

NEWSLETTER



9th November 2015 Term 4 Week 6

St Canice's Catholic Primary

Email: stcanices@parra.catholic.edu.au

Website: stcaniceskatoomba.catholic.edu.au

Facebook: St Canice's School Katoomba

158 Katoomba Street (PO Box 200) Katoomba NSW 2780



St Canice's Catholic Primary School
Katoomba 2014

Growth through love and learning

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Dear Parents and Carers

As I sat and listened to the readings in yesterday's mass, the themes of generosity, encouragement and love jumped out at me. The widow in Mark's Gospel (Mk 12:38-44) "from the little she had, put in everything she possessed", did everything that Jesus Himself had done – gave of herself. We are asked to do the same. To be there for others, to share our gifts and talents with others. This not only brings great joy to them, but makes us feel complete as well. As Thomas Dooley (American Poet) once wrote: "Dedicate some of your life to others. Your dedication will not be a sacrifice. It will be an exhilarating experience." Sometimes it's a good idea to take stock of those people in our lives who are gifts to us. Gifts often come to us in subtle ways and we need to practice reflection and discernment to see them happening. Thinking of this, I am reminded of an experience that helped shape who I am today and the way I try to live each day.

My mum had the director of the Dutch Retirement Village come to visit her, as he did with all the residents who were dying. He didn't really know my mum that well, nor had he had any deep conversations with her previously, but this visit, he said was one he would never forget.

He rang me after his visit and proceeded to tell me the following:

He had stopped in to visit mum on his way home and said he had felt quite uncomfortable and nervous about the visit, not really knowing what to say or do. As he talked to mum, he said he began to feel a deep sense of calm and gratitude. He felt that Mum, although dying and in a lot of pain, had welcomed him with open arms with her positivity and encouragement whilst maintaining her sense of humour. He remembered that, although Mum had little energy left, she had asked about the wellbeing of others and that she had made him feel at ease and special. He relayed that he had never experienced this feeling before when he had been on a visit and that mum had given him something far greater than he given her by his visit. She had inspired him with her words and actions, and he left mum that day feeling a better person himself.

I guess what I want to say is, that we don't know how the little, subtle things we do in our lives make a difference to those we meet. But I know that the qualities that come from the heart and when given away freely can make an extraordinary difference to other people's lives – and our own!

Mrs Christine vanderWalle
Assistant Principal

St Mary of the Cross MacKillop Parish
Parish Priest Fr. Ted Tyler

Presbytery Contact Ph: 02 4782 2804

Fax: 02 4782 6090

Website: marymackilloppupperbluemountains.org.au

Mass Times

Friday: Katoomba 12 noon Mass

Saturday: Katoomba 9.30 am Mass Saturday Vigil: Leura 5pm Mass

Sunday: Wentworth Falls 8am Katoomba 10am Leura 5pm

Rosary: Monday Katoomba 8.30 am, Tuesday Leura 4.45pm,
Wednesday Wentworth Falls 9.30 am, Friday Katoomba 11.30 am.

Saturday Katoomba 9 am.

Enrolling Now for 2016

Coo-ee March

On Friday 6th November the Stage 3 contingent joined a troop of marchers who had marched from Gilgandra to honour all those who marched 100 years ago in the Coo-ee March. Here are a few comments from some of our marchers.

Holly Dirs:

It was good to remember what the soldiers did back then. For me it was special, one of a kind, because my grandpa's family has a lot of history in the war. I knew a lot of people that were at the RSL, because Grandpa was once the President of the RSL.

Oliver Burke:

Lots of people were walking to Sydney from Gilgandra, so we joined them at the top of Katoomba Street and walked all the way down to Katoomba RSL. We did this to remember the march they did 100 years ago to call soldiers to fight for their country.

Mia Garraway

It made me feel proud and it was quite amazing that all these people had volunteered to do this walk.

Heidi Rennert-Chambers:

It was pretty emotional and it felt amazing to walk with those people who had already walked over 500 kilometres. It was amazing to meet them.



