

Our Lady Queen of Peace

Newsletter - Term 3 Week 2, 2016



PRINCIPAL'S

MESSAGE:



Dear Parents, Students and Teachers

Welcome back to Term 3, another very busy and exciting term. We would like to say a special 'Welcome Back' to Mrs Robertson, who rejoins us after her absence during Term 2. This term we have many exciting events to look forward to - a visit from our new Bishop, Book Fair, Literacy and Numeracy Week, Father's Day, our Infants Fun Day, special visitors and Voice of Youth, as well as many liturgical celebrations and sporting events, including our major fundraiser for the year, our school Walkathon, to be held on the last day of term. Further details about our Walkathon will follow shortly.



At the end of last term teachers, parents and students met together to review student progress and to collaboratively set goals for students. We hope you found this a valuable opportunity to communicate your pride in relation to your child's effort and progress.

This Sunday you are invited to join us at Our Lady Queen of Peace Parish for 'World Youth Day In-Sync'. Bishop Vincent Long will be saying Mass, followed by a special hook up with the pilgrims in Poland at 8:00 pm. The pilgrims have had a valuable mission immersion in Bohol in the Philippines and have been warmly welcomed and hosted by their parish communities. Please keep these students, young people, teachers, staff and clergy in your prayers.

A reminder that next Friday we have a pupil-free day, a day where teachers will engage in further professional learning in the area of Literacy. The focus of our day will be on the importance of choice when reading, the interconnectedness of reading and writing and the use of talk to foster literacy development. We will also be exploring some writing apps.

Could I please remind parents that morning supervision commences at 8:25 am. This morning I counted 30 children on the playground at 8:15 am, with approximately 150 children already on site prior to the 8:25 morning supervision time. If your child has a need to be at school before 8:25 am could you please let me know in writing.

DIARY DATES

Week 3

- Sun 31/8 Way of Mercy Mass with Bishop at 6:00 pm
- Tue 2/8 P&F Meeting (Numeracy)
- Wed 3/8 S3 Soccer Gala Day
- Fri 5/8 Staff
 Development Day Literacy
- Sun 7/8 Children's Mass

Week 4

- Mon 8/8 Mary MacKillop Feast Day (Liturgy 9 am)
- Mon 8/8 K-2 Literacy Workshop
- Tue 9/8 Zone Carnival

Week 5

- Mon 15/8 Feast of the Assumption (Mass 10:15 am)
- Mon 15/8 Cumberland Council visit
- Mon 15/8 Voice of Youth (school level)
- Wed 17/8 P&F Meeting (Resilience)
- Thu 18/8 Voice of Youth (Cluster Finals)

Thank you to all parents who are making effective use of our morning and afternoon drop off/collection bay. Traffic appears to be moving smoothly in and out of this area. Please remind children of areas for collection as a few children are sometimes unsure of how they are getting home.

Could I also remind parents that students are <u>not</u> to be dropped off in either St Paul's carpark or the Parish carpark. Parents are not to park and walk down to collect students; nor are they to park and wait for students to walk up to them in either carpark. Your assistance in ensuring the safety of all students is paramount.

Attendance at school is crucial to your child's learning. Frequent absences, late arrivals and early departures can have a negative impact on your child's academic progress. Schools are required to follow legislative requirements of the <u>Education Act 1990</u> to monitor student attendance, so we will be following up with parents regarding students who have missed a substantial number of days at school. Please consider your child's education when making decisions about holidays and other appointments.



We will continue to use the Skoolbag app to let parents know about the newsletter, important messages or changes to planned events. To ensure you only receive messages that are relevant to you, could you please go into the Skoolbag app (setup) and 'turn on' each grade in which you have children. This will enable us to more accurately address your needs. We will continue to send messages to <u>all</u> subscribers (not by grade) until Friday of Week 6 (26/8); after this time we will send message based on relevance to grades.



