PRINCIPALS ADDRESS.

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

The motto of our school is “Love and Service”. It is there to remind us all, of the central messages that Jesus taught by example while he lived on earth. The elements, of our motto, love and service, unfortunately are not seen too often as our society and our world. We are constantly reminded by advertising that we should be served and that we should always be ‘receiving’.

As Jesus walked this Earth, his actions were motivated by love and service throughout his life. He served others so that they would have their needs met. But he served others so that they might witness the love that Jesus had for all his people. When we reflect on Jesus’ life, it is filled with examples of service and love. The greatest act of service, though, was when he laid down his life for us. This was the ultimate act of love and service.

Jesus wants us to care for one another throughout our lives because it is through this service that we will grow to know ourselves, others and Jesus better. Let us pray that through the coming weeks as we approach Lent, we will follow the example of Jesus and life lives full of love and service.

Yours in education,
Paul Devlin
Principal

RE NEWS

Welcome

We welcome the Sisters of the Missionaries of God’s Love to the Mary Immaculate Parish community. Sr Judy Bowe Sr Rosemary Drum and Sr Therese Mills will visit our school this Friday. They have recently taken up residence in the former Mercy convent in Torbert Avenue, just behind our school and they will be working within the diocese. On behalf of all of us here at MIPS we extend a warm welcome to them into the Mary Immaculate community.

GRADE MASSES – Term 1

Due to timetable clashes there has been a minor change to the dates that grades will be attending Mass this term. The weekday parish Mass is at 9.15am and all parents and families are welcome to join their child’s class.

Thursday 17th February
Years 1 and 5

Wednesday 23rd February
Years 3 and 4

Thursday 3rd March
Years 2 and 6

Please keep in your prayers

One of our staff members, Cheryl Belcastro has been sick for some time and is recovering slowly. We are hoping that Cheryl will be strong enough to return to work within a few weeks. Please continue to keep Cheryl in your thoughts and prayers.

Happiness and Service

I slept and dreamed that life was happiness,
Then I awoke and found out that life was service.
I served and I found out that in service, happiness is found.
- Rabindranath Tagore
SCHOOL NEWS

WELCOME
Mrs Lynn Borg and Mrs Anne Grima have taken two weeks long service leave and will be away until Monday 28 February. In their place, Mrs Ewer and Mrs Bobbin will be taking care of administrative duties in the front office. We welcome the two ladies to Mary Immaculate and hope their time with us is thoroughly enjoyable.

EARLY ARRIVAL AT SCHOOL
Thank you to the families who have responded positively to the school’s change in early morning gate opening times. I am aware of the implications this change has had on some families. The school and the Catholic Out of School Hours Centre (COSHC) are discussing a change to the fees charged for partial morning attendance at the COSHC. Once these arrangements are finalised, they will be advertised for the parent community.

USING THE CAR PARK
Thanks to all the parents who continue to use the car park courteously while using the allotted spaces. Please continue to only use the marked car spaces throughout the car parks as this allows other cars to safely move through the area.

SCHOOL FEE STATEMENTS
The Catholic Education Office has sent out School Fee Statements to all families with payment due within 30 days of date of statement. Any family requiring financial consideration or assistance is asked to place their request in writing to our Office Administrator Mrs Michelle Brien, Michelle will now be available each Thursday and can be contacted through the school office phone 9626 3999.

STUDENT BANKING
Student banking packs have been sent home today. Please return on Friday mornings when a parent volunteer can process them.

LEARNING LETTERBOX
Joshua Perera 2M - 8/2/11
Yesterday I learnt in the rainforest that vines grow up to get sunlight.
Yvette Vill 3P-11/2/11
I learnt that I am Australian.

