant are known to our students and this will assist with a smooth transition for learning. As a community we wish Mrs Stockman and Mrs Neave the very best as they prepare for the joyous arrival of their babies.

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

Tim Vane-Tempest, Principal.

Enrolling Now for 2018

The enrolments continue to be 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 2018 or our 2017 classes please pass on this information.

Staff Development Day

Our staff Professional Learning Day for Term 3 will be on Friday 22nd September. All staff will be involved in this day there will be no supervision provided for students.

Primary Voices Choral Celebration

On Monday of next week a group of 50 students from St Matthew's will be performing at the Primary Voices Choral Celebration at St. Dominic's Penrith. Thanks to Mrs Neave and Mrs Brand who have been working with this group of students along with outside tutors each week to prepare for this performance. We wish them well as they continue to prepare for their big night. Ticket sales are open online at https://www.trybooking.com/QXBW . For parents and family of those involved a note regarding arrangements for transport etc. on the day, a note has been sent home with this information.

School Phone Number

Just a reminder the school office phone number has changed to 4560 2300.

Kiss & Drop/Parking in Little Church St

Thank you to all who have made use of the Kiss & Drop zone before and after school over the past 2 weeks. There has been a significant drop in the length of the vehicles queuing along Little Church St and significant increase in the speed of pick up and leaving. The local council traffic safety officer has recently made further observations and has asked that her thanks for the cooperation and politeness of our parents when approached be passed on to our community. Whilst I am sure that there is some frustration when having to drive around the block when the zone is full your cooperation is very much appreciated and ensures this service is available into the future.

As a reminder to us all the guidelines for using this service are below:

Kiss & Drop will operate between 8:30 am and 9:00 am and 3:15 pm and 3:35 pm

Cars will follow in single file through the drop zone

Drivers should move as far as possible into the zone before stopping to allow children to get out or when picking up

Children need to exit the car on the left hand-side so they are not walking behind or between cars using the zone No overtaking of vehicles in the Kiss & Drop zone

Drivers need to stay in their car at all times - no parking is permitted in the Kiss & Drop

When leaving the Kiss & Drop zone be aware of other drivers and pedestrians.

NAPLAN Readiness Test

The trial readiness test will take place for our Yr. 3 & 5 students next week, 4th-8th September. For our school all students in Yrs. 3 & 5 will participate. The school readiness test is a 'practice run' for schools to assess their technology needs ahead of NAPLAN Online, which is planned to begin in 2019. As a result the readiness test is not an assessment of student ability.

Save The Date!

This is an early notification for the annual St Matthew's Parish Dinner Dance on Friday 3rd November. This event is the major social and fundraising occasion for the parish. It is a great night of fun and entertainment, bringing together the three schools of our parish as well as the wider Catholic community. More information will follow in the coming weeks.

Greetings St Matthew's School Community!

This coming Sunday is significant in the lives of many of the male members of the St Matthew's Community. How so you ask? Well, lost in the run up to the Rugby League play offs, is Fathers Day. Somewhat overcome by the commercialism that has swallowed up this celebration of male parenthood,

Fathers Day remains an opportunity to recognise the contributions the fathers and grandfathers have made to our school family. Being a father in the modern era is not without its challenges.

When one reflects on the challenges of the modern era spare a thought for St Joseph. Being foster father to our Lord certainly presented its challenges. A carpenter by trade, St Joseph was busy making ends meet. He had the same worries and joys bringing up a child – teaching Him things, caring for Him and protecting Him. St Joseph was also very proud of his foster son: imagine how proud he was finding Jesus lecturing the elders in the synagogue! (But extremely worried beforehand when Jesus was lost!). Ah, the confidence of youth. One may argue that little has changed!!

However, in the modern era with seemingly never ending pressures, St Joseph offers the fathers of our community a strong and positive role model. A hard working, quiet achiever, St Joseph was a stable and sensible voice in the life of Jesus. St Joseph was a source of great wisdom for the maturing Jesus.

Of course, the challenge that faced St Joseph was just how much advice do you give to the Son of God? This questioning is something that the modern father can relate to. Society places immense pressure on the men of our community to be the perfect father. Regardless, fathers must trust their instinct and act in the best interest of their child. I am sure St Joseph faced many challenges not dissimilar to the modern father – although the society in which we exist is significantly different.

