Dear Parents and Caregivers,

Christmas Carol Night

Last Friday night, we had a wonderful combined Parish and School event. For the first time, both the Parish and School of Mary Immaculate came together to celebrate the story of Christmas through carols and song. Although we would have preferred to be outdoors, the rain forced us to use the Church and MPA, but this worked well for all concerned. The evening was, in large, organised by the Parents and Friends Association of the school and I extend our appreciation to all members of the committee who worked throughout the year in preparation for this event.

Reports

Today you will receive your child’s report for Semester 2. This is a report based on the last two terms and we hope you take this opportunity to celebrate with your child all the learning successes and set goals that outline the future direction into next year.

Meet the Teacher

On Wednesday all students will meet their teacher for next year and spend some time with their 2015 class. This gives all children the opportunity to begin to establish the important relationships that will develop throughout the year ahead. All students will receive a letter from the teacher that outlines all items of stationery that are required for the new year.

Yours in education,

Paul Devlin
Principal

Moving day help needed

At the end of the year, a number of classes will be moving to different locations in the school. We will be moving Year 1, Year 2, Learning Support and the Art Room. We need parents to assist moving some of the heavier items like book shelves, filing cabinets on Monday 15 December from 12:00pm to 1:30pm. If you are able to assist on this day please reply using the note sent home last week or notify the office. Thank you.

Year 6 Graduation Mass—Tuesday 16th December

Students are to arrive at 6.30pm at the latest.

Students are to wear full school summer uniform.

Mass is at 7pm followed by a Ceremony in the MPA with supper provided.

The evening will conclude at 9:30pm.
Christmas Hamper Appeal

Many thanks to all those who have donated non-perishable food items to the St Vincent de Paul Hamper Christmas Appeal.

Donations will continue to be received until the end of this week. Thank you for helping to make a difference in our community.

Scott Carroll
Religious Education Coordinator

Prayer for the second week of Advent

Dear Lord,

Through the darkness, I look for your wisdom.
I want my heart to be open to you.
But sometimes in these days, it seems that
so many things come between us.
Help me to be awake and aware
of the radiance you bring to my life.
Help me to be grateful each day
for the blessings of family and friends.
Let me be a peacemaker
in my own life, and in the world.
Let me pray especially for this difficult world
and those who are so in need of an end to violence.
My heart begs for this as my Advent prayer today.

Amen

Christmas Liturgy for Littlies
Friday 12th December at 10:00am.
Mary Immaculate Church
The Liturgy is for Children from birth to school age.
We invite Children to dress up as: Shepherd, King or Angel

Farewell Assembly

On Friday 12 December, we will hold our Farewell Assembly. During this assembly, we take the opportunity to thank and farewell some of our staff who will be moving to different pastures next year. We will farewell Mrs Cathy Vogt, who is moving to Holy Family Primary Emerton, Mrs Stephanie Fatone, who is moving to St Andrews Marayong and Miss Naomi Zayat-Watson, who has completed her IT traineeship. We also farewell the year 6 students during this assembly. All parents are welcome to join with us at this special event.

Staffing—Meet the teacher

Classes for next year are being formed by the teachers and they will be announced at ‘Meet the Teacher’ on Wednesday 10 December. During ‘Meet the Teacher’, the children get to spend some time with their teacher and class for 2015. This allows the children to begin their orientation to the new year group and teacher and also for the teacher to have a brief conversation with the class regarding the exciting learning for 2015.

Staffing

A full staffing list for 2015 will be sent to all families on Wednesday following Meet the Teacher.

Students leaving MIPS

If your child will not be returning to MIPS in 2015, please let the school office know so that appropriate planning for next year can occur.
Parents and Friends Association

Proposed Changes to the P&F Constitution
The proposed changes to the P&F Constitution can be found on the school website. These changes will be voted on at the next P&F meeting to be held on Wednesday 4 February 2015.

Students leaving MIPS
If your child will not be returning to MIPS in 2015, please let the school office know so that appropriate planning for next year can occur.

Star Spot
Congratulations to Rombe Sule in 3M who is representing Glenwood Little Athletics at the Zone Athletics Carnival at Blacktown International Sports Park on 12th 13th and 14th December. He will be competing for the U9’s in 100m, 400m, 800m and High Jump.
We wish him all the very best.
Good Luck Rombe!

Anaphylactic students awareness
Parents are reminded that some of our children can have a severe anaphylactic reaction to various food products. This reaction can be life threatening. Please support the school by not sending food in your child’s lunchbox to school that may contain nuts, nut products or egg. Thank you for your co-operation in this matter.