String Ensemble

On Tuesday 3rd November 10 students from St Canice's String Ensemble travelled down with their parents and carers to perform in front of an audience of around 200 people at St Mary MacKillop, South Penrith. This is what some of our performers said:

Kayla Sayers:

I was really excited and nervous at the same time. It ended really well, because it was over and we didn't have to be as nervous anymore. We played 4 songs which was more than anyone else.

Alex Campbell:

I was really quite nervous because of the big crowd, but it was fun.

Book Club

Book Club pamphlets were sent home last week. Orders are due by this Friday 13th November. A reminder that Book Club is now cashless.

St. Canice's Fancy Dress Christmas Disco!

It's that time of the year again – St. Canice's Christmas Disco! This will be held at St. Canice's Hall on Friday 11th December, 6pm-8pm. Ticket prices, order form and further information can be found in the flier below. The disco committee would like to clarify that tickets will NOT be sent home to children, but that their orders will now be recorded against a register that will be checked off at the event. Tickets for meal packs ONLY will be given to people on the night that can be redeemed at the canteen. Orders must be received by Friday 4th December. Place your orders now to avoid disappointment!

Notice Period for Leaving Students

In line with the Catholic Education Office Policy a terms notice (10 school weeks) in writing must be given to the principal before the removal of a student or a full term's fees will be payable. One exception is that notice in writing will be accepted at any time during Term 4 in relation to the following year's enrolment, that is, the notice period of 10 school weeks will be waived. Special circumstances include moving due to employment transfer or sale of house.

School Leadership 2016

The applications for School Leadership roles are available from the Office from today

Monday 2nd November (Week 5)

and will close Friday 20th November (Week 7).

The speeches for School Leaders will be on Wednesday 25th November in the Open Area at 11:30am.

Years 3-6 will be attending. All parents are welcome.

Needed Small Jars

Sr Colleen is asking for small jars for her Christmas Stall. Small jars like Vegemite and Infant jars are required. Please leave your donations at the Office.



Cake Stall

This week, Thursday 12th November at recess, Stage 3 are hosting a cake stall to help raise money for Miss Bennett when she attends the World Youth Day 2016 as a pilgrim.

There will be cakes, popcorn, jelly cups and more. Items will range from 50c to \$2

There will also be a guessing competition running during the week. Guesses will be 20c for infants and 50c for Primary.



KOOSH

KOOSH have advised that they will be open on Thursday 17th and Friday 18th December and also Wednesday 27th January. These dates are scheduled Staff Development Days. Please contact KOOSH to make arrangements.

Monthly Family Mass

St Canice's Church are organising a Family Mass on Sunday 13th December at 10 am. All families are welcome to attend this special celebration. Each month there will be a special family blessing followed by a sausage sizzle or morning tea.



Head Lice

We have had a number of reports of Head Lice in the school. We ask that you check your children for signs of infestation and if nits or lice are found that you treat them before the children return to school. There are numerous treatments available and your pharmacist will be able to assist you with any questions.

Library Stocktake

We will be stocktaking our library and school resources. If you have any of our books at home please send them in as soon as possible. How do I know they belong to St Canice's Primary School?



There is a barcode on the front of each book or inside on the title pages (older books) Not sure? Send them in and we will check them. Don't forget the little Home Readers. They cost us \$12 each, and yes they do become a bit tattered going home in school bags, but we still need them returned to continue our excellent Reading Program. Borrowing will stop for the year this week, which gives us time to chase up any outstanding books.

With thanks
Mary Hartnett Librarian

Skool Bag Absentee

If your child is absent from school you can access the Skool Bag Absentee notice and submit online.

Late Arrivals

Children arriving after the school bell need to be escorted by a parent or carer to the front Office to sign in. This is a child protection issue as we need to be sure that parents are aware of where their children are at all times. Children may arrive at school from 8.20am when staff are on duty. When a child arrives late they cause disruption to the whole class, they miss assembly and morning instructions but more importantly they miss part of their first lesson which in most cases is Literacy. Punctuality is a valuable life skill, please discuss and encourage this with your children.

