



Term 4 Week 2

Wednesday 24th October 2018

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DIARY DATES

TERM 4 2018

Friday 26th October	WORLD TEACHERS DAY
Friday 26th October	Russ the Bus Visiting Year 3
Tuesday 30th October	Kinder 2019 Transition 2 9:00–10:30am
Tuesday 30th October	P&F Meeting 7:00pm
Thursday 1st Nov	All Saints Day Mass Year 5 & 6
Friday 2nd Nov	All Souls Day Mass Years 3 & 4
Tuesday 6th Nov	Kinder 2019 Transition 3 9:00–10:30am
Wednesday 7th Nov	Band Demo Concert 11:20am
Friday 9th Nov	Remembrance Day Liturgy 9:10am
Friday 9th Nov	Confirmation 7:00pm
Monday 12th Nov	Kinder 2019 Orientation 9:00–11:00am 12:30–2:30pm
Tuesday 13th Nov	Kinder 2019 Orientation 9:00–11:00am 12:30–2:30pm

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE...

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

Thank you for such a successful start to the final term of 2018. The children have returned ready and eager for learning in what will be a very busy term, once again.

I know that during the break many families were able to travel to some very nice locations in NSW, Australia and for some, overseas. Not every family can take a year off and travel the world but we can all teach our children to know and respect the geography and cultures around the world. I found this interesting article with ways to open up the world for your children by Lindsey Roberts and I share some of it below:

Read around the world. Focus on one area of the globe each month – Africa, Europe, North America and so on – reading age-appropriate books and stories about those regions.

Decorate your home with maps. You can buy beautiful maps, globes and atlases. You can also buy stick-on map decals for the wall. Anytime you encounter a place in a book or hear from a relative travelling abroad or talk about a country in the news, you can locate the place on the map. Use coloured pins to mark them.

Try international foods. Try to eat every type of cuisine you can. Night markets often have a range of ethnic foods, usually reasonably priced. Choose from the international sections of the supermarket to cook new recipes. Visit an Asian or Middle Eastern supermarket and see what you can discover. Invite friends from different cultures to cook for you or teach you some recipes. Use the maps to show the family where people eat these foods.

Use the mail. A pen pal can not only provide a glimpse into another country but can turn into a lifelong friendship or passion. The borders in children's minds will start to expand as they bond with someone from another country.

Sponsor a child. Families can give money to help a child out of poverty through organisations such as Save the Children. Make it a family project that everyone contributes to. Discuss the other child's home country and culture, and the challenges they face.

Invite neighbours into your home. Often we don't have to travel further than our neighbourhood to find other cultures. Greet neighbours from different backgrounds. Learn to say hello in their language and show friendship. They are often eager to make friends in their new country and everyone benefits from breaking down barriers.

These are all simply starting points for talking more with your children about the world outside your home and how your family interacts with that world. The world is a wondrous place. It's by getting outside of ourselves that we can really get to know what's inside of ourselves, what's inside of each and every person on our planet: a longing for love, connection, happiness, peace.

Have a wonderful week.

Richard Blissenden
Principal



2019 PARRAMATTA DIOCESAN TEAM SPORT TRIALS

Any Primary students enrolled in Year 5 and 6 in 2019 are invited to participate in the Parramatta Diocesan Team Sport Trials during Term Four in 2018 and Term One & Two in 2019. Currently only the Summer Sports of BASKETBALL & TENNIS are open and registrations close on Wednesday 31st October as these trials will be held in November 2018.

All OTHER sport registrations will open in November for 2019 trials. A Skoolbag App has been sent out with full details.

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 2019 be invited to attend.

FROM THE P&F

Our Term 4 meeting will be held on Tues 30th October, from 7pm in the Library. We would love to have additional volunteers for our Mothers and Fathers Day Committee and volunteers for our Social Committee (particularly in running our parent night and a third event in Term 3). If you would like to volunteer, meet the new P&F team or find out about what is happening, please join us on Tuesday.

SURVEY ON CATHOLIC SCHOOLS

Last week you would have received an email from research company JWS Research asking you to complete a short survey about the reasons for sending your child to a Catholic school. Thank you to those who have responded to this. There has been a good response rate so far but we are hopeful of getting as many replies as possible. If you haven't already done so, could you please click on the link in your email and complete the survey. It will take only about 15 minutes to do. **The closing date for the survey is 26 October.** If you did not receive an email inviting you to participate in the survey, please email Jacqui Lowe from JWS Research at jlouw@jwsresearch.com. Thank you for your support of this important project.

NEW ALTAR SERVER TRAINING

Any young parishioner in Year 4 or above who would like to become an altar server is invited to attend a training session in the church after school on Tuesday 30th October at 3:30pm. Prospective altar servers must have made their First Holy Communion.

