Our Lady of Lourdes

Our Vision
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

Newsletter No 37  Week 7 Term 4  26th November 2015

IMPORTANT DATES
Friday 27th November
Leonardo Day (Year 6)
Tuesday 1st December
Pre-Primary Graduation
Thursday 3rd December
Whole School Mass—9am
Friday 4th December
PP, Year 1&2 Excursion
Wednesday 9th December
Year 6 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

Respect

What is Respect
Respect is an attitude of caring about people and treating them with dignity. Respect is valuing ourselves and others. When we are respectful we treat others as we want to be treated. Respect includes honouring the rules of our family or school.

We show this by:
- Treating others as you want to be treated
- Taking care of other people’s belongings
- Saying please and thank you and using people’s names
- Following the school rules
- Keeping the classroom and playground clean

Dear Parents,

Today’s prayer is in response to the bushfires that have been devastating different parts of Australia recently. Please keep those who have been affected by these fires in your prayers as they struggle with their loss, and hope that the healing and rebuilding commences soon. Keep the communities in your prayers as they band together to rebuild what has been lost.

On Tuesday the Year 4 class performed some songs, including Christmas Carols, at the Dardanup Senior Citizens Lunch and the Dardanup Hall. Thanks to Mrs Hearne for preparing the children who sang beautifully. This is another example of community spirit.

Almighty God,

We ask you to hear our prayers for all those suffering from the effects of the bushfires across Australia.

We pray for those still under threat of fire. Protect both life and property.

In your mercy, send rain to all affected areas.

We pray for the bereaved. Bring comfort to those who mourn the loss of a loved one.

Heal all those broken in body and spirit. Give courage and hope in the midst of despair.

We pray those made homeless in this great tragedy. Have compassion, Lord, comforting each according to their needs.

Encourage generosity of our government and of individuals across our State to offer assistance wherever needed.

And turn the hearts of all to you, the God of all comfort - through Jesus Christ our Saviour and Lord.

Amen
Elections to the School Board

The future of our school depends upon a continuation of the tradition of strong and committed leadership from our community members. Two of our Board Members had completed two year terms and nominated for re-election. Anthony Harris was elected to fill the space of the retiring Chris Mangano.

Thanks to Chris who has been serving on the Board for the past 4 years and has more than ably represented the board on numerous occasions presenting reports and attending information sessions. His contributions are greatly appreciated.


P&F Leaders & Planning for 2016

I would like to express the appreciation of everyone for the considerable contributions made by these people. We are blessed with very capable leaders to continue the community building work of the P&F. The following leaders were elected at the meeting.

President: Anthony Congdon
Vice President: Cindy Barbetti
Secretary: To be appointed in 2016
Treasurer: Tania Barnes
School Board Representative: To be appointed in 2016
General Committee: Jasmine White, Julie Pelusey, Clair Clements, Jenelle Comisso, Ebony Harris and Sarah Sabatino.

At the AGM on Tuesday night, those that attended listened to the extensive work of the P&F for this year. They outlined all the contributions made for the school. Some of the contributions included support to the development of the Early Childhood Playground, donations to the Year 5 & 6 camps and resources in all classrooms, IT, Library and Sports equipment. Your help is required to continue the great work of the P&F.

Please read the covering letter accompanying this newsletter from the P&F, and register for one of the fundraisers. We would like this to be completed and returned before the end of term if possible.

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.

Please keep the staff and students in your prayers as we prepare for this significant Mass to farewell and pray for our graduating students. A separate note will be sent out next week to highlight a number of details in an effort to ensure that everyone is clear on the organisation for the evening.

Pre-Primary Graduation

The Pre-Primary class is busy preparing for their Graduation Night, which will take place on Tuesday 1st December at 6pm in the school hall.
School Thanksgiving Mass & Parish Feast

Next Thursday, 3rd December we will have a Thanksgiving Mass in the Church for Years 1 – 6 – giving thanks to God for the wonderful year we have had. All parents are invited to attend this Mass at 9.00am.

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

God’s Blessings to you all
Luke Godwin

Merit Certificates

Congratulations to all students who received Merit Certificates at this mornings assembly.

Pre-Primary  Abi Frontino, Nathan Hughes, Darci Peace, Xavier Balinski
Year One     Mia Howell
Year Two     Cody Ecclestone, Dakotah Barnes
Year Three   Miller Page, Grace Allpike
Year Four    Henry King, Charlotte Davern
Year Five    Jasmine Pelusey, Liam Heelan
Year Six     Autumn Giumelli, Kalei Giovanetti

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.

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.

For ease of ordering, the uniform shop will be open Monday 30th of November from 3-4.00pm. It will also be open Thursday mornings as per normal.

Altar Servers this Week  Sunday  29th November  M Barnes & C Davern  Dardanup

CANTEEN NEWS - Canteen is operating this week!

Friday 4th December  Leaders: Danni & Clare  Helpers: Danelle Allpike (until recess)

Recess: $2.00  Fruit Cups
Lunch: Pizza (a separate slip will be sent out)
Extra $1.00  Icecream or Smooze
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.

