



## MARY IMMACULATE PRIMARY

### ~ NEWSLETTER ~

**Term 1 Week 4: Monday 18th February 2019**



Dear Parents/Carers,

It was wonderful to welcome our Kindergarten students to the MIPS faith community on Friday at our beginning of school year mass. They joined us for part of the mass in which we also commissioned our student leaders for 2019.

As an innovation in the commissioning we invited the parents of the leaders to be the ones who placed their leadership badges on their uniforms for the first time. This was a very proud and significant moment for all involved and should be continued in years to come.

Over this year, I will be providing many other areas than previously for our student leaders to play an active role. I intend to extend the augmentation of 'student leadership' to all our Year 6 students. All of our students and families have a role to play as a Catholic faith community.

While we have students of several faiths at MIPS, we are a Catholic school and this is one of the core elements of our school that makes us unique. Like our church at large, we are a welcoming community embracing all with God's love. We have a curriculum and practices that all our students engage in as part of their formation and education. When I ask prospective families what attracts them to our school it is invariably our values and beliefs that they seek for their children as well as our reputation as a great school.

The question Jesus raised to his disciples that relates to this is "Who do you say I am?" I ask you the same - when people outside the school community and indeed at the moment families looking for where to enrol their children - "Who do you say we are?" I would hope you can say, "A welcoming faith community that does a fantastic job in educating our young people in an environment that kids love!" .....or something similar!

We have had a great start to the year, the highlight of which for many has so far been the opening of our refurbished bathrooms! We are seeking to have many more highlights this year as we work together to provide a fabulous educational community experience for our students together with you their parents and carers.

With appreciation for your ongoing support,

Stephen Dowd, Principal



## Open Day—Enrolments 2020

### March 7 commencing at 9:15am.

## ZONE SWIMMING CARNIVAL

On Wednesday 13th February, Mary Immaculate sent a team of 26 students to participate in the Blacktown Zone Swimming Carnival. It was a wonderful day watching the talented Mips swimmers swim PB's and have a great day. Congratulations to Isabelle B, Johnathan C, Laura C, Joshua C, Lucas C, Cameron D, Olivia D, Ella F, Levi F, Konnor G, Zoe H, Clarise H, Bethany H, Hannah K, Kayden M, Jordan N, Addison R, Brisa R, Adam S, Campbell S, Kennedy S, Jay S, Evie-Rose S, Myeesha S, Isabella W and Zane W.



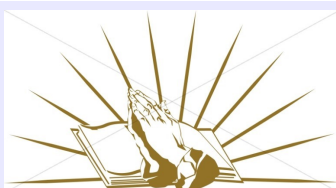
Good luck to the 17 students who have qualified for the Diocesan Carnival on Friday 22nd February at Mount Druitt pool.

## “Developing Literacy Partnerships”

An invitation is extended for you to take part in a programme specifically designed to assist you in helping your child/children in their literacy and language development.

This programme called **“Developing Literacy Partnerships,”** will be held over two days during Weeks 7 and 8. Lesson 1 will be held on Tuesday 12th March either at 9.00-11.00am or 1.00-3.00pm and Lesson 2 will be on Tuesday 19th March at the same times. Please note that you will need to attend one time slot from both Lessons 1 & 2.

This programme is designed to give you knowledge, understanding and insight into how children develop in reading, writing and spelling. The course is simple, enjoyable, skill developing and affords you the benefit of being an asset in your child's learning.



### In Your Prayers

Please keep in your prayers Dante Sartori KM and his family whose grandmother passed away.

*Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them.  
May they rest in peace.*

## Creative Kids Vouchers



As parents begin planning for the year ahead, they can now access Creative Kids vouchers, providing them with \$100 for every school-age child to help cover the cost of enrolment for creative and cultural learning activities. Parents can use one voucher for every school-age child per year to help meet the cost of structured creative and cultural activities, such as music lessons, languages, coding, drama and theatre, photography and graphic design. Minister for Finance, Services and Property Victor Dominello said the NSW Government's Creative Kids program builds on the success of the Active Kids program, which is back this year, helping to reduce the cost of registration for sport and organised physical activity.

## NSW Police Legacy Child Safety Handbook

A new edition of the NSW Police Legacy Child Safety Handbook is now available online. A resource for all parents, carers and teachers proudly brought to you by NSW Police Legacy. Download the latest edition via this [link](#) and discuss the safety content with your children or students today.

## Australian Government assistance for National Capital excursion

Next week, students from Year 6 at Mary Immaculate will be undertaking an educational tour of Canberra. While on this excursion they will participate in a variety of educational programs focused on Australia's history, culture, heritage and democracy.

The Australian Government recognises the importance of all young Australians being able to visit their National Capital as part of their civics and citizenship education. To assist parents in meeting the cost of the excursion, the Australian Government is contributing funding of \$20 per eligible student under the Parliament and Civics Education Rebate program toward any travel expenses incurred. The contribution will be paid directly to the school upon completion of the excursion.

We would like to thank the Australian Government for their support of this program. We know that the excursion will be a rewarding experience for all of our students.

**THE POND'S HIGH SCHOOL FITNESS LAB**

ALL CLASSES \$15

**TUESDAY LADIES 7-8PM**

**THURSDAY TEENS (GIRLS 12-18YRS) 6-7PM**

**SATURDAY LADIES & GENTS 6.30-7.30AM**

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## Bus Safety Week 18-24th February



### Adults always hold your child's hand when crossing the road

School-aged children might seem independent, but they still need a hand. Remember:

Always meet your child AT school or the bus stop. NEVER wait on the opposite side of the road and call them across.

Always supervise your child and hold their hand when walking to and from the bus stop or interchange and when crossing the road until they are at least 10.

Wait until the bus has gone then use a safe place to cross the road.

## Bus safety for children

[Bus safety for school students \(PDF, 378Kb\)](#) has more information on how families can help keep children safe getting on and off buses.

The [Safety Town website](#) has activities you can do with primary school children to help them keep safe on and around buses. There is also a section for families on driving safely around buses, and getting children to and from the bus stop safely.

Our [Agent Walker: Operation Safe Transit](#) bus safety video was produced for school students in years 5 and 6, who are starting to gain independence, and their teachers, parents and carers.

### Working together

Our campaign has been developed with input from the State Transit Authority, Bus NSW, Roads and Maritime Services, and the NSW Police Force. The Department of Education, the Catholic Education Commission, the Association of Independent Schools and the Kids and Traffic Early Childhood Road Safety Education Program at Macquarie University also support Be Bus Aware and Bus Safety Week.





# Register Now!

**Mary Immaculate Primary School (After School) Auskick Centre (School Oval)**  
**Each Tuesday starting 19th February - 12th March from 3:35pm - 4:35pm**



Each child will receive: Auskick Bluetooth Speaker,  
 Footy Cards, Footy Pump AND an AFL Auskick Football!

Your child will enjoy a safe, fun, action-packed 4 week program of  
 games and skill development, ideal for boys and girls aged 4-12 for  
 only \$46!

**Register Now!**

To register visit <https://play.afl/> and enter your postcode then click on  
 "Mary Immaculate Primary School (After School) Auskick Centre" or register in person at the first session.

To receive FREE Tickets to GWS GIANTS home games be sure to choose the GIANTS as your team of support!

For more information contact: Anika Ferrari on 0431 900 661 Email: [anika.ferrari@afl.com.au](mailto:anika.ferrari@afl.com.au)