

We acknowledge the Darug people, the traditional custodians on whose land we educate our students.

#### Dear Parents,

I am sure that everyone is reflecting at this time about how quickly this very unusual year has just passed by. We have just over 2 weeks of school before the end of the school year. The children and staff are enjoying being back together and spending time in the "usual" way at school as the year ends.

It is of course an incredibly busy time for families as we all get ready for Christmas. As a faith community this is the time in which we are called to slow down - even though the world around us is speeding up. With the children, our religious education teaching units focus on Advent and we invite them to prepare their hearts for the celebration of the birth of Jesus Christ at Christmas. For young children and their families this period of waiting and reflecting can be difficult, especially when the messaging from the media and in the shops is on the hustle and bustle of present shopping. If we can slow down ...... we will be able to appreciate more all that we have been blessed with. This is always our challenge but even more so at this time of year.

#### Loving God

grant us your peace in this advent season. As we move through Advent We look forward to welcoming Jesus Our brother and your son He is your gift to us Thank you for sending Jesus to us Amen.



#### **Building Project**

On Monday, all families received the exciting news that in mid 2022 a building programme will commence at St Angela's which will see the construction of wonderful new learning spaces for our students. This has been a much anticipated program for the school which currently has two thirds of our students learning in demountable classrooms and others learning in rooms that are small and have been retro fitted over the years in an effort to to bring them up to date. The current classrooms have served the St Angela's community well and the students have excelled in their learning in those rooms. Our new learning spaces will further support the outstanding education that our children experience. In the New Year, I really look forward to being able to share with you the project and the development of the building programme.

Together we can achieve so much Leanne Nettleton Principal

#### **Klds Messenger**



It has come to our attention that a large number of students have access to Kids Messenger and are using it out of school to be in contact with their friends. Please be aware that if children are using this platform it is vital that parents are supervising their child's engagement with it. You are able to

set up a Parent Dashboard that allows you to have oversight of almost everything that your child is doing on Kids Messenger. However one area that you do not have control over or insight into is video chats. Your children can say or show anything they want to (and you won't be able to review it), unless you're around to keep an eye on things. They can also create group chats (which you don't need to approve). It does seem that many parents felt that during lockdown and remote learning Kids Messenger was a helpful tool to keep children connected to each other when they could not be connected at school. It would seem timely now that the children have returned to school, that you review your child's need to access this platform when the children are physically back at school and seeing their friends everyday. It is always good to remember that the advice from the e-safety commission is that young children under 13 years of age require careful parental setup and oversight whenever using social media platforms such as Kids Messenger -- and limited amounts of time spent using it. It is far more developmentally appropriate and healthy for young children to be communicating with their friends face to face through play and activity.

## Hand sanitising on entry to the school

One of our key COVID safe strategies is that every child coming into the school in the mornings sanitises their hands. Please remind your child that this is an important procedure each and every morning and is part of our coming into school process at both the back and front gates and via cars and buses in the mornings.

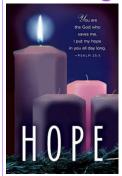


#### **Air Filters**

We have just received a delivery of Air Filters for our classrooms to improve the air quality in each of our rooms. These will be installed across the school. As part of our COVID Safety plan class windows and doors are left open throughout the day and at recess and lunch times, while the children are out of the rooms, air conditioners are used with the windows and doors open to bring fresh air into the rooms.

40 Harrington Avenue, Castle Hill NSW 2154 Phone (02) 9407 6400 email: stangelas@parra.catholic.edu.au

# **Religious Education**



FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT YEAR C -28th November 2021

Gospel Lk 21:25-28. 34-36 Be ready for the second coming.

#### Scriptural context

This week's gospel passage comes from a lengthy passage in the gospel of

Luke in which Jesus speaks extensively about the future. It is a very different style of writing from the usual narrative. teaching and parable forms that make up most of the gospel. The style is an echo of the prophetic writings of the Old Testament. Compare this passage with this week's first reading of other passages from the writings of the prophets. The style is always rich in metaphor and symbol. There is a grandness about the style. We know, just from the use of language, that great things are afoot!

