Dear Parents

Welcome to Term 3. We have had a few very cold mornings to start our school day and even the children have commented how cold it has been. Even though the days will start to warm up, please make sure your children still have their jumper/jacket in their bag in case the weather changes. Most importantly, please check that all items of clothing are clearly marked with your child’s name as we have a large number of items in the Lost Property cupboard with no names and no way of knowing who their owners are. I love Term 3 as it the term where a lot of fun activities are organised for children.

_Dance Fever_ (years 3-6) is always a hit. This program is part of the PDHPE curriculum and, apart from learning to dance, the children are taught important values (courtesy, respect for others, consideration, cooperation) in lessons that are enjoyable and fun. _The Dance Fever Challenge_ (later in the term) is always a wonderful night of entertainment for all.

Our main fundraiser will be held this term. As it is a year for the Commonwealth Games, we are holding our own _St Patrick’s Commonwealth Games_ on Friday 29 August. We ask all parents to support this fundraiser and come along on the day to join in the fun. Watch out for the notes which will outline the events for this day.

Other important events are: _First Holy Communion_ (year 3), _Delany Debating competition_ (year 5), _Voice of Youth_ (year 6), _Book Fair and Book Character Parade_ (all children) and various grade excursions. Of course, quality learning will always be our first priority.

I look forward to sharing this great term with you.

With warm regards

_Jenny Webb_
Principal

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**WEEKLY VALUE**

*Being Considerate of Others*
CRAZY HAIR DAY
Tomorrow children are invited to come to school with ‘crazy hair’. This requires a ‘fine’ of a gold coin. All money raised will go to support the expenses of Thomas Maka (6B) who has been selected in the NSW Under 12 Rugby League team.

DANCE FEVER
Children in Years 3-6 have begun their Dance Fever lessons. This year, they will be learning Jive and Tango. The cost of the program is $35.00. We ask that this money is paid by week 4. Dance Fever Finale will be held on:

WEDNESDAY 10TH SEPTEMBER.

SCHOOL MAINTENANCE
During the holidays, the concrete posts on Area A were painted and all buildings checked and sprayed for general insect control.

PREMIER’S READING CHALLENGE NEWS
We are still experiencing difficulties with the PRC website. The site is still being upgraded, meaning there are difficulties logging on and entering books your child has read. The PRC Reading Log is available from your child's class teacher for you to record the books that have been read. I will let the students know when the website is up and running again. Please encourage your children to continue reading and record their books and contact me if you have any concerns.

Congratulations to Mr and Mrs Makhlouf on their new baby boy, Jacob, a brother for Maria in 1C.

LIBRARY NEWS
This Term we will celebrate Book Week. The Library is decorated in the theme for this year which is “Connect to Reading” and there will be lots of fun things for us to celebrate the gift of reading.

The Book Character Parade will be changed to a Book Character Concert as we are connecting with books that have been made into songs. This will take place on Friday 12th September. The children will be required to dress up as a book character or class song character for the day. A performance in the hall will be held at 9:15am and all parents, grandparents and friends are invited to attend. Please, do not go to too much expense as this is not a competition.

There will also be Book Competitions:
♦ K-2 is a colouring-in competition
♦ 3 and 4 will create a scene from their favourite book using lego, plasticine or similar material.
♦ 5 and 6 will create a poster showing how they connect to books.

Further information will be distributed closer to the events.

We will have our Book Fair to purchase books and other items and we will be doing Book activities and Book Trivia.

Looking forward to celebrating Book Week with you!

Joanna Gladwell
Teacher/Librarian

Congratulations to Mr and Mrs Makhlouf on their new baby boy, Jacob, a brother for Maria in 1C.
FROM THE R/E COORDINATOR

RELIGIOUS LITERACY ASSESSMENT
The Religious Literacy Assessment provides, at a diocesan level, a sustained and systemic approach to the documentation and reporting of students' learning in the key learning area of Religious Education (RE), specifically religious literacy. Celebrating and sharing the good news about students' learning in RE is an important component of this initiative and enables the story to be told on a continuing basis.

Being religiously literate requires children within a Catholic school to be able to communicate with and be at home in Catholic society and religion in general. Thus, assessment of religious literacy focuses on students' knowledge and understanding of the key concepts that are being addressed by the RE program and the student's ability to communicate within their religious tradition.

The Religious Literacy Assessment is placed in Year 4, at the end of Stage 2, and in Year 8 at the end of Stage 4 and in 2013 was expanded to Year 6, at the end of Stage 3, and in Year 10, at the end of Stage 5. Its intention is to influence learning and accountability and drive a culture of reflection on learning and pedagogy in the domain of RE.