Thursday 3rd December – 9am, Whole School
Thanksgiving Mass

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

Thursday 10th December – 8.45am, Year 1 Nativity

In today's Gospel, Jesus warns his disciples against the fatigue that can emerge if one becomes consumed by the anxieties of daily life. Many families are too familiar with the kind of fatigue Jesus refers to here. We may be concerned about a family member's health, our job security, our children's education, or any number of other concerns. All these are important matters. Jesus does not promise an end to daily worries and fears, but he does teach his disciples that they will have the strength to withstand anxiety if they stay focused on him, remaining vigilant for his return and praying for strength to endure all tribulations. Through prayer, God helps us stay focused on that which is most important in our lives.

As you gather as a family, recall the tradition of making New Year's resolutions in preparation for the new calendar year. Observe that today is the first Sunday of Advent, which is the beginning of the new Church year. During the season of Advent, our Gospel readings ask us to consider what is most important to us as we prepare for Jesus' coming, at his birth and at the time of his life. Read today's Gospel, Luke 21:25-28,34-36. Jesus describes signs that may disturb many people, but he also teaches his disciples that they will have the strength to withstand anxiety if they stay focused on him, remaining vigilant for his return and praying for strength to endure all tribulations. Through prayer, God helps us stay focused on that which is most important in our lives.

The Advent wreath is a traditional centrepiece in preparation for Christmas. A candle is lit on each of the four Sundays leading to Christmas. The first candle (violet) represents hope, the second (violet) peace, the third (rose) joy, and the fourth (violet) love. The central white candle can be lit on Christmas Day and represents Christ.

The Advent Wreath teaches us about Christian preparation for celebrating Jesus’ birth and making our hearts truly ready to receive Him.

The wreath itself is also symbolic. The circle of evergreen in which the candles are placed represents everlasting life. The seedpods, nuts and cones used to decorate the wreath are symbolic of life and resurrection, the laurel signifies victory over persecution and suffering, pine and holly signify immortality, and fruits (such as apples) represent the nourishing fruitfulness of the Christian life.

The word ‘advent’ means ‘coming’; lighting the candles on the Advent wreath symbolises the coming of Light (Jesus) into the world.

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.

Please join us in our Thanksgiving Mass next Thursday, as we give thanks for our year.

Miss Natalie Dillon
APRE
**KINDY**
Christmas is getting close. We have begun Christmas colouring and craft. It's very exciting. Mrs Madaffari will be sending home a note soon, about a very exciting excursion to celebrate the fantastic year we have enjoyed together.

**PRE PRIMARY**
We have been busy preparing for our PP graduation, which is on next Tuesday. Reminder to parents - children need to be at school by 5.30 pm. We have enjoyed having Ms Barberra in our class this week. We are looking forward to the last few weeks in Pre-Primary, with our Christmas party and our excursion over the next few weeks.

**YEAR 1**
We have been very busy in Year One preparing for our Nativity assembly. We are still working hard in Maths and were even adding up sums with hundreds in - with MAB's of course, - and we have been busy watching the weather and recording what temperatures we have been having.

**YEAR 2**
This week we have been writing cinquain poems, and drawing and interpreting picture graphs in maths. We finished creating our 'wacky worlds' in art and have started to make our Christmas gifts.

**YEAR 3**
We have been busy doing revision and starting our Christmas activities. We had fun designing our own Nativity scenes in Technology & Enterprise.

**YEAR 4**
We have started doing some Christmas activities in class. We read a great story about the legend of the poinsettia plant, which originated in Mexico. We then painted and glittered our own poinsettias, they look great! Next week, we will be making magazine Christmas trees with some more glitter!!

**YEAR 5**
In Year Five we have started reading novels on the "Reading Eggspress" program and each session we are taking on a different role. The four roles of the reader are "The Discussion Manager", "Codebreaker", "Text Illustrator" and "Text Investigator". We look forward to finding more about these roles as we get further into our books. In Maths we have been brushing up on our division skills and are showing great enthusiasm for the "Mathletics" program. This week in T & E we have formed our groups and are busy planning our solar ovens, which we will start to build next week!

**YEAR 6**
We attended our Orientation day at Bunbury Catholic College yesterday. It was both exciting and informative. We now know a lot more about what to expect next year, and we are looking forward to the 'big move!' Tomorrow we will be going to Leonardo Day in Brunswick.
The Stirling Art Centre in Bunbury is holding workshops during the 2015/16 Summer School holidays. If you would like to find out more please follow the link below:

P & F Association

Think you know your P & F? Well think again!

It would appear after talking to a lot of people, we need to get more information out to our families about the fantastic work that our P & F Association provides to our children and our school community! So here goes!!

Firstly, we have monthly meetings (alternating day and night on a Tuesday) in a friendly and welcoming atmosphere. These meetings are a great opportunity to find out all sorts of information, such as:

- What is happening in our school?
- What fundraising we are doing?
- How these funds are being distributed across the school.
- What exciting events we have coming up throughout the year?
- Reports from our Principal, Treasurer, Canteen, Parish, Board and Uniform Shop.
- And most importantly, how you as parents can be involved.

