

# **St Angela's Primary School Castle Hill**

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**Newsletter** Vol. 9 No. 39

Sending Home Information and News about Education Ministry of Our Lady of the Rosary Parish, Kellyville

6th December, 2018 Term 4, Week 8

Dear Parents,

It is hard to believe that in less than two weeks the school year will come to an end for 2018. The busyness of this tail end of year in the commercial sector, let alone schools and life itself is often frantic. Many parents I speak to often express how busy they are, not surprisingly the children also talk about how busy they are throughout each week with commitments. I encourage you to intentionally make and take opportunities to spend time as a family. It is this special family time that children crave, cherish and remember. Our children grow up so quickly. The early years are indeed precious. Whether it is a walk in the afternoon, a meal together, sharing a book, or just good conversation, time together is important. We should spend time on what is important. What is more important than family?

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At this time of year the reading from (Matthew 25:31-46) contains a powerful message for our children and for all as adults. Christ's teaching through this passage highlights how our faith can be expressed in practical charity to others. It is a simple and accessible message that as parents we can role model for our children in the way we treat others.

..... "For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you something to drink? When did we see you a stranger and invite you in, or needing clothes and clothe you? When did we see you sick and go to visit you?' 'Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.".....

#### \*\*\*\*\*

I wish to announce the appointment of Miss Jana Fizely who will be joining the St Angela's team next year as a classroom teacher. Congratulations and welcome.

We also say thank you to Mrs Richards (Teachers' Aide) who has been with us for 6 years. Mrs Richards has worked mainly with the infants classes and we are grateful for her support to the children. She has nearly completed her teaching degree and is now transitioning from being a teachers aide to casual teaching.

Thank you for your continued support. It is in partnership that we can achieve great things for our children.



Tony Calabria Principal

> Writers Festival 2018 See our SHINE insert for some snippets of this year's Gold winning pieces.

# **Christmas Concert**



This Wednesday 12th December 6:30pm

We are looking forward to sharing our Christmas celebration with all families and friends of St Angela's Primary School this Wednesday 12th December at 6.30pm under the Big Top.

The children will need to be at school by 6.00pm. Please refer to the email sent home last week regarding costumes for the children to wear. We ask that when children arrive they go to their classroom to meet their teacher and prepare.

We ask all families to bring blankets, cushions or chairs. Blankets and cushions will be used to sit on the concrete area and chairs will be accommodated at the back of the concrete area. All cars are to be parked outside the school grounds due to safety. Families can enter by either the front or back gates. School gates (front and back) will open at 5.30pm.

## **End of Year Thanksgiving Mass Tomorrow Friday 7th December**

All parents and friends are invited to join us at our end of year Thanksgiving Mass tomorrow 7th December at 9:00am in St Angela's St Maximilian Kolbe Hall. This is also an opportunity for the school community to farewell our Year 6 children and those leaving St Angela's. Our student leaders for 2019 will be officially presented during the Mass. Children are to wear full school uniform. Sport uniform will not be required by any classes on this day.

**St Angela's Swimming Carnival** Friday 14th December 2018 Years 2 to 5 and Year 1 children turning 8 in 2019 at Blacktown Aquatic Centre Parents are welcome to attend



ST ANGELA'S FEAST DAY CELEBRATION MONDAY 17TH DECEMBER



The children are certainly looking forward to our St Angela's Feast Day celebrations. We will be having excitement filled rides and a complimentary Calippo ice block for each child. These treats are all free to say thank you to our children for a great year of faith, fun and learning and to celebrate St Angela's Day. Please be sure to complete the permission google form which was be emailed home yesterday so your child can participate.



### **Religious Education**

Sunday, 9 Dec 2018: Second Sunday of Advent - Year C Gospel Lk 3:1-6

John the Baptist proclaims a baptism of repentance.

The second and third weeks of Advent this year focus particularly on the role of John the Baptist as the one who prepared the way for Jesus and announced his coming. It continues the theme of preparation that was begun last week, but still, rather than preparing for the birth of Jesus, we are exploring the wider theme of preparation. The gospel writer includes a quote from Isaiah in which the prophet says, 'Prepare a way for the Lord.' The application of this passage to John the Baptist is a logical one. This gospel emphasises that John was preaching 'a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins'. Throughout the gospel of Luke, the recognition of sinfulness and the desire to repent and seek forgiveness is the prelude to receiving God's favour.

This gospel makes it clear that one way in which we can prepare a way for the Lord is to recognise our faults and failings and to seek forgiveness. It is only through such repentance that we can make ourselves receptive to the love of God. The only preparation of the way that is necessary for the Lord is a personal preparation to be receptive. We are absolutely

assured of God's love. The problem is that we often feel that we are undeserving of that love or are unable to receive it. When we are called to 'Prepare a way for the Lord' it is a call to prepare a way in our own hearts – to break down the

barriers that we have put up; to clear the obstacles that we have placed in the path. God's love will find a way! We simply make the way easier for ourselves to recognise God's love if we 'Prepare a way'.

Q. What would it take for you to 'Prepare a way' – to clear the obstacles and allow God's love through?

Q. How can you assist others to 'Prepare a way'?

### **World Youth Day**

World Youth Day (WYD) is a worldwide encounter with the Pope which is typically celebrated every three years in a different country. It was my privilege to attend WYD in Krakow, Poland as a group leader and pilgrim in 2016. Once again I will attend World Youth day as a pilgrim group leader in January 2019. My group and I, along with over 150 youth from the Parramatta Diocese, will journey to Mexico for a mission encounter before travelling to Panama City, Panama for World Youth Day events. WYD is open to all young people who want to take part in a festive encounter centred on Jesus Christ. This event is an opportunity to experience in first person the universality of the Church; to share with the whole world

the hope of many young people who want to commit themselves to Christ and others. World Youth Day is a unique way to deepen your faith and grow closer to Christ, by means of prayer and the commonter to christ, by means of other young people who

sacraments, together with thousands of other young people who share your interests and ambitions.

Personally, It was a life changing experience and I feel blessed to once again have the opportunity to experience this journey of faith.

### **End of Year Mass**

Our End Of Year school mass will be held tomorrow, Friday 7th of December at 9am. We will gather in our St Maximilian Kolbe Hall as a school community to celebrate the year that has been and all the blessings we are grateful for. All are most welcome.

Mrs Michelle Yager Religious Education Coordinator

# Farewell Assembly

Join us as we say farewell and show our appreciation and thanks to Mrs Fitzalan, Mrs Murray, Mrs Lean, Mrs Moller, Mrs Hynes and Mrs Richards at a special farewell assembly on Tuesday 18th December at 8:45am. All are welcome to attend.



# **Upcoming Dates**

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#### Week 8

Week 8	
Friday 7th December	9:00am End of Year Thanksgiving Mass at St Angela's
Sunday 9th December	2nd Sunday in Advent
<u>Week 9</u>	
Monday 10th December	Year 6 Motivate Day
Wednesday 12th December	6:30pm Christmas Concert under the Big Top - All Welcome Christmas Raffle Drawn
Thursday13th December	9:00am Shine Quest All Welcome
Friday 14th December	School Swimming Carnival Blacktown Pool Grades 2 - 5 and Year 1 children turning 8 in 2019 All Welcome
	Mt St Benedict Orientation #2
Sunday 16th December	3rd Sunday in Advent
<u>Week 10</u>	
Monday 17th December	St Angela's Celebration Rides Day
Tuesday 18th December	2:30pm Year 6 Farewell Parade All Welcome
	7:00pm Year 6 Graduation Ceremony in Hall. All Welcome
Wednesday 19th December	Students last day of the Year Christmas Mufti
Thursday 20th December	Staff Development Day
Friday 21st December	Staff Development Day

### 'Shine Quest' St Angela's 18th Annual Talent Quest

Next Thursday 13th December 2018 from 9:00am we will conduct the final of our annual Shine Quest. We have 26 acts performing this year. This is <u>not</u> a competition but rather a celebration of talent. As a result, places etc. are not awarded. All welcome to attend.



## **Celebrating Our Gifts** (Awards presented on Friday 30/11/18)

### Academíc Excellence

Livia Gigliucci KB William Lakeman KG Angelique Bonasin KY Henry Phelan 1B Jack Norris 1G Zarah Ciccia 1Y Tianna Farah 2B Vaughn Bagus 2G Max Lukjanenko 2Y Ella West 3B Sophie Wallace 3G Alannah Lane 3Y Madeline Nasso 4B Jemima Scothern 4G Vanessa Tesoriero 4Y Jeanette Khoudair 5B Jarvis Hemmings 5G Melina Catalano 5Y **Brinley Lewis 6B** Lauren Shin 6G Alannah Bridge 6Y



### Year 6 Dinner/Disco

Girls looking gorgeous, boys looking handsome, photo booth flash ready, the lolly bar full and dinner was delicious. On Sunday the 2nd of December, Year 6 had their Year 6 Disco/ Graduation Social at the Castle Hill RSL and we had the night of our lives. We were on the dance floor singing and dancing with all our friends. Near the end of the night the DJ played the Nutbush and all the students were on the dance floor dancing. Overall It was fantastic night and everyone went home tired. This night wouldn't have been possible without the Year 6 parents who helped organise the night. Thank you. More events ahead in the few weeks then High School here we come!!!! Ashley Davie & Annaliese Borg Year 6



Happy birthday to members of our St Angela's community 2 8 who will celebrate their birthday this coming week: DECEMBER 8 Sun 9th Dec Thurs 13th Dec 8 Justin Younis Emmanuel Dib Courtney Lean Mon 10th Dec 8 **Riley Dafter** Fri 14th Dec 8 Sinera Janaratne Charley Natividad 8 Tahlia Mackay 8 **Thomas Norris** 8 Tues 11th Dec Sienna Azar 8 Wed 12th Dec 8 Victoria Pinna Meet Your Teacher for 2019

Children will have an opportunity to meet their new class teacher for 2019 this Thursday 13th December. <u>A list of class teachers for 2019 will be emailed home soon</u>.

### Year 6 Guard of Honour

The whole school will gather to wish Year 6 all the best next Tuesday 18th December at approximately 2:30pm under the big top. Parents are most welcome to attend.

### Year 6 Graduation

Tuesday 18th December at 7:00pm in the St Maximilian Kolbe Hall. All welcome.

### Last Day of School for 2018

Wednesday 19th December is the last day for all students in Kindy to Year 6 for 2018. The children are welcome to wear Christmas Mufti to help celebrate this joyous time of year. Staff will be at school on Thursday 20th and Friday 21st December.

### **2019 Prescribed Medication Forms**

Forms and action plans, which are required to be updated for 2019, will be emailed early next week to those families whose children currently have medication stored at school on a permanent basis. Please notify the school via email at stangelas@parra.catholic.edu.au if your child's medical requirements have changed and they no longer require medication to be permanently stored at school.

Thank you in advance for your attention to this important matter.

### Parents' Social Gathering

My appreciation and thanks to the parents who were able to attend our Parents' Social Gathering at the RSL last Thursday. It was a lovely time to gather and step back from the busyness of this time of year. Thank you to our social committee, Joyce Bautista, Wayne Davie, Alli Holmes, Erin Kennedy, Di McGaulley, Bec Nati, Jenni Rodger and Antonella Tesoriero for a very successful year full of exciting activities and events that raised <u>fun</u> and <u>funds</u>.

On behalf of the St Angela's community, we are very grateful for all you have done.

## Uniform Sales from Oz Fashions

Please note our uniform supplier, Oz Fashions, will be selling uniforms on the following days in January in our school hall:

#### Wednesday 9th January 2019 from 12:30 to 2:00pm Saturday 19th January 2019 from 3:00pm to 5:00pm

If you have any enquiries, please do not hesitate to contact Oz Fashions directly on 0421 216 414.

## **Readers and Library Books**

Could all Guided Readers, books from class Browser Boxes and all Library books please be returned to school by the end of next week (Week 8). This will allow teachers and librarians to do a stocktake and ensure that all resources are ready for next year. Many thanks for your support.

