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11<sup>th</sup> May 2016

Dear Parents and Carers,

## NAPLAN - it is what it is .... Just Another Source of Data.

This week our Year 3 & 5 students have been busily engaged in their NAPLAN Tests over the course of Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday mornings, with Friday morning reserved for catch-up testing of those who may have been away on a testing day. I know that I have written about NAPLAN Testing in previous newsletters, I do need to repeat it regularly to ensure the message eventually gets across to all families, particularly new families to our school this year.

NAPLAN Testing is a Federal Government requirement for ALL schools in Australia. Its primary purpose is accountability, in that the Federal Government invests billions of dollars into education and monitoring NAPLAN results and data is one way of trying to ensure that they are getting value for money. From our perspective as a school, NAPLAN does provide some useful data to our staff to utilise in planning to meet the needs of our students. We do extract some very useful information from the data we receive and we do make use of it in our planning and programming. It is not a magical cure for poor literacy or numeracy skills and achievement. No one has ever achieved improvement in their abilities or achievement scores simply by being tested more. The challenge is in addressing the weaknesses or shortcomings that the testing identifies. Quality teaching and learning is what will improve a student's abilities and achievement levels. NAPLAN testing is much like an x-ray or MRI, it will help to identify or pinpoint the injury or illness in a child, but it won't fix the fractured wrist or kidney infection - only expert medical intervention such as surgery, medication, therapy and treatment will fix or improve the patient's condition and return them to full health and well-being.

For us, as a staff and school, NAPLAN testing and the data we receive back from it is nothing more than one more source of information about your child's progress with their learning. Our teachers are collecting data about your children on an on-going basis week in and week out. Our reporting to you at mid-year and end of year is not based just on their performance in a few tests over 3 days of one week of the whole year! Our evaluations of your child's progress are far more comprehensive and wide-ranging than one reading test, one maths test or one piece of writing. NAPLAN testing is useful but it is not, never has been and never will be, the only piece of the assessment puzzle that we look at.

For these reasons we do not place an overly great emphasis on preparing for the tests. We do make sure, in the normal course of our programming and planning that the significant concepts, strategies, understandings and skills are covered in class teaching. We do not devote the majority of first term to training and preparing children for it - that would be

DATES TO REMEMBER	
<b>Wed 11 May</b>	8.50am Assembly SRC Yr 3 & Yr 5 NAPLAN – Reading 6.00pm Confirmation Parent Workshop
<b>Thurs 12 May</b>	Yr 3 & Yr 5 NAPLAN – Numeracy
<b>Fri 13 May</b>	Queenies Feast Day celebrations 9.00am Mass 6.2
<b>Mon 16 May</b>	8.50am Rosary 5.1
<b>Tues 17 May</b>	Yr 6 Liturgy – <b>rescheduled to Tuesday 14 June</b> ICAS Test – Digital Technologies
<b>Wed 18 May</b>	8.50am – Assembly SRC 6.00pm School Board Meeting
<b>Thurs 19 May</b>	<b>Pupil Free Day – SCHOOL CLOSED</b>
<b>Fri 20 May</b>	<b>Pupil Free Day – SCHOOL CLOSED</b>
<b>Sun 22 May</b>	10.30am Confirmation Ceremony – 6.1
<b>Mon 23 May</b>	8.50am Rosary 3.1 Interschool Basketball Carnival
<b>Wed 25 May</b>	9.00am School Mass 2.1
<b>Fri 27 May</b>	12.00pm Peer Support Eagles Cup
<b>Sun 29 May</b>	10.30am Confirmation Ceremony – 6.2
<b>Mon 30 May</b>	8.50am Rosary 3.2
<b>Tues 31 May</b>	8.50am Yr 4 Liturgy
<b>Wed 1 June</b>	8.50am Assembly 5.2
<b>Thurs 2 June</b>	Lifelink Fundraising Day – Paper Chain
<b>Fri 3 June</b>	Eagles Cup
<b>Mon 6 June</b>	<b>WA Day Public Holiday – SCHOOL CLOSED</b>



detrimental to their coverage of other key concepts and learning contained in the curriculum that we are mandated to teach and cover. I believe that because we do not place too great an emphasis on the tests, we avoid the children becoming too focussed and anxious about their performance in them. I've read the horror stories in the media about children being physically ill and suffering anxiety attacks in the days leading up to the NAPLAN tests and on the days of the tests themselves. I definitely don't believe that this is what educating children is all about, stressing them out to the point of feeling ill!

So, I wish them well in their NAPLAN tests, but I know, as do my staff, that our children and their achievements are so much more than just a test score. ... and that's just the way we intend to keep it!