ICAS COMPETITION RESULTS

Congratulations to the 32 students who participated in the English International Competition. We were awarded 2 Distinction, 11 Credit, 1 Merit and 18 Participation Certificates. Great effort from everyone!

Also, congratulations to the 23 students who participated in the Writing International Competition. We were awarded 9 Credit, 2 Merit and 12 Participation Certificates. Well done to everyone!

And another congratulations to the 49 students who participated in the Mathematics International Competition. We were awarded 1 High Distinction, 1 Distinction, 7 Credit, 4 Merit and 36 Participation Certificates. Well done to all involved.

AUSTRALIAN GIRLS CHOIR OPEN DAY

Congratulations to girls who recently took part in the AGC assessment workshop at school. By now you should have received your personalized assessment report—either posted to your home or via your school.

Everyone is welcome to come along to an Open Day on either Sunday 28th October (in Beecroft and Waverley) or Saturday 3rd November (in Caringbah), which will give girls the opportunity to try a complimentary class and attend an information session. Phone 1800 338 142 for more information or visit

BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS



October 26	Isabella Ribera Olivia Ribera Isabelle Pericaud
October 27	Esha Ghangas
October 28	Marc Jabbour
October 29	Kingston Luburic
November 1	Joshua Green Philippe Jendruch Amy Lee
November 2	William Zaw Oliver McNamara Ela Torres
November 3	Lucy Goss Jamie Jabbour
November 5	Lucas Piper Wilson Chan

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

FROM MR BLISSENDEN...

STAFFING UPDATE

Over the coming weeks a number of staff will be taking some leave and during this time the following staffing arrangements are in place. Mrs Gosper will be on leave for the next three weeks and Miss Boidin will be Acting Assistant Principal in her absence. When required to work in the office, Miss Boidin will be replaced by Mrs Kirkness. Mrs Kerr will continue to work with the students who normally work with Mrs Gosper each morning for Reading Recovery. Mrs Kemp will be Acting REC during this period also. Mrs Gieriek will be on leave for the next week and Mrs Johnston will be working with the students in 3G. Finally Miss Tomasic, who has been unwell is expected back at the end of this week. Thank you for your understanding of these minor staffing updates.

MESSAGE FROM OSHC

Dear OSHC Families, Re-enrolment for 2019 is active and next Monday we close off so our new Kinder children can be enrolled. Please take the time to jump online and complete the Re-enrolment forms today.
Thank you from Rita and the OSHC Team.

ST MARY'S MOTHERS GROUP AND PLAYGROUP

After a successful first term of playgroup, we are looking for volunteers to help each week with set up, pack up and facilitating of simple activities for our children and mums. If you are interested in helping please contact Pauline on 0412 159 763. We are also asking for donations of any preloved baby and toddler toys and books for our playgroup. Please contact Pauline if you would like to donate any items to arrange pick up/drop off. Thank you!

For any news mums that may be interested in joining our group, our sessions are held on a Tuesday morning from 9:00am. Please come along to our next session, we'd love to meet you!

DOES YOUR CHILD WALK TO SCHOOL IN THE MORNING OR HOME IN THE AFTERNOON?

The school recommends that children walk home via the most direct route available – with parents to direct their child/ren as to which streets to use. Children should not visit the local shops on the way to school or home unless given specific permission (in a written note) by their parents.

CARPARK / ROAD SAFETY

Children should be supervised closely near roads, in car parks and on pedestrian crossings. Please be aware of moving vehicles and hold your child's hand whenever you cross the road or walk through the car park. Please do not allow your child/ren to play near the road/crossing of the car park opposite the office as this is a distraction to drivers on Pine Street. Thank you for your co-operation.

MR BLISSENDEN'S HOLIDAY CHALLENGE

Congratulations to everyone who participated in the challenge. Our goal was to read 30,000 pages during the holidays as a community and we smashed that goal! In total our community read 43,508 pages which is an amazing effort. In addition many students put in extra effort by writing recommendations about books, writing new books and taking photos in unusual places. There were photos on bikes, in pools, with animals, on ride on lawn mowers/trucks/cars, jumping on trampolines, under an umbrella, while shopping, in gardens and even in the snow. Congratulations everyone and I hope you continue to read at every opportunity. The winners of the lucky drawer prize were:

K = Josie Christopherson KA
Yr2 = Lester Wu 2M
Yr4 = Sandy Keyser 4J
Yr6 = Bianca Tandean 6K

Yr1 = Abraham Samuel 1R
Yr3 = Luca Biviano 3G
Yr 5 = Ana Ogrizek 5E
Staff = Mrs Woods

WORLD TEACHERS DAY

World Teachers Day will be celebrated in Australia this coming Friday. We are very blessed here at St Mary's to have a dedicated team who regularly go above and beyond for our students and their families. I am regularly amazed by the way in which they give themselves each day for the children. I wish all our staff a very Happy World Teachers Day for Friday.

A MESSAGE FROM THE CEO...