Message from the Principal

Dear Parents,

The past weeks has seen a number of our schools, their families and their teachers devastated by bushfires in the Blue Mountains. During this time our mountains communities need our support and prayers. I hope you may be able to give generously to the Diocese of Parramatta emergency bushfire appeal (details follow in the newsletter).

I would like to thanks Mrs. Lloyd for being such a wonderful staff member and Religious Education Coordinator over the past weeks. She has done a tremendous job while Mrs. Boyd has been on long service leave. We wish her all the best as she returns to her school in Greystanes.

Have a great week,

G Borg

Important School Information

- MEDICAL ALERTS—If your child suffers from any medical condition, either it be Asthma, Allergies, you need to inform the school and have an action plan put in place. Asthma suffers need to have puffers with them at all times during school especially with all the smoke that has been around with the bushfires.

- HEAD LICE—A case of head lice has been reported at school. Don’t worry as many children suffer from head lice throughout the year. Don’t wait for an itch as head lice can easily be passed from one head to another, and lice have no preference to hair type whether it’s dirty or clean, long or short, curly or straight. More information can be found on www.headlice.com.au.

- SCHOOL HOURS—School starts at 8.35am and concludes at 2.45pm. If your child arrives late to school a parent must walk the child into the office and sign their child in.

- ABSENTEEES—If students are absent from school due to sickness, a note must accompany the child when they return to school.

- SUPERVISION—Morning supervision begins at 8.05am. Some mornings children are arriving at school before this time. If you need to drop your children early in the morning due to work commitments please look into before school care.

- TRAVEL—Please consider planning your overseas trips to coincide with scheduled school breaks. It can be very disruptive to your child’s learning if they miss a significant length of time away from school. Due to changes in student leave, all leave periods must be approved from the Principal. Parents are required to fill in a Student Exemption Form before their intended holiday period.

PUPIL FREE DAY

As families are aware tomorrow, Friday 25 October 2013 is a Pupil Free Day at Mother Teresa Primary School. Catholic Out of School Hours Care at Mother Teresa is able to offer limited places for care on this day. Places will be allocated on a first come, first served basis, with priority given to families already enrolled at the service. Further enquiries are to be directed to the COSHC Supervisor on 0418 153 894 or natasha.foenander@parra.catholic.edu.au
A Faith Filled Community

This is my last week here at Mother Teresa and I thank you, your children and Gary and the school staff for making me so welcome over the last six weeks. You truly have a faith filled community with creative minds and gentle hearts.

Just this week, Year Two decided that they wanted to help raise funds and awareness for poorer communities. They had been learning about communities around the world and how some communities don’t have access to clean water, food, shelter and education.

On Friday the 18th of October they held a fundraising day. The fun day included egg and spoon races, colouring in competitions, jellybean guessing contests, a class shop with student made goods and a raffle. The students brainstormed, organised and ran all the events. As a result they raised $329.50 for Caritas.

Cloie said “We raise money because we know that the world has different countries, some countries are poor and some countries are not that poor. We are not poor so we raise money to help them.”

Grazia said “It is important to do something for people because people do things for us”.

Sevana said “Some people put their hearts into the day and donated. That really makes my heart go boom, boom, boom.”

Seth said “I feel happy because I am helping another community.”

Shaurya said “I was amazed at the end of the day when we raised over $300! I could not believe we raised that much money for the poor. The poor need a better life.”

What a wonderful example from such young children!

Again, thank you for accepting me into your community over the last 6 weeks. I have thoroughly enjoyed every moment I have been here.

Blessings to you all,

Rebecca Lloyd  Acting REC

“Not all of us can do great things. But we can do small things with great love.” — Mother Teresa

STUDENT DATA VALIDATION

Could parents please fill out and return the Student Data Validation sheet if there are any changes, so that the system can be updated. Thank you

SCHOOL UNIFORMS 2014

If you would like to start purchasing your school uniforms for 2014, you can either email your order, or come into the front office. www.motherteresawestmead.catholic.edu.au (download order form). The office will then fill your order and place in your child’s bag.

LEAVING STUDENTS

If your child will not be returning to school in 2014, you must notify the office as soon as possible and advise the last date of attendance at our school and the name of the new school your child will be attending.

CATHERINE McAULEY 2015 ENROLMENTS

Catherine McAuley is now accepting enrolments for Year 7 2015 and we have a school open morning on Wednesday 6 November for those families who want to beat the rush in early 2014. Please contact School Reception on 9849 9100
The Catholic Diocese of Parramatta has launched an emergency appeal to assist people who have been impacted by the New South Wales bushfires.

One person has died and over 300 homes have been lost or damaged including the homes of staff and families from St Thomas Aquinas parish & school community and St Columba’s High School.

Donations to the emergency appeal can be made through CatholicCare Social Services Parramatta www.ccss.org.au

Cheques can be made payable to CatholicCare Social Services - Bushfire Appeal and mailed to:
Bushfire Appeal, PO Box 2023, North Parramatta, NSW, 1750

Parishes and schools who would like to make a donation can send a cheque or deposit funds via:
BSB 062315
Account: 901486
Account Name: 5243 S2-Disaster Relief Appeal

Please give generously
and keep all those affected in your thoughts and prayers