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17th February 2016

Dear Parents and Carers,

Parent Information Night

A really huge "Thank You" to all the parents and carers from Years 1 to 6, who were able to make it along last night to the Parent Information Night. It was a really valuable opportunity to hear firsthand from your children's teachers as to how their classrooms will operate this year, what to expect and how we can help and support each other in educating your children. I know I speak for all the staff in saying that we really appreciate your support and cooperation in our ongoing efforts to provide the very best learning opportunities for your children. Your support really does mean a great deal to us.

So, What's New?

For those who were unfortunate enough to miss out on attending last night's Parent Information Evening, fear not! I will summarise some of the main points from my address to parents:

- **RAPPers** - (Reading Assistance Program Parents ers) - This wonderful program involves parent volunteers attending a short school-based training program (2 hours), and then helping out by listening to children read first thing in the morning. If you don't have to rush off to work after dropping the children at school, then this is a wonderfully rewarding way to contribute to our school and make a real difference in the lives of some children. We currently have 12 fantastic parents involved in RAPPers, listening to children read on various morning of the week - the program is flexible and we can work around your availability. However, the demand for RAPPers is high and we could certainly use another dozen wonderful volunteers. If you are interested in becoming a RAPPER, then please contact Mrs. Julie Galbraith for details.
- **Coneqt-P** - is the current portal that you would be familiar with from accessing your children's reports and their class portal pages. It is undergoing a makeover and name change and so this year will be known as "SEQTA Engage". All parents and carers will also be issued with a new username and password to access the portal in late February. The good thing about this is that when you do use your new details to logon, you will be prompted to change the username and password to ones that you want and can remember easily! There will also be a new button that you can click on if you happen to forget your username or password, so it will be much simpler to rectify those little problems.

DATES TO REMEMBER	
Sat 20 February	6.00pm Reconciliation Commitment Mass
Sun 21 February	9.00am & 7.00pm Reconciliation Commitment Masses
Tues 23 February	Kaboom Incursion
Wed 24 February	8.50am Assembly SRC
Sat 27 February	6.00pm Eucharist Commitment Mass
Sun 28 February	9.00am & 7.00pm Eucharist Commitment Masses
Mon 29 February	WIZE Therapy Kindy Screenings Yr 6 Peer Support Leaders Day
Tues 1 March	WIZE Therapy Kindy Screenings Yr 6 Peer Support Leaders Day
Wed 2 March	8.50am SRC Assembly Year 6 Camp commences WIZE Therapy Kindy Screenings
Thurs 3 March	Year 6 Camp WIZE Therapy Kindy Screenings
Fri 4 March	Year 6 return from Camp

- **Strategic Plan 2016 -2020** - After much ground work, focus group meetings, consultation, survey and revision work, our Strategic Plan for the school was completed, approved by the School Board and published at the end of last year. I would encourage all our parents and carers to take the opportunity to have a read of this comprehensive plan outlining the future development and direction of our school over the next 5 years. The Strategic Plan is available on our website under the "Our School" tab.

- Annual School Improvement Plan - (ASIP) - This important school document flows from the Strategic Plan. The ASIP takes the “big picture” items from the Strategic Plan and breaks them down into “smaller pieces” in the form of annual improvements or initiatives. The ASIP is therefore our plan of what we aim to do, implement, initiate and change this year, as we continue to strive to become even more successful as a school. Again, this document can be found on the school website at the same location as the Strategic Plan, under the “Our School” tab. I would encourage all our parents and carers to take the opportunity to read it and become more informed and aware of what we are aiming to do and achieve this year.
- I then highlighted just a small sample of some of the goals and initiatives that are included in our ASIP for this year;
 - The further development and expansion of extra-curricula offerings, which this year includes the introduction of the Young Engineers Club operating after school on Friday afternoons for children from years 2-4. This focuses on STEM subjects and uses technical LEGO in a very hands-on, problem solving, challenging approach. We are hoping to expand the program next term for children in Years 4-6, but places are limited, so you will need to be early.
 - Work is already well underway on the development of a new scope and sequence document for Literacy, which sets out what we’ll cover and when, and in second semester this year we will develop a scope and sequence document to assist teachers in Mathematics as well.
 - As part of our ongoing efforts to provide the very best practice in teaching, we have already implemented some new initiatives outlined in our ASIP, such as MultiLit and VCOP to further enhance the individual support we can provide to children in their Literacy development. We also currently have staff engaged in the PD to implement MiniLit, to better cater for literacy support of children in the early years.
 - You will be pleased to know that work is well advanced on the development of our new school website, in conjunction with a commercial website developer, “Chameleon Logic”. We are looking to have the new website operational by the end of first term.

