Our Lady of Lourdes

A welcoming community of Many Minds and One Heart in Christ

OUR MISSION
With Christ as its inspiration & guided by Gospel values, the school strives to promote the education & development of the whole child. Our Mission is to provide a high quality education that will inspire an ongoing love of God and embrace our core values:

INTEGRITY  RESPECT  JUSTICE  COMPASSION  COURAGE

IMPORTANT DATES

Friday 4th December
PP, Year 1&2 Excursion

Wednesday 9th December
Graduation Mass and Awards Night

Thursday 10th December
Year 1 Assembly—Nativity
Year 3/4/5 Excursion

Friday 11th December
Last Day of School for students
Reports issued

Tuesday 14th December
Pre-Primary Graduation

Congratulations to our Pre-Primary students for such an impressive and entertaining item based on Peter Pan performed on Tuesday night at their Graduation. On behalf of everyone in our community, I would like to thank and compliment Mrs Sabatino, Mrs Thompson, Mrs Brady,

Courage

What is Courage?
Courage is personal bravery in the face of fear. It is doing what needs to be done even when it is really hard or scary. Courage is going ahead even when you feel like giving up. Courage is needed in trying new things. It is admitting mistakes and then doing the right thing. Courage is the strength in your heart.

How do you practice Courage?
Courage helps you to do the right thing. When you feel afraid, name the fear and then let it go. Then do what you really want to do. Admit mistakes and learn from them. Keep trying. Stand up for what you know is right even if all your friends are doing something wrong. Ask for help when you need it. Let courage fill your heart.

In the first week of Advent, we prepare ourselves for the Lord’s coming into our world and into our lives. We ask, “In what area of my life do I stand at a distance from God?” We examine our relationships with family, friends, classmates, business associates and neighbours. Is our faith reflected in each experience of human contact? Is love of God and neighbour the basis for our interaction with others?

Almighty and loving God, we have searched our hearts and reviewed our love for your people. Some relationships overflow with love while others have been found wanting. Yet it is our desire that you be a part of every human experience. We beg you now to fill our hearts with your love, and sharpen our awareness of your presence in every moment so that wherever we go and whatever we do, we will always stand secure before you.

Amen

Dear Parents,

Last Sunday was the first Sunday of Advent. Advent marks the start of the Christmas season and is the start of the Church year. Advent is a time for us not only to prepare for the coming of Jesus at Christmas, but also a time for us to examine our lives, and our interactions with God and others. During Advent, the four Sundays before Christmas Eve, we light the four candles of the Advent wreath. These are the candles of Hope, Peace, Joy and Love.

Pre-Primary Graduation

Congratulations to our Pre-Primary students for such an impressive and entertaining item based on Peter Pan performed on Tuesday night at their Graduation. On behalf of everyone in our community, I would like to thank and compliment Mrs Sabatino, Mrs Thompson, Mrs Brady,
Mrs Stenhouse and Miss Michelle for supporting and creating the confidence amongst the children to present such a positive item so effectively. The Pre-Primary group has had a wonderful year and are well prepared for year one.

**Final week preparations**
As we rapidly approach the end of the year, classes are eagerly getting ready for their end of year excursions and celebrations. Please take note of the following dates:

- **Friday 4th December**  Pre-Primary, Year 1 and Year 2 excursion
- **Sunday 6th December**  Parish Feast Day Mass – 9.00am
- **Tuesday 8th December**  Modified MJR Assembly, Year 6 Excursion
- **Wednesday 9th December**  Graduation Mass and Awards evening – 6.00pm St Patrick’s Cathedral
- **Thursday 10th December**  Year 1 Nativity Assembly, Years 3, 4 & 5 Excursion, Year 6 Graduation Lunch
- **Friday 11th December**  Final Day for students.

**Parish Feast Day Mass and the start of Year of Mercy**
This Sunday, 6th December, we celebrate the Parish Feast Day and the beginning of the Year of Mercy. Mass will be held in Dardanup at 9am followed by procession of the Blessed Virgin Mary. Following the procession will be a Feast Day Morning Tea with activities organised for the kids. All are most welcome. Bring along your family and friends.
Please note there is NO MASS on Saturday 05/12/15.

**P&F Reminder**
Last week an Events Planner was sent home so the P&F can begin preparations for next year. Thanks to those who have returned their forms. If you haven’t done so, can you please fill in and return your Events Planner before the end of term. If you have misplaced your planner, please see the front office.

**Graduation Mass and Awards Evening**
As mentioned earlier, our Graduation Mass will be celebrated in St Patrick’s Cathedral in Bunbury on Wednesday, 9th December, at 6.00pm followed by Class Awards and the announcement of Student Leaders for 2016.