There is no pressure placed on anyone at these meetings to put their hands up for coordinating roles etc but there are some simple ways you can be involved that won’t take up hours and hours of your time!!

In the last 2 years alone we have contributed over $19,000. How has this been distributed?

- $7,000 towards resources for our teachers to support them in their classrooms, therefore in turn supporting our children’s education.
- These resources include iPads, books, games, sporting equipment, musical equipment, Mathletics and Reading Eggs programs.
- $3000 towards the Year 5 and 6 camp
- $12,000 towards the amazing new Early Childhood Playground.

To continue to be in a financial position to assist the school with future contributions, we need to work together as a community for the fundraising events planned throughout the year. Yes, these events do require a number of helpers, however the more people that can provide assistance the less time that is required of each family. As an example, the Art Spectacular in Term 2 can be minimal time volunteered provided we have enough helpers. It could be as simple as providing a plate of food for the Opening on the Friday night, helping serve drinks, or collecting the door entry fee for an hour!!

Another fantastic service and fundraising contributor is our school canteen! The canteen ladies work tirelessly all year round to orders, purchase stock and prepare meals all to the canteen ladies work tirelessly all year round to orders, purchase stock and prepare meals all to the Mum, Dad and even Grandparents or friends in the plus receive a yummy lunch! and all proceeds go directly to our P & F.

of our school. Often the many work hours these supplies, stock take and collection of funds).

The school uniform shop is run by generous parents

ladies contribute are behind the scene (ordering Without their support our uniform shop would not operate and the P & F are grateful for their ongoing efforts.

Next time you place a uniform order please take the time to acknowledge these parents!

So, how can you be involved? The P & F Executive and Committee Members extend an invitation to you to attend our meetings and assist with fundraising in 2016. As the saying goes “The More the Merrier” and “Many Hands Make Light Work”. We welcome everyone to become involved in their child’s school community to help achieve our objectives. Not only do the kids love to see us as parents involved, it's a great way of meeting new people and forging new friendships. An event planner for 2016 will be distributed and we encourage all families to nominate their time.

We hope this has taken away some of the “scariness!!” of what we do and look forward to your ideas and involvement in 2016.

Many thanks,

P&F Executive Committee
# PARENTS AND FRIENDS ASSOCIATION – EVENT PLANNER 2016

**ALL FAMILIES ARE REQUIRED TO ASSIST IN AT LEAST ONE EVENT.**

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<tr>
<th>EVENT</th>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>HELP NEEDED</th>
<th>NAME</th>
<th>CONTACT NUMBER (Pref Mobile)</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>JAPANESE EXCHANGE STUDENTS</strong></td>
<td><strong>FEBRUARY 2017</strong></td>
<td>Host families</td>
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<td><strong>ART SPECTACULAR</strong></td>
<td><strong>29th, 30th April and 1st May</strong></td>
<td>PROVIDING FINGER FOOD (for Friday night) GENERAL HELP – FRIDAY GENERAL HELP – SATURDAY/SUNDAY</td>
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<td>Coordinator - Tammy Clift</td>
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<td><strong>MYSTERY FUNDRAISER</strong></td>
<td><strong>TBA</strong></td>
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<td>(we are not sure as to what this will be yet &amp; will be looking for some fresh ideas!!)</td>
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<td>Coordinator - Ebony Harris</td>
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<td><strong>DISCO</strong></td>
<td><strong>TERM 3</strong></td>
<td>SETTING UP/DECORATING</td>
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<td>Coordinator – Kate Bovell</td>
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<td>GENERAL HELPERS</td>
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<td>CLEAN UP</td>
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<td><strong>BOOK FAIR</strong></td>
<td><strong>TBA</strong></td>
<td>SETTING UP</td>
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<td><strong>BULL AND BARREL</strong></td>
<td><strong>8th OCTOBER</strong></td>
<td>ORGANISING COMMITTEE – (PARKING)</td>
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<td>GENERAL HELPERS – (PARKING)</td>
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<td>ORGANISING COMMITTEE (ANIMAL NURSERY)</td>
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<td>GENERAL HELPERS (ANIMAL NURSERY)</td>
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We also understand people are extremely busy and cannot commit to one event so far in advance, so would also appreciate any names that we could use to create a standby list. The coordinators of the events will contact you if they need any extra help to see if you are able to help out.

The P & F and/or coordinators will be in touch with you closer to the event.

On behalf of the P & F we thank you for volunteering your time to make this a successful year for our school community.

For our families that are new to the school and also those who aren’t aware, the intention of this planner is to spread the load of our fundraising and involve all families. All children in our school benefit from the funding provided by the P & F, so we require all families to assist in at least one event.

We know that the P&F may seem like a daunting thing to be involved in, but if we can band together we can continue to grow our fantastic school and community spirit. PLEASE don’t feel that by coming to our monthly meetings you will get jumped on and thrown into positions! Of course there are opportunities for parents to be involved but it is also a chance to find out about all the great fundraising we do and how it benefits ALL our children!!

Thanks in anticipation of your support of this. Our school relies on the support of all families. Funds raised by the P & F help to limit the increases in school fees, P & F levies and provide resources and financial support for events such as school camps and other opportunities for the students.