So, as you can see there is already lots of changes and new developments, improvements and changes happening to further enhance what we are already doing and achieving.

School Leadership Groups Announced!

This morning at assembly I had the honour to present the badges of office to all our newly elected and appointed student leaders in the school. As always, I believe the collective wisdom of our students has resulted in each class electing a very worthy person as their Student Council Representative. I would like to congratulate all the following students on their new leadership roles within our school and I look forward very much to working closely with them throughout the course of this year.

SOCIAL JUSTICE COMMITTEE

Matilda Nicolai	Jack Lilley
Rheannon Lazar	Ethan Port-Louis

CHOIR CAPTAINS

Miranda Higgins	Jaslina Pereira
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SPORTS CAPTAINS

Magdlen (Red)	Abbey Sullivan	Captain	Patrick Odingo	Vice-Captain
Luemmen (Blue)	Nicholas Williamson	Captain	Evangelina Pereira	Vice-Captain
Canning (Green)	Harrison Wiedermann	Captain	Ellyarn Granland	Vice-Captain
Flynn (Gold)	Matteo Montesi	Captain	Elijah Edmonds	Vice-Captain

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE COUNCIL

Semester One Councillors

Year 1.1	Evelyn D'Souza	Year 1.2	Taj Wynne
Year 2.1	Joseph Kelleher	Year 2.2	Deacon Hollow
Year 3.1	Sophie Eaton	Year 3.2	Natalija Sarich
Year 4.1	Alexia Pynes	Year 4.2	Ethan Fair
Year 5.1	Amelia Strommen	Year 5.2	Gabrielle Goes
Year 6.1	Caitlyn Foy	Year 6.2	Isabella Rossi
	Treasurer:	Kevin Tirta	
	Secretary:	Killian Jordan-Keane	
	Vice-President:	Ruofan Jin	
	President:	Jonas Schaub	

Bonus! Another P&F Coffee Morning This Thursday

Due to popular demand **the P&F's Coffee Morning will again be open this Thursday morning from 8.45am in the ultra-cool and chic Library.** So after dropping off the children to their classes, why not take 10 mins to treat yourself and drop into the Library for a freshly brewed tea or coffee and enjoy the company, friendship and camaraderie of other wonderful parents and carers. From this Thursday onwards the Coffee Mornings will occur each fortnight on Thursdays. Please check the newsletter for upcoming dates.

Parish Pizza Night - Loads Of Family Fun!

Heads up and save the date. The Parish Social Committee is holding a **Pizza and Fun Family Bingo Night on Friday 11 March, commencing at 7.00pm. Tickets are only \$8 for adults and \$5 for children and you can purchase your tickets outside the Library every Tuesday and Thursday morning before school from 8.15 - 8.40am.** This will be a great, fun-filled family night of entertainment, so don't miss out on securing your tickets!

Health Alert

We would like to advise parents that there has been one case of Chicken Pox diagnosed in Pre Primary. Although the majority of children are now vaccinated against Chicken Pox, the vaccination does not give 100% protection against the disease and we ask all parents to be aware if children become unwell or show signs of a rash developing. Please see the WA Health Department website for further details: <http://ww2.health.wa.gov.au/>

Peace and best wishes,

Shaun O'Neill

Principal.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Project Compassion



This term our focus at Queen of Apostles is **Compassion**. One way we can show compassion is through the support of programs such as Caritas Australia's **Project Compassion Appeal**. Each year, Lent offers us the opportunity to share what we have with those who have less. This year's theme is 'Learning More Creating Change'. As Pope Francis says "Education is an act of hope", so this year Project Compassion celebrates the power of learning, and the many ways in which Caritas Australia is working with local partners around the world to provide vital learning and renewed hope to children, women and men most vulnerable to extreme poverty and injustice. With your support, Caritas Australia is working hard to support communities living in poverty to help people to help themselves.

Each family has been sent home a box that can be filled with loose change, spare pocket money or donations. We encourage families to fill this box over the Lenten period and donate to help not only people within Australia, but also those struggling in other countries. These boxes will later be collected and forwarded onto Caritas Australia so they can help people both in Australia and other countries of the world.



