



School News

St. Patrick's Primary School
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Newsletter No.3

"Never see a need without doing something about it"

6th March, 2014

St. Patrick's Primary School - Pyramid Hill

Dear Parents,

We are officially half way through the term and the children are extremely settled in their learning routines. We can see that the children are all making great efforts with all areas of school life. I can see the children applying themselves in learning tasks, trying to complete all home tasks and making a wonderful effort to be in the appropriate school uniform everyday. We are beginning to see the children achieve personal successes everyday and St Patrick's is a very positive place to be at the moment! Well done to everyone!

This week we began Lent on Ash Wednesday. The season of Lent is a time of reflection, renewal and deepening our commitment to our relationship with God and our response lived out in love for our neighbour. It is a time where all of us take the time out of our busy lives to be a little more like Jesus. The children have taken a very active role in doing this this week by cooking pancakes on Shrove Tuesday for our community. The children raised \$206.40, a donation for Caritas and one to be very proud of. If you and your family and friends would like to help us further support Caritas, a reminder about our **Caritas Cafe** which invites you to lunch on a Friday at 1pm for a small donation. All donations go to Caritas and we would love to see you at school.

St Patrick's is proud of the relationships we have with our community and the teachers and the children work extremely hard to nurture these relationships. A great life skill and a delight to see our children taking an active role in social justice. Last week we began our community rotation of Meals on Wheels. It is fantastic to see the children behave so well within our community and delivering meals with smiles on. We also said thank you to many people who have recently helped us with our learning about Pyramid Hill. We used our culinary talents in our Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden to thank Glen Bartels, John and Jeanette Carroll, Margaret Williamson, David Burke and Jenny Prior. These people all joined us for lunch and were extremely impressed by our menu and dining etiquette.

Our Social and Emotional Learning is well underway and Mrs Farrant reports that the children are eagerly participating in discussions and enjoying the self reflection. The children's social and emotional wellbeing is just as important as their academic along with their physical needs. We understand that returning to school after a long Christmas break can take some adjusting however we have some children very distracted or even falling asleep in learning times. It is paramount that our children get to bed at a reasonable hour and have some down time from digital devices. Research shows that the brain requires rest and if we stimulate it too close to sleep times it can impact the quality of our sleep.

This Wednesday was the last afternoon that we will attend the swimming pool for Active School Community Sports. For the remains of our Wednesday afternoons we will take part in activities at school with our ASCS coach. Please be sure to collect your child(ren) from the school grounds at 4:30pm or have clear instructions if they are to walk home. The children have enjoyed the swimming immensely and I hope their dedication carries over to the other sports offered throughout the year.

All families have now received the note about our upcoming excursion to Melbourne. The children are getting extremely excited. At your earliest possible convenience please return the permission slip and costs for the excursion. I will send home further details and menu options with our next newsletter.

What a great way to celebrate our half way through the term milestone, than with a long weekend. I wish you all a happy long weekend and restful family time.

Jasmine Ryan
Principal

A prayer from our Pope...

May the Holy Spirit, through whom we are the poor, yet making many rich; as having nothing, and yet possessing everything"(2 Cor 6:10), sustain us in our resolutions and increase our concern and responsibility for human destitution, so that we can become merciful and act with mercy. In expressing this hope, I likewise pray that each individual member of the and every Church community will undertake a fruitful Lenten journey. I ask all of you to pray for me. May the Lord bless you and Our Lady keep you safe. Amen.

St. Patrick's Feast Day Celebrations

On Monday 17th March we will celebrate the Patron Saint of our School, St. Patrick. This day will be celebrated in a variety of ways. The students from Pyramid Hill College have been invited to participate in all or part of our day with us. Parents and friends are also welcome to join us. The more the merrier!

An assortment of games and activities will be enjoyed by all, with everyone welcome to come dressed in their GREEN clothes.

Morning tea and lunch will be provided on the day. Students are asked to bring a gold coin to donate towards the running costs of the day. Mass will be celebrated in the classroom at 12.30pm.

The staff and students look forward to everyone's involvement and participation on the day.

Pancake Tuesday

On Tuesday the staff and students at St. Patrick's Primary School were given their first opportunity for the year to support Caritas Australia through our involvement in Pancake Tuesday. Each student proudly wore their Caritas t-shirt or apron to acknowledge who we were fundraising for.

Thank you to those families who supplied the toppings for our pancakes. There was quite a selection for our customers to choose from.

A sincere thank you to Mark Lacey from IGA who prepared the bbq for us and assisting to extinguish some energetic flames every now and then.

Thank you to the generous Pyramid Hill community who assisted us in raising much needed funds for Caritas Australia. A grand total of \$206.40 was raised. Caritas Australia continue to support the vulnerable and less fortunate in our world. Our fundraising efforts towards the end of 2013 were directed to the Philippines where the effects of Typhoon Haiyan continue to be felt.

