



ST FRANCIS OF ASSISI NEWSLETTER

Term 4
Week 6
22nd November 2019

MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Parents

This Sunday we celebrate the feast of Christ the King. In the gospel, we hear a recount of Jesus dying on the cross. Both the soldiers and the crowd that was watching mocked him. Above him is a sign that says, "This is the King of the Jews."

This gospel reminds us that Jesus was a different type of King. He did not have a crown or the trappings of wealth. He did not even surround himself with wealthy and important people. He came to be with the outcast and the poor. Jesus gives us the example of a servant king.

In the gospel Jesus invited one of the thieves on the cross to join him in paradise that day. He invites each one of us to also join him in paradise but first we are asked to go out and promote the kingdom of God. This is not always easy. We need to pray to God for help to live the life of Jesus' example.

It reminds us of St Francis' words....

"Preach the Gospel at all times and when necessary use words"

SWIMMING PROGRAM

The swimming program starts on Monday 2nd December and finishes on Friday 13th December. Children will travel to and from the pool by bus and will need to make sure they are on time each day so they can get on the bus with their class.

Year 4 and 6A are the first classes to head to the pool in the morning. These children will need to be ready to leave as soon as the bell goes. Please wear your swimmers underneath your school clothes.

Just a reminder to parents to please remember to pack underwear for your children as this is often forgotten when swim school is taking place.



IMPORTANT DATES AND EVENTS

Fri 29/11 Year 1 Loreto Pantomime
Mon 02/12 Swimming program begins
Wed 11/12 Christmas Concert
Thur 16/12 Swimming Carnival Yr 2 - 5
Tues 17/12 Year 6 Graduation
Wed 18/12 Year 6 Luna Park / K-5 Water Fun Day
Thur & Fri 19 /12 - 20/12 STAFF DEVELOPMENT DAYS



MASS TIMES @ GOOD SHEPHERD
Mon, Tues, Thurs, Fri 6am & 9am
Wed 6am & 7.30pm (Novena)
Sat 8am & 6pm (Vigil)
Sun 7am, 9am & 6pm

JERSEY DAY FUNDRAISER FOR DROUGHT AFFECTED FAMILIES

Thank you to everyone who participated or donated to the Jersey Day fundraiser last Friday. As a school and community we raised \$712.85. This money will go to St Francis Xavier Primary School who will make up Christmas Hampers for families who are affected by the drought. Thank you for your wonderful support!

TERM 4 CONCLUDES

**TERM 4 CONCLUDES ON
WEDNESDAY 18TH DECEMBER**

(Thursday 19th December and
Friday 20th December are Pupil Free Days).

TERM 1 2020 START DATES

**STUDENTS IN YEARS 1 TO 6 RETURN TO SCHOOL
ON WEDNESDAY 29TH JANUARY 2019**

**KINDERGARTEN 2020 START ON
FRIDAY 31ST JANUARY**

SWIMMING CARNIVAL 2019

Our annual school swimming carnival will be held on Monday 16th December at Stanhope Leisure Centre. Parents are welcome to come along. We will be looking for volunteers on the day. If you are interested in volunteering please make sure you have completed the **'Building Child Safe Communities - undertaking for volunteers' form and online training**. This needs to be done every two years. If yours has expired please make sure it is current before volunteering. (If you need assistance with this please call the office).

CLASS GROUPS 2020

Over the next few weeks the teachers will spend a significant amount of time ensuring that all students have a positive transition from one year to the next. This includes teachers meeting with each other to learn about all the students that they will be teaching the following year.

This is a very thorough and thoughtful process. Teachers take many factors into consideration when regrouping children, including social and learning needs.

I ask parents to trust the decisions made in grouping students, as I trust, if there has been a problem and/or concern regarding a child's needs this would have already been conveyed to teachers during the year. If you have a significant circumstance, not including friendship requests, please write a letter to me or email the school email address. It will be reviewed in light of the grade grouping processes and consideration may be given to your request.

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 Wednesday 11th 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.

