



©St Kieran's Catholic School Manly Vale

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Looking ahead Term 1

Week 8	Week 9	Looking Ahead
<p>Saturday 14th</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> P&F Parent Wellbeing Workshop 10.30 – 1.30pm <p>Sunday 15th</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Children's Choir at 9.30am Mass <p>Tuesday 17th</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Yr 2 Excursion to Historical House Museum Normanhurst <p>Wednesday 18th</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Yr 4 Excursion to IMAX <p>Thursday 19th</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7pm Playful Parenting in iCentre <p>Friday 20th</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Yr 1 Excursion to Sydney Aquarium Mater Maria Anti Bullying Play <p>Saturday 21st</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> P&F Car Wash 11am – 4pm 	<p>Tuesday 24th</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Yrs 3 & 4 Soccer Gala Day Yr 6 Cluster Mass <p>Thursday 26th</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Yrs 5 & 6 Soccer Gala Day <p>Friday 27th</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assembly Yr 1 	<p>April</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Thurs 2nd Last Day Term 1 Mon 20th Term 2 commences Thurs 23rd Twilight Open Day <p>May</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Thurs 7th Mothers' Day breakfast & liturgy Sunday 17th Children's Choir at 9.30am Mass

Notices in Attachment Email

- KidsMatter – Friendship Skills
- Tips for Parents and Carers for Participation in Premier's Reading Challenge
- Premier's Reading Challenge - Book Bonus
- St Kieran's P&F Car Wash
- Faith and Families – Parish Support Unit

Principal

Dear Families,

This week we celebrated Catholic Schools Week. Last Thursday all staff who work in Catholic schools attended Mass at Waitara, celebrated by Bishop Peter, acknowledging the role of Catholic schools in evangelisation to share the 'Joy of the Gospel' and build the Kingdom of God. Leaders and teachers new to the diocese in 2015 were acknowledged and the assembly professed their commitment to look with new eyes at their privileged vocation to 'schooling Catholic' as disciples of Jesus Christ.

In his homily, Bishop Peter spoke of Catholic schools within the diocese as being committed to being 'conspicuous for Christ' and in being 'explicitly Catholic'. As a Catholic school community, teachers, students and parents, we share a responsibility to not only uphold the faith of our Church, but to live as Catholic disciples through our words and actions.

Fallow Week

Genesis 23:3 " God blessed the seventh day and sanctified it: because in it he had rested from all his work, created and made.

The term is rapidly passing by and we are approaching the week of 'slow down' called Fallow Week. This week is when the children have an opportunity to have a 'break' from their homework and focus on their own wellbeing; a time to relax and spend special time with their families after school or in pursuit of their favourite hobbies. Therefore, teachers will not be setting any homework for their classes and they too will look to have a biblical 'fallow week' of no early or afternoon meetings but leave school early to beat traffic and have time to nurture and care for themselves before the final weeks of the school term.

Our **parents** also are beginning *Fallow Week* with a **Wellbeing Day** on Saturday 14 March. Thank you Priscilla (Chang) for creating such an innovative day to acknowledge and give value to parent wellbeing needs and to those parents who will be assisting in workshops and participating in this inaugural event.

Diary date: On **Sunday 22 March** at 9:30am Mass, Bishop Peter will be co-celebrating Eucharist at the church of St Kieran. I know Bishop Peter will be very pleased to meet families, parents and children, from St Kieran's school.

God bless,



Terri Paterson
Principal

Assistant Principal

This year, in my role as Numeracy Coordinator, I have stepped into classrooms to co teach with the classroom teachers. The grades working with me during Term 1 are Year 3 and Year 5 with the focus being problem solving in Maths.



This is one aspect of the multi-faceted approach to teaching Mathematics during the Numeracy Blocks. Of course, parents have heard much about the use of the MAI and how it allows teachers to identify and target differing ability levels in Number. The initial impact of this is proving to have a positive effect on the children's skills in Number, however, the additional focus on Problem Solving allows students to apply their understandings across a range of areas in a variety of contexts, developing their ability to make connections between the different strands in Mathematics. The structure of the problem solving focus is crucial in allowing students to experience tasks and questions that enable "Thinking Mathematically". When students work on tasks in Maths where the focus is only on the right or wrong answer, then the thinking behind the answer isn't explored – and this very process nurtures and develops the ability to "Think Mathematically".

Part of the co teaching process is to plan investigation tasks in Maths that are multi layered, complex and open in structure. The best way to describe this is by the example:

If a teacher asks students to find the area of a rectangle – 10 metres by 2metres, the answer is 20 square metres. The students are being asked to think about one example of a rectangle.

Consider that the question is changed to: Find a rectangle with an area of 20 square metres. The students then are being asked to think about different sized rectangles as well as properties and dimensions of rectangles. There is more than one answer to this task! This is a strong example of a task that allows the children the opportunity to think differently, to prove their solutions and explain their thinking.

I will be running a series of Parent Education sessions during Term 2 this year for parents who may be interested in finding out more about the teaching of Maths in Primary School today. Dates for these sessions will be organised and communicated to parents before the end of this term.