So, Fathers and Grandfathers of St Matthews, we salute your paternal work and offer great thanks to you. Please remember, when the going gets tough, consider asking St Joseph for guidance and wisdom. I am sure St Joseph will be there for you. St Joseph is the Patron Saint of Workers. St Joseph- Pray for us.

To capture the devotion to Saint Joseph within the Catholic liturgy, in 1870, Pope Pius IX declared Saint Joseph the patron of the universal Church. In 1955, Pope Pius XII added the feast of Saint Joseph the Worker. This silent saint, who was given the noble task of caring and watching over the Virgin Mary and Jesus, now cares for and watches over the Church and models for all the dignity of human work. https://www.franciscanmedia.org/saint-joseph-the-worker/

Have a very Happy Father's Day on Sunday to all our Fathers, Grandfathers and Great Grandfathers.

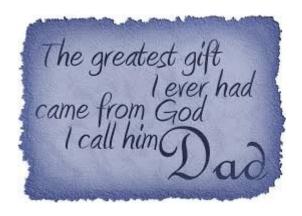
God Bless.

Ann Climpson

Jesus in our hearts - Forever!

Our Lady of Fatima – Pray for us.

St Matthew- Pray for us.



Dates to remember-

Tuesday, 29th of August: (Chisholm Primary School) Wednesday, 30th of August: (St Matthew's Church)

First Penance Information Night- 7.30 pm

First Penance Information Night- 7.30 pm

National Literacy and Numeracy Week - "DISCOVER"

Monday 4th - Sunday 10th September 2017

We hope you can join us in celebrating Literacy and Numeracy Week in Week 8 of this Term.



Tuesday September 5th - Mathematical "Warm Up" Games

Join your children in class at **9am** to warm their brains and get ready for the hard thinking we need for our Maths lessons.



Tuesday September 5th - Sunshine Reading

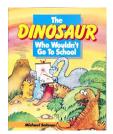
In what has become a beautiful annual event, bring your favourite book on Tuesday morning and join the school in some sunshine reading! All family members are invited to read on the green starting at **9:30am**. Students will move back to class around 10:00am.



Wednesday September 6th - PBL Showcase

All students will have the opportunity today to share their PBL with their fellow students. Each student will also have the opportunity to visit every classroom to see what Projects other students have been working on.

Our parents and grandparents are invited to join the school community at **6:30pm** to "Discover" what projects have been developed this term.



Thursday September 7th - Author visit - Michael Salmon

We are lucky to have a visit from Michael Salmon author of :

Alexander Bunyip, The Dinosaur who..., The Monster who ate Canberra and many more.

At Recess and after school the students will have an opportunity to buy his books and get them autographed.

We hope to see you at one or ALL the events of Literacy and Numeracy Week

Joanne Digwood Assistant Principal

STAGE 3 DRINK DRIVE

In <u>Weeks 8 and 9</u> this term the Stage 3 Students will be holding a Drink Drive every morning from <u>8.30am - 9.00am.</u>

The purpose of the Drink Drive is to fundraise for drinks that will be on sale at the Drink Stall at the Stage 3 Mini Fete on Thursday 21st September 2017.

We would greatly appreciate donations of the following drinks:

- ★ Water Bottles
- ★ Poppers
- ★ Cans of Soft Drink
- ★ Soft Drink
- ★ Juice

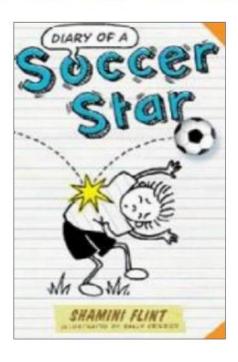


To thank you for your donation we will be giving the students/parents who donate drinks 3 x tickets into our raffle, which will be drawn on the day of the Mini Fetel



