

NEWSLETTER



4th December 2017 Term 4 Week 9

St Canice's Catholic Primary

Phone: 4780 6800

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Facebook: St Canice's School Katoomba



St Canice's Catholic Primary School
Katoomba 2017

Growth through love and learning

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Dear Parents and Carers

Last Sunday was the First Sunday of Advent. The Gospel reading was from Mark 13:33-37. We were challenged to Stay Awake. We were challenged to notice what is around us and appreciate what we have. Jesus is with us everywhere and if we lose sight of that we might miss those wonderful opportunities to experience the Grace of God.

On Sunday 26th November we farewelled Sr Colleen and the Sisters of Charity. A great quote from an unknown source says: **"If you want to touch the past, touch a rock. If you want to touch the present, touch a flower. If you want to touch the future, touch a life."** The presence of Sr Colleen and the Sisters of Charity for the past 116 years has touched the future of our school and our lives.

Sr Colleen, thank you again for what you have done for St Canice's.

To the Sisters of Charity, thank you for choosing Katoomba as a place to begin your mission of caring for the poor and thank you for entrusting the future of St Canice's into our hands.

Each of our lives have been 'moved' by Sr Colleen and the Sisters of Charity. Our future will be richer for that connection.

May we stay awake continually and appreciate the gifts that are around us so that our future will be richer and fuller.

As this is the last newsletter for 2017, I would like to thank you for your support of this wonderful school. We have achieved many great things here at St Canice's and look forward to a productive 2018.

2017 school year finishes on Friday 15 December.

2018 will start on Tuesday 30th January (Years 2, Stage 2 and Stage 3).
Thursday 1st February the new Kinders and Year 1 will begin full time.

Have a wonderful Christmas and holiday time.

Mr Mark Geerligs
Principal



St Mary of the Cross MacKillop Parish
Father Eugene Szondie

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 2018

News from the Principal

Staff changes for 2018

Since the last newsletter, there have been a few changes to our staffing in 2018.

Firstly, Sue Stansfield has decided to retire from teaching. Sue has taught here and at OLN Lawson for the past 27 years. She has been a great asset to St Canice's. We will be saying farewell to Sue early next year. I am pleased to announce that Ms Honeyman will now be a permanent full time learning support teacher at St Canice's.

Miss Bennett will be moving schools. She has been successful in gaining a leadership position at another school down on the plains. Miss Bennett has been here at St Canice's as a teacher for 6 years. She will be greatly missed at St Canice's. We would like to say thank you to her for the amazing work she has done.

Ms Magann has decided to not continue her senior leadership role of Religious Education Co-ordinator (REC). Ms Magann has contributed so much to the spiritual life of St Canice's and we are blessed that she will remain here as a classroom teacher.

Therefore the classes for 2018 will now be:

Kindergarten:	Ms Clarke
Year One:	Mrs van der Walle
Year Two:	Mrs Byrnes
Stage Two:	Ms Krawczyk REC (To be announced soon)
Stage Three:	Mr White (AP) Ms Magann

Student Leader

Last week all of Stage 2 and Stage 3 listened to 12 potential leaders from Year 5 give their speeches. The quality of what these students said was amazing. The passion, respect and commitment to this small little school in Katoomba, was very humbling. It is with great pleasure that I announce the following students will be the new leadership team for 2018:

Kayla Sayers
Kaitlyn Barker-Swan
Julian Brischetto
Bodhi Miller

Christmas Stall

The St Canice's Annual Christmas Stall will be held tomorrow, **Tuesday 5th of December.**

The stall will begin before School at 8:15am. Prices for gifts available range from 50c—\$5.

Thank you to Sr Colleen and her volunteers who organise and run the stall.



A message from Fr Eugene

Advent

"Advent" literally means "coming". It is the season of the Church when we celebrate the "coming of Jesus". His first coming was when he was born in Bethlehem. His coming now at Christmas by his grace. We commemorate his birth, not just as a memorial, but the blessings of his birth are received for us through the word of God and sacraments, especially Holy Mass.

His final coming at the end of the time when he comes in glory. Let us prepare well for his coming by prayer and amending our lives.



