



Corpus Christi Primary

Growing together as the body of Christ

Newsletter

13th February 2014

Term 1

Week 3

Dear Parents

What a wonderful Beginning School Mass we celebrated together yesterday to herald in a new school year. The Parish has recently invested in new chairs for the Church and our Mass yesterday was the first opportunity in the history of the school that all students were able to sit on chairs during our celebration together. The children were reverent and participated beautifully. Our community welcomed our new Kindergarten students 'to the family' and we also presented our School Captains and Student Representative Council with their badges. Congratulations to our staff who prepared the students for the Mass – it has certainly set the bar high for the year ahead!

We all know that children receive the best education when parents and teachers work as a team. It is for this reason we start our year with an opportunity for parents, students and teachers to meet each other early in the term, to discuss strengths and to set learning goals. Parents' enthusiasm, support and involvement are integral to the success of our school as are the skills, dedication and professionalism of teachers. Together, staff and parents can provide educational excellence for every student, so that they can achieve their personal best. Together, we can support one another to provide a friendly academic environment and, when appropriate, celebrate our achievements.

We hope that throughout the year, our school will be a place where staff, students and families have opportunities to experience God's presence in our lives. Although he lived about two and a half thousand years ago, the prophet, Jeremiah, has words that are still relevant for us at the beginning of this new school year: "*The Lord says, I know the plans I have for you plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.*" Jeremiah 29:11.

Within our school, we can all try to model God's love for each one of us, by being a renewing community where all members are valued, affirmed and empowered; where our commitment to Gospel values is expressed in every facet of our school's endeavours. For this sentiment to continue throughout the year, it will require our collective wisdom and generosity of spirit to be at the forefront of all our communications.

Education today is a complex engagement because of the intensity and variety of external influences particularly through various forms of media and electronic communications. Our school has a special role in assisting every parent with the education of their children, so that all children will develop a sense of personal responsibility and learn the correct use of freedom. Throughout the year, our school will provide experiences of liturgy and prayer to assist the spiritual and moral maturity of all our students. May this school year, see staff and parents in partnership in our collective role of secular and faith education.

"God, our Father, we ask that Your Spirit be a constant influence in the lives of all who make up our school community this year. Help our students to be discerning, so that the outcomes of their choices will be in accord with Christian values. Amen."

Peace and Best Wishes.

R. Blissenden

Richard Blissenden
Principal

Be on time at five to nine – a reminder to arrive on time at 8.55am – late arrivals disrupt the learning of not only your child but also others in the learning space.



RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS

Dear Parents,

Faith Formation

6th Sunday in Ordinary Time : Year A
Gospel, Matthew 5:17-37

In this Sunday's reading Jesus is asking us not to be shallow in our own faith. Jesus did not teach a new law, he upheld tradition in all that he taught. He says that we are to live beyond the letter of the law and see what the Spirit or intention of the law is teaching. With this in mind we are asked to uphold our own faith and in turn pass it on to others.

Catholic Culture

Our **Opening School Mass** was celebrated yesterday and many parents, family and friends were able to join the celebration. The theme of the mass was 'God's Love' and Fr. George reminded everyone that we should always take some time out of our day to pray to God and share His love with others. We were able to seat grades 1-6 within the church on our brand new seats. This was a new experience for many of the children because they would normally be seated on the floor for our whole school masses. Our new seating allows us to participate more fully in the mass through our prayer postures of standing, kneeling and sitting. Congratulations to all of the children for their reverence and participation. Thankyou also to all of the parents for their understanding when asked to sit in the church overflow areas. The children were very excited and were eagerly awaiting the entrance of the new Kindergarten children for 2014. The whole school sang 'Welcome to the Family' and then we joined together by saying the Corpus Christi Mission Statement. The Kindergarten children then led the school in singing 'God's love is....' This is always a very moving start to our year and this year the children joined together beautifully in their song of prayer. With lots of smiles and with great reverence the Kindergarten children of 2014 were officially welcomed as part of our Corpus Christi family. We wish the children of Kindergarten, any new students and their families many blessings for the coming year.

