



St Elizabeth's Catholic Primary School
Newsletter
Bringing alive our Core Values of
'Charity, Service, Humility and Compassion'



Term One, Week Seven
15 March 2017

Our School Prayer

Dear Jesus

*Saint Elizabeth brought care to the sick, food to the hungry and hope to those in need.
Grant us the blessing that we may follow in her footsteps with love and joy in our hearts,
to always be faithful and to serve with humility and compassion.*

Amen

Year One Liturgy – Ash Wednesday

Father John was with our school community to celebrate our Ash Wednesday which was prepared by Tanika, Vinaya and the Year One class. What a beautiful sight to see so many parents, grandparents and relatives at our first Liturgy celebrating Ash Wednesday. Thank you to Father John for your blessings and thank you Tanika and Vinaya and the Year One children.

Code of Conduct

Thank you to the many families who have signed and returned the Code of Conduct; just over 50%. Well done! If you haven't returned your signed copy, please take time over the weekend to read the Code of Conduct and return the signed copy at your earliest convenience. Thank you!

Professional Development Day – Friday, 3 March 2017

The staff attended the professional development day at our Catholic Education Office. The day was conducted by one of our Literacy Consultants looking at Characteristics of Effective Instructions in Reading. Whilst teachers use a variety of strategies to teach children how to read, it was also an opportunity for the Teachers and the Education Assistants to actively participate together.

What is important from a parent's perspective is that the foundation skills are strongly linked to good role models of reading. Sharing the reading experience with your child is extremely important. Parent's need to read to the child, read together when they are ready and the child reads to the parents. I think we get caught up with what level reader and worry when we hear a child in the same class is further along. Please remember we read to enjoy, to learn, to imagine and wonder. Children need to read to understand, ask them simple questions; What? When? and Where? and get them to think about the Why questions. Why do you think that happened? Do you think it was a good idea – these are the thinking and problem solving skills they need to develop. Happy Reading!

School Commonwealth Banking

The Bank Books must be sent to school no later than Tuesdays. We complete the banking on a Wednesday and the books are returned via the Communication Bag on the same day. You can send the Bank Book in any day as long as it is here by Tuesday. Congratulations to the children who are banking consistently. Hopefully the kindy children will be able to commence in the short term.

World's Greatest Shave - CRAZY HAIR DAY Friday, 17 March 2017

A very proud Auntie Mel Dimond! *"My name is Jade McManus and I am a 15-year-old student from Prendiville Catholic College. I have decided to shave my hair in support of the Leukaemia Foundation to raise money and awareness towards helping families facing blood cancer. My hair will be donated to make a wig for someone in need. Money raised will help fund vital research and support victims of cancer."*

We are having 'Crazy Hair Day' on Friday, 17 March for a gold coin donation and the money will go direct to Jade's fundraising page. Be creative, use textures, use colour, wear a hat or a wig, ribbons, clips, the options are endless and we ask that you do not spend too much of your hard earned money. Your support is greatly appreciated.

OT Kindy Screening

Unfortunately, we are unable at this time to inform you have the revised date for the Kindy OT Screening. We will let you know when we have the new date confirmed.

Kindy School Nurse Screening

Caroline Turich will be in tomorrow to commence screening a 'few' of the Kindy children for sight, hearing, height and BMI (if requested).

On Entry Assessment – Pre Primary Children

The Pre Primary children have completed the On Entry Assessment task. This assessment is to support the teachers in developing sound teaching strategies in English and Numeracy at the individual child's level of development. Some of us experienced difficulty in our own education and understand that we each have our own gifts and talents. Therefore, the data we collect enables the teachers to teach at the point of need. This means children will not necessarily be taught at the same level, some children will be in the early stages of numeracy or literacy, others will require work to consolidate and extend them and finally children who are already achieving in some areas will need extending. Parents in Pre Primary will have the opportunity to meet with Kim Manov before the end of this term or early in Term Two. Kim will send out notes to advise you of her appropriate days and times.

Years One and Two Assessments

Literacy Screening

We use the Diana Rigg program for Literacy screening which involves a variety of skills in using and understanding the English Language. Running records are conducted throughout the year and are a tool for analysing a child's reading behaviours which gives an indication of how the child is using the multiple sources of information to process print.

Mathematics Screening

This information informs the teacher of what each child needs to improve their reading skills. In Mathematics this year, we have commenced a Mathematics Assessment Interview – this is very time consuming however, the teachers are given an in-depth profile of each child. The Assessment progresses from easy to difficult problem solving type questions and not all children will be able to complete all questions. The results of these assessments will be discussed with your child's teacher early in term two.

Whilst these are the intensive assessments, the teachers are constantly assessing across all areas of the curriculum and adjust their teaching strategies according to the children's needs. This enables the teachers to teach at the point of need.

Board Membership 2017

Rick Goodfield	Chair
Kerry Boscarino Hunter	Secretary
Shelley Sammut	Treasurer
Michelle Colavecchio	Board Member
Dan Button	Board Member
Mark Stewart	Board Member
Trish Sykes	Parish Council Representative
Father John Daly	Parish Priest
Carmel O'Shaughnessy	Principal

The Board Members attended an Induction Meeting on Monday night. The information discussed was to ensure they were up to date regarding their roles and responsibilities as Board Members.

Parents' and Friends' Association

St Elizabeth's CPS Office Bearers

Belinda Stewart	President
Helen Sykes	Secretary
John Howarth	Treasurer
Catherine Howarth	Parents and Friends Federation of WA Liaison Person

Please come along to our next meeting which will be at **5:15pm on Monday, 3 April** (last week of term) There are several planned activities both to fund raise for resources and help build community. Many hands make light work and it is sharing the load which enables these wonderful activities to be very successful! Please give it some thought.

Reminders – Important Dates

8:30am Thursday, 16 March

Year Two Assembly (tomorrow)

Friday, 17 March

“Crazy Hair Day”

8:40am Wednesday, 22 March

Kindy parents attend the ‘Better Beginnings’ meeting in the staffroom.

It should only take about 15 to 20 minutes. This is all about reading and you get to take home a small gift.

9:00am Sunday, 2 April

St Elizabeth's Community Mass at St Anthony's Church in Wanneroo

(Please note, according to your Term Calendar, the St Elizabeth's Community mass was on this Sunday at St Anthony's Church which is now at the above time and date.)

Kindergarten Interviews for 2018 intake

Kindy Interviews commence on Monday, 20 March 2017. If you have a child enrolled at the school and one commencing in Kindy 2018 you will need to complete an Application Form for Enrolment. I will conduct your interview in Term Two.

A bit of a grizzle!

Sick Children

If you have a sick child or a child who has been ill, please do not send them to school nor send them back before they are healthy. I appreciate that many of our parents have tried their best and often send their child to school because they have been cleared by the Doctor. I am reminding all our families that it is unfair on the child to be here at school and it is unfair on their teachers and classmates to be in close proximity to the sick child, particularly if they are constantly coughing.

Safety of our Children

Kindy and Pre Primary children should be holding an adult's hand as they leave the car or walking towards the car. Year One and Two children should be walking beside the adult. These rules are for the safety of the children and will teach them sound and safe road sense. It is all too late if an accident happens to say....if only!

Have a Happy St Patrick's Day on Friday, especially to all our Irish families.

God Bless! Remember it is Lent, time to pray and reflect.

'May God keep us safe in the palm of his hand'

Carmel O'Shaughnessy

Carmel O'Shaughnessy
Principal