Start Smart Program

On Monday 20th of November St Canice's

students participated in the Start Smart Financial Literacies Workshop. Start Smart was an interactive engaging and fun workshop that helps children learn and make smart decisions when it comes to managing money. Our school has proudly joined the Commonwealth Bank's Start Smart Program in its mission to improve the financial literacy of Australia's young people. Overall the programme prove to be a highly beneficial experience for students and was thoroughly enjoyed by all. For more information on the program and its workshops, we encourage you to visit www.startsmart.com.au



Year 6 Graduation

The Year 6 Graduation will be held next Thursday 14th of December. The evening will begin with a celebration mass at 5:30pm in our Parish Church. There will then be a presentation in the hall. Return slips are due Thursday the 7th of December.



Carols at Bodington Nursing Home

Stage 3 will be singing Christmas Carols at Bodington Nursing Home in Wentworth Falls on Wednesday 6th of December.

Return slips are due today Monday 4th of December.



Birthday Wishes for December

Brian Nguyen, Eli Lynn, Patrick Rasho, Lachlan Harris, Leanna White, Sonja Naess, Beau Hoang, Taylor Nicholson, Isabella Preston, Jordan Sok, Lulu Rose, Javier Diaz, Kobi Altavilla, Amelia Palmer, Jayden Crye, Lucy Hargraves



Online Uniform Ordering Information

Abel Schoolwear are the Uniform providers for St Canice's Primary. Uniforms may be purchased at any time throughout the year by visiting their secure web-store as set out below

1. Go to www.abelschoolwearshop.com
2. Select "Shop" from the menu page
3. Select St Canice's Primary School
4. Start shopping.

Goods will be delivered directly to home for a small delivery fee.

Abel Schoolwear will be closed for the Christmas Holidays from
Saturday 18th of December and will re-open
Monday 8th of January 2018.

Orders may be placed during this period but will not be processed until 8th of January

You may visit the shop to try-on items at Unit, 5 Coombes Dr, Penrith or at school by appointment.

Phone 4731 2388
Fax 02 4731 2263
PO Box 1920 Penrith
NSW 2750

St Canice's Swimming Carnival

Our School Swimming Carnival will be on Wednesday the 7th February (second week back) at Katoomba Sports and Aquatic Centre.

The carnival will take place after school at 3:30pm. To be able to participate your child must be turning 8 or older in 2018. Parents must stay to supervise their child for the entire carnival. Permission slips are due Wednesday 13th of December.



Dates to Remember

The St Canice's **Year 6 Graduation** will be held Thursday 14th December 5:30pm—7:30pm

The **End of year Mass**, for the whole School will be held on Friday 15th December 12pm—1pm

The **last day of the School** year for Children is Friday 15th of December

First day for Year 2 – Year 6

Tuesday 30th January

First day for Kindy and Year 1

Thursday 1st of February

Final Gold Awards

Our final Gold Award assembly will be Friday 8th December Week 9 Term 4. Please submit your Silver awards before Monday 4th December to receive your Gold Award at the last Gold Awards assembly for 2017.



Overdue Library Books

Students are reminded that any books overdue are to be returned to the Library soon. Could Year 6 students please ensure all your books are returned as the system is connected with St Columba's and if you have any overdue books, they will carry on to Year 7.



School Uniform

We ask that all uniforms be clearly labelled with your child's name. Sadly many items go missing and end up in lost property. We also ask that parents check items at home and if you are in the possession of another child's uniform, can you please return to school so the items can go home to the correct child.

St Canice's Ensemble Group

This Friday 8th December will be the last Ensemble Group for 2017. Thank you to all students who have been a part of this group. Keep practicing during the holidays.

St Canice's New Phone Number

St Canice's Primary School has a new digital phone number
The number **4780 6800**, is now replacing 4782 1260.



A redirection will be in place for 12 months to allow time for our community to update and familiarise.

Music Concert



Come to the 2017 St Canice's end of year music extravaganza!

Every student will perform for your entertainment.

Singing, Moving, Strings Classes, Original Pieces and Old Favourites.

Its going to be an awesome show!

Cant wait to see you there.

When: Thursday 7th of December

Where: St Canice's Hall

Time: 9am

Kindergarten Nativity Play.

