

ST FRANCIS OF ASSISI COMMUNITY NEWS UPDATE

Term 4

Week 8

2nd December 2016

Last Sunday marked the beginning of the Church's liturgical year. Each season has its special grace and in the season of Advent we prepare for Christmas and await with expectant longing for God to be born again into our lives, our families, our Church and our world. During Advent we are meant to take stock of our lives, to check our direction and to await with expectation the special grace that God promises to offer us at Christmas.

During the Advent season we symbolically participate in the waiting of the patriarchs, kings, prophets, and priests, as we await Christ's final and glorious return. As we wait in long lines this Advent season, or as we wait for anything really, we can remember the waiting of those expecting the Messiah, and always wait with patience, humility, and expectant hope in a state of prayer. It is difficult, but especially during

Advent, waiting prayerfully and patiently, in the manner of our Lord and his blessed Mother, is not only a good spiritual discipline, but could also lower our risk of holiday induced blood pressure. It seems like we're all waiting for something, so why not use these experiences to enhance our Advent disciplines by prayerfully waiting, joining our prayers with Isaiah, Zechariah, and all the saints?

Come Lord Jesus may we be prepared for your coming in glory



DATES COMING UP

- 05/12/16 Swimming program continues
- 09/12/16 Reports go home
- 12/12/16 Principal's morning tea for Term 4 respect award recipients
- 13/12/16 Office closed due to finance rollover
Swimming Carnival years 2 to 5
- 15/12/16 Thanksgiving Mass 10am
Parent Helper Thank You Morning Tea 10.45am
Year 6 Graduation Liturgy 7pm
- 16/12/16 Year 6 at Luna Park
Kindy to Year 5 water fun day

LAST DAY OF SCHOOL

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THE SWIMMING PROGRAM WILL CONTINUE NEXT WEEK. THE LAST CLASS FOR STUDENTS IS ON THURSDAY THE 8TH DECEMBER.

SCHOOL OFFICE CLOSED

The school office will be closed on Tuesday 13th December due to the Finance Rollover. NO receipting or cheques can be processed on this day.

STUDENT BUS PASSES

It is important that students are registered with OPAL and use their student OPAL cards when getting on school buses. The cards are issued free of charge, but students or parents must apply through the Transport for NSW website:

<http://www.transport.nsw.gov.au>

CANTEEN PRE ORDERS FOR WATER FUN DAY

On the last day of term the canteen will be taking pre ordered lunches only. A form was sent home today. Please make sure money is enclosed and that this is handed directly to the canteen.

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. Please return these to the office ASAP.

KINDER 2017 TRANSITION

Congratulations to the 2017 Kindergarten children and parents on the fabulous four transition days that they have attended over the last four weeks. I would like to particularly thank our current Kindy families for the wonderful way in which you sent in food items to provide a delicious morning tea for our new Kindy families commencing at St Francis of Assisi in 2017.

A huge thanks also to the Kindergarten Teachers and Aides for their preparation in ensuring a successful Transition Program for the students and parents.

SCHOOL RESUMES

MONDAY 30TH JANUARY 2017.

ALL STUDENTS START ON THIS DAY.

Reconciliation Times @ Good Shepherd Church

Saturdays 11am-12noon

2nd Rite Reconciliation for Christmas

(Wed) Dec 14 @ 7:30pm

(including a Samoan priest who can hear confessions in the Native language)

CHRISTMAS TIMES

Dec 24 6pm Children's Mass

Dec 24 8pm Youth Mass

Mid-Night Mass @ Midnight

Christmas Day

Dec 25 7am / 9am / 12noon in Vietnamese

YEARLY LEARNING REPORTS

The teachers are in the process of writing reports for your child that will let you know about your child's learning during the second half of this year.

Reports will be sent home on Friday 9th December. We do not have an official parent-teacher interview at this time of the year, however, once you have received your child's report, if you would like to speak with your child's teacher, please make an appointment to see them.

CANTEEN STOCK AVAILABILITY

As the end of year approaches there will be limited stock available in the canteen. On occasions an order may be placed but an alternative item may be given.

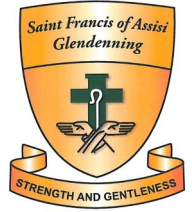


This will take place in the St Francis playground. Activities include Slip N Slide, Water Slides and other water activities.

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.

Dear Parents,

As we enter the season of Advent, we are all very busy making preparations for our family Christmas celebrations. Some families around us struggle at this time to make ends meet. The St Vincent de Paul Society does great work to help provide these families with Christmas hampers.



You can help St Vincent de Paul spread Christmas cheer this year by donating items for their Christmas Appeal Hampers. Hampers are distributed through our local Conference members. Please send your donation in to your child's classroom before Tuesday next week. Please ensure that all food items are in date with several months until expiry.

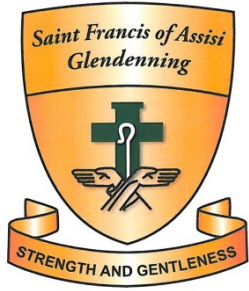
Below is a list of suggestions

- Tins of shoulder ham
- Christmas cake/pudding
- Long life custard/cream/milk
- Christmas decorations (eg. BonBons, tinsel)
- Christmas plates/napkins
- Tins of fruit
- Lollies
- Biscuits (assorted)
- Salsa and corn chips
- Rice
- Jellies
- Jam/honey/vegemite
- Coffee, tea, sugar
- Hot chocolate/Milo
- Gravox
- Pasta and pasta sauces
- Tins of vegetables (eg. carrots, peas, corn, potatoes)
- Drinks (eg. soft drink, fruit juice, cordial)
- Toys

Thank you

Mrs Kate Owens





THANK YOU MORNING TEA

To show our gratitude to all those parents who have assisted at Saint Francis School this year,
we would like to extend an invitation to join the staff in a morning tea on:

Thursday 15th December, 2016

The morning tea will commence at 10.45am after the Thanksgiving Mass
and will be held in the staffroom.

For catering purposes, if you are attending the morning tea could you
please notify the office by Monday 12th December.

Looking forward to seeing you there.

Mrs Jenny Bellenger and the Staff of Saint Francis of Assisi School



Thank You!

St Francis of Assisi Primary Christmas Carols

Friday 9th December, 5pm till 8 pm

Food available from 5pm. Carols start at 6pm

It's the time of year when we will all come together to celebrate our annual Christmas Carols.

This year we would like to offer **guaranteed front row seats** to those who volunteer to help while your children perform. There will be a limit of front row seats available for each class, so make sure you hand in your form ASAP. Allocation of front row seats will be given to those who hand in their form first, from each year.



Please return this section by Tuesday 6th December.

PIZZA

SAUSAGE SIZZLE

Only fill in your details below if you wish to volunteer

Volunteers are needed from 3:30pm on the day to assist with setting up, cooking sausages, serving food and drinks, selling Christmas craft, clean up.

Your help will contribute to making the Carols an enjoyable night for all.

Parents Name_____

Contact no_____ **Childs name**_____

If you wish to volunteer, please complete the online **Child Protection Briefing**.

<http://childprotection.parra.catholic.edu.au/training>



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