



# MATTHEW GIBNEY CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

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**NEWSLETTER No. 1**  
**1st February 2018**



*The LORD is my strength and my song; he has become my salvation. He is my God,  
and I will praise him, my father's God, and I will exalt him.*

(Exodus 15:2)



Dear Parents, Friends and Students

Welcome back to the beginning of the 2018 year. The students have certainly arrived back at school with loads of enthusiasm and seem to be enjoying the beginning of the new school year and the cooler than usual weather conditions. We would like to welcome all the new families to our school and I hope that you find your time with our school community welcoming and beneficial. I would like to welcome Ms Felicity Martinz who will be working with the Year 1 students this year and Mrs Jennifer Moore who will be working with the Pre-Primary students during first semester. We hope they find their time with us professionally rewarding.

It was great to see our children arriving to school fully decked out in their new uniforms. We now have every child in the school in the new uniform so I have decided that the period of transition is now over. There is no point extending it for another year when all our students are now wearing it. I would like to thank all our families for embracing our uniform so enthusiastically and ensuring that the students wear it appropriately each day. A reminder that the way students wear their hair is also part of our uniform policy and, as such, needs to be adhered to. I look forward to continued cooperation in this area.

Unfortunately, the Year 6 leaver's shirts have experienced some delays from the manufacturer. We will keep parents informed of this as we receive further updates. Until they arrive, the Year 6 students will need to wear their representative sports shirts on Fridays only.

A reminder that our Parent Information session will take place on Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> February. The Year 4 families have been informed of an alternative day by Mrs Brescacin directly. All parents are invited to meet in the undercover area at 7:00pm, whereby I will go through some important details for the year ahead. Parents will then have the opportunity to listen to their child's classroom teacher. The first session will take place at 7:15pm and then a repeat session at 7:45pm. These meetings are very important as it gives teachers the opportunity to outline important structures and procedures for the year ahead. The evening is not appropriate for individual parent meetings as these need to be organised for a later date.

It is very important that parents keep in regular contact with their child's classroom teacher. This could take the form of a quick chat before or after school or communication via email. Parents are encouraged to make an appointment to see their child's teacher should there be any concerns. Making an appointment gives teachers the opportunity to be well prepared for the meeting, so the best possible outcomes can be reached for the good of your child.

A reminder to all our families to take care in the car park. It is particularly important that cars travel at a very low speed. Pedestrians are asked to always use the footpaths in the car park and to ensure that the road is crossed using the cross walks. A reminder that the drop off and pick up zones are exactly that. Parents/caregivers should not be getting out of their cars to collect their children. This just leads to unnecessary delays. We look forward to your cooperation in this area.

The newsletter is our most important means of communication with families. I encourage you all to read the newsletter each week so that you stay up to date with happenings in our school. I also encourage you to download the Skoolbag App for smartphones. All events are posted on this app and it is updated regularly. Our official Facebook page is also available for information.

A Mass to celebrate the beginning of the school year will take place on Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> February. It will begin at 9:00am and will be held in the undercover area. During this Mass the Year 6 students will be inducted into the student council and staff will participate in a commissioning ceremony. All parents and members of our community are invited to join with us.

The P&F are currently organising a welcoming event for this year. It will be held on Friday 16<sup>th</sup> February. Specific details will be made available next week. Please try to keep this date free.

