Dear Parents and Caregivers,

Our School Goals

Our school always sets goals for the year that assist in guiding the direction for student and staff learning. This year we have set goals in the areas of Spiritual Formation (Religious Education), Literacy and Numeracy. The Formation goal is based around the continued development of the religious literacy of our students so that they know more about the language of their religion. The Literacy goal for this year continues our focus on writing as we refine our assessment practices and feedback to students through the year. The Numeracy goal directs us to deepening our whole school approach to mathematics to ensure that all class teachers have agreed practice that responds to the needs of the students. These goals set the agenda for all staff professional learning which in turn has a direct impact on student learning.

Our Classroom Learning Spaces

During the recent holidays, we installed some walls in the Year 2 space for this year to allow the teachers the flexibility to operate in a variety of teaching/learning models. While the teachers will still bring all the children together on occasion and also share the students for literacy and numeracy, they now have the ability to section off their classroom when this is necessary for student focus and engagement. We are always looking to improve the learning spaces for the students and will continue to do so through the year.

Yours in education,

Paul Devlin
Principal

Parent Information Evenings

Next week the school will hold the Parent Information Evenings for all grades. These evenings are planned by the teachers to provide valuable information for all families about the year ahead. Parents are encouraged to attend as the best way to begin a healthy professional relationship with your child’s class teacher.

The Dates and Times for these are:

- Kindergarten – Monday 9th Feb 6pm MPA
- Year 1 – Monday 9th Feb 6pm The Allabyrne Space
- Year 2 – Wednesday 11th Feb 6pm The Allabyrne Space
- Year 3 – Wednesday 11th Feb 6pm Year 3 Space
- Year 4 – Monday 9th Feb 7pm MPA
- Year 5 – Monday 9th Feb 6pm Year 5 Space
- Year 6 – Tuesday 10th February 6pm Year 6 Space

Crossing Supervisor

Currently there is no crossing supervisor on the road outside the school. This position is currently being filled and we hope for someone to be in place from Wednesday. Parents are encouraged to remind their children of the need to cross all roads carefully to maintain pedestrian safety.
### Opening School Mass

Our Opening School Mass will take place on Thursday of Week 3. All are welcome to gather together with us in prayer, giving thanks for the gift of our school community. Our student leaders will be officially installed in their 2015 positions at our mass.

#### School Captains
Tamsyn Houseman and Isiah Toilalo

#### Vice Captains
Sophie Johnson and Daniel Mangion

#### Sports Captains

**Blue - Callose**
Laura Trinder and Connor Gatt

**Green - Dharruk**
Molly Moore and Jayden Weymark

**Red - Pentland**
Kahlani Johnston and James Kalogjera

**Gold - MacKillop**
Abby Pitt and Ryan Morales

Congratulations to these students for being elected by their peers to these positions of responsibility. Our Student Representative Council will be announced later this week, followed by our Mini Vinnies team whose work is focused on social justice initiatives within our community.

We are all called to serve as leaders in our own way. In our search for leaders in our lives, *Mother Teresa reminds us that we can all shoulder that responsibility in our own way: Do not wait for leaders; do it alone, person to person. Let us all strive to be leaders in all of our interactions with others.*

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### Multiple Intelligence Theory

Have you used all your intelligences today? Learning through the Multiple Intelligences is a ways of knowing and understanding yourself and the world. Multiple Intelligence theory believes we are not all the same; we do not have the same kinds of minds and education works most effectively if these differences are taken into account. Each week the children will participate in 120 minutes of specialist Sport, Music and Creative Arts lessons (40 minutes each). Through the Release from Face to Face (RFF) programs of Sport, Music and Creative Arts we will challenge the children to explore these nine intelligences and identify which intelligences are their strengths and preferred learning styles. The Intelligences are as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Intelligence</th>
<th>Attributes</th>
<th>Likes to...</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Verbal/Linguistic</td>
<td>thinks in words and uses language creatively to express meaning</td>
<td>read, write, speak, interpret information</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mathematical/ Logical</td>
<td>natural ability as a problem solver</td>
<td>reason, enjoys numbers, uses timelines and graphs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Visual/Spatial</td>
<td>perceives the world visually</td>
<td>see patterns, recognise relationships, design, draw, map</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bodily/Kinaesthetic</td>
<td>communicates using body</td>
<td>participate in sport, games and using body to express images</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Musical/Rhythmic</td>
<td>perceives facts in a musical, creative way</td>
<td>sing, listen to music, create rhythms, songs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interpersonal</td>
<td>sensitive to the feelings of others</td>
<td>be with people, co-operates well, shows care for others</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Intrapersonal</td>
<td>sensitive to the feelings of themselves</td>
<td>reflect, follow own interests,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Naturalist</td>
<td>sensitive to the natural world</td>
<td>appreciate nature, sees patterns in living environments</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spiritual</td>
<td>displays a keen interest in religion, has a deep personal faith and is in touch with their inner life</td>
<td>reflect on what is happening in regard to their understandings of life and gospel values</td>
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Parents and Friends Association

The first meeting for the Association will be held this week on Wednesday evening (4 Feb) commencing at 7:30pm in the staffroom.

