

ST PATRICK'S SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER *Making a Difference*

Newsletter 4, Term 4

1st December 2016

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DATES TO REMEMBER

DECEMBER

| | |
|------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 2nd | Primary Swimming Carnival 9.30am Merrylands Pool |
| 5th | 2017 Student Leaders Announced and Principal Gold Awards presented |
| 7th | Mass Year 3 6pm Christmas Carols |
| 8th | Principals Gold Morning Tea |
| 9th | Reports Send Home Kinder: Water Safety Talk from Royal Life Saving 9:15– 10am |
| 13th | Award Ceremony 9am Parent Helper Morning Tea |
| 14th | Thanksgiving Mass Year 6 Graduation |
| 15th | Promotions Year 6 Guard of |

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Parents

Last Sunday, the church began a new liturgical year with the start of the season of Advent. It is a time when we get ready for the birth of Jesus. This is always such a busy time for each of us. We count down the days, make plans for who is coming for Christmas or which family member will host Christmas, what food we will prepare and of course what presents we will give. We watch all the adds on TV that tell us what we could and should be doing. It can be overwhelming because we want everything to be just right.

When we get caught up with this hype we can forget the real reason why we have this celebration. Advent reminds us of when Jesus was born in Bethlehem in a simple stable. He didn't have all the trimmings that the supermarkets are selling. The act of Jesus' birth shows us the wonder of God's love in sending his son to live among us. During Advent we are asked to think about this great love and spread it to all we meet. Advent invites us to examine our commitment to work at establishing god's kingdom here and now.

The Gospel reminds us we must be ready for Jesus. We heard about Noah getting ready for the flood even when those around him thought he was crazy. Let us, during the season of Advent be ready!

Warm Regards
Philip Mahony
Principal



WEEKLY VALUE

Making a Difference

LIBRARY NEWS
PLEASE RETURN YOUR LIBRARY BOOKS!

We really need your help in getting ALL the books back into the Library by the end of this term.

Children who are leaving St. Patrick's this year, need to return all their books as soon as possible. This includes Year 6 and any student in any other grade who are leaving.

Children remaining at school will need to return All Library books by THURSDAY 1st DECEMBER.

Friday 2nd December is the Swimming Carnival so we don't want any books lost at the carnival. That gives us two weeks to locate any books that have not been returned.

Thank you for all your support,
J. Gladwell

| SCHOOL TERMS | 2016 |
|--------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Term 4 | Finishes Friday 16th December (Students) Monday 19th December (Teachers) |
| | 2017 |
| Term 1 | Friday 27th January—MAI Testing Monday 30th January—MAI Testing Tuesday 31st January—Yrs 1-6 Start Wednesday 1st February — Kindergarten Start To Friday 7th April |
| Term 2 | Monday 24th April To Friday 30th June |
| Term 3 | Monday 17th July To Friday 22nd September |

CLOTHING POOL

Our last Clothing Pool will be on Monday 5th December at 8.15am. If you have any school clothes in good condition to donate, please send them to the school. Thank you.
Mrs Dolly Chahin

PREMIER'S READING CHALLENGE

All certificates have been printed out and will be handed out to the students as soon as the special certificates arrive from The PRC Group.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS SUMMER READING CHALLENGE

How to enter: It's simple! Students just need to read something they enjoy and tell us in 50 words or less why they loved it. Students can read anything they like to enter the challenge, whether it's a comic, play, piece of poetry, book, e-book or graphic novel. This year we have made the challenge easier to enter by removing the minimum number of books to read and provided students with more chances of winning a prize.

The more material a student reads, the more times they can enter the reading challenge and the more chances they have of winning one of four iPad minis.

Entries open on 7 November 2016 and close at 5pm on 7 February 2016. Terms and Conditions can be found at www.parra.catholic.edu.au

FROM THE RELIGIOUS EDUCATION COORDINATOR



Advent is the beginning of the Church Year for most churches in the Western tradition. It begins on the fourth Sunday before Christmas Day, which is the Sunday nearest November 30, and ends on Christmas Eve (Dec 24).

