Dear Parents and Caregivers,

What a great start to the year. The children have settled into their new classes and learning spaces beautifully and are making new friends while getting to know their new teacher. We welcome all new families to the school who have joined our learning community. We have had a number of families join the older grades of our school, along with many, many new families with their children joining kindergarten. I am sure that these new families will be made to feel very welcome by the rest of our learning community.

This week is very busy with events as we commence the school year.

On Tuesday, all parents are warmly invited to our first Parents and Friends Association meeting for the year. The meeting will commence at 7:30pm on Tuesday 7 February in the school staffroom. Feel free to come along and contribute to the school in this very effective association and meet many other friendly families.

On Wednesday, we gather as a Catholic community to celebrate and ask God’s blessing on our school year at our Opening School Mass. This Mass will commence at 9:15am in the Mary Immaculate church with all families warmly invited. A ‘cup of tea or coffee’ will be available for all parents following the mass.

On Wednesday evening, there will be information sessions for Years 1, 5 and 6. These sessions will share particular information for these grades and allow opportunity for discussion and questions. The Year 1 session begins at 6:30 while the sessions for Year 5 and 6 begin at 7:00pm.

I look forward to another wonderful year of learning at Mary Immaculate as we commenced 2012 together.

Yours in education,

Paul Devlin
Principal
RE NEWS

You are warmly invited to join us for our

Opening School Mass
Wednesday 8th February
9.15am Mary Immaculate Church

Please join our school community as we celebrate the beginning of the new school year with the theme
‘We Walk Side by Side’.

On this day we look forward to officially welcoming our new Kindergarten children, new students and staff as well as commissioning our Year 6 student leaders for 2012.

You are also invited to a Parent Morning Tea following Mass in the MPA.

Parish Sacramental Program

Sacrament of First Eucharist
Dates have now been finalised for the Sacrament of First Eucharist for 2012. For families involved in this program (children in Year 4 and above who have received the Sacrament of Reconciliation), please note the following dates in your diaries and refer to the Parish Bulletin in coming weeks for further information. Thank you.

Saturday, 31st March
Enrolment forms available for First Eucharist Program

Wednesday, 9th May
First Parent Meeting 7:30pm

Saturday, 9th and Sunday, 10th June
(Queen’s Birthday Long weekend) First Eucharist (All Masses)

P & F NEWS

First Meeting for 2012
Our first P & F Meeting for 2012 will be held on Tuesday evening (7 February) at 7:30pm in the school staff room. We would like to invite all parents and caregivers, particularly those who are new to our community, to join us and assist with planning upcoming social and fundraising events. The P & F is a great way of meeting other families from our community and a fantastic way you can participate here at Mary Immaculate.

We look forward to seeing you there.

Take Care and God Bless,

Ryan Hutton
President
Mary Immaculate P & F Association

Can you help???

Once again, the P & F will be holding the Annual Family Bingo Night in just a few weeks time. Our community is blessed with many families who work in different fields, some of whom own their own businesses. We are seeking expressions from those who would like to donate prizes for the Family Bingo Night, and be recognised on the evening for their support.

If you are able to donate a prize for the evening, please contact the P & F Association via email at mipspandf@parra.catholic.edu.au or contact Ryan Hutton on 0410 668 481.

We look forward to being able to support the many local businesses run by families from our school community.

Ryan Hutton
President
Reema Hani
Fundraising Co-ordinator
SCHOOL NEWS

School Uniform
Our new uniform looks great and the children love it too. Parents are asked to help maintain our school image by dressing the children in the correct uniforms at all times. The uniform shop is well stocked with all items and is open every Tuesday and Friday from 8:30am till 10:00. If you are unable to attend during these times, order forms are available from the school office or downloadable from the school website.

New school hats
Some of the old school hats – the legionnaire style, are looking very old, tired and torn. Parents are asked to keep an eye on the condition of their child’s hat and replace them with the new ‘bucket’ style if required.

School Bag
The school bag that is available from the uniform shop is part of the school uniform and therefore compulsory for the children to use. Existing bags only need to be replaced with the school bag once they are torn or damaged.

Disabled Car spaces
Please observe all parking restrictions within our car park. Parents are reminded that disabled parking spaces can only be used by those with a disabled parking permit. Thank you for your cooperation in helping to keep our car park safe.

Parent Information Night
Just a reminder that an information night will be held for parents of Year 1, Year 5 and Year 6 this Wednesday, 8th February. The Year 1 information night regarding Agile Learning Spaces will begin at 6.30pm and will be held in the Year 1 learning space. The Year 5 and 6 information night which highlights important Stage 3 curriculum expectations begins at 7pm and will be held in the Stage 3 area. We hope that you can all make it.

MIPS Swimming Carnival
The Primary Swimming Carnival is due to be held on Thursday. This is always an exciting and fun day for all involved. All children are to arrive at school by the normal time ready to catch the bus to the swimming pool. If the weather is unsuitable, the children will stay at school and have normal lessons with their teachers. (Any decision to postpone the carnival will be made on Thursday morning). We are still in need of Parents Helpers; if you are able to assist with the carnival please contact Mrs Vogt via the school office. All assistance is gladly accepted and greatly appreciated.

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.

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<tr>
<th>Week 3</th>
<th>Wednesday 15th Feb</th>
<th>Thursday 16th Feb</th>
<th>Friday 17th Feb</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Sue Quigley</td>
<td>Rachel Harris</td>
<td>Melissa Loughlin</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>HELP NEEDED</td>
<td>Carmen Baker</td>
<td>Leanne Corapi</td>
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If you like to help in the canteen please contact the school office!
January 2012

February (1/2/12—18/2/12)