Do you want to keep up to date with what your children are learning in Mathematics and how they are being taught? Then please join us for our next P&F meeting, to be held this coming Tuesday, 2nd August, at 7:30pm in the OLOP School Library. Invite a friend or two to join you! Please go to http://tinyurl.com/zd37esw to register your interest.

We will also be running some parent workshops in Literacy K-2 on Monday, 8/8 and Literacy 3-6 on Wednesday, 24 August. You can also register your interest for these sessions on this site.

The Broken Bay Diocese recently announced significant increases to their school fees in some schools which were widely broadcast in the media recently. Please note that these increases do not affect our Diocese or school. We expect that any school fee increases for Catholic schools in the Parramatta Diocese next year will be moderate and in line with previous years. If you have any concerns about the payment of school fees at any time please contact the school office to arrange a meeting with me.

Have a wonderful week!

Frances Garzaniti (Acting Principal)



LITERACY / NUMERACY WEEK ACTIVITIES (Week 7)

	Morning	Middle Block	Afternoon		
	Book Fair (all week)				
Monday	9:30-10:30 - Year 2 10:00-11:00 - Year 5	11:30-12:30 - Year 3	2:00-3:00 - Year 4		
Tuesday	10:00-11:00 - Year 1	9:00-10:00 am - Kinder	2:00-3:00 - Year 2		
Wednesday	K-2 - Assembly Area 10:00-11:00 - Year 6	Y5-6 - Assembly Area	Y3-4 - Assembly Area 2:00-3:00 - Kinder		
Thursday	9:30-10:30 - Year 3 10:00-11:00 - Year 4	11:30-12:30 - Year 1 12:00-1:00 - Year 5	2:00-3:00 - Year 6		
Friday	Father's Day - BBQ (7:45), Open classrooms for Dads (8:30) and Liturgy (9:00 am) Infants' Fun Day (following Liturgy)				

CANTEEN NEWS

Could you please ensure that you are using the CORRECT price list when placing a lunch order. The current pricelist is available from the Canteen Website, which can be found on the Links page on the OLQP Website. Any items listed with incorrect prices will be substituted with the nearest-priced item.

Last term we had many children being sent to the Canteen by their teachers as they had no recess or lunch. Could please check that your child has their recess and lunch every day. If the Canteen provides recess, lunch or both, a note will be sent home. Please return this note, together with payment, to the Canteen promptly.

Thank you for your support. *Kim Farrugia* Canteen Manager

GREYSTANES ACTIVITY CENTRE –

availability for pupil free day On Friday, 5th August, OLQP is having a pupil-free day. If you require all-day care on this day, could you please call the Greystanes Activity centre on 9896 2382 or 0481 869 896 to register your child's name and estimated time period required.



SPEAKER: BEN SMITH Director of the Family and Life Office will speak on the Pope Francis apostolic exhortation The Joy of Love (Amoris Laetitia)'



FRIDAY 26 AUGUST

St Paul the Apostle Parish, 40 Buckleys Rd, Winston Hills. Commencing at 7.30pm and concluding with a light supper.

Register attendance by emailing marriage@ccss.org.au or phone Lyn (02) 8822 2222



P & F News:

be informed Be a part of our Community of Learners

Term 3 – Upcoming Sessions on Literacy and Numeracy

Numeracy Session – Tuesday 2/8 @ 7.30pm

- Do you want to keep up to date with what your children are learning at school?
- Do you want to know how children are learning Mathematics these days?
- Please come along to our session on Tuesday 2/8 to find out more about what and how children are taught in Mathematics.

Literacy Workshops

Following on from our Literacy Session in Term 2 we will be running a number of workshops, subject to parent interest levels:

- Literacy Workshop (K-2) on Mon 8/8 9.30-11.00am
- Literacy Workshop (K-2) on Mon 8/8 7.00-8.30pm (repeat of morning session)
- Literacy Workshop (3-6) on Wed 24/8 9.30-11.00am
- Literacy Workshop (3-6) on Wed 24/8 7.00-8.30pm (repeat of morning session)

Please go to <u>http://tinyurl.com/zd37esw</u> to register your interest in attending one of these sessions.

be connected..... Support our Local Community

Just a reminder that the

Our Lady Queen of Peace School Community Business Directory is up and running. Please support our families and businesses when shopping.

