

Newsletter

Term 2 Week 4— 20th May 2013



Pentecost



Dear parents and Caregivers,

Yesterday we celebrated the feast of Pentecost in our church. Pentecost occurs in the week after Jesus ascended into heaven. When Jesus left, the apostles were doubtful of their ability to carry out the work of spreading the Good News. This is why the Holy Spirit came down on the apostles to give them the strength and conviction to spread the news of Jesus' love for everyone.

The gifts of the Holy Spirit are also offered to us all through the sacrament of Confirmation. Our children can receive this sacrament when they are in Year 5 and this will be offered later in the year.

The gifts of the Holy Spirit received in this sacrament are:

Wisdom in order to see God at work in our lives and in the world.
Understanding to know how we need to live as followers of Christ.
Right Judgement to know the difference between right and wrong.
Courage to stand up for what is right in the eyes of God.
Knowledge to know oneself and to know God.
Reverence for a deep sense of respect for God and the Church.
Wonder and Awe to recognise our all powerful God.

Let us pray that we are open to the gifts of the Holy Spirit in our everyday personal and family life.

Yours in education,

Paul Devlin
Principal

Stranger Danger

The safety of our children is of paramount importance to our school community. The teachers often remind the children of "Stranger Danger" principles and what to do if they feel unsafe. Please take the necessary time to reinforce this message by regularly speaking with your children at home about Stranger Danger and Protective Behaviours.

Important Dates

Tuesday 21st May

ICAS Computer Skills Test
Years 3-6

Stage 3 Boys Soccer Gala Day—Rooty Hill

Wednesday 22nd May

Maths Olympiad Number 1

Thursday 23rd May

Year 5 Excursion 'Bathurst'

Friday 24th May

Captivate Year 4

'National Walk to School Day



Saturday 25th May

PRC Conference

Sunday 26th May

PRC Conference

Mary Immaculate
Quakers Hill
www.maryimmac.org.au

Parish Priest: Fr Ruben

Phone: 9626.3326,
9626.1613

parishoffice@maryimmac.org.au

Mass Times

Mary Immaculate Church

Reconciliation:

Saturday 4.30 - 5.30pm

Weekday Mass:

Monday No Mass

Tuesday 8.30am

Wednesday 9.15am

Thursday 9.15am

Friday 7.00pm

Weekend Mass:

Saturday 6.00pm

Sunday 9.00am

10.30am

6.00pm

St. Joseph's Schofields

Sunday 7.30am

Mary Immaculate Primary School
www.maryimmacqhill.parra.catholic.edu.au

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'Principal's Mathematics Problem of the Week'

"Another good week of problem solving with the 'Principal's Problem of the Week.'
Well done to the many children from Kindergarten to Year 6 who completed and submitted their solutions.

The correct answers were:

Kindergarten = 20 sea creatures
Year 1 & Year 2 = The perfect number of peaches is 27
Year 3 & Year 4 = Alice is 5 years old
Year 5 & Year 6 = 2 watermelons + 1 pineapple = 20 kg

Copies of Week 4's problems were made available from last Friday. Children who choose to complete a problem please take a copy, solve the problem and return it to their grade box in the Student Foyer by Thursday each week.

.... good luck with this week's problem!"

The Maths Man



Uniform

Thank you to all parents who have assisted by dressing their children in the correct winter uniform in the past week. When our children wear their correct uniform it portrays the school in a very positive way and allows the children to develop more school pride.

Staffing

Congratulations to Mrs Sarah Hutton and Mr Mark Boss of their appointment to the position of Acting Leader of Learning. Mrs Hutton will take up this position for the next three weeks while Mrs Herron is Acting Assistant Principal and Mr Boss will take up the position from Term 2 Week 7 till the end of the year replacing Mrs Kylie Behrens who will be on maternity leave.

School Fee Statements

The Catholic Education Office has sent out Term Two School Fees Statements to all families with payment due 3rd June 2013.

Any family requiring financial consideration or assistance is asked to contact Mrs Michelle Brien on 9626 3999 or email michelle.Brien@parra.catholic.edu.au if you have any queries regarding your account or if you wish to discuss payment arrangements with the Principal.

Agile Learning Spaces, what about the noise?

Surely classrooms with large numbers of children must be very noisy and distracting places for learning. Surprisingly, agile spaces are not as noisy as we think they are. Schools across the diocese have ensured that their classrooms continue to be places for maximum learning by installing pin boards and sound proofing panelling. Furniture is arranged to create sound barriers and teacher management of children ensure children can work with little distractions.

We want our classrooms at Mary Immaculate to be both places where children are discussing, collaborating and talking with their peers and places where individual children can focus and hear instructions. Teachers throughout the day monitor the noise levels and provide quiet times for maximum concentration, as like any classroom when the noise levels becomes too distractive, teachers bring the noise level down.

Punctuality to school

Parents are reminded that the school day commences at 8:55am. Students need to arrive before the bell everyday so that they are ready to assemble with their class when the bell rings and commence the lessons promptly. Please assist this matter by ensuring that your child arrives by bell time.

