



ST FRANCIS OF ASSISI NEWSLETTER

Term 4
Week 8
26th November 2021

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

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 stay awake. Let us, during the season of Advent, be ready to spread the kingdom of God through our kindness to each other.



END OF YEAR STAFF DEVELOPMENT DAYS

WEDNESDAY 15TH DECEMBER, THURSDAY 16TH DECEMBER, FRIDAY 17TH DECEMBER

NO STUDENTS AT SCHOOL ON THESE DAYS

SCHOOL FEES

Thank you to those families who have finalised school fees for 2021. Arrangements have now been finalised. Reminder letters for remaining balances will be sent home in the coming weeks. We would appreciate your prompt payment so that preparation may begin for 2022. Thank you.

VIRTUAL CHRISTMAS CONCERT

Due to COVID 19 we have had to reimagine our annual Christmas Carols. This year we will have each grade perform one item, which will be pre recorded on Wednesday 8th December. In preparation we ask that the students wear appropriate Christmas clothes on this day. This can be a Christmas colour tshirt and shorts. We will compile all performances for a virtual concert and send the link to parents via Compass for your viewing pleasure.



CLASSES FOR 2022

The school will shortly commence the annual process of forming class cohorts for next year.

Teachers and school leadership have extensive knowledge of how children **learn** and **relate** in their current classes and in the playground. All this information is carefully considered in the discernment process used to form **balanced class groups** across each grade.

If you have a **significant** consideration, not including a friendship request, you are required to put the request **in writing** (not email) to the Principal stating the child's name, child's present class, your request and briefly the reason for the request.

It is important that parents understand that this is not an opportunity to make any teacher requests or state any preferences for next year.

Parental requests will be reviewed in light of the school's class formation process and there is no guarantee that requests will be granted. There are many factors, which affect the placement of students - parental requests being just one of these.

Parents and caregivers are asked to **respect** the decisions made and **trust** that the school has taken all factors into consideration in the best interest of each child.

CHANGE OF SCHOOL IN 2022

To estimate enrolments for 2022, it would be appreciated if the school could be notified in writing, of any children who may be leaving St Francis of Assisi at the end of the year from grades other than Year 6. Thank you.

YEAR 6 GRADUATION

The Year 6 Graduation Ceremony will be held at Good Shepherd Parish Church at 6pm on Monday 13th December 2021. Please make a note of this date on you calendar.



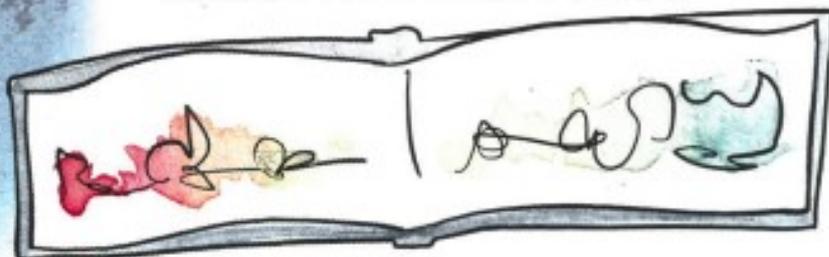
LIBRARY BOOKS REMINDER



Just a reminder for children to return any library books that they may still have at home. Please have a good look so we can have everything returned to the library by the end of the term.



EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S



Summer
READING
challenge

WIN A \$500 GIFT VOUCHER!

Read as many books as you can, tell us why you love them, and you could win one of two **\$500 JB Hi-Fi vouchers** or one of thirty **gift vouchers valued at \$30 each**.

THE MORE BOOKS YOU READ, THE MORE CHANCES YOU HAVE TO WIN.

Enter online
www.parra.catholic.edu.au.



Competition opens on 1 November 2021 and closes at 5pm on 25 February 2022. Terms and Conditions apply.



Enrolling Now for 2023

Contact the school for an enrolment pack or visit www.mcauley.nsw.edu.au

*Enrolment applications for Year 7 2023 (First Round Offers) are due by
Friday, 25th March 2022.*

*School tours will be held during Catholic Schools Week 2022
Tuesday 8th March - Friday 11th March 2022
Visit our school website to book a tour*



Catherine McAuley Westmead Enrolling Now for Year 7 2023



Contact the school on 9849 9100 or visit our website for an enrolment pack. Applications close 25th March 2022.
For enrolment criteria please refer to our school website.

Tours of the school campus will be held during Catholic Schools Week 2022
(Tuesday 8th March - Friday 11th March 2022). Visit our school website to book a tour.

Catherine McAuley, 2 Darcy Road, Westmead | www.mcauley.nsw.edu.au