



ST FRANCIS OF ASSISI COMMUNITY NEWS UPDATE

Term 2

Week 1

29th April 2016

Welcome to Term 2 – 2016

I hope your family enjoyed the change of routine over the holiday break. The children certainly needed a rest after a hectic first term of learning.

This second term promises to be full of activity, rewarding learning and an exciting time lies ahead for the children as they engage in new units of work, be involved in community celebrations (e.g. Mother's Day), compete in the Athletics Carnival, Years 3 and 5 will be completing Naplan and more. We hope the quality of learning and the variety of experiences will ensure your child and our community are maximising the learning opportunities here at St Francis. Enjoy the Journey!

This Sunday we again look to the holy Gospel according to John ([John 14: 23-29](#)). This Scripture takes place just a few days before Jesus is put to death. The disciples are in a room with Jesus and telling him that they wouldn't know what to do if he left them.

This sounds a little unusual, doesn't it? Why would grown men be worried about Jesus not being with them anymore? I could understand if they were children, as they would have reason for being upset. Children need their adults: a parent or a grown up. But these disciples were the grownups!

Perhaps one of the things the disciples were worried about was that they might mess up! In the scriptures we can see that they didn't always understand what Jesus wanted. Like the time Jesus told them that children were important because they had the right trust in God, but then only a few days later the disciples tried to stop the children from coming to him, saying he (Jesus) was too busy to spend time with them. They acted as if the children were not at all important to Jesus, what were they thinking?

This was not the only time the disciples did not listen to Jesus, or thought they knew better. So why now were they worried about the prospect of being without Jesus? Maybe they were worried that without Jesus there would be no one to straighten them out if and when they 'messed up'.

I think that a concern they may have had was that without Jesus they may no longer feel close to God. With Jesus around, they always felt close to God. But without him they would feel alone. We saw how difficult it was for the disciples to do the right thing with Jesus around, how would they do it without Jesus? Would they not feel that God was with them?

Lucky for the disciples (and us!) Jesus said something that really got their attention! He told them they would not be alone after he was to leave them. Jesus told them that they would still have someone to teach, guide and help them. Who could this be? Jesus called it the "Holy Spirit". The Holy Spirit is another way we talk about God. The name Holy Spirit means God with us now. It is God that we feel in our hearts when we feel close to God—that's the Holy Spirit. It is God helping us to be brave when we want to stop a child from being mean to another child. That is the Holy Spirit.

Even though the disciples would no longer be able to see Jesus, they would have the Holy Spirit to teach them and help them. They would not be alone. The Holy Spirit is God with us now. The Holy Spirit was with the first disciples, and the Holy Spirit is with us. We are not alone and the church is not alone. God, the Holy Spirit, is with us!

DATES COMING UP

- Tues 3/5 Diocesan Cross Country
- Fri 6/5 Mothers Day Breakfast Liturgy & Stall
- Tues 10/5 NAPLAN Yrs 3 & 5
- Wed 11/5 NAPLAN Yrs 3 & 5
- Thur 12/5 NAPLAN Yrs 3 & 5

Address:

1 Stone Street GLENDENNING NSW 2761

Phone:

9832 3062

Fax:

9832 3065

Website: www.stfrancisglendenning.catholic.edu.au

email: stfrancis@parra.catholic.edu.au

WINTER UNIFORM

Children should be in their **full winter uniform** by Monday 9th May. There is a new winter uniform available for purchase for the students who need a new winter uniform.

The new items include:

FOR GIRLS

A new checked tunic, new tie and navy blue tights.

FOR BOYS

A new long sleeved shirt with the school logo, a new tie and navy blue pants.

There is a new jacket to go with the winter uniform, but this won't be available until next term.

Just a reminder to parents that there is a two year change over period and it is not necessary to purchase the new uniforms if your old one is still in good condition.

MOTHERS DAY CELEBRATIONS

Next Friday 6th May 2016, our mums, grandmothers and aunties are all welcome to visit the children at St Francis and share some of their day.

We start the day off with a Pancake Breakfast at 8:15 in the school hall. The pancakes will be cooked and prepared by St Francis staff.

At 9:15 you are invited to join us in the hall for a special Mothers' Day liturgy.

Following the liturgy the Parent Group will be selling Mothers' Day gifts in the hall. Students will be able to purchase something special for Mum for this Mothers' Day.

Gifts will be either \$3 or \$5 and it would be appreciated if children can have the correct amount as this avoids having to give change.

FUNDRAISING RAFFLE

St Vincent De Paul has been given \$5000 worth of electronic equipment from Officeworks through Fr Vincy at Good Shepherd Church. After discussions between Fr Gerard and Fr Vincy, they have decided to raffle off these items to raise funds.

To make this a successful raffle they need our help and are asking if we could take some tickets and sell them.

Fr Gerard will be drawing the raffle at the Parish Expo on the 15th May.

NAPLAN DATES

Our Years 3 and 5 students have three assessments coming up in Week 3 of the term (10/11/12th May). It is an opportunity to take a 'snapshot' of each student and we gain an enormous amount of data from these assessments. Keeping in mind that it is only one assessment over the year we try to minimise anxiety with the students by not overwhelming them with hype about testing.

STAFF DEVELOPMENT DAY

Friday 3rd June 2016.