I cooked a pancake at the supermarket. Brandi Hoare

I went to Caritas Pancakes at IGA to raise money for Caritas. I was proud. James Correa

I cooked pancakes at IGA today to help poor people. I was happy. Toby Fernandez

I cooked pancakes at the supermarket on Tuesday. Chloe Stevens

I went to pancake Tuesday to cook pancakes in front of IGA to raise money for Caritas. Everyone had a pancake to eat. I was very helpful. Kevin Coronacion

I went to cook pancakes at IGA to raise money. I was proud. James Bojo

Photos taken from Shrove Tuesday are up on the Caritas Website and a photo on the Project Compassion facebook page, check them out!

I have placed it on our website <http://www.caritas.org.au/learn/blog/blog-detail?ID=78ad4e62-e989-4437-8505-e6d7ca243b45>

<https://www.facebook.com/media/set/?set=a.695761170446415.1073741840.268562906499579&type=3&uploaded=1#!/CaritasAU/photos/a.695761170446415.1073741840.268562906499579/696277333728132/?type=3&theater>



Caritas Cafe

A reminder to all families that the 'Caritas Cafe' will make its debut tomorrow. Those dining in the Cafe are asked to donate money to the Project Compassion box for their meal. These funds will be forwarded to Caritas Australia at the end of Lent.

Some students have been asking how much the meal will cost.

This amount is left up to each individual. A good suggestion may be to consider how much a lunch order would cost.

The theme for Project Compassion in 2014 is 'Have life and have it to the full'. We are called to consider all that we do have, and all those who do not have. Thank you for your generosity.

Our journey together - Lent

Yesterday our Lenten journey began as we celebrated Ash Wednesday. The ashes that we received on our forehead remind us of the love of Jesus and our need to continue to strive to live and be more like Him. Throughout the next forty days in Lent we are working towards living more like Jesus.

We can do this through our actions and our words.

Throughout the next four weeks of Lent, the staff and students will be gathering for Mass each Thursday morning. This is one action which will help us to learn more about Jesus as we journey towards Easter. Mass will be celebrated at 9.15a.m.. Please join us as we journey together.

Thank you to our St. Patrick's Band, guitarists Fionne and Brianna, and organist Olivia who played an Easter hymn to accompany our singing yesterday. Well done girls.

Full time program

A reminder to Chloe and Brandi that those Wednesday sleep ins are over! We look forward to seeing your happy faces each Wednesday from here on in!

School Photos

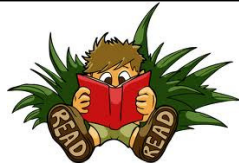
School Photos will be taken on Wednesday 26th March. Attached to today's newsletter are the order forms. Please return back to school prior to school photo day, along with payment. Please ensure your children are in full summer uniform.

Social and Emotional Learning

This week we are focussing on;

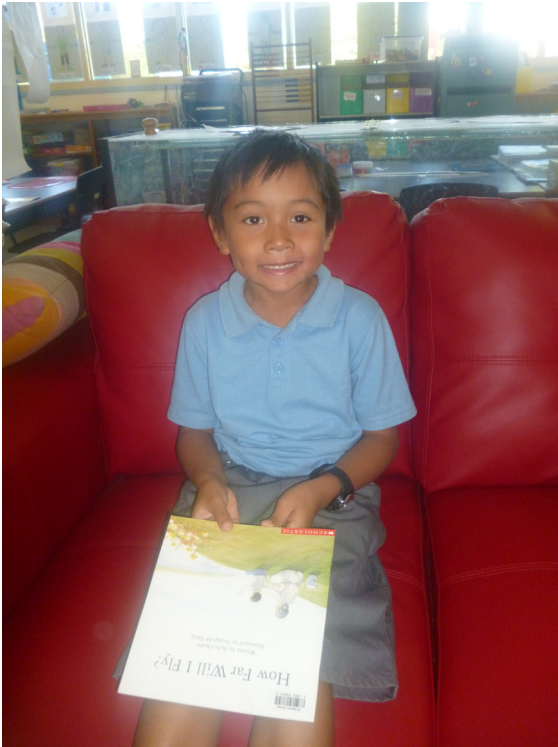
We are respectful of one another and know that we all have strengths.

As a family discuss the strengths that you have all have. Do you share common strengths? Have we learnt our strengths from our family members? How do we show respect to one another in our homes?



Reading Award!

Congratulations to James Bojo who is the first recipient of a Reading Award in the Junior room. James is a regular reader who has received his 25 nights of Reading Award. James is working very hard to make his reading sound like he is talking. This makes the reading interesting to listen to and helps with the understanding of the text. Well done James. Keep up the wonderful standard!



IMPORTANT DATES—2014

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March	
Monday 10th	Labour Day Public Holiday - No school
Wednesday 12th	All preps attend school full time
Monday 17th	St. Patrick's Feast Day Celebrations - Mass at 12.30pm
Wednesday 19th	Mrs Farrant & students attending Ballet in Melbourne
Wednesday 26th	WHOLE SCHOOL PHOTOS
Friday 28th	Whole school excursion to Melbourne
Friday 31st	AGM School Board Meeting
April	
Thursday 3rd	Learning Expo & Sausage sizzle @ 5.30 - 7.30pm
Friday 4th	End Term 1 - Children finish at 2.30pm
Wednesday 30th	Whole School Closure Day