

NEWSLETTER



6th February 2018 Term 1 Week 2

St Canice's Catholic Primary

Phone: 4780 6800

Email: stcanices@parra.catholic.edu.au

Website: stcaniceskatoomba.catholic.edu.au

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

As we start another school year, we welcome Mr Alan Wedesweiler who joins us as the Stage 2 W Teacher and as our Religious Education Co-ordinator. Also, welcome to Mrs Michelle Sztelma who joins us for the next 2 terms helping in the Kindergarten class. Welcome to our new Kinders who started so wonderfully last Thursday and to our new families who also join this amazing school community. Welcome to everyone. I look forward to an amazing 2018.

In the Gospel reading from 21st January, we read the first recorded words from Jesus in Mark's Gospel: "**The time has come**". That is where we are now, ready to start another amazing year at this wonderful school. We have a responsibility to keep this school the best for all our school community. It is each of us who can make the difference in the lives of our wonderful school. By being the best person we can be, we will be making a difference to all people associated with St Canice's Katoomba.

"The time has come" - Our school started in 1901 and this year will be the first time we will not have the physical presence of the Charity Sisters with us. However, we will have an understanding of what a Charity Sister strives to achieve:

To bring God's love to the community and to ensure that The Love of Christ impels you on. The time has come for us to take the responsibility to continue to maintain the type of school the Charity Sisters have so lovingly started.

"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."

Unknown

Mr Mark Geerligns
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 2019

Access to Newsletter and Calendar

To find up to date information and gain access to the St Canice's calendar and newsletter, please subscribe via our school website at

<http://www.stcaniceskatoomba.catholic.edu.au>

Select "Current Community" and then click Newsletter this will enable you to enter your email address for your subscription to the newsletter, latest news, calendar etc. Information can also be found through the skoolbag app and our facebook page.

MAI Assessment

Last Tuesday and Wednesday our Kindergarten and Year 1 students visited the school for their Mathematical Assessment Interview (MAI) with their class teacher. All other students in the school will be assessed with the MAI, but this will be carried out during school time over the next 3-4 weeks. The data we gather, will inform us regarding the level of achievement of your child in the domains of Counting, Place Value, Addition/ Subtraction and Multiplication/ Division. This data will be used to determine what learning plan is required for your child.

Assessments

A number of times throughout the term the teachers will be assessing your child's achievement level in many things especially in Reading, Writing, Problem Solving Skills and their understanding of the Sacraments and Scripture. All of this data is compiled in our Data Room. This gives us a clear picture of the individual

Parish Priests

A very special welcome to our two new Parish Priests for the Mary of the Cross MacKillop Parish of the Upper Blue Mountains. Fr Carlos Walker and Fr Sean Bradley join our community. These 2 priests are of the order called the Institute of the Incarnate Word. We are certainly blessed to have these two men working in our wonderful Parish.



Attendance Data

During 2018 we will continue to track the attendance data for each student. If every child attended school every school day our percentage would be 100%. We are aiming towards school attendance rates that are better than our past achievements. In 2017 the St Canice's' overall attendance rate was 76.3%, slightly up from the 2016 rate of 75%.

The Diocesan mantra is "Every Day, Every Child". School is essential for every student every single day from the beginning of the day to the very end of the day.

Meet and Greet

A flyer will be sent home tomorrow for students in Years 2 to 6 with information and booking instructions for you child's "Meet and Greet". This is being held next week from Monday 12th February to Friday 16th February. Times will be advised.



Swimming Carnival

A reminder that our Swimming Carnival will be held this Wednesday 7th February at Katoomba Sports and Aquatic Centre. The carnival will take place after school at 3.30pm. Good luck to all students who are participating.



Nut Free Please

We at St Canice's would like to remind all families that we endeavour to be a Nut Free School. As part of our awareness and care for children in our School that have Anaphylaxis, which is a life threatening allergy to nuts and products containing nut traces. We ask that everyone be thoughtful in bringing snacks and lunch from home. Children are precious and irreplaceable. Please assist us in keeping them safe and we thank you in anticipation of your understanding.



