

# ST FRANCIS OF ASSISI COMMUNITY NEWS UPDATE

**Term 4**

**Week 7**

**24th November 2016**

Dear Parents

This Sunday, the church begins a new liturgical year with the start of the season of Advent. It is a time when we get ready for the birth of Jesus. This is always such a busy time for each of us. We count down the days, make plans for who is coming for Christmas or which family member will host Christmas, what food we will prepare and of course what presents we will give. We watch all the adds on TV that tell us what we could and should be doing. It can be overwhelming because we want everything to be just right.

When we get caught up with this hype we can forget the real reason why we have this celebration. Advent reminds us of when Jesus was born in Bethlehem in a simple stable. He didn't have all the trimmings that the supermarkets are selling. The act of Jesus' birth shows us the wonder of God's love in sending his Son to live among us. During Advent we are asked to think about this great love and spread it to all we meet. Advent invites us to examine our commitment to work at establishing God's kingdom here and now.

As this week's Gospel reminds us we must be ready for Jesus. We hear about Noah getting ready for the flood even when those around him thought he was crazy. Let us, during the season of Advent, be ready!



## Kindy Transition

Today we welcomed both parents and students for the last Kindy 2017 transition program. It was a wonderful turn out. Some parents were seasoned professionals, having sent their children to St Francis in past years, while some parents were a little apprehensive about sending their first child along to the scary world of BIG school. It is a privilege to be part of this exciting journey that the children will undertake. We wish both students and parents the best as they start the long road ahead of school life.

## DATES COMING UP

- Mon 28/11/16 Swimming Begins
- Fri 09/12/16 Reports go home  
P & F Christmas Carols
- Mon 12/12/16 Principal's Morning Tea
- Tues 13/12/16 Swimming Carnival Years 2 to 5
- Thur 15/12/16 Thanksgiving Mass  
Year 6 Graduation Liturgy
- Fri 16/12/16 Year 6 Luna Park  
K - 5 Water Fun Day  
Last Day of School

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### 2017 TERM DATES

**Term 1 - Mon 30th January 17 to Fri 7th April**

**Term 2 - Wed 26th April to Fri 30th June**

**Term 3 - Tues 18th July to Fri 22nd September**

**Term 4 - Mon 9th October - Fri 15th December**

### OZ FASHION SPORTS UNIFORMS

Our school uniform supplier Oz Fashion, will now be taking orders for ALL school uniforms, including the sports uniform. Sports uniforms will no longer be available to purchase directly from the school office. Order forms are available from the office to purchase ALL uniforms directly from Oz Fashion.

### SWIMMING CARNIVAL YEARS 2 TO 5 (yellow note)

Our annual school swimming carnival will be held on Tuesday 13th December at Stanhope Leisure Centre. Permission notes for the carnival were sent home. These need to be returned ASAP.

### OFFICE ROLLOVER

The **office will be closed on TUESDAY 13TH DEC** due to rollover. The office will not be accepting payments from Monday 12th December to Wednesday the 14th December. Please ensure you make any payments prior to Friday 8th December.



This will take place in the St Francis playground. Activities include Slip N Slide, Water Slides and other water activities.

We have had a few payments with no permission notes or names. If you have handed in your payment in an envelope or plastic bag with no name can you please contact the office.

### TALENT QUEST 2016

**THIS WILL BE HELD HERE AT  
ST FRANCIS ON FRIDAY 25TH NOVEMBER  
AT 1:30PM IN THE HALL.**

**FAMILIES ARE INVITED TO ATTEND.**

### 2017 SCHOOL BASED FEES

The 2017 Resource Fee has been set at \$206.00 per student (an increase of 3% from 2016 in line with the CEDP guidelines).

The 2017 Activities Fee has been set at \$250 per student. The increase from 2016 is due to the addition of a yoga and gymnastics program.

The Activity Fee includes the fees for class excursion, the swimming program, athletics and swimming carnivals plus St Francis Day events.

Please see the next page for a detailed schedule of the 2017 Diocesan fees.

### SWIMMING PROGRAM



The swimming program commences on Monday 28th November, with Year 6 departing first at 9am. Please ensure that your child arrives at school on time so they do not miss the bus. If you have not returned your permission note please do so ASAP.