## <u> Please keep in your prayers</u>

Our prayers are extended to the Lang family, James KB and Emma 6B, and the Singh family Jaida 1G, Elishia 3Y and Jonah 4G due to the passing into eternal life of their Great Grandmothers.

# Theme for the Week:

### "It is in giving that we receive"

Our theme this week focuses on the gifts of 'ourselves' that we give to others when we help another person, when we speak a kind word, when we forgive, when we do something for someone else and expect nothing in return. To gain satisfaction from simply living out our gospel values in our interactions with others truly helps us receive Christ in our lives at this special time of Christmas.

School Returns in 2019 for: Years 1 to 6 on Wednesday 30th January and Kindergarten on Monday 4th February

## **Christmas Treats**

In these last weeks of school, children like to carry out the Christmas spirit by sending and receiving Christmas cards with lovely messages of joy and thanks. This is a lovely gesture. As there are a number of children at St Angela's who have severe allergies we kindly ask that you do not send in any edible treats for the children to give to each other. This includes gingerbread, chocolates, candy canes, marshmallows or any other lolly, biscuit or cake. We ask this so that we can ensure that our school community remains safe for all of our children.

Thank you for your co-operation in this important matter.

### <u>Sent Home This Week</u>

**Emailed:** Year 5 Leadership, data Validation Survey, Year 5 Graduation Supper, Christmas at the Shrine, Year 6 Motiv8, St Angela's Day 2018, Year 6 End of Year Information.

Hard Copy : Christmas Concert

### NEW FAMILIES BBQ CALLING ALL CURRENT KINDER PARENTS AND ANY OTHER PARENTS

Next year, as is tradition at St Angela's, we will welcome all the Kinder 2019 families and any new families from 1-6 to our St Angela's community with a BBQ and drinks early in the new school year. We ask that available parents from this year's Kinder and/or any grade who would be willing to help organise the occasion please email the school office at stangelas@parra.catholic.edu.au. We aim to have the event on **Friday, 8th February at 5:00pm.** 

Please join in and help extend the same welcome that was extended to you when your child started Kinder this year.

### Christmas Hampers - Last Call Next Friday 14th December

The St Vincent de Paul Society will again be providing Christmas hampers to needy families. Thank you to those families who have already donated hampers. Please keep in mind that we are hoping to provide a Christmas dinner for families who otherwise would not have anything special to eat on Christmas Day. A list of suggested items has been emailed home to all families. Please send items in to your child's class teacher **Friday 14th December** to allow distribution in time for Christmas. Thank you for your generosity.

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# **Star Spot**

Congratulations to Georgia Lee (3G) who is one of seven mini zookeepers chosen from more than 1000 young animal enthusiasts by Sydney Zoo. Georgia now has the opportunity to help bring some of the animals from all over the world to their new home in Bungarribee and teach other children the importance of conservation.



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### **Chess Grand Finals 2018**

Congratulations to all students who have taken part in the St. Angela's Junior and Senior Chess Championship this term. Grand Finals will take place in the school hall on Tuesday, 11th December at 12.40pm. We wish our finalists the best of luck and congratulate all the children who have participated in the competition. They displayed wonderful skill and sportsmanship. Junior Finalists: Ben McNamara vs Sean Phung

Senior Finalists: Jason Herbas vs Dominic Darmudi



Many thanks to our Chess Coordinators Elizabeth Kelly and Lynne Sandri, for providing this opportunity to our students.



This Saturday 8th December from 1pm to 5:30pm,



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# 2018 ST ANGELA'S WRITERS FESTIVAL

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This year our K-6 children used a visual stimulus to write their text for the St Angela's Writers festival. This was an exciting and challenging task and our young authors wrote engaging, interesting, well-structured pieces. The teachers found it difficult to choose the winners from so many wonderful writing samples. Here are some samples from each grade. We hope that you enjoy reading them.

#### KINDERGARTEN Gold Award: Lauren Spragg

"Ahoy me hearties!" said Captain Peter. The captain saw another boat with pirates. The pirates said hello to Captain Peter. Suddenly, a huge blue whale jumped out of the sparkly sea. Water splashed all over the captain. "Oh no!" said Captain Peter, "I am all wet, I hate getting wet."

