



Our Lady Queen of Peace

Newsletter – Term 1 Week 8, 2015



PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE:



Dear Students, Parents & Teachers

Kindergarten enrolments for 2106 are now open. If you have a child of school age or know of someone who does, please download a form from our website or visit the school office and ask for an enrolment form. We will be having an Open Day for new Kindy families on 1st April from 9.15am to 10.15am. We will meet in the area outside the office.

Last week was Catholic Schools Week and there are lots of news items on our website that show the open day activities that occurred throughout the week. It was great to see so many parents involved in the classrooms.

We also had our P&F meeting last week to discuss the results of the survey regarding the fete. It was agreed that we would not be holding a fete in 2015 but would be happy to hear from any parents who would like to explore the possibility again for 2016. We also discussed some alternative fund-raising activities for the children and will advise you of these later (see P&F minutes on the website). **A reminder also that the hot cross bun orders need to be in by Friday 20th March** so they can be processed and handed out before the holidays. The P&F are currently seeking a parent helper for the position of Treasurer. It is not an arduous job but helps the committee keep track of funds across the year. If you are interested in this position please call me at school or Mrs Jodi Gerardis on 0404870810.

Year 5P under the direction of Mrs Parker, began a drive this week to collect T-shirts for the victims of the Vanuatu cyclone. We have already collected 100 shirts and are hoping to have more by Thursday when they will be packaged and sent overseas. This is a great initiative to help our neighbours in their time of need. If you can donate, please send in a T-shirt or shirt (any size) to school by this Thursday.

As Easter draws closer we will be having some events to mark the end of the Lenten Season. On Thursday 2nd April, we will assemble in the playground at 9.15am for our Holy Week celebrations. The children will re-enact the events of Jesus' Passion. After the holidays we will complete the event with a celebration of Jesus' resurrection on Tuesday 21st April. On Monday 27th April we will have a remembrance ceremony for ANZAC Day. This will be a special ceremony to commemorate 150yrs of ANZAC history. Parents are very welcome to attend and details of these events will follow.

Principal's Message (cont'd):

With less than two weeks before the state election, I urge you to contact your local MPs and candidates to talk to them about the importance of capital works funding for Catholic schools in Western Sydney. Without capital works funding for Catholic schools, it will be difficult to meet growing enrolment demands for Catholic schooling. This will place an even greater burden on the tax payer if places for these children need to be found in government schools.

Recently, our Executive Director of Schools, Greg Whitby met with Minister Adrian Piccoli to urge him to consider the needs of the 25% of children and, no commitment to capital works funding was made. I urge you to email your local STATE member, Mr Tony Issa and STATE opposition candidate, to tell them that capital works funding is an important issue for you in the upcoming election.

Over the course of the term we have, together, dealt with some issues that affect the life of the school and in particular our children. It is not possible to consult with the community on every issue that faces our school but we endeavour to seek parent's opinions as much as possible. If you have any concerns particularly about learning, you can make an appointment to see me or the Assistant Principal (Mrs Garzaniti) at any time.

It is my firm belief that school and home should always work together to provide the best learning outcomes for the children.

Have a great week

Michael Hopley

Principal

Office News:

Exemption Forms

NOT required if students are absent from school for a period of less than 10 days. Please see school website for details (*Parents – Notes & Forms – Administration Forms*).

Uniform Shops

Winter uniforms are now available for purchase every Thursdays & Saturdays 8.30am-10.00am, until the end of term which is 02 April. We will reopen Saturday 18th April 8.30am-10.00am. For all enquiries, please contact Elle: 0421216414 or email elle@ozfashions.com.au

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