*Mark Powell*

**PRINCIPAL**

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Mon 5th Feb....	Yr 4 Parent information evening 7pm
Tues 6th Feb...	K-6 (NOT Yr 4) Parent information evening 7pm
Thurs 8th Feb...	Opening Mass Years 1 - 6 (Student Council Induction/Staff Commissioning) School Undercover area
Wed 14th Feb...	Ash Wednesday Mass @ 9.30am Parish
Fri 16th Feb....	P & F Welcoming Night
Wed 21st Feb...	Fr Francis to visit PP
Wed 21st Feb...	Board Meeting 6pm
Wed 21st Feb...	P & F Meeting 7.30pm
Mon 26th Feb...	PP-Yr 6 World of Maths Incursion
Fri 2nd Mar...	Year 5 Assembly
Mon 5th Mar...	<b>PUBLIC HOLIDAY</b>
Wed 7th Mar...	Year 6 Mass
Sat 10th Mar...	Sacramental Commitment Mass 6.30pm
Sun 11th Mar...	Sacramental Commitment Mass 8am, 9.30am & 6pm
Wed 14th Mar...	Year 4 Mass
Fri 16th Mar....	Year 3 Assembly
Tues 20th Mar...	<b>STUDENTS EARLY FINISH @ 12PM</b>
Tues 20th Mar...	Parent/Teacher Meeting 12.30 - 6pm
Wed 21st Mar...	Harmony Day Activities
Wed 21st Mar...	Board Meeting 6pm
Wed 21st Mar...	P & F Meeting 7.30pm
Fri 23rd Mar...	Year 2 Assembly
Fri 23rd Mar...	Cool Pool Afternoon
Sun 25th Mar..	Palm Sunday
Thurs 29th Mar.	<b>HOLY THURSDAY Easter Assembly</b>
Fri 30th Mar...	<b>GOOD FRIDAY</b>
Sat 31st Mar...	<b>EASTER SATURDAY</b>
Sun 1st Apr...	<b>EASTER SUNDAY</b>
Mon 2nd Apr..	<b>EASTER MONDAY</b>
Tues 3rd Apr..	<b>EASTER TUESDAY (School Holiday)</b>
Fri 6th Apr...	Year 6 Cricket Carnival
Tues 10th Apr - Fri 13th Apr ...	Year 6 Camp
Fri 13th Apr...	<b>LAST DAY OF TERM 1 FOR STUDENTS</b>
Mon 30th Apr...	<b>STUDENTS RETURN TERM 2 2018</b>

### SENT HOME WEDNESDAY 31st JANUARY

- ★ Family Details Print Out, Mass Permission Form/s & Medical Forms for 2018 (due back Friday 2nd Feb)

### SENT HOME WEDNESDAY 31st JANUARY

- ★ Canteen Volunteer Roster Form

### SENT HOME THURSDAY 1st FEBRUARY

- ★ Term 1 Planner

## Assistant Principal's Religious Education News

### OPENING SCHOOL MASS

This year we will have our Opening School Mass, 9.00am Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> February, [here at school](#). At this Mass, our Year 6 students will be commissioned as Student Leaders, and we will welcome our newest staff members, Ms Martinz and Mrs Moore. We warmly welcome all parents and family to join with us in this celebration of a new school year.

### ASH WEDNESDAY MASS

Years 1-6 will travel to St Francis of Assisi Church, Maida Vale, on Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> February for a Mass starting at 9.30am to mark the beginning of Lent. We warmly welcome you to join with us, to begin your Lenten preparations. Buses will leave school promptly at 9.00am

### SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM

Teachers in Years 3, 4 and 6, will go through the dates for relevant Sacraments at their Information Night. All students who will receive either the Sacrament of Reconciliation (Year 3), First Eucharist (Year 4) or Confirmation (Year 6) this year, will need to attend a Commitment Mass over the weekend of 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> of March. If you have any questions about the Sacramental Program, please chat with your child's class teacher or myself.

Karen Keddie  
Assistant Principal RE

Closing  
Early

### REMINDER

Tuesday 20th March at 12  
Noon for Parent/Teacher  
Meetings.



## URGENT!

Please check you have filled out the necessary forms you received on Wednesday and return them to us by **MONDAY 5th FEBRUARY**.

- Family details printout ([with or without changes](#)).
- Emergency Action Plan (if any medical conditions).
- Asthma Management Plan (if applicable).
- Administration of Medication form (if applicable).
- School Masses Permission form (PP to Year 6).
- Permission to Publish Student Photo form (Kindy & New Families)

Many thanks for your prompt attention to this matter.

# YEAR 2 NEWS

A warm welcome back to you all! I hope everyone enjoyed the school holidays and are all ready for another great school year. Many thanks for helping the children to organise their equipment and bringing in all the required items. Just a reminder that the Parent Information Evening is on Tuesday 6th February.

Gina Nickels



The teepee is a hit. 🎵🎵🎵🎵🎵

## P&F PARENT REPS

Meeting for all parent reps from each year group will be held on Wednesday 7th February at 7.00pm at Natasha's house to discuss the fundraising event calendar for the year. At least one parent rep from each year group is encouraged to attend.