Come and visit them on the school website

http://www.olqpgreystanes.catholic.edu.au/Current-Families/Parents-and-Friends

World Youth Day News:



from Miss Rebecca Clancy, our WYD Representative

I hope the term has started well. Just thought I would try to send an email to let everyone know what I have been up to so far. It has been amazing!

We arrived in Krakow yesterday evening after 4 consecutive flights from the Philippines. It was a long trip, but we have recovered and are beginning to get more familiar with parts of Krakow. My group from the Philippines have met up with the second pilgrimage group that has been travelling around Poland. The different diocese all got the opportunity to visit Auschwitz this morning and then reflect on where we can see God in even the most horrific of places and situations. We then gathered together for an Australian mass this afternoon at a mountain top basilica, after which we could walk along some paths in the surrounding forest, either the Pathway Of Our Lady or the Pathway Of Our Lord. The walk was so peaceful and was the perfect time for reflection away from the large group.

I am really looking forward to the coming week and have already come across some other young people of various nationalities who have arrived early for WYD.

I was having trouble with Internet and email last week so the following is a recap of the events of the past week in the Philippines, which was terrific.

Our time in the Philippines was amazing. My group and I went to Santa Cruz Elementary School (SCES). All of the teachers, students and parents were lovely and greeted us everyday with huge smiles. It felt like I was a very important visitor. The children all decided that they wanted our autographs and they followed us around all the time. The students learned our names so fast and would run up each day calling out our names and wanting to play with us at Recess and Lunch.

Our group also joined up with the group at the adjoining high school (St Vincent's Academy) to have a guided tour of the local area that was lead by the high school principal and a group of the high school students. We were taken to see the ruins of the old school buildings, the makeshift church and other buildings and mounds of collected rubble that is left over from the earthquake in 2013. In a way, it was difficult to comprehend that

there is still so much to be done when, back in Australia, rebuilding generally happens much faster. We were also fortunate enough to have the students on the tour take us down the road to the water's edge where they have rebuilt homes so that we could see where they live and even meet other members of their families. They were so happy to welcome us.

The children were so welcoming and interested in us. They had lots of questions about home, our families and every other topic under the Sun. One of my favourite questions was 'Are you wearing contacts?' and, when I said no, they then asked why my eyes weren't brown. The teachers said it is because a number of the children have not seen foreigners in real life before. They also liked the ringlets in my hair. I think the height of a lot of us was exciting for them, too (especially Greg Whitby - a couple of kids thought he was Santa).

The children loved playing hand clapping games (I taught them 'My Aunty Anna') and 'Ring A Round A Rosy', which were requested on a regular basis.

The funding that Santa Cruz received from the Parramatta Diocese went towards rebuilding the boundary fences of the school so we got to spend time painting it while we were there. I think we did a good job.

I was lucky enough to get to help out during some Science lessons in Upper Primary and some English lessons across various grades. I got to teach some poetry and rhyme in Year 2, which was good fun. Across the week, different classes had a turn at doing a small presentation for us. A lot of the classes did dancing and singing in their performances. I must say that I was very impressed by how well each group of children could sing and dance. It was beautiful to see how enthusiastically they were all trying to participate and the joy that so many of them got from music.

Our group were lucky enough to be given the chance to participate in the school's parade for Nutrition Month on our very first day at the school. Each class represented a fruit and the whole school paraded through the surrounding streets, headed by the school's band and baton twirlers.

At the school, we were able to join in with the parents and teachers with eating time during which the children eat nutritious meals that the parents have been cooking during the morning. Everyday, there were parents around the school, helping out with various things. I really loved to see how the school is really a central place in the community.

