



ST. COLUMBA'S NEWS

ST. COLUMBA'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

Committed to the total development of the whole child in a nurturing family community, revealing Jesus Christ.

"Great is the strength we possess in our unity." Mary MacKillop

Newsletter #2, 9th February 2017

PRAYER FOR THE YEAR

Lord, help me to live this year: quietly, easily.
To lean upon your strength: trustfully, restfully.
To wait for the unfolding of your will: patiently,
serenely.
To meet others: peacefully, joyously.
To face tomorrow:
willingly, hopefully, happily.



Dear Parents and Carers,

Congratulations to Miss Shepherd and her new husband Ronny who were married last weekend. The weather was wonderful and I am sure that she will be finding it different getting used to her new surname, Mrs van der Bijl (pronounced Bell) A happy snap of the new couple follows in the newsletter.

Our opening school Commitment and Commissioning Mass was held today. Staff new to Catholic Education received a blessing in preparation for the school year and our school leaders received their badges. Many thanks to Mrs Komnick and Mrs Robinson for organising the Mass. We will be celebrating Ash Wednesday on Wednesday March 1 at 10:00am in the church. All are invited to attend.

I will be in Sydney in Week 4 working with the Multi Lit group as St. Columba's will become a school that other schools can visit to observe the Multi Lit Intervention programmes in use. This will then enable schools to use their visit to make an informed decision as to whether they take the programmes on.

We wish our Year 6 students all the best as they head off to camp next week at Pinjarra. I am sure that they will have some wonderful stories to tell once they return. A big thank you to the staff and parent volunteers attending and supervising. Without this help the camp would not be possible.

A reminder to families that students should not be on the school grounds prior to 8:30am. St. Columba's provides supervision only from 8:30am until the bell goes at 8:45am. On entering the school grounds during the day all visitors will need to sign in at the front office. If students are going to play on the playground equipment after school it is a requirement that a parent must be there to supervise. The school staff do not supervise the play equipment after school. If students are unsupervised on the equipment they will be asked to leave the area.

This year the staff from PP-6 have made the decision to further refine their classroom practice and curriculum delivery. They will be working with a presenter from outside the school who will be holding coaching sessions on explicit teaching and personal reflection on their delivery of classroom lessons and curriculum. The two Assistant Principals will also be trained to provide

coