



MARY IMMACULATE PRIMARY

~ NEWSLETTER ~

Term 4 Week 2 : Monday 16th October 2017



Dear Parents/Caregivers,

In reviewing our assembly times, the general sense is that while the process of our Monday morning assemblies is very valuable the timing needs changing. Monday mornings are prime learning time for students and having assembly then is proving to be disruptive to the effectiveness of that session. We will be trialing an alternative model moving forward.

From next week, there will no longer be Monday morning assemblies. Instead we will be having Friday afternoon assemblies each week instead of each fortnight, commencing at 2:45pm. Awards, class items, presenting the week ahead, etc will now be scheduled for this time.

I spoke this morning to those parents at our assembly about this change. They were supportive. Only a few parents can get to the Monday morning assembly but we always get lots of families come to the Friday afternoon assemblies so this will be great for them. Of course, we will closely monitor this scheduling variation.

Next week, we are hosting leaders and teachers from a group of Independent Schools from Brisbane. They are coming to learn from how we have been able to implement such rapid and successful whole school improvements at MIPS. This is very affirming for our school community that together we have been able to do so much for our students. The group will be with us over the Wednesday and Thursday of Week 3 working with our school leaders and teachers. It is tremendous that our success story has spread interstate!

With appreciation of your ongoing support,

Stephen Dowd
Principal

latest news

CANTEEN NEWS

We are moving to a new canteen company early this term. Please continue using the Hungry Miner this week and our canteen as usual until we transition. More information to follow.

P&F MEETING

This Wednesday

18th October

7pm

MIPS Staffroom

Year 3 PLANETARIUM

INCURSION

This Thursday 19th

October - MPA

Skyworks Planetarium

WHOLE SCHOOL

ASSEMBLY

Year 2 Coordinating

Next Friday 27 October

Multipurpose Area - 2:45pm

KINDERGARTEN 2018 Orientation

First Session - Next Thursday 26th October

Orientation will begin next week in the MPA from 9 - 11am. We are looking forward to welcoming all our new Kindergarten students and parents as well as our 'old' ones.

125 Barnier Dr Quakers Hill NSW 2763

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CAKE STALL - YEAR 6 FUNDRAISER TOMORROW TUESDAY 17TH OCTOBER

Lunchtime & Recess in MPA

Only 50c - \$2

Year 6 will be running their second cake stall.
The money raised at these stalls will be used by Year 6 to
purchase a gift for the school,
as a reminder of their time at Mary Immaculate.

CATHOLIC MISSION DAY

Next Friday, 27th October, Mary Immaculate Primary will have a **mufti day** to support the work of Catholic Mission. Students are invited to wear mufti and bring in a gold coin donation which will go towards Catholic Mission's efforts in assisting and enabling remote and developing communities throughout the world. This mufti day takes place as students from K-6 are learning about ways that they can be missionaries in today's world, following the example of Jesus and reaching out in love and service.



2018 PARRAMATTA DIOCESAN TEAM SPORT TRIALS



Currently only the Summer Sports of BASKETBALL & TENNIS are open and registrations close on Friday 27th October as these trials will be held in November 2017. All other sport registrations will open in November for 2018 trials.

Any Primary students enrolled in Year 5 and 6 in 2018 are invited to participate in the Parramatta Diocesan Team Sport Trials during Term Four in 2017 and Term One in 2018. In some sports students in Year 4 **MAY** nominate.

It is important to note that these trials are generally for those children who display an above average ability and/or have representative experience in their chosen sport. While teams are open in age it is **strongly recommended that only children of a representative standard in Years 5 & 6 in 2018 be invited to attend.**

Parramatta Diocesan trials will be held in the following sports:

*AFL (boys), Basketball (B&G), Cricket (B&G), Diving (B&G), Hockey (B&G), Football (B&G), Golf (B&G), Hockey (B&G), Netball (girls), Rugby League (11yrs & Opens), Rugby Union (boys), Softball (B&G), Tennis (B&G), & Touch(B&G).

To be eligible for selection for these trials an Online Team Registration Form must be completed that can be accessed via the website www.primarysportparra.catholic.edu.au

This online form is an **EXPRESSION OF INTEREST** for the 2018 Parramatta Diocesan Primary Sport Team trials. Parents may complete this form to attend a selection trial. One form is to be completed per child, per individual sport. Each sport has its own criteria therefore, it is imperative that the correct form is completed.

Please note that your online registration is an **EXPRESSION OF INTEREST ONLY** and **MUST be approved by the child's school**. In order for the child to attend the nominated trial or event this may come down to the discretion of the school as to who is selected to attend the trial. In some sports only 2 students per school can be nominated. **All fields and especially "Representative Experience" MUST be completed.**

Under no circumstances will a child be eligible to trial if the Online Registration Form has not been completed and approved by the school by the closing date.

ARRIVAL AT SCHOOL

Supervision begins at 8:25am. Children should not be left at school before this time. A 'kiss and drop' zone operates in the morning if you do not wish to walk your child into school. *Adults must stay in the car at all times if using the 'kiss and drop' zone.* The children's bags must be in the car with them to ensure they can exit quickly. *At no time can a car be left unattended in the 'kiss and drop' zone.*

If you wish to walk your child into school, please drive up the ramp to the car park. Children take their bags to the classroom and then must go straight to the playground for supervision. No one is to remain in the building before school unless they have made a formal appointment with a staff member. If this is the case, you must sign in at the office. Parents who come down onto the playground are asked to stand to the side and allow their child to socialise with the other children on the playground. The perimeter gates are locked each morning. The main Barnier Drive main gate entrance remains open during the day.

DEPARTURE FROM SCHOOL

School finishes at 3:20pm and we appreciate your efforts to pick up your child promptly at that time. Supervision ceases at 3:40pm. *The 'kiss and drop' zone does not operate in the afternoon.* Parents/caregivers are required to park in the top car park and collect children from the designated point outside the building. Please do not go into the building to collect children from classrooms. Please note, children are not allowed to walk to the car park and meet their parents. They must be collected from the teacher. The perimeter gates are closed after the last bus leaves in the afternoon. If there is an emergency and you are late to collect your child, please contact the school office. Children can become anxious when parents are late or they are unclear about their afternoon arrangements.

CARPARK ETIQUETTE

Parents are reminded that all cars need to be parked in **Marked spaces only**. This allows for the safe passage of other cars through the car park whilst also maximising the safety of all pedestrians, including all children, at all times. Please respect other members of the community by using the car park in a safe and respectful manner.

SCHOOL TRAVEL

The School Opal card gives eligible students free or discounted travel between home and school using the train, bus, ferry and light rail services you nominate in your application.



Who needs to apply

A new application is only required if the student has not had a School Opal card before. If the student already has a School Opal card and is changing schools, campuses or home address, you will need to update their Opal card for the new school year before mid- December at apps.transport.nsw.gov.au/ssts

How to apply

Applications for next year open at the start of Term 4 this year.

Step 1

Once the new school has confirmed your child's enrolment, complete the application at transportnsw.info/school-students

Step 2

The school endorses your application.

Step 3

Once Transport for NSW has approved the application, a School Opal card will be sent to the address provided on the application

UNIFORM SHOP TRADING HOURS

Summer uniforms are now available for purchase.

Trading Hours: Tuesdays & Fridays 8.30am - 10.00am

Please contact Elle for any further enquiries. Phone: 0421 216 414 or via email: elle@ozfashions.com.au



catholic out of school hours care

CHRISTMAS 2017 & JANUARY 2018 COSHC OPERATION DATES

To assist COSHC families in planning their education and care needs over the Christmas closure period and to plan bookings for Vacation Care in January 2018, a calendar of Closure Dates and Operational Dates has been issued to all families enrolled with COSHC.

