PRINCIPALS ADDRESS

Easter Message

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

As we approach Easter, we are reminded that this is the most important time of the year within our church. It is the time that we remember that Jesus died for us and rose from the dead on the third day. This Lent the teachers have focused the children's attention on their journey in preparation for Easter. The children have focused on their relationship with Jesus and the importance of prayer within this relationship.

I hope that you and your family have a peaceful and joyous Easter celebration and enjoy your time during the holidays with your children.

Yours in Education,

Paul Devlin
Principal

IMPORTANT DATES

Tue 5th Apr
7.30pm P&F Meeting

Wed 6th Apr
Stage 3 Girls Soccer Gala Day
7.30pm Parish Facilitators training for Confirmation/ Eucharist

Thur 7th Apr
10.00am Terra Sancta ‘Stations of the Cross’ presentation for Yrs 3-6 in MPA
P&F Easter Raffle Draw in MPA

Fri 8th Apr
9.15am Kindy, Yr 1 & Yr 2 Easter Hat Parade in MPA
Stage 3 Touch Gala Day

TERM 2 COMMENCES

Wednesday 27th April

Uniform
A letter has gone home today for all families regarding the uniform development. Winter uniform becomes compulsory for all children from 9 May (Monday Term 2 Week 3). If we have unseasonably cold weather before that date, parents are welcome to dress their children in the winter uniform to keep their children warm.

Return to school – Term 2
Term 2 commences for all staff and students on Wednesday 27 April. The first two days of this week are both public holidays for Easter Monday and Anzac Day respectively.

Student Banking
Just a reminder that there is no student banking in the last week of each term.

Whooping Cough
Please be advised we have had confirmed cases of whooping cough in the school. Please ensure you consult a doctor if you have any doubts about your child’s cough.
Holy Week and Easter

The children love sharing in celebration and liturgy with their families. All family members are invited to join us for our school celebrations this week and early next term.

**Holy Week Prayer Room**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Monday 4(^{th})</th>
<th>Tuesday 5(^{th})</th>
<th>Wednesday 6(^{th})</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Year 4, Kinder, 1P</td>
<td>Year 2, Year 5, 1M</td>
<td>Year 3, Year 6, 1G</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Parents with students** Each afternoon (Monday-Thursday) from 3.20pm the prayer room will be open after school for students to walk through with their parents/family members.

Note to parents: The aim is for students to be able to share their class experience of the prayer room with you. Therefore, please aim to visit the prayer room with your child only after they have been with their class. It would be greatly appreciated if everyone could maintain the reverence of the prayer room by moving through this space quietly and prayerfully.

**Stations of the Cross**

(Presented by Terra Sancta students)

Thursday 7\(^{th}\) April for Years 3-6. 10am in the MPA.

**ANZAC Day service**

Wednesday 27\(^{th}\) April. 9.15am in the MPA.

**Easter Liturgy**

Friday 29\(^{th}\) April. 9.20am in the Church.

**Mother’s Day Breakfast, Liturgy and Open Classrooms**

Friday 6\(^{th}\) May from 7.30am-10am

All mums, grandmothers, aunties and family members invited.

There are many opportunities to celebrate the events of Holy Week and Easter with your families at Mary Immaculate Parish.

**Palm Sunday 17/4** – Saturday 6pm vigil, Sunday 7.30am at Schofields, 9am, 10.30am, 6pm

**Holy Thursday 21/4** – Evening Mass of the Lord’s Supper and Washing of the Feet 7.30pm

**Good Friday 22/4** – 10am Way of the Cross, 3pm Solemn Liturgical Action commemorating The Lord’s passion

**Easter Sunday 24/4** - Saturday 6pm vigil, Sunday 7.30am at Schofields, 9am, 10.30am, 6pm
Young Leaders Day

On Monday 28th of March, Miss Clark and the four captains woke up at the crack of dawn to travel to the city for the National Young Leaders Day. There was a crowd of 7000 school leaders at the Sydney Entertainment Centre. The main speakers were Jessica Watson, Mike Martin, Greg Mullins, Kurt Fearnley and the 2009 So You Think You Can Dance winner, Tahila Fowler.