All students from years 1 to 6 are required to attend in formal summer school uniform. Seats will be reserved for the Graduating Students and their parents. This year, students from Years 1 – 5 will sit in their class groups. Students in Kindergarten and Pre Primary are welcome to attend, but attendance for them is not compulsory.
A separate note has been sent home today to highlight a number of details in an effort to ensure that everyone is clear on the organisation for the evening.

**Year One Nativity Assembly – Thursday, 10th December**
Our last assembly for the year will feature a Nativity play performed by the year one class. This will be a very fitting way for us to finish the year and focus on the real meaning of Christmas. Everyone is welcome to join us.

**Thanks and Farewell**
Tomorrow will be Mrs Franca Sanders last day teaching Italian to our Pre-Primary and Year 1 students. I would like to thank Franca not only for teaching Italian to the junior classes for the previous 3 years, but also for replacing Mrs Nita Scasserra for extended periods of time and teaching Years 2 – 6. We wish Franca all the best as she embarks on a new challenge.
Staffing for 2016

Admin Officers:
  Mrs Lynda Ursino
  Mrs Leanne Depiazzi
  Mrs Clair Panetta

Principal: Mrs Angela Hegney

Assistant Principals:
  Miss Natalie Dillon
  Ms Jenny Maslin

Teachers
Kindergarten: Mrs Kylie Madaffari
Pre Primary:
  Mrs Abbey Thompson (0.8)
  Miss Natalie Dillon (0.2)
Year One: Mrs Sarah Sabatino (0.7)
  Miss Natalie Dillon (0.3)
Year Two: Ms Cherryl Scott
Year Three: Mrs Kath Heelan (0.7)
  Mrs Hayley Bowen (0.3)
Year Four: Mrs Addy Godwin
Year Five: Mr Luke Skehan
Year Six: Mrs Joanne Leach (0.8)
  Mrs Hayley Bowen (0.2)

Library/Computing:
  Ms Jenny Maslin (0.5)

Physical Education:
  Mr Otto Van Kampen (0.2)

Early Childhood Music and Movement:
  Mrs Hayley Bowen (0.1)

Music:
  Mrs Sandra Hearne (0.2)

Italian:
  Mrs Nita Scasserra

Education Assistants:
  Mrs Jen Clark
  Mrs Sonia Stenhouse
  Mrs Gill Brady
  Mrs Colleen Lewis
  Miss Jo Buemi
  Mrs Haylea Harris
  Miss Michelle Holzknecht

Term Dates for 2016

I thought it might also be helpful to share the term dates for next year to help with forward planning for families.

Term One
Monday, 1st February to Friday, 8th April (PP – Yr 6)
Tuesday, 2nd February to Friday, 8th April (Kindy)

Easter Break
Good Friday 25th March – Easter Tuesday 29th March.
School resumes on Wednesday 30th March

Term Two
Tuesday, 26th April to Friday, 1st July

Term Three
Tuesday, 18th July to Friday, 23rd September

Term Four
Tuesday, 10th October to Friday, 9th December

God’s blessing to you all

Luke Godwin

Acting Principal
**SCHOOL FEES**

School fees are now overdue. As the end of the school year is drawing near we would appreciate all accounts to be finalised. If you are having trouble with payment, please contact the office.

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**SCHOOL UNIFORMS**

The price of School Uniforms will be increasing as of 1st January 2016. Uniforms purchased and paid for NOW for the new year will be at the current price list. The uniform shop will be open on Monday 7th from 3.00pm—3.45pm as well as the usual Thursday morning.

***Please see attached letter for uniform open day in the new year.***

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**Altar Servers this Week**

Sunday 6th December  
D Madaffari & Volunteer  
Dardanup

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**CANTEEN NEWS**

There will be no canteen available on the last day of school. See you in 2016
Our Mission is to provide a high quality education that will inspire an ongoing love of God which embraces the values of:
Integrity, Respect, Compassion, Justice and Courage.

Wednesday 9th December – 6pm, Graduation
Mass, St Patrick’s Cathedral Bunbury, Whole School

Thursday 10th December – 8.45am, Year 1 Nativity

Second Sunday in Advent

John preaches repentance and baptizes in the region of the Jordan.

During the season of Advent, we choose to add many activities to our family’s schedule to prepare for our celebration of Christmas. John the Baptist reminds us that our repentance is another way in which we can prepare for the Lord’s coming and our celebration of Christmas. Parish communities often offer a communal celebration of the Sacrament of Reconciliation during the Advent season. Your family might choose to participate in the communal celebration of the sacrament, or you might seek out this sacrament on an individual basis.


Immaculate Conception of Mary

This feast celebrates the Virgin Mary’s holiness from the very first moment of her existence. It was God’s way of preparing for the birth of her son Jesus.

O God, keep us good and make us holy so that we too will be ready for the birth of Jesus our Lord. Amen.

Information from Our Parish

Parish feast on Sunday 6th December
Mass in Dardanup at 9am followed by procession of the Blessed Virgin Mary. And this will be followed by Special Morning Tea. Please note there is NO MASS on Saturday 05/12/15. All are most welcome. Bring along your family and friends.

