



Term 3 Week 10

Wednesday 20th September 2017

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DIARY DATES

TERM 3 2017

Thursday **Soccer Clinic**
21st Sept

Friday **Stage 3 Touch Footy Gala**
22nd Sept **Day**

Friday **Term 3 Concludes**
22nd Sept

TERM 4

Monday **Term 4 Commences**
9th October

Monday **Fete Meeting—6:30pm**
9th October

Tuesday **Confirmation—Parent**
10th October **Information Night 7:30pm**

Thursday **Confirmation—Parent**
12th October **Information Session**
10:00am (Repeat Session)

Saturday **Confirmation Prep**
14th October **3:30—5:15pm then Mass**

Sunday **White Elephant/ Books/**
15th October **Toys Drop Off Day**
10:30—12:30pm

Monday **Kindergarten 2018**
16th October **Parent Information Night**
7:00pm

Tuesday **K2018 Transition 1**
17th October **9:00—10:30am**

Tuesday **Fete Meeting—6:30pm**
17th October

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE...

Dear Parents,

In 1979, Pope John Paul 11 declared St Francis of Assisi to be the Patron Saint of the Environment. Here we were, in all our modern sophistication, turning to a person who lived in the 13th Century, seeking his guidance and inspiration to deal with our global pollution and the collapse of our planet's eco-systems. What would St Francis have known about matters such as these?

Certainly, he would not have been familiar with the terminology but Francis held a very strong belief that God was present in everything around him so that wherever he encountered nature, in its many expressions, he encountered God. For St Francis the world around him drew him to God, and everything around him was an expression of God's love. His attitude to nature was a humble one in that he realised that all of us are reliant on the environment for our survival.

Francis' affinity with and affection for nature were expressed in his song "Canticle of the Sun" which he composed in 1225. In this Canticle he used intimate expressions such as, "Brother Sun" and "Sisters Moon and Stars", "Brothers Wind and Air", "Sister Water", "Brother Fire" and in one verse states: *"All praise be yours, my Lord, through Sister Earth our Mother, Who feeds us in her sovereignty and produces various fruits with coloured flowers and herbs."* Francis ends his song with the following words: *"Praise and bless my Lord and give him thanks, and serve him with great humility."*

Now there is a worthwhile piece of guidance and inspiration: be humble. The word originates from the Latin "humus" which means "of the earth". The humble are close to the earth and see themselves as part of the "whole" and dependent on the environment for their daily needs and continuing existence. St Francis would have been inspired by Jesus' Sermon on the Mount and in particular the statement: "Blessed are the humble for they shall inherit the earth." Matt. 5:5.

There is little doubt that there is a real connection between nature and spirituality – just ask any gardener! Mother Teresa supports the theme of St Francis' Canticle, when she writes, "We need to find God and he cannot be found in noise and restlessness, God is the friend of silence. See how nature – trees, flowers, grass – grow in silence; see the stars, the moon and the sun, how they move in silence. We need silence in order to touch our soul."

The guidance and inspiration that St Francis and friends give to parents and their children, is a reminder that we are part of nature, part of God's creation and gifted with privilege and responsibility. To restate this in a natural setting, we might borrow these words:

"Your mind is a garden, Your thoughts are the seeds, The harvest can be either flowers or weeds." Author unknown.

"St Francis of Assisi, be our guide and inspiration. Amen."

Peace and Best Wishes.

Richard Blissenden
PRINCIPAL



FETE NEWS

Preparations are in full swing and the Fete Committee sends it thanks to everyone for your donations and offers of support. Some reminders and requests:

- Donations of scones and piklets to use for on the Devonshire Teas at the Café would be appreciated ... please deliver to the Café on the day of the fete.
- Advance notice – Bottles will be collected for the Bottle Lottery and children may wear their favourite hat on Friday 13th October.
- Can you assist at one of the stalls? Please offer your time by returning the volunteer form sent home this week or dropping into the office and putting your name down to help.
- Start collecting your gold coins to spend at the fete – maybe the Chocolate Block Toss, Bottle Lottery or the White Elephant Stall.
- Drop off days for the White Elephant Stall are Sunday 8th October and Sunday 15th October (10:30–12:30pm both days).
- We are in need to an assistant to make some purchases for our Chocolate Wheel. If you can help please call Allison Markarian on 0411 013 032.
- Fete Ride Wrist Bands – these are now available for pre-purchase for \$25. They will also be on sale on the day of the Fete for \$30. The Wrist Band **DOES NOT** include the Haunted House or Side Show but includes all rides shown on the flyer.

