Catholic Education Week: ‘Entrust Yourselves to God and Dare to Dream’

As part of Catholic Education Week, we will be holding an open evening here at the school on **Monday 17th March**, from **5:00pm-7:30pm**. The learning spaces will be open for you to view the students' learning and teachers will be available to answer your questions. Parents in Partnership will be running a **sausage sizzle** on the night. We look forward to seeing you! More details on the attached flyer.

**Ash Wednesday & Lent**

The season of Lent begins on **Wednesday 5th March**. We will be having a **9.15am mass** at St Francis. You are invited to attend along with any parishioners who may like to join us. In preparation for this Ash Wednesday mass, we will have a liturgical burning of last year’s palm branches. If you have kept your blessed palm branch from last year’s Palm Sunday celebration please send or bring it to school on **Thursday 27th February**. At 10.30am Fr Jude will lead the school in prayer and burn these branches to create the ash for Wednesday’s mass.

Tarryn McRae is in good spirits but requires more time away from work. We are grateful for the excellent work Nadine is doing with Yr 2/3 Tarryn M. Please continue to keep Tarryn in your prayers.

**SACRAMENTS 2014:** This year the Sacraments of First Reconciliation, First Eucharist and Confirmation will be celebrated on the following dates:

- **Year 6 - Sacrament of Confirmation:** Sunday, May 18 at 2.00pm
- **Year 4 - Sacrament of First Eucharist:** Saturday, August 30 at 12.30pm
- **Year 3 - Sacrament of First Reconciliation:** Wednesday, October 29 at 10.00am & 7.00pm.

All sacraments are celebrated at St James Parish Church. More information regarding presentation masses and parent workshops will be available over the next few weeks.

**Parent-Teacher Interviews** continue tonight from 4.00pm—7.00pm. All parents are expected to make time to meet with their child’s home group teacher to ensure that information is shared in a timely way and communication at this important time of the year is effective. Check the school website or call the office if you require assistance.

**TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT:** It is disappointing to see a number of families still not cooperating with the school’s protocols or following standard road rules. Please take seriously the need to keep all our children safe.

**Hot Cross Buns Fundraiser:** A letter and order form from Baker’s Delight will be sent home with today’s newsletter. All information regarding this fundraiser can be found here.

**ARRIVAL AT SCHOOL:** Supervision in the school grounds begins at 8.30am. **No child should be in the**
Make me a channel of your peace; Where there is sadness, let me bring joy.

School grounds prior to 8.30 except if they are attending the Camp Australia program or are supervised by a parent/adult carer.

When children do arrive at school they are required to wait quietly for the learning spaces to open. No games on the adventure playground or on the courts are permitted.

We have been monitoring the development of the practice of using the adventure playground. Although this is a positive activity, the number of unsupervised children is increasing and is raising a concern about safety. As we already have all available staff on duty we are not able to expand this for play supervision.

PIP AGM: Last week we had 30 parents attend our Annual General Meeting. At this meeting the school leaders presented the annual report to the community. We also discussed our PIP (Parents in Partnership) groups which meet once a month to discuss and plan for a variety of needs across the school. Meetings take place on Tuesdays.

The groups for 2014 are:
- **SOCIAL GROUP** meets at 2.00pm
- **FUNDRAISING GROUP** meets at 7.30pm
- **PROJECT GROUP** meets at 7.30pm
- **GROUNDS & MAINTENANCE GROUP** meets at 7.30pm.

Our first meeting is on Tuesday, March 25. If you wish to sign up to any of these groups or wish to support in other ways please complete the online form that can be found in the School Community section of our website under ‘Parents in Partnership’.

We encourage your support—All parents are most welcome at these meetings.

No 3: St Francis of Assisi

Yr 7 Enrolments at Catholic Secondary Colleges for 2015 are due by the end of February. All Yr 6 parents need to consider their college of choice and enrol their child during February.

**SCHOOL OFFICE NOTICES**

Curriculum Levy: This levy is now due and should be paid as soon as possible.

School Fees: Statements will be sent home on Friday 21 February, 2014.

EMA (Education Maintenance Allowance): Applications for term 1 payment are due at school office by Thursday 28th February. If you are a holder of a health care card please contact the school office.

**FAMILY CONTACT DETAILS:**

We have to ensure that family information is updated and accurate. If any of the following details have changed in the last 6-12 months, please contact the office to change these details.

Parents Contact details:
Name, address, & Telephone Nos.

Emergency Contact details:
Name & Telephone Nos. (2 are required)

The following information, is required for school funding. Our school funding is affected by this.

These questions are for both parents:
- Occupation & Employer.
- Any changes in education qualifications.

**COMBINED PARISH RAFFLE:**
Parish raffle tickets were sent home today together with a letter from Fr. Jude. This raffle is a major fundraiser for our parish. There are 3 cars, & Coles/Myer Gift Cards to be won.

**DATES TO REMEMBER:**
- 24-26th Feb: Yr 5/6 camp
- 27th Feb: Burning of the Palms
- 5th Mar: Ash Wed School mass 9.15am
- 6th Mar: Opening of Yr 7/8 building TCC
- 10th Mar: Labour Day holiday
- 12th Mar: Preps at school full time