## **Queen of Apostles Feast Day**

As you would all be aware, this year marks the 60th Anniversary of our wonderful school. While this may not be quite as significant as the 50th, 75th or 100th anniversaries, we nevertheless believe it is worth making our celebrations this year that little bit more special. So this Friday will be an extra special Feast Day celebration for our school and we'd love to have as many parents and carers as possible join us to make it even more special! Here is a brief run-down of what will be happening this Friday:

- 9.00am Whole School Mass organised by Year 6.2
- 9.45am Cutting 60th Anniversary cake in Undercover Area
- 10.00am Planting a rose bush to commemorate the 60th anniversary on the Basketball Courts
- 10.30am All children, staff and parents invited to join together on the oval to form a huge number "60" and the children to release 60 balloons!
- 10.45am Morning tea - children are given a cup cake by peer support leader  
Staff morning tea in library with parents (provided by Special Morning Tea Roster)
- 11.15am First Activity - in their Peer Support Groups, the children will use newspaper and masking tape to make a school uniform for 60th anniversary
- 12.30pm Sausage Sizzle lunch organized by our terrific P&F and free ice-cream
- 1.30pm Afternoon activity - In their Peer Support Groups, the children will be challenged to be creative and make up dance moves to a hit song from the last 60 years. This activity will culminate with each group present their dance moves!

We look forward to as many parents, grandparents and carers as possible joining us for the Mass, cake cutting, rose bush planting, balloon release and forming a "60" followed by morning tea in the Library.

## **School Climate Survey**

A big "THANK YOU" to those 17 families who have so far completed the School Climate Survey they received from the school. Your cooperation and time commitment is greatly appreciated.

I would like to make a final plea to the other 43 families out of the 60 that were randomly selected, to please find 30 minutes to go online and complete the survey. As the 60 families who received a letter of invitation were randomly selected and as the survey is totally anonymous, we have no way of knowing who has completed it and who hasn't. The only data I receive tells me a number and percentage of forms completed. Suffice to say that 17 out of 60 is not a very good completion rate and will seriously compromise the quality and validity of the results. If we are to gain any benefit from this survey data, we need as high a response rate as possible. The 60 families that randomly received an invitation, represents approximately 22% of our families. The current total of 17 surveys completed represent just over 6% of our families. That sort of response rate would make the results of very little value to us as a school.

So please, if you have the envelope sitting on the kitchen bench at home, open it and find the 30 mins to help us out with your opinions and views about our school, because we really want to know!

## **Confirmation Parent Workshop**

A reminder to all parents and carers of children enrolled to prepare for receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation that the Parent and Child Workshop is on tonight at 6.00pm in the Parish Hall. It is essential that at least one



parent or carer attends with their child for this workshop. We look forward to seeing you all there for this very important part of their preparation for this sacrament.

A reminder that the Sacrament of Confirmation will be celebrated over two weekends with the first one taking place on Sunday 22 May and the following Sunday 29 May. Both masses commence at 10.30am sharp!

### **Great News ... Successful Grants Applications!**

Congratulations to Mr. Wylie for his efforts in completing the paperwork and applications for two grants, which we've been successful in receiving/winning this week.

- For re-registering as a "Crunch-n-Sip" School we went into a prize draw and we've won \$500 to spend this year!
- Our application to Healthways for a grant to support our Peer Support Program in catering to the mental health, well-being and social needs of our children was successful and we have received a grant of \$2,500 for this year!

Every little bit helps and these grants will be spent on resources to directly improve these programs that the children participate in and benefit from. Fantastic work Mr. Wylie!

### **Winter Uniform**

A reminder to parents and carers that all children must now be wearing correct winter uniform. I would like to acknowledge and thank all of the parents and carers who do the hard yards to ensure that their children always present at school not only in the correct uniform, but clean and well groomed as well. It certainly helps to foster and maintain their sense of pride in their uniform, themselves and their school when they start the day off looking smart and well dressed!

Please see Fiona in the Uniform shop if you need to update or replace some elements of your children's winter uniform.

### **Pupil Free Days - OSH Club**

A reminder to all our parents and carers that we have **two pupil free days coming up next week on Thursday 19 and Friday 20 May**. Staff will be engaged in professional learning activities including a training course on Protective Behaviours, which will further enhance our delivery of this important pastoral care program in our classrooms.

A reminder also that OSH Club will be operating for the whole day from 7.00am through to 6.00pm on both Thursday 19 and Friday 20 May. It is essential that you get online and book your children in, as bookings on the day cannot be accepted due to the impact on maintaining staffing ratios and catering for numbers in activities. Avoid the hassles and book early to ensure your children are cared for on those two days.

