Dear Parents

“So what’s changed?” We’ve all used this expression ‘one time or another’ to state that what we have just been told, is simply “old hat”. Could it be that the people who first read the following lines penned by the ever witty American poet, Ogden Nash, in 1933, might have used the very same words?

“Children aren’t happy with nothing to ignore, And that’s what parents were created for.”

No doubt, there is some truth in the poet’s words or at least he thought so, for in his poem “Children’s Party” we find these lines:

“Shunned are the games a parent proposes, They prefer to squirt each other with hoses.”

Fortunately, psychotherapist, Abigail Nathenson, comes to the defence of parents who have the power to be influential, when she writes: “Parents who maintain healthy attitudes about their own bodies, who model healthy eating behaviours, who provide nutritious food for their family by preparing, serving and sitting down together with their children as frequently as possible, virtually immunise their children from developing eating disorders.” Well, it seems that achieving worthwhile outcomes for our children requires us to apply ourselves to our parenting role in a “full-on” manner.

From this example, we can see the advantage parents have as adults with our accumulated experiences of life, so that these experiences can be used in a positive nurturing way. Our lives, in some way, can be an inheritance to our children to enrich them and to provide confidence in their abilities to develop life skills.

Part of our parenting role is to patiently, slowly, even painstakingly, nurture and guide our children, so that they increasingly feel capable and optimistic about taking responsibility for their own choices and decisions and the general direction of their lives. This will demand dedication and perseverance from us and lots of “no strings attached” love. It is important for us as parents, to maintain high levels of self-belief and confidence, to have belief in our own giftedness to be parents and to ask God that the Spirit work through us for the benefit of our children.

There is no area more important to our children, than the home our children share with us. It’s not the size nor the material comforts our home provides, it’s the nurturing environment that really matters. Home is a place of great opportunity for emerging young people for it is the home, amongst family, that value systems can be established and God’s love can be experienced through the love that family members express to one another; mistakes can be made without the fear of ridicule and with the real expectation of true compassion and forgiveness.

On some occasions, we might find it helpful to be partially deaf and blind and to screen events through the prism of good humour. Sometimes, we might have to accept what our children have to offer as their best effort; we will need to take it “on board” as such, and encouragingly reshape it with their assistance, so that the outcome is a positive experience for all concerned. We all “run the danger” that if positive messages are not forthcoming from our home, then our children will look elsewhere for direction and comfort, perhaps to peers or the media and so out of our influence.

As we approach Mother’s Day 2013 – we wish all our Mothers a very happy Mother’s Day – may you be spoilt and remembered with much love this Sunday. HAPPY MOTHERS DAY!

Peace and Best Wishes,

R. Blissenden
Richard Blissenden
Principal
Dear Parents,

This Sunday’s readings focus on the Ascension of the Lord.

We have started our united prayer with the whole church. We have been called to pray, and in every school across the Diocese of Parramatta ‘The Angelus’ is being prayed at midday. God calls us to prayer because he loves us and wants our unity with Him to grow stronger. We respond to His call to prayer because we love God. The Angelus is a simple but earnest practice of devotion that causes us to recall the gift of God’s Son. You may like to start this devotional prayer yourself at home. When you are at school and the bells ring at midday please join us in praying “The Angelus”

Our Sacramental Programme commenced last night. This meeting was well attended and packages were collected. The family groups will start meeting on the week commencing the 20th May. For any enquiries please contact either Mrs Marie Cottee at the Parish House on 47301249 or myself.

The St. Vincent de Paul Winter Appeal is one way we can reach out. Our school initiative this term is to reach out through ‘Sockeanies’ so remember to send in scarves, beanies and socks for all those who will be suffering through the winter months.

