



90 Seconds with the Principal

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90 Seconds with the Principal - Yearly Learning Reports

Next week, every parent will receive a learning report designed to provide information about their child's learning. In 90 seconds this week an overview of the report is discussed. As always, if you would like any further information about the report please contact the school.

Thank you parents

Today at the Parent Helpers Morning Tea we had a great opportunity to thank all of our wonderful parent volunteers for their help and support on our learning journey this year. We could not provide the opportunities we do for all students without your support. Together we can do great things!

MAI - The Mathematical Assessment Interview

Next week all families will receive a note about the Mathematical Assessment Interview (MAI). This is a one on one teacher/student interview where your child will be asked questions in relation to their knowledge of counting, place value, addition & subtraction as well as multiplication & division. As a school, we keep data from year to year to track student progress in Mathematics. Individually, we use this information to identify areas of strength and challenge for your child as a Mathematician. Opportunities will be provided before the start of the school year 2019, for all students, Kindergarten to Year 6, to come to school for approximately 30 minutes per child to participate in the MAI with a teacher.

An electronic booking system will open shortly where parents can nominate time slots for their child. These interview times begin on Tuesday 29th January and continue on Wednesday 30th January. All students from Years 1 to Year 6 return to school on Thursday 31st January. Kindergarten 2019 students have the opportunity to also book in a time slot on Thursday 31st January. It is crucial all students have the opportunity to participate in the collection of this important information. If you have any further questions in relation to the MAI please contact the school.

Sport Colour Fun day

We had an amazing day of fun, laughter, games and lots and lots of water play on Monday. I would like to thank Miss Kirstie Hull for her enthusiastic preparation, coordination and running of the day. Congratulations to the Green and Yellow team - well done everyone on your collaboration and participation in all of the events. As always, thanks to the band of parent helpers who worked tirelessly in supporting us to run the day.



"The less we have, the more we give. Seems absurd, but it's the logic of love."

St Mother Teresa of Kolkata

Important Dates:

- **Monday, 10th December**
End of Year Thanksgiving Mass
Morley Centre—all welcome
- **Thursday, 13th December**
MTP Christmas Concert
6:00pm—7:30pm
- **Wednesday, 19th December**
Last day for Students
- **Tuesday, 29th January 2019**
MAI Testing—by appointment
- **Wednesday, 30th January 2019**
MAI Testing—by appointment
- **Thursday, 31st January 2019**
MAI Testing (Kindergarten Only—
by appointment)
- **Thursday, 31st January 2019**
First school day - Years 1 - 6
- **Friday, 1st February 2019**
First school day - Kindergarten

Tuckshop-2-U

"In purchasing your child's tuckshop order online through Tuckshop2U, you are contracting directly with the supplier. You are responsible for checking that the ingredients of what you order are not incompatible with your child's sensitivities or health issues. Please ensure you check the disclaimers in the supplier's website. If in doubt you should contact the supplier."

Congratulations to Year 6 on your Graduation - Thank you teachers and parents

Last night, the Year 6 students, their families and our MTP staff gathered in the Cathedral for our Year 6 Graduation Mass. A beautiful liturgy and speeches were followed by a celebration in the Cathedral hall. I would like to thank Mrs Maria Boyd, Mrs Gaye Dennis and Mr Owen Wallis for their hard work and preparation of the Mass and celebrations. Again, thanks to the Year 5 parents who assisted in preparing the celebration. I would also like to thank Mrs Awad and Mrs Miller and the generous Year 6 parents who assisted with the catering for the event - we appreciate your support.

PRC News

The Parents Representative Council (PRC) is the peak parent body that represents and supports parents, families and caregivers of students enrolled in all Primary and Secondary Catholic Schools within our Diocese. The PRC works in collaboration with the Bishop, the Executive Director of schools, Parish Priests and Catholic School Principals and School Parent Bodies in providing additional support to families throughout their child's learning journey within the Catholic Education System. Every Primary and Secondary Catholic School in the Diocese of Parramatta can have one PRC Parent Rep and an Alternate Parent represented. These Representatives speak on behalf of their School's Parent Body and community representing their Parents within the PRC. This provides the important two-way communication between local school parent communities, their local school and the greater Diocesan Parent body of the PRC.

