



St John Vianney's Parish School

# NEWSLETTER

I WILL SHOW YOU THE WAY TO HEAVEN

TERM 1

FEBRUARY 7 2018

Number 1

## ***Greetings and Happy New Year dear Parents and Carers!***

Welcome to a new and exciting year! I hope the Christmas / New Year holiday season gave everyone an opportunity to celebrate, relax and enjoy the company of family and friends.

**We are so happy to welcome our Kindergarten students, their parents and all the new families and students who have joined us in other grades this year.**

We extend a very special welcome to our new staff members: **Mrs Kim Otazu** and **Mrs Mariette Asaad** who will be our **Year 3 teachers** and **Mr Simon Stennett**, **Stage 2 Co-ordinator** and **Year 4 class teacher**. **Mrs Kate Woolcock** will be joining us again this year to teach 2S each Thursday and Friday. We also welcome **Mrs Anne Smith** who will be in 5H each Friday and **Mrs Jeana-Marie Balintec** who will be in 6C each Friday. It's wonderful to welcome back **Mrs Preeya Stanley**, our **Music teacher**, who is returning from maternity leave.

It was an absolute delight to greet our Year 1-6 students returning to begin a new year. They looked refreshed, rested, enthusiastic and happy to be back. Their cheerful greetings reflected their happiness to be reconnecting with friends and classmates, their excitement about new classes and teachers and the anticipation of new experiences and learning during the year ahead.

Last Thursday, our Kindergarten students joined our school community for their first full day at 'BIG' school. What a settled and keen group they are! During the day, the Kindy students spent some time in free play where they were engaged in a variety of activities: construction with blocks, pattern making, drawing, imaginative play, dress ups, puzzles and more! As we observed them interacting and choosing different activities, it was difficult to believe it was only Day 1! Thank you and congratulations to our Kindy parents for preparing your children so well for school. You have given them a great start!

**As we embark on a new year with all its challenges, surprises, and rewards, let us remember that we walk the journey in partnership and with Jesus always by our side. May the year ahead be graced with enriching and rewarding experiences, new friendships and many opportunities to celebrate our faith and the learning and achievements of our students and each other.**

**Blessings to all!**  
**Georgina Cox**  
**Principal**

## **IMPORTANT AND UPCOMING EVENTS**

**Ash Wednesday Mass**  
**14<sup>th</sup> February 9.15am**  
**Mass Yrs. 3-6**  
**Classroom Prayer/Ashes**  
**K-2**

### **Parent Information Nights**

**Monday 19<sup>th</sup> February**  
**6.30pm Kindergarten**  
**7.30pm Year 1&2**

**Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> February**  
**6.30pm Year 3&4**  
**7.30pm Year 5&6**

## **INSIDE THIS ISSUE**

**Term 1 Calendar**

**Student Council 2018**

**Sports Days K-6**

## **INFORMATION SENT HOMES**

**Information Technology**  
**Guidelines for Parents and**  
**Students ~ K-6**

**Allergy & Asthma forms ~**  
**Yrs. 1-6**

**Skoolbag App**

**Parents & Friends Meeting**  
**Friday, 16<sup>th</sup> February**  
**2.00pm in the Staffroom**

**SCHOOL'S PHONE**  
**NUMBER**

**8869 6300**

*Every Monday morning we begin the week with an Assembly in the amphitheatre. The whole school gathers to pray our School Prayer, which was composed by one of our students many years ago. We begin each day in the classrooms with this prayer which is led by one of our student leaders over the PA system. I share this prayer with you as we begin this new year. Perhaps you can make time at home to help your child become familiar with this special prayer.*

### **OUR SCHOOL PRAYER**

*Dear Father,*

*Thank you for bringing us safely to St John Vianney's today.*

*Please bless our families, friends and teachers.*

*Help me to make today a nice day for myself and everyone I meet.*

*Through Christ, our Lord. Amen.*

### **SCHOOL ATTENDANCE .....EVERY LEARNER, EVERY DAY!**

- ◆ *School attendance plays a critical role in enhancing the lives of students in schools.*
- ◆ *Every day of attendance adds to a students' academic achievement and success at school.*
- ◆ *If a student is not at school, they can't be part of the learning.*
- ◆ *A student who is consistently late to school misses the learning too!*
- ◆ *School attendance is compulsory for every school age student.*

It's OK to not be at school if you are sick or there is some kind of disaster ...but it is not OK to be away because you slept in, didn't feel like coming to school, went shopping, met up with friends.