Parents are invited to watch our Kindergarten children re enacting the first Christmas in the open area after recess on Wednesday 13th of December 11:30am—12pm.

Blackheath Carols Sunday 10th December

All St Canice's students are invited to perform with Ms Frazer at the 2017 Blackheath Carols. We'd love a big group on stage, so please come along dressed in your fanciest Christmas Attire.

It's a great community event. There'll be lots of activities in the park from 3:30pm including performances, craft and face painting, and of course, Carols in the Hall, and a surprise appearance from Santa!

When: Sunday 10th December

Where: Blackheath Community Hall (Cnr Gardiner Cres & GWH Blackheath)

Time: 4:45pm (meet Ms Frazer on the steps outside the hall, parkside) for the stage rehearsal, ready for a 6pm show.

The carols will end approximately 7:30pm.

Please dress in festive attire.
Thanks, Ms Frazer.



St Vincent de Paul Donations

The donations from St Canice's to St Vincent de Paul this year has been amazing. Two car loads of toys and food were delivered to Vinnies early this morning. Maurie was overwhelmed by the generosity of the students from this school. "Every item donated by St Canice's is used here exclusively in Katoomba", said Maurie. "Unfortunately there are alot of people in need this year", added Maurie.



Welcome Lunch for Syrian Refugees

More than 120 Syrian refugees will be settled in the Blue Mountains in the coming months, further diversifying our already wonderful communities. As a way of welcoming these new neighbours to our towns, Bankstown Anglican Church has organised a day trip to Scenic World followed by a welcome lunch next Thursday 7th December. The lunch will be a fantastic opportunity to chat and support our new friends, who have already been through such traumatic times, in settling into their new home. It would be great for as many community members as possible to attend. The lunch is to be held at a church hall (most likely St Hilda's on Katoomba Street). If you can spare some time around 12 o'clock next Thursday 7th, would be keen to help with lunch preparation beforehand at the hall, or could would be happy to donate a cake or slice toward the lunch, it would be greatly appreciated

Any questions or queries,
please contact Monique McCloghry-Laing on

0418 141 982



Thank you and Farewell Celebrations for Sr Colleen



Child Safety Handbook

NSW Police Legacy [Child Safety Handbook](#) is now available in digital form. The Handbook provides advice to assist children, parents and teachers on a range of areas related to child safety, including cybersafety, bullying and crossing roads safely. Over the past five years, many NSW primary schools have received hard copies of the NSW Police Legacy Child Safety Handbook for distribution to their families. Now schools are encouraged to assist in the promotion of this resource to all families. Attached is an article that can be included in your school newsletter or other communications with parents, carers or the broader community. The direct link to the resource is <http://www.childsafetyhub.com.au/>

Special edition of Catholic Outlook

At the request of Bishop Vincent Long OFM Conv, Catholic Outlook will be back in print for a special, one-off December 2017 Christmas edition. This special edition will be a beautifully bound, 40-page, A4 magazine and will showcase the work of the parishes, ministries and agencies of the Diocese of Parramatta. Look out for copies in your parishes and schools from Monday 4 December.

Positions Vacant

Director, Catholic Earthcare Australia: Caritas is seeking an experienced Senior Manager to advocate for environmental and ecological sustainability and deliver educational programs to schools, parishes and related forums. To apply for the role, please visit www.caritas.org.au/jobs/positions-vacant and view the full Position Description. To enquire about this role, please contact David Armstrong on (02) 8306 3439. Please send your application to jobs@caritas.org.au by COB on Monday 04 December 2017.

Volunteers for the homeless needed

The Order of Malta requires volunteers to visit 'homeless hotspots' around Parramatta. Volunteer drivers, nurses and paramedics are needed to provide this service to Parramatta's homeless. If you would like to learn more, please email info@smom.org.au

Grief to Grace

Healing the Wounds of Abuse – is a spiritual retreat for anyone who has suffered degradation or violation through physical, emotional, sexual or spiritual abuse. The retreat will be held April 8th – 13th 2018. To request an application contact Anne by emailing info@griegtograceaus.org.au or phone 0407704539. For more information visit www.griegtograce.org

ACYF – Mass in the Domain: 9 December

All parishioners in the Diocese of Parramatta are invited to attend the Mass in the Domain on Saturday 9 December for the Australian Catholic Youth Festival. The Mass starts at 6.30pm and will follow an afternoon of concerts and festivities beginning at 4pm, featuring Australian and international musicians and performers.