COSHC WILL BE CLOSED ON:

- Monday, 18 December 2017 and Tuesday, 19 December, 2017. COSHC staff will be participating in professional development in line with teachers and school staff.
- The Early Learning and Care team will be on annual leave from 22 December, 2017 to 5 January 2018. COSHC will not be operating during these days.
- COSHC will be closed on Australia Day, 26 January, 2018
- COSHC will be closed on Monday, 29 January 2018 for professional development of staff.

FAMILIES, PLEASE NOTE:

- Christmas Closure:** The **last day of operation** of COSHC services will be Friday, 15 December 2017.
- January Vacation Care:** The COSHC Summer Vacation Care Program commences on Monday, 8 January, 2018 to Thursday 25 January 2018.
- 2018 Commencement of COSHC operations for Before- and After-School programs**
- COSHC will re-open on Tuesday, 30 January, 2018.

Diocese of Parramatta



YOUNGER WIDOWED SUPPORT GROUP

Next gathering this Tuesday 17th October: 7 - 9pm

Solo Parent Services' Younger Widowed Support Group is held on the 3rd Tuesday of each month. The Support Group is for men and women widowed at a younger age whether you are a parent or not. Please note change of Venue to: 2A Villiers St, Parramatta. Cost: \$5.00. Registration: Rita Ph. 8822 2222 or email: soloparentservices@ccss.org.au

STEPPING BEYOND SUPPORT GROUP

Next gathering Tuesday 31st October: 7 - 9pm

Solo Parent Services "Stepping Beyond" Support Group, is held on the last Tuesday of each month for those struggling through a separation or divorce. Next Gathering: 31st October
Please note change of Venue: 2A Villiers St, Parramatta Time: 7pm – 9pm. Cost: \$5.00.
Registration: Rita Ph. 8822 2222 or email: soloparentservices@ccss.org.au

CHILDREN'S MEDITATION WORKSHOP

MOUNT ST BENEDICT CENTRE - Pennant Hills

Saturday 28th October 1:30 - 4:30pm

This fun workshop is for children aged 5-12 years, and aims to build a healthy body and mind. By teaching a variety of simple meditation techniques using breath and visualisation, creating mandalas and moving the body in a conscious way, children are encouraged to find that centre of stillness inside. This can help with anxiety, building confidence and understanding emotions. **Cost: \$30 BYO Afternoon Tea**
Reserve your place by email mtstbenedict@goodsams.org.au or ph 9484 6208



SHARE YOUR WORLD!

WITH AN OVERSEAS EXCHANGE STUDENT!



TAKE A LEAP OF FAITH

Have you ever considered inviting an exchange student into your home? WEP is looking for Australian families to join their community of volunteer host families!

Treat your family to an intercultural experience like no other by hosting an exchange student from overseas. Share a piece of your heart and your backyard and support a young person make his/her dream of living and studying in Australia come true.

If you have a room to spare and an interest in other cultures, we would love to hear from you! Remember, sometimes the greatest rewards in life come from taking a leap of faith or doing the things you never thought you would.



CONTACT WEP

1300 884 733

INFO@WEP.ORG.AU

WEP.ORG.AU

MEET DAVIDE!

"I have a passion for the arts. I dedicate a lot of my time to photography, drawing, music and writing. I am also addicted to reading and I'm a great cook. I have an active nature and I enjoy outdoor sports such as volleyball, biking and running. I'm from a talkative family and I love to tell them all about my day. I hope my host family enjoy the experience as much as I will!"

STEP 1 - REQUEST PROGRAM INFO

- Email or call Sylvia at WEP: sylviakelly@wep.org.au / 03 9598 4733

STEP 2 - CHOOSE YOUR STUDENT

- WEP will send you comprehensive program and student information, so you can choose the student best suited to your family.

STEP 3 - PREPARE FOR ARRIVAL

- WEP will assess your application, prepare you for your student's arrival and take care of everything, including school enrolment, assistance with your application for relevant working with children checks, flights, insurance and more!

