# Mater Christi Catholic Primary School Newsletter

Volume 4



1 March 2019

### **Dear Parents and Caregivers**



# **SCHOOL MANTRA 2019**

"Find happiness in making others happy" – Mary MacKillop

# **Reflecting on the Lenten Season**



People often don't look forward to Lent. Childhood memories of giving up chocolate or sitting through weekly Stations of the Cross come immediately to mind. Words like

"sacrifice," "discipline," and "self-denial" are often used in ways that suggest that Lent is something to be endured rather than a time of grace and spiritual growth.

Have you ever thought of Lent as a yearly second chance? Each year the Church gives us six weeks to take a long, loving look at our lives to see if our values and priorities are in line with God's desires for us. Since most of us find that we've wandered from God's path, Lent becomes that second chance, or do-over, to "return to God with our whole heart."

During the next few weeks I will highlight Lenten practices and memories of people like you and me. All of them represent attempts to make the season of Lent a meaningful time of prayer, fasting, and almsgiving for themselves, their loved ones, and their communities. Invite family members to share their thoughts, hopes, and desires for Lent. Decide to support one another in whatever you choose to do. As you journey through this annual second chance, remember that each step brings you closer to the welcoming arms of our loving God.

# Dates for Next Week (Wk 5) Wellness Week — No Homework

Monday March 4	PUBLIC HOLIDAY LABOUR DAY
Tuesday March 5	Year 6 Camp begins
	9am Ash Wednesday Mass
Wednesday March 6	School Banking
	Uniform Shop Open 8:00-10:30am 1:20-3:20pm

Thursday March 7	

Friday March 8	Year 6 Camp concludes
Saturday March 9	
Sunday March 10	First Sunday of Lent

# **Lenten Journey Story --- Around the breakfast table**

One of my best Lenten practices was begun when my children were in primary school and I was a working parent. It seemed as though we were struggling to find time to eat dinner as a family and this was greatly disturbing me. I decided that if we were unable to hold the dinner hour sacred due to work schedules and after school activities, I would instead hold the breakfast hour sacred. I made sure to get up each morning during Lent just a little earlier so that I could not only provide breakfast for my family but actually sit together, pray our meal prayer and begin each day on a happy note. It began in Lent and didn't end until my children went off to university many years later. I learned that Lenten habits could carry far off into the future with my family. The impact was dramatic in that each day was started with a prayer and positive attitudes. Breakfast became and remains one of our favourite rituals of the day. Roberta

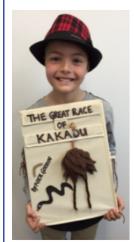
Please join in with the Years 1-6 children at the 9am Ash Wednesday Mass.

There is also a 6pm Mass in the Parish Church for those who are working and unable to attend a

Mass during the day.

Fr Joe will be joining us at Camp on Wednesday to share a Liturgy of the Word with all our campers, bless them with the ashes and share in some fun activities.

Congratulations to the Year Three students and their teachers for presenting the first Assembly Item for 2019. It was full of fun and great enjoyment. Our children continue to grow in confidence and their love of being on stage. The Merit Award recipients demonstrated a great attitude towards their learning, their peers, helping others and striving for excellence. We are all very proud of all our students.



# **Young Author**

We had a very special visitor at today's Assembly! Nicholas Goodin, an ex-Mater Christi student wrote a children's story in Year Four on: Elliott the Emu and many other animals titled "The Great Race of Kakadu."

Nicholas has had his book published and he presented a limited edition copy to Mrs Gowland for the School Library. Nicholas has sent book two in the series to the publishers.

Congratulations Nicholas, we are so proud of you. There is more to this great story in the upcoming Cockburn Gazette.



### **Wellness Week**

In week five of each term at Mater Christi we hold a Wellness Week, where students and families have a break from homework and instead focus on using that time to play some games, go for a walk, read together or watch a movie. Staff also share in this week by limiting the number of meetings and making sure that they also spend quality time with family and friends. Happy Wellness Week everyone!





### **Best Wishes**

We would all like to wish Mrs Kayla Trimble the very best as she begins her Parental Leave. Kayla was one of the Year Three teachers last year and for the last four weeks has been relieving teachers for the beginning of the year assessments. Thank you, Kayla and enjoy the next few weeks as you and Josh prepare for the birth of your first child.