Thank you for joining us in our Thanksgiving Mass today. We look forward to our Graduation Mass at the Cathedral on Tuesday.

Miss Natalie Dillon
APRE
OUR LADY OF LOURDES – CLASS NEWS

KINDY  Our focus is definitely on Christmas! We have finished our special surprises for our families and they are being wrapped up, ready to go home to wait under the Christmas tree. We are enjoying Christmas songs and we thought we might try some Christmas cooking.

PRE PRIMARY  Wow!! What a busy week the pre-primaries have had! We had our graduation on Tuesday night. Our teachers were so impressed with our performance and we had a lot of fun performing for our families and friends. It was a highly entertaining evening! Thank you to all the parents for organising our costumes and providing supper on the night, and for your amazing support throughout the year. We are now looking forward to an exciting excursion at the Xscape at the Cape Fun Park on Friday.

YEAR 1  In year 1 this week we are continuing to rehearse for our assembly, which is next Thursday. As this is a very special day and we need to be organised, can all year 1 students arrive no later than 8.40 (as we begin at 8.45), however, not before the usual school time of 8.30. They need to meet at the classroom before we make our way to the hall for our play.

YEAR 2  We have been busily making our Christmas gifts, and finished making some very cute and robust Santas. We enjoyed a lovely Thanksgiving Mass this morning and are very excited about our excursion to X-scape at the Cape tomorrow.

YEAR 3  We have been busy making Christmas decorations and we are looking forward to going on our excursion next week.

YEAR 4  Well, we can't believe we are almost at the end of another year! This week, we have still been working hard on our English and Maths but we have been doing some cool Christmas art as well. We are reading Dolphin Tale in class and on Friday we are going to watch the movie with some popcorn!

YEAR 5  In Science we investigated light pathways, to put our knowledge into practice we constructed periscopes and tested them out around the school. In Technology and Enterprise we have finished the building of our solar ovens and we look forward to testing them on Friday. Our focus in Maths this week has been on budgeting and we completed an investigation called “Camping or Glamping”. In this investigation we had to plan a camping trip on a budget.

YEAR 6  Yet another busy week has been had by Year 6. Last Friday we attended Leonardo Day in Brunswick. We did science experiments and watched demonstrations by Scitech. We are completing some Year 7 Maths revision in preparation for next year. Some people have already bought in their “Secret Santa” gifts..........we can't wait!
School Canteen 2016

The Canteen would like to open in week 3 of 2016... but we need some new parent leaders and helpers to make this happen!

As the Canteen is a large contributor to the P&F funds it would be great to continue to run the canteen weekly but if we don’t get the assistance needed it will need to operate fortnightly.

We are open to new menu suggestions and if your idea reaches our menu your child can get a free lunch.

If you’d like to know more about how you can assist please feel free to call Clare Clements (2016 leader) on 0435 930 018.
Graduating Mass

Our Lady of Lourdes Graduation Mass and Awards evening is to be held on Wednesday, 9th December at St Patricks Cathedral in Bunbury. I am sharing a number of details in an effort to ensure that everyone is clear on the organisation of the evening.

- The Graduation Ceremony will begin at 6.00pm with a Mass celebrated by Father Joseph.
- This will be followed by Class Awards (Yrs 1 – 6) and speeches.
- Children will be seated in their class groups this year and the seats will be clearly marked.
- The Graduating class will be seated at the front and centre pews, with their families reserved seating directly behind.
- Years 1 – 5 will be seated to the right and left of these areas.
- Pre-Primary and Kindergarten children are not expected to attend as they have their own end of year celebrations at school.
- Parents are asked to sit behind these areas and in the pews at the front wings of the Cathedral.

If we can avoid it, we do not want people seated upstairs.

At the conclusion of all presentations:

Graduating Class & Families

- The Graduating Class will proceed from the Cathedral to the Parish Hall for a light supper and viewing of the Graduation PowerPoint.
- The families of the Graduating students are asked to follow the procession.

Siblings of Graduates are asked to remain with the class teacher who will bring them to the hall once the other students have been collected.

Students and Families – Years 1 – 5

- Are asked to remain in the Cathedral until the Graduation class and families have left.

Parents can then collect their children from where they are seated and are responsible for their supervision if remaining for a cuppa in the courtyard.

Please treat the Cathedral with the respect and reverence required of a space where the Blessed Sacrament is present in the tabernacle. I ask that you do your best to be quiet and reverent before and after Mass.

Parking at the Cathedral is limited. Please be aware that parking is also available on the two levels of the library car park. Some parking is also available on Edwards and Parkfield streets. Please be respectful of the Cathedral neighbours, and do not park on driveways or verges outside residences.

We look forward to gathering in thanksgiving for our graduating students and their families.

Thanks and God Bless,

Luke Godwin