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9 February 2016

From The Principal



Prayer for the Week

This Irish prayer is attributed to St Patrick and often referred to as the 'breastplate' - words that shield.

I arise today through the strength of heaven, Light of the sun, splendor of fire, swiftness of wind, depth of the sea, stability of earth, firmness of rock.

I arise today through God's strength to pilot me; God's might to uphold me, God's wisdom to guide me, God's hand to guard me.

Christ with me, Christ before me, Christ behind me, Christ on my right, Christ on my left, Christ beneath me, Christ above me, Christ in me.

I arise today through the mighty strength of the Lord of Creation.

Dear Parents and Care Givers,

Wow, what a great start we have had to our school year! Students have settled in beautifully and last week we welcomed our Prep students for the full week. We have our parent information evening tonight so I would encourage you to attend this very important meeting. As parents, you play a vital role in your child's education and we want to work in partnership with you for the best outcomes for each individual. I look forward to working with each and every one of you this year. Our prayer this week is a reminder that as Christians we need to put Christ at the centre of our lives and that through prayer we can receive the support and guidance we need.

IPAD Handout

As you may be aware, Apple have recalled their chargers for iPads, iPhones and laptops. Due to this fact, we are not able to handout the iPads to students until we are confident that the chargers are safe for use. We apologise for the delay in getting the iPads out, however the safety aspect is our number one priority. Thank you for your patience with this process.

Parent Information Night

The parent information night will be TUESDAY 9th February.

5.30pm Prep, Year 5 and Year 6
 6.00pm Year 1 and Year 4
 6.30pm Year 2 and Year 3

P&F Meeting

I would like to personally invite parents to our first P&F meeting for the year. It will be THURSDAY 11th February at 7pm. I look forward to meeting you there. This is a wonderful opportunity for parents to have a say in what happens at St Gerard Majella and to voice an opinion.

Opening School Mass

On Tuesday last week, we celebrated our opening school mass for the year. This was a wonderful way to mark our new beginning and for students to focus on our school motto, "The Lord is My Light". Each of us at SGM has the challenge to let our light shine through the living out of our school values of Faith, Justice, Inclusion and Compassion. Our new school leaders were commissioned into their new roles and received their badges. They did an excellent job of leading our community in prayer. A huge thanks to Ms. Donnelly for her preparation of the mass and to Fr Martin for joining us in the celebration.

Ash Wednesday Liturgy

This year we begin the period of Lent quite early. We invite all parents and friends to share in our Ash Wednesday Liturgy on Wednesday 10th February at 9am.

SGM Parish Mass

On Saturday 20th February, SGM will lead our parish mass at 6pm. All families are invited to come along to our parish celebration of the Eucharist.

Board Meeting

Our first board meeting for the year will be held on Wednesday 24th February at 7pm This is our AGM and I look forward to working closely with the board throughout the year.

Parish Mass

On Sunday 28th February, I will be on the roster for Children's Liturgy at the 8am mass. I would love to see some of our students from SGM at mass and to have you attend the Children's Liturgy.

Thank you for your continued support.

Lea Martin



Each year for Lent, SGM supports Caritas in their Project Compassion campaign, which aims to support the under-privileged around the world. This year their campaign is focussing on education - "LEARNING MORE, CREATING CHANGE". There will be more information next week on our whole school house v house fundraiser!!

Ash Wednesday... tomorrow marks the first of the forty days of Lent. We will have a whole school liturgy at 9am where the ashes will be blessed and distributed. The ashes are made by burning the palms from last year's Palm Sunday liturgy. Fr Martin and the staff distributing the ashes will dip their thumb into the ashes and make a sign of the cross on our foreheads saying, "Turn away from sin and be faithful to the Gospel".

**SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM
ENROLMENT FORMS**
Please have all Enrolment Forms
returned to the school office by
FRIDAY 12th FEBRUARY
to ensure your child's place in this year's
program.

SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM

PARENT INFORMATION SESSION
Tuesday 16th February, 6:30pm
OLHOC Church

EARLVILLE CATHOLIC PARISH OUR LADY HELP OF CHRISTIANS CHURCH

18 Balaclava Rd, EARLVILLE QLD 4870
Postal Address: P O Box 669, EARLVILLE QLD 4870
Phone: 07 40541171 Fax: 07 40541800 **E-mail:**
earvilleparish@bigpond.com
PARISH PRIEST: Fr Martin Kenny **PARISH
SECRETARY:** Alison Dunn

Religious Education



Lent

This week sees the beginning of the liturgical season of Lent – a special time of preparation for Easter. For Christians, Lent is a time to strengthen our faith. It is an opportunity for us to reflect on the ways in which we aren't so Christian and to make a conscious effort to change.

Shrove Tuesday...today our school leaders cooked up a storm at our pancake stall. The name Shrove Tuesday comes from the custom of ringing the 'shriving bell' to summons the people to church to be 'shriven', that is to confess their sins at the beginning of Lent. At that time, certain foods like eggs, milk, meat and rich buttery dishes were given up for the duration of Lent. One way that they used up the eggs, milk and fats in the house was to add flour to make special pancakes. In England, the popularity of pancakes caused Shrove Tuesday to be called Pancake Day. The money raised will kick-start our Project Compassion fundraising efforts.

PARISH MASS TIMES THIS WEEK

Monday 8th February, 6.30am – OLHOC

Tuesday 9th February, 6:30am – OLHOC

Wednesday 10th February – Ash Wednesday

- 6:30am – OLHOC
- 7:45am – St. Monica's Cathedral
- 5:15pm – St Monica's Cathedral
- 6.00pm – OLHOC

Thursday 11th February, 6.30am – OLHOC

Friday 12th February, 6.30am – OLHOC

Saturday 13th February, 6.00pm – OLHOC

Sunday 14th February, 8.00am – OLHOC – 1st Sunday of Lent

**God bless,
Gaby Donnelly
Assistant Principal – Religious Education**

Busy with Books.....

And a BiG hello to YoU aLL!!!

We are hitting the ground running.... What a terrific term this is going to be!

Our Caterpillar is hungry to bite into all the wonderful events 2016 has to offer.

Browse and Borrowing started again this week with a bang. Parents check out the books your student has chosen to bring home.

We will begin week 3 with a whole school activity to celebrate Chinese New.

Each morning before school come and paint a plate with us. You will find the paint table outside the library. This will become our Library Dragon. Don't miss out!!

Our first competition for the year is

HOT DATE WITH A BOOK

Sunday Feb 14th is Library Lovers Day.

We are combining Australia day antics and books!

Open to all students in the school.

Please provide us with a crazy photo of you and your book on a 'Hot' date together.

Be Creative. Prizes to be won.

Entries to handed into the Library or emailed to Mrs Hofman - chofman@cns.catholic.edu.au

Competition closes end of February.

The Library would like inform all the parents and students of the action we have taken to withhold iPads due to the Charger re-call.

Please be directed to this link for more information.
(Hint check your personal home equipment)

<https://www.apple.com/support/ac-wallplug-adapter/>



Cheers Mrs Hofman "Read on McDuff!"

SGM SECOND-HAND UNIFORM SHOP

The SGM Second-Hand Uniform Shop is back for 2016 and our stock levels are looking good! We are still low on small boys uniforms so if your son has out-grown his uniform over the holidays, please consider donating to the Uniform Shop. Our shop is run by our P&F and is manned by volunteers. Everything second-hand is \$5 and all funds raised is for the benefit of our students.

We also sell BRAND NEW HATS! Maroon Cricket Hat for \$9 and Blue Prep Legionnaire Hat for \$9 each or 2 for \$12!

CONTINUING FIRE SALE

As a one-off, our second-hand uniform shop currently has some **NEW ITEMS** for sale! These uniforms are all **BRAND NEW** and on sale at **CRAZY PRICES!** Get in quick whilst stocks last cause once they are gone, they are gone! Brand new items for sale are:

ITEM	SIZES	PRICE
Boys Shirts	16, 18, 22	\$30
Boys Shorts (Long-Leg)	4, 6, 8, 12, 14, 16	\$15
Girls Dress	12, 14, 16	\$45
Girls Blouse	6, 8, 10, 16, 18, 20	\$35
Girls Skorts	6, 14, 16, 18, 20	\$20
Sports Shirts	XS, M, XL (Adult Sizes)	\$25
Sports Shorts	M, L, XL (Adult Sizes)	\$20
Maroon Pullovers	4, 10, 12, 14	\$5
Maroon Zip Jackets	14, 16	\$5

**OPEN EVERY FRIDAY
8:15am to 8:45am**

For further information relating to uniforms, please call or text Jen Shannon on 0438 532 776 or email her on dandjshannon@gmail.com

What's been happening in 5B

Year 5B loving the Science unit recreating the Sun, Earth and Moon movements in our Solar system.



Mr Theron

Prep 2017

If you have a child due to start Prep in 2017 please ensure you have submitted your application for enrolment. Enrolments are due to be reviewed soon.

If you have any queries please contact the school office on 4054 4805.

Learning Support at St. Gerard Majella School

Welcome to another year at St Gerard Majella. Here in the Learning Support Team we have some new initiatives and roles that we would like to share with you all...

This year, one of Mrs Simone Bailey's roles is to coordinate our general intervention strategies, which this year we have streamlined. We hope to implement the MultiLit programs from Prep to Year 6 which comprises of: PreLit in Prep; MiniLit in year 1 and 2; and MultiLit in years 3, 4, 5 and 6. In the past we have used components of MultiLit which have proved successful, so we are hoping that by implementing the program in its entirety, we will have positive results.

If you would like further information about MultiLit, please contact us or go to the website www.multilit.com.

By having one person coordinate the general intervention strategies across the school, this allows for one Learning Support Teacher to coordinate our Students with Disability and those students with Individual Learning Plans. This year Mrs Elena Bolton has been tasked with this role. Some of the tasks involved in this role will require Mrs Bolton to coordinate all Individual Education / Learning Plans across the school, support teachers with modifications to the curriculum and liaise with all necessary service providers.

In addition, there has been an increase in School Officer time in class to support classroom teachers. This will assist teachers to provide in-class intervention for students experiencing difficulties in Mathematics. Together, the Learning Support Teacher and the classroom teacher will liaise regarding assessment and diagnosis of difficulties and work on strategies to implement to facilitate learning.

As the Learning Support Team at St Gerard Majella, we look forward to continuing to work with students, Teachers, School Officers and Administration across our school to ensure that all of our students can access their educational environment on the same basis as their peers.

Mrs Bailey and Mrs Bolton.

Happy Birthday

Malakai Tapaki-Spranklin 1A	Brock Austin 1B
Lachlan Downing 6B	Roisin Stevenson 1A
Connor Porta Prep B	Mason Cardew 3A
Chelsea Kopittke 5A	Avaliese Krause 4A
Matthew Gattera 5A	Zoe Harries 4A



The Arts

Welcome to The Arts in 2016 and what a fantastic year we have planned! I look forward to working with your child throughout the year to give them great opportunities to help develop their confidence, social and emotional well-being and knowledge in four of The Arts strands. This year we are implementing the Australian Curriculum throughout our programming and the year is laid out as follows:



Term One – Music
 Term Two – Media
 Term Three – Dance
 Term Four – Drama

This term your child will be given many opportunities to explore different instruments. The school has keyboards, woodwind instruments and percussive instruments. I am hoping to create a set of 31 recorders, so if you have a recorder (the cream coloured type - Yamaha) at home that you are happy to donate please send it in!



In 2016 SGM will be working closely with St Mary's Catholic College to continue to provide opportunities for the students of SGM. This includes Choir and Instrumental Programs.

This week grade 4 and 5 students will all be receiving a note from SMCC with information about their Instrumental Program. This program provides a fantastic opportunity for your child to become further involved in The Arts.

This year's concert is already in the planning stages and I will be asking for volunteers to help later in the term. If you are interested in helping out please let me know.

Taryn Pratley
The Arts

Tuckshop News...

Week 3 Term 1 2016

You should have received a new Term 1 2016 Menu last week. More copies are available at the office or on the school website.

FRIDAY SPECIAL FOR LENT

Fish Burger \$3.00
 (Crumbed Fish fillet, Lettuce and Mayo/Tomato/BBQ sauce)

Fish & Salad Burger \$3.50
 (Crumbed Fish fillet, Lettuce, Cucumber, Tomato, grated Carrot and Mayo/Tomato/BBQ sauce)

Online ordering is available at www.flexischools.com.au

The range of fresh food available at Tuckshop depends on the amount of Volunteers able to come in and help out. Volunteers are always welcome at Tuckshop at any time, even for just a few minutes.

Volunteers this week:

Wednesday: Glenda all day
 Thursday: Connie am/ Keano pm
 Friday: Ruth sandwiches, Margaret all day

Next Monday: Ruth am/ Keano pm
Next Tuesday: Roxena all day

St. Monica's College Enrolment Information

St Monica's College will be conducting interviews for Year 7 2017 from early March. If parents have not already submitted an application and would like to obtain a Prospectus, please phone the College on 40424800 to have this mailed out to you.

It is **not** an automatic process of progression for students who have siblings already at the College. An application form needs to be submitted for every student by the closing date of 24 March 2016.



BEFORE AND AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS

Bootcamp

Bootcampers,

We are back in action every Tuesday morning at 7:50am. Time to work off those lollies and get fit with Mr Theron. Be there or be on the couch.....

Community Announcements

Leichardt Junior Soccer Inc.



LEICHARDT JNR SOCCER CLUB INC

INFO DAY: SAT 6 FEB & 13 FEB
VENUE: JUNIOR CLUBHOUSE
TIME: 11AM - 3PM
CONTACT: 0466 111 397

REGISTER AT MYFOOTBALLCLUB.COM.AU

TYC Drama Classes

TYC Drama Classes for 3yrs – 12yrs

Join in the dramatic adventures at The Young Company Theatre this semester! Classes on the Southside starting soon! Develop confidence, explore your creativity, make new friends and learn the essentials of stage performance through improvisation, role-play, scripts, musical theatre and characterization activities and then perform in front of a live audience with costumes, sets, props, sound effects, live projections and theatrical lighting!! For more information phone 40414066, email info@theyoungcompany.com.au, visit our website www.theyoungcompany.com.au, visit us at 169 Bunda St, Cairns City. Or come along to Cairns' Greatest Sign Up this Saturday at the Cairns Cruise Liner Terminal.

Worldwide Marriage Encounter

Worldwide Marriage Encounter: A weekend away for married couples in peaceful, picturesque surroundings – away from the distractions of everyday living. Take time out of your busy schedule, to invest in your most precious asset... your Marriage! This is a unique opportunity to recharge your relationship batteries, refocus on each other and fall in love all over again!

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5Hdl2ZDxZxc>

Weekend date: 3 – 5 June 2016

Venue: Santa Teresa Spirituality Centre, Ormiston QLD (on Brisbane's bayside)

For bookings/details contact: Maria and David Murphy, ph (07) 3342 1456, dandmmurphy@optusnet.com.au Information website: www.wmme.org.au



Well Women's Clinics

Well Women's Clinics at Edmonton Community Health
(These clinics are available to Medicare eligible clients)
Monday 15th February 2016

Service includes Pap Smears, Sexual Health Screening, Breast Awareness, also info on Contraception, Continence, Menopause, Lifestyle Issues, Domestic Violence, etc. All services are provided by a specially trained Women's Health Nurse.

For appointments phone 4226 4900