# Year 6 Camp



Next Tuesday our Year Six students, their teachers and extra staff will be setting off on our annual school camp. There is much excitement and some nerves too. The children are going to enjoy an action packed four days and three nights with hopefully some sleep in between too. *Happy packing this weekend everyone! Four More Sleeps!* 

# Kindergarten 2020

Whilst the current school year has just begun, we are now taking enrolments and will be conducting interviews for the final places available for Kindergarten 2020. If you know of any family members or friends who would like to have their family be a part of the Mater Christi community, please encourage them to visit the school website for an Enrolment Form or come into the office as soon as possible so they don't miss out.

### **Edu-Dance and Interschool Swimming Carnival**

Due to copyright restrictions we are unable to professionally film the concerts.

Also due to external restrictions, Edu-Dance Concert A and the Interschool Swimming Carnival falls on the same day. This impacts on students in Years 4- 6 who are in the A classes.

We apologise for this inconvenience, unfortunately scheduling of events was beyond our control due to other factors including the flexibility of other schools, venues etc.

Thank you for your understanding.

# **Criminal Law Amendment (Intimate Images) Bill**

State Parliament passed the new Criminal Law Amendment (Intimate Images) Bill on Tuesday 19 February, making it illegal to distribute an intimate image of a person without consent.

In the case of someone under 16, the law says they cannot legally consent to an image of themselves being shared. The law aims to strike a balance between protecting young people from this harmful behaviour, and not unduly criminalising them.

The new intimate image laws will come into effect following the commencement of the *Criminal Law Amendment* (*Intimate Images*) *Act 2018* (WA) on 15 April 2019.

Young people under the age of 16 are not exempt from this new offence.

The key messages for young people and all of us are:

- 'It is against the law to take, keep, send or ask for an intimate image of a person under the age of 18
- 'It is against the law to share an intimate image of a person of any age without their consent.

With the increasing use of digital technology and social media it is important that we continue to ensure that our school is a safe place of learning and development for all our students.

Child safety requires a consolidated approach from teachers, parents, friends and the community and I encourage you as parents, the first educators to appropriately discuss this information regarding these laws with your child/ren.

Mater Christi staff are aware of the new Bill and will look at opportunities to share this information with our students (Yrs 4-6). I will let you know of our approach within the next couple of weeks.

I wish everyone a very pleasant long weekend. See you all on Tuesday for the commencement of Wellness Week.

God Bless, Toní Kalat

# **Religious Education**

What God has joined together, no one must divide. Mark 10:1-12

# Parish Mass ~ Commissioning and Enrolment Form

Last Saturday night the Staff, School Board and P&F Members attended Mass and were commissioned for 2019. The Staff, Board and P&F Executive pledged their commitment to ensuring the decisions and actions that we make are always in the best interest of our students and families and that Christ is at the centre of all that we do. It was fantastic to see so many children and their families there to witness this important occasion. Thank you to those who also returned their Sacramental enrolment forms at the weekend Masses.

# **General Sacramental Parent Information evening**

Thank you to those parents who attended the General Sacramental Meeting on Wednesday night. Father Dat and Marina from our Parish presented a very informative session highlighting the meaning and the reasons for the sacraments and important "housekeeping" matters. Please note: an amendment to the Confirmation Workshop bookings, which open **Monday**, **25**<sup>th</sup> **March from 6am**.

God Bless Julie Southwell



By now all families would have received their school fees in the post. Should you have any queries, please see Mrs Paula Nichols in the front administration office. If you wish to apply for the 5% discount of tuition fees, payment needs to be received by **Friday 15**<sup>th</sup> **March.** 

# **Information Technology News**

# Online warning for YouTube and YouTube Kids

There have recently been reports on social media and cybersafety websites regarding YouTube and the 'Momo Challenge'. The Momo Challenge is the dangerous online game that encourages children to hurt themselves and others. Now the terrifying 'game' is said to be showing altered versions of children's TV shows like Peppa Pig on YouTube. The fake videos, which are not made by the official creators of the cartoon show, appear un-edited for the first two or three minutes, but then they show Peppa and other characters being viciously attacked and obscenely tortured. Please carefully monitor what your children are watching on these sites and if they see anything upsetting, encourage them to turn off the video and speak to a trusted adult.