### **Protective Behaviours Workshop**

A reminder that there is a **Protective Behaviours Workshop being run by the Parish on Friday 10 June from 7.00 - 9.00 pm in the Parish Hall**. The cost is just a gold coin donation, but you must book your seat, so please contact:

- Karen 0401 492 787 or
- Mike 0432 994 336

to secure your place. Flyers are available from the school office as well.

Peace and best wishes,

**Shaun O'Neill**  
**Principal**

## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

### Sacrament of Confirmation

The Sacrament of Confirmation will be celebrated this term on **Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> May** (Yr 6.1 students) and **Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> May** (Year 6.2 students) at **10:30am**.

### Praying the Rosary

As we are in Mary's month – May, on Monday we came together to pray a decade of the Rosary and hear about the second Joyful Mystery – the Visitation. This is when Mary decides to visit her cousin Elizabeth to tell her how happy she is that Elizabeth is going to have a baby. Elizabeth tells Mary that she is 'blessed among women'. Next Monday The Year 6.2 class will present to us about the third Joyful Mystery, The Birth of Jesus. Please encourage the praying of the Rosary at home and the practising of the prayers that are said.



### Queenies Feast Day Mass

There will be a whole school Mass on Friday 13 May for Queen of Apostles Feast Day. This Mass has been prepared by the 6.2 class. We would love to have lots of parents at the Mass showing your support of our school. Parents are invited to remain at school for morning tea in the library.

### Queenies Feast Day

This year we are celebrating Queenies 60th year. You are invited to come along to some of our festivities. We encourage parents to join us for Mass and be part of our celebrations until morning tea which will be served in the library. Young children welcome.

Over the week we would like parents to help build up a comment bank "**60 reasons why we love Queenies**". Your response can be left at the office where they will be collated and shared.

*Please reach out to people you know who are past parents, students or teachers of Queenies to add to this list.*

### Year 6 Liturgy

Please note that the planned Year 6 Liturgy will now be rescheduled to Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> June.

**Russell Wylie and Julie Galbraith**  
Assistant Principals

## SCHOOL NEWS

### ICAS Testing

Families who have expressed their desire for their child/children to take part in the ICAS Digital Technologies Test will sit this test on Tuesday 17 May. Results will be sent home as they become available.

### Scholastic Bookclub

Orders for Issue 3 of Scholastic Bookclub are due **no later than Friday 13<sup>th</sup> May, 2016**. Late orders cannot be accepted.

### Uniform Shop



The Uniform Shop will be open 8.30am – 9.30am and 2.30pm – 3.30pm every Wednesday during school terms. We still have the 'mail order' system available - the forms are on the school website if you cannot make it in to the shop.

**Out of Stock items**  
Grey trousers size 7  
Winter jumper size 7

## Uniform Shop Closure

The Uniform Shop will be closed for two weeks from Wednesday 25 May. The shop will reopen on Wednesday 8 June.

If you need any uniform items, the shop will be open at the normal time next Wednesday 18 May. Please note any orders received after this date will not be processed until 8 June.

Fiona Agostino, Uniform Shop

### Hello from the School Social Worker

Poor **sleep** can have a direct relationship to children's concentration, memory and behaviour. Sleep is vital for health, growth and development. It has been suggested that up to 40% of children and teenagers have sleep problems. Here are some tips for promoting **good sleep habits**;

1. Establish a routine and keep regular sleep and wake times.
2. Avoid daytime naps for older children.
3. Relax and wind down before bed.
4. Make sure that your child feels safe at night.
5. Check for noise and light in your child's bedroom.
6. Avoid clock watching.
7. Eat the right amount at the right time.
8. Get plenty of natural light in the day.
9. Avoid caffeine.
10. Do some exercise, but not late at night! (From Raising Children Network).

Regards, Tracy Small.

## Raise funds for your school with Jugglr



Dear Mum,

You might have found a little card in your child's bag recently saying 'Help raise funds for your school with Jugglr'.

Rossana and Elio have three children at school and they are working hard to launch Jugglr, an app in your phone connecting you with a trusted network of mums in your local area to help you juggle the demands of your busy life.

Jugglr's goal is to make mums' lives easier and needs you and your friends to build the community. To help mums through their school, **Jugglr will donate \$1 to Queen of Apostles for every mum** who will:

1. Sign up @ [www.jugglrapp.com](http://www.jugglrapp.com)
2. Like their facebook page @ [www.facebook.com/jugglr](http://www.facebook.com/jugglr)

You can also **invite other mums** in your local area to sign up and like the page, **Jugglr will donate \$1 for them too!!**

Please help raise funds for your school. A world where mums can easily connect, share and care for each other is a better world. Help Jugglr get there, be part of the journey.