At St John Vianney's we are monitoring school attendance as one part of building your child's success at school. We will communicate with you if we become concerned about your child's attendance. If your child's attendance is less than 90% attendance for this term, we will contact you either by phone or letter to make you aware of your child's attendance rate.

Parents can help by promoting the importance of school by:

- ✓ ensuring your child attends school every day
- ✓ arriving at school punctually (school begins at 8:55am)
- ✓ leading by example ... be organised and ready

We are keen to support parents in developing and consolidating good attendance habits in every student.

### **ABSENT FROM SCHOOL**

***If your child is away from school could you please advise the office via phone, email or the Skoolbag App by 9:30am on the day they are absent. Thank you!***

## TERM 1 CALENDAR

Friday	February 9	2.15pm Merit Assembly ~ MPR
Wednesday	February 14	<b>ASH WEDNESDAY</b> ~ Mass 9.15am – Yrs. 3-6 Blacktown Zone Swimming Carnival ~ Mount Druitt
Friday	February 16	Ice Block Stall ~ P&F 2.00pm P&F Meeting ~ Staff Room No Merit Assembly
<b>Monday</b>	<b>February 19</b>	<b>Parent Information Night</b> <b>6.30pm Kindergarten</b> <b>7.30pm Yr. 1&amp;2</b>
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>February 20</b>	<b>Parent Information Night</b> <b>6.30pm Yr. 3&amp;4</b> <b>7.30pm Yr. 5&amp;6</b>
Thursday	February 22	9.15am Parish Mass ~ Yrs. 3-6
Friday	February 23	Diocesan Swimming Carnival Blacktown Pool 2.15pm Merit Assembly ~ MPR
Thursday	March 1	9.15am Parish Mass ~ Yrs. 3-6
Friday	March 2	Fruit Frenzy Stall ~ P&F 2.15pm Merit Assembly ~ MPR
Mon.-Frid.	March 5-9	Catholic Schools' Week
Wednesday	March 7	GRIP Student Leaders' Day
Thursday	March 8	9.15am Parish Mass ~ Yrs. 3-6
Friday	March 9	Welcome Assembly 9.30am -11.00am No Merit Assembly
Mon.-Frid.	March 12-23	Easter Raffle donations ~ P&F
Thursday	March 15	9.15am Parish Mass ~ Yrs. 3-6
Friday	March 16	2.15pm Merit Assembly ~ MPR
Monday	March 19	NSW Parliament Year 6 Excursion
Thursday	March 22	9.15am Parish Mass ~ Yrs. 3-6
Friday	March 23	2.15pm Merit Assembly ~ MPR
Sunday	March 25	<b>PALM SUNDAY</b>
Wednesday	March 28	Easter Raffle Draw ~ P&F
Thursday	March 29	<b>HOLY THURSDAY</b>
Friday	March 30	<b>GOOD FRIDAY (no school)</b>
Saturday	March 31	<b>HOLY SATURDAY</b>
Sunday	April 1	<b>EASTER SUNDAY</b>
Monday	April 2	<b>EASTER MONDAY (no school)</b>
Tuesday	April 3	<b>Students back to school</b>
Wednesday	April 4	Primary Cross Country ~ Yrs. 3-6
Thursday	April 5	9.15am Parish Mass ~ Yrs. 3-6
Friday	April 6	Student of the Term Assembly 9.30am ~ MPR
Wednesday	April 11	9.30am-1.00am School ANZAC Assembly
Thursday	April 12	9.15am Parish Mass ~ Yrs. 3-6
Friday	April 13	<b>LAST DAY OF SCHOOL</b>
Wednesday	April 25	<b>ANZAC DAY (LEST WE FORGET)</b>

**STUDENTS RESUME SCHOOL ON MONDAY APRIL 30<sup>TH</sup>**

**SCHOOL BANKING**  
**Mrs Anna Cruz will resume banking tomorrow**  
**Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> February**

## APPLICATION FOR EXTENDED LEAVE

Parents, as you know, it is very important that children attend school every day. Quite often leave is requested by parents for various reasons. While we understand that this may be necessary sometimes, it is not encouraged. **Every school day is important for every student.**

If you intend taking your child out of the school for **five days or more** you must make a formal application to the Principal in writing by completing the '**Application for Extended Leave**' form which is available from the school office. The application must be **submitted at least 4 weeks prior to the expected leave** or earlier if possible.