The primary sanctuary colour of Advent is Purple. This is the colour of penitence and fasting as well as the colour of royalty to welcome the Advent of the King. The purple of Advent is also the colour of suffering used during Lent and Holy Week. This points to an important connection between Jesus' birth and death.

The circle of the Advent wreath reminds us of God Himself, His eternity and endless mercy, which has no beginning or end. The green of the wreath speaks of the hope that we have in God, the hope of newness, of renewal, of eternal life. Candles symbolise the light of God coming into the world through the birth of His son. The four outer candles represent the period of waiting during the four Sundays of Advent, which themselves symbolise the four centuries of waiting between the prophet Malachi and the birth of Christ.

END OF YEAR THANKSGIVING MASS

An invitation is extended to all Parents to attend the End of Year Thanksgiving Mass on 14th December at 9am. At this Mass we give thanks for the year and farewell the Year 6 Students, Student Leaders, Staff members and Students in other grades who will not be returning in 2017.

SILLY SOCK DAY

Thankyou to everyone who contributed a gold coin donation on **Silly Sock day** which was held on Friday 25th November. Together with the entry fee from the Talent Quest, we were able to raise a total of \$1,191.60 that will be sent to Catholic Missions to support their work in Cambodia.



FEAST DAYS

27th November- First Sunday of ADVENT

30th November - St Andrew

3rd December - St Francis Xavier

6th December - St Nicholas

8th December - The Immaculate

Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

9th December - St Juan Diego Cuauhtlatoatzin

12th December - Our Lady of Guadalupe

13th December—St Lucy



MASSES

Parents and Friends are welcome to attend Mass with the Parish and school this term:



Week 9

Wednesday 7th December

9am Year 3 Mass

St Ambrose

Week 10

Wednesday 14th December

9am Whole School End of Year

Thanksgiving Mass

St John of the cross

Yours in Christ

Wardeh Khoury



TALENT QUEST



KINDERGARTEN 2017 ORIENTATION DAY

We welcomed our prospective 2017 Kindergarten students on 18th November. They enjoyed meeting their Yr 5 Buddies and participating in games, stories and colouring in. We look forward to seeing them next year ready to start BIG School.



Principal's Award: Respecting the rights of others



Principal's Award: Showing Compassion



YEAR 5 LEADERSHIP DAY 23RD NOVEMBER



ATHLETE'S FOOT

On the 23rd November a representative from Athlete's Foot ran a workshop for the infants children on Shoelace tying. The children had fun in recognising different sports that require them to wear sports shoes and practise tying laces.

They took home a showbag that has a practice card inside.



OUR SCHOOL participated in LACE TYING LESSONS!



This term our School participated in Ascent Footwear's Lace Tying Lessons!

Ascent Footwear works closely with the Podiatry community and The Athlete's Foot to ensure they are meeting the needs of Australian school kids feet. Part of this commitment is educating students about a range of foot health issues from learning how to tie shoe laces to basic foot biomechanics.

The lessons are totally free and the kids take home their own lace tying certificate and 9 step guide so they can keep practicing at home!

For more information visit

ascentfootwear.com.au

KIDS DON'T WALK THEY RUN!

sports shoes in Disguise



SCHOOL REWARDS
PROGRAM

\$5 FROM EVERY PAIR OF SHOES PURCHASED IS DONATED BACK TO YOUR SCHOOL

The Athlete's Foot are the Fitting Specialists!

The Athlete's Foot Fit Technicians are highly trained on school shoe fitting and know exactly what to look for when fitting new shoes for your child. Teamed with The Ascent range in store, The Athlete's Foot can find the right shoe for your active child!



The Parents committee will be running a canteen on the evening of the Christmas Concert, with the following items for sale;

SNACKS

| | |
|------------|--------|
| Popcorn | \$1.00 |
| Lolly bags | \$1.00 |
| Chips | \$2.00 |
| Cookies | \$2.00 |

DRINKS

| | |
|------------|--------|
| Water | \$1.00 |
| Juice | \$1.00 |
| Soft Drink | \$2.00 |



Raffle Tickets for sale with prizes drawn at the conclusion of the concert!



Christmas Jewellery for Sale!