BEST WISHES TO YEAR 12 STUDENTS

We send our best wishes and prayers to those students about to finish Year 12 and commence their HSC exams. This year our Year 5 and 6 students with their families created a unique Bookmark for each Year 12 student at St Patrick's Dundas and sent it to them this week. This was just one small way to show the wider community that we are thinking about them at this time.

UNIFORM

We will officially change over to the Summer Uniform after the Fete (from Monday 23rd October) but students may wear either Summer or Winter Uniform until this change over date. This may assist if we have other days of high temperatures!

CONFIRMATION INFORMATION SESSION

On Thursday 12th October 10:00am a Confirmation Parent Information Session will be re-run in the church for any parent of children making their confirmation this year. This is for parents who are unable to make the 7:30pm meeting on Tuesday 12th October.

ICAS COMPETITIONS

Congratulations to the 38 students who participated in the UNSW English Competition. We were awarded 6 Distinction, 7 Credit, 3 Merit and 22 Participation certificates.

Congratulations to the 46 students who participated in the UNSW Mathematics Competition. We were awarded 4 Distinction, 15 Credit, 4 Merit and 23 Participation certificates.

PRINCIPAL AWARDS
TERM 3–Week 8



- KA Chloe Chang & Oliver Hill
- KT Vianna Kwok & Amelia Marsh
- 1F Anna Ivanova & Olivia Campos
- 1R Lachlan Donnellan & Mia Lucas-Brown
- 2B Cecilia Homann & Sarah Scott
- 2MV William Sultana & Ellie Park
- 3G Isabelle Cesar & Kaisei Doggett
- 3S Connor Percovich & Isla Ballout
- 4J Emma Adams & Zoe Anderson
- 4K Joshua Tenorio & Kingston Luburic
- 5E Emma Biviano & Alyssa Villena
- 5L Mia Northwood & Jonas Pellegriti
- 6B Eve Kannemeyer & Bianca Bietola
- 6W Ryan Vaughan & Reshan Weerakkody

CARE AWARDS
TERM 3–Week 8



- KA Samuel James & Noah Zaouk
- KT Manuel Sabella & Hayley Ghalloub
- 1F Michael Kim & Lachlan Pitchfork
- 1R Isla Moyes & Samantha Giarratano
- 2B Jessica Anlezark & Isabelle Borkowski
- 2MV Mya Carr & Alyssa Tetto
- 3G Gabriel Mansour & Elise Sultana
- 3S Cooper Kennedy & Alexander Teschke
- 4J Stefanie Gabriel & Marcus Schembri-Green
- 4K London Ardeleanu & Isaac Zaouk
- 5E Sophia Bartosiak & Jacob Zaouk
- 5L Laila Riccardi & Luke Marnan
- 6B Jeevan Samuel & Myles Panagiotopoulos
- 6W Mikayla Cotsinis & Ben Fairall

HOLIDAY CHALLENGE...



The challenge is **HOLIDAY BINGO**. On the reverse side of the instruction sheet sent home earlier this week are a list of all the different activities you can do. Your challenge is to connect as many in a row, column or diagonally to gain an entry or entries in the draw.

- 3 in a row/column/diagonally – 1 entry
- 4 in a row/column/diagonally – 2 entries
- 5 in a row/column/diagonally – 3 entries
- 6 in a row/column/diagonally – 5 entries (bonus entry)

The more rows/columns/diagonals completed, the more entries.

As you do an activity, please highlight the particular box. The blank boxes are free choice. Please write what you did in the particular box. No two boxes can be the same and the blank boxes must be written in and highlighted to be included.