Week One Doney's story - Malawi



Doney is a quiet and humble woman, but thanks to an innovative program supported by Caritas Australia, she's creating big changes - in her life and in her village.

Malawi in East Africa is one of the poorest countries in the world. Most people rely on farming small plots of land to produce food to feed their families. But many, like Doney and her family, have often gone months without enough food to eat.

Yet, when Caritas Australia and the local Caritas, CADECOM (the Catholic Development Commission in Malawi), began working in Doney's remote village, they saw beyond the community's challenges. Together they identified the community's strengths, and each family created their vision for a healthier, more sustainable future.

CADECOM worked with Doney's community to harness their natural resources. Families were trained in new farming techniques, and already they're producing more plentiful crops. "The problem of malnutrition in my household is an old song now," says Doney. CADECOM also worked with the community to install a borehole so Doney and her family now have access to clean water, dramatically improving their health.

Doney's passion for education was recognised as a strength of the community, so she received training as an Adult Literacy Facilitator through the CADECOM program, and is now teaching adults in her village.

These days, the people of Doney's village have access to clean drinking water, flourishing crops and are building their knowledge to create a better future. "My life has been transformed," smiles Doney.

To find out more about Doney and watch a short video about her check out the link:

<http://www.caritas.org.au/projectcompassion/weekly-stories/week-1-Doney>

Easter Raffle

The Social Justice Committee will be organising an Easter Raffle to help raise money for Caritas Australia's Project Compassion. Each family is asked to donate one Easter Egg. Eggs can be taken to your classroom teacher, or left at the office. The Social Justice Committee will be selling raffle tickets at 50c each or 3 for \$1.00 outside the Library before school each morning.



Sacramental Registration and Commitment Masses

Thank you to all those families who have registered their children to receive Sacraments this year. If you have not yet done this, please make an appointment to see Father Paul as soon as possible. He can be contacted on 6188 6877 or parents may see him after school in the Parish Office.

Please note that Sacraments are **PARISH BASED**. This means that the children will receive the Sacrament at the parish they belong to. We, as a school, support the children by preparing them through the Religious Education Units of Work taught and by assisting our Parish, Our Lady Queen of Apostles, with help they may require. If parents wish for their child to receive a Sacrament, it is your responsibility to liaise with your parish in order for this to occur. We will provide information for Queen of Apostles as a service to our families and as support to the parish.

This weekend **20th/21st of February** are the Commitment Masses for those students who would like to receive the **Sacrament of Reconciliation**. These Masses will be celebrated at either the Saturday 6:00pm Mass or on Sunday at 9:00am or 7:00pm.

The **Sacrament of First Holy Communion** commitment Masses will be celebrated on the weekend of the **27th/28th February**.

Children receiving these Sacraments must attend one of these Commitment Masses.

Russell Wylie and Julie Galbraith

Assistant Principals

SCHOOL NEWS

NAPLAN

The National Assessment Program - Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) testing occurs each year for students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9. All students in these year levels are expected to participate. Testing for 2016 will occur in Week 3 of Term 2 from 10-12 May. An information pamphlet regarding NAPLAN went home to all students in Years 3 and Year 5.

Should you have further questions please do not hesitate to ask your child's teacher.

On-entry Assessment Program for Pre-Primary Students

Parents with children in Pre-Primary are asked to look out for information on the new statewide testing program for Pre-Primary children in Catholic schools. Information went home earlier this week.

Testing has commenced this week and will be completed by Week Six.

ICAS

Each year Queen of Apostles School offers children in Years 3-6 the opportunity to sit International Competitions and Assessments for School (ICAS). These assessments have taken place annually in schools for over thirty years and in twenty countries. The assessments are designed by a not for profit arm of the University of New South Wales and tests are conducted annually in different learning areas. ICAS contains questions designed to specifically explore abilities of students of all standards – this includes those of both lower and higher levels of achievement.

Results are available to students and parents online and these online reports and analyses remain available indefinitely. ICAS reports indicate which questions were answered correctly, compare student performance to that of the other students tested and are highly suitable for inclusion in a student's portfolio. Achievement certificates are awarded to all students at a range of levels.

High Distinction to the top 1% of students

Distinction to the next 10%

Credit to the next 25%

Merit to the next 10%

Participation to all other students

Entries are administered through the school, so if you wish your child to be involved please fill in and return the attached application form with the correct entry fee/s. All entries must reach the school by Wednesday 16 March. No late entries will be accepted. Testing will take place at school within school time.

