FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Congratulations
Congratulations to Alyce and Stewart Hickson on the birth yesterday of baby Harrison. Leah in Kindergarten is very excited to welcome her new baby brother.

Swimming Carnival
Thank you to Steph Munro for organising the swimming carnival last Tuesday. A special thanks to the teachers and parents for ensuring the carnival ran so smoothly. A presentation of photos and awards will be at next Friday's assembly.

Class Parents
Thank you to the following parents who have offered to be the class parents for 2016. Due to privacy legislation the school cannot give out contact information. In order for the class parents to make contact can you please email your details to the relevant class parents.

Class Parent Co-ordinator

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class</th>
<th>Co-ordinator</th>
<th>Email</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sue Fisk</td>
<td><a href="mailto:sfisk@ihug.com.au">sfisk@ihug.com.au</a></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kindergarten</td>
<td>Amy Green</td>
<td><a href="mailto:amvyjgreen@bigpond.com">amvyjgreen@bigpond.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Zorana Osborn</td>
<td><a href="mailto:zorana2@tpg.com.au">zorana2@tpg.com.au</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 1</td>
<td>Cassie Neal</td>
<td><a href="mailto:edenspa@bigpond.com">edenspa@bigpond.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Tanya King</td>
<td><a href="mailto:adamtanyacharlie@bigpond.com">adamtanyacharlie@bigpond.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 2</td>
<td>Kea Price</td>
<td><a href="mailto:kea_a99@hotmail.com">kea_a99@hotmail.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Jaime Ryan (Farrell)</td>
<td><a href="mailto:jaimeleefarrell@gmail.com">jaimeleefarrell@gmail.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 3</td>
<td>Lucy Encina</td>
<td><a href="mailto:lucy.m.encina@outlook.com">lucy.m.encina@outlook.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Vianney Boon</td>
<td><a href="mailto:vianneyboon@gmail.com">vianneyboon@gmail.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 4</td>
<td>Toni Phillips</td>
<td><a href="mailto:tphillipsdesign@gmail.com">tphillipsdesign@gmail.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Lani Saraswati</td>
<td><a href="mailto:lani@mayacreations.com.au">lani@mayacreations.com.au</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 5</td>
<td>Cassie Preziuso</td>
<td><a href="mailto:cprez@bigpond.net.au">cprez@bigpond.net.au</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 6</td>
<td>Jo Guberina</td>
<td><a href="mailto:milkshake@jinet.com.au">milkshake@jinet.com.au</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Sam Browne</td>
<td><a href="mailto:sammeebrown@hotmail.com">sammeebrown@hotmail.com</a></td>
</tr>
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</table>

TERM 1 DATES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Term</th>
<th>Dates</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wed 27th Jan</td>
<td>Teachers Return</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fri 29th Jan</td>
<td>K-6 Assessment day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mon 1st Feb</td>
<td>Kindy Assessment day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tue 2nd Feb</td>
<td>Kindy start</td>
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<tr>
<td>Last day of term</td>
<td>Fri 8th Apr</td>
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TERM 2

<table>
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<tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>First day of term</td>
<td>Tuesday 26th Apr</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Last day of term</td>
<td>Friday 1st July</td>
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TERM 3

<table>
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<tr>
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<th>Dates</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>First day of term</td>
<td>Monday 18th Jul</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Last day of term</td>
<td>Friday 23rd Sept</td>
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</table>

TERM 4

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Term</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>First day of term</td>
<td>Monday 10th Oct</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Last day of term</td>
<td>Friday 16th Dec</td>
</tr>
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</table>
FROM THE ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

PBL EXPECTATION OF THE WEEK:

We started our swimming carnival excitement with War Cry practice, last Friday. I was really surprised by the experience. I didn’t think anyone would actually listen to me but I was wrong! They did!
We had fun doing it. Aiden and Cody enjoyed making up some new chants.

AIDEN:
We think most people who came to the carnival would have enjoyed it. I personally really enjoyed it. I did well Mrs Remeeus says “I nailed it!” Overall as a captain I had fun leading my team. It was a really busy carnival. We look forward to the next carnival where we will have more time for War Cries.

