FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Parents,

Bishop Peter A. Comensoli will be installed as the third Bishop of Broken Bay at Our Lady of the Rosary Cathedral Waitara at 11am on Friday 12 December. All priests, principals and 2 student representatives from each school will be attending.

After discussions with Father George, our end of year Thanksgiving Mass has been rescheduled.

Maria Regina’s end of year Thanksgiving Mass is now on Thursday 11th December at 11:00am at Maria Regina Church.

INVITATION TO THE INSTALLATION OF BISHOP PETER A COMENSOLI AS THE THIRD BISHOP OF BROKEN BAY

All parishioners are invited to the Installation of Bishop Peter A Comensoli on Friday 12 December at 11am at Our Lady of the Rosary Cathedral, Waitara. RSVPs are essential by Thursday 4 December.

Email: rina.cipri@dbb.org.au or phone: 9847 0516. For those of you not able to attend, note that the Installation will be streamed live.

Christmas Performance and Christmas Party

On Tuesday, 16th December Maria Regina will have their Christmas Celebration from 5-8pm. Students will play Christmas Carols on their musical instruments or sing Christmas songs and provide pre-concert entertainment in the playground before going to the school hall for the class items. Parents, friends and families can walk around the playground listening to all of the wonderful performers in the half an hour before the class items.

Sam Browne and Caroline Mulvenna will be teaching each class an item that will become part of a fun Christmas musical experience to be performed at 5:00pm in the School Hall. Children will go home at the usual time and will be required to be back at school at 4:45pm. We are aware that some children will not be able to attend the performance due to other commitments, however it is a regular school day and they will still participate in the class lessons with Sam and Caroline even if they are unable to be in the performance.

After the Christmas performance there will be the P&F Christmas Party and Disco in the school grounds.

Please feel free to BYO some food and drink to picnic whilst the children enjoy the activities. Tables and chairs will be available in the playground.

Thank You Morning Tea

Maria Regina Catholic Primary School is extremely appreciative of the support we receive from parents, volunteers and others in our school.

Your work in our school is highly valued. We would like to acknowledge your contribution to our school community by inviting you to our Thank You Morning Tea on Friday 5 December 2014.

Please join us for the Presentation Assembly at 8:45 am followed by a special thank you morning tea as together we acknowledge the many people that make the Maria Regina School community so special.

I look forward to meeting with you on this morning.

Please advise the office if you will be attending mra@dbb.catholic.edu.au
Advent is Here

This Sunday is the 1st Sunday of Advent, the period of preparation and waiting before Christmas and the beginning of the Church’s liturgical year. We light the first purple candle on the Advent wreath.

If we do Advent right — if we prepare the way of the Lord in our own lives, in our own households, in our own communities — Christmas, this year, may just be less about presents and more about the gift that we all received with the birth of the Child Jesus.

Christmas Hampers

Thanks to your wonderful generosity, our hampers are looking fabulous. Just a reminder that we need to finalise the hampers by next Thursday 4th December.

Stall for Candela

Mary Rajca spoke to us on Monday about the community in Candela, Peru. We were really interested to see the differences that have happened in Candela since the women began selling their handcrafts. Things we take for granted – like a tap – are life changing to the people of Candela. Once again, you have been extremely generous in purchasing the handcrafts. I can’t give you a total yet...it’s going to take a long time to count! Special thank you to my Year 5/6 helpers who worked on the stall each morning this week.

Upcoming Dates

Sunday 30th November at 9:00am
Parish Family Mass – Blessing of 2015 Kindergarten Children
This will be our final Parish Family Mass for 2014 and is a very special opportunity to welcome the newest members of our school community. The children who are training for the ministry of Junior Altar Servers will also be commissioned at this Mass. We hope that as many families as possible will be able to join us for this celebration.

As it is the 1st Sunday of Advent, our church will be dressed in purple and we thought we would too! So if you have something purple in your wardrobe, please wear it to our Mass. (Don’t worry if you haven’t, we’ll have some purple ribbon pins you can wear.)

Week 9
Thursday 4th Dec
Year 4 will be attending Parish Mass at 9:15am
Year 3 will be attending Reconciliation

Week 10
Thursday 11th Dec
End of School Thanksgiving Mass at 11:00 (N.B. Change of date)

You are warmly invited to join us for these celebrations of our faith.

Soibada, Timor Leste (East Timor)

Do you want to know more about Pittwater Community’s sister village? Do you want to get involved?