**It is important for parents to know that, depending on circumstances, this leave may not be approved.** Each application will be considered on an individual basis and could depend on circumstances such as the intention for the leave, your child's attendance and the impact the leave may have on your child's academic progress.

These regulations are in place in all schools in the Parramatta Diocese to make sure that all students have the best opportunity to achieve to their full potential. We appreciate your support and understanding of these requirements.

*Mrs Georgina Cox – Principal*

**SUPERVISION** ~ Morning supervision starts from 8.30 am. I ask you to ensure that your child is not at school before 8.30 am as there is NO supervision before this time. School finishes at 3.00pm and children should be picked up promptly. Afternoon supervision in the amphitheatre finishes at 3.30pm. If you are running late to pick your child up, please ring the office so we can inform your child.

**Newsletter** – [stjohnvianneysdoonside@parramatta.catholic.edu.au](mailto:stjohnvianneysdoonside@parramatta.catholic.edu.au)

You can subscribe to the newsletter through our school website and this will be emailed directly to you or view it on the Skoolbag App.

## KEEP US INFORMED

**If you have updated your email address or phone numbers, please update via the Skoolbag App or contact the school office as soon as possible. It is important to have ALL contact details up to date for our records to ensure we can contact you when necessary.**





MON

TUE

WED

THU

FRI

every learner every day 

### ABSENCES ADD UP!



=



=

MISSING MORE  
THAN

**1**

YEAR OF  
LEARNING IN

**12**

YEARS

### DID YOU KNOW



**1 IN 6**

PRIMARY STUDENTS ARE NOT  
ATTENDING SCHOOL REGULARLY!

### EACH DAY MISSED:

- ▶ Puts your child behind and makes it harder for them to catch up
- ▶ Can lead to lower achievement in reading, writing and numeracy
- ▶ Can lead to gaps in learning and social connections

### WHAT PARENTS CAN DO



### GOOD HABITS BEGIN EARLY



Good attendance starts in Kindergarten and sets students up for success in their school life

### SCHOOLS ARE THERE TO HELP



If you're having attendance issues with your child, speak to your school about ways to address it.

every learner  
every day 



## Religious Education News

### ASH WEDNESDAY - LENT - PROJECT COMPASSION 2018

The season of Lent begins on Wednesday (14<sup>th</sup> February) On this day the Yr. 3-6 classes will be attending the 9.15am parish Mass where the ashes will be distributed. K-2 will receive the ashes during a special class prayer time in their classrooms.

Ash Wednesday also marks the beginning of the annual Caritas Australia Project Compassion Appeal. This year Project Compassion's theme is '*A Just Future.*'

For more than 50 years, Caritas Australia has worked together with our neighbours in Australia and around the world helping those most in need.

Your donations to Project Compassion allow Caritas Australia, the Catholic Agency for International Aid and Development, to work towards a more just and fair world.

On Ash Wednesday, each family will receive a Project Compassion box for your donations. You can also donate online via the website at [www.caritas.org.au/projectcompassion](http://www.caritas.org.au/projectcompassion).

We ask that you please return these boxes to the office by **Friday 6<sup>th</sup> April** so that the money raised can be forwarded promptly to Caritas.

Please **put your compassion into action** this Lent by supporting **Project Compassion 2018**.

#### Catholic Schools Week

This year, St John Vianney's Parish School will join Catholic schools across NSW and the ACT to celebrate Catholic Schools Week from 4-10 March.

The theme for Catholic Schools Week 2018 is '**Every learner, every day: 'Transforming Learning.'**

Catholic Schools Week is about strengthening relationships between all those who have a stake in our schools – students, staff, families, priests, parishioners, and members of the wider community – by showcasing what happens in our school every day.