* Year 4 students religious literacy assessment is divided into two Sections:

Part A - multiple choice questions. Students attempt 35 questions (5 from each of the 7 Sharing our Story strands). Each set of questions generated by the computer will be unique according to the same level of difficulty for each student, and Part B - extended task - scenario with the focus derived from Unit 24C9 Reconciliation: God's Forgiveness and Healing.

* Year 6 students attempt 35 questions (5 from each of the 7 Sharing our Story strands). Each set of questions generated by the computer will be unique according to the same level of difficulty for each student.

The online tests will occur between 18 August - 5 September for Year 4, Year 6, Year 8 and Year 10.

MASSES
Parents and friends are welcome to celebrate the Mass with the parish and students on the following dates:

Week 3- Wednesday 30th July
9am - Year 4 Mass
Forgiveness

Week 4 – Friday 6th August
Whole School

FEAST DAYS
25th July – St James
26th July – Sts Joachim and Anne
29th July – St Martha
31st July – St Ignatius of Loyola
1st August – St Alphonsus Liguori

Dear Heavenly Father,

We pray that your loving presence may be felt in the communities and families that have experienced the tragedy of war and the recent plane disasters that claimed so many lives. It's hard for us to imagine the magnitude of so many lives lost so suddenly and the grief and sorrow that it has brought.

May your love pour forth through the prayers, presence and service of your caring people from all nations to begin the healing process. Heal those who have suffered bodily and mental injury. Comfort those who are grieving the loss of dear ones. Bind together the communities in grace and faith. Send your helping angels and your life giving Holy Spirit. In the name of Christ, your suffering servant we pray. Amen.

(Karen Barber)

Yours in Christ
Wardeh Khoury
On Tuesday the 22nd of July, 26 girls from years 3-6 took part in a netball gala day where they played against other Catholic schools in our diocese. Each of our three teams had to play seven games on the day, with our under 10’s winning 3 of their games, the under 11’s winning 6 and our under 12’s winning 5. All of the girls should be very proud of not only the way they played on the day, but also the great manners and amazing sportsmanship they displayed.

A special mention must also be made to the parents and ex-students of ours who came to coach, umpire, score and support the girls. Without you the day would not have been possible. Thank you.

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<tr>
<th>Under 10’s</th>
<th>Under 11’s</th>
<th>Under 12’s</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Alice Wall</td>
<td>Mikayla Issa</td>
<td>Isabella Geha</td>
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<tr>
<td>Trista Halloun</td>
<td>Sarah Hofman</td>
<td>Elaine Rahme</td>
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<tr>
<td>Shanice Younan</td>
<td>Alyssa Khouli</td>
<td>Ana Fainu</td>
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<tr>
<td>Christen Baltasar</td>
<td>Josephine Moujaes</td>
<td>Stephanie Portelli</td>
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<tr>
<td>Akaysha Waihi</td>
<td>Mary Sleiman</td>
<td>Paige Jabour</td>
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<td>Ashli Gabriel</td>
<td>Emily Contreras</td>
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<td>Jacyntha Sleiman</td>
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<td>Ashlee Dib</td>
<td>Daveda Jabour</td>
<td>Tara Wall</td>
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<td>Cynthia Maka</td>
<td>Charlize Tartak</td>
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FROM THE PARENT GROUP

As the year begins its homeward run, the Parents’ Group is looking forward to an exciting term ahead. Dates are yet to be confirmed, but ‘definites’ include:

- A general meeting held in the afternoon before school dismissal, following the outstanding success of the last one.
- Father’s Day Stall.

More activities are in the pipeline, subject to days being available during this very busy part of the school year. Check your children’s school bags for notes about upcoming dates.

There was a marked improvement in road safety outside the school following the plea last term by our President, Dolly Chahin, for greater attention to this important issue.

This term, the focus is on keeping kerbside stops as short as possible. If you take your children to and from school by car, let’s use the Pat’s Rule: “Be considerate of others” during drop-offs and pick-ups. It takes less than a minute for the children to hop out of the car in the morning, and only a few minutes for you to collect them from the playground in the afternoon. If you need to stay longer, there’s usually plenty of untimed parking space only a hundred or so metres away from the school zone, especially after about 2.55 pm.

And remember to use the school crossings when you cross Calliope Street. Not long ago there was an unfortunate incident involving a car and pedestrians, so please always put safety first. Say ‘Hi’ to Bob at the top crossing and Bill at the lower one – they both do a great job!

Mike Jacobson
Secretary