## P&F

I hope that all the Queenies mums enjoyed Mother's Day. The afternoon tea last week was well attended and highly enjoyable. Thank you to our Year 4 students for their wonderful service, the lovely ladies who helped with the organising of this event and the Queenies families who donated the beautiful raffle prizes. The raffle at the tea raised \$237.

Don't forget the Queenies Feast Day Sausage Sizzle on Friday. Thank you to all the wonderful parents who have volunteered to help out.

While we have enough people for this event we are always looking for people to help out so if you would like to join our volunteer list please send an email with your details to [parents.friends@goa.wa.edu.au](mailto:parents.friends@goa.wa.edu.au).

One such event we will be looking for volunteers for is the upcoming Disco on 17 June. Posters will be appearing around the school over the next few days.

**Andrew Upfold**

**P&F President**



Queenies Coffee Hour this Thursday, 12 May  
Please drop in for a coffee and chat  
8.45am to 9.45am in the school library

## OSH CLUB

### OSHClub News

Before School / After School Care Program



#### Program Update

With Term 2 in full swing, we are seeing some new, improved and updated resources and aspects at OSHclub. We have once again introduced our name tag placement on arrival for Who is at OSH today?, Who is playing outside? And removing when leaving/signed out.

A very big thank you to Terri for assisting with laminating these for us!

Some of the things we have been enjoying recently have been:

- Science experiments
- Group sports
- Elastics
- Hopscotch and Quaits

In line with health and safety, we now ask to please ensure your child brings a hat to OSHclub when they are attending. This does not need to be a school hat and can be kept here with your child's name on or returned after each session.

Please also ensure any medication or medical plans are updated prior to their expiry as this is an attendance requirement. If you are unsure of expiry dates, please contact Lyn on: 0431 310 180 and we can very quickly and easily provide expiry information and requirements to approved contacts.

We sincerely thank you in advance for your assistance in keeping our Queen Of Apostles OSHclub compliant and in line with national standards 😊

**CURRICULUM DAYS (Pupil free days) – Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> and Friday 20<sup>th</sup> May**

We will be operating full days on both these dates!

Please book online as soon as possible before 19th May if you require care on one or both days.

Bookings can be made at [www.oshclub.com.au](http://www.oshclub.com.au).

#### Next Week's Activities

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
<b>Before Care Activities</b>	Paper tricks	Balloon soccer	Waste not Wednesday fun	Drama play	Heads down thumbs up
<b>After Care Activities</b>	Nature time Real life pick up sticks! Reading	Science fun Mathletics	Recycled craft Sports Homework	Cooking Homework	Design and construct

#### Parent Information

OSHC program phone: 0431 310 180

Coordinator: Lyneesa (Lyn) Payne

Assistants: Katherine Goh, Anna Nielson, Sharon Hardemann

OSHClub Head Office: 03 85649000

*All families must be enrolled to attend the program, remember this is Free!! Please create an account online at [www.oshclub.com.au](http://www.oshclub.com.au) all bookings and cancellations can also be managed via your online account. For on the day bookings please contact the Coordinator direct at the program.*

**QUEEN OF APOSTLES PARISH**



Queen of Apostles Parish

# Family Movie Night

Starting with a

**SAUSAGE SIZZLE**

**6.30pm Friday, May 27th 2016**

Parish Hall

**Tickets \$5**

(sausage sizzle, popcorn and icecream)

**“INSIDE OUT”** Rated PG (mild themes)

Tickets available before school from 8.15am outside Library every Monday & Thursday and after school Tuesday from 2.50pm from **2<sup>nd</sup> May to 24<sup>th</sup> May 2016.**

**\*\*\*Last chance to buy tickets Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> May 2016\*\*\***



**NO TICKET SALES AT DOOR**

For further information contact Jannet 0438 590 449



## PARENT WORKSHOP



**PROTECTIVE**  
BEHAVIOURS WA INC.

### ABOUT THE WORKSHOP

This workshop is a must for all parents and carers. This training workshop has been designed to provide parents with information regarding the content of the **internationally acclaimed Protective Behaviours Child Safety Program** to increase their children's personal safety.

There are many ways of talking to children about their personal safety and when we do so, it is important that we do not scare them or leave them feeling unsafe, afraid or disempowered.

Protective Behaviours provides children with strategies to keep themselves safe and cope with situations that threaten their well being such as bullying, child abuse & domestic violence. The program empowers the individual with the **right to feel safe** and sets out ways in which they can gain the appropriate help when they are not feeling safe.