Afternoon Dismissal

If your child is being picked up from school by another parent, friend or relative, a written note must be submitted to the Office prior to the date.

Gold Awards

Congratulations to the following students who received their Gold Award at assembly last Friday.

Taylor Nicholson, Trevor Clines,
Olivia Mezei, Joseph Zammit, Lulu Rose,
Liberty Marshall-Lacey, Bethany Field,
Leo Curry, Alexia Charley, Billy Zammit,
Miriam Bevan, Campbell Walker-Sawkins,
Tallulah Andrews-Woods, Claudia Dee,
Isabella Crye and
Kaitlyn Barker-Swan

Photos on next page



Gold Awards



Fancy Dress Christmas Disco

The *Serious* stuff

- Friday the 11th December, 6pm - 8pm. St Canice's Hall.
- This event is for **St Canice's students only. Siblings welcome.**
- Parents/carers **must stay and supervise their children.**
- Disco entry for parents/carers and children under 5yrs **FREE.**

The *fun* stuff - ticket type

1. **Combo deal \$13** - Includes disco entry, loot-bag and meal pack
2. **Disco entry only \$5** - DJ, awesome music, strobe-lights and smoke-machine
3. **Disco loot-bags \$5** - These bags of fun will last well into the holidays! Contains squishy LED Minion, Flashing LED baton, LED balloon, glow-sticks and lollies
4. **Meal packs \$5** - Packs come with a hotdog, drink and a treat

NOTE: Loot-bags are limited. To guarantee yours, please pre-purchase using the order form overleaf.

Remember siblings when ordering your tickets and meal packs for parent's/carers! Don't miss out!

Lucky-dips, popcorn, glow-in the dark face-painting, cup-cakes and limited glow-in-the-dark merchandise will be available to purchase on the night. Santa will also be visiting plus prizes for the best fancy dress costume will also be part of the festivities!

Children are encouraged to bring an UNWRAPPED gift for Santa to give to those less fortunate (to be donated to Vinnie's by the school).

This event is being organised and run by St Canice's Parent Body Committee. It has the support and endorsement of St Canice's Principal, Mr Mark Geerlgs.

LUCKY DIPS!

**FANCY DRESS
COSTUME PRIZES!**

FACE PAINTING!

**GLOW-IN-THE-DARK
FUN!**

COOL LOOT BAGS!

Cash only please!

The CORRECT TICKET MONEY MUST be enclosed in an envelope with your child's name and class on the front and securely attached to this form.

Orders must be returned to school by FRIDAY 4TH DECEMBER.

Orders after this time cannot be guaranteed.

Can you help?

To make this a fun and safe night for our kids we need volunteers to help now for various tasks; beforehand to decorate the hall and a few on the night itself. If you can help please add your name and number: _____

Tel: _____

Please tick availability:

- I can help **now** with various small tasks.....
- I am available mid-afternoon only to help set-up the hall.....
- I am available from mid-afternoon for set-up and at the disco.....
- I am available during the disco only.....
- I am available after the disco for a short while to assist with clean-up.....

I would like to order:

Type	Description	Quantity	Sub-total
1	Combo deal \$13 each - one disco entry, loot-bag and meal pack		
2	Disco entry only - \$5 each		
3	Disco loot-bag - \$5 each		
4	Meal pack - \$5 each		
Exact total paid in CASH			

In the space below, please identify one child from your family whom you would like your order registered next to. Tickets for meal packs only, will be given on the night to be redeemed at the canteen.

Child's name	Child's class

I have enclosed the EXACT 'TICKET' MONEY which is attached to this form.

Transport for NSW

Fact sheet: The School Opal card

Who's eligible?

To be eligible for a School Opal card, students need to be NSW residents and may need to live a minimum distance away from their school:

- Years K-2 (Infants) there's no minimum distance.
- Years 3-6 (Primary) 1.6km straight line distance or 2.3km walking or further.
- Years 7-12 (Secondary) 2.0km straight line distance or 2.9km walking or further.

Students completing secondary studies at TAFE, boarding school students and students temporarily in Australia may also be eligible for a School Opal card. The eligibility criteria for these students is available at transportnsw.info/school-students.