"Pirates! Get me a towel now!" said Captain Peter. Then they heard a big bang. They had not watched where they were going and they became ship wrecked on the sand.

#### YEAR 1 Gold Award: Dominic Jodlowski-Tan

"Such a dull day!" complained Nanny. Nanny lived in a dark and miserable tent in the dark garbage dump where people believed that whoever lived there would have a very bad day.

"I know! I'll make something to lighten up my dark, miserable tent", Nanny said and her face lit up at once. Nanny collected a lot of junk and rubbish. She picked up an umbrella with a few holes in it and then she found a rusty old paint tin. Next she stumbled across an old car....

### YEAR 2 Gold Award: Gia Anonical

Do you think that mermaids even exist? Do you think they are fake? You might be wrong. A little girl once went to the majestic circus and there she saw an exquisite, shining, eye catching crystal with a magical ability. It was as beautiful as the rarest diamond in the universe. Also, from the corner of her eye she had seen blue scales, a lovely fish tail and brown hair flowing through the water. What was it? Was it possible that it was a mermaid? How could this be real? The corners of her mouth turned up, her eyes were wide open and both her hands were held against her cheek. SPLASH! The glamorous mermaid creature looked at her eye to eye. "A dream come true", shouted the small girl....

#### YEAR 3 Gold Award: Lilliana Sacco

I closed my eyes. "This can't be real", I thought. As I opened my eyes that magnificent creature was still touching the delicate glass and she put her hand against mine. Mermaids were real? What grandma said wast true! Suddenly, a million flashing lights were upon us and I quickly bounced backward. The mermaid was looking at everyone in shame. I felt sorry for this poor creature, but...I had to go....

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The sweet aroma of fairy floss tingled Emily's nostrils. The soft finger of the fortuneteller tickled her palm. "A special power with the ocean," echoed the fortune teller's deep voice through the dark room. "A secret power with the ocean." The words seemed to follow Emily around wherever she went. The words seemed to grow louder every step she took. When she came face to face with The Little Mermaid, Elixir, something magical happened. Emily could see the furrows on the ringmaster's brow. Was he angry? Then she noticed a fluorescent blue colour glowing between their two hands. Goosebumps grew along Emily's arm. Why is she taking the mermaid's powers? Could that be why the ringmaster was angry?

#### YEAR 5 Gold Award: Alexandra Santos

"Say something," Camila said, her voice quiet, nervous. "Please, Dinah," she begged taking her bottom lip between her teeth anxiously. "Please, just... say something," she sighed.

#### Dinah didn't.

She just stared at Camila still in shock, still unable to quite comprehend what she'd just heard, what the smaller girl had just admitted. She felt disconnected from everything, like she was watching the scene play in her head or on a movie scene. It didn't feel real to her, it felt like it was a joke, a well-conceived prank that Normani had put the brunette up to, that Normani was more than likely recording for the sole purpose of posting it on Twitter later that day.

Dinah half expected to see Camila's face break out into her familiar grin and hear her unmistakable chuckled as her facade broke, completely blowing the entire act and ruining everything. She imagined Normani bursting out of her hiding place and complaining that she should have known better than to send in Camila for this stunt, that everyone knew she was a lousy liar and would never have been able to complete it convincingly without giving the game away.

#### YEAR 6 Gold Award: Kiara Lee

It was a dim place. Old blue rubble and cracked stone pillars were surrounded with murky, blue water. Little hopeful streaks of rippling sunlight that reached the bottom of the ocean shone and danced across the destroyed continent. From up on the underwater cliffs this did not look like treasure. You wouldn't be able to tell the difference between what remained of houses and misshapen boulders. Everything was still and there was an eerie silence that sounded all too loud. The abandoned streets of Atlantis. Somehow, an underwater volcano at the end of the continent rumbled ominously and scorching red bubbles escaped out of a foaming crater. They had found it at last – the lost continent. Yet...how was this treasure?