INFORMATION EVENING FOR PARISH SCHOOLS ENROLMENT 2012
There will be a meeting for parents wishing to enrol their children in our parish schools, Mary Immaculate Primary School, Quakers Hill, St Joseph’s Primary School, Schofields and Terra Sancta College on Thursday 10 March at 7pm here at Mary Immaculate Church. Information will be shared about the enrolment process by Fr Ian. School principals will also speak about their particular schools.
All parents concerned are asked to attend.
SCHOOL NEWS CONT-

SCHOOL PHOTOS

Yes! It’s that time of year again! Our school photos will be taken on:

Monday 21 February 2011
Years 1, 2, 4, 5, 6 & Family Portraits

Thursday 24 February 2011 - Kindergarten, Year 3 & Staff,

Important
Orders received after photo day will incur a surcharge fee of $20.00 per order.

Payments by cash or cheque only (no credit card payment options – no change is given – so please correct money only). If paying by cheque please make payable to:

MSP PHOTOGRAPHY – SYDNEY and not to the school.

Swimming Carnival 2011

What a day! The weather was superb, the competition was good and everyone was able to get into the water for a period of time to cool off. The program ran to time, the students were very well behaved and there was enough time for the parents, teachers and Year 6 students race at the end with the teachers being the victors this year.

Congratulations to all the children who competed in the races on the day. Thank you to all the parents who volunteered their time to help make the day such a success. Also, thank you to the teachers who put in so much effort on days like this.

Congratulations to Dhurrak Colour House (Green) who won the carnival quite convincingly, followed by Pentland, (Red), Callose (Blue) and MacKillop, (Gold).

YEAR 6 RELAY TEAM

BIRTHDAYS

January

February to date

SOCIAL SKILLS

GREETING OTHERS

Look at the person - Smile at the person - Say "hello"

Parent Links: Teach your child that people and things have value and should be treated as such. Teach your child to address adults with titles and last names (Mr. Jones) unless the adults have given your child permission to use their first name. When you have visitors or guests come to your house encourage your child to look at the adult, to say hello to them and respond when the adults speak to them.

Some of our wonderful parent helpers
NEWS FROM THE COMMUNITY

P & F
Hello and welcome to a new school year. I would especially like to welcome the new families and staff who have joined our school community. No doubt everyone is excited to have started a new school year, and we hope that you all enjoy the year ahead.

This year, the P & F Association will enter its second year, and we hope to continue to grow the role we play in building a stronger school community, and to continue to provide information on what is happening around the school and the Diocese. Parent involvement is an important element both for our children's development, and for the school. Our involvement as parents ensures that the school is able to focus on the development of our children, and helps to build a fun and safe environment for our children to learn in. You can support the wonderful work of the school by participating in various ways - through involvement in the P & F, helping at the canteen or on school excursions, assisting at working bees, or just as important, joining us for school social events, which help to raise funds for much needed supplies within our school. If you are interested, please contact the P & F for more information on how to get involved.

Once again welcome to a new school year. If you have a question, or issue you would like addressed at our P & F Meeting, please feel free to join us. Our first meeting will be held at 7:30pm on Wednesday March 2. Alternatively, you can email the P & F on mipsandf@parra.catholic.edu.au

Take care and God Bless,
Ryan Hutton
President
P & F Association - Mary Immaculate

Maltese Language School of NSW
The Maltese Language School of NSW. A division of the Maltese Community Council of NSW, invites new students to join its classes held on Saturday mornings at Horsely Park or on Wednesday evenings at Seven Hills for fast learning of the Maltese language and culture, Teachers also required. For all enquiries contact Maria 0416119100 or Marthese 0422 665 922.
malteselanguageschoolnsw@hotmail.com

Play Hockey This Winter with Kings Langley Hockey Club
Catering for:-
Boys and Girls, Men and Women aged 7 years to adult.
2011 Programmes
Junior Competition for U11’s, U13’s and U15’s
Term 2 U9 programme and Term 2 Open Age 4-a-side
For more information phone Lyn on 9674 2876 or visit http://www.kingslangleyhockey.org.au

Congratulations to Madison Gonzales 5G and Hannah Contemplacion 6G for completing the Weetbix Kids Tryatholon on 30th January at Sydney Olympic Park. The triathlon was 150m swim, 6km cycle and 1km run.

Drummer - Nash Belkovskis class 5P - was selected to compete with his rock band "The Rubbles" in a Battle Of The Bands competition on Saturday 19th February. Good Luck Nash.