Have a lovely week
Happy Mother’s Day
Sharon Shahoud
Religious Education Coordinator

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Saint</th>
<th>Patron of …..</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>St. Matthew</td>
<td>Accountants/bankers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>St. Mark the evangelist</td>
<td>prisoners</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>St. Regina</td>
<td>poor people</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>St. Rose</td>
<td>Florists/gardeners</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>St. Olivia</td>
<td>Italy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>St. Osmund</td>
<td>against mental illness</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Spirit of WISDOM
Whom the world can never grasp,
Touch our hearts with the
Gentle strength of your ways.
Fill us with desire
For your disturbing peace
And fire us with longing
To speak your uncontaminable word
Through Jesus Christ, the Word
Who lives and reigns with you
Forever and ever.
Amen
CURRICULUM NEWS

NAPLAN 2013
Just a reminder that our Year 3 and Year 5 students will participate in NAPLAN next week. The dates and times for the tests are below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year 3</th>
<th>Tuesday 14th May</th>
<th>Language Conventions (40 mins)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Break</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 3</td>
<td>Wednesday 15th May</td>
<td>Writing (40 mins)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 3</td>
<td>Thursday 16th May</td>
<td>Numeracy (45 mins)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 5</td>
<td>Tuesday 14th May</td>
<td>Language Conventions (40 mins)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Break</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 5</td>
<td>Wednesday 15th May</td>
<td>Reading (50 mins)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 5</td>
<td>Thursday 16th May</td>
<td>Numeracy (50 mins)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

How can you as parents support your child?
- Ensure your child has a good night’s sleep.
- Give them a solid healthy breakfast – but don’t over load them.
- Provide healthy snacks and lunch on test days and plenty of water.
- Cut back on after school activities if your child is tired, but encourage fresh air and a fun play outside.

2013 ICAS (INTERNATIONAL COMPETITIONS AND ASSESSMENTS FOR SCHOOLS)
Entry forms for ICAS were sent home last week. Please ensure that the office receives entries before the closing date by 9am. Unfortunately we are unable to process late entries.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>Closing Date for Entry</th>
<th>Sitting Date</th>
<th>Cost</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Spelling</td>
<td>Friday 17th May</td>
<td>Tuesday 18th June</td>
<td>$11.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>English</td>
<td>Friday 28th June</td>
<td>Wednesday 31st July</td>
<td>$8.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mathematics</td>
<td>Friday 12th July</td>
<td>Tuesday 13th August</td>
<td>$8.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2013 CORPUS CHRISTI CHESS
Information and a draw for the 2013 Primary Competition were sent home today. We have two teams entered in the NSW Junior Chess League. The first game will be played on Friday 10th May in the school library. Both of our teams will play at home.

Corpus Christi A V Blaxland East E
Corpus Christi B V Holy Spirit St Clair C

Good luck to all players! For more information go to www.nswjcl.org.au

MOTHERS DAY STALL
Leftover gifts will be sold tomorrow Friday 10th May at the school gate.
Thank you to our stall coordinators Georgette Apap and Keri-Anne Hayes and to all of the wonderful parents who volunteered to assist on the stall: Mrs Hader, Mrs Looyschelder, Mrs Colantonio, Miss Cox, Mrs Baxter, Mrs Dengate, Mrs Monteleone, Mrs Richardson, Mrs Amituani, Mrs Tilley, Mrs Murphy and Ms Buckley. Thanks also to the parents and grandparents who donated gifts to the stall. Winners of the Mother’s Day raffle will be published in next week’s newsletter. We will also publish the amount of money that the stall raised.
TERM 2 SCHOOL FEE STATEMENTS
Term 2 school fee statements were sent to all families during the April school holidays. Term 2 fees are due Monday 3rd June 2013. Please phone the school office if you have not received your statement. Note: Fees can be paid via EFTPOS, BPAY, Postbillpay, cash, cheque or money order.

DIOCESAN CROSS COUNTRY
On Tuesday 7th May, 2013 Corpus Christi took 48 children to the Diocesan Cross Country at the Sydney Motor Sport Park. The weather remained fairly pleasant with only a few spits of rain. Our best results were from Cameron Woodhouse 12th, Megan Cooper 14th, and Luke Attard 16th. We also had many children who placed in the 30’s.

A HUGE thank you needs to go to Mr David Conroy and Mrs Chris Ryan (also known as the crazy lady on Checkpoint 1). Their help was so valuable and greatly appreciated.

Mrs Emilia Ahern

EARN AND LEARN
Please continue collecting your Woolworths stickers. Remember to place them on the cards (that you were given last week) and return them to school. These cards can then be placed in the box located near the gate in the morning or drop them into the box in Year 6. If you find you need another card then there are spares located in the office or you can download it off the website.

Our goal is to collect 40000 stickers this year. We are planning to purchase Mathematics equipment this year. Please help us reach this target.