Thankyou so much to the students and teachers of the B classes who prepared our mass. To all the staff who helped out with final preparations in the morning I am very appreciative. Thankyou to Mrs Bosworth who served with Fr. George and to Mrs June Sultana who helped direct any visitors and parishioners to their seats. A special thanks to Fr. George for celebrating with us. Congratulations also to our School Captains and SRC who were inducted at the end of the mass.



Religious Educations News cont:

We will also be celebrating St Patrick's Day on the 17th March and St. Joseph's Day on the 19th March. We celebrated this last year and will celebrate again with a 'RED DAY' (Children come dressed in anything RED).

St. Joseph's Day is a Roman Catholic feast day commemorating the life of St. Joseph, the step-father of Jesus and husband of the Blessed Virgin Mary. This day has strong ties with the Italian community who prayed to St. Joseph to save them from famine. Their prayers were answered and so on this day they celebrate with a table filled with food in honour of St. Joseph. St. Joseph's bread is a must. This bread is very similar to our donuts so we will have donuts on sale for \$1. The donuts will be pre-ordered and will be restricted to a maximum of 2 per student. Details to follow closer to date

All classes participate in sharing prayer with the rest of the school at assembly. Last year we used the Values we were learning about as our theme for each assembly. This year we will be doing the same and for weeks 4 our theme will be Doing your best.

Congratulations once again to all the children who presented themselves for the Sacraments of Reconciliation, Eucharist and Confirmation last year. It has been noted that the number of children making their sacraments does not match with the number of students on the grade. For whatever reason your child has not participated in the programme it is important to note that through Baptism they already started on the journey. By participating in the programme they are continuing the journey that you as parents already chose for them. They are then able to fully participate in the sacramental life of the Church and the celebrations we have as a school. We nurture, plan and prepare our children for many things and their spiritual life should be part of this as well. Please watch for dates and times when these will be available again this year. Confirmation Parent Meeting- 14th May, 2014. 7.30pm/school hall

First Eucharist Parent Meeting – 30th July, 2014.
7.30pm/school hall

First Reconciliation Parent Meeting – 22nd October, 2014.
7.30pm/school hall

Looking forward to sharing this special time with you all.

Social Justice

This year the theme for Project Compassion is '**Have life and have it to the full**' Project Compassion will commence in Week 6 with our Shrove Tuesday pancake breakfast and Ash Wednesday celebrations. On the 4th & 5th March. This will start our fundraising efforts for Caritas/Project Compassion 2014. If there is anyone who would like to donate pancake mix we will be keeping in line with our Anaphylaxis Policy and will only be serving the "**Coles Brand**" **plain shake 'n' bake**. Any donations can be sent straight to the office. Last year was such a great community event and we hope that many of you can join us this year. If you wish to know any other information the website is www.caritas.org.au

Have a lovely week
God Bless
Sharon Shahoud
Religious Education Coordinator



CURRICULUM NEWS

KINDERGARTEN PARENT INFORMATION MEETING

WHEN: 7pm on Monday 17th February
WHERE: Kindergarten Learning Space
WHAT WILL BE PRESENTED: Learning in Kindergarten (ES1) and School Procedures.

KINDER PARENTS PLEASE MARK THIS IMPORTANT MEETING IN YOUR DIARY!

KINDERGARTEN KISS AND DROP

Parents are encouraged to say goodbye to their child at the entrance gate to the school. If necessary, some of our Year 6 students will be available to assist the Kindergarten students to walk to their classroom, put their bag outside their room, and then move into the playground. Please encourage your child to walk into school independently and talk to them about this morning routine. This is an important step in their transitioning to big school and we request your support. **If parents or visitors need to enter the school grounds they MUST SIGN IN at the School Office.**

Busways

A reminder to parents that they are not to park or temporarily stop in a bus zone. This has the potential to delay the bus service as the set down and pick up process is not as efficient as possible. Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

Maree Tonnet
Assistant Principal

CYBERSMART OUTREACH— INTERNET SAFETY AWARENESS PRESENTATION

Cybersmart Outreach—Internet Safety Awareness presentation will be held at Corpus Christi on Wednesday the 19th of February – 7pm(followed by a general business PRG meeting. We encourage and welcome all families to attend as this presentation aims to support parents in educating their children to be good, safe cyber citizens and promoting safe and positive online engagement.