Below is a link to an interview on A Current Affair with Australia's eSafety Commissioner Julie Inman who provides some helpful tips on keeping children safe online.

https://www.9news.com.au/2019/02/27/15/37/a-current-affair-online-safety-children-julie-inman-grant-esafety-commissioner-question-answer-latest-news-australia?ocid=Social-ACA

Thank you, Katie McNally IT Coordinator

# **Swimming Carnival (11th March – Week 6)**

Don't forget that the Mater Christi Swimming Carnival for Years 4-6 is fast approaching. It will be held at the **Cockburn ARC on Monday 11<sup>th</sup> March (Please refer to the Info Sheet)**. A draft program has been pinned up undercover for all students and parents to view.

The program will also appear on the PE Blog at http://peatmc.blogspot.com.au/. Parent helpers will be notified of their jobs asap.

# **Caps (Compulsory)**

The Swim caps have just arrived in! Each student will **need** a cap for the upcoming Swimming Carnival. These caps are available from the uniform shop or office for \$3. The faction coloured caps are a fantastic way for the spectators to know who is racing and for the judges to award positions at the end of the race. So, get in as fast as you can and get your cap.

Ryan Donnelly (PE Specialist)

# <u>SWIMMING CARNIVAL 2019</u>



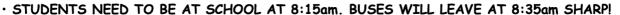
(Year 4 - 6)

# **Important Reminders**

Date - Monday 11th of March 2019 (Week 6)



Time - 9:00pm to 2:15pm. (Lunch at approximately 11:40am - 12:00pm)



- · Spectators are \$2.50. All students need a swim cap that can be purchased for \$3.00 (Office)
  - Parents please join in the fun and support your team. Students would love to share lunch with you!
    - · No chairs are to be brought into the ARC
    - · Parents are to use the inside toilets. The outdoor toilets are for students.
- ·A draft program has been pinned up in the undercover area. Please check it out and make sure your children have too. They need to know what races they are in.
- Please ensure children wear their sports uniform on top of their bathers and have warm clothing available.

  When children are not racing they should be covered up.
- · Children should have a towel or two, swimming cap, water, healthy snacks for lunch, sun screen and a hat.
- · Important Children should listen to the teachers in the bay carefully so they don't miss their races.
  - · Parents must stay in the spectator area (seating provided), not near the finish line.
    - · The chief judges decision is final.
- The swimming carnival is a normal school day. No one should leave until after the presentations unless permission has been sought.
  - If you are collecting your child please inform your child's class teachers after the carnival.



# **P&F News**

Hi Parents,

The Welcome Sundowner last Friday was a fabulous night for parents to meet some new families to the school and enjoy a social chat with the Leadership Team. Many thanks to the parent volunteers who helped out for the night and Admin for their assistance in making the evening a success.

# **Nature Play WA**

The P&F will host Griffin Longley from Nature Play WA on Tuesday 12th March at 7pm. Please join us for a free, inspiring and informative session with Nature Play WA on their mission to get kids outdoors in unstructured play, more often. At this information evening parents can learn about the tools needed to find a balance on kid's screen time, gain some great ideas on outdoor play and find out the 51 things for kids to do before they are 12! Tickets are free but please register as the event is limited to 150 places. Don't delay and register here tix.yt/mcnatureplay. Tea, coffee and supper provided.

# **NEXT P&F MEETING Friday 22nd March, 9am (Staff Room)**

Louise McEntee, Vice President

# The Role of Your Class Rep

A Class Representative provides parents with an invaluable point of contact to the P&F and school information. This year we have 30 parents who have volunteered to be a Class Rep, spread over 28 classes. The P&F is extremely grateful to each Rep for their time and effort.

The main roles of the P&F Class Reps are:

- Support welcome new families, be a point of contact for providing advice and directing parents on where to find information
- P&F Liaison to liaise between the P&F, parents and school; to attend P & F meetings to represent the parents and report back;
- Social Events help organise and promote social and fundraising events for the class, year group and wider school community
- Communication use class contact lists and Facebook groups to communicate P&F information with parents via email i.e. P&F meetings, help requests and events.

