



St. Andrews Primary School

Newsletter Term 1 Week 8

21st March 2014

From the Principal's Desk

At our first P/F meeting I spoke to parents about how we might continue to improve the school and the education we are providing to your children. One of the simplest ways to do this is to look at the amount of instruction time we are providing the children and look for new ways to increase this time. There are a number of ways to do this but it does mean that some of the procedures and processes that have been in place for a long time also need to change. The important thing to remember is that we are trying to create more instruction time so that we can assist the children to reach the goals that we have for them in terms of their learning.

By rearranging the school day and changing assembly times and the number of assemblies and line ups we can save about one hour per week instruction time which gives us over 1.5 weeks extra instruction time during the year. This is a lot of extra time we can use to assist your children to be the best student that they can be. After much discussion with the staff we have decided on the following arrangements for next term.

School Day commencing next term

8:50 – 10:50am- Morning Instruction time

10:50 – 11:00am- Eating time

11:00 – 11:30am- Morning break

11:30 – 1:20pm- Mid morning instruction time

1:20 – 1:30pm- Eating time

1:30 – 2:00pm Afternoon break

2:00 – 3:07pm Afternoon Instruction time- Infant classes will come out a little before primary to have a safe dismissal in the afternoon

I would like to thank the staff for their commitment to this change because we believe that it will help us in maximising the instruction time for the children.

St Andrews Awards and Student of the Week

Awards- These two sets of important awards will continue but we are going to change how they are presented and the times they are presented. In an effort to protect the learning time we will make the following changes commencing next term.

Student of the Week Awards will be presented on a Friday afternoon in the classrooms where the teacher can give a personal acknowledgement to the student on the reason why a particular student has been awarded the Student of Week award in front of their classmates.

All the Students of the Week will now be acknowledged on a new Monday morning assembly on the playground at 8:50am (Infants and Primary separate)

St Andrews Awards- These will be presented at a new whole school assembly which will occur every third Friday at 2:15pm in the hall. Parents are invited to attend this assembly.

Assemblies and line ups- On Monday morning at 8:50am we will begin the week with an assembly on the playground, led by the student leaders. They will begin with a prayer, messages for the week, and congratulations to the Students of the Week. Infants and primary will have separate assemblies in usual line up areas. Parents are welcome to join us. On other mornings (Tuesday through to Friday) there will be no formal assembly or messages at line up time. Teachers will take children immediately to learning areas.

St Andrews Awards Assemblies- Every third Friday at 2:15pm in the hall we will have a **whole school assembly** led by our Year 6 students. At this assembly we will begin with the school song, a school prayer, a grade item, present the St Andrews Awards, teacher messages, end with the national anthem. Parents are welcome to join us at this assembly.

These changes are designed to give us more learning time every day and to lessen the time spent throughout the day assembling and moving to the classrooms while retaining our awards. These changes also give our older students a chance to lead assemblies. We are excited about the changes, a chance to reinvigorate and give a new purpose to our work with our beautiful children.

Kind Regards
Michael Tonnet
Principal

Important Dates

Week 9

Friday 28th March

- 9:00am– 9:30am Assembly 4 Red & 4 Yellow—Hall

Week 10

Monday 31st March

- Young Leaders Day

Tuesday 1st April

- Stage 3 Girls soccer

Wednesday 2nd April

- Year 3 Incursion—Aboriginal Day

Friday 4th April

- Diocesan Rugby Trials/Gala Day
- 9:00am—9:30am Assembly 1 Yellow—Hall

A reminder to parents.

Thank you to the parents who have subscribed to receive the newsletter next term. If you have yet to subscribe please follow the steps below.

1. Access your preferred email account (ie your home email address or work email address)
2. Send an email stating your eldest child's name and class to the following newsletter email address **standrewsprimarynewsletters@gmail.com**

These two simple steps will ensure you receive a newsletter each fortnight.

PLEASE NOTE: Emails sent via the website will not be received by St Andrews Primary. Please email your request for a newsletter to the above email address only.

Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend is a *Marriage Enrichment* experience for married couples – set in peaceful, picturesque surroundings, away from the distractions of everyday life. During the weekend, couples have a unique opportunity to reconnect, rekindle and refresh their relationship. Take time out of your busy schedule, to invest in your most precious asset . . . your Marriage!

Weekend date: 13 – 15 June at Mt Carmel Retreat Centre, Varroville, NSW

Bookings: Ardell & Bill Sharpe tel. 02 4283 3435 or wsharpe@bigpond.net.au

Attention Parents A little note from the uniform shop. We will be opening 2 Saturday afternoons for any parents wishing to purchase winter uniforms.

Date: Saturday 22nd March 2014 2pm-4pm

Saturday 5th April 2014 2pm-4pm

Elle: 0421216414 Email: elle@ozfashions.com.au

Thank you. Long Sleeve Polo now available for \$30.

Discover what a Mercy Education can do for your daughter – Year 7, 2016 Enrolment Information Evening

Our Lady of Mercy College Parramatta invites prospective families to the Year 7, 2016 Enrolment Information Evening at 4.45pm on **April 1**. Tour the College, collect an Enrolment pack, attend an information session, meet the Principal and College staff and enjoy a BBQ with the OLMC P&F. For enquiries, please contact the Registrar on 8838 1222 or email registrar@olmc.nsw.edu.au. Limited places available for Year 7 2015.