Scholastic Book Club
A huge thank you to Mrs. Sue Henson who co-ordinated our Scholastic Book Club once again this year.

Mrs. Henson worked tirelessly throughout the year and as a result of book club orders and Mrs. Hensons hard work we received $2,100.00 to spend on resources for the school. Thank you to everyone who ordered from book club and hope we can count on your support again next year.

Uniform Shop
Additional Hours
The uniform shop will be open Saturday 13th December 1:30pm-3:00pm
For an appointment, please contact Elle: 0421 216 414 or elle@ozfashions.com.au

School Fees for 2015
Today you will receive two notes regarding School Fees for 2015. Please look out for these two notes with your newsletter.
If you do not receive these notes please let the school office know as soon as possible.

Canteen News
Choices will be limited in the canteen as we approach the end of the year.
We may have to substitute orders as our stock runs out.
Thank you for your

Canteen Roster
Reminder: The canteen is open for over the counter snack and drink sales Monday and Tuesday. (No lunches are available)

Lunch orders are available Wednesday, Thursday and Friday.

Term 4 Week 10
Wednesday December 10 Cassandra Williams
Thursday December 11 Cass Johnson, Sulee Somyaying Help Needed
Friday December 12 Rosie Jeroncic, Connie Smith

Term 4 Week 11
Wednesday December 17th Tania Peiris
Thursday STAFF DEVELOPMENT DAY
Friday STAFF DEVELOPMENT DAY

To students who celebrate their birthday between 25th November to 17th December
Ah Cassar, Lucy Loughlin, Talei Horvat, Lauren Milne, Samuel Milne, Jason Roberts, Logan Mackey, Angelica Decolongon, Noah Swift, Oliver Hartley, Ryan Munro, Jason Roberts, Kiara Borges, Elijah Smith, Isabelle Boshell, Kiani Roberts, Tristan White, Lucas Shaw, Chelsea Borges, Khaled Kataieh, Shani Torres, Jacob Jeroncic, Emma Gatt, Jasmine Hooper, Mollie Wilding, Natarsha Simic, Stephanie Anithasasan, Fady Farid, Thalia Caruana, Mirafaith Estrada, Georgia Dunbar Mortimer, Caleb Macaraeg, Tamara Debrincat, Jade Faleono, Tamara Whitby, Frank Diab, Kyzac Wilding, Tatiana Padia, Kiara Borges, Elijah Smith, Isabelle Boshell, Kiani Robert, Tristan White, Lucas Shaw, Chelsea Borges, Khaled Kataieh, Shani Torres, Jacob Jeroncic, Emma Gatt,
Child Protection

The school has a wide range of responsibilities in relation to child protection. These are legal and moral responsibilities. These area include but are not limited to:

- The employment, screening and on-going education of staff
- The education of the children in area of protective behaviour
- The education of parent helpers in child protection
- Protocols and practices for all adults using the school site (parents, trades people etc)
- Investigation of allegations involving child protection matters
- Engaging Community Services to support the welfare of children and young persons

Child protection is everyone’s responsibility. If you have a concern that needs to be raised or a question that needs clarifying, please contact the Principal or delegate.

Enrolment Policy

Mary Immaculate Primary is part of the Parramatta Diocese and as a result follows all elements of the Catholic Education Office, Parramatta Diocese Enrolment policies. Under these policies schools are required to follow the Diocesan enrolment policy giving priority to certain students/ families as outlined in the policy. The central elements of the policy are:

Children whose fifth birthday occurs on or before 31 July are eligible for enrolment for Kindergarten that year. Enrolment preference is given, in order, to:

- children of Catholic families who live in the local parish
- children of Catholic families from other parishes
- non-Catholics

Catholic schools have a strong religious dimension and people of other faiths who wish to enrol in Catholic schools should be willing to participate in the religious activities of the school.

Non-Catholic students are accepted into Catholic schools in accordance with each school’s enrolment vacancies. Check with the principal of the school you are interested in.

Siblings of children already enrolled in the school are considered by the same criteria above. However, within each of these categories, a sibling of a child already enrolled will have preference over an applicant who does not have a sibling enrolled in the school.

Special consideration may be given to children of non-Catholic families for:

- compassionate reasons
- family situations requiring a special pastoral approach
- parents’ intentions regarding their own and their children's faith development
- family circumstances involving family relocation
- enrolment of siblings

Full details of the policies can be found at www.maryimmacqhill.castholic.edu.au