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2016 International Competitions and Assessments for Schools (ICAS)

I give permission for my child _____ in Year _____ to participate in the 2016 International Competitions and Assessments for Schools(ICAS)

Please select the subjects you would like your child to enter. And return to the school on or before Wednesday 16 March 2016.

Tick to enter Competition	Subject/Paper	Sitting Date	Entry Fee
	Digital Technologies	Tuesday 17 May 2015	\$8.80
	Spelling	Wednesday 15 June 2015	\$12.10
	English	Tuesday 26 July 2015	\$8.80
	Mathematics	Tuesday 16 Aug 2015	\$8.80
		Total Enclosed	

RAPPer

Many thanks to the wonderful new and returning volunteers for our RAPPers program here at Queenies. Our 2016 RAPPER program is up and running, benefitting many of our children. A RAPPER usually has a consistent relationship with the same student/s over the year, establishing a positive relationship with them while encouraging an improvement in their reading, probing the text to build an understanding of what is being read. For anyone else who is interested in being a RAPPER it is not too late – call into the office and share your interest with Julie Galbraith.

Uniform Shop News

The Uniform Shop will be open 8.30am – 9.30am and 2.30pm – 3.30pm every Wednesday.

We still have the 'mail order' system available - the forms are on the school website if you cannot make it in to the shop.

Fiona Agostino, Uniform Shop

Hello from the School Social Worker

Michael Grose suggests that the start of the year is a good time to reset goals and ambitions as well as tweak daily activities. He suggests **10 actions that encourage children to be happy, confident, resilient and spirited.**

1. Encourage more. Be strengths based.
2. Discourage less. Eradicate fault finding, spoiling, overprotecting and fixing all problems.
3. Breathe more. Deep, nasal breathing.
4. Yell less. Use more non-verbal methods.
5. Do less to foster independence.
6. Give more. Develop a sense of altruism in children.
7. Teach more.
8. Fight less. Make a list of minor and major issues as a reminder.
9. Model more.
10. Learn more.

(Taken from Michael Grose 10 ways to be a better parent in 2016. Parentingideas 12th January 2016).

Regards, **Tracy Small**

OSH CLUB

Program Update

Dear Parents,

We are very excited to inform that we are off to a great start in Term 1 2016 with our number of bookings growing very quickly. With this, we need to ensure that our educator to child ratios are being met during every session. Please assist by ensuring children are booked in by the cut off times prior to each session. If you require a casual booking, please call the service on: 0431 310 180.

Bookings can be made by visiting www.oshclub.com.au

Year 1 OSHclub drop off and pick up

We are very happy to see everyone growing and moving up in their school grades. Please be aware that parents are required to update the children's year levels on the enrolment information online. For the first few weeks of the new year, Oshclub educators escort the Year 1 children to and from their new classrooms.

As with other additional requests we have from parents and guardians surrounding needs and assistance to and from school, such as: reminders, notes, permission slips and additional support drop off and pick up, this is discussed and arranged with OSHclub team members.

We are always willing to assist with any needs and parents requests.

We are also working with teachers, students and parents to transition into and support the development of social and independent routines and learning for each child.

Year 4 iPad security at OSHclub

We have now implemented a sign in/out sheet for children who are required to bring anything of a valuable nature, such as iPads, to school. These items are to be brought into the OSH room signed in with all fields completed. They will then be stored in a locked cupboard. Any items signed in are to be collected and signed out before leaving OSHclub.

Waste not Wednesday

A part of our new sustainability projective is 'Waste not Wednesday'.

On each Wednesday, we will aim to use leftover water on gardens and any recycled craft materials for a group re-creation project! We are looking forward to getting creative and showing all of the cool creations we can come up with. Please feel free to donate any recyclable materials such as empty boxes, plastic bottles and containers.

This week, and some of our recent program highlights are:

Group activities:

- Octopus tag game
- New scrap book creations
- Dress up and imaginative play
- Puppet making and a puppet show
- Charades
- Fruit skewer making

Active/group games:

- Basketball
- Football and soccer
- Playground adventures and challenges

Also a wide variety of puzzles, books, craft, construction and homework opportunities.

Please remember to update any medical documentation and medication (medical documents are to be updated every 12 months) These are attendance requirements.