CONDOLENCES



Our condolences to the Price family (Ruby, Leo, Ellie and Jessie) on the passing of their grandfather.

Our prayers and thoughts are with your family at this time. May he rest in peace.

THANK YOU

Thank you to the Kindergarten families who supplied morning tea yesterday for our 2020 Kindy parents. We had a wonderful response. There were quite a number of cakes and biscuits left over.

Today Year 5 ran a cake stall, using the left over cakes and biscuits. \$116.00 WAS raised from the cake stall and will be going to St Francis Xavier Primary School, together with the money raised from Jersey Day. This money will go to St Francis Xavier Primary School, who will make up Christmas Hampers for families who are affected by the drought.

SCHOOL FEES

School fee arrangements are coming to an end. If you have any fees outstanding you will receive a statement with any amounts owing at the beginning of December. If you are unsure please contact the office.



PARENTS OF YEAR 4

Please join us
for the
Year 4
Book Launch

Date: Tuesday 26th
November 9.30am

Venue: St Francis of Assisi
School Library



A day here or there doesn't seem like much but absences
add up 2 days a month adds up to 4 weeks a year /
20 days a year which is over one year of lost learning.

EVERY DAY COUNTS

every learner
every day



2020 KINDY TRANSITION

Over the past three weeks we held the 2020 Kinder Transition Program. What a wonderfully talented and settled group of students. A special thank you to the current Kindy parents for providing morning tea. A warm welcome to our new Kinder families. We look forward to having them join our St Francis community in 2020.



Dear Parents,

As the season of Advent approaches, 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 by Friday 6th December. Please ensure that all food items are in date with several months until expiry.

Below is a list of suggestions: (items in bold are needed the most)

Biscuits (assorted sweet and savoury)

Jam/honey/vegemite

Pasta sauces

Tins of salmon/tuna

Tinned meat

Tinned soup

Tins of vegetables (eg. carrots, peas, corn, potatoes)

Instant noodles

Cereals

Coffee, tea, sugar

Hot chocolate/Milo

Drinks (eg. soft drink, fruit juice, cordial)

Pasta

Rice

Long life custard/cream/milk

Tins of fruit



Thank you

Mr Chris Boyer

2020 Diocesan School Fees

22 November 2019

Dear parents and carers

Please find below the Annual Diocesan fees schedule for 2020. The new schedule includes a very modest 1.5% increase on the fees from 2019, a reflection of Bishop Vincent Long's aim of making our Catholic schools as affordable as possible for families.

School-based fees will also be limited to a 1.5% increase. School-based fees cover the costs of things such as technology and school administration.

School fees are generally billed in instalments during Terms 1, 2 and 3. The fee is made up of three main parts:

1. Diocesan tuition fee

These are set by Catholic Education Diocese of Parramatta and are the *same for every school*. There are **significant sibling discounts** for families with more than one child at a Catholic Education Diocese of Parramatta school (it does not have to be the same school).

Those discounts and a list of the annual Diocesan tuition fees for 2020 are outlined below:

2020 Diocesan tuition fee schedule (per year)

	1 st child (100%)	2 nd child (75%)	3 rd child (50%)	4 th Child (0%)
Kindergarten	\$1,224	\$918	\$612	No fee
Years 1 – 6	\$1,581	\$1,185	\$792	No fee
Years 7 – 8	\$2,190	\$1,644	\$1,095	No fee
Years 9 – 10	\$2,430	\$1,824	\$1,215	No fee
Years 11 – 12	\$3,102	\$2,328	\$1,551	No fee

2. Diocesan Building Levy

This fee is set by Catholic Education Diocese of Parramatta and is the same for every school. The annual Diocesan building levy for 2020 is \$822. This is an increase of 2% from 2019. This increase is slightly higher than the tuition fee increase of 1.5% as governments do not provide sufficient capital funding for our school provisioning program.

There is only one Diocesan building levy per family with one or more children in a Parramatta Diocesan school or at St Dominic's College, Kingswood and it is billed in instalments over the first 3 terms of the year. A sibling discount for the building levy of 50% applies to families with children within the bordering Archdiocese of Sydney and Dioceses of Wollongong and Broken Bay.

