Thursday 16th February, 2017

Dear Parents and Carers,

A community of care is a place that allows people to belong, are welcomed and nurtured. We endeavor to be this for every person who walks through our gates. While reflecting respect and dignity for each person, the school will provide an inclusive and supportive environment for each person to develop knowledge, skills, attitudes and values. The experience of positive and caring relationships provides members with a foundation for positive personal and relational growth both for now and throughout life.

This week our staff have already had some professional development with our Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Education Officer, Jenny Wills, about indigenous families in our communities and what we need to consider when we go to teach and work with these families. Jenny will be coming back in term 2 to follow up.

Due to unforeseen circumstances, the professional learning through Literacy Solutions Consultancy didn’t happen this week. Teachers will be involved in this later in the term.

This week I have received Belle Marriage’s resignation from the position of OHS co-ordinator. Belle will finish in four weeks to take up a position with Queensland Health. We wish her all the best in her move to working with students in high schools. We will be looking for applicants soon.

We are presently looking at options for camp at the end of the year. I will communicate with you once we have some options and ideas.

Commendation on school uniform to all! We look great! Just a reminder though that black shoes are required every day except for Friday when students are able to wear plain coloured or white joggers. It is also great to see the hair accessories staying with school colours.

Fr Sean spoke to our assembly this morning about Lent and celebrating this in the church. Lent starts with Ash Wednesday and lasts for six weeks. We will be celebrating Ash Wednesday with mass at 9 am and everyone is welcome to join us.

Mary MacKillop’s reflective saying for this week is “Gratitude is the memory of the heart”. 1907

Yours in God’s love,

Paula

Well done to Ryan and Daniel on their achievements this week!

Parents: Please ensure your child has sunscreen before school starts!
17th Feb: Worker: Sara Price
Home Cooking: Sara Price, Rochelle Bynon

24th Feb: Worker: Sara Price
Home Cooking: Michelle Walker, Melissa Oryczyn

P and F Meeting
Wednesday 15th March
3:30pm

Board Meeting
Wednesday 15th March
5:30pm

Arts Council Performance
Wednesday 22nd February at 9:30am
Cost: $8 per student to be paid to the office.

*The Clown from Snowy River* is an energetic, hilarious exploration of the Australian national identity. The Swagman, inspired by his beloved Banjo Paterson, sets out to stage the history of Australia. His clown assistant Dazza, however, intends to shed new light on the past. Together these two clowns (one Indigenous, one non-Indigenous) attempt to present the defining moments of Australian history, from Gallipoli to the Sydney Olympics, showcasing iconic Aussies from Ned Kelly to Kylie Minogue.

Toowoomba Catholic Schools Visiting services

16th—17th Feb
Maria Dau (AVT—LST)
Jane Murphy (AVT—Special Needs)
Lynne Sharman (AVT—English as an additional language)

20th Feb
Maria Dau (Advisory Visiting Teacher—LST)

6th March
Jayne Farquharsen (School Counsellor)

The Prep—Year 3 class presented the Story of Creation at assembly this morning.
This year we have changed to a new area of the National Curriculum. We are replacing Geography and History with Humanities and Social Sciences – HaSS for short.

Extract from ACARA website...

The humanities and social sciences are the study of human behaviour and interaction in social, cultural, environmental, economic and political contexts. The humanities and social sciences have a historical and contemporary focus, from personal to global contexts, and consider challenges for the future.

In the Australian Curriculum, the Humanities and Social Sciences learning area includes a study of history, geography, civics and citizenship and economics and business.

Through studying Humanities and Social Sciences, students will develop the ability to question, think critically, solve problems, communicate effectively, make decisions and adapt to change. Thinking about and responding to issues requires an understanding of the key historical, geographical, political, economic and societal factors involved, and how these different factors interrelate.

The Humanities and Social Science subjects in the Australian Curriculum provide a broad understanding of the world in which we live, and how people can participate as active and informed citizens with high-level skills needed for the 21st century.

The table below shows when other areas that are new are introduced.

Table 1: Humanities and Social Sciences in the Years F-10 curriculum

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<th>Foundation – Year 2</th>
<th>Years 3–4</th>
<th>Years 5–6/7</th>
<th>Years 7–10</th>
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<td>History</td>
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<td>CELEBRATION</td>
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<td>Class Prayer/Mediation</td>
<td>Teachers</td>
<td>Classroom</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>Thursday 2\textsuperscript{nd} February</td>
<td>Opening/Leadership Commissioning Mass</td>
<td>APRE</td>
<td>Church</td>
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<td>Class Prayer/Mediation</td>
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<td>Wednesday 1\textsuperscript{st} March</td>
<td>Ash Wednesday Mass</td>
<td>APRE</td>
<td>Church</td>
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<td>7</td>
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<td>Teachers</td>
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<td>8</td>
<td>Thursday 16\textsuperscript{th} March</td>
<td>St. Joseph’s/St Patrick’s Day Prayer</td>
<td>Leaders</td>
<td>Assembly</td>
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<td>10</td>
<td>Thursday 30\textsuperscript{th} March</td>
<td>Stations of The Cross Liturgy</td>
<td>APRE/Teachers</td>
<td>Church/School</td>
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Easter Hat Parade

Lenten Reflection Program will be offered during Lent for parents and staff on a Wednesday afternoon from 4 pm.
Life and Learning in the Library

Library borrowing and lessons are well underway for 2017. We aim to develop independence in using the library and we encourage and support free choice reading. Thank you for being a part of your student’s library experience by supporting them to read the books they bring home.

Our newest students are excited to borrow stories about pirates and our experienced library users choose titles that match their interests.
Last week students spent some time with their library choices before returning to class to practice their information locating skills in a research task based on the continents.

Students enjoy lunch-time activities in the library