

Mater Christi Catholic Primary School Newsletter

Volume 3

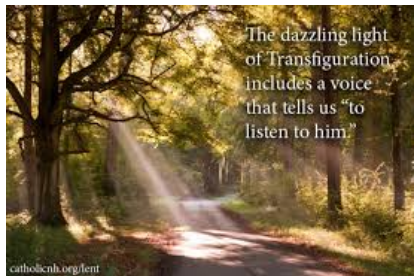
19th February 2016



Dear Parents & Caregivers

God wants to live amidst his sons and daughters. Let us make space for him in our hearts.

Pope Francis



In this Sunday's gospel, Christ appeared in the splendor of a vision to his disciples.

We pray:

*May we find the face of Jesus in ordinary events of our life.
May Christ's light transform us.
May our love and justice transfigure the lives we touch.*

May God's face shine on us. AMEN.

Year Four Assembly: Congratulations to the Year Four students and their teachers on an entertaining Assembly this morning. A tremendous amount of planning and rehearsing goes into each Assembly and I know that everyone looks forward to the creativity and diversity presented to the audience. What a great adaptation of Little Red Riding Hood. *Great effort Year Fours – Thank you!*

Commissioning Mass: Tomorrow night at the 6pm Mass, all staff, School Board members and the P&F Executive will be commissioned by Fr Bryan. We pray that our work, decisions made and our community will be richly blessed. All families are very welcome to come along and give thanks for the work and commitment made by so many people.

Facebook: A Mater Christi Uniform Buy/Sell Facebook page has been created by one of our parents for the exclusive purpose of providing parents with another option to buy and sell second hand uniforms. The school endorses the use of it's name on this page and trust that the parent community will use it to communicate with each other in a respectful manner and for the sole purpose intended – buying and selling second hand uniforms. Please note that the Uniform Shop can also assist anyone wishing to purchase second hand uniforms. 'Happy and respectful shopping!'

Enrichment Program: Last week, we began our Enrichment Robotics Program with the selected students in Years four, five and six led by Mrs Cathy Feeney. Under Cathy's guidance the children will learn how to program computers in order to create "processes".

Dates for Next Week

Monday 22nd February	9am Mass (6B) 9.15am Kindy M/Tea KA/KC (Staffroom) 3.15-4.15pm Snr After School Sport
Tuesday 23rd February	9am Mass (2C) 2pm Kindy A/Tea KB/KD (Staffroom)
Wednesday 24th February	School Banking Uniform Shop Open 8am to 10.30am 1.20pm to 3.20pm 7pm General Sacrament Parent Meeting(MCCC)
Thursday 25th February	9am Mass (1B) 3.15-4.15pm Jnr After School Sport
Friday 26th February	9am Mass (3B)
Saturday 27th February	Return of Sacramental Enrolment Forms (all Masses)
Sunday 28th February	Return of Sacramental Enrolment Forms (all Masses)

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This skill is also referred to as "Coding". You may have heard lots about Coding in the media recently. So what will the children be working on? They will work with computer programming "languages" to express three essential things:

1. The order in which a sequence of instructions is performed.
2. The designing of a sequence of instructions repeated a number of times to accomplish a task or action.
3. Testing as to whether or not a sequence of instructions is performed.

Being introduced to coding gives students an appreciation of what can be built with technology. Daily, we are surrounded by devices controlled by computers. Understanding coding enhances computers work. A computer program is effectively a means of automating processes. This is such an empowering and enriching competence for students to have and it is crucial knowledge for life in the 21st century.

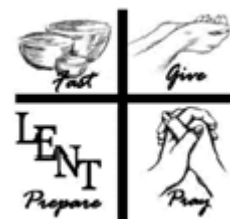
Swimming: This year, Mater Christi has been allocated early Term Three for our swimming lessons. These dates have been set and although Mark Ryan tried numerous times last year to negotiate a better outcome for us - things have remained the same. Further information will be available in the Newsletter towards the end of Term Two.

God Bless... Toni Kalat

Religious Education

1st Week of Lent – Project Compassion – brings you Hum Noy's story

Duangmala wished for a bright future for her eight-year-old son, Hum Noy, who has Down Syndrome. However, she feared he would remain isolated and never reach his full potential due to a lack of support services for children living with intellectual disabilities in Laos.



Thankfully, everything changed when Duangmala and Hum Noy were introduced to the Intellectual Disabilities Unit, which was set up by the Lao Disabled People's Association with the support of Caritas Australia. This specialised school provides learning support and nurturing care to fifty children with intellectual disabilities in the Laos capital, Vientiane.