Mrs Emilia Ahern

WE’VE GOT YOU COVERED.
A big THANK YOU to all the wonderful helpers who have been hard at work covering books for our library. Your help allows us to put the books into circulation quickly for the students and teachers to use.

THANK YOU
From the Library

PREMIER’S READING CHALLENGE.
Although the PRC does not finish until 31st August, the following students have already completed the PRC for this year. Congratulations to the following students.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Class</th>
<th>Completed</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Joshua King</td>
<td>K</td>
<td>yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rachel Fiutowski</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hansen Zachary</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>yes</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

KINDERGARTEN ENROLMENTS
Enrolments are now open for Kindergarten 2014. If you have a child who will turn 5 before the 31st July, 2014 you are welcome to apply for enrolment and collect an enrolment package from the School Office. If you know of families in the area looking for a quality Catholic Education for their child – please let them know that we are currently accepting enrolments.

Please do not delay in contacting the office if you have a sibling starting school next year as we have had many enquiries regarding enrolment in 2014 and it would be a shame to miss out on a place – call today!!

Mrs Emilia Ahern
PEER SUPPORT:
PROMOTING HARMONY
Week 2

During Peer Support next week, the children will look at the notion that what they choose to spend their time on often reflects the values they have. The activities will also assist them in identifying ways they care for themselves and others, developing their understanding that you are caring when you notice the feelings and needs of yourself and others.

During the week encourage your child to demonstrate they are caring by doing something helpful or displaying kindness around the home.

Thank you,
Mrs Emilia Ahern, Mr Michael Manton, Mrs Rebecca Talbot and Mr Tony Weber.

OUR AWARDS SYSTEM
During Term 2 Children will be able to get their awards stamped on the following Fridays:
(8.30am – 8.55am)
Week 2 10th May
Week 4 24th May
Week 6 7th June
Week 8 21st June

CCSP/PRC PARENT CONFERENCE
There is still time to register for the iConnect Conference on the weekend of the 25th and 26th May co-hosted by the Parents Representative Council and the Council of Catholic School Parents. Follow the fun on Twitter at #iconnect13. For more info visit the website www.ccsp.catholic.edu.au or email linda.moneil@ccsp.catholic.edu.au or phone on 0410 512 070. Places are filling fast so get your registration in before 10th May to guarantee your spot!

We currently have one parent attending therefore we are still able to fund one more parent to attend. Contact Mr Blissenden or the school office urgently if you would like to attend.

SCHOOL BANKING - FRIDAYS
Win a share of the Dollarmites’ treasure by saving in Term 2 of School Banking.
The Dollarmites have found some amazing treasure on Savings Adventure Island and both your child and school could win a share of it in Term 2 just by saving. First prize is a $5,000 family adventure holiday to anywhere in Australia, with $500 spending money. Plus, the winning student’s school will also receive $5,000 to spend as they wish. What’s more, there are 25 Runners-up Kid’s Adventure Packs, worth over $700 each, to be won. Each adventure pack includes a Wii U, night vision goggles, a waterproof camera, walkie talkies and a Razor eSpark electric scooter!

For you chance to win, students need to simply make three or more School Banking deposits during Term 2. To find out more, talk to your School Banking Co-ordinator or visit commbank.com.au/adventureisland
### What’s on and When

#### Term 2 MAY

| Week 2 | 10th  | Friday | Chess – begins  
|        |       |        | Remaining Mother’s Day Gifts - will be available to purchase 8.30 – 8.55am  
|        |       |        | Award Stamping 8.30- 8.55am  
| Week 3 | 14th  | Tuesday | NAPLAN – Yrs 3 & 5  
|        | 15th  | Wednesday | NAPLAN – Yrs 3 & 5  
|        | 16th  | Thursday | NAPLAN – Yrs 3 & 5  
| Week 4 | 24th  | Friday | Award Stamping 8.30- 8.55am  
|        |       |        | Walk to school - Breakfast  
| Week 5 | 27th  | Monday | PRG Meeting  
|        | 31st  | Friday | Year 2 - Zoo excursion  

### “DOING THEIR BEST” Merit Awards

Cooper Humphreys        Jacob Kovacs  
Nikola Klinic                Douglas McAlpine  
Riley Fahey                  Jack Attard  
Shanlee Dale                  Liam Wood O’Neill  
Joshua Debritt                Michael Awkar  
Joshua Woodward               Matthew Vassallo  
Danielle Freeman              Montana Fink  
Ashleigh Baker                Matthew Davies  
Maegan O’Connor                Hayley Crane  
Isabella Squassoni            Isabella Lauer  
Damien Sullivan  