All members of the school community are welcome.

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.

Swimming Carnival

Our annual school swimming carnival will be held on Thursday 5th February at Riverstone Swimming Centre. It is a compulsory event for all children in Years 3-6. Children have received a permission note to be filled out with the events you would like your child to participate in on the day. Events will include 100m Freestyle, 50m Freestyle, Breaststroke and Butterfly, 25m Freestyle and 200 Individual Medley. Non-competitive novelty events will also be held. These have a water element but will not be held in the pool. Please ensure you discuss with your child which events they feel comfortable participating in and return permission note by Tuesday 3rd February to classroom teachers.

Parramatta Diocese Catholic Primary School Sports Council (PDCPSSC)

Representative Selections.

All primary students in Year 5 and 6 are eligible to participate and represent in AFL, Diving, Football (soccer), Hockey, Netball, Rugby League (11 years), Rugby League (Opens), Rugby Union and Touch Football.

It is very important to note that these trials are generally for those children who display an above average ability in their chosen sport. While teams are open in age it is strongly recommended that only children of a representative standard in Years 5 & 6 in 2015 be invited to attend.

Selections will be made on performance at the trial. Selectors will be appointed based on their experience and background in a particular sport.

If your child is interested in trialling please see either Mrs. Stephens or Mrs. Boatfield for more information. Closing date for most trials are in February.

The Newsletter

The newsletter is used throughout the year to inform parents about the faith celebrations, beliefs and events of the school and parish. The newsletter is also used to inform parents about the policies and practices that are its legal responsibilities or Catholic Education Office policy. These areas include but are not restricted to school policy and practices relating to supervision, enrolments, communication, anti-racism, grievance, child protection and pastoral care.

NSW Catholic School Terms 2015

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Term</th>
<th>Dates</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Term 1</td>
<td>Wednesday 28th January to Thursday 2nd April</td>
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<tr>
<td>Term 2</td>
<td>Monday 20th April to Friday 26th June</td>
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<tr>
<td>Term 3</td>
<td>Monday 13th July to Friday 18th September</td>
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<tr>
<td>Term 4</td>
<td>Tuesday 6th October to Friday 18th December</td>
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“KISS AND DROP” zone

The Kiss and Drop section of the car park is designed to provide a safe and convenient area to drop your children off at school in the morning. Parents are asked not to Kiss and Drop your children in any other area of the car park as this poses a significant risk to your child’s safety. At peak times, the car park does become congested and everyone’s patience is appreciated.

Please have your child with their bag ready to exit the car on the kerb side in the “Kiss and Drop” zone.

Uniform shop trading hours

Normal trading hours will continue as normal
Tuesday 8.30 till 10.00am
Friday 8.30 till 10.00am.

We also do ove the phone orders and online orders.
For any enquiries please contact - Elle
Phone : 0421216414
Email : elle@ozfashions.com.au

Student Banking

Student Banking commences this Friday 6th February.
Uninterrupted Learning Time

At Mary Immaculate, we always plan to have maximum learning time for our students. As a result, we have “Uninterrupted Learning Time”. This is a focus for all in our community to help respect the time needed for our children to learn. As a result, we ask that:

- All students arrive by 8:55am every morning
- Early departures are kept to an absolute minimum
- No messages are sent to children during the day (messages sent through the office are kept till a suitable break in learning blocks)

Thank you for your assistance in this matter

School Website

Did you know that the school newsletters and current school calendar are on the school website? This offers parents the chance to check information and dates during the year. We will endeavour to maintain these elements as current as possible

Photos taken at School

From time to time photos of the students are taken at school during their activities and achievements. These photos are sometimes published in the school newsletter or website.

If you do not wish for your child’s photograph to be published in any way could you please put this in writing to inform the school.

Medication

Please update your child’s medication details at the school office.

Uniform and Grooming Policy at Mary Immaculate

Parents,

Could you please read over the school policy regarding uniform and grooming? We appreciate your support in this area.

Students are to be neatly and cleanly dressed at all times. Shoes should be clean and well presented.

Hair is to be kept neat and tidy, off the collar, of consistent natural colour, of gradual even grade and all extremes of fashion are to be avoided. Some examples of “styles” that are unacceptable include ridges, lines, undercuts, steps, bowl cuts, any excessive shaping with gel, and any shaving cuts (specifically grades No. 1 and No. 2)

Girls’ hair that is longer than shoulder length is to be tied back from the face. Hair is to be off the face and out of the eyes.

Ribbons, hair slides etc. if worn should be the uniform fabric or maroon or pink.

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.

Week 2

Wednesday 4th February
Sulee Somyaying

Thursday 5th February
Philipa Holtsbaun, Lisa Sartori

Friday 6th February
Renee Cefai, Deanne Holmes

Week 3

Wednesday 11th February
Lisa Piskor

Thursday 12th February
Angela Portelli, Jacqueline Cheadle

Friday 13th February
Melissa Loughlin, Nicole Eason, Carine Sfeir

To our friends at MIPS who celebrate their birthday between 18th December to 2nd February


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