The first speaker to talk to us about Leadership was former Army Lieutenant, and current Director of the Halogen Foundation, Mike Martin. Mike had said that true inspiring leaders should have influence. Influenced leaders should have people listen to them, copy them and follow them. Leaders need to think about why people should choose to follow their example.

Greg Mullins became a volunteer fire fighter at the age of 13. He told us that as leaders when we are trying to achieve a goal we should place stepping-stones along our path for others to follow. He also taught us a recipe of leadership: You need : A dream, 1 cup of hard work, patience, 2 cups of determination, honesty, humility, respect and concern for others. Mix these together and put it in an oven and voila! Leadership is yours!

Kurt Fearnley was the third speaker to speak to us at young leader’s day. Kurt is a famous Para Olympian who has won many gold medals at the Para Olympics in the wheelchair marathon races. He told us about how he crawled the Kokoda Trail, which is an 11-day track. He taught us never to stop, no matter what the circumstances and to always believe in ourselves. Kurt explained how he coped with his disability and how it never set him back. He also explained to us how he could do everything that an able-bodied person could do but just in a different way. Kurt Fearnley is a very inspirational person who can do anything that he sets his mind to. He presented his speech very well on the day and his story should continue to be told.

Jessica Watson was so inspiring for all of us. Jessica is famous for breaking the world record for the youngest person to sail the world solo. Jessica displayed great leadership to us all. She had a lot of things going against her being out in the middle of the ocean. She showed determination and she stuck to her dream and made it come true. We have learnt from Jessica that if you put you mind to something you want to achieve you can achieve it.

Talia Fowler was the winner of So You Think You Can Dance Australia. She told us that we should make our way up our ladder with passion, poise and in honour. By doing this we’ll be able to think bigger, aim higher and eventually we’ll succeed.

Overall, we had a great day, with many inspiring leaders for us to learn about leadership.

Tiana Gracia, Jake Williams, Benjamin Ha, Claudia Pecora.
School Cross Country Carnival

The MIPS Cross Country carnival was held last Friday with all children from Years 3-6 involved. The children have been practising for this over the last month and it certainly showed with such good times on the day. The 8-10 year olds ran 2km while the 11-12 year olds ran 3km. Congratulations to all the children and teachers for their dedication and hard work.

Also, a huge thank you to the parents who volunteered to help on the day. Thanks goes to Mrs Turner, Mrs Henson, Mrs Sultana, Mrs Mangion, Mrs Kalogjera, Mrs Forster and Mrs Arulthusan. A special thanks to the parents who, on the day, stepped in to lend a hand. It is very much appreciated.

The children in the 8 and 9 year old groups compete for positions in a combined age group. The students are chosen by times and quickest runners go on to represent the school at Diocesan level. We will send 6 students for every category for both girls and boys from our school. This is a Diocesan policy and aligns with the Inter-Diocesan practice. We celebrate all successes from the cross country and award age Championship medals for every age from 8 Years to 13 Years.

Congratulations to all the children who were successful in reaching this level. They will be recognized in the next newsletter.

Mark Taylor Shield

Congratulations to the Mark Taylor Shield cricket team on the superb effort they put into their game against Trinity Primary, Kemps Creek. In a hard fought contest Trinity managed to win with a few overs to spare. Best players on the day were Alamdar Raza who scored 18 runs not out and Luke Passmore with a well compiled 10 runs. In bowling, Sean Zorilla (3/10) and and Tehan Peiris (3/13) were the best bowlers. They were ably supported by Armaan Roopra (1/5) and Patrick Gilmour (1/7). The final scores were Mary Immaculate 7/72 and Trinity Primary 8/74. Many thanks to Mr. Troy and Mr. Dent for their wonderful support in coaching the team, and to Mr. Peiris who helped with the umpiring. Thank you to all the parents who supported the team on the day. Unfortunately, being a Knockout Competition this is our last game for the year. A lot was learnt in how to play this type of 30 over game. All the boys improved in their batting, bowling and fielding and were good sports on the day. For all in Year 5 the next competition will start in 2012. Well done!