#### Have you thought? – Waiting, waiting, waiting ...

I'm not a big fan of waiting! Anticipation is pretty good; getting prepared and getting ready are OK, too. But when is comes down to being all dressed up and ready to go, I'm just hopeless at waiting. If Advent is a time of pointless waiting for Christmas then we've somehow missed the message. Rather than just waiting, Advent is a time of preparation and anticipation. But it's not just about anticipating Christmas. That's part of it, sure. However, Advent is about reminding ourselves that we have a job to do: preparing for the reign of God - in our lives and in our world.

#### Source: GregSunter@LiturgyHelp

Sacrament of Confirmation - Congratulations to our Year 6 students who received the Sacrament of Confirmation over the last two weeks. Thank you to the Year 6 teachers for attending the celebrations.

**First Reconciliation -** Congratulations to our Year 2 students who made their First Reconciliation on Wednesday 24th November. A huge thanks to the Year 2 teachers for their support and assistance. We wish to thank Fr Alejandro, Fr Leonides, Fr David and Fr Tony.

Parish Newsletter - Fr Aleiandro invites everyone to keep up to date with the latest news from the parish.

Jocelyn Williams Religious Education Coordinator



Over the past couple of weeks, Year 5 have been working very hard to raise as JRS much money as we can through educational videos and quizzes for the JRS. Year 5 are happy to announce that

through your kind donations we have raised \$1,255.50. This is going to help the JRS greatly. We conducted Mission activities to raise awareness and money to support the Jesuit Refugee Service (JRS). We were delighted when we heard of all of the money that has been raised and the food donations that have been received. Thank you all so much for all the support you have given to Year 5 and the JRS. Also all of the Year 5s hope that the students had a great time completing the activities and quizzes that we planned for you to enjoy. By: Stirling, Adalyn and Kiara



#### **Competitors Only Swimming Carnival** (Time Trial) Monday, November 29th **Blacktown Aquatic Centre**



Arrival: 8:30 am Finish: 12 noon approximately. If it finishes early parents will receive a text message. Parents are to transport competitors to and from the venue

Parent essential helpers have been contacted.

Due to the small number of students attending this event, it will be conducted as a Time Trial for progression to the Zone Carnival.

Please contact Mrs Chatten if you have any questions

#### **EXPRESSION OF INTEREST**

For those students who are going to be in years 5 or 6 in 2022 ONLY.

EXPRESSION OF INTEREST (EOI) for the 2022 Parramatta Diocesan Primary Sport Team trials has opened up via the online platform through CEDP.

this Parents may complete form https:// www.primarysportparra.catholic.edu.au/ to attend a selection trial. One form is to be completed per child, per individual sport. Each sport has its own criteria therefore, it is imperative that the correct form is completed. Please make note of the closing dates and Trials as these are run through CEDP and no allowances can be made after the closing dates.

#### Please be mindful to show courtesy to our neighbours when parking in the streets surrounding the school.

Unfortunately we have had several complaints from neighbours in Orleans Way and Belle Marie Dr who have contacted the school about vehicles parking illegally across driveways and on the nature strip. Please be mindful of where and how you park your vehicles. We want to continue the great relationship that we have established with our neighbours over the years.

#### School Band

Teaching Services Australia is accepting enrolments of students from Years 2 -5 who would like to join the school band in 2022. Please see the attached flyer for details

## St Angela's Family Christmas

This year, we are once again reimagining our traditional Christmas Concert with the theme; St Angela's Family Christmas. The grades will be performing and filming a dance item and small performance which will then be compiled to form a virtual Christmas story. This will be shared with the community. The children are asked to come to school dressed in their Christmas costume on their allocated day. More information will be coming home in the coming days regarding dates and costumes requirements.

