St Lawrence Primary School
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Newsletter No 3  18 February 2015

School Vision Statement
The vision of St Lawrence Catholic Primary School, Balcatta
is to share the message of God's love and friendship in a community of learners,
developing the full potential of each child.

St Lawrence & Mary Immaculate Parish Balcatta:
Parish Priest Fr Irek Czech SDS . Assistant Priest Fr Greg Skulski SDS

During Lent we as Catholics are asked to do three things:
Donate to Charity, example Project Compassion
Pray more often, example the Rosary
Fast on important days, example Ash Wednesday.
May we endeavour to change our lives for the better throughout this Lenten Season.

LENT
Today we celebrated Mass at the Church for Ash Wednesday which is the commencement of the Lenten Season. We were fortunate that Fr Greg, the new Assistant Priest, was able to celebrate Mass with all the students. Lent is an opportunity to turn back to God and renew our faith.

PARENTS & FRIENDS ASSOCIATION
What a wonderful evening we had last Friday. It was fantastic to see so many families come together and enjoy each others company. I would like to thank the P&F Executive who did a magnificent job in organising this excellent event.

CHILDREN’S MASS
This Sunday, 4th Sunday of the month, will be the children’s mass. It would be great to see many families attend this mass. All students are invited to be part of the choir. A reminder that the Sunday night Parish Mass now commences at 5.30pm.

PARKING
Every school pick up and drop off times are extremely busy. I ask all parents to be cordial and polite to all members of our school community. In the morning please do not park your car in front of the church on the red bricks as this can obstruct the passage through. I thank the many parents who are understanding, supportive and patient when picking up or dropping off their children.

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT
This morning made me reflect how positive and strong our community involvement is. Last Friday many parents supported and attended the Year s1 to 5 excursion to visit the Giants. There was a huge number of parents at the P&F gathering last Friday evening and today I saw many parents assisting in school banking and reading throughout the school. We thank the many parents for their tremendous support in working together for the best outcome for your children.
Applications for Kindy in 2016 are currently being processed. Even if you have siblings at the school you still need to fill out relevant application forms for your child. If you have a child ready to commence Kindy in 2016, please contact the school office immediately for an enrolment form. If you know of other families within the community that would like to enrol their child into our Kindergarten programme for 2016 please let them know that they need to contact the school for an application form. Applications close Friday 13 March

Applications for Pre-Kindy in 2016 are currently being processed. If you have a child ready to commence Pre-Kindy in 2016, please contact the school office immediately for an application form. If you know of other families within the community that would like to enrol their child into our Pre-Kindergarten programme for 2016 please let them know that they need to contact the school for an application form. Applications close Friday 13 March

With God’s Friendship and Love we Grow
John Rose
Principal

At a glance……

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday 19 February</td>
<td>Year 2 Excursion</td>
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<td>Friday 20 February</td>
<td>Year 6 Assembly</td>
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<td>Tuesday 24 February</td>
<td>EDU Dance</td>
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<td>7.00pm School Board</td>
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MERIT AWARD WINNERS

Pre Primary: Isabel Godfrey, Jayden Macri, Adam Clarke, Pearce King
Year One: Luciano Mannino, Carmela DeLuca, Dean Kailis, Sai Hitesh
Year Two: Dylan Condo, Tahlia Di Pietro, Bianca Vaccari, Spencer Faulkner
Year Three: Liliana Radich, Nicholas Mucciaroni, Daniel Donatelli, Jemima Prime
Year Four: Domenic Crupi, Ciaran Glackin, Alex Hall, Natalia Raweri
Year Five: Charlotte Dowling, Ava Leahy, Francesca Micallef, Diego Silva Pizza,
Year Six: Danica Phan, Joshua Svilicich, Lauren Chambers, Karlo Jelaska
WHOLE SCHOOL MASSES
There are two whole school Masses this term. The first was today Ash Wednesday and the other is on Wednesday the 25th March celebrating the Annunciation of Our Lord. Mass will commence at 9.00am in the Church.
Parents please refer to the newsletter and term calendar as to when your child’s class is rostered to celebrate a Mass, paraliturgy or class prayer. Years 4 to 6 will celebrate Mass in the Church and Pre-Kindy to Year 3 will celebrate paraliturgies/prayers in their classroom/ or school hall. Parents are encouraged to attend these special events.