On this day staff will be working on developing their skills in multiplicative thinking,



CONDOLENCES

Our prayers and condolences to the Kennedy family (Ben 10), on the passing of his grandfather. May he rest in peace.

STAFF CAR PARKS

Just a reminder to families that the car parks behind the hall and outside the front office are for staff parking only as these spaces are limited.

ELECTRONIC NEWSLETTER

Don't forget to subscribe to our school newsletter electronically through our school website. You can also view the newsletter through our Skoolbag App.

OLMC PARRAMATTA OPEN MORNING TOUR

Our Lady of Mercy College Parramatta warmly invites you to attend our Open Morning Tour on Monday May 9, 2016.

Tour the College and discover why a Mercy Education is treasured for life and enjoy a 'comfortable cup of tea' with the College Leadership Team.

The College is now enrolling for 2018.

Visit www.olmc.nsw.edu.au to reserve your place. Contact the Registrar 8838 1222 to discuss how your daughter can be a Mercy Girl.

OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY SERVICES FOR CHILDREN

Sharon Duff & Louise Duff

Occupational Therapists

Louise and Sharon are Occupational Therapists in private practice and have over 20 years experience working with children who have motor, coordination, attention and handwriting difficulties.

They will be working from St Francis of Assisi and are able to conduct school based assessment and therapy sessions. The sessions are paid for by the child's family. Those with private health insurance may be eligible to claim some of the expenses. Some families may also be eligible to claim a limited number of sessions through Medicare (but this would need to be discussed with their GP). Sessions may also be conducted at consulting rooms if preferred.

Louise and Sharon work with the following types of problems:

- ◆ Handwriting difficulties for example
 - poor legibility and speed of writing
 - difficulty organising & planning writing problematic pencil grip
 - pain and limited endurance when writing
 - poor motivation or performance for writing tasks
 - reduced confidence with written work
- ◆ Fine motor difficulties including
 - Cutting, colouring, drawing
 - Manipulating objects such as buttons and laces
 - Attention difficulties

If you would like any additional information, the contact details are:

Mobile : 0409 993 198 (Sharon) or 0419 122 796 (Louise)

Email: clubhouseot@bigpond.com.au

Offices: Suite 20, Level 3 The Children's Hospital Medical Centre, Westmead

Suite 9 Charrington Court, 35 Old Northern Rd, Baulkham Hills

1,2,3 MAGIC & EMOTION COACHING - PARENT COURSE

Learn to manage difficult behaviour in children
2-12 years old

A three-session program for parents and carers

Venue: St Francis of Assisi, Glendenning
1 Stone Street Glendenning Tel: 9832 3062

Learn:

- ✓ How to discipline without arguing, yelling or smacking
- ✓ How to sort behaviour
- ✓ How to handle challenging and testing behaviours
- ✓ Choosing your strategy, the three choices
- ✓ Using emotion coaching to encourage good behaviour
- ✓ 7 tactics for encouraging good behaviour

Parents will receive:

- A 1-2-3 Magic & Emotion Coaching Parent Workbook

The course is 3 sessions and will be held on the following dates:

Session 1 6pm – 8pm Wednesday 4th May 2016

Session 2 6pm – 8pm Wednesday 11th May 2016

Session 3 6pm – 8pm Wednesday 18th May 2016

Registration Fee?

The course costs \$10 (per parent or per couple) which covers the cost of the Parent Workbook. Register for this course by contacting St Francis of Assisi School Office on 9832 3062.

If you are interested in attending this course but are finding it difficult to make payment please see Mrs Bellenger.

TERM 2 OVERVIEW - 2016

EVENT DATES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE

WEEK	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SAT/SUN
1 APR MAY	25 th ANZAC DAY	26 th School Resumes Anzac Ceremony Winter Uniform	27 th	28 th Year 4 Reconciliation St Peter Chanel	29 th	30 th 1 st
2 APR MAY	2 nd	3 rd Diocesan Cross Country	4 th	5 th Feast of the Ascension Mass Year 4	6 th Mother's Day Liturgy & Stall	7 th 8 th Mothers' Day
3 MAY	9 th	10 th Yr 3 & 5 NAPLAN	11 th Yr 3 & 5 NAPLAN	12 th Year 2 – Priest class visit Yr 3 & 5 NAPLAN	13 th Whole School Photo	14 th 15 th PENTECOST
4 MAY	16 th	17 th	18 th	19 th Year 3 Reconciliation	20 th	21 st 22 nd
5 MAY	23 rd	24 th	25 th	26 th Year 3 Mass	27 th	28 th 29 th
6 MAY JUN	30 th	31 st	1 st	2 nd Whole School Mass to celebrate Feast of Sacred Heart	3 rd Staff Development Day. Feast of Sacred Heart	4 th 5 th
7 JUN	6 th	7 th	8 th	9 th Kindy – Priest class visit	10 th	11 th 12 th
8 JUN	13 th QUEEN'S BIRTHDAY	14 th	15 th	16 th Athletics Carnival Cluster Meeting 8am-12pm	17 th Reports sent home	18 th 19 th
9 JUN	20 th Family conferences this week	21 st	22 nd	23 rd Year 6 Reconciliation	24 th Read-a-thon	25 th 26 th
10 JUN JUL	27 th	28 th	29 th	30 th Year 6 Mass	1 st Last day of term	2 nd 3 rd