Parent Information Evenings
This 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

School Fees
School fees for instalment 1 have now been sent to all families and are due by 6th March 2015.

Payment may be made by Bpay, cheque, money order or by credit card via Bpoint (Visa or Mastercard)

Any queries regarding fees or payments can be directed to the office on 9626 3999 weekdays between the times of 8:30am and 3:50pm or by email to cnalletamby-sandel@parra.catholic.edu.au

Claudine Nalletamby-Sandel
Office Administrator

Emailing the newsletter to parents
The school is investigating the option of either emailing the Newsletters to parents or send a link to the website via Facebook or a newly proposed app called “Skoolbag”. Skoolbag is an app for Smart Phones that allows the school to send messages to all families regarding school based information. We will inform all families as this matter develops in the coming months.

Update on Mr Troy
Mr Troy sends his regards to all students and families and wishes them all the best for the coming year. He has commenced part time work at the Catholic Education Office in Parramatta and while he is enjoying his work, he is also missing his connection to the Mary Immaculate community. I will keep the school community updated as to Mr Troy’s recovery during the year and we look forward to his return next year.

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Claudine Nalletamby-Sandel
Office Administrator

Dates to Remember
- Monday 9th February
  - Parent Information Night
  - Years K & 5 6-7pm
  - Parent Information Night
  - Year 4 7-8pm
- Tuesday 10th February
  - Parent Information Night
  - Year 6 6-7pm
- Wednesday 11th February
  - Parent Information Night
  - Year 2 & 3 6-7pm
- Thursday 12th February
  - 9:15am—10:15am
    - Opening School Mass
- Wednesday 18th February
  - Ash Wednesday Liturgy
    - 9:15am
  - Years 4, 5, & 6 Church
    - 10:15am
  - Years K-3 MPA

Primary School Swimming Carnival
On Thursday, 5th February, MIPS held their annual school swimming carnival. It was attended by an amazing group of parent spectators and helpers as well as competitive swimmers, 25m swimmers, cheer groups and novelty participants. Between dance offs, war cries and general fun, there was some time for swimming and what a spectacular performance our swimmers put on.

Congratulations to all participants, especially our year 3 students who were participating for the first time and to those who perhaps tried an event for the first time.

Our Age Champions from the day were as follows:
- 12 Year Girls – Laura Trinder
- 12 Year Boys – Jayden Weymark
- Runner Up – Sophie Johnson
- Runner Up - Wade Moore
- 11 Year Girls – Michaela Attard
- 11 Year Boys – Ethan Holtsbaum
- Runner Up – Tiarna Wolfe
- Runner Up – Guy Shepherd
- Junior Girls – Elizabeth Barbariannakos
- Junior Boys – Jai Wolfe
- Runner Up - Libby Hartly
- Runner Up – Jordan Faleono

For those swimmers attending the Zone Carnival, notes will be sent home this week and the carnival will be at Riverstone pool on Thursday, February 19th.

Thank you for a wonderful day. MIPS Sports Committee
Attendance

Last year, parents wishing to take their children on an extended break from school that exceeded 3 days needed to request an exemption from school. This requirement has changed as a result to the Education Act 1990. These changes take effect immediately. Exemption from attendance no longer applies to travel and holidays, both domestically and internationally.

New requirements for student absence and travel

- **1-9 days absence**: Parents must notify the school principal by mail or email (written). Refer to Register Codes
- **10-100 days absence**: Parents must complete and submit the Application for Extended Leave form (A1) prior to commencing leave. If approved the Principal issues a Certificate of Extended Leave (C1). If the principal declines this application (i.e., it is not within the best interest of the child to take leave and be absent from school), a letter notifying parents that the application has been declined would be forthcoming.

### Attendance and roll marking

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number of days absent</th>
<th>What to do</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 to 9 days</td>
<td>Parent notifies the School Principal by letter or school email prior to the leave.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 - 100 days</td>
<td>Complete form requesting leave prior to the absence. (Application for Extended Leave Form- A1) available from office and on school website.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>101 or more days</td>
<td>Make an appointment with the Principal to discuss.</td>
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BOOK CLUB NEWS

MIPS is once again participating in Scholastics Book Clubs. Book Club operates twice a term. Each order earns 20% in Scholastic Rewards to help purchase additional learning and literacy resources for our school, however there is never any obligation to order. Orders will be delivered to your child's classroom approximately two weeks after the school order is sent to Scholastic.

Issue 1 of Scholastic Book Club is being sent home today. This year, each student will receive one Book Club catalogue, which will contain a carefully chosen selection of books suited to their year level.

**Issue 1 orders need to be placed by 17th February.** Unfortunately, we will not be able to accept any late orders as Scholastic have imposed an Issue 1 ordering deadline.

On your Book Club order form you will notice Scholastic is introducing the LOOP, which is the NEW Scholastic Book Clubs Linked Online Ordering and Payment system for parents. When paying by CREDIT CARD using LOOP login to www.scholastic.com.au/LOOP or download the app from the App Store!

You will be redirected to the new LOOP site after entering your school name.

- Click on Order in the top menu or REGISTER first to save your details for next time.
- Select your school and then click START ORDER.
- Add your child's first name and last initial (so the school knows who the book is for) and select their class.
- Enter the item number from the Book Club Catalogue
- Select Add new child and class when ordering for other children who attend the same school.
- Click NEXT to review order.
- Click PROCEED WITH PAYMENT and enter credit card details.

**There's no need to return paper order forms or payment receipts to school when using LOOP!**

We also will accept: Cheques payable to Scholastic Australia.

Please attach cheque to completed order form and return to school.

**Credit card phone payment**: free call 1800 557 908.

Please record the 11-digit receipt number in the credit card receipt portion on the Book Club order form and return to school.

Please remember to write your child’s name and class on order forms.

**We do not accept Cash payments.** Please disregard option 3 on Book Club order form.

If you have any further questions please leave a message at the office and I will contact you.