2014 FEE STATEMENTS

A once off Flexible Payment Plan (FPP) has been offered with the first term's fees, which each family can participate in. Should you not take this offer, then full payment is required each term by the due date shown on the school account statement.

The FPP is an alternative to our current payment term of 30 days and offers families the choice to pay their annual fees either weekly, fortnightly or monthly over a nine month period from March to November. Our preferred payment method for FPP is Direct Debit, however BPay is also available. Information in regard to the Flexible Payment Plan (FPP) will be included with your fee statement. The form which you will receive with your Term 1 statement will need to be completed and lodged with the Catholic Education Office before the **21st February 2014.**

Please call the office if you require further information in regard to the payment of fees. Please inform the office staff if you have not received your fee statement.

SCHOOL FEE PAYMENT ARRANGEMENTS

As all previous payment arrangements for 2013 fees were cancelled at the end of 2013 (**except for Direct Debits and Centrelink**), it is a requirement that those families concerned set up a **NEW** payment arrangement for 2014. This can be by either taking up the Catholic Education Office offer of a Flexible Payment Plan (FPP), which will have your school fees finalized by 7th November, or by contacting Paula Currie (Tuesdays) for all other payment arrangements.

Please be aware that all fees are due 30 days from date of invoice. If you can foresee difficulty in finalising your account by the due date, **you need to contact Corpus Christi School, before the due date**, so that an alternative payment arrangement can be put in place. If you happen to have difficulty in finalising your account anytime during the year, please contact Paula Currie (Tuesdays) or the Principal, Richard Blissenden, so that alternative arrangements can be made.

Thank you for your co-operation in this matter.

HEAD LICE

Cases of children contracting head lice have been reported to the school.

Please inspect your child's hair each evening, particularly the areas behind the ear and at the base of the neck.

UNIFORMS

We have been thoroughly impressed with the presentation of our students in their uniform. We greatly appreciate the effort that many families make in following the Uniform Policy – a copy of which has already been sent home. Some areas needing attention – Jewellery for boys and girls –necklaces should be avoided (for safety reasons), girls may wear one pair of stud ear rings and boys must leave their ear rings at home. Shirts – for boys, only, the school shirt is tucked in although the sports shirt is worn untucked. School Hats – are to be worn to and from school. Our students are looking fantastic in their uniforms and we look forward to this continuing throughout the year.



SWIMMING CARNIVAL

Last night saw 103 students participated in our Twilight Swimming Carnival. This is a significant increase on previous years and the staff were delighted to hear many of the children say they were there just to “give it a go”. Our competitors were well supported by many parents, grandparents and siblings and there was some great school spirit shared.

We also had many staff in attendance supporting the students; in fact 18 members of staff were present. Congratulations everyone on your participation. Special thanks to our parent helpers without whom the event could not have preceded. Full results next week.

ENROLMENTS FOR HIGH SCHOOL 2015

XAVIER COLLEGE

Open Night -
Monday 10th March, 2014
5.00pm - 7.30pm
Information Session 7.00pm

Applications close Friday 11th April, 2014
www.xavierlandilo.catholic.edu.au

CAROLINE CHISHOLM

Open Night –
Monday 3rd March, 2014
6.00pm – 8.30pm
Includes information sessions, displays, performances and tours.

For further information : 4737 5506

AFTER SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

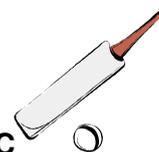


AFL AFTER SCHOOL CLINIC

As part of our extracurricular activities, this term AFL will be running an after school clinic. This clinic will aim to teach children the basic skills of AFL, encourage children to get active and, if they enjoy it, an opportunity to join their local club at a discounted price.

The program costs the students \$45 which includes the 6 week program and the Auskick Backpack containing a Football, pump, drink bottle, hat and more. All information for students and parents was distributed through a flyer given to all students on Tuesday 11th February 2014 when Auskick representatives came out to visit us.

The after school program is set to start on Monday 17th February, 2014 (Week 4). While payment and enquiries are made directly to the AFL, I can assist with general questions.