CODY:
I would like to thank all the parents for volunteering and making the carnival a great success.
To all the parents who swam with their children, thanks for helping them. Mrs Dixon thanks for saving some of the tired swimmers. We know they appreciated it!
And finally thanks to the staff for helping us manage our teams and for making the carnival a fabulous day for all.
FROM THE REC

Our first Family Mass for 2016 will take place on Saturday 27th February at 6:00pm in Maria Regina Church. Year 3 and Year 4 will be hosting the Mass.

We are providing some hospitality after Mass in the form of a sausage sizzle at the church. For catering purposes please email me jane.labone@dbb.catholic.edu.au and let me know how many sausages your family needs.

All families are welcome to attend. We look forward to seeing you there.

Upcoming Events

**Week 5**

- **Thursday 25th Feb**
  - Year 5 and Year 6 will be attending Mass with the Parish at 9:15am
  - Year 4 will be attending Reconciliation at 10.00am.

- **Saturday 27th Feb**
  - Year 3 and Year 4 Family Mass at Maria Regina Church at 6.00pm
  - There will be a **family sausage sizzle** after Mass. Everyone is welcome.

The Parish Pulse

**Rite of Enrolment and First Ritual for First Reconciliation**

This weekend, the 20th & 21st of February we will be holding our Rite of Enrolment and First Ritual for the children preparing for First Reconciliation. This will be held at all mass times over the weekend. Children are to bring a copy of their Confirmation certificate along with them and their Sacramental journey booklets.

Mass times over the weekend are as follows:

- **Sacred Heart Church, Mona Vale**
  - **Saturday 5pm**
  - **Sunday 8am, 9.30am & 6pm**

- **Maria Regina, Avalon**
  - **Saturday 6pm**
  - **Sunday 9am**

Angela Smit - Sacramental Co Ordinator

FROM THE OFFICE

**CANTEEN UPDATE**

As of Monday February 22nd the canteen will not store any items other than canteen purchases.

**New procedures as of Monday Feb 29th.**

The canteen and staff room freezers or fridges will no longer store birthday ice blocks, cakes or jellies or ice blocks for hot day treats. Ice blocks along with chocolate muffins (no artificial colours or flavours) can be purchased from the canteen for birthdays on a **Monday or Friday only**. If you would like to order any of these items for birthday’s only you can either email or phone Kay or Marie.

- Quelch Fruit Sticks: .50cents
- Chocolate muffins: .50cents
- Lemonade Icy Twists: $1.20

Kay Neale  SMRPA.Canteen@dbb.catholic.edu.au  0416 262 458
Marie Nero  SMRPA.Canteen@dbb.catholic.edu.au  0410 566 777

Denise Sprakel
Senior Administration Officer

FROM THE LIBRARY

Library News

Thank you to the AMAZING group of mums who helped sort library books this morning. The library is looking great (and so tidy!) If anyone is available next Friday after assembly for some more sorting I would love your help.

Thanks!
Alexis Conn
What is NAPLAN?
The National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) is an annual national assessment for all students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9. All students in these year levels are expected to participate in tests in reading, writing, language conventions (spelling, grammar and punctuation) and numeracy. All government and non-government education authorities have contributed to the development of NAPLAN materials.

Why do students do NAPLAN tests?
NAPLAN is the measure through which governments, education authorities, schools, teachers and parents can determine whether or not young Australians are meeting important educational outcomes in literacy and numeracy. The tests provide parents and schools with an understanding of how individual students are performing at the time of the tests. They also provide schools, states and territories with information about how education programs are working and what areas need to be prioritised for improvement.

NAPLAN tests are one aspect of a school’s assessment and reporting process; they do not replace the extensive ongoing assessments made by teachers about each student’s performance.

What will be tested and how?
NAPLAN tests the sorts of skills that are essential for every child to progress through school and life, such as reading, writing, spelling, grammar and numeracy. From 2016, NAPLAN content will be aligned with the Australian Curriculum. For more information on this please see the NAP website: www.nap.edu.au. Questions are multiple-choice or require a short written response. The writing task requires students to write a text in response to a prompt.