Ordination to Priesthood of Shinto Francis: 16 December

Deacon Shinto Francis will be ordained a Priest for the Diocese of Parramatta on Saturday 16 December at 10.30am in St Patrick's Cathedral, Parramatta. The principal celebrant will be Most Rev Vincent Long OFM Conv, Bishop of Parramatta. Everyone is welcome. The Mass will also be livestreamed on YouTube. Details on parracatholic.org.

Christmas at St Finbar's: 17 December

St Finbar's traditional Christmas feast will be held this year on Sunday 17th December at 7.30pm. Massed Choir, Readings, Harp, Handbells, Soloists and Brass. Join the great organ in singing carols with the choir and congregation, and rejoice in the Hallelujah Chorus with trumpets and timpani. Donation: Families \$35, individuals \$15. Bring the family, friends and neighbours. Proceeds towards the upkeep and maintenance of the organ. St. Finbar's Catholic Church, 46 Levy Street, Glenbrook. Enquiries 4754 1780.

For more events please go to: <http://parracatholic.org/events/>



School Calendar

December

Week 9

Tuesday	5th	Christmas Stall Student Banking Gymnastics	8.15am
Wednesday	6th	Bodington Visit Stage 3 Talent Quest	1pm
Thursday	7th	Music Performance Ensemble Performance at The Carrington	9am 6pm
Friday	8th	Gold Award Assembly Mass My School Lunch Box String Ensemble (Final Week)	8.50am 12noon 3pm
Sunday	10th	Blackheath Carols	6pm— 7:30pm

Week 10

Monday	11th	My School Lunch Box Meet and Greet	11am
Tuesday	12th	Student Banking Gymnastics	8.45am
Wednesday	13th	Writers club S2 & S3 Kindergarten Nativity Play	1:20pm 11.30am
Thursday	14th	Year 6 Graduation	5.30pm
Friday	15th	My School Lunch Box End of Year Mass Last Day of Term 4 2017	12pm



Our School Bell Times

8.40am School Begins

10.40 Recess

1.10 Lunch

2.50 End of Day

The last day of Term 4 2017 will be

Friday 15th December

End of Year close of Finance

The end of the year is fast approaching please note that the Office will be unable to process any financial procedures as of Wednesday 6th of December.

Opal Cards

Children using an Opal card to travel to and from School are required to tap on and off each trip. Please remember not to throw away Opal cards at the end of the year as eligible cards will be automatically updated for the new school year.

KOOSH

PUPIL-FREE DAYS

December 2017

Monday 18th Dec	Tuesday 19th Dec	Wednesday 20th Dec
Excursion Walk with us to the Edge Cinema to see FERDINAND Extra Cost: \$18 Includes Snacks & Drinks DEPARTING: 9am	<i>Christmas Craft</i> Get into the Festive Season and make some Cool Christmas Craft CHILLAX Tuesday Bring a device & chill.	 A visit and a present from Vasanta! Extra Cost: \$6

KOOSH is limited to a maximum of 45 children. Limits apply to excursions.

As well as the main activities on the program, each day at KOOSH there will be a variety of indoor and outdoor activities including free play options.

PLEASE NOTE: CLOSED FOOTWEAR MUST BE WORN AT ALL TIMES DURING VACATION CARE! CHILDREN MUST BRING A HAT AND LOTS OF WATER AND FOOD TO LAST THEM THE WHOLE DAY!

FULL FEES \$48 PER DAY

Subscribe to the Parent Calendar and Newsletter

www.stcaniceskatoomba.catholic.edu.au

Select "Current Community" click on Newsletter



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Corner Lett & Wilson St, Katoomba
www.katoombaleurapreschool.com.au



School holidays are almost upon us. The Think Organise Do website contains many valuable resources to help parents keep their children safe and occupied during the holiday period.