IN2CRICKET AFTER SCHOOL CLINIC

As another extracurricular activity this term, Corpus Christi will be having an after school cricket clinic opportunity. Cricket NSW will run this clinic here at Corpus Christi from 3.15pm-4.15pm. It is a 7 week program and will commence on Wednesday 19th February 2014 (Week 4) and finishes on Wednesday 2nd April 2014 (Week 10). The program costs \$70 per participant.

More information was handed out to students following the assembly this week. While payment and enquiries are made directly to Cricket NSW, I can assist with general questions.

Mrs Emilia Ahern



DANCEFEVER AFTER SCHOOL 10 WEEK PROGRAMME

Friday 31st Jan – Fri 4th Apr.

This programme is independently run by Dance Fever.. Students attending will meet Mrs G outside the hall at 3.05 - and may not be in any other location of the school. The hall toilets may be used for this hour session if needed. Parents will need to collect students from outside the hall.

Contact- Gabrielle 0424628119

AWARDS @ Corpus Christi



A detailed letter was sent home last week about our Awards and Acknowledgements at Corpus Christi – please take some time to read this letter. In summary please see some details, below. The tiered system allows a student to progress through a series of levelled awards – beginning with Class Awards, to Co-ordinator’s Award (bronze in colour), to Assistant Principal’s Award (silver in colour) to the pinnacle of the Awards System – the Principal’s Award (gold in colour).

Class Awards – are given by teachers working in learning spaces (Class Teachers, Learning Support Teachers, Librarian, Creative Arts & Research Skills Teachers etc) for following school rules, excellent behaviour in learning spaces, improved effort in learning and so on. Once three (3) class awards are received the student will receive a Co-ordinator’s Award.



Co-ordinator’s Awards – will be presented at module assemblies (convened as required by the Leader of Learning) and acknowledges hard work and great effort. Students continue to collect Class Awards and once 3 more Class Awards are received an Assistant Principal’s Award is presented.



Assistant Principal’s Awards – are presented at a whole school assembly by the Assistant Principal and is followed by a morning tea. Students receiving an Assistant Principal’s Award are named in the newsletter. Students continue to collect Class Awards and once 3 more Class Awards are received a Principal’s Award is presented.



Principal’s Awards – are presented at a whole school assembly by the Principal. Parents will be notified and invited to attend the assembly. Students are named in the newsletter, a photo is taken for display and the student is invited to a ‘Principal’s Lunch’ held at the end of each term. The student then begins collecting Class Awards and further awards in the tiered system.

Students may collect Class Awards over time and the system will continue from one year to the next. Please note: There is no expectation that every child will receive awards in the tiered system.

In addition the Student Code of Conduct was included with the letter. This clearly outlines every student’s rights and responsibilities as a learner at Corpus Christi. Parents are asked to return the last page of the Code to their child’s class teacher as soon as possible.



USE OF CHILDREN'S PHOTOS

From time to time the school takes photos and videos of the children engaged in learning and school activities. These photos and videos may be used as part of each child's learning and in publications (like the newsletter, TV screen in the foyer and promotional material) or on the World Wide Web (like the school's website, twitter or youtube). Our normal practice is not to publish names with images to protect individuals. If you do not wish your child's photo to be used in 2014 publications you are asked to write to the Principal indicating your wishes.



TECHNOLOGY ACCEPTABLE USAGE POLICY

All students have received a copy of Corpus Christi's Acceptable Use of Information and Communication Technologies Student Policy. **To ensure their safety, students are not allowed to use any technology until this form is returned.**



CORPUS CHRISTI NETBALL CLUB

IT'S NETBALL SEASON and we would love to offer new players a chance to play for this great club. It's not too late for our old players to register either. If you are interested we have a "Meet & Greet and Tryouts on 23rd February at Penrith Indoor Sports and Recreational Centre, (Jack Williams Drive) from 9am to 12pm.

If you have any questions, please contact :
Donna Munro o 0414 979 291.