**We invite you and your family to join us at St John Vianney's Parish School on Friday 9<sup>th</sup> March to celebrate Catholic School Week and our Welcome Assembly for 2018.**

Please watch this space for further information about events happening at St. John Vianney's Parish School to celebrate Catholic Schools Week.

#### Religious Education Goal for 2018

*'To deepen students' understanding in the content areas of God and Jesus through the use of Scripture.'*

This year the staff will be working towards improving the students' knowledge and understanding of God and Jesus. With their teachers, students will work on interpreting Scripture passages and making connections to what the passage reveals to us about God and Jesus. Staff will be participating in various professional learning activities throughout the year to continue to refine the teaching and learning strategies that they use with the students to teach Scripture.

**Laura Rutherford**  
**Religious Education Coordinator**

# IMPORTANT INFORMATION

## ANAPHYLAXIS A LIFE THREATENING ALLERGY

Dear Parents,

Schools cater for many differences that children present....academic, emotional, social and health issues.

Throughout our school, we have children with life **threatening allergies**. This is a serious matter, one that the school must address. Therefore we appeal to all parents to assist us in caring for these children by considering the type of foods you pack for your own child's lunch.

Our aim is to minimize the amount of **peanut** and **nut** products brought into the school and avoid all foods that contain **nuts**. These foods are extremely dangerous to our children with allergies. Common foods that trigger an allergic reaction are listed below and we ask that they **not** be brought to school **any time**.

Peanuts – include M&M peanuts, cashews, hazelnuts, almonds, walnuts and all tree nuts

Peanut butter

Nutella

Sesame seeds – remember some bread rolls have sesame seeds on the including some McDonald's hamburger buns

Food that contain satay e.g. Thai, Malaysian, Indonesian dishes

Egg

In the case of a child bringing a nut product to school, teachers will bring the matter to the attention of parents.

If peanut or nuts are **not** on the ingredient list of a particular packaged food but the food has the statement:

**“MAY CONTAIN TRACES OF NUT.....”**

this food may be brought to school and consumed only by **non-allergic children**.

Due to safety concerns, we discourage children from sharing food. We would also appreciate parents speaking with children regarding this matter.

We thank you for helping us provide a safe environment for all our children.



**SCHOOL CAPTAINS:** Grace Boktor & Dean Ocampo

**SCHOOL COUNCIL:** Cyanne Dela Cruz, Adriel Dolores, Frienczel Espino,  
Justin Franswah, Chelsea Gumogda, Joseph Franswah

### **SPORTS CAPTAINS**

**MacKillop (blue) ..... Jamie Lavender & Charlize El Boustani**

**Smith (gold) ..... Jeremy Fronteras & Mia Javier**

**O'Neill (red) ..... Dominic Mercado & Emily Yaneza**

**Watts (green) ..... Jairo Arispe & Madison Allie**

### **SPORTS DAYS 2018**



Kindergarten Blue	Monday and Friday
Kindergarten Gold	Monday and Friday
1 Blue	Thursday and Friday
1 Gold	Wednesday and Thursday
2 Blue	Tuesday and Friday
2 Gold	Wednesday and Friday
3 Blue	Friday
3 Gold	Wednesday and Friday
4 Blue	Thursday and Friday
4 Gold	Thursday and Friday
5 Blue	Thursday and Friday
5 Gold	Wednesday and Friday
6 Blue	Thursday and Friday
6 Gold	Wednesday and Friday

### **MEDICATION**

If your child requires medication during the day, e.g. antibiotics, please send a note to the office together with The medication, details of dosage and time to be administered. If medication is required is required for a period Of 5 days or more, a form will be sent home for completion. Just a reminder that **NO MEDICATION** is to be in your child's school bag. All medication must be kept in the office as we need to record all medication given to students.

The School's First Aid Officer require updated copies of all Asthma Management Plans and Anaphylaxis Action Plans so that we are prepared to help your child in case of an emergency.

### **LIBRARY NEWS**



Welcome to a new year of reading. Could you please ensure your child uses a library bag to help protect our precious library books. School tote bags for years 1-6 are available from the school office for \$2.00.

