

# ST PATRICK'S SCHOOL

## NEWSLETTER

*Making a Difference*

Newsletter 5, Term 1

31st March 2016

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### DATES TO REMEMBER

#### APRIL

|          |                           |
|----------|---------------------------|
| Wed 6th  | Whole School Assembly 2pm |
| Fri 8th  | Schools Closes            |
| Tue 26th | Staff Development Day     |
| Wed 27th | School Returns            |

### FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Parents

The Resurrection of Jesus is central to our Catholic faith; indeed, to be a Christian it is essential to believe that God raised Jesus from the dead. St. Paul wrote "*If Christ has not been raised our preaching is useless and so is your faith.*" *1 Corinthians 15.14*. Catholic Schools owe their existence to this belief.

As Catholics we believe that Easter is the most important feast because that is the basis of our faith. We believe that:

*Jesus is risen from the dead....  
To all of us he has given life*

The season of Easter and celebrating Jesus' resurrection continues to the Feast of Pentecost (15th May). Let us reflect on this time and let Jesus transform our lives to show the love of God in our community.

Thank you to Mrs Wardeh Khoury for leading the Stations of the Cross during Holy Week. It was a time of reflection for the students on the events leading up to Easter.

Thank you to the Parent Group for their tremendous organisation of the Easter Egg Raffle. Every child received some eggs plus they raised funds for the school.

Yours sincerely

Phil Mahony  
Principal

**KINDERGARTEN  
2017**

**ENROLMENT  
PACKAGES ARE  
NOW AVAILABLE  
AT THE SCHOOL  
OFFICE**

**St Patrick's  
Clothing Pool**

**Monday 4th April  
8.15—8.35am**

WEEKLY VALUE

*Accepting Others Differences*

**STAFF DEVELOPMENT DAY**

**TUESDAY 26TH APRIL**

**THERE WILL BE NO  
CLASSES ON THIS DAY**

## **CYBER SAFETY**

Last Tuesday Year 5 and 6 were visited by the local Youth Liaison Officers from Merrylands Police Station. The officers discussed with the children the consequences, both short and long term, when using social media inappropriately. The children listened and responded throughout the session as their eyes were opened to the dangers associated with social media misuse. The officers emphasised the importance of children's parents being aware of what the children were doing and who they had contact with through the internet.

The officers recommended parents go through the following site with their children as they get to the age where social media becomes part of their lives. The site has been created in conjunction with the Australian Federal Police.

<http://www.thinkuknow.org.au/>



## **FROM THE PARENT GROUP**

It has been a busy couple of weeks to start off the new year, however we are enjoying our new roles and are looking forward to a great year of fundraising.

### **St Patrick's Day**

A big thankyou to everyone for supporting the stall on St Patrick's Day. The selling of donuts, cupcakes, jelly and lollies raised \$920. Special mention goes out to Krispy Kreme Auburn, Krispy Kreme Liverpool, Donut King Merrylands (Ground floor), Kathy's Bakery Guildford and Cupcakes by Sonia for their kind donations to the school, also to those Parents who donated allowing us to raise such great funds.

### **Easter Egg Raffle**

All donations of Easter eggs and bunnies were very appreciated, we were able to provide each child in the school with a small bag of eggs or a bunny and we made 3 hampers for each class. \$1,181 was raised selling the raffle tickets for the hampers and these funds will be put to good use at the school. Thank you to those parents who donated wrapping supplies and donated their time to help out. Congratulations to those who were winners!

We trust everyone has a happy and blessed Easter and we look forward to the next event which will be a Mothers Day stall (Term 2).

*-Student artwork for Lent and Holy Week displayed in the hall*



**Principal's Award**

**Recipients – Playing in a friendly manner**



**FROM THE R/E COORDINATOR**

**THE SPIRITUAL WORKS OF MERCY- Comfort the Sorrowful**

Taking the time to listen, or maybe writing a few words of encouragement, or just simply being present to someone in pain can make a big difference in the life of someone experiencing sorrow or grief.



Christ our Lord is the perfect example of Compassion. “Seeing the people, He felt compassion for them, because they were distressed and dispirited like sheep without a shepherd.” Matthew 9:36

Mother Teresa spent almost 40 years ministering to the sick, lonely, hungry and dying in the slums of Calcutta India. She insisted on small things done with great love will produce big results. As Christians we are compelled to reach with compassion to those in our world who are hurting.

“Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of compassion and the God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our troubles, so that we can comfort those in any trouble with the comfort we ourselves have received from God.” 2 Corinthians 1:3-4

**MASSES**

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

Week 11  
Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> April  
9am Kindergarten Mass—2<sup>nd</sup> Week of Easter

**Term 2**

Week 1  
Wednesday 27th april  
9am Year 5 Mass—5<sup>th</sup> Week Easter



Week 2  
Wednesday 4th May  
9am Year 2 Mass—6<sup>th</sup> Week Easter

**FEAST DAYS**

4th April – The Annunciation of the Lord  
7th April –St John Baptist de la Salle  
11th April – St Stanislaus  
13th April – St Martin

**THE ANNUNCIATION AND THE ANGELUS**

The feast of the Annunciation of the Lord celebrates the angel Gabriel's appearance to the Virgin Mary Luke 1:26-38, his announcement that the Blessed Virgin had been chosen to be the Mother of Our Lord, and Mary's willing acceptance of God's holy plan. This ‘yes’ to trusting God and his plan is also a ‘yes’ to our salvation.



The Angelus is an ancient prayer celebrating the Angel Gabriel's annunciation of the Lord to the Blessed Virgin Mary. It is recited at 6am, noon, and 6pm and the time for recitation was traditionally marked by the ringing of church bells (which were known as the Angelus bells).

Former Bishop of our diocese, Archbishop Anthony Fisher OP mandated that, as of 2013, staff and students of each Catholic systemic school stop in the middle of each school day, preferably at noon, to pray the Angelus. The Angelus is a beautiful tradition of prayer that punctuates the working day with a time to recall and reflect on the gift of God's Son.



It is a deliberate interruption to the day to remind us of God's love for us and to stop in prayer to help our unity with God to grow stronger. The Angelus will only take a couple of minutes to pray, but is an important reminder that there is more to life, much more, than the toil of everyday routines. During the Angelus the staff and students at St Patrick's will be able to remind themselves to live by Mary's example and accept God's will, to thank the Lord and humble themselves to his service.

Yours in Christ

Wardeh Khoury

## FROM THE SCHOOL LEADERS

This term is almost at its end. It's been a great first term with everything that's been going on. We've had St Patrick's Day, Harmony Day, and recently, Cross Country. With all that's been going on, we think our school has achieved much in our school values like teamwork in the Harmony Day dances, co-operation in the Cross Country event and reverence in all the school Mass' we've had. A huge congratulations to all the students who made it to Diocesan Cross Country and to all those who didn't make it, you tried your hardest and that's all that matters.

We look forward to the next term, for some hard working and lots of fun! God Bless you and your family, have a safe holiday.

Your School Captains,  
Christen Baltasar and Ray Burchdan.

Happy  
St. Patrick's Day!