As we move through the school year I will have the opportunity to plan collaboratively and co teach with all our teachers and classes and this is something I am looking forward to!



We have organised a NAPLAN Weebly (Website) for parents wishing to find out more about NAPLAN. The website can be found at: <http://naplan2015.weebly.com>
The password is: *naplan2015stkierans*

Should parents of children sitting for NAPLAN this year have further questions, please don't hesitate to contact the school.

Have a lovely weekend...
Marisa Bombardieri

Religious Education Coordinator

Please keep in your prayers the families and children who are preparing for their first Reconciliation. In preparation for Easter Years 6, 5 and 4 will be participating in the Sacrament of Reconciliation next week.



This year our Holy Week Liturgies will reflect upon "A Journey with Jesus".

The School community will accompany Jesus on his journey through Holy Week each afternoon at a 2.30pm assembly in the playground or in the church (wet weather). Each grade is preparing a small liturgy

Book Bonus offers an opportunity to encourage our students to read books for the Challenge while raising funds to help resource the school with high quality books.

Our school will receive books to 100% of the value of funds raised by our students and we'll also be helping schools in need across NSW. 50% of all funds raised will be used to provide books to schools in Dymocks Children's Charities literacy support programs.

Note also, there are **prizes for the students'** participation with each child raising over \$200 receiving a book of their choice (valued up to \$20) and prizes for the top fundraisers in the state. Please see the 'Newsletter Attachment' email for further details

Year 3 & 4 Gala Day Parent Volunteers Required

We are in desperate need of more volunteers for the Years 3 & 4 Soccer Gala Day on Tuesday 23 March. If you can help please let your child's class teacher know.

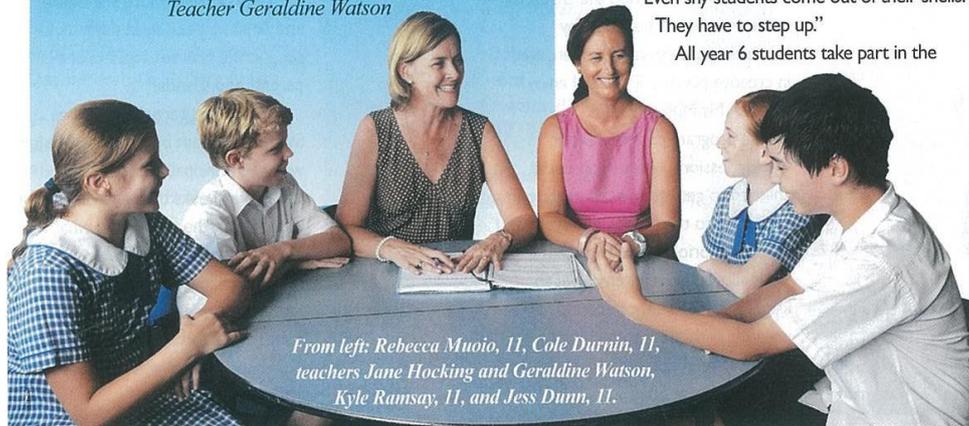
Did you see the feature in the Catholic Schools Week magazine?

Shaping future leaders

One primary school is helping increase students' confidence and resilience

"Even shy students come out of their shells."

Teacher Geraldine Watson



From left: Rebecca Muoio, 11, Cole Durnin, 11, teachers Jane Hocking and Geraldine Watson, Kyle Ramsay, 11, and Jess Dunn, 11.

St Kiernan's Catholic School at Manly Vale is doing everything possible to support the next generation of leaders through a program for year 6 students.

Teacher Geraldine Watson has seen how the leadership program has increased the students' confidence. "They are independent and grow in resilient ways," Ms Watson said.

"Even shy students come out of their shells. They have to step up."

All year 6 students take part in the

program and received their senior leadership badges at assembly early this term.

Ms Watson teaches year 6 in an open classroom with Jane Hocking and they share 41 students. "There is no wall between us," Ms Watson said. The students can work in their leadership teams easily in the open classroom.

Ms Watson said each team was mentored by a teacher in the school. "It puts the children in a position of being in a team and they learn to collaborate and prepare presentations," she said.

The process of choosing a team begins when the students are in year 5. They attend an expo arranged by the year 6 students and find out about the program directly from the students currently within it. "The year 5 students then write a speech or letter that gives their preference for a team," Ms Watson said. "They also learn about democracy and government and study leaders around the world."

Some of the teams they can choose from include pastoral care, the liturgy or citizenship, the latter involving a visit to state parliament.

Sport News

Broken Bay Swimming

Congratulations to our 7 swimmers who competed on Tuesday night on the Central Coast. Our results were amazing:

- Laura T placed 6th in the 8-10yrs 50m backstroke.
- Nicholas H placed 7th 11yrs 50m backstroke.
- Liam D qualified for the 12-13yrs 50m breaststroke but unfortunately was disqualified at the start of the race for a false start.

Congratulations Liam for being such a good sport on the night and showing your maturity.