Kinder	Eli Leighton: For his improvement in writing. Well Done!
2 20 409	Amandha Sevilla: For her excellent effort in guided reading groups! Bethany Smith: For her consistent participation in class discussions and learning activities. Spencer Sammut: For demonstrating excellent teamwork skills when using the Bee-bot Robots.
Year 1	Pyper Phillips: For becoming a more independent writer, well done! Ava Cook: For always considering her audience and purpose of her written work, well done! Melissa Su: For always taking pride in the presentation of her work, well done! Jack Caldwell: For being a focused and hardworking team member in PBL, well done!
Year 2	Charlotte Galea: For her great focus in all learning areas and for being a respectful class member. Aiden Edwards-London: For his outstanding focus and consistent effort in all areas of his learning. Louis Gatt: For his consistent effort and hard work in all areas of his learning. Connor Holland: For his excellent focus and showing great responsibility towards his learning on Friday. Well done!
Year 3	Campbell Howden: For excellent work on his PBL - National Parks. Ashton Vista: For working diligently in Mathematics on data collection and analysis. Mia Wilks: For working hard to complete her work to a high standard. Emily El Hindy: For improvement in all writing tasks.
Year 4	Molly MCClymont: For participating well in and responding during reciprocal reading. Cecilia Wong: For outstanding effort in PBL presentation for changes in technology over time. William Clarke: For consistent effort with all his learning. Lincoln Burgess: For consistent effort with all learning tasks.
Stage 3 Blue	Lola Layton: For writing and presenting an engaging speech about 'Racism'. Matthew Isles: For persevering when developing and presenting your speech for Voice of Youth. Harmony Martin: For working hard to revise, refine and edit your Voice of Youth speech which you presented clearly and confidently.
Stage 3 Gold	Amy Galea: Persistence in multiplicative maths tasks. Jordan Sharp: For a well written Voice of Youth Speech. Alyssa Kirk: A well researched and well written Voice of Youth Speech.
Stage 3 White	Dylan Sheehy: For an engaging Voice of Youth Speech on Ned Kelly. Keiara King: For seeking to continually extend herself during Mathematics. Isabella Stanford: Well thought out and written Voice of Youth speech.

Student ebook of the Week





https://goo.gl/VcEsPg

Premier's Reading Challenge

Suitable for years 1 - 5

Marcus is a Maths whiz who is not good at sport. His dad is a self-help author who thinks Marcus can achieve anything he sets his mind to with hilarious results.

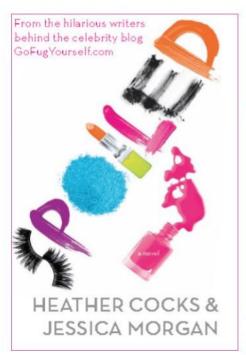
via Student eBook Platform





21/08/2017 Secondary Schools

Student ebook of the Week





https://goo.gl/eRUo3A

Suitable for years 9 - 10

Molly Dix, an ordinary teen from an ordinary town and Brooke Berlin, a Hollywood princess, are unlikely half-sisters. They must navigate the slings and arrows of high school - and each other - while vying for the attention of the clueless, larger-than-life celebrity they call Dad.

via Student eBook Platform







As you know it is very important that children attend school every day. Quite often leave is requested by parents for various reasons. While we understand that this may be necessary sometimes, it is not encouraged as every school day is important for every child.

If you intend taking your child out of school for five days or more you must make a formal application in writing to the Principal and fill out an application for extended leave which is available from the school office.

It is important for you to know that, depending on circumstances, this leave may not be granted. Each application will be considered on an individual basis and could depend on circumstances such as the intention for the leave, your child's attendance, and the impact the leave may have on your child's academic progress.

These regulations are in place to make sure that your child achieves to his/her full potential and I know you will understand the reasoning behind them.



<u>Target - 90%</u> average across the school

Every Learner, Every Day

Attendance in the past fortnight 92.99%



How do germs spread at school?

School children often pick up germs which can spread very quickly from child to child by touching a contaminated surface.

Why is good hygiene important?

Once your child picks up germs, these germs can quickly spread to the rest of your family at home. Bouts of the common cold and upset tummies are common at the start of a new term – both in schools and families. So, helping your child understand about good hygiene will go a long way to helping them and the rest of your family stay healthy.

Avoid spreading cold and flu viruses

Although vaccinations can protect your child from some serious diseases such as tetanus, diphtheria and whooping cough, injections cannot protect children from every type of harmful bacteria.

Top tips for good school hygiene

1. Keep hands clean

Thorough hand washing is one of the most effective ways to help prevent the spread of germs in schools. Teach your children how and when to wash their hands (rubbing the hands together for at least 20 seconds using soap and clean running water). Always wash hands:

- After using the toilet
- Before eating
- After playing outside
- After touching something dirty
- After coughing, sneezing or blowing their nose
- After touching a dirty tissue
- After petting/stroking animals
- Whenever hands look dirty

2. Coughs and sneezes spread diseases

Teach your children to cover their nose and mouth with a tissue when coughing or sneezing to stop germs from becoming airborne. Throw used tissues in a bin and always wash hands with soap and water afterwards. If there isn't a tissue available, encourage your child to sneeze or cough into the crook of their elbow instead of their hands, to reduce the spread of germs.