Please RSVP to Michelle on 0431 700 611 or Natasha on 0417 982 957 as soon as possible.

## P & F Meetings Term 1 2018

Wednesday 21st February @ 7.30pm



## Parents & Friends Association

Agenda item request for meeting - Wednesday 21st February @ 7.30pm.

Please submit your Agenda item request either through the **Skoolbag** app - **eForms - P&F Meeting Agenda Items** or through the Matthew Gibney website

<http://web.gibney.wa.edu.au/pandf.html>

**You must attend the meeting if you wish to submit an agenda item.**

## Roles of Class Parent Representative

*(2 representatives per class)*

*The following is a list of suggestions for the Class Parent Representatives, not expectations. The Class Parent Representatives will be supported by the Class Representative Coordinator throughout the year. The position is suitable for both new and older families of Matthew Gibney – no previous knowledge of the school is necessary.*

- Welcome new parents and assist them in getting to know other parents and feel part of the school community.
- Organise social opportunities for parents in the class e.g. coffee mornings, dinners, play in the park etc.
- Organise a class contact list for parents wanting to share their details with other families in the class
- Encourage parents to be involved in school life e.g. changing readers, liturgy morning teas, parent help in the classroom, fundraising events and ascertain availability of parents to assist in classroom activities
- Organise rosters for teachers of the class such as the changing of readers, morning tea at class liturgies etc.
- Organise a morning tea after class performance assemblies for a social opportunity for parents and the class teacher
- Meet with the teacher on a monthly basis to discuss class needs and how parents of the class may be able to help
- Study the term planner and note what activities assistance may be needed or will enhance activities at school e.g. making pancakes on Shrove Tuesday, helping with a St. Patrick's Day activity, helping with Father's Day craft, assisting with assembly preparations etc.
- Communicate with parents of the class regularly and include the class teacher in the communication (ensure teacher has approved the communication prior to distribution). Ask the teacher if they wish to have their contact details made available to parents in the class (e.g. if you communicate via email, they may wish to be sent as a BCC to keep their email address invisible)
- Attend Parents & Friends meetings
- Liaise with Class Parent Representatives Coordinator regularly and consult the Coordinator as required for assistance
- Organise a thank you gift & card for the class teacher at the end of the year on behalf of all the parents in the class

# TERM ONE PLANNER FOR PARENTS 2018

31/1/2018	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
WEEK 1	January 28	29 STAFF RETURN	30 STAFF AT SCHOOL	31 Students return	February 1	2	3
	4	5 Yr 4 Parent Information Evening 7pm	6 K-6 (not Yr4) Parent Information Evening 7pm	7	8 Opening Mass Years 1-6 (Student Council Induction/Staff Commissioning) SCHOOL	9	10
WEEK 3	11	12	13	14 Ash Wednesday Mass @ 9.30am PARISH	15	16 P & F Welcoming Night	17
	18	19	20	21 Fr Francis to visit PP Board Meeting 6pm P & F Meeting 7.30pm	22	23	24
WEEK 5	25	26 PP-Year 6 World of Maths Incursion	27	28	March 1	2 Year 5 Assembly	3
	4	5 PUBLIC HOLIDAY (Labour Day)	6	7 Year 6 Mass	8	9	10 Sacramental Commitment Mass 6.30pm
WEEK 7	11 Sacramental Commitment Masses 8am, 9.30am, 6pm	12	13	14 Year 4 Mass	15	16 Year 3 Assembly	17
	18	19	20 K-6 Parent/Teacher Meetings 12.30 – 6.00pm	21 Harmony Day Activities Board Meeting 6pm P & F Meeting 7.30pm	22	23 Year 2 Assembly Cool Pool Afternoon	24
WEEK 9	25 Palm Sunday	26	27	28	29 HOLY THURSDAY Easter Assembly	30 GOOD FRIDAY	31 EASTER SATURDAY
	April 1 EASTER SUNDAY	2 EASTER MONDAY Public Holiday	3 EASTER TUESDAY School Holiday	4	5	6 Year 6 Cricket Carnival	
WEEK 11	8	9	10 Year 6 Camp	11 Year 6 Camp Year 1 Liturgy	12 Year 6 Camp	13 Year 6 Camp End of Term 1	14

Term Two 2018: Students Return – Monday 30<sup>th</sup> April