

9th March 2018



**90 Seconds with the
Principal**

[Watch Video](#)

Dear Parents,

Our school goals - 2018

Our role as educators at Mother Teresa Primary is to provide quality Catholic schooling for every student. The core 'business' of school is teaching and learning. We are very determined at Mother Teresa Primary School to keep our focus on teaching and learning. As previously introduced in Heartlinks, we are focussing in on 3 'big' goals for 2018 in Religious Education, literacy and numeracy. Mrs Boyd explored our Religious Education goal in our previous edition of 90 seconds with the Principal. Today we explore our literacy goal and how parents can help us to achieve this goal focussing on the quality of student writing. In future editions we will explore our numeracy goal based on multiplicative thinking. Our three main goals for 2018, based on previous whole school data are:

- **Religious Education:** All students will interpret and apply Sacred Scripture to their lives through the process of critical thinking.
- **Numeracy:** All students will use multiplicative thinking when solving problems in multiplication and division.
- **Literacy:** All students will improve the quality of their writing for a wide range of purposes and audiences.

Communication between school & home

It has been great to already have many opportunities to welcome all families to the school this year with our 'cuppa with the Principal' chat, our welcome BBQ and information nights, our 'meet and greets' with the teachers and our open school following Mass last Wednesday.

In addition to these channels of communication, we regularly place important information and **updates about school and community events through:**

- **Skoolbag app:** this is one of our main forms of communication with families, with information and reminders, alerts, events and school newsletters. The Skoolbag app also has a section for 'Events' - a link to our Mother Teresa School calendar.
- **Heartlinks:** our school newsletter contains important information about upcoming events and important information regarding teaching and learning at Mother Teresa Primary, plus our embedded 90 seconds with the Principal which outlines the ways home and school can support each other in achieving our learning goals.
- **Website:** the school website contains additional information regarding our policies and procedures, which are directly linked to CEDP (Catholic Education Diocese of Parramatta) guidelines and policies, as well as the parent handbook.
- **Facebook:** this avenue of communication allows us to share celebrations of some of the learning at Mother Teresa Primary.

In addition, if you have a concern, commendation or feedback concerning your child's progress please do not hesitate to contact the school to organise a mutually convenient time to meet with your child's learning studio teacher. If necessary, parents are welcome to make appointments with the Assistant Principal or Principal. Areas of concern outside your child's learning or learning studio behaviour can be discussed with the Principal by making an appointment e.g. unresolved issues regarding learning studio, financial concerns, clarification of issues, discussion of educational policies or the whole school program.



"Let us be very sincere in our dealings with each other and have the courage to accept each other as we are."

St Mother Teresa

Important Dates:

- **Monday, 12th March**
Easter Egg donations begin
- **Wednesday, 4th April**
Celebration of Learning
4:30pm—6:00pm which includes Parent University
5:30pm—6:00pm
- **Friday, 18th May**
School Photo Day
- **Friday, 8th June**
Staff Development Day (no students on this day)

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."

School Recognition Cards 2018

This year at Mother Teresa Primary we continue to acknowledge those students who have demonstrated our learner qualities of compassion, creativity, passion, reflection and collaboration through the school recognition cards. There are usually at least two sent home each year. These cards are completed by each learning studio teacher and also by other staff members and signed by myself before being mailed home to the student, where they can celebrate this acknowledgement with family and friends.



Diocesan PRC (Parents Representative Council)

Please see the attached flyer with the calendar of events for PRC for 2018. I highly recommend attending these workshops and meetings, held across the Diocese on a range of topics. Do not hesitate to see me if you have any questions regarding the Diocesan PRC.

Brainstorm Productions - 16th March, National Day of Action Against Bullying and Violence



This year, as preparation for the National Day of Action Against Bullying and Violence, the students of Mother Teresa Primary participated in a 'Brainstorm Productions' workshop.

'Buddies' is an exciting adventure that gives clear strategies for making and maintaining friendships and being safe on the internet. It encourages children to express their feelings in a safe way, use kind words, seek help and never give their details or talk to strangers online. Buddies is part of our student wellbeing curriculum and the program has been developed in consultation with teachers and psychologists, as well as real-life student experiences. The methodology of the program is safe, supportive, non-judgmental and designed to provide students with positive and useful tools they can use in their everyday lives. This program caters to the specific wellbeing needs of students, helping to create a supportive and caring school environment. If you would like to

know more about Brainstorm Productions, visit their website at www.brainstormproductions.edu.au

Road Safety Week

Every week at Mother Teresa Primary is road safety week, but it is always great to revisit the obligations we have as a community to keep all of our members safe. Please follow [this link](#) for more information.

Schools in Westmead Catholic Community are smoke free

The areas within and around Mother Teresa Primary School are strictly no-smoking zones, this includes all car parks and pathways. Please adhere to this policy for all in our community.