Social Justice Workshop for Year 6

This week an invitation for Year 6 to attend a Social Justice Leadership Workshop co-ordinated by Caritas Australia has been sent home. The day is a great opportunity for our Year 6 students to experience deep learning about leading social justice in our school. Our Lady of the Nativity will be hosting the event therefore Year 6 students will be travelling by bus to and from the event. Permission notes to attend must be sent back to school by Friday 9th February.



Writers Club Returns for 2018

Exciting NEWS to all budding Authors and Illustrators! Writers Club will commence this week on Tuesday at lunch time. Students in grades 2 - 6 are welcome and encouraged to join in to this supportive and creative learning team. Mr White is looking forward to seeing you and supporting your passion for creative writing.



First Holy Communion

On February 8th we will hold our initial First Holy Communion class for the year. These sessions are held every week on Thursday nights from 6:15pm to 7:30pm. The date for First Communion is planned for March 18th.



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 webstore 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 your home.
Abel Schoolwear is located at Unit, 5 Coombes Dr,
Penrith.

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

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.

Birthday Wishes for January

Congratulations to staff and students who celebrated birthdays during January.



Mr White, Mrs Laznik, Ms Frazer, Marshall Field, Ivy & Annie Jayne-O'Connor, Angie Ho, Oscar Bull, Jacob Nguyen, Andrew Jones, Ella Campbell, Caeden Shaw, Arthur Balkin, Darcy Nicholson, Carla White, Jake Pereira, Bianca Cunningham, Bonnie O'Connor, Elouisa Ryan, Alexia Anagnostopoulos, Amy Goulding, James Campbell.

Communicating Complaints & Grievances

If you have a concern in relation to your child, please contact your child's teacher first. If you feel that the problem hasn't been sufficiently dealt with after contact with your child's teacher, please contact the Assistant Principal. If you feel that the problem then needs to be taken further than this, contact the Principal. If you would like to raise a concern formally, the Catholic Education Diocese of Parramatta has procedures for ensuring that complaints are handled fairly. Information about how to lodge a complaint and a complaint form are available from the school office or in the Complaint Handling Policy and Procedures.



Opal Card

A reminder to students that at the start of each bus trip, it is important to tap on by placing your opal card on the opal card reader. Although the opal card is a free pass, students are still required to tap on and off. School opal cards are for travel to and from school on school days only. Eligible opal cards are automatically updated for the new school year.

To apply for an opal card, complete the application at transportnsw.info/school-students. Transport for NSW will then send the school opal card to the home address given in the application. The application may take several weeks to arrive.

Reminder to Parents

Parents are reminded that when entering the school they are required to sign in at the office on arrival, and sign out on departure.

If parents are planning on assisting in the classroom, or on an excursion, you must complete the child protection training.

The training is undertaken over the internet at <http://childprotection.parra.catholic.edu.au/home>. Simply click the training link under "volunteer" to undertake the training. Once training is undertaken, complete the questionnaire, submit your details and contact the school to advise that the training has been completed.

KOOSH

Katoomba Out of School Hours
10 Station Street Katoomba
Katoomba Before School Care 7am — 9:30am
Katoomba After School Care 2:30pm — 6:00pm
Bookings are essential as spaces are limited.
Phone: 4782 2533

School Banking

Get ready for an exciting year of School Banking. A reminder that our banking day is Tuesday.



Dollarmites banking scheme is aimed at helping children to develop good saving habits and lifelong money managing skills.

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 6 months to allow time for our community to update and familiarise.



Catholic Education Office

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/>

School Zones Reminder

A reminder to all our parents ahead of the Christmas holiday break at the end of Term 4 that school zones remain in place for the safety of our children and families.

School zones operate on all gazetted schools days, which are all days the school is open, **even pupil free days**.

It is recommended that this advice is provided for the break at the end of Term 4. Most NSW Catholic schools school zones operate as normal until (and include) Tuesday 19 December 2017 and resume on Monday 29 January 2017. Note: even though some schools will elect to have some of these days as pupil free days, **school zones will be in operation on all gazetted school days**, whether students are present or not.

Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse

After five years of work, the Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse has submitted its final report to government and will now come to an end. The Diocese of Parramatta will continue working with police and other relevant authorities to ensure the Catholic Church remains as safe as possible for children and other vulnerable people.