### SPORTS DAYS

Sports uniform days will return to normal for students in Kindy and Year 3. Kindy sports day will go back to Wednesday and Year 3 will be on Thursday.

### CAPTIVATE CONCERT

Congratulations to all the children who participated in the captivate concert held on Tuesday.

The children have worked hard during the year to increase their musical skills and should be proud of their efforts.

Thank you to all the parents who attended. It is wonderful to see the support that you give your children.

### P & F CHRISTMAS CAROLS FRIDAY 9TH DECEMBER

A note was sent home yesterday asking parents to complete their choice of food (pizza or sausage sizzle) for the carols. This is for catering purposes.

The note also asks for volunteers. If you are able to assist please complete your details and return it to the office ASAP.

# 2017 Diocesan School Fees

21 November 2016

Dear parents and carers

Please find below the 2017 Diocesan school fees schedule which includes a modest 3.0% increase on the fees from 2016. Every effort has been made to keep the fee increase to a minimum and I am pleased to report that the increase is *less than* the 3.3% education CPI increase for the same period.

School-based fees will also be limited to a 3.0% increase to ensure we have consistency across our Diocese. School-based fees cover the costs of important things such as technology and school administration.

I appreciate that from time to time, some families might experience financial challenges. With this in mind, I take this opportunity to remind you that confidential fee support is available through

- discounts for families with multiple siblings in our schools
- flexible payment plans
- hardship concession policies for families in need
- the Bishop Manning Scholarship Fund
- the Byawalla Co-contribution Scheme for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander families.

## Tuition Fees - 2017

The 2017 diocesan tuition fees are outlined below:

ANNUAL FEES	No charge for 4th+ children	1st Child 100%	2nd Child 75%	3rd Child 50%
Primary	Kindergarten	\$1,131	\$849	\$567
	Years 1 – 6	\$1,461	\$1,095	\$732
	Years 7 – 8	\$2,028	\$1,521	\$1,014
Secondary	Years 9 – 10	\$2,250	\$1,689	\$1,125
	Years 11 – 12	\$2,874	\$2,157	\$1,437

The 2017 term rate for each of the first three terms is outlined below:

TERM FEES	Charged in Terms 1, 2 & 3	1st Child 100%	2nd Child 75%	3rd Child 50%
Primary	Kindergarten	\$377	\$283	\$189
	Years 1 – 6	\$487	\$365	\$244
	Years 7 – 8	\$676	\$507	\$338
Secondary	Years 9 – 10	\$750	\$563	\$375
	Years 11 – 12	\$958	\$719	\$479



## Diocesan Building Levy - 2017

The Diocesan Building Levy enables us, through our capital works program, to meet the demand for new schools and new classes in high growth areas, and to continue to maintain all schools to a high standard.

All families with one or more children in a Parramatta Diocesan school or at St Dominic's College Kingswood are required to pay the annual Diocese of Parramatta Diocesan Building Levy. This levy has replaced the various building levies that parents previously paid to school building funds (managed by either parishes or schools). The levy for 2017 is \$756 *per family*, payable in three equal instalments of \$252 payable in Terms 1, 2 and 3.

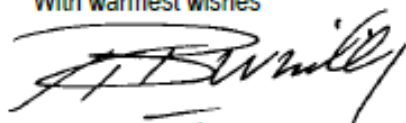
## Annual Diocesan Education Fee Temporary Residents - 2017

The Diocesan Education Fee Temporary Residents for 2017 is \$1,869 *per student*, payable in three equal instalments of \$623 in Terms 1, 2 and 3. The fee applies to new students on the following visa numbers: 173, 401, 402, 411, 415, 416, 417, 418, 419, 420, 421, 422, 423, 426, 427, 428, 442, 456, 457, 459, 462, 476, 485, 497, 580, 600, 601, 651, 675, 676, 679, 685, 884, 944, 956, 976 and 977 including where any of these are the preceding visas for families on bridging visas 010 to 090.

Families charged this fee in 2013 will continue to be charged on a *per family* basis to the eldest student whilst the family has continuous current students.

Thank you for your continuing support of Catholic education. Please be assured that we will continue to provide exciting learning experiences for them within our Catholic faith environment.