**Mrs Kersivien**  
**Teacher/Librarian**



## PRIMARY SWIMMING CARNIVAL 2018



St John Vianney's annual Swimming Carnival was held on Friday, 2nd February at Riverstone Pool. It was a fantastic day and the students had a wonderful time competing in races and enjoying the novelty activities.

Thank you to:

- The members of staff for their support and help in making the day a success
- all parents who volunteered their time to carry out various 'jobs' your assistance is greatly appreciated.
- to all family members who came along to support the children.

A very special congratulations to our 2018 Sports Captains on a job well done!!!!

**CONGRATULATIONS** to all the primary students for their behaviour and good sportsmanship throughout the event.

The result are as follows:

<b>WATTS (GREEN)</b>	<b>168</b>
<b>MACKILLOP (BLUE)</b>	<b>167</b>
<b>O'NEILL (RED)</b>	<b>143</b>
<b>SMITH (GOLD)</b>	<b>141</b>

**TEAM CHEER WINNER: MACKILLOP (BLUE)**

### 2018 CHAMPIONS:

Junior Girl Champion: <b>Lara Hendrickson</b>	Runner Up: <b>Alana Jesson</b>
Junior Boy Champion: <b>Hayden Tarr</b>	Runner Up: <b>Gabriel Paul</b>
11 Years Girl Champions: <b>Louise Feliciano &amp; Avria Bergado</b>	
11 Years Boy Champion: <b>Max Konstantinoff</b>	Runner Up: <b>Jamie Lavender</b>
Senior Girl Champion: <b>Leisel Lacson</b>	Runner Up: <b>Grace Boktor</b>
Senior Boy Champion: <b>Edward Paul</b>	Runner Up: <b>Pedrito Gatbonton</b>

### WELL DONE!!

Some of these swimmers will be selected to represent St John Vianney's in the The Blacktown Zone Swimming Carnival will be held on **Wednesday 14th February** at **Mt Druitt Pool**.

Margaret Hancock  
**Sports Coordinator**

### FEES ACCOUNT

Accounts were posted out by the Catholic Education Office on Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> February.

Fees are payable by **Monday 5<sup>th</sup> March**.

Please contact Mrs. Fletcher, **before the due date**, if you are unable to finalise your account, Payment of fees can be paid by Eftpos, Bpay, Postbill, Cash and Cheque.

## **CHILD PROTECTION**

Building Child Safe Communities New procedures reminders for volunteers

<http://ceo-web.parra.catholic.edu.au/asp/volunteerscpmodule/index.asp>

If you are considering volunteering for school excursions, sports carnivals etc. it is important to complete the requirement as set out below.

It is a system requirement that child protection training be completed by all volunteers commencing work in our school and a briefing every second year for existing volunteers.

An online training module for use by volunteers.

1. Open the module by clicking the Start link below.
2. Read through the presentation.
3. Complete and submit quiz questions. This will take approximately 45 minutes.
4. After successful completion of the module, fill out the form by typing your name, email address, contact number, contact address and the school you intend to volunteer at.
5. A notification of your successful completion of the module will be sent via e-mail to the school and also to your email address.

Click on Start the module.

## **Volunteers**

<http://childprotection.parra.catholic.edu.au/volunteers>

Thank you for your interest in volunteering. The opportunities provided to students are greatly enhanced by the contribution of volunteers.

## **ALL VOLUNTEERS MUST COMPLETE STEP 1 AND STEP 2**

### **Step 1: Complete 'Building Child Safe Communities - Undertaking for Volunteers' Form**

You will need to complete a Volunteers Form for each location that you volunteer. A notification of your successful completion of the form will be sent via e-mail to the volunteering location and also to your email address.

**VOLUNTEER FORM**

**PRIVACY STATEMENT**

### **Step 2: Complete the online training module**

It is a system requirement that the online training module be completed by all volunteers commencing at any of our locations and the training needs to be completed every second year.

- Open the module by clicking the **Start** link below.
- Read through the presentation.
- Complete and submit quiz questions (this will take approximately 10 minutes).