In its submissions, the Royal Commission has released its reports on Case Study 44 relating to the Diocese of Parramatta (this report has not yet been made public) and Case Study 50 relating to Catholic Church in Australia. The Diocese of Parramatta now begins the process of reviewing this material.

The Diocese of Parramatta once again offers its unreserved and deepest apologies to those many people who have suffered because of the child sexual abuse that has occurred in the context of Church ministry. In particular, the Diocese of Parramatta apologises to survivors of abuse and their families for the hurt and suffering this abuse has caused throughout their lives.

The Diocese of Parramatta is committed to continuously reviewing and improving its child protection policies and procedures. For more information please visit www.safeguarding.org.au. For more information please refer to the Royal Commission website: www.childabuseroyalcommission.gov.au. For anyone needing information and support please contact the Diocese of Parramatta information line on (02) 8838 3419. Concerns or allegations about any criminal offence should be reported to NSW Police on 131 444.

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

School Calendar

Subscribe to the Parent Calendar and Newsletter
www.stcaniceskatoomba.catholic.edu.au
 Select "Current Community" click on Newsletter

February

Week 2

Tuesday	6th	Student Banking Kinder Sport Writers Club S2 & S3	8.15am 1:20pm
Wednesday	7th	Stage 3 Sport	
Thursday	8th	Music Italian	
Friday	9th	Assembly Mass S3M Stage 2 Sport My School Lunch Box String Ensemble	8.50am 12noon 3pm

Week 3

Monday	12th	Meet & Greet Stage 1 Sport My School Lunch	11am
Tuesday	13th	Meet & Greet Kinder Sport Pancake Tuesday Student Banking Writers Club S2 & S3	8.45am 1:20pm
Wednesday	14th	Meet & Greet Stage 3 Sport Ash Wednesday	
Thursday	15th	Meet & Greet	
Friday	16th	Meet & Greet Stage 2 Sport Social Justice OLN Assembly Mass S3W My School Lunch Box String ensemble	3pm

Our School Bell Times

8.40am School Begins

10.40 Recess

1.10 Lunch

2.50 End of Day

My School Lunch Box

The My School Lunch Box supplies healthy and fresh lunches delivered to our school on Mondays and Fridays. Simply browse the menu on the website and select the food and drinks required. Enter the school, child, class and day. Payment can be made via credit card or PayPal.
myschoollunchbox.com.au

KOOSH

Katoomba Out of School Hours operates at 10 Station Street Katoomba .
 Phone 4782 2533 or 0478 166 352



Building Child Safe Communities

"Building Child Safe Communities" is a initiative developed by the Catholic Education Diocese of Parramatta that enhances our commitment to ensuring the safety and wellbeing of all students in our care. It is now a requirement that all volunteers complete an online undertaking form that confirms expectations in relation to behaviour whilst volunteering at school. This undertaking form also seeks to determine the suitability of volunteers by requiring them to declare that they do not have a criminal history involving children.

Webpage

<http://www.parra.catholic.edu.au>

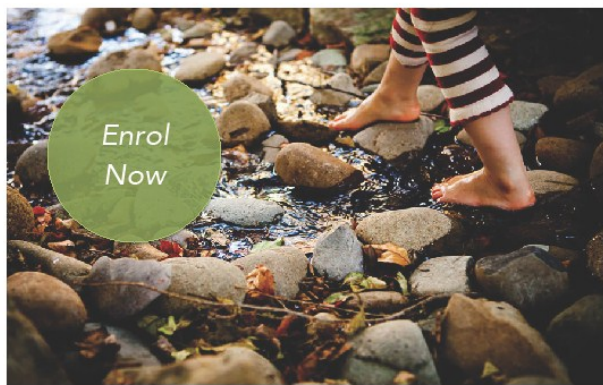
Then click on "Child Protection Training forms" (halfway down page on the right hand side)

This is mandatory for all parents and carers who wish to help in the school or attend school excursions.



Subscribe to the Parent Calendar and Newsletter

www.stcaniceskatoomba.catholic.edu.au



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find out more at www.cherryblossomelc.com.au

Come and have lots of fun! We play games, make craft and have fun Bible time together. We also provide afternoon tea.