### THE PURPOSE OF THIS WORKSHOP

1. To provide parents and carers with a basic understanding of child sexual abuse and other unsafe situations.
2. To provide specific personal safety training skills, techniques and examples to use with your children.
3. To lessen your anxiety about your children's safety, so you can allow them the freedom of movement they need as they grow up.

**DATE** FRIDAY, 10 JUNE 2016

**TIME** 7.00PM – 9.00PM

**VENUE** QUEEN OF APOSTLES  
PARISH  
55 TUDOR AVENUE  
RIVERTON

**PRESENTER** JUSTINE O'MALLEY

**COST** GOLD COIN DONATION

**CONTACT**  
KAREN 0401 492 787  
MIKE 0432 994 336

### FOR MORE INFORMATION ON THE PROGRAM

**SAXON GEE** | TRAINING COORDINATOR  
0409 071 068  
info@protectivebehaviourswa.org.au

[protectivebehaviourswa.org.au](http://protectivebehaviourswa.org.au)

## COMMUNITY NEWS

### Centre for Faith Enrichment

The Centre for Faith Enrichment (formerly the Maranatha Centre) is the adult faith formation agency of the Catholic Archdiocese of Perth.

The centre is for anyone seeking to enrich their understanding of their faith in an interactive and friendly environment, with no exams or assignments.

Go online to [www.cfe.org.au](http://www.cfe.org.au) or email [cfe@perthcatholic.org.au](mailto:cfe@perthcatholic.org.au) or phone 92415221 to find out about what courses they offer.

Some titles that may be of interest are:

- Graced-filled Parenting
- Listening with the Heart of Christ
- Being Yourself Before God



# FREE DROP OFF DAY

## HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE

There are a number of hazardous items in your home which must not go in your waste or recycling bin. Safely dispose of your unwanted household chemicals and hazardous materials for free at the Household Hazardous Waste Temporary Collection Day.

**These items include:**

- Batteries
- Cans of paint
- Pool and garden chemicals
- Pesticides and herbicides
- Flammable liquids
- Gas bottles
- Fluorescent tubes
- Poison
- Household chemicals

**Date:** Saturday, 14 May 2016  
**Time:** 9.00am to 1.00pm  
**Venue:** City of Melville Operations Centre,  
13 Bramanti Road, Murdoch 6150



This project is funded by the Waste Authority through the Waste Australia and Resource Recovery Account

For event details and more information on what can and cannot be accepted on the day visit [www.melvillecity.com.au](http://www.melvillecity.com.au) or call 9364 0666 | 1300 635 845

## **The Ultimate Worm Farming Workshop** - *turning a broken down fridge into a worm farm*

- \* reduce your household rubbish output
- \* reduce water consumption in the garden
  - \* nourish your plants
  - \* save money!

**Willetton Community Garden is a non-profit organisation. Donations would be greatly appreciated.**

**Location & Contact:** Willetton Community Garden, Glenmoy Avenue, Willetton  
[willettongarden@gmail.com](mailto:willettongarden@gmail.com)  
Phone: 0427 373 170

**Workshop 1:** Time: 11am start  
Duration: Approx 2 hours (including tea & snacks)  
Date: May 27 (Friday morning)

**Workshop 2 (re-run of above):**  
Time: 3pm start  
Duration: Approx 2 hours (including tea & snacks)  
Date: May 29 (Sunday afternoon)



**WHO IS A YOUNG CARER?** Young carers are people under the age of 26 who help look after a family member who needs extra support at home. The person they care for may have a disability, mental illness, a drug or alcohol problem or a long term illness.

**KEY DATES:** Entries open Saturday 25th June & close Sunday 7th August 2016.

**THEME:** Portray the role and/or feeling of being a young carer.

### **PRIZES:**

**Young Carer & Non-Carer 8-15yrs winners:**  
Up to the value of \$400, a choice of ipad mini or Drone

**Young Carer & Non-Carer 16-25 winners:**  
Up to the value of \$400, a choice of Dr Beats Headphones or Red Balloon Gift Card

The runner up prize for each category is a UE Boom 2 Wireless Speaker

**AWESOME  
PRIZES  
TO WIN!**

For more information, full terms and conditions, or to download an application form, please visit the Young Carers WA website.

- 1300 CARERS (1300 227 377)
- [youngcarers@carerswa.asn.au](mailto:youngcarers@carerswa.asn.au)
- [www.youngcarerswa.asn.au](http://www.youngcarerswa.asn.au)
- Search 'Young People Who Care' - Carers WA