3. Healthy diet

Whether your child has a packed lunch or a school dinner, a varied and balanced diet will help protect their health and promote proper growth and development. Eating properly also aids concentration during lessons. Preparing a packed lunch

Make sure you wash and dry your hands before you start making a packed lunch. Your kitchen surfaces should also be clean and disinfected. Then:

- Check all foods are within their best-before dates
- Use an airtight, rigid lunch box that is washed and dried before and after use
- Wash fruit, salad and vegetables thoroughly in fresh clean water
- Try to prepare food fresh each day, as there will be less opportunity for germs to grow

4. Drink plenty of water

Water is much healthier than drinks that are high in sugar, sweeteners, additives and caffeine. Encourage your child to drink plenty of water throughout the day, as even slight dehydration can lead to poor concentration, lethargy, irritability and headaches.

Dealing with Unwell Children

If your child is unwell, keep them away from school until they are fully recovered and feel able to join in. If they come back too early, they risk spreading their germs to other children.

How you can help:

As well as encouraging good hygiene in children, you can also help prevent the spread of germs in school by following these basic steps:

- Keep school bags clean and free from food remnants, especially if your child carries a packed lunch to school
- Make sure your children change their socks and underwear daily
- Wash school uniforms on a high temperature to kill bacteria. For delicate clothes that cannot be washed at 60°C, try adding some laundry sanitiser to your wash



Uniform Shop Hours

Friday 9:00 am - 12 noon

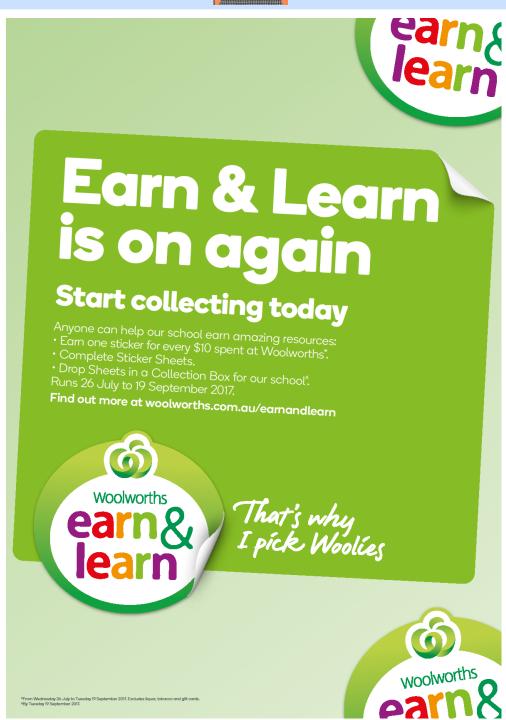
Uniform orders for socks, bags and hats can be placed at the front office or the form can be downloaded from the website.

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

> Kindly note students to be in Summer Uniform Term 4. Please start organising any of your uniform requirements.

Oz fashions can be ordered through the app St Matthew's Primary Uniform Shop







Sport News

Week 8

Friday September 8 Stage 3 Boys & Girls Touch Gala Day

Week 9

Friday September 15 Stage 2 Boys & Girls Touch Gala Day
Week 10 Stage 2 & 3 League Tag Gala Day Trials

Term 4 Week 1

Wednesday October 11 Years 3 - 6 Basketball Gala Day



Netball Gala day

Congratulations to our 68 students from Years 3-6 who attended the Netball Gala day. Each team played to their best ability with enthusiasm and team spirit. The Year 4 boys' team was undefeated in their games, well done boys!! Thank you to the parents who came to watch their children on the day, your time is always appreciated. We could not have had a successful day without the help from our parents who assisted with the coaching and supplying umpires!

<u>Golf</u>

If any student is interested in participating in a Golf Program during the school holidays please contact Mrs Brand. This opportunity is for up to 4 students.

St Matthew's Diocesan Team 2017

Congratulations to Jayden Xerri in Year 6 who placed 3rd in the 100 m at the Athletics Zone Competition and 5th place in the 200 m. He went on to compete at the Diocesan last Friday for the 100m and came 9th. What an amazing achievement Jayden, well done!!

