Dear Parents and Caregivers,

This week is Catholic Schools Week.

Catholic Schools Week will be celebrated this year across NSW and the ACT from 29 April to 5 May.

The theme for 2012 is ‘Faith in Every Student’.

This year, more than 611 Catholic schools will take part in the celebrations, involving about 264,000 students. This is an ideal opportunity to showcase the great things that take place in Catholic schools every day, and to celebrate the many achievements of our students.

We are immensely proud of our Catholic heritage, and are committed to offering children in our schools the opportunity to follow Jesus as members of the Catholic community. Our school is planning a number of activities during this time that highlight the wonderful teaching and learning that takes place, as well as the many other exciting opportunities that Mary Immaculate Primary provides for its students.

We launched Catholic Schools Week in our parish with the combined St Joseph’s, Terra Sancta and Mary Immaculate Mass yesterday. It was a wonderful opportunity to celebrate with the parish community and our other parish schools.

During Catholic Schools Week, our school will be hosting its annual Enrolment Open Day. This is an opportunity for prospective families to visit our school and see the wonderful learning that occurs here. In Week 3, (next week), all current families are welcome to attend the Mothers’ Day celebrations on Friday 11 May, which incorporates an Open Classroom opportunity for parents to spend time with their children seeing the current learning taking place at school.

I encourage you to participate in this spirit of celebration. Thank you for your ongoing support, and I look forward to seeing you during Catholic Schools Week.

Yours in education,

Paul Devlin
Principal
Dear Parents,

In Week 4 of this term the National Assessment Program, Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) will be completed by all students in Years 3 and 5 in all government and non-government schools. NAPLAN has the support of all State and Territory Education Ministers and will assess the literacy and numeracy learning of students in all Australian Schools.

The results of the tests will provide important information to schools about what each student can do, and will be used to support teaching and learning programs. Parents will receive a report indicating their child’s level of achievement. Each student’s level of achievement will be reported against the national minimum standard.

The tests will be conducted across Australia for all students on -

**TUESDAY 15th MAY** - Language Conventions (Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar) and Writing

**WEDNESDAY 16 MAY** - Reading

**THURSDAY 17 MAY** - Numeracy (Number, Algebra, function and pattern; Chance and data; Measurement and Space)

In preparation for NAPLAN, Years 3 and 5 will be working on developing skills and practices necessary for an accurate performance in NAPLAN testing. A letter will be sent home to all students in these year groups detailing further information next week.

If you would like additional information about NAPLAN please follow the links below:


Tracy Herron
Acting Assistant Principal

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**Catholic Schools Week 2012**

**Faith In Every Student**

**April 29 - May 5**

Thank you to all of the students and families who attended our Parish Schools Mass for Catholic Schools Week yesterday. Mary Immaculate, St Joseph’s and Terra Sancta school communities joined together to celebrate Mass with the Parish and it was a lovely communal occasion. As schools across NSW and ACT celebrate Catholic Schools Week this week, we pray in unity the CSW Prayer.

Dear Lord

Catholic Schools Week is a special time in the year when we celebrate the extraordinary achievements of our Catholic schools. It is a time to give thanks for the wonderful teaching and learning that takes place every day.

We acknowledge and thank all who work in the service of Catholic education to create the opportunities for students that allow them to grow and thrive.

We thank you for the wisdom and understanding of teachers, the enthusiasm and energy of students, the leadership of school Principals and executive staff, the skill, care and commitment of administrative and support staff, the guidance of our pastors and religious leaders, the support and partnership of parents, carers and local communities.

We pray that each student’s learning journey be inspired by a search for your wisdom and truth. We pray that we never take for granted the learning opportunities that we have all been given, and that we use the gifts of learning wisely and responsibly.

We ask that we use what we have learnt to create a better world for all the people, particularly the most vulnerable and disadvantaged.

We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

Amen

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**Parish Sacramental Program—First Eucharist 2012**

Enrolments for the Sacrament First Eucharist have now closed for this year. The ‘Parents Only’ meeting will be held on Wednesday 9th May 7.30pm. Groups that families have been assigned to will be confirmed at this meeting. It is an important gathering and is compulsory.
Consultation at Mary Immaculate Catholic Parish, Quakers Hill-Schofields

~ Faith in our Future ~

As part of planning for the future in the Diocese of Parramatta, Bishop Anthony has initiated a process where all parish and school communities are invited to discuss their views and needs. A consultation evening will be held in the Multi-purpose Area of the school and all families and parishioners are warmly invited. The details for our evening are:

When: Tuesday 26 June 2012
Time: 7:30-9:30pm

More information can be found at: www.faithinourfuture.org.au

Please mark this important date in your diary and come along and assist in the planning for our Diocese for the future.