<https://thinkorganisedo.com.au>

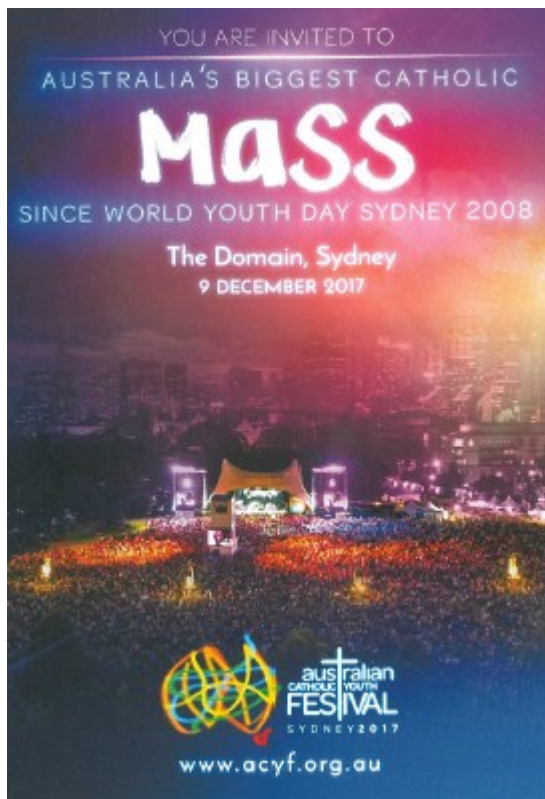
Ability groups

Autism Spectrum Disorder
Intellectual Disability
ADHD



Carols on the Bus

Would you like to do some carol singing this Christmas? There are seats available on the Big Red Bus that will be touring the upper mountains and stopping to sing carols at a number of venues on Sunday 24th December 2017. We'll be visiting a retirement village and singing to the tourists at Echo Point. There is no charge and you don't have to be a great singer to join in the fun. The event starts at 3pm at the bus stop in front of the Carrington, Katoomba and ends at the Carrington Bustop at 5pm. You will need to confirm your seat on the bus by ringing the church to leave a message and RSVP on 4782 1608. The Combined churches of the upper mountains are organising the event with the support of Christian Fellowship tours.



leura garage Community Lantern Making

WORKSHOPS & EVENT



WHEN: Workshops 28 Nov, 4 & 13 Dec 3-5pm

WHAT: Come and make your lantern for the lantern parade as part of the Christmas festival in Leura. Parade on Dec 15th

WHERE: Leura Garage
84 Railway Pde, Leura

WHO: Kids aged 4-12 & a supervising adult

COST: \$10 includes full lantern kit & drinks and nibbles at the Leura Garage

RSVP on the Eventbrite page at:
www.leuragarage.com.au/lantern



A leading Visual Arts School in Sydney offering creative experiences for kids & teens since 2008

Now Opening in Katoomba in January 2018 for ages 7 to 15

SUMMER HOLIDAY WORKSHOPS

Wed 17, Fri 19, Tue 23 January

Drawing & Clay

Thu 18, Mon 21, Wed 24 January

Drawing & Clay

NEW DRAWING /CLAY ACTIVITY OFFERED EACH DAY

9.30am to 3.30pm \$78 (incl. materials)

9.30am to 12.30pm \$45 (incl. materials)

BYO snack, lunch & drink and wear old clothes

AFTER SCHOOL CLASSES

Starting 30 January 2018

Tuesdays & Thursdays

Weekly Drawing Classes

For kids/teens interested in learning how to draw & further develop their drawing skills using different materials e.g. pastels, graphite, charcoal, ink, watercolour etc.

3.30pm to 5.00pm (Ages 7+)

5.15pm to 6.45pm (Ages 9+)

\$28 per session (incl. materials)

\$252 for full 9 week term commitment



ALL OUR TEACHERS ARE ARTISTS

Our lead teacher is National Arts School trained

Venue: St. Hilda's Anglican Church
68 Katoomba Street Katoomba

For bookings

Contact Daphne

M: 0409 569483

daphne.katos@bigpond.com

Download booking form at www.ifulikeart.com and check out the extensive art & drawing program offered at our Sydney studio



teddy sinclair



Megalong Books



Toy Shop

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EMAIL TRACY@TSHDRAMA.COM

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