### UNIFORM SHOP

- **Wednesdays**
  - 8.30am – 9.30am  
  - 2.30pm – 3.30pm  

### SCHOOL SOCKS – UNIFORM POLICY

- **Girls** – White turndown ankle socks  
- **Boys*** – Grey (with green and white stripe)  
- **Sports*** – white with green and yellow strip and school logo  

**Low- cut socks are not to be worn at any time.**

* only available from the school uniform shop

### BOOKCLUB

Bookclub orders are due Tuesday 14th may.

### PLAYGROUND AWARD

Lindsay Chong KE

### CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to 5B who had nil partial absences for Week 1 Term 2. Well done

### NOTES SENT HOME RECENTLY:

- Year 2 Excursion

### Week 3 - GENERAL INFORMATION AND REMINDERS

- School Assembly - Tuesday 2.20pm  
- Yr 6 Mary Mackillop Excursion – Tuesday  
- Naplan Yrs 3 & 5 Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday
ATTENDANCE AWARDS TERM 1
At assembly this week we handed out certificates to students who attended school every day, all day in term 1. Please remember that the children are required to be at school every school day unless they are sick. Congratulations to the following students who received a certificate.

KB
Kaitlyn Grima
Emilia Kovacs

KE
Lindsay Chong
Victoria Grew
Joshua Montgomery
Corby Ryan
Piper Smith
Sophie Vella
Christopher Xiberras

KG
Cooper Mosdall
Elise Proctor
Lachlan Pryke
Jasmine Slack
Sandra Stojanovic

1B
Imogen Buttigieg
Olivia Axisa
Jack Edwards
Nate Galea
Douglas McAlpine
Owen Pickering
Richard Rodelas
Kayla Woodward

1E
Cohen Bellingham
Tahlia Cremen
Codie Davidson
Haylee Debono
Mikayla Morgan

1G
Lucas Galea
Katiya Knoester
Ava Markas
Ryan Yates

2B
Charlie Klemesrud
Jack Melito
Jemma Papworth
Cassandra Sanchez
Tara Tjahjadi
Kyle Urban
Ashley Vella

2E
Lucas Barglik
Grace Clarke
Samara Hurst
Sarah Slack
Alex Vella

2G
Ely Rojas

3B
Jorja Amore
Monique Granada
Lily Currell
Thomas Deery
Jessica Holt
Jacob Kraus
Jade Papworth
Jack Shannon

3E
Jessica Buzzi
Jonathon Cole
Britney Ginn
Nicholas Killey
Ella Rodelas
Bailie Rosa
Joshua Woodward

3G
Sophie Fernandez
Adam O’Connor
Emily Palamara
Danielle Yates

4B
Olivia Camilleri
Aidan Chong
Rachel Fiutowski
Courtney Heywood
Joshua Morgan
Christine Muscat
Braedyn Urban
Jessica Yates

4E
Giorgia Apap
Dylan Baxter
Cohen Bloxsome
Gaia Fahed
Hannah Fitzpatrick
Alexis McAlpine
Aiden Xiberras

4G
Matthew Bonnice
Benito Budianto
Anna Godsmark
Broanna Grosso
Catherine Kearns
Jasmine Woolford

5B
Joshua Grima
Rebecca Hocking
Neelima Menakath
Alicia Pianta

5E
Hayden Adams
Madeline Barglik
Jacob Bulluss
Audree Campbell
Tianah DeBono
Maegan O’Connor
Claire Palamara
Jasmin Papworth

5G
Megan Cooper
Blake Ginn
Alexandra Hurst
Brendan Kearns
Olivia Palamara
Deakin Rizzo
Trent Whitbread

6B
Madeline Apap
Lachlan Rizzo
Isabella Squassoni

6E
Sarah Bonnici
Christian Granada
Kyle Heywood
Abigail Howse
Nathan Martin
Daniel McNaught
Lauren Penza
Your school was nominated in 2012 to participate in the Post Occupancy Evaluation Program being undertaken by CEFPI (Council of Educational Facility Planners International). The Post Occupancy Evaluation is carried out to assess how successfully new and refurbished school facilities meet the demands placed upon them by their users, and that the facilities provide an environment that is conducive to teaching and learning.