To give you an idea of what the tests look like, sample questions and a sample writing task are available on the NAP website: www.nap.edu.au

Who will run the tests?
NAPLAN tests are conducted at schools and administered by classroom teachers, school deputies or principals. Each state and territory is responsible for marking the tests in accordance with strict guidelines and processes.

How can I help my child prepare for the tests?
NAPLAN assesses literacy and numeracy skills that students have already been learning through the school curriculum. Teachers will ensure students are familiar with the test formats and will provide appropriate support and guidance. If you have any questions about your child’s preparation for NAPLAN, you should make a time to speak with their teacher.

The best way you can help your child prepare for NAPLAN is to reassure your child that NAPLAN tests are just one part of their school program, and to urge them to simply do the best they can on the day. The use of services by coaching providers is not recommended.

What additional support can schools provide for students with special needs?
All students are encouraged to participate in NAPLAN tests. Students with disability may qualify for adjustments that reflect the support normally provided in the classroom. Students who have a temporary injury may also be reasonably accommodated.

A formal exemption may be granted for a student with significant intellectual disability and/or significant coexisting conditions, or for a student who has recently arrived in Australia and has a non-English speaking background.

Your school principal and your state testing authority can give you more information on special provisions or the process required to gain a formal exemption.
How is NAPLAN performance measured?
NAPLAN is not a pass-or-fail type test. Individual student performance is shown on a national achievement scale for each test. Each test scale has 10 bands and all year levels are reported on the same scale. Six bands are reported for each year level for each test. One of these bands represents the national minimum standard for students at each year level. A result at the national minimum standard indicates that the student demonstrated the basic literacy and numeracy skills needed to participate fully in that year level. The performance of individual students can be compared to the average performance of all students in Australia.

What happens if my child is absent from school on test days?
Where possible, schools will organise for individual students who are absent at the time of testing to complete missed tests at another time during the testing week. Individual students are not permitted to sit tests after Friday 13 May 2016.

Will I receive a report on my child’s performance?
A NAPLAN report will be issued by your school later in the year. The same report format is used for every student in Australia. The school will notify you when the reports are being sent to you. If you do not receive a report, you should contact the school. Individual student results are strictly confidential.

How are NAPLAN test results used?
- Schools use results to identify strengths and weaknesses in teaching programs and to set goals in literacy and numeracy.
- School systems use results to review programs and support offered to schools.
- Students and parents may use individual results to discuss progress with teachers.
- Teachers use results to help them better identify students who require greater challenges or additional support.
- The community can see average school NAPLAN results on the My School website: www.myschool.edu.au

Where can I get more information?
For more information about NAPLAN:
- visit the NAP website www.nap.edu.au
- contact your child’s school
- contact your state or territory’s education authority (details available on the NAP website).

### NAPLAN 2016 tests timetable

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Tuesday 10 May</th>
<th>Wednesday 11 May</th>
<th>Thursday 12 May</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Year 3</td>
<td>language conventions 40 minutes writing 40 minutes</td>
<td>reading 45 minutes</td>
<td>numeracy 45 minutes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 5</td>
<td>language conventions 40 minutes writing 40 minutes</td>
<td>reading 50 minutes</td>
<td>numeracy 50 minutes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 7</td>
<td>language conventions 45 minutes writing 40 minutes</td>
<td>reading 65 minutes</td>
<td>numeracy calculator 40 minutes non-calculator 40 minutes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 9</td>
<td>language conventions 45 minutes writing 40 minutes</td>
<td>reading 65 minutes</td>
<td>numeracy calculator 40 minutes non-calculator 40 minutes</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- Language conventions test includes spelling, grammar and punctuation.
- Numeracy test includes number; space; algebra, function and pattern; measurement, chance and data.
- Calculators are NOT permitted in the numeracy test in Years 3 and 5. In Years 7 and 9, each student sits one numeracy test where calculator use is permitted and one where it is not.