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# St. Patrick's Primary School - Pyramid Hill

*"Never see a need without doing something about it"*



World Day of Prayer 2016

*Receive Children; Receive Me*

Dear Parents,

We are officially past the halfway mark of the term and Easter is fast approaching. The children are preparing for Easter daily as we reflect on all that we are trying to sacrifice in preparation of the Resurrection. We hope that the children are sharing with you all of their learning.

Thank you to all of our families who attended our beginning of year Mass and BBQ. Thank you to Father Eugene who always makes Mass such a joy and his homilies really touch home. The connections he made between the partnership of school and family were very accurate and it reminded me of the power of that partnership. Thank you to our Filipino families for singing along with the familiar song that Eugene shared, it was very a beautiful way to finish.

The quick dip on the pool was a huge success and an event on our school calendar that we all enjoy! Thank you to Olive for bringing the 'selfie' stick, Blaise, Miss Wilson and Mrs Hicks for the catering and of course the wonderful staff at the Pyramid Hill Pool. Every parent and child had a fantastic night!

I would like to also take this opportunity to congratulate our two new 'Captains of Collaboration,' Keziah Pacala and Raphael Umali. All Year 6 children prepared a convincing speech as to why they would be a reputable candidate and all spoke extremely well and as proud advocates of our school. I believe that together Keziah and Raphael will make a wonderful team and complementing one another on their areas of strength and representing the school proudly. Their official badges have been ordered and should arrive soon.

Last week I attended a meeting facilitated by Paul Desmond, our Director of Education Sandhurst. The focus of the meeting was on Child Safety and the role and legal obligations that the school will have around this in the future. We will be working at a staff and school level to implement any changes necessary as well as informing you our parent community. The new legislation around child safety is ensuring that every child is the safest they can be in any scenario at any given time. I believe St Patrick's always ensures the safety of our children, however welcome the new a learning and any ways in which we can improve. I will keep you well informed along the journey.

This week marks the first full week for our Prep students. All of our Prep's are well settled, familiar with the school routine and thriving on the new world to which they now belong. The children who have been here quite sometime have been incredible support and role models during this transition period. The Prep's wrote a shared piece about why they love their school!



The completion of the COLA (Covered Outdoor Learning Area) is not far away and the site looks incredible. The children are often found peering over the fence and counting down the days! It is an exciting contribution for our school and our community. I hope by now that all families have received their official invite to our 60th Birthday celebration, combined with the opening of our COLA. If you could please RSVP your attendance to Mrs Hick's that would be greatly appreciated. There will be food stalls, games and activities, face painting and airbrush tattooing and music. There will also be a gallery to explore with photos and artefacts from the past, write up to the present. Father Eugene will welcome our new facility and declare our new resource open for all! A night for the whole family to enjoy. We are hoping that many from the wider community of Pyramid Hill also come along for this memorable occasion.

We completed our last session of tennis this week and many of the children definitely gained skill and strength on their back hand. Jim and Jack were both coaches we were able to employ using our Sporting Schools Grants. All children enjoyed the tennis sessions and learnt a great deal. We will continue to practice our skills learned on our own court.

This term we have had a fleeting visitor yet one that will be truly missed. Nhoela Asis has only been with us for a short time however has made some great friends, learnt a lot and hopefully will have a familiar place to come back to next year. We wish Nhoela and her family a safe return to the Philippines and their work places and hope they keep in touch and return to be with us next year.

Tonight we have the first school board meeting of the year. I recently sent home a letter of interest and encourage any parent interested to please complete the form and return it to school as soon as possible. Being a part of the board truly assists the school in providing the best possible schooling for our children.

Tomorrow, St Patrick's hosts, World Day of Prayer. The children and teachers have been preparing for this occasion and we are looking forward to the school and parishioners coming together for this occasion. The Liturgy will be held in the Collaborative classroom at 10:00am and the children will actively participating in the liturgy. We invite all of our families and all members of the community to come along and pray as one.

A reminder that we have school photos on Monday 7th March. Please make sure that your individual child's order form is complete and returned to school by Monday. Monday all children must wear full school uniform. We will still have sport in the afternoon if the children would like to carry their runners in their school bags. Thank you for your cooperation on this.

The school is giving away student desks to good homes. Our library is no longer in need of the desks so we are inviting families to come and take a desk and the accompanying chair. If you would like a student desk and chair, please call Mrs Hicks in the office to arrange a suitable collection time. (5455 7220) A picture of the desk is included below. Also, at the conclusion of 2015, we invited families that might like an adult sized desk, complete with drawers. This too is still available and free to good home. It is available for pickup at anytime and is under the pergola area at the back of the school. If the desk is not collected within two weeks we will donate to the local opportunity shop.