When: 8 December 2014 at 7.30pm
Where: Avalon Recreation Centre

Pittwater Friends of Soibada Inc (PFOS) is a registered charity that is partnered with Pittwater Council and several community groups, schools, churches of all denominations and Rotary Clubs. Volunteers have been facilitating sustainable development projects in Soibada since 2010 when Pittwater Council signed a Friendship Agreement with the people of Soibada, and their local government. This relationship centres on empowering the people.

Our goal is to facilitate the change that comes from within the Soibada community. There is a lot of initiative in the village and vast improvements have been made over the last few years. There are some fantastic proactive and forward thinking leaders in Soibada. We must enable the people to help themselves and restore the dignity that has been stolen from them during years of oppression. We work with NGOs already based in Timor Leste and staffed by Timorese people. Our initial focus is on education, sanitation, health and small business development.

Please come and hear about the latest projects. Find out what volunteers from our community have been doing over there. See how you can get involved – we need your help. We need people of varied skills.

With your support we will change the future for the children of Soibada and Timor Leste by helping them to help themselves.

If you would like to see more have a look at: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=K_1fPJdFpKM and http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=O3M1109Yg or https://www.facebook.com/pages/Pittwater-Friends-Of-Soibada/162612300466694.
DATES TO REMEMBER

FROM THE OFFICE

Please remember that next week 1st Dec is the last day for canteen this year. Any unsold frozen items can be purchased at a reduced price as no stock will be kept over the holidays. This includes pies and ice blocks. The boxes can be split so that you can purchase as many or as little as you want. Please contact Mrs Sprakel in the school office if you would like to purchase any items.

Monday Dec 1st  Tania Mullis, Susan Fisk, SOS
Monday Dec 8th  Canteen closed for cleaning Amanda McGlenchy, Imelda Flynn, SOS
Monday Dec 15th SCHOOL HOLIDAYS

AWARDS

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BIRTHDAYS

Elizabeth Mitcherson
Benjamin King
Sebastian Boross
Kira Johnson

Christmas cake sale

Year 6 Fundraiser

Tuesday 2nd Dec at recess there will be yummy homemade cakes, cupcakes and Christmas treats for sale. Don’t forget to bring your money and support this fun and festive fundraiser.

Please see attached flyer.
On Wednesday, the Stage 3 Drama group (from Term 3) visited Bluey’s Treehouse to present their play, Snow White and the 4 ½ Dwarfs. It was great for our Stage 3 students to not only perform their play again, but to showcase to the preschool students some of the activities that take place in primary school. It was also good to strengthen the relationship between Maria Regina and our local community, in particular supporting the link between early childhood and primary school.

To watch this magnificent performance, brilliantly directed by Mrs Pike, please visit the School Weebly Video Gallery.

A Maria Regina Stage Show

The year 5 and 6 students form Maria Regina came to visit Blueys Treehouse today, 26th November. They had prepared a play about Snow White. They arrived with excitement to present their show in full costume and the Bluebirds and Ladybugs sat in amazement and awe to watch the show....

They laughed, smiled and clapped along to the story and were captivated by the fabulous costumes and characters.

We would like to thank the performers and teachers from Maria Regina for coming and sharing this experience with us. It is a very large part of our Blueys culture to support the link between early childhood and primary school, peer support and building relationships across our local community. EYLF - Outcome 2 Children are connected with and contribute to their world as children develop a sense of belonging to groups and communities and an understanding of rights and responsibilities necessary for active community participation when they broaden their understanding of the world in which we live and when teachers build connection between the early childhood setting and the local community.

Principles - Partnerships
Practice - Holistic approaches and cultural competence
Maria Regina

Christmas Cake Stall
Year 6 Fundraiser
Tuesday 2nd December 2014

Delicious homemade cakes, cupcakes and Christmas treats.

Come and support our fun and festive fundraiser

Bring your coins, sweets $1 and $2

Ho ho ho and a Merry Christmas

Come at Recess
Canteen Volunteers for Term 1 2015

If you can help in canteen during Term 1, on a Monday, please complete the form below and return to school so a roster can be made up.

These are always fun days for the volunteers plenty of cooking tips and laughs. Dad’s Grandparents and special friends are also welcome. Unfortunately if we do not have enough helpers the canteen will not be able to open on that date.

If you would like to join this fun team of volunteers please complete the tear off slip below and return to Mrs Sprakel in the school office. This year we plan to have some extra yummy special items on our canteen menu. Please tick when you are able to assist in the canteen and return the form to the office. Thank you.

**TERM 1 Mondays 9am – 2pm**

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**SCHOOL HOLIDAYS**

Name:____________________________________(Please print)

Contact Number:_________________________  Signed:_________________________