Student Eating Time

Students at Mother Teresa Primary currently have 10 minutes eating time at both recess and lunchtime. As Kindergarten are becoming accustomed to life at school they are given more than 10 minutes to continue eating before they move onto the playground to play. Children in every grade, Kindergarten to Year 6 will continue to be given the usual 10 minutes eating time but from Monday, if your child would like to take longer to eat before they move off to play they may take their lunchbox to a designated quiet area on the playground until they have finished eating. They will then place their lunchbox into their Year group basket and they can then collect their lunchbox on their way back to class lines at the end of recess or lunch.

LENT: A time to see



One of the most moving stories in the gospels is that of Jesus healing the man born blind. The thought of a life spent in darkness and exclusion from the beauty that surrounds us is unimaginable for most of us. Yet, we are all blind in so many ways. Blind to the needs of others around us. Blind to our own business and lack of time for reflection and prayer. Blind at times for our deep and compelling need for God. Lent is the perfect time to slow down, quiet down, listen to the voice of God in our hearts and begin to see the light of salvation that God is offering us. I only have to ask. "I once was lost but now am found, was blind but now I see". Take a moment to watch this [clip](#).



Parents Representative Council
SUPPORT | CELEBRATE | EDUCATE



2018 Calendar of Events

ALL PARENTS AND FRIENDS ARE WELCOME!

| Term | Meeting Date & Time | Venue | Presentation Topic | Presenters |
|--|--|--|--|---|
| 1 | Mon 5 th March 2018 7:00pm Annual General Meeting | Patrician Brothers College Flushcombe Road Blacktown | #Parents Matter | Danielle Cronin Chief Governance & Strategy, CEDP |
| 2 | Mon 4 th June 2018 7:00pm | Diocesan Assembly Centre, Cnr Marian Street & Flushcombe Road Blacktown | Preparing Your Child for Future Pathways i.e Vocational Education & Training, Trades and/or University High School Students Welcome to attend with parents/carers | Di Mills Expert in VET, & Educational Pathways |
| 3 | Mon 27 th Aug 2018, 7:00pm | Corpus Christi Primary School, 90 Andromeda Drive Cranebrook | Raising Resilient Children 8 Steps to Resilience | Dr Justin Coulson Family Psychologist & Parenting Expert Keynote Speaker Event |
| 4 | Mon 19 Nov 2018 7:00pm | St Luke's Catholic College Lot 1104, Frontier Avenue & Northbourne Drive Marsden Park | Education for the 21 st Century | Mr Greg Miller College Principal St Luke's Marsden Park |
| <p>The PRC General Meetings are conducted prior to the keynote presentations. Doors Open at 6.30pm for 7:00pm start.</p> | | | | |



PARRAMATTA MARIST HIGH SCHOOL

2 DARCY ROAD, WESTMEAD NSW 2145
 PH. 02 9635 7066 | E. PARRAMARIST@PARRA.CATHOLIC.EDU.AU
 WWW.PARRAMARIST.NSW.EDU.AU

YEAR 7 2019 INFORMATION EVENING

WEDNESDAY 14TH MARCH 2018

6:00PM FOR 6:15PM - 7:00PM

BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL VIA WWW.PARRAMARIST.NSW.EDU.AU

LIMITED PARKING AVAILABLE VIA GATE 3, 2 DARCY ROAD (OPPOSITE WESTMEAD PRIVATE HOSPITAL)

ENROLMENT INFORMATION

Information will be provided by staff on current offerings at Parramatta Marist High School.

Enrolments Open: Monday 19th March - Close: Friday 6th April

ENROLMENTS RECEIVED AFTER THE CLOSING DATE WILL BE PLACED ON A WAITING LIST

WE OFFER TOP QUALITY, AFFORDABLE CATHOLIC EDUCATION FOR BOYS

Over the past 10 years, Our HSC Results have placed us in the top 100 schools in NSW.

A significant achievement was made in all courses in 2017. Mathematics Extension 1 and Extension 2 were ranked 8th in the state, Mathematics General 2 ranked 56th, English as a second language and English Standard ranked 39th and English Advanced, Extension 1 and Extension 2 ranked 51st in the state.

Parramatta Marist High School has been both Nationally and Internationally recognised as High Quality Innovators in 21st Century Education

Oakhill
COLLEGE



**OAKHILL COLLEGE
OPEN DAY**

Sunday, 11 March 2018

11.00am - 3.00pm

423 - 513 Old Northern Rd, Castle Hill

Inspiring students to aspire to greatness

www.oakhill.nsw.edu.au



ENROLLING NOW FOR 2019



Catherine McAuley is a Catholic girls' secondary school, located at Westmead. Our broad curriculum encourages young women to pursue independent lifelong learning.



OPEN NIGHT

Tuesday 13 March 2018 4.00pm - 7.00pm

This school open event will give visitors the opportunity to tour the school and view facilities as well as meet our School Principal and School Leadership Team

CONTACT OUR SCHOOL ON 9849 9100 FOR AN ENROLMENT PACK. APPLICATIONS CLOSE 6TH APRIL 2018

Catherine McAuley, 2 Darcy Road, Westmead | www.mcauley.nsw.edu.au