Since starting school, Hum Noy's behaviour and abilities have changed remarkably. He is no longer isolated, lonely or frustrated, and his communication skills have advanced quickly. "Hum Noy is learning how to follow instructions and say the names of his teachers and friends," says Duangmala proudly. "He likes to draw, play instruments, and when they do aerobics he joins in!"

The program has also opened new opportunities for Duangmala, who received training to become a teacher at Hum Noy's school. Now, she is hopeful that her son and his classmates can lead more prosperous, fulfilling lives. "It's important to use our knowledge to help our children grow and develop," she says. "We are lucky to have this program."

Your donation to Caritas Australia's Project Compassion provides support to programs such as Lao Disabled People's Association. www.caritas.org.au

Best Wishes
Courtney Dunsire
Assistant Principal

Parish News

Sacramental Program 2016

Thank you to the students and their families who collected Sacrament Enrolment Forms at Mass last weekend.

All children wishing to receive the Sacraments of Reconciliation, Eucharist and Confirmation, in our parish will need to collect an enrolment form at Mass over the weekend. It is imperative that the children are enrolled at the commencement of the year so their Sacramental preparation can be full and complete.



We look forward to seeing you on Saturday 20th February at 6:00pm or Sunday 21st February at either 8:00am, 10:00am or 5:00pm.

Earn & Learn

Thank you to all the families who brought in Woolworths Earn & Learn stickers last year. Through your enormous effort we were able to get some amazing new educational equipment for our school.

All of the teachers and students are very excited with our new resources!



Parking

To ensure that we have a safe and functional carpark it is important that we follow certain rules. Included on our new website under the communications tab, is a full run down of parking and traffic flow rules around the school. Please make sure you familiarise yourself with these rules as the safety of our students is paramount.

Listed below are some important points to adhere to:

- Traffic is one way, please follow the directions of the arrows.
- Do not park in the roundabout next to the church, this must be kept clear at all times.
- Please park within the lines of the marked bays.
- Do not park on the paving (this can cause the paving to become uneven and may turn into a safety issue).
- Students must not be dropped off or picked up outside the administration block (this is what drive through is for).

These rules are there for the health and safety of all members of our school and parish community. If we are all on the same page and using common sense then it goes a long way to keeping our students safe.

INSTRUMENTAL PROGRAMME NOTICE

GUITAR LESSONS POSTPONED UNTIL TERM TWO

The Instrumental Programme has now begun for Piano, Voice, Drums and Violin. If you have handed in a form and your child has not been taken for their first lesson in Week three, please come and see me in the Music Room and I will be happy to sort it out.

Unfortunately Guitar lessons will start in Term Two as our Guitar Tutor Mr Rudy Yusof has recently undergone an emergency operation. Mr Yu is currently at home recovering and will be for the next six to eight weeks. We ask that you keep him in your prayers and hope that he makes a speedy recovery.

If you have any further questions, please feel free to pop in and see me in the Music Room.

Ms Alison Ross
Music Specialist

PAF DANCE 2016

For those students in Year Five and Six who are interested in being a part of the after school dance program this year, classes will run every Monday afternoon from 3:30-4:30pm in the MCCC with Miss Fic, Mrs Cosnett and Ms Ross starting in Week Eight, Term One. A note with further information has been given out to students this week. All permission slips and money must be returned by Friday 11th March (Week Six) to Miss Fic in 4C (4/5 Lobby).

Miss Fic, Mrs Cosnett & Ms Ross
Dance Co-ordinators

School Reporting

Dear Parents,

In 2016 we will be continuing with our online parent portal SEQTA Engage (previously known as Coneqt).

SEQTA will be rolling out a generic way for schools to provide parents/guardians with their usernames and passwords. This will be rolled out at the end of February. It is important that for you to be able to have access to this online environment, we must have your email address in our Administration system. Please contact the front office immediately if we do not have it or it has been updated.

At the end of February, you will be allocated a new username and password, which you will be able to manage yourself from the SEQTA Engage login screen which can be accessed on the school website. Any reports from last year will not be lost, just reallocated to this account.

As a school we look forward to entering this new phase of 21st century communication with our families.

Paula Nichols
Enrolment Officer

P&F News

The P&F looks forward to hosting the Kindy parents at the catch-ups next week, we hope to see you there! Easter will be upon us before we know it so stay tuned for more details about the Easter Raffle being held again this year.