If your child is unavoidably late for school, please bring them to the front office so that they can be signed in by a parent or caregiver. In the same manner, if you need to collect your child early, please send a note to the class teacher and collect your child from the front office.

UNIFORM SHOP

The Uniform Shop is open
Tuesday 8.30a.m.—10.00a.m.
Friday 8.30a.m.—10.00a.m.

Working Bee
Saturday 1st June
8:00—12:00pm

Our working bee for Term 2 will be held Saturday 1st June.

Already a number of families have committed to attend one or more of our working bees. It is not too late to join in. The more helpers the greater the impact we have on keeping our school grounds in wonderful condition for all to enjoy.

It is in partnership that we can achieve great things together.

The working bee will still go ahead if it rains as there are many inside jobs to be done.



STAR SPOT



Congratulations to Amy Inskip 2M who received her Orange belt in Karate on the weekend.

Well done Amy



WE'RE TAKING IT IN OUR STRIDE ON FRIDAY, 24 MAY 2013



Walk Safely to School Day asks that we all consider our transport habits and try to incorporate more walking as part of a healthy, active way to get around. And although walking all the way to school isn't realistic for many of us, it's quite easy to figure out how you can build a walk into your family's daily routine.

You can teach your child the healthy habit of walking more by:

- Walking with them the whole way to school
- If they get the bus or train, walk past your usual stop and get on at the next stop
- If you have to drive, park the car a few blocks away from the school and walk the rest of the way.

Regular exercise like walking with your child not only helps them (and you!) beat chronic problems like obesity, heart disease, behavioural and mental health issues and diabetes. It also gives you a great opportunity to teach your child safe ways to behave around roads and traffic.

This Friday there is an opportunity for students to walk with carers and teachers.

There will be three meeting points-

- Corner of Hambledon Rd and Barrier Drive
- Corner of The Parkway and Farnham Rd (not near the shopping centre- the other end of Farnham Rd)
- Outside Farnham Rd Shopping Centre.

There will be teachers at each of these points by 8:15am ready to walk to school with the students and their parents or carers if they wish.

If you live near these locations or would like to drive part way and walk the rest, please come along and enjoy the morning walk.

When you arrive at school, there will be fruit for you to eat at the canteen as a 'reward' for all that walking!

Remember, Active Kids are Healthy Kids so get planning your own Walk Safely to School Day journey for Friday 24 May 2013!



CAR PARK

Parents please be mindful of other drivers and students in and around the car park.
 The kiss and drop area is only to be used to drop off your child in the morning.
 Please be aware that other drivers will be wishing to do the same thing. Please show courtesy and patience.
 If your child is late please park the car safely and bring your child into the office to get a late note from the office

2013 Parent Conference

Don't miss out!

How to Motivate your child
Shaping your Child's Genius
21st Century Classroom
Future of Catholic Education
And More!

Register for the 2013 Catholic Schools Parent Conference on Saturday 25 May and Sunday 26 May 2013

Check with your school principal about sponsorships

Contact prcparrasecretary@gmail.com ASAP for more information



Support your local school

The Woolworths Earn & Learn program is back! This community program enables schools throughout Australia to earn educational resources including Mathematics and English resources, science equipment, arts & crafts materials, sports gear and more simply through the school community shopping at Woolworths.

Thank you in advance for your support of this fantastic program and I look forward to seeing that collection box overflowing!! Keep your eyes peeled for more information in the coming newsletters and happy shopping!!

Glynnis Smith

COLLECT! COLLECT! COLLECT!

MY VISION FOR BLACKTOWN

TELL US YOUR IDEAS!

My Vision for Blacktown is a competition being run by Blacktown City Council for Primary and High School students attending schools in the local area.

Students can write a short story, essay, a poem or create a picture to show us your vision of the future of our City. Enter and be heard!

Prizes are offered for the winning students as well as their schools.

For more details ask you teacher or check the Council website
www.blacktown.nsw.gov.au.

Entries close and must be received by 4:30pm Friday 14th June 2013.

CANTEEN NEWS

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 2 Week 4

Wednesday 22nd May HELP NEEDED
 Thursday 23rd May Cass Johnson, Chimaka Perera
 Friday 24th May Sharon Hooper HELP NEEDED

Term 2 Week 5

Wednesday 29th May Rosie Jeronic
 Thursday 30th May Elle Willcoxson
 Friday 31st May Connie Smith Michelle Attard



HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO OUR FRIENDS

7th May to 20th May

Arpan Bassi, Libby Hartley, Michael Paz, Taylor Miller, Samuel Sartori, Bryson Larsen-Tai, Laura Felton, Agam Thind, Raylan Miralles, Sebastian Oblepias, Holly Zavone, Connor Gatt, Erica Pisani, Bethany Vella, Charlotte Nolland, Michaela Atard, Angela Espero, Trinity Preller, Sarab Rajpal, Joshua Cooper, Thierry Varlet, Olivia Todorovitch, Casey Odisho