JNR INDOOR CRICKET – Starting 21st March

Friday U8's – U16's
Indoor Sports & Recreation
Phone: 9623 5523
info@stmarysindoorsports.com.au

CREATIVE DANCE ACADEMY

Phone: Amanda or Kelli 0401 968 606
www.creativedance.com.au

PARENT REPRESENTATIVE COUNCIL – PRC

The PRC will be holding their Annual General Meeting Monday 3rd March – 7pm.
Diocesan Assembly Centre (DAC)
Cnr Flushcombe Rd and Marion St Blacktown



STUDENT BANKING

Students may bring their deposit book/money to be banked into their Commonwealth Account on Fridays (deposit books will be returned via the message bags on Monday).

For application forms for student Banking please refer to your local Commonwealth Bank. Thank you to Kris Currie who again has volunteered to continue this service for our students.

CANTEEN

Thank you to the parents who have returned their slip indicating they can help in the canteen in 2014. If you have not been contacted please contact the school office. **WITHOUT A SIGNIFICANT INCREASE IN THE NUMBER OF VOLUNTEERS WE WILL HAVE TO SERIOUSLY LOOK AT REDUCING THE CANTEEN TO ONE DAY OR CLOSE IT COMPLETELY.**

If you are able to volunteer in 2014 please return the slip below.

CANTEEN HELPER

I can assist in the Canteen – please put my name on the roster and contact me.

- I have completed the Child Protection Training Module for Volunteers
- I will complete the Child Protection Training Module for Volunteers

Name _____

Contact Phone Number _____

- Please Tick Days Available
- Monday Friday Both

- Please Tick Time Available
- 9-10am 12.30-2pm Both

- Please Tick Frequency
- Weekly Fortnightly Monthly

What's on and When

February

Week 4	Mon	17 th	Kindergarten 2014 Parent Information Night
	Wed	19 th	PRG Meeting – All Welcome Cybersmart Outreach – Internet Safety Awareness presentation
	Thurs	20 th	Yr 4 Skyworks
Week 5	Fri	21 st	Award Stamping
	Fri	28 th	PRG Welcome BBQ and Bush Dance

March

Week 6	Fri	7 th	Award Stamping
Week 7	Tues	11 th	Twilight Tour – new families interested in enrolling 2014/2015
	Fri	14 th	Cross Country – details to follow



“Having a Go” Merit Awards

Abby Andrews	Kyan Brinks
Lorelei Jarrett-Dalton	Ellie Amituanai
Lachlan Manners	Cailen Acland
Judd Cavallaro	Luke Fenech
Tristan Xiberras	Liam Wood
Amelia Panetta	Zoe Morris
Tahlia O'Donnell	Daniel Panitz
Lachlan Grady	Racheal Peak
Tahlia Panetta	Skylear McLean
Patrick Rose	Trent Whitbread
Lachlan McKay	Madeline Barglik

Welcome to Corpus Christi

Brianna Forsyth, Miranda Thompson, Emily Abnett, James Dixon, Zachary Fulton, Remi Thompson, Tristan Churchill, Charlieze Coevorden-Ward, Anuraj Badhan, Ezekiel Gabb, Olivia Dixon, Blake Thompson, Faith Churchill, Gemma Pauling, Gryphen Vickers-Evans

PLAYGROUND AWARD

Lara Debrincat 2G

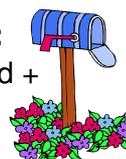
UNIFORM SHOP

Wednesdays
8.30am – 9.30am
&
2.30pm – 3.30pm

- * **Pre-paid orders** – are for parents who are unable to attend or do not need to come to the uniform shop personally. These orders can be handed to the school office anytime but will be processed on Wednesdays.
- * **Label all items** -To ensure all items are returned to their owners - PLEASE mark clearly all items with your child's name.
- * **Exchanges/Refunds** – all items must be in original condition with all packaging including tags attached. A Receipt is required for any faulty item or refund.
****PLEASE KEEP YOUR RECEIPTS****

NOTES SENT HOME RECENTLY:

- Swimming Carnival reminder - 8yr old +
- Code of conduct – All students
- Yr 4 Skyworks



Term 1 Week 4 - Reminders

- Monday – Kinder 2014 Parent information night.
- Tuesday – Assembly 2.20pm – Yr 6 Badge presentation
- Wednesday – Uniform Shop, PRG meeting
- Thursday – Yr 4 Skyworks - incursion
- Friday – School Banking, Award Stamping