Enrolment at Mary Immaculate
Enrolment for 2013 is well under way with many application forms already being received by the school. All applications for 2013 are due to be returned by the end of May. Any applications received after that date will be a “Late Application”. We would encourage all applications to be lodged at the school’s front office as soon as possible. Following the return of the Enrolment Application Form, an interview time will be given and the application processed according to the Diocesan Guidelines.

If you know of any family in the community seeking quality Catholic Education, please direct them to the school for an application form and please advise them that applications close at the end of May.

Winter uniform
The children will officially begin wearing their winter uniform from the third week of Term 2 – week beginning 7 May. If we have unseasonably cool weather before that date, parents are welcome to dress their children in the warmer winter uniform for the children’s comfort. All children are expected to wear their winter uniform from Tuesday 8 May (as Monday 7 May is a Staff Development Day).

Easter and ANZAC prayer celebrations
In the last week of Term 1 and the first week of this term, the school celebrated Easter and ANZAC day. It was a wonderful experience to witness the beauty and reverence of children in prayer during these times. A sincere word of thanks to all the staff members who contributed to the prayer events and liturgies around this time. It is only through their contribution to the prayer life of the school that makes these special events take place. We have a wonderfully committed staff at Mary Immaculate who constantly contribute to the success of our school.

Mothers’ Day Celebration at MIPS
On Friday 11 May, the Parents and Friends will host a breakfast for Mary Immaculate families, and notes have gone home about this event. Following this, there will be Open Classrooms from 8:30am till 9:20am for all families to visit their children’s classrooms. At 9:30am there will be a Mothers’ Day liturgy held in the church to which all families are warmly invited. Please feel free to come along and celebrate Mothers’ Day with the Mary Immaculate community.

PEER SUPPORT SESSION 2
This week in Peer Support, the children will learn about the importance of having a go. The activities help them identify what they have already learned to do and what things they would still like to learn. The children will also explore their feelings when faced with difficulties and identify the need for courage when they try something new.

During the week, encourage your child to be aware of the importance of learning from their mistakes and trying new experiences.
FROM THE LEARNING LETTERBOX

Dear Mr. Devlin
I have been learning to do maths and I have been learning friendship too.
Isobel Grech 1G

Dear Mr. Devlin
I learnt that mini beasts do not have a back bone.
James 3G

Dear Mr. Devlin
Have a happy Easter and I hope you have a good time on the holidays.
Christian 2P

Dear Mr. Devlin
I learnt that the closest planet to the sun is Mercury, Venus, Mars, Earth Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus, Neptune and Pluto.
Luke 4G

Dear Mr. Devlin
The Feast of the Divine Mercy was celebrated on Sunday. I was very happy to have been selected as a flower girl for the procession. When I walked before the Blessed Sacrament I felt as if I was walking with Jesus. As a student of the school of Mary Immaculate I felt very proud to have been an active participant at the Feast of Divine Mercy.
Shashini Peiris 2G

Happy Birthday to our friends:
From 23rd April to 6th May
Vanessa Peiris, Taylor MacRae, Adrienne Onglingchuan, Hannah Nolland, Nathan Hartman, Jacob Mangion, Samuel Pflitzner, Joshua Smith, Jade Oliver, Riley Oliver, Kai Calafate, Christian Todorovitch, Liam Curry, Emma Ricci, Geleinne David, Byron Wolfe, Armaan Roopra, Miguel Villa, Sophia Grech, Liam Amato, Guy Shepherd, Holly McFarlane, Simone Singh

It’s a girl!

Baby News
Congratulations to The Inskip family (Amy 1P) on the birth of their new baby.
Abby born 3rd April 2012.

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.

Week 2 Term 2
Wednesday 2nd May Sam Scully HELP NEEDED
Thursday 3rd May Phillipa Holtsbaum
Friday 4th May Erica Monk, Katherine Joson

Week 3 Term 2
Wednesday 9th May Sue Quigley HELP NEEDED
Thursday 10th May Carmen Baker
Friday 11th May Leanne Corapi

Newsletter