- Our boys junior relay team placed 3rd overall. This team consisted of Kai M, Kailan S, Daniel M & Ewen M.
- Kai M came 4th 50m butterfly, 1st in the 10yrs 50 freestyle and 1st in the 8-10yrs 50m backstroke. Kai has now qualified for the NSW CPS Polding Carnival on Friday 20 March.



Peninsula Swimming

A special mention AGAIN for our Peninsula team, I have been notified that at this meet our school came 3rd overall. Congratulations to all our swimmers that attended great effort.

Uniform Shop

- **Opening hours:** every second Monday from 8.30am - 9.30am – next open **23 March**.
- Orders will be filled alternate Tuesdays. Orders placed through the office will be filled each Monday. Order forms available at reception or on the website.
- Stock held at office: ties (girls & boys), hats, excursion bags, & scarves. Please have the correct money as only small change is held.
- EFTPOS and credit card facilities are available at the Uniform Shop.
- If you have any uniform queries please email: lizsnell72@gmail.com

Canteen

It was raised at the P&F that some lunch orders are going to the wrong class. This could be for a couple of reasons:

1. You have a recurring order that was placed earlier in the year prior to FlexiSchools knowing the classes, or even back in 2014, or
2. You haven't chosen your child's correct class.

It is easily rectified...when in FlexiSchools click on the **pencil** under the heading "Start an order for your [Child's name]", near "Profile", then choose the correct class that your child is in this year, and save.

<https://www.flexischools.com.au> If you have any problems please let me know.

Thank you to all the Volunteers, without you our Canteen could not operate.

- Full day Volunteers are required from 9.00am to 1.45pm.
- Morning Volunteers are required from 9.00am to 11.30am.
- Lunch Volunteers are required from 11.30am to 1.45pm.

Next Week's Roster:

Wednesday 18 March: J Ruddock, C Wells (M), S Nicols (L)

Thursday 19 March: N Gennusa, P Dally

Friday 20 March: K Lewis, K Meagher, N Wall

Thanks

Jo Nesbitt

Lenten Gathering

Looking for something to do for Lent? I would like to welcome any mums & dads (children most welcome too) to my home for a low key gathering each Wednesday morning from 9am - 10am during Lent. Join us for a cuppa and morning tea as we are guided through Lent with some beautiful reflections and discussions. My aim is to include everyone, wherever they feel they are, in their faith journey. It is always wonderful to hear your comments or perspectives from wherever you are in life. If you can only make one session or all six, we would LOVE you to come. The sessions will run each Wednesday during Lent from 9am – 10am at 46 Quinlan Pde, Manly Vale (which is quite close to school, just off King St on the way to Manly Dam). No need to RSVP, just come along, we'd love to see you! Bring your children if they're not yet at school, there's a great backyard and plenty of toys! Feel free to contact me on 0402 202 135 if you have any queries. Dates: Wednesdays: Feb 25, March 4, 11, 18, 25 & April 1.

God bless, Maria Dunn (Jessica Yr 6 & Emily Yr 3)

School Banking

BE AN 'OUTER SPACE SAVER' WITH SCHOOL BANKING

School Banking is back again on **Friday mornings from 8:20** in the playground.

This year you can earn tokens with every deposit you make. Get 10 tokens and select one of the super rewards. You also earn St Kieran's commission with every deposit you make – that's a WIN WIN!

If you would like to join, go to your nearest Commonwealth Bank branch and open a YOUTHSAVER account then come along and start saving.

Community News



Stella Maris College
Open Evening
Wednesday 18th March
4pm - 7.30pm
All Welcome

52 Eurobin Avenue, Manly
www.stellamaris.nsw.edu.au
99775144



inclusive innovative inspiring

- **Go4Fun:** The 10 week FREE Go4Fun program will be running in Term 2 . The FREE healthy lifestyle program has been proven to improve the nutrition, fitness and self-esteem of children aged 7-13 years. The program has helped many families become confident, healthier and fitter together by teaching families about fats, sugars, how to read food labels, a guide to eating out, setting goals and many other topics. The children also spend an hour playing fun games and activities. Register now – freecall 1800 780 900 or Go4fun.com.au

Return Slips

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PREMIER'S READING CHALLENGE:



I would like to participate in the **Premier's Reading Challenge:**

Name..... Class.....

___ I have lost my password

___ I am doing the PRC for the first time.

OFFICE USE ONLY:

Username: _____

Password: _____

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DID YOU KNOW?

Catholic school parents in NSW paid \$943 million in school fees in 2012.

You also contributed \$161.5 million in school building levies and other capital funding that year.

That's more than \$1.1 billion invested by Catholic school parents in our state's education system in just one year!

Despite this extraordinary support, Catholic schools still rely on Federal and State Governments for more than 75% of our funding needs each year.

This is why funding support from Federal & State Governments must keep pace with rising education costs - ***to maintain education quality and to ensure a Catholic education remains affordable for all families.***



Leadership, Advocacy and Support

Web: www.cosp.catholic.edu.au



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Council of Catholic School Parents