



St Angela's Primary School

Castle Hill

SHINE

Newsletter
Vol. 10 No. 3

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

14th February 2019
Term 1, Week 3

Dear Parents,

Opening School Mass

Thank you to the many parents who were able to attend yesterday's Opening School Mass. The Mass was a wonderful celebration of faith and of our Christ centred community at St Angela's. Appreciation to Mrs Williams, our Religious Education Coordinator, for her dedication in coordinating our celebrations and to the staff for their efforts in making the morning so special. Thank you to Fr Blowey for his blessings for a fruitful year ahead.

Kindergarten and New Families Welcoming BBQ

Our Kindergarten and new families to the school enjoyed a wonderful night of community and hospitality last Friday afternoon at our welcoming BBQ. The storm came and stayed and so did the crowd, as we moved into the hall out of the driving rain and wind. A great time was had by all but, in particular, the children. See inside this Shine for further acknowledgements.

Grade Information Sessions

My appreciation and thanks to the many parents who attended the Kindergarten and Year 1 grade evenings, along with the combined Year 2 to 6 presentation. Your support is very much appreciated. On your behalf many thanks to all the teachers for their time and commitment to working with you. It is working in partnership that we value, as it truly benefits your child's learning.

Getting to Know Your Child

At St Angela's, assessment of the children's learning plays an important role in ensuring that teaching is matched to the children's learning needs. When assessing, the teachers collect, analyse and record information about the children's progress in their learning. While assessment occurs across all grades throughout the year, we place a particular focus on the early years of their formal schooling.

Over the first few weeks of this term, teachers have been assessing the children's literacy and numeracy abilities. Kindergarten and Year 1 children also complete the Literacy Early Years Assessment (EYA) and the Mathematics Assessment Interview (MAI). Additionally, Years 2-6 along with other literacy assessments complete an MAI. These assessments allow the teachers to individually assess each child, learn about how they think, and to find out what they know and can do in literacy and numeracy. The information gathered from these assessments assists the children's teachers to plan learning experiences that best support the children's abilities and needs. So that the children's growth in their learning can be measured and monitored, many of these assessments will be administered again at the end of the school year.

Working in Partnership

Appreciation and thanks to you, our wonderful parents, for your attendance at the parent teacher interviews. It was wonderful to see the teachers and parents working in true partnership with the children as the priority. Thank you to our dedicated staff for giving so generously of their time to meet with you. The hall was certainly alive with a buzz of conversation.

We are very fortunate at St Angela's to have a depth of leadership within our staff. In 2019, Mrs Simpson will be our Learning Technologies Support Teacher and Miss Joice and Mrs Kelly will head up a number of special projects as 1 point coordinators.

Thank You

I wish to inform our community that Mrs Powell, (music teacher), has decided to access her long service from the end of week 5 and at the conclusion of her leave, move into retirement.

Kerry has been an educator for approximately 40 years, 18 of which have been spent at St Angela's in a permanent part time capacity. We would like to take this opportunity to thank Kerry for her amazing contribution to not only St Angela's, but to Catholic Education. Her commitment, gentle personality, good humour and expertise are gifts that she has shared with our St Angela's community and beyond. We will certainly miss her and wish her all the best for the future and the exciting journey that awaits.

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

Tony Calabria
Principal



KINDERGARTEN 2020 ENROLMENT INFORMATION SESSION AND SCHOOL TOUR

Friday 8th March at 9:00am

St Angela's St Maximilian Kolbe Hall

Please pass this information onto neighbours, friends etc. who may be interested in enrolling their child in our wonderful school.



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Religious Education

Sunday, 17 Feb 2019: Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year C

Gospel

Lk 6:17. 20-26

Happy are the poor. Woe to the rich!