A note on communication: *The P & F class representative is not responsible for communicating school information* to the class, unless requested to do so by the teacher. This includes Merit Certificate information. Whilst reps in the past may have, it is certainly not expected. Parents are encouraged to read the newsletter for this information, as it will not be provided in a Facebook group. Use your class FB group to work together to support each other.

Parents including P&F Reps cannot post on social media the names/images of other people's children. Only the school has parental consent for that. At times this consent for legal reasons is withdrawn and as such are required to comply with this request.

Please be mindful that most parents, like yourself, have commitments outside of school life. Your current class rep may not do all the things your previous one did, however if they are forwarding P&F emails to you, then they are on track! If you'd like to see your rep do more, you may offer to assist them.

The P&F would like all parents to consider the valuable role our class reps volunteer to do within our school community, and thank these parents who spend time every week updating you with various information.

Deb Horton, P&F Class Rep Coordinator

# **P&F News**

# **Pre-Primary A Mums Get Together**

**Where:** The Berrigan Bar & Bistro **When:** Saturday, 6<sup>th</sup> April at 2pm

RSVP: Sarah Lentz on 0405 520 431 by Thursday, 4th April





# **Year Five Coffee Catch Up**

**Where:** Jamaica Blue, Beeliar **When:** 8<sup>th</sup> March, 2019 at 9:30am

No need to RSVP

For further information, contact Year Five Parent Representatives – Andrea Hegney, Linda

Miguel or Rachel Millington.

# Year 3A Coffee Catch Up

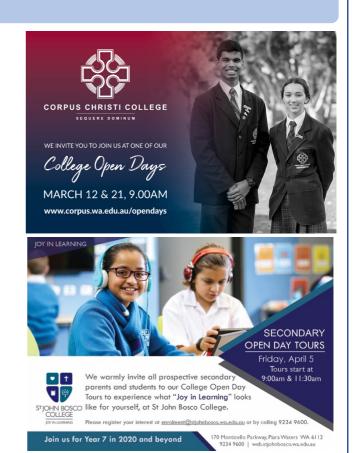
**Where:** 8 Yolks – Beeliar Drive, Success **When:** Friday, 22<sup>nd</sup> March after drop off

RSVP: Please advise Loretta Formato on 0413 802 556 or Clare Yakas 0421118511 by 15/3/19.



# **Community News**





# Parenting in March at West Leederville

2019

# Parent-Teen Connection

Saturday 9 March \$50pp/\$75pc

We know that adolescence can be a time of turmoil and change – for both children and their parents. This course will provide you with a practical 'how-to' guide to help you understand their behaviour and show you some skills to manage their behaviour effectively.

# Bringing Up Great Kids NEW

Mondays 11 Mar to 8 Apr \$60pp

This five week course will help you develop strategies to manage your parenting approach despite the mounting pressures on your time and role. This is a reflective parenting program developed by the Australian Childhood Foundation.

# Understanding Stepfamily Relationships

Saturday 16 March \$60pp/\$75pc

This one day workshop is based on research that highlights some of the more helpful ways of forming and living in this new family. Learn some useful strategies around how to parent and maintain healthy relationships in this context.

# Emotion Coaching Your Child

Tuesday, 19 March \$30pp

Every parent wants to do the best for their child. This means helping your child to recognise what they are feeling and why. We explore the most helpful way of responding to a child to help them to learn how to regulate their own emotions.

# Mums Raising Boys

Tuesday 26 March \$30pp

Mums play a vital role in developing their son's identity, including their ability to be nurturing. This session includes building confidence and competence in sons and setting boundaries.

# Rock and Water

Saturday 30 March \$70 per pair

The 'Rock and Water' Program for the family is facilitated by an accredited Rock and Water trainer. The program leads from simple self-defence, boundary and communication exercises to a strong notion of self-confidence.

Where: Level 1, 22 Southport Street, West Leederville To enrol: Please call (08) 6164 0200

For more information about our courses and workshops, please click here or visit www.relationshipswa.org.au