PROJECT COMPASSION
The season of Lent commences today on Ash Wednesday. Project Compassion boxes will be sent home today to raise money for Caritas. Caritas’ theme this year is “Food for Life.” Caritas is raising money to help end poverty, promote justice and uphold dignity. Please return your Project Compassion boxes to the Church. Thank you for giving generously to this important charity.

Miss Angela Leddin and Mrs Marie Heavey
A moment with Sr Chitra

Ash Wednesday
“Remember you are dust and unto dust you shall return”
The season of lent is the time of spiritual renewal and repentance.

It is a very special opportunity to grow in our relationship with God and to deepen our commitment to Him. It is a great time to reflect upon our patterns, to pray more deeply, experience sorrow for what we've done and failed to do, and to be generous to those in need. It is a call to see everything anew. Mourning our sins is about calling attention to them so that we can discard them; it is about improving our spiritual lives and seeking a closer relationship with God. It is a Call for Prayer, Penance and Almsgiving.

Today our foreheads are marked with ashes to remind us that life passes away on earth. It reminds us of our origin and our destiny. Ashes are a symbol of penance made sacramental by the blessing of the Church, and they help us develop a spirit of humility and sacrifice. Ash Wednesday is observed by fasting and abstinence from meat. Above all, the season of lent invites us to turn to the divine and compassionate mercy of God who forgives His children at all times.

Prayer
Dear Lord, as we begin our Lenten journey we ask you to stay with us and bless our every desire and efforts to follow you more closely by the Lenten sacrifices.
May our prayer strengthens our relationship with you and may our discipline of abstinence and fasting strengthen our will to overcome our selfishness and may we be more considerate and kind to the need of others through almsgiving.
We ask this through Christ our Lord Amen.

Rainbows
Rainbows sessions will begin for Years 1 and 2 and Years 5 and 6 this week. If your child wants to participate in the program please sign the form (at the end of this newsletter) and return it to the school office.
LIBRARY NEWS

With our first major display in the Library this year we have focused on the importance of eating fruit and vegetables every day. In conjunction with this, children from Pre-Primary to Year 2 have been listening to stories which have healthy eating and fruit and vegetables as a theme. We have even managed to eat some juicy strawberries and watermelon along the way. Mrs Frenzel has created a wonderful fruit and vegie family so do pop into the library and take a look.

In addition, we are also running a competition in which children can draw themselves as their favourite fruit or vegetable. Entry forms are available from the library.

Mrs Lyn Archer Teacher Librarian

EXCURSION TO THE GIANTS

The Years 1-5 students had a terrific time meeting the Little Girl Giant last Friday – she even read us a story! Even though she kept us waiting, the students were very well behaved. After the little girl went to sleep the students enjoyed lunch together before returning to school. On behalf of all the staff and students I would like to say a huge thank you to all our parent helpers on the day, we cannot run excursions like this without your assistance!

Miss Anna Brenkley, Year Two Teacher
YEARS THREE
The Year 3 paraliturgy is on Friday 27 February at 8:45am in the hall, all are welcome to attend.
Thank you to all parents who attended the Year 3 Parent Night. Everyone should have received a booklet outlining all the dates and meetings to attend. Please make sure you are attending mass regularly to sign/sticker your Mass Attendance booklet.
We are working hard on our class thermometer points, we have already earned one class reward and over halfway to our next reward!
Thank you to all parents who were able to assist on our excursion to see The Giants and to the parent helpers who have been able to assist with Reading Roster in the mornings. All help is greatly appreciated.

Miss Angela Leddin, Year Three Teacher

YEARS FOUR
Thank you to all the parents who attended the Year Four Information evening last week. You should have all received your Eucharist information booklet which outlines important information and dates leading up to First Communion in June.
In class we are using Dojo points as a behaviour management tool. This is a web based programmed which allows each child to earn Dojo points for behaviours such as staying on task, listening attentively, persevering with difficult tasks, completing homework on time. It also encourages children to think carefully about displaying negative behaviours such as being off task, giving up when faced with more difficult work, not completing homework, talking out of turn. Children lose dojo points when these behaviours are displayed. I will send home information with your home log on details so you receive updates of your child’s day in regards to earning or losing points. Please send back the bottom half of the slip so I am aware you are able to log on to Dojo. Your child will be able to explain the Dojo system to you. Do not hesitate to see me if you have any questions.