We are perhaps more familiar with the Beatitudes from the Gospel of Matthew in which the kingdom of heaven is promised to those who are 'blessed' because of their afflictions. Rather than the Sermon on the Mount from the Gospel of Matthew, the Gospel of Luke presents the same event and teaching as the sermon on the plain as it occurs on 'a piece of level ground'. This version may appear a little more confronting than the Matthew version. Rather than the afflicted being 'blessed', they are to be 'happy'. It seems odd that anybody should be happy to be poor, hungry, mourning or reviled and we would certainly regard these as states of sadness and difficulty; not times for rejoicing at our good fortune! However, this gospel in particular frequently reminds us that God does not think, feel and behave as we might expect. God's actions are frequently contrary to the expectations of society. The Gospel of Luke makes it plain that the reign of God will upend the structures of society. The lowly will be raised and the mighty will be brought low. It is in this context that the poor, the hungry and the outcast are regarded as happy. Their happiness comes from the reassurance that although they are rejected and dismissed by society, they are indeed the most favoured of God. Whatever the world dishes up to such as these, they can rejoice in the knowledge that in the reign of God their fortunes will be reversed and they will be favoured. However, just as the fortunes of the poor and afflicted will be reversed for the better, those who are rich, well fed, happy and well regarded will also have their fortunes reversed. Alas to them! Their comfort and joy leaves no room for the generosity of God!

Q. Why does Jesus regard the poor and rejected as being favoured by God?

Q. What comfort can the poor and rejected take from this sermon?

Thanks to all parents and grandparents for joining us in our Opening School Mass on Monday. A huge thanks to our students who were reverend throughout the liturgy and engaged in Fr David's message of the Gospel.

*Mrs Jocelyn Williams
Religious Education Coordinator*

School Census Day This Monday 18th February

This Monday 18th February is School Census Day. All children should attend school on this day and absence should only be if it is absolutely necessary. **If you know your child will be absent, please email stangelas@parra.catholic.edu.au advising the reason for the absence and when they will return, otherwise, simply respond to the text sent from St Angela's on the day by 10.00am explaining their absence and their date of return to school.**

This is of course a requirement that applies to everyday of the school year, however, Census data is directly related to Government funding for our schools and the requirements outlined above are set by the Department of Education. Thank you for your co-operation.



TERM 1

Week 3

Fri 15th Feb 8:45am Kindergarten 2019 presented to the school community - All welcome

Week 4

Mon 18th Feb CENSUS day
Hills Zone Swimming Carnival
Year 5 Fizzics Incursion

Tues 19th Feb 7:00pm General Parent Meeting
All welcome.

Thurs 21st Feb Year 6 Surf Education
7:00pm First Holy Communion
Parent Session at OLOR Church

Fri 22nd Feb Year 5 Surf Education
Diocesan Swimming

Upcoming Dates

Class Parent Representatives

At the grade information sessions for Kindergarten and Year 1 and the combined Year 2 to 6 session, we asked for volunteers to take on the role of "Class Parent Representative". This voluntary role assists the class/grade community and the teacher. If you are able to volunteer for your class, please contact the office (if you have not already let the teacher know at the grade sessions or parent/teacher interviews). Aspects of the role include:

- Attending a meeting once a term
- Welcoming new parents to the class
- Coordinating nominated class school activities, for example, the Mothers' Day stall
- Bringing forward any ideas that parents may have to add to school life
- Encouraging/coordinating the class or grade to have a parent morning tea
- Encouraging others to seek information from the appropriate source
- Liaising with the class teacher to assist with volunteers etc. if needed
- Celebrating baby arrivals etc. with a card

The role can certainly be shared and we welcome your participation. The first parent representative meeting will be held on Tuesday 5th March at 8:45am.

**First Holy Communion - Year 3
Parent Information Evening
Thursday 21st February
7:00pm
Held at Our Lady of the Rosary Parish Church**

Theme for the Week:

"Support Each Other"

Our theme this week highlights the importance of supporting others in life. This support can come in many forms from a kind word to being there to help and encourage others. The children's support of each other's attempts and achievements is always a pleasure to behold. In our community we encourage supporting each other at all times.