At the end of the holidays, please get a parent to sign your sheet and return it to school the first week of Term 4.

Each entry will then go into a draw to win one of 7 prizes (one prize per grade). The prize is \$10 Fete Cash – a \$10 voucher to spend at our Fete. The more activities completed the more chances you have to win!

Good luck, enjoy the challenge and have a wonderful holiday!

Mr Blissenden
Principal

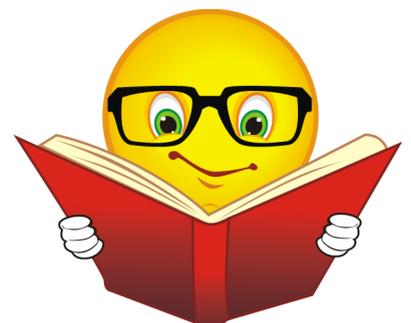
LIBRARY NEWS...

A **BIG** congratulations to the winners of our Book Week Competition. They are:

- | | |
|------------------|------------------|
| Annika Byrne | Bianca Tandean |
| Stefanie Gabriel | Sanderson Keyser |
| Rachel Gilroy | Lucinda Boulous |
| Ellie Hart | |

Thank you to everyone who entered the competition.

Lia Radocchia
Teacher Librarian



STAFF DEVELOPMENT DAY—MONDAY 30TH OCTOBER

"Christ has no body here on earth but yours, no hands but yours, no feet but yours; yours are the eyes through which to look at Christ's compassion for the world, yours are the feet with which he is to go about doing good, and yours are the hands with which he is to bless us now." St Teresa of Avila (1515-1582).

Our School Formation Goal for 2017 relates to Church. There are many aspects of Church. We are reminded that Church is a welcoming, caring community led by the Holy Spirit. As members of the Church we are called to celebrate God's love and to continue Jesus' mission through various ministries of service.

This year the staff will have the opportunity to experience Church in its rawness. To be witnesses to our faith in a way that may be confronting yet inspiring for us. We will work with an organisation called Outside the Box in the heart of Kings Cross. It is an opportunity to bring our past experiences of outreach, social justice and church together. We will be working on Catholic values, integrity for the individual, openness and acceptance for all - which is Church. It will also be an opportunity to continue to think and reflect on our Mercy Values explored in detail last year. We look forward to sharing our experiences with the wider school community after the day.

STAGE 2 TOUCH FOOTY GALA DAY

Last Friday some of our Stage 2 students participated in the Touch Footy Gala Day out at St Marys.

The children showed great sportsmanship and were a credit to our school.

I would like to say a huge thank you to all the parents who came along to help and provide fantastic support for the students. Thanks to Mrs Dixon, Mrs McGilly, Mrs Kolosakas and Mr Gallagher.

A special mention to Mr Craig Bietola who stepped up as team manager for the boys team and did an excellent job. Craig was also assisted by Mrs Boulous and the rest of the boys team parents who stuck around the whole day.

Miss Vanessa Gonnet
SPORTS TEACHER

BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS



September 21	Selina LaMacchia
September 22	Casey Kaseke Rosalea Brownlie Molly Lewis
September 23	Lina Yoo Keira Dixon
September 24	Elena Sheslow Chad Craze Elana Lavaki
September 25	Lillyan Ward
September 26	Robert Flint Carey Kaseke
September 27	Jessica Anlezark
September 28	Christina Lim
September 30	Josephine Keyser
October 1	Jeevan Samuel
October 2	Paige Hewkins
October 6	Phillip Sclavos
October 7	Eve Kannemeyer Reshan Weerakkody Nicholas Fleitas
October 8	Nicole Pitchfork Leah Kolosakas
October 9	Cooper Frain
October 10	Max Ghest Xavier Cooper
October 13	Grace Henstock
October 16	Zechariah Acosta Cooper Storey Liam Storey Ruby Northwood Stella Northwood Paige Bailey

We would like to wish all of these children a very happy birthday!!

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