KINDY MORNING TEAS & AFTERNOON TEAS

We invite all Kindy parents to join us for morning tea at 9:15am on Monday 22nd February for Kindy A&C or afternoon tea at 2pm on Tuesday 23rd February for Kindy B&D.

The P&F will be hosting these gatherings in the **staffroom**. If you have a child in Kindy, please come along and hear from your P&F as well as members from our leadership team about the plans for 2016.

Younger siblings are also welcome to come along. We hope to see you there!



CLASS REP EVENTS

- **1B – Monday 14th March – TBA**
RSVP to your Class Reps

P&F News continued

THANK YOU CLASS REPRESENTATIVES OF 2016

Thank you to everyone that volunteered for this important role. All classes now have a rep.

Please see list below:

CLASS	CLASS REP & CHILDS NAME
KA	Lesley Pascuzzi to share Teresa Zammit
KB	Rhonda Nicholson
KC	Kelly Kaciuba
KD	Michelle Hall
PPA	Lesley Hamilton
PPB	Rena Hall
PPC	Jamie Bebek
1A	Christine McCallum
1B	Claire Yakas to share Julie Basilio
1C	Kylie Galipo to share Michelle Pellicione
2A	Mel Babich
2B	Nicole Murtagh to share Jesamine Sargent
2C	Michelle Bradford
3A	Kate Godwin Johnston
3B	Kelly Carradus
3C	Sarah Bekkevold
4A	Karen Hearn
4B	Bridget Chamberlain
4C	Jo Ferrie
5A	Simone Douglas
5B	Bridget Chamberlain
5C	Lisa Johnson
6A	Sandy Petkovic
6B	Christina Meerton
6C	Arlene Soares

Gold cards with your rep's name will be displayed near the door of your child's class by Monday.

Leonie Jones
Class Representative Coordinator

The P&F office bearers for 2016 are:

Teresa Lawson (President),
Karen Simons (Vice President and Board Rep),
Belinda Weeks (Secretary),
Belinda Stokes (Treasurer),
Leonie Jones (Class Rep Coord),
Michelle Hall (Sun Smart Rep)
Marina Hayward (Parish Rep) .

Any comments, suggestions or queries are warmly welcome.

Please contact us on: pandf@mcps.wa.edu.au

Rainbows

When something significant happens in the family, the whole family is affected. Even though death and divorce appears to be a grown up problem, it does have a profound effect on the children it touches.

Rainbows is a program designed especially for children who are living in single parent families, or families going through significant transitions.

Rainbows fosters emotional healing among children grieving a loss from a life-altering crisis or other significant changes in their life. Rainbows provides a safe, confidential and caring environment for young people to sort through their pain and confusion, build self-esteem and learn coping tools to deal with their change, loss and grief.

The goal is to assist participants in expressing feelings, understand and talk about these feelings and to learn to let go of them and get on with living.

The facilitator assists the participants in expressing feelings.

The program consists of twelve weekly sessions conducted during school hours.

This year the staff member trained to facilitate the Rainbows Program is Michelle Romano.

If you are interested in your child participating, please email admin@mcps.wa.edu.au or speak to your child's classroom teacher.

Reminder

Family Information forms are required to be returned to the office whether or not there are any changes.

Please sign the form and return it to the office **ASAP**

The Friendly Schools Plus

As a community, it is important that all teachers, parents and children are all on the same page when discussing Bullying. With this in mind, we are providing you with a definition of Bullying, taken from the resource, 'Friendly Schools Plus'.

What is bullying?

Bullying is a repeated behaviour that may be physical, verbal, and /or psychological and where there is intent to cause fear, distress, or harm to another: that is conducted by a more powerful individual or group, against a less powerful individual or group who is or are unable to stop this from happening. Bullying is when a person or a group of people offline or online (mobile phone or Internet):

- Make fun of / tease someone in a mean and hurtful way.
- Tell lies or spread nasty rumours about someone to try to make others not like him/her.
- Leave someone out on purpose or not allow him/her to join in.
- Hit, kick or push someone around.
- Deliberately damage, destroy or steal someone's things.
- Threaten or make someone feel afraid of getting hurt.

It is NOT bullying when:

- Teasing is done in a friendly, playful way.
- Two people who are as strong as each other argue or fight.

Cyberbullying – using a mobile phone or computer to:

- Send nasty messages or threatening emails
- Send mean or nasty comments or pictures about others to websites e.g. *MYSpace, Facebook, instagram or other students phones*
- Deliberately leaves others out over the internet
- Pretends to be someone else online to hurt them or make them look foolish

Pat Pottier (Drama Specialist)

Use of Student Images/Names

With the increasing use of ICT at Mater Christi, student images and/or names may appear on class blogs, in the school newsletter or on class made DVD's.