Mrs Marie Heavey, Year Four Teacher

YEARS FIVE
Year Five have had a busy start to the year. All students now have access to Google Classroom and have set up an email account for school use. Thank you to all parents who have managed to download the new iPad apps, your support is greatly appreciated. This week we have begun our 50 Club mental maths and all students are working hard to achieve their personal best! Spelling groups have also commenced and the students are working hard on their new word sorts. All homework will be listed on Google Classroom along with their sort for the week. The children will no longer have a paper copy of their word sort as it can be accessed electronically on their iPad. All students will firstly complete a written word sort so they have an electronic copy and a written copy to use for the weeks activities.

Miss Emma Reid, Year Five Teacher

YEARS SIX
Thank you for your attention during our Parent Meeting last week. The students enjoyed our excursion to the 99 year old Anzac House on Monday. Today we have made commitments about what we will give to Jesus this Lent – it would be opportune to discuss this with your son/daughter.

Mr Phil Haydon, Year Six Teacher
Hi everyone and welcome to another great week.

**REMINDER**
We are having **Sushi on Wednesday 25 February**. Varieties will include: chicken, vegetarian, tuna, smoked salmon and combo. Cost is $5.00 each. Please **pre-order by Friday 20 February**. Hurry in with your order or you will miss out!

**EASTER RAFFLE**
From next week we will be selling Easter raffle tickets. There are two great hampers to be won. Cost is $2.00 each or 3 for $5.00. Come on down and support the canteen.

**ROSTER**
Anyone who would like to volunteer, please come and see me. Children love to see their parents helping in the canteen. Come with a friend, the more the merrier.

**MORNING COFFEE**
Freshly brewed coffee is available at the canteen on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday. Cost $3 each.

Hope you all have a lovely week.

Mrs Frances Svilichich, Canteen Manager
Annual Family Welcome Night
Thank you everyone who attended. It was a fantastic turn out with nearly 400 people!
Thank you to all of the many helpers, many hands make light work. The food was delicious thanks to AAA spit hire.
We raised over $350 from selling drinks and the Jelly Bean completion. There were 561 jellybeans. Well done to the Germano Family who won.

Cadbury Chocolate Fundraiser
Please send back the slip provided if you wish to get extra boxes, or opt out completely by this THURSDAY 19 to the school office.
Dates to remember
Friday 27 February  All children will be sent home with a fundraising box
Friday 27 March  All money and any unsold chocolates (hopefully none !) be returned to the office.
Thursday 2 April  Winner of raffle drawn for Hamper at assembly.

CLASS REPRESENTATIVES
Currently the P&F are looking for class representatives. We would like at least one volunteer from each class group from Kindergarten to Year 5 and three class representatives from Year 6 for this position. You will provide an invaluable link between the P&F and your class. Class representatives for 2014 did a great job and we thank them for their contribution.

As a Class representative we ask that you:
  • Help the P&F by promoting any fundraising activities, and distributing tickets etc.
  • Ensure there is a current class list with names and phone numbers (particularly for new parents).
  • Arrange one activity/meeting/coffee a term for your class as a get together. This can be as simple as a coffee after drop off on a canteen morning (to buy coffee!).

To nominate please fill out the slip below and return to the office ASAP.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>NOMINATION FOR CLASS REPRESENTATIVE 2015</th>
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<tr>
<td>I __________________________________ would like to nominate for the position of Class Representative for Year ________________</td>
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<tr>
<td>My mobile phone number is ______________</td>
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<tr>
<td>My email address is ______________________</td>
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<tr>
<td>Signed __________________________________</td>
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RAINBOWS PROGRAMME 2015

\[ I \underline{___________________________} \text{ give permission for my child/children to be part of Rainbows.} \]

Child’s name______________________________ Class_______
Child’s name______________________________ Class_______
Child’s name______________________________ Class_______

Name___________________________________
Signed_______________________________
Date   _______________