As you know, this year our school has been represented on the Diocesan Parent Representative Council by Anna Nicolas and Jodie Skinner. I would like to thank them for their ongoing support throughout the year. Attached to this newsletter is a flyer regarding the role of the PRC rep for Mother Teresa for 2019. If you are interested in becoming the Mother Teresa Primary PRC rep for 2019 can you please contact me as soon as possible and I will submit our expression of interest.

Mrs Devlin

Christmas Concert - Thursday 13th December

As advertised in previous school newsletters, next Thursday night, 13th December at 6pm the Mother Teresa school community will gather to celebrate our 2018 Christmas Concert.

The concert is held on the school grounds, in the outdoor covered learning area. Students are asked to be seated with the Learning Studio teacher by 5.45pm. In the event of **wet weather** the concert will be cancelled; this will be notified through the [skoolbag](#) app.

All students are asked to come along already dressed in their Christmas themed attire. This may include red, white or green clothing. Other age appropriate Christmas attire may be worn, bearing in mind the students will be moving onto the stage for their Grade performance. If you have any further questions regarding the Christmas Concert please see your child's Learning Studio teacher.

Welcome our new teachers for 2019

Next Tuesday we welcome some of our new staff for 2019. Miss Madeline McCrabb, Mrs Aimee Antoun and Mrs Maree Grainger will be joining us for a visit as they meet our staff and students. These ladies are all experienced teachers and I know you will join me in welcoming them early next year.

Second Hand Uniform

In response to parent requests for a communication channel for parents to sell or donate second hand uniforms, Jodie Skinner has volunteered to organise a closed Facebook group. Jodie and Mrs Devlin will be the regulators of the group with conditions of use detailed below:

- This is to assist parents in buying/swapping/selling second hand uniforms only. No school discussions.
- Uniforms must be clean, no stains, holes or fraying and in good condition. No socks, shoes, hats or hair items.
- MTP or Admin of this page are in no way responsible for purchases
- No money is to be transacted via children.
- Please arrange collection/payment from Parent to Parent. Suggest direct deposit.
- Please add a photo of uniform ([no photos of children wearing](#)), with size of item.
- Please keep prices realistic. No "make an offer" listings.
- Please comment sold if you would like to purchase. Please comment sold pending if you would like to ask a question.

This is a closed group and parents will need to request access to become a member. Search facebook MTP - Second Hand Uniforms. <https://m.facebook.com/groups/230475380863221>

I thank Jodie for volunteering to run this parent group.



HAPPY NEW YEAR – Shhh Keep it quiet.

On Sunday the 2nd December I was privileged to attend Fr Jack Green's first parish mass. He greeted the congregation with a Happy New Year, for indeed Advent is the beginning of the new year in the Church. He reminded us that our new year is not a noisy, boisterous affair but one of quiet contemplation, as we come to terms with a God who lowers himself to be born of a young woman in a borrowed space, in order to give us the chance to begin over and connect with our God. It is countercultural to ponder and pray whilst the world is screaming at us to eat more, drink more, buy more. This is the time to step away from the madness of the world and meet Jesus in our hearts. He will speak to us in the silence, he will meet us in our quiet hearts and he will hold us in his gentleness.

Happy New Year – Happy Advent
Maria Boyd REC

Important Dates:

- Year 6 Fun Day - Tuesday 18th December
- Christmas Concert - Kindergarten to Year 6 - Thursday 13th December 6pm
- New Students to MTP 2019 Years 1-6 Orientation Afternoon Wed 12th December 1.30pm
- Last day of the year for students in 2018 will be Wednesday 19th December
- First day of school for Year 1 to Year 6 students in 2019 is Thursday 31st January
- First day of school for Kindergarten 2019 is Friday 1st February
- **Mathematical Assessment Interview (MAI)** 30 minute 1:1 interview booking times for Tuesday 29th Jan, Wed 30th Jan and for Kindergarten only on Thursday 31st Jan - information regarding booking times for MAI's out next week.