With warmest wishes



Gregory B Whitby  
Executive Director  
Catholic Education  
Parramatta of Diocese



Catholic Education  
Diocese of Parramatta





# EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S *Summer Reading Challenge*

Read as many books as you can, tell us why you love them, and you could win one of **four iPad minis**

The more books you read, the more chances you have to win\*

Enter online at [www.parra.catholic.edu.au](http://www.parra.catholic.edu.au)  
Entries close 7 February 2017

\*Terms and Conditions apply

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# TERM 4 OVERVIEW – 2016

WEEK	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SAT/SUN
1  OCT	10 <sup>th</sup>	11 <sup>th</sup>	12 <sup>th</sup>	13 <sup>th</sup>  Year 6 – Reconciliation	14 <sup>th</sup>	15 <sup>th</sup> St Francis of Assisi Annual Fete  16 <sup>th</sup>
2  OCT	17 <sup>th</sup>	18 <sup>th</sup>  Way of Mercy 12:30pm – 3pm	19 <sup>th</sup>	20 <sup>th</sup>	21 <sup>st</sup>	22 <sup>nd</sup>  23 <sup>rd</sup> Parish celebration for Dedication of Good Shepherd Church
3  OCT	24 <sup>th</sup>	25 <sup>th</sup>	26 <sup>th</sup>  Diocesan	27 <sup>th</sup> Year 4  Reconciliation  Year 2 Excursion	28 <sup>th</sup>  World Teachers Day	29 <sup>th</sup>  30 <sup>th</sup>
4  OCT/ NOV	31 <sup>st</sup>	1 <sup>st</sup>  ALL SAINTS  Melbourne Cup	2 <sup>nd</sup>  ALL SOULS	3 <sup>rd</sup>  Year 4-Mass  Kinder 2017 Transition	4 <sup>th</sup>	5 <sup>th</sup>  6 <sup>th</sup>
5  Nov	7 <sup>th</sup>	8 <sup>th</sup>	9 <sup>th</sup>	10 <sup>th</sup> Year 3 Reconciliation  Kinder 2017 Transition	11 <sup>th</sup>  <i>SDD Spirituality</i>	12 <sup>th</sup>  13 <sup>th</sup>
6  NOV	14 <sup>th</sup>	15 <sup>th</sup>  Band Concert for Parents Grade 4,5 & 6	16 <sup>th</sup>	17 <sup>th</sup>  Year 3 Mass  Kinder 2017 Transition	18 <sup>th</sup>  Year 3 excursion	19 <sup>th</sup>  20 <sup>th</sup>
7  NOV	21 <sup>st</sup>	22 <sup>nd</sup>	23 <sup>rd</sup>	24 <sup>th</sup> Year 5 Reconciliation  Kinder 2017 Transition	25 <sup>th</sup>  Talent Quest	26 <sup>th</sup>  27 <sup>th</sup>
8  NOV DEC	28 <sup>th</sup>  Swimming Program Begins (2 weeks)	29 <sup>th</sup>	30 <sup>th</sup>	1 <sup>st</sup>  Year 5 Mass	2 <sup>nd</sup>	3 <sup>rd</sup>  4 <sup>th</sup>
9  DEC	5 <sup>th</sup>  Swimming program continues	6 <sup>th</sup>	7 <sup>th</sup>	8 <sup>th</sup>  Feast of Mary Immaculate	9 <sup>th</sup>  Christmas Carols  Reports go home	10 <sup>th</sup>  11 <sup>th</sup>
10  DEC	12 <sup>th</sup>  Principals Morning Tea	13 <sup>th</sup>  Swimming Carnival	14 <sup>th</sup>	15 <sup>th</sup> Thanksgiving Mass  Year 6 Graduation Liturgy 7pm	16 <sup>th</sup>  Year 6 Fun Day  K-5 Water Day  School Closes	17 <sup>th</sup>  18 <sup>th</sup>
11  DEC	19 <sup>th</sup>  SDD	20 <sup>th</sup>  SDD	21 <sup>st</sup>	22 <sup>nd</sup>	23 <sup>rd</sup>	Have a wonderful Christmas