LEARNING FOR TODAY'S WORLD



12 Victoria Road North Parramatta NSW 150 Locked Bag 4 North Parramatta NSW 1750 9840 5600



www.parra.catholic.edu.au



[catholicedparra](https://www.facebook.com/catholicedparra)



[@CatholicEdParra](https://twitter.com/CatholicEdParra)



[catholicedparra](https://www.youtube.com/catholicedparra)

3. School-based fees

These are determined by the school according to the needs of that school and billable for each child. School-based fees are often called 'resource fees' or 'activity fees'. These fees help schools cover the costs of things like teaching resources, technology, excursions etc.

This fee varies between schools. Please contact the school to find out more about their school-based fees.

Although it varies from school to school, as a guide, the Diocesan tuition fee represents roughly half the overall fee per year.

Here's how we can help

We appreciate that from time to time, some families experience financial challenges. As well as sibling discounts, confidential fee support is available through the following means:

- **Flexible payment options**

Families enrolled in CEDP schools are offered flexible payment options at the start of each year. These options provide opportunities to select a payment plan that best suits you. Payments can be made by direct debit on a weekly, fortnightly or monthly basis at no additional charge.

- **Fee assistance**

We understand financial circumstances can change and that these changes can impact on families. Please speak with your school principal confidentially if your family experiences financial difficulty or hardship so an appropriate arrangement can be made.

- **Bishop Manning Support Fund**

In addition to fee assistance programs, the Bishop Manning Support Fund is available to families who experience challenges meeting the cost of school fees due to financial hardship. Further information is available at the [Bishop Manning Support Fund](#) page of the CEDP website.

- **Byallawa Co-contribution Scheme**

The Byallawa co-contribution scheme provides assistance to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander families to ensure a quality Catholic education is affordable and accessible. Further information is available on our [Byallawa Co-contribution Scheme](#) page of the CEDP website.

Thank you for your ongoing support of our Catholic schools.

Yours sincerely



Gregory B Whitby AM KSG
Executive Director
Catholic Education
Diocese of Parramatta

LEARNING FOR TODAY'S WORLD

TERM 4 OVERVIEW 2019

WEEK	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SAT/SUN
Oct	30 th Public Holiday	1 st Oct	2 nd	3 rd	4 th Feast of St Francis	5 th / 6 th
Oct	7 th	8 th	9 th	10 th	11 th	12 th / 13 th
Oct 1	14 th	15 th	16 th	17 th	18 th	19 th / 20 th
Oct 2	21 st	22 nd Year 2 Excursion	23 rd	24 th	25 th World Teachers Day	26 th / 27 th
Oct/ Nov 3	28 th	29 th	30 th	31 st All Saints Day Mass	1 st November Staff Development Day	2 nd / 3 rd
Nov 4	4 th	5 th Melbourne Cup	6 th	7 th Kindy 2020 Transition	8 th	9 th / 10 th
Nov 5	11 th Liturgy / Ceremony Remembrance Day	12 th	13 th	14 th All Day Reconciliation Kindy 2020 Transition	15 th	16 th / 17 th
Nov 6	18 th	19 th	20 th	21 st Kindy 2020 Transition	22 nd	23 rd / 24 th Christ the King
Nov/ Dec 7	25 th	26 th	27 th	28 th	29 th Year 1 Loretto Pantomime	30 th / 1 st Dec
Dec 8	2 nd Swimming Program starts	3 rd	4 th	5 th Chinese Principal's Visit	6 th Chinese Principal's Visit	7 th / 8 th
Dec 9	9 th Swimming Program Continues	10 th	11 th Christmas Concert	12 th End of Year Mass	13 th	14 th / 15 th
Dec 10	16 th Swimming Carnival Years 2-5	17 th Year 6 Graduation	18 th Water Fun Day Luna Park Year 6	19 th SDD	20 th SDD	21 st / 22 nd