Bootcamp

At Bootcamp we will be working on our fitness skills each Thursday morning at 8 am. This is optional and families do not have to commit to each and every week, however, it is a great opportunity to get active! The mornings have been brisk so please send your child along with a jacket.

St Matthew's Students Achievements

Well done to all our students who have excelled in their sports outside of school in the past few weeks! We have football champions, netball champions, Karate finalists to mention a few. It is great hearing all about the involvement in sports at school and outside of school!

It is a perfect time of year to enrol for summer sports such as Little Athletics, Oz Tag, Basketball, Futsal, etc.

Keep up the fitness, Mrs Brand





CHRISTMAS 2017 AND JANUARY 2018: COSHC OPERATION DATES

To assist COSHC families in planning their education and care needs over the Christmas closure period and to plan bookings for Vacation Care in January 2018, a calendar of Closure Dates and Operational Dates has been issued to all families enrolled with COSHC.

COSHC WILL BE CLOSED ON:

- Monday, 18 December 2017 and Tuesday, 19 December, 2017. COSHC staff will be participating in professional development in line with teachers and school staff.
- The Early Learning and Care team will be on annual leave from 22 December, 2017 to 5 January 2018.
 COSHC will not be operating during these days.
- COSHC will be closed on Australia Day, 26 January, 2018
- COSHC will be closed on Monday, 29 January 2018 for professional development of staff.

FAMILIES, PLEASE NOTE:

1. Christmas Closure

The last day of operation of COSHC services will be Friday, 15 December 2017.

2. January Vacation Care

The COSHC Summer Vacation Care Program commences on Monday, 8 January, 2018 to Thursday 25 January 2018.

3. 2018 Commencement of COSHC operations for Before- and After-School programs

COSHC will re-open on Tuesday, 30 January, 2018.



OUR LADY OF MERCY COLLEGE PARRAMATTA

College Open Morning Tour

Wednesday September 6, 2017

expanding beyond what we know we can be

Our Lady of Mercy College Parramatta warmly invites you to attend our Open Morning Tour on Wednesday, September 6, 2017.

Tour the College and discover how a Mercy Education empowers girls to expand beyond what they know they can be and enjoy a 'comfortable cup of tea' with the College Leadership Team.

The College is now enrolling for 2019.

Visit www.olmc.nsw.edu.au to reserve your place or contact the Registrar 8838 1222 to discuss how your daughter can become a Mercy Girl.

NATIONAL CHILD PROTECTION WEEK 2017 Sunday 3rd September - Saturday 9th September

Protecting Children is Everyone's Business

"Unless someone like you cares a whole awful lot, nothing's going to get better - it's not" Dr Seuss

National Child Protection Week is your opportunity to help prevent child abuse and neglect.

We all have a part to play in protecting children

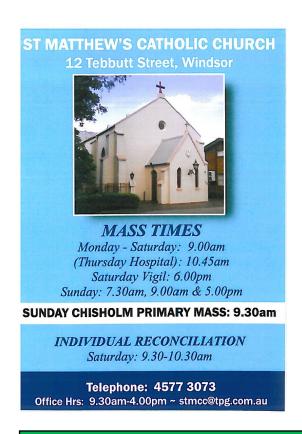
Even small actions can help improve a child's future

By building stronger communities, we are creating safer environments for our children

Research is telling us that strong social cohesion in a community has a protective effect for children. Communities where children are seen and heard, where their participation is valued and where families can get the support they need, are stronger communities that help to keep children safe and well. Remember that it's ok to ask for help, we all need to support each other if we are to build a brighter future for children.

As recognised in the Federal Government's *National Framework for Protecting Australia's Children 2009-2010*, for children to reach their full potential it's important to consider their early development. All positive experiences and relationships help to positively develop the child's brain and build strong foundations for better health and development outcomes. Having even one positive adult in a child's life can help them overcome negative experiences and build healthy brain foundations.