On our last day at the school, the teachers, parents and our group all did a presentation for the school. I loved the parents' dance. We even got to participate in a volley ball competition with the students. I don't think I did too badly. At least, I was entertaining and I did have a cheer squad to cheer when I made some good shots (and laugh when I made a bad one).

The children loved the sports equipment and the principal was very grateful. They used the balls and the frisbis during some of their Nutrition Week sports competitions one afternoon. The colours even matched their group colours!

On one night, we were fortunate enough to be invited to a Barrio Fiesta by the Mayor, during which we ate cultural dishes and watched some fantastic cultural presentations and dances performed by students from the various high schools that different groups had been visiting during the week. On our last night, we were invited by the governor to a dinner, with him, the mayor and the local congressman present, at which we ate more cultural dishes and saw more presentations, including some that were performed by university students. These invitations really made us feel that the community of Bohol really do genuinely appreciate what the Parramatta Diocese and the schools have done for their community. I was very proud to be representing OLQP and the Parramatta Diocese.

Bohol is such a beautiful green place from what I have seen of it from the bus and the people, including strangers on the street, are so friendly.

The CYP (Catholic Youth Parramatta) facebook page has lots of updates and photos as well as the website I sent before.

Hope everyone has had a great start to the term. Thank you for supporting me and helping me to get here. This has really been a fantastic experience.

Miss Clancy







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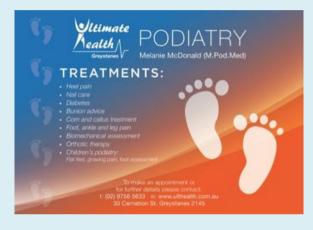
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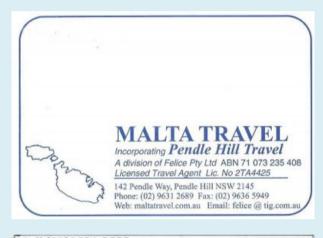
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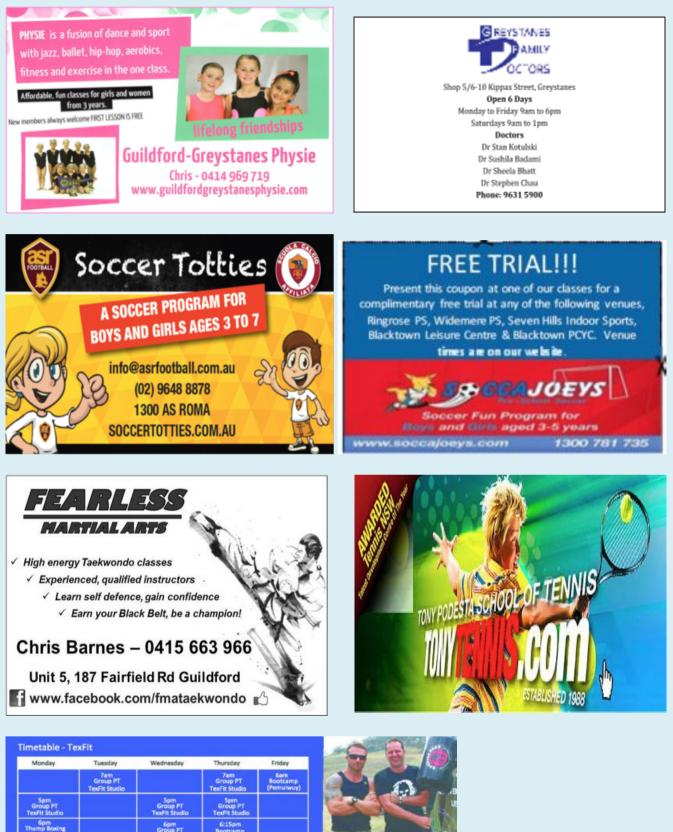
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