**TRAINING MODULE**

**PRIVACY STATEMENT**

## **P&F NEWS**

### **Welcome**

The P&F would like to welcome back all the students and families of SJV for another great year in 2018. We are looking forward to holding many wonderful fundraising events and working towards goals for the school which will benefit all the children. We are also looking forward to seeing new faces helping us at our stalls and events. If you have any time to spare we would love to see you, so come along and meet new parents and have a chat and a laugh. Keep a look out on Facebook for any up coming events.

### **Tea & Tissues Morning**

The P&F hosted our 'tea and tissues' morning for the Kindergarten parents bringing their children to school for their first day. It was a great response from parents and relatives who enjoyed a coffee and a chat. It was lovely to see all the children dressed in their uniforms. They all looked so grown up and ready for their big adventures at school.

### **P&F Meeting**

The first P&F meeting for the year will be held on **Friday 16th February at 2:00pm** in the staffroom. Come share your ideas and find out what will be happening at the school this term while you enjoy a coffee and some afternoon tea. Everyone is welcome to attend. We look forward to seeing you there.

### **Ice block stall**

On Friday 16<sup>th</sup> February the P&F will be having an Ice Block and Zooper Dooper Stall. The cost of the Ice Blocks will be \$1.00 and the Zooper Doopers will cost 50c. There is no need to pre order just send the money with your child on the day.

### **Fruit Frenzy Stall**

On Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> March we will be holding a fruit stall. Notes will be sent home shortly with all the information and details on how you can help on the day.

### **Easter Raffle**

Our annual Easter raffle will be happening again soon. In the next few weeks families will receive a book of raffle tickets and will be asked to donate an Easter egg, chocolate or gift which will be made up into prizes. Notes will be sent home shortly with your child.

### **Clothing Pool**

The clothing pool will be open weekly for the **next four Fridays**, commencing this **Friday 9<sup>th</sup> February** until Friday **2<sup>nd</sup> March** at **8.30am to 9.15am** located in the old canteen, (near MPR entry). We will advise if the clothing pool will be opened weekly or fortnightly as we are trialling this during the next few weeks. We are in desperate need of any uniform items, summer or winter, in good condition. Please leave items at the school office.

Thank you. **Teneille Shaw & Maryanne Vella.**

You can stay in touch with news and events, contribute your ideas and helpful contacts through our **"SJV Parents & Friends"** page on Facebook.



Maryanne Vella  
**P & F Secretary**

## COMMUNITY NEWS



### KINDERCARE LEARNING CENTRE BEFORE and AFTER SCHOOL PICKUP & DROP OFF DAILY SERVICE

Kindercare Learning Centre located in Doonside is a privately owned centre offering a variety of services including Long Day, Before & After School Care and Vacation Care for ages 0-12 years. Full Government subsidy and eligibility offered.

Our centre is open 7am to 6pm all year round. Our Before School Care operates from 7.00am – 8.45am.

Our After School Care operates from 3.00pm to 6.00pm.

For further enquiries, or to make the switch please contact Jackie De Abreu on (02) 9622 8214 or visit our website [www.kindercare.com.au](http://www.kindercare.com.au)

**Also offering pick up from school and drop to home** Please call 0410 881 647

Blacktown City Council

**Lunar New Year**

Free Event

YEAR OF THE DOG

FREE PAW PATROL KIDS SHOW, STAGE ENTERTAINMENT,  
CULTURAL DEMONSTRATIONS, LION DANCE,  
FREE KIDS ACTIVITIES & FACE PAINTING,  
TRADITIONAL CHINESE NEW YEAR BLESSING CEREMONY,  
FIREWORKS, FOOD & MARKET STALLS.

**16 FEBRUARY 2018,  
5 PM - 9 PM  
NURRAGINGY RESERVE  
KNOX RD, DOONSIDE**

## St John Vianney's Parish School

17 Cameron Street, Doonside 2767 Telephone: 9831 1817 Fax: 9831 6430

Email: [stjohnvianneyadoonside@parra.catholic.edu.au](mailto:stjohnvianneyadoonside@parra.catholic.edu.au)

Web: [www.stjohnvianneys.parra.catholic.edu.au](http://www.stjohnvianneys.parra.catholic.edu.au)