Kmotion

An after school club for children in school years K-6
Fridays after school 3:30 - 5:30pm
St Hilda's Church Hall Katoomba

\$5 donation each week helps cover costs of food and craft
Any enquiries? Contact Robyn 0438 401 088

KIDZPLAY

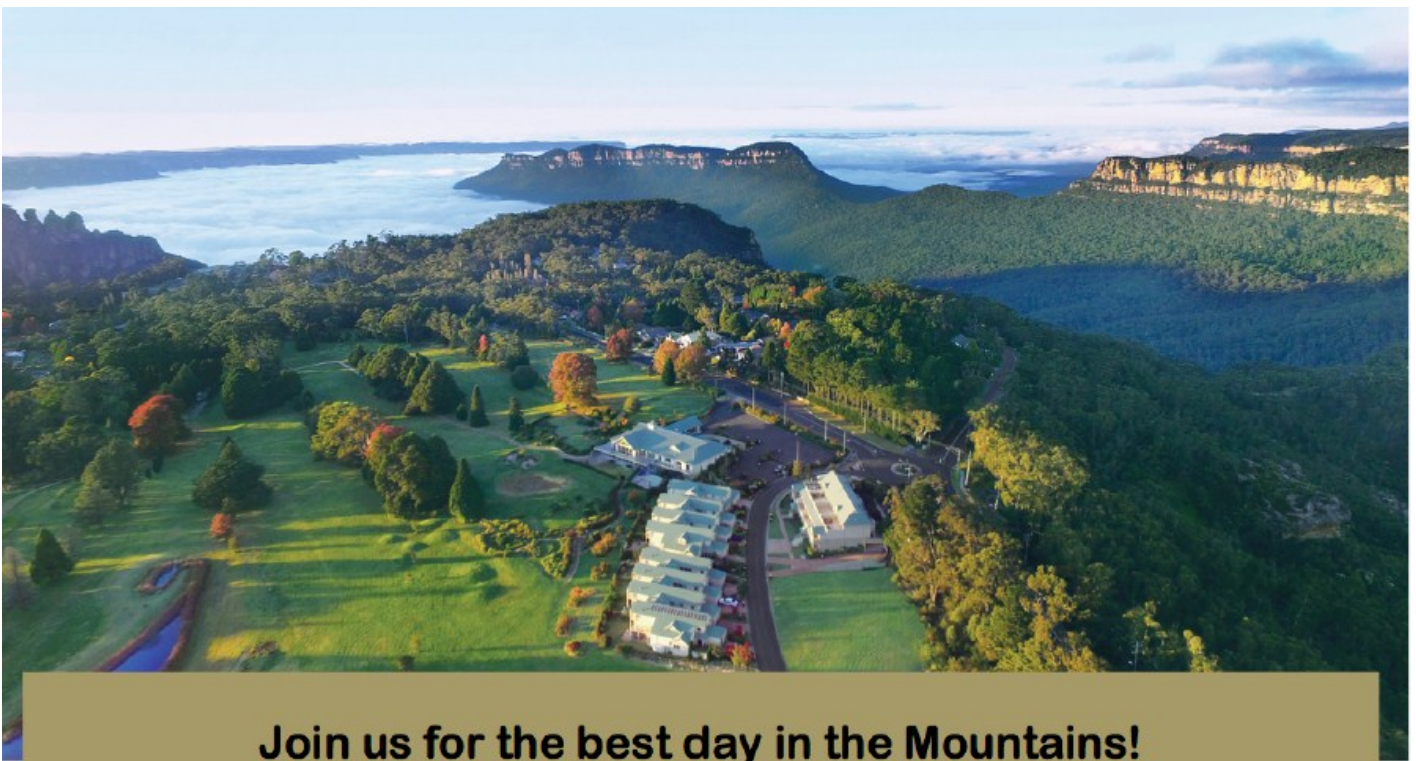
Fridays 9.30-11.30am
St Hilda's Church Hall, Katoomba

For children 0-5 years & their parents/carers
babies, toddlers & preschoolers are all welcome

Come and have fun! We have a jumping castle, slippery dip, exciting Bible story time and craft.
Morning tea is provided for kids & adults.

Regular cooking mornings where the young children themselves do the cooking!
Parents can chat with others while kids play.

\$5 per child per week
Any enquiries? Call Robyn ph. 0438401088



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