CEFPI is a worldwide organisation incorporating a community of professionals who are working together, sharing knowledge, experiences and best practices in planning, designing and building great learning environments.

The recent Building the Education Revolution Primary Schools for the 21st Century (P21) and Science and Language Centres (SLC) programs provide a fantastic opportunity for CEFPI to harness the range of innovation and trends in school design that were delivered through this program. This $15 billion program for Australia provided improved educational facilities at 8,457 schools covering all education sectors, metropolitan, rural and remote locations and project budgets commencing at $250,000 to $3 million plus.

Your participation in this Post Occupancy Evaluation survey is very much appreciated and the information gathered from your feedback will provide a further perspective and dimension on 21st Century learning requirements.

To maximise the potential of the survey it is desirable that a high response rate from each school is achieved. Participation is encouraged from all sectors of your school community; school staff and executive, students and community members.

The Post Occupancy Evaluation Survey is conducted through ‘survey monkey’ and requires 20 – 30 minutes to complete.

If you require information or advice about the survey or the process itself, please contact Helen Murray by email on admin@cefpi.org.au. To assist with the compilation of the Post Occupancy Report, please respond to the survey by 31 May 2013.

I would like to thank the staff and school community for co-operating in this most important aspect of our research and your assistance is greatly appreciated.

Cecilia Wilson - Chair, CEFPI Research Sub Committee

WHAT DOES THE NSW SCHOOL FUNDING AGREEMENT MEAN?

New South Wales is the first state to sign on to the Australian Government’s Better Schools plan, agreeing to invest $5.6 billion in education over six years from 2016 and commit to a three percent increase in school spending over the period.

What we know so far

- Both the state and federal governments will contribute funding to the new model
- For every extra dollar the NSW state government invests in schools, the Australian government will effectively invest two dollars
- Funding to Catholic schools for 2014 and 2015 will remain frozen at 2013 levels
- Catholic schools operate on average at only 90% of the total government expenditure

As at 7 May, no other states or territories have agreed to the Australian Government’s Better Schools plan and it remains to be seen what will come of the agreement. Federal Opposition Leader, Tony Abbott, has stated that the Coalition will only support the plan if all Australian states and territories are on board. The Federal Government has until 30 June to secure the agreements.

What we still don’t know

For Catholic schools in New South Wales, there is still uncertainty around the exact details of the school funding model including:

- What the exact amount of the allocation will be to Catholic schools from the Federal government using the new funding formula
- The precise impact the NSW state government funding freeze will have on Catholic schools during 2014 and 2015 until the new agreement commences in 2016
- The impact on the NSW agreement and funding levels if/when other states and territories sign up with differing agreements

Ensuring that the current 10% resource gap between government schools and Catholic schools does not widen further and that accurate levels of funding for Catholic schools will be provided in the coming years.

We urge you to continue to speak with your local state and federal members about the need for ongoing and increased funding to Catholic schools. More information can be found at www.parra.catholic.edu.au/schoolfunding
WE'RE TAKING IT IN OUR STRIDE ON FRIDAY, 24 MAY 2013

Well it’s that time of year again when our school seriously starts talking about walking!

Walk Safely to School Day asks that we all consider our transport habits and try to incorporate more walking as part of a healthy, active way to get around. And although walking all the way to school isn’t realistic for many of us, it’s quite easy to figure out how you can build a walk into your family’s daily routine.

You can teach your child the healthy habit of walking more by:
- Walking with them the whole way to school
- If they get the bus or train, walk past your usual stop and get on at the next stop
- If you have to drive, park the car a few blocks away from the school and walk the rest of the way.

Regular exercise like walking with your child not only helps them (and you!) beat chronic problems like obesity, heart disease, behavioural and mental health issues and diabetes. It also gives you a great opportunity to teach your child safe ways to behave around roads and traffic.

As part of this event we will be handing out stickers and certificates to those children who walk to school. We will also be hosting a breakfast on this day outside the hall. So please take some extra time to walk to school and come and share some toast with your child/children and rehydrate with some water.

Remember, Active Kids are Healthy Kids so get planning your own Walk Safely to School Day journey for Friday 24 May 2013!

For more information, visit www.walk.com.au

Thanking you for your support
Mrs Emilia Ahern