Birthdays

16/03/14

Ashleigh Alag

17/03/14

Timothy Menouhos, Isabella Cazar

19/03/14

Cecilia Guerra, Lily Bayrich,

Deng Malok Deng

20/03/14

Michelle Fu, Jacob Cubillo, Claudia Davis,

Aliya Bernardo

21/03/14

Jillyza Aldana

22/03/14

Thomas Hancock, Antonio Ma'u,

Anthony Cortese

Online Training Module—Child Protection for Volunteers

If you would like to help in the classroom or within the school for special events you need to complete the Child Protection Module Online. This involves you completing a Child Protection course, as this needs to be renewed every two years. This will keep you on the current helpers list. **<http://ceo-web.parra.catholic.edu.au/asp/volunteerscpmodule/index.asp>**

Using Child Protection for Volunteers

Open the module by clicking the Start link

Read through the presentation

Complete and submit quiz questions—this will take approximately 45 minutes

After successful completion of the module, fill out the form by typing name, email address, contact number, contact address and the school.

A notification of successful completion of the module will be sent via e-mail to the school and also to the volunteer's email address.

Once you have completed this Online module the Catholic Education Office will advise us of your completion and you will receive a certificate to confirm this. Until you have received the certificate you cannot be added to our Current helpers list.

Thank you for your attention on this matter.

STEPPING BEYOND: Support for those separated or divorced

On the last Tuesday of each month CatholicCare Solo Parent Ministry invites those who have been separated or divorced to an evening for sharing and support. The emphasis is on personal development, growth and goals for a hope-filled future. Shared personal experiences are prompted by the questions: *“How well are you stepping beyond? What do you want to step beyond? What are you currently stepping beyond? What is stopping you from stepping beyond? What have you learned as you keep stepping beyond?”* Date: Tuesday 25th March, Venue: CCSS centre 51-59 Allawah St, Blacktown. Time: 7.30 – 9.30. Cost: \$5.00. Registration soloparentministry@ccss.org.au or Ph. 99330205.

Second Hand Uniform Pool

The second hand uniform pool will be open each Wednesday morning from 8:30am to 9:00am.

Parents and Friends News

Email address: pandfstandrewsmarayong@gmail.com

Facebook at: Parentsandfriends StAndrews

Twitter: <http://twitter.com/PandFcommittee>



Monster Easter Egg Raffle Donations

Parents, it is time again for the Easter Egg Raffle. We are asking for donations of either boxed Easter eggs or eggs that are already packaged as a prize. Many single eggs are damaged in transit and once the foil/wrap has been torn and chocolate is exposed, we are unable to use them.

The children can give the donated eggs, raffle tickets and monies to their class teachers.

Raffle Tickets

Raffle tickets are \$1 each and a book of 10 have been sent home. If you missed out on tickets, please see the ladies in the office, or contact us by email (address above). All tickets are to be returned with monies by Friday 4th April 2014. Mr Tonnet will be drowning the raffle on Wednesday 9th April 2014.

PLEASE REMEMBER, to write contact details on every ticket, INCLUDING the child's name and class of who you are purchasing from.

DATES FOR YOU DIARY.

Please keep sending in your Easter egg donations. Last day for donations is Friday 4th April 2014.

The raffle will be drawn on Wednesday 9th April 2014.

Student of the Week

6Red	Nathan Townsend	4Green	Crystal Phung	1Red	Christabel Gobrial
6Blue	Dylan Lentern	4Yellow	Luigi Taniegra	1Blue	Aradhana Hyson
6Green	Anna Mateja	3Red	Luke Carter	1Green	Angela Soon
6Yellow	Jeremy Smith	3Blue	Bishoy Ebrahim	1Yellow	Zachariah Wahby
5Red	Ella Enfield	3Green	Cristian Prundus	KRed	Andrew Martignago
5Blue	Claudia Kirkby	3Yellow	Maria Madheng	KBlue	Japraj Kaur
5Green	Gabrielle Ciantar	2Red	Matthew Jesswein	KGreen	Layla Sanchez
5Yellow	Shannon Ninte	2Blue	Jiselle Batu	KYellow	Sean Ninte
4Red	Abigail Kinloch	2Green	Rhys Prats		
4Blue	Denzell Williams	2Yellow	Jeremy Sabaddin		

Use of Social Media

The way that children socialise and communicate has changed with the introduction of new technology. Parents as a result of these changes, need to be fully aware of what their children are doing online. This includes websites they are visiting and applications they have on their laptops, ipods, ipads or smartphones.

Many of the sites or apps that are being used by children are not recommended for use by Primary School aged children, and in fact their acceptable user policy and in some cases the law dictates that the minimum age that a child must be to use these sites or applications as 13 (e.g. Facebook).

There are many online messaging application which can be accessed using any device that can access the internet. Some allow users to post photos and make comments to each other. As adults we are able to see the dangers of such actions, unfortunately some children do not possess the maturity to make safe choices when visiting these sites.

We urge all parents to ask their children who are under the age of 13 whether they use any of these or other social media sites. Social immaturity can attribute to the misuse of social media. They can include, Cyber bullying, identity theft, unwanted contact and access to illegal content.

The biggest issue faced by schools today is Cyber bullying. Cyber bullying is the use of technology to bully a person or group. Bullying is repeated behaviour by an individual or group with the intent to harm another person or group.

Cyber bullying can involve social, psychological and even, in extreme cases, physical harm. It can cause shame, guilt, fear, withdrawal, loneliness and depression.

Due to the fact that children and young people are often online it can be hard for them to escape Cyber bullying. Nasty messages, videos and gossip can spread fast online and are almost impossible to delete. Sometimes the attackers can be anonymous and hard to stop. This can make it harder for adults to see and manage.

* See more at: <http://www.cybersmart.gov.au>



What does Cyber bullying look like?

It can include:

- abusive texts and emails
- hurtful messages, images or videos
- imitating others online to set them up
- excluding others online
- nasty online gossip and chat



If you suspect that your child is a victim or is a bully, please take action and educate them as a matter of extreme importance on what is acceptable and not when using social media sites and applications.

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