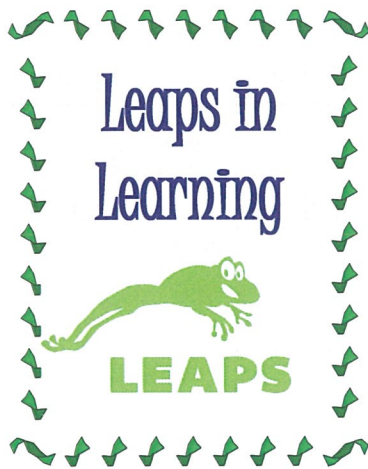




Please remember we are also active on Facebook and lots of what we are learning, doing and celebrating can be found here! [www.facebook.com/sppyramidhill](http://www.facebook.com/sppyramidhill)

Have a wonderful weekend everyone!  
*May God's Blessings Be With Us...*

Jasmine Ryan  
Principal



★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★  
★ **Name: Matilda Matthews** ★  
★  
★ **For identifying many of** ★  
★ **her High Frequency** ★  
★ **Words, as well as in other** ★  
★ **texts** ★  
★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★

★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★  
★ **Name: Aleeza Pacala** ★  
★  
★ **For identifying new ways** ★  
★ **to enhance her writing** ★  
★  
★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★

## Classroom Learning News

### Literacy

This fortnight we have been learning about the structure of a narrative.

A narrative piece of writing must include an orientation (characters, setting, who, what and where), a problem, resolution and conclusion. Students have also been learning to include sentence beginnings which engage the audience. Each student was asked to share the sentence from their narrative which they believe engages the audience:

Ahh! We tried to pick them up but they pinched us.

Suddenly the piranhas chased Jeff.

I nervously drove...

The wonderful and magical secret lab will bring us to lots of potions.

The adventure of peril, life and death begins here, now!

The crazy pilot...

Life and death in the jungle

Mud oozed onto the tyres as I tried to pull the motorbike out.

A doritos beans eating contest?

Let's move to that vehicle - we'll be safe there!

1, 2, 3, 4 people sneaking around!

I turned back and the pool was empty! Nhoela had disappeared!

Meanwhile the two girls had disappeared!

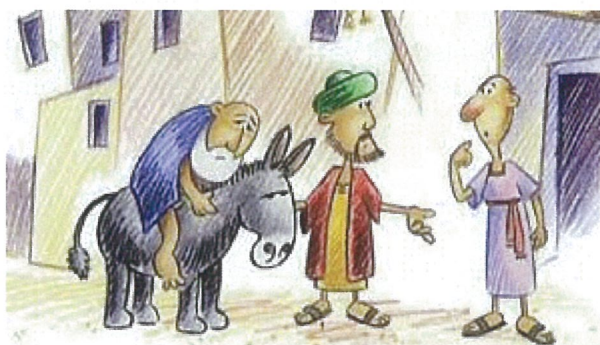
The dark shadow caused my eyes to follow.

Maria and Raphael! What are they doing here? On this hot, scorching day...

The wizard was a ghost with little minions!







### Religious Education News

The parable of the Good Samaritan has been the focus Scripture passage this fortnight where students were asked to retell the story using a comic strip. Through this medium students are able to retell the main events of the story. We have also talked about the purpose of a parable and why Jesus used parables.

Next week we will work with ICT to produce our own story which also portrays a message for our world today.



### World Day of Prayer - Cuba

This morning we welcomed parishioners from our local Churches: Uniting Church, Anglican Church and the Church of Christ as we gathered together to celebrate the World Day of Prayer. This is a service which is held on the first Friday of March each year and celebrates a country of focus. Today we celebrated Cuba. The students read scripture passages and prayers of the faithful as well as sang hymns about Justice and Freedom. The students then presented the congregation with a prayer bag which contained elements associated with Cuba: sugar cubes (Cuba's main farming industry is that of sugar), the flag of Cuba, a domino (a game that is very popular in Cuba) and a paper cut out of a child. This year the theme for the World Day of Prayer is "Receive children. Receive me."

Everyone enjoyed a light lunch at the conclusion of our Prayer service.

### Caritas

Thank you to all families for their wonderful contributions to our Caritas fundraisers each Friday. The students are very proud and excited to see our tally growing each week.

# LEARNING MORE CREATING CHANGE



### Dates to remember:

7th Mar: School Photos (Full School Uniform)  
Tues & Wed 8th & 9th Mar: Yrs 3 & 4 Camp to Sovereign Hill  
11th Mar: School Photos to come home  
Grade 3 Caritas fundraiser - Casual clothes day!  
14th Mar: Labour Day Public Holiday: No school  
17th Mar: St Patrick's Feast Day  
18th Mar: 60th Birthday & COLA Opening 6:00pm  
Grade 2 Caritas fundraiser - Wacky Hair Day



## HOME READING TIP

The more that you read,  
the more things you will know.  
The more that you learn,  
the more places you'll go.



Dr. Seuss

## EDUCATIONAL QUOTE

YOUR MIND IS A GARDEN,  
YOUR THOUGHTS ARE THE SEEDS...  
YOU CAN GROW  
FLOWERS,  
OR YOU CAN GROW  
WEEDS...

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

5th March - Jeff Pacala





What I love about  
School...

I love, Learning how  
to read.  
Making friends.  
Playing on the Playground  
Learning how to write.  
Playing with friends.  
Coming to school.