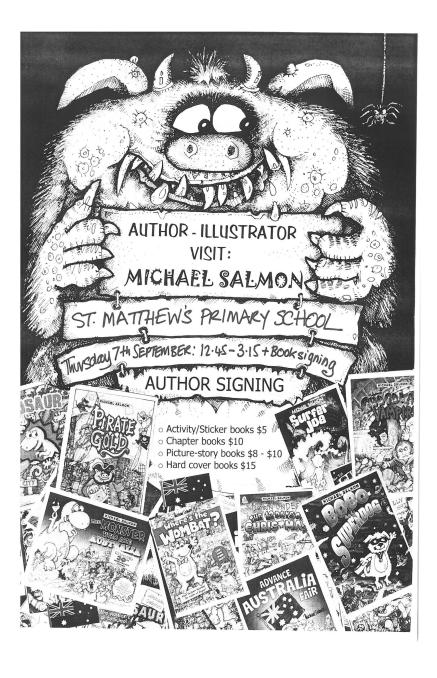
For more information please visit the website www.napcan.org.au or phone (02) 8073 3300.



LOST PROPERTY

As we are heading towards the end of Term 3, and there are several items in lost property. Please check lost property cupboard near canteen.

Any items of clothing not claimed will be handed to the clothing pool.



Celebrate Family Fun Day Parliament of NSW

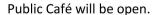
Children from 4 to 12 years Friday 6 October, 10am - 3 pm

Ghosts of our Colonial past

Fun educational activities at Australia's oldest Parliament; Children's trail, guessing competition, arts and crafts, role plays, tours of the Chambers, and the opportunity to visit areas rarely open to the public.

Family Fun Day is also renowned for its highly entertaining theatrical re-enactments. This year some very special 'ghosts' from the Parliament's past will engage visitors with intriguing stories and interactive performances.

Sausage in a bread roll - \$3.00 per person







FREE EVENT

T (02) 9230 2047 E: dps.education@parliament.nsw.gov.au



Parliament of NSW, Macquarie Street, Sydney www.parliament.nsw.gov.au

Catholic Education Office

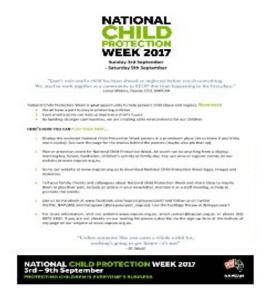
National Child Protection Week 2017



National Child Protection Week invites all Australians to play their part to promote the safety and wellbeing of children and young people.

This year <u>NAPCAN</u> encourages you to build on "Protecting Children is Everyone's Business: Play Your Part" by focussing on the theme 'Stronger Communities, Safer Children'. This theme emphasises the importance and value of connected communities in keeping children and young people safe and well.

Please visit the NAPCAN website for further information and resources.



HIGH SUPPORT NEEDS CLASSES - Catholic Education Diocese of Parramatta

KIRINARI, Xavier College, Llandilo
 WIYANGA, St Patrick's Marist College Dundas

ACCEPTING ENROLMENTS

Catholic Education Diocese of Parramatta is committed to providing an inclusive education for students and recognises that some students with a moderate intellectual disability may need additional support. The high support needs classes within our colleges provide students with an alternate platform for learning that specifically addresses their needs. They are: Kirinari, Xavier College, Llandilo and Wyanga, St Patrick's Marist College Dundas.

Should you wish to have a conversation with a Diverse Learning Specialist to determine whether your son or daughter would benefit from the services provided at either of these two facilities, please contact Alma George, Manager Diverse Learning Needs, Catholic Education Diocese of Parramatta on 0407 233 622 or

email Alma.George@parra.catholic.edu.au. Of course these conversations will be kept confidential.

Bishop Office

St Patrick's Quarter

The Diocese of Parramatta is to begin major planning on a new multi-stage project known as St Patrick's Quarter around the St Patrick's Cathedral precinct in Parramatta. The project will consist of a new Parramatta CBD school, new Diocesan building and a new residential/commercial complex. For further information, please visit www.stpatricksquarter.org or email comms@parra.catholic.org.au.