John Noort (Co-Coach)

NSW Catholic Schools Diving Titles

Congratulations to Samuel McKinnon who competed last Monday in the NSW Diving Titles at Homebush.

He is the first ever to compete in this event from Mary Immaculate.

Sam had to perform three dives, which were scored by five judges.

He came 7th in the state. What an achievement!

Learning Letterbox

Letters to the Principal

I learnt cars cannot drive on T-ways.

Jade, 1M

I learnt that in the dreamtime the animals could talk.

Paola, 2G

I learnt that the Council has to pay 3 million dollars every 4 years to get rid of graffiti.

Lyndon, 4P

I’ve learnt how to do a times tables trick for the 11’s and 12’s times tables.

Jess, 6G

This week I have learnt about simple machines. They are; wheel and axel, pulley, inclined plane, screw, lever and wedge.

Cooper, Yr 4

This term I have learnt a lot about mini beasts, how we work in our area and to play touch football.

Georgia, 3G

I learnt to count by two’s and I am learning to tie my shoe-laces.

Tiarna, 1G

I learnt if you put plastic bags in the drain they get washed into rivers and oceans and can cause animals living there to choke on them.

Ravjot, 2P
Hello Parents & Friends of MIPS.

The P & F would like to thank you all for your support over this first term, which can I say has come and gone so quickly. Through your support of the school, the P & F has been able to raise some much needed funds, which will go to good use later in the year. As well, both the Bingo night and Working Bee were exceptionally well supported, and through this support, our community has been able to go from strength to strength.

I would like to invite all parents and friends of Mary Immaculate to attend the upcoming P & F Association Meeting at 7:30pm on Tuesday 5th April in the school staff room. Many of the events which take place during the year, are as a result of the planning and co-ordination of our P & F Team, and your involvement and support would be very much appreciated. There are many ways to be involved in the school community, and the P & F is certainly one of these ways. Committee meetings are held on the first Tuesday of the month within a school term, and will go for approximately 90 minutes. Roles in the P & F requiring support include Fundraising, Maintenance and PRC Representative. If you are interested in assisting with any of these, or would like to simply assist the P & F, we welcome you to join us tomorrow evening.

We hope to see you then.

From the P & F Committee, we wish all of the families in our community a safe and happy Easter break.

Take care and God Bless,

Ryan Hutton - President
Mary Immaculate P & F Association

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY!**

29th March to 8th April

Jayden Weymark, Luke Garbutt, Natham Ta, Rhys Morato, Cholawat Techaskul, Jordan Faleono, Kyle Smith, Joanne Pakura, Aron-Will Canlas, Selena Coleiro, Jennifer Lopez, Aaron Preller, Jacob McFarlane, Jayden Kemp, Nicholas Garbutt

**Quakers Hill Netball Club**

Invites you to join us for the 2011 season

**PLAYERS NEEDED**

If you are turning 6, 7, 8 or 10 this year
Please contact us…

Club Secretary - Heather Smith
Mob: 0408 604 018
Email: heathersmith@iprimus.com.au

Junior Registrar - Jodi Turner
Mob: 0405 114 841
Email: jodi.turner@anzmortgagesolutions.com

Fee extensions are available. If required please speak with us confidentially as the club may be able to assist.

All team coaches are nationally accredited
Visit the website for further information & registration forms

www.quakershill.netball.asn.au

**Congratulations**

recently who won Little Athletics Awards

**Christopher Sultana, 3P**—Best in Age, Under 8 boys

**Lauren Berwick, 5M**—Best in Age, Under 10 girls

**Sarah Henson, 4P**—Encouragement Award, Under 10 girls, 5 year Service Award, Spirit of Little Athletics Nominee

**Kathryn Henson, 1M**—Encouragement Award, Under 7 girls