Please also be sure to update your children's year level on your OSHclub enrolment forms.

This can be done online at: www.oshclub.com.au.

Sincere thanks in advance for everyone's co-operation.

Have a fantastic week.

Laughter and smiles from **Lyneesa- Coordinator,**
OSHClub Queen of Apostles program.

QUEEN OF APOSTLES PARISH

Queen of Apostles
Social Committee



PIZZA NIGHT

on

Friday 11 March, 2016

in the

7pm Parish Hall

and followed by

FUN FAMILY BINGO

Adults \$8
Children \$5

Pizza, Tea, Coffee,
BYO drinks – Bingo no charge

B I N G O

2	17	32	46	63
4	20	33	50	67
6	21	★	55	69
7	23	36	58	71
8	28	43	60	73

Coupons (pre-paid only) available
before school 8.15—8.40am
every Tuesday & Thursday
outside the Library from 16th February
contact Jannet on 0438 590 449

LAST DAY TICKET SALES
TUESDAY 8th MARCH

COMMUNITY NEWS



**RIVERTON JUNIOR FOOTBALL CLUB
MULTICULTURAL PROGRAM**

**6 WEEK AFTER SCHOOL FOOTBALL PROGRAM
STARTING TUESDAY 16 FEBRUARY**

Time: 3.30pm - 5pm • Age: 4-17
Riverton Reserve, High Rd Riverton

Free football program for multicultural students in the local community, come down and give it a go. Posters, footballs plus refreshments will be available for all participants

For more information please contact Liam Anthony on 0429 348 353 or lanthony@wafc.com.au

Calling AFL Footballers

Interested in playing footy in 2016?

Auskick (Kindy - Year 2) through to Year 12

Registration Day

Sunday 21st February 2016

10am - 12pm

Riverton Reserve, High Rd, Riverton

Contact Riverton Football Club

Auskick - Sarah 0414 832 383 or rivertonjfcAuskick@gmail.com

Year 3 & above - Sarah 0414 832 383 or rivertonjfcRegistrar@gmail.com

www.rivorocs.com.au



The Council and Staff of the Parents and Friends Federation of WA would like to welcome everyone back to the new school year. We trust that at this stage, into week 2, you are all back into the routine of lunches, uniforms and searching for those elusive permission slips at the bottom of school bags.

The staff here in the office have hit the ground running and are currently working hard to get information about our upcoming conference in May out to all schools. The dates for the conference this year are Friday 20th and Saturday 21st May. The Awards of Excellence in Building Positive School Communities will be presented at the conference dinner on Friday 21st May. Nomination forms for the Awards of Excellence are already available on our website, so get your entry in early!

We are also receiving lots of calls in the office from parents who are working hard to ensure P&F's and parent groups get off to a good start for the year. If you need any information about office bearer's roles, governance or just some general advice please don't hesitate to contact us.

Theresa McDonnell, the new Liaison Officer at the Federation, has settled beautifully into our small office and she, along with Siobhan Allen (our Executive Officer) is looking forward to getting out and about and meeting with parents and parent groups in Catholic schools throughout the state. If you would like to arrange a visit from PFFWA to your school, please contact the office or email theresa@pff.wa.edu.au and we would be delighted to organise a time.

Best wishes

PFFWA Council and Staff

JEREMY CAMERON DAISSY PEARCE NAT FYFE NIC NAITANUI JACK GUNSTON DANE ZORKO RORY SLOANE

JUNIOR FOOTBALL

THIS IS OUR GAME

COMING TO A LOCAL CLUB NEAR YOU

WA'S **NUMBER 1** PARTICIPATION SPORT

play **AFL** REGISTER NOW AT PLAYAFLWA.COM.AU

WEST AUSTRALIAN FOOTBALL LEAGUE

JOIN THE CONVERSATION GOTTA LOVE #WAFOOTY WAFOOTBALL.COM.AU

Autism West Presents

2016 teamsprintcup



— WHEN: Sunday 20th March @ 2pm
 WHERE: Christ Church Grammar School

SCHOOL SWIM CHALLENGE

Get a team together for Autism West's annual Team Sprint Cup, a swimming competition the whole family can enjoy!

It's all about participation and raising awareness for those affected by an autism spectrum disorder.

Tickets are only \$40 per person and all proceeds go towards Autism West.

Register now! trybooking.com/JZTG

info@autismwest.org.au | 9383 6123 | www.autismwest.org.au