If you DO NOT wish your child/ren's names or images to appear, please return the notice below to the front office by Friday 26th February 2016.

I _____ parent/guardian of
_____ (name all children)

in class/es _____

Please note a new form is required to be completed and signed each year

Community Health Nurse

Welcome to the new school year. The Community Health Nurse who visits your school this year is Sarah Sim.

Community Health Nurses work in schools to promote healthy development and wellbeing so students may reach their full potential. A major part of my work is focused on early intervention and the School Entry Health Assessment program.

All children in Western Australia are offered a health assessment during their first year of primary school. This usually occurs in kindergarten.

A Community Health Nurse will check your child's vision, hearing and general development. A form will be sent home sometime during the school year.

Community Health Nurses serve as a health contact point for children and their families, providing information, assessment, health counselling and referral. The services provided are free and confidential.

If you have a concern about your child's health or development, please contact your community Health Nurse through your teacher or the school administration.

Immunisation reminder

Maintaining a high level of immunisation within our community is very important to controlling many communicable diseases.

It is important for parents to make sure that their children have received all of the childhood vaccinations. This includes Measles, Mumps, Rubella, Diphtheria, Tetanus, Pertussis (whooping cough), and polio vaccines before school entry or from three and a half years of age. If you are unsure, phone 1800 653 809.

If your child has missed out on vaccinations, a doctor or immunisation nurse can provide 'catch-up' vaccinations.

Make an appointment with a GP **or** visit the local (free) immunisation clinic run by **Hilton Child Health Centre- Mon/Wed/Fri from 0900**

South Lake Child Health Centre –Tues/Thurs from 0930

Bookings 63320100 Bookings essential

All childhood immunisations as per immunisation schedule for 0-4yrs

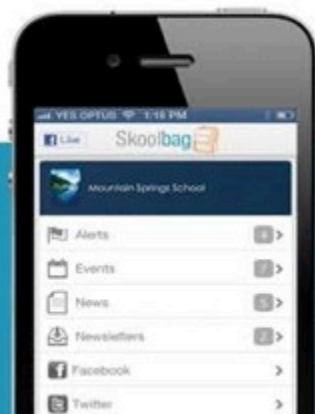
Otherwise **Central Immunisation Clinic Rheola St in West Perth**

Bookings 93211312 walk ins accepted until 3.30pm

Enrichment Focus

The Enrichment focus for Term One and Two will be on Robotics. The students will be using Lego EV3 Robotics working in small groups where they will take part in logic based activities using real life problem solving skills.





Skoolbag

Skoolbag Smartphone App for Parents and Students

Skoolbag is a mobile app that communicates directly to parent smartphones. It allows the school to keep you up to date with the latest news, notices, alerts, newsletters etc. Parents can check Skoolbag at any time to see the latest updates and information. It is FREE for parents to use.

How To Install Skoolbag On Your Smartphone

iPhone Users

Simply search for "Mater Christi Catholic Primary School" in the App Store on your phone, PC or Mac, and install.



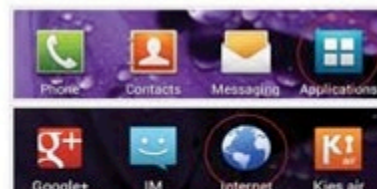
iTunes



Android Users

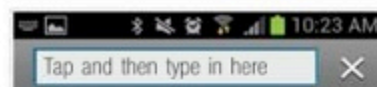
Step 1

Tap the Applications icon, then tap the internet icon to open your web browser.



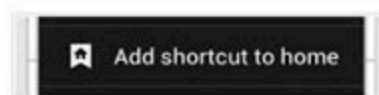
Step 2

Type www.skoolbag.com.au/mccpswa into the address bar.



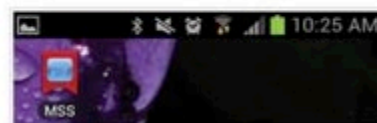
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
Once loaded you can save the Skoolbag icon to your home screen for easy access every day. For example with a Samsung Galaxy S2 & S3 phone, tap the menu button, then tap the "Add Shortcut to Home".



Step 4

The Skoolbag icon will then show on your home screen. This provides a shortcut to make it easy to view updates each day.



Don't forget to like us on Facebook! 

Find out more at www.skoolbag.com.au

Skoolbag delivers school notices directly to parent smartphones