A School Opal card is provided to eligible students who need to travel within the Opal network. Paper travel passes are issued to eligible students who need to travel outside the Opal network.

Who needs to apply?

Most students or parents won't need to apply for the School Opal card. The School Opal card will be sent to a student's school automatically at the beginning of the new school year in 2016. However, a new application is required if:

- The student is just starting school or has not had a pass for travel before.
- The student is progressing from Year 2 to 3, or Year 6 to 7.
- The student is changing schools, including going between primary and secondary school.
- The student's personal details have changed (e.g. address).

Applications must be made by a parent or guardian for children aged 15 years and under. Applications must be made by the student if aged 16 years or older.

How to apply

Step 1 Complete the application at transportnsw.info/school-students.

Step 2 Print, sign and submit the form to the school for endorsement.

Step 3 The school will then forward the application to Transport for NSW for processing. Once approved, Transport for NSW sends the School Opal card to the home address given in the application.

The application may take several weeks and the applicant's email address is required.

If the student doesn't qualify for free travel

They may be eligible for a Term Bus Pass which offers travel on buses between home and school at a discounted rate for the whole school term.

Apply at transportnsw.info/school-students.

Find out more

For more information on the School Opal card and the School Student Travel Scheme (SSTS), please visit transportnsw.info/school-students.

The simplest way

...to make tabbouleh.

Ingredients

- 1 cup cracked wheat (bulgar)
- 2 large ripe tomatoes, diced
- 1 small cucumber, diced
- 3 spring onions, finely sliced
- 1 bunch parsley, chopped
- 1 bunch mint, chopped
- 2 tbsp lemon juice
- 1 tbsp olive oil



Method

Cover the cracked wheat with water and soak for 15 minutes || Mix with remaining ingredients and serve chilled || Makes a great addition to your kids' lunch box – add to sandwiches/wraps or send in a small container.

Tips

*For best results, use flat leaf parsley when available.
For a more substantial meal: add 425g can drained chickpeas; or serve with grilled fish or meat and flatbread.*

For more information visit www.eatittobeatit.com.au
or join us at facebook.com/eatittobeatit

The *Eat It To Beat It* program is supported by the Nepean Blue Mountains Local Health District Live Life Well @ School Program.



Expand your imagination
by reading this summer and
you could **win** an **iPad mini**

Read as many books as you can, tell us why you love them, and
you could win one of four iPad minis.
The more books you read, the more chances
you have to win*.

Enter online at www.parra.catholic.edu.au
Entries close 5 February 2016.

Executive Director's Summer Reading Challenge



@CatholicEdParra

catholicedparra



Catholic Education
Diocese of Parramatta

*Terms and Conditions apply



School Calendar

November

Week 6

Tuesday	10th	Craft with Sr Colleen Student Banking Gymnastics	
Wednesday	11th	Uniform Shop Open	
Thursday	12th	Choir Cake Stall First Reconciliation 4th Session	10.40am 6.15pm
Friday	13th	My School Lunch Box Prayer Assembly Yr 4 Mass Year 4 CSE	8.45am 12noon 3pm

Week 7

Monday	16th	Tai Chi My School Lunch Box	
Tuesday	17th	Craft with Sr Colleen Student Banking Gymnastics	
Wednesday	18th	Uniform Shop Open	
Thursday	19th	Ukulele	
Friday	20th	My School Lunch Box Prayer Assembly Yr 2 Mass Year 2 CSE	8.45am 12noon 3pm

World Youth Day

Have you returned your
sold or unsold
Raffle
Tickets
to School?



Student Banking

Congratulations to the following students who have recently received certificates

Silver

Arren Shaw, Liberty Marshall-Lacey,
Emilio Micallef, Oliver Studdert,
William Moseley, Talish Sharma

Gold

Ashlee Hong

Outstanding

Maddison Mezei, Trevor Clines,
Hugh McNair, Matthew Preen,
Taylor Nicholson, Jack Moseley,
Owen MacNamara, Lila Manning