Parent Survey – CEDP Information

Having accurate, up-to-date information on our students is an important part of maintaining their safety and wellbeing, and supporting their learning. It also assists schools to make good decisions about how best to support and care for all students. To ensure that the data we currently hold is current and accurate, CEDP is conducting a **data validation survey**.

What does this involve?

It is pretty straight forward. Catholic Education Diocese of Parramatta (CEDP) will send you an email, SMS and/or letter with a link to the survey. Please note that in some cases you may need to confirm visa details, arrival and school starting dates in Australia, so please have this information with you before starting the survey.

The survey will ask you to confirm or change the information the school currently has about your child/children. This could include names, addresses, email addresses etc. In the majority of cases, the information will not have changed. If it has, it is important you record this in the survey. Letters sent to parents will include instructions on how to access the survey online.

Completing this survey helps to ensure that we have the right information about your child in the case of an emergency and for programs that best suit your child's needs.

Reminder emails and SMS will also be sent.

Questions?

If you have any questions about this project, please contact your school. You can also contact the CEDP Helpdesk at enterpriseservicedesk@parra.catholic.edu.au or phone 9840 5620.

Thank you for your support of this important project.

Mrs Elizabeth Devlin

Parent's Representative Council School Representative

Role of the PRC School Rep

The Parents Representative Council (PRC) is the peak parent body that represents and supports parents, families and caregivers of students enrolled in all Primary and Secondary Catholic Schools within our Diocese.

The PRC works in collaboration with the Bishop, the Executive Director of schools, Parish Priests and Catholic School Principals and School Parent Bodies in providing additional support to families throughout their child's learning journey with in the Catholic Education System.

Every Primary and Secondary Catholic School in the Diocese of Parramatta can have one PRC Parent Rep and an Alternate Parent represented. These Representatives speak on behalf of their School's Parent Body and community representing their Parents within the PRC. This provides the important two-way communication between local school parent communities, their local school and the greater Diocesan Parent body of the PRC.

The PRC School Representative are encouraged to:

- Attend the PRC General Meetings held once a Term. PRC meetings are mostly held in each Term on Monday Week 6 of the School Term. These meetings consist of Executive Committee Members reports by the President, Treasurer, Secretary and the Council of Catholic School Representative. Guest speakers with relevant up to date educational issues are provided. These speakers will range from a keynote presentation of a Professional Academic, Educational Leader, Psychologist and/or an Educational Leader within the Catholic Education Office Parramatta.
- Liaise with their school community about the work of the PRC – report back to their parent bodies on the Term meetings, content, speakers and issues that were raised
- Liaise with their Cluster leader and attend Cluster Meetings. Cluster meetings/gatherings are held within the PRC Term Meeting. These meetings are led by a Parent Cluster Leader. School Reps have the opportunity to network with other parent reps within the geographical area of their own school. Hear about the work of other parent bodies and parents in your area.
- Disseminate information to their school about upcoming meetings, speakers etc. and encourage other parents to attend with them. Information should be disseminated through their school's parent meetings, newsletter, website and social media site etc.
- Provide feedback to the PRC on type of presenters, topics and relevant educational and parenting issues that they or their school may want to hear about.
- Nominate yourself to become further involved in parent leadership and collaboration by becoming a member of the Executive Committee of the PRC.



Parents Representative Council
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"Was tentative to do it at first, but after the first day was absolutely in love with code camp. Insisted on wearing hat and t-shirt for the next 2 days. Post-camp, he has continued to build on his game and now shares it with his school friends and family."

Stuart, Melbourne



"My daughter loved her code camp and will be back for more... The experience was great, teachers were fantastic and the follow up emails with more activities has been unbelievable..."

Katie, Sydney



"The end result is far and away the best programming teaching environment I have ever seen. Seriously now my primary school child can program in JavaScript."

Jeffrey, Melbourne



Book with confidence

We are so sure your kids will love Code Camp, if they don't want to come back after Day 1, we'll refund the remaining days!



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