## **Celebrating Our Gifts** (Awards presented on Friday 19/11/2021)

St Angela's

Award

Michael Boumelhem KB

Sara Crisafulli KG

Matteo Circosta KY

Nicholas Gumuljo 1B

Keira Vavasour 1G

Liam Kennedy 1Y

Amalie Cordi 2B

Elissa Zaidan 2G

Joshua Raad 2Y

**Oliver Milicevic 6Y** 

## Academíc Excellence

Emilia Azar KB William Iannetta KG Zac Gardiner KY Matthew Livingstone 1B Emma Zhang 1G Isabelle Kastoun 1Y Sophia Arreza 2B Elena Mauceri 2G Andrea Mateo 2Y Rita Dabit 3B Samaan Abu Duhou 3G Sienna Fernandes 3Y Abbey Glass 4B

Dominic Jodlowski-Tan

Oskar Callan-Kerkenezov Isaac Cassab 5B

Lucas Mileto 3B Sienna Mearns 3G Sofia Muscardo 3Y Ivy Tole 4B Mikayla White 4G Phoebe Scida 4Y Jude Moller 5B Joshua Morin 5G Evangelos Tikellis 5G Matilda Scothern 5Y Jacob Nasso 5Y Aaron Zlomislic 6B Luciana Castillo 6B Zara Phelan 6G Zachary Brook 6G

## **Speech and Drama**

Georgia Lee 6Y

Tanya Taylor offers tuition in Speech Communication and Drama to develop confidence, a love of literature and performance.

Eisteddfods and A.M.E.B. Examinations offered.

Private classes or groups of two. Commencing Term 1, 2022.

Contact Tanya for further information: 0418 437 883 tanyamaree1@icloud.com

#### School Fee Reminder

A gentle reminder that 2021 School Fees are now overdue. As the end of the year draws nearer we ask that you finalise your account as soon as possible. Please contact Liz Burke regarding any financial matters on 9407 6400. Many thanks.



Happy birthday to members of our St Angela's community who celebrate their birthday this coming week;

#### November

Mon 29th Lewis Norrish Connor Paton Jonah West

Tues 30th Sophie Kenny Jack Norris

December Fri 3rd Alana Laird Christian Mendoza Harper Sweeney

Sat 4th Penelope Jokic Isaac Low

Sun 5th **Christian Nasr** Acelvn Sevdler Lucas Tassone



#### 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.

### **Drink Bottles**

A reminder that all children bring their own labelled drink bottle to school each day. The children are able to refill their bottles from our filling stations or in the classrooms.



#### Sent Home This Week:

Emailed from Compass Portal: Kindergarten 2022 Orientation Reminders Emails/Push Notifications through Compass:

Whole School; Exciting New Facilities Coming Soon at St Angela's, Year 2: First Reconciliation - Wednesday 24th November , Reconciliation -Wednesday - Full School Uniform

Yrs 4 & 5 : Expression of Interest to trial for Parramatta Diocese Team

Yrs 4, 5 & 6: Parent Guide to Digital technologies and mental health Year 5: Year 5 Students - Preparation for 2022

#### Some COVID Reminders

- Students should not attend school if unwell, even with mild symptoms of COVID-19. Any student with any COVID -19 symptoms will be sent home and should not return until they have received a negative test result and are symptom-free. In circumstances where children have other medical reasons for recurring symptoms, a letter from their GP is sufficient to negate the requirement for a negative test.
- Wear a face mask. It's a condition of entry
- Anyone who is unwell with COVID-19 symptoms is strongly encouraged to get tested immediately and self-isolate until a negative result is received. Locations of testing clinics are available here.
- At this stage we are not able to accept a RAPID ANTIGEN negative test result in place of a standard **COVID PCR test.**
- Please continue to monitor the NSW government COVID-19 News and updates webpage for locations where there may have been exposure to COVID-19 and adhere to the advice as appropriate.