Holy Hour for Vocations: 7 September

The Sisters of the Holy Family of Nazareth cordially invite YOUTH (age 18-35) to join us for Holy Hour for Vocations Thursday, 7th September 2017, at 7:00 pm. Join us also for the pizza at 8:00pm. Holy Spirit Convent, 120 Capuchin Way, Plumpton. RSVP: Sr Paula on vocationscsfn@gmail.com or 0449 656 406

2017 Faith in marriage seminar: 8 September

2017 Faith in marriage seminar: Men, Women & the Mystery of Love. Presented by Dr Edward Sri at St Patrick's Cathedral Hall Parramatta on Friday 8th September, 7.30pm sharp. Register: 8838 3460 or lmf@parra.catholic.org.au. Sponsored by the Life Marriage & Family Office Diocese of Parramatta and Parousia Media

Annual Diocesan CCD Mass: 8 September

All catechists and family members are invited to the Annual CCD Mass, concelebrated by Bishop Vincent Long and priests of the Diocese at Our Lady of Lourdes Parish, 7 Grantham Road, Seven Hills on September 8th at 11am. Papal Blessings and other Certificates will be presented after Mass. A light lunch will follow in the Parish Hall. Please rsvp youMount St Benedict Centre: 9 September

Your Journey, Your Song - This day of reflection is an invitation to explore and celebrate the power of music and song in engaging us with our God. All are welcome – no previous singing or musical experience is required! Date: Saturday 9 September 10.00am-3.30pm. Facilitator: Beth Riolo and Marianne Patton. Cost: \$30.00. Morning Tea provided; BYO lunch. Bookings by: Monday 4 September. email: mtstbenedict@goodsams.org.au Phone: 02 9484 6208 Where: 449D Pennant Hills Rd. Entrance off Hull Road.

Jesuit Mission Indian Bazaar: 9 September

Come and join in the fun and festivities at Jesuit Mission's Indian Bazaar on Saturday 9 September 2017, 9am-5pm at St Ignatius' College, Riverview. The annual fundraiser supports Jesuit Mission's work in over 10 countries, empowering the most vulnerable people to transform their lives and build brighter futures.

Child Protection Sunday: 10 September

The Australian Catholic Church lists Child Protection Sunday for 10 September 2017. The Sunday concludes Child Protection Week celebrated across Australia. As has become the custom each year the Child Protection Sunday and preceding week, provides a focus reminding each of us to play a part in protecting our children. The work of safe-guarding and protecting minors and other vulnerable people is ongoing and of the highest priority for the Diocese of Parramatta. More information about this topic can be found here: http://www.safeguarding.org.au/r parish coordinator or contact Maree Collis 98904731

Nigerian Mass in Igbo: 10 September

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 0451 174 438, Stella Nwosu 0405 478 472.

Single Life Vocation Retreat: 15-17 September

A Retreat for Women at Mt Schoenstatt who would like to find out more about the Vocation to Single Life. The weekend will provide an opportunity to meet Women who are living the Single Life vocation and learn about how this vocation is lived and fostered. For more information or to register contact Sr M Julie Brcar: juliebrcar@gmail.com or 0408 738 334.

Reflection day for Women: 16 September

Saturday 16 September, 9.30 am – 3.00 pm, Mt Schoenstatt Fairlight Rd Mulgoa. Led by Sr Mary Louise Walsh. Cost: \$25, BYO lunch. To register or for more information info@schoenstatt.org.auOr call 4773 8338.

Wedding Anniversary Mass: 24 September

All Married couples are invited to celebrate their Wedding Anniversary with other couples and family members at the 11am Mass at St Patrick's Cathedral Parish, Parramatta on Sunday, 24th September, 2017. Bishop Vincent Long OFM Conv will celebrate the Mass and will host a light lunch following Mass. Please contact your Parish Secretary to register your names by 18th September, 2017; or call the Life Marriage & Family Office on 02 8838 3460 or lmf@parra.catholic.org.au.

Pilgrimage: A taste before the real thing! September 24 – October 6

An AMAZING 13-day Encounter tour of Timor Leste. An EXPERIENCED GUIDE leads your visit to communities where Palms volunteers work with host communities. Get a UNIQUE UNDERSTANDING of their daily lives; an INCREDIABLE INSIGHT into Timorese culture. WITNESS sustainable development. Visit palms.org.au/encounter. Call Roger during business hours: 0431995058.

Los Angeles Religious Education Congress 2018: Rise Up

A wonderful opportunity for a faith formation experience for parishioners, leaders, teachers, catechists ... all people in ministry and all people who would like to enrich their faith! Join this pilgrimage group to attend the Los Angeles Religious Education Congress 14th - 23rd March 2018. Cost of pilgrimage \$3080 for 7 days with some additional expenses. Please contact Lisa Bright on 9622 1125 or lbright@mqofblacktown.org.au for an information pack.

For more events please go to: http://parracatholic.org/events/