



# Our Lady Queen of Peace

## Newsletter – Term 2 Week 2, 2016

### PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE:



#### Enrolling Now for Kindergarten 2017

Dear Parents, Students and Teachers

Welcome back to Term 2. Lots of exciting experiences and learning opportunities ahead.

The weather at the moment remains unseasonably warm and it is appropriate for children to wear their summer uniform. It will be important that all children are in winter uniform for the school photos on Monday 16<sup>th</sup> May. A reminder also that both individual and sibling photos can be paid for online. You can collect an envelope from the office (envelopes contain the code you will need to order online). Please make sure your payment is made by Friday, 13 May.

This week we began our Kindergarten enrolment interviews for 2017. 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. Enrolments close on Friday 27<sup>th</sup> May.

Next week our Year 3 and Year 5 students will participate in NAPLAN (10<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> May). The results from these literacy and numeracy assessments is valuable information for the teachers to identify areas of success and challenge for their students. It is important that we don't over emphasize these tests and cause unnecessary anxiety but simply encourage the children to do their best.

Our new cola is complete and Area C is once more open for play. We will be installing a small fence along the side that separates us from the Pre-School and I am currently seeking quotes to concrete the seating area. If any of our parents have a concreting business or can recommend someone, please contact the office. Work is not yet complete on Area A and we continue to seek a solution to the surfacing problem.

Last week Mrs Simonovski asked for donations for the earthquake victims in Ecuador. The office was inundated with parcels of games and clothes and blankets. These have all

#### DATES FOR YOUR DIARY:

##### Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> May:

*Diocesan Cross Country*

*Mother's Day stall*

##### Friday 6<sup>th</sup> May:

*Mother's Day breakfast and Liturgy*

##### Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> May:

*P & F Information Night*

*NAPLAN (Years 3 & 5)*

##### Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> May:

*NAPLAN (Years 3 & 5)*

##### Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> May:

*NAPLAN (Years 3 & 5)*

##### Monday 16<sup>th</sup> May:

*School Photos – full winter uniform*

##### Friday 27<sup>th</sup> May:

*Kindergarten enrolments for 2017 close.*

been passed on to the charity that is shipping them to the families suffering from this catastrophe. Our thanks to Mrs Simonovski for organising this appeal and on her behalf I would like to thank our community for its quick and thoughtful response.

Last year you may remember we entered the *Earn and Learn* Woolworths promotion. We gathered thousands of stickers and as a result we have purchased lots of playground equipment for the children to use including large plastic trucks, plastic construction kits and board games. We are currently looking at storage options and we hope to have it ready by the end of this week.

Mrs Woods is currently on leave for Terms 2 and 3 and we wish her well on her pilgrimage overseas. During this time we are trialling a process of returning our library books on the day before library borrowing. This will save time during the lesson and allow the returns to be processed more easily. The teachers will direct the children in this process.

Last term I mentioned some changes in legislation regarding student attendance at school. Current research suggests that patterns of absenteeism for students begins in Year 1 and continues into high school. Schools are now required to carefully monitor attendance and parents are to be informed when attendance rates fall below 90%. Last week I sent out 40 letters informing parents of this information even though their children's absence was explained. In the second instance, if attendance continues to decline I am required to interview parents and establish a plan of action to support attendance. In the third instance the Catholic Education Office will organise to meet with parents to establish a plan and inform parents of legislative consequences of children not attending school regularly.

The Parents and Friends Committee have organised an information night for families on Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> May at 7.30pm in the library. The theme of the night is "*Keeping Our Kids Safe*". It will be hosted by Nicole Hunt from Holroyd Council and a representative from Merrylands Police. A note has already gone home so please contact the office if you didn't receive one.

A big thank you to the Parents and Friends Committee also for organising the Mother's Day Stall on Tuesday. We hope to see lots of mums at our breakfast (from 8.00am) and liturgy (9.00am) on Friday.

I would also like to draw your attention to the initiative taken by the P&F Committee to begin a School Business Directory. This is a great opportunity for families to have access to local businesses and for the owners to advertise their services. If you are interested in advertising your business, please contact the office.

Presently, across Australia, families have access to the Child Dental Benefits Schedule which supports payments of much needed dental care. The Health Minister recently suggested that this scheme may not have any provision in the next budget. More information about this including a petition to support the scheme can be found at: <http://bit.do/savetheCDBS>

As a school community we have established two school rules – *Learn Well* and *Look after each other*. The second rule speaks clearly to our relationships and how we put into practise the values that we draw from the Gospels. As we continue this Jubilee year of Mercy we should consider the Pope's notion of how Jesus has taught us, through Scripture, to be merciful.....

*"Lord Jesus Christ, you have taught us to be merciful like the heavenly Father, and have told us that whoever sees you sees Him. Show us your face and we will be saved."*



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**When:** Friday 6 May

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5pm Group PT TexFit Studio		5pm Group PT TexFit Studio	5pm Group PT TexFit Studio	
5pm Thump Boxing Bootcamp (Pemulwuy)		5pm Group PT TexFit Studio	6:15pm Bootcamp (Pemulwuy)	
7pm Thump Boxing Bootcamp (Pemulwuy)		7:15pm Bootcamp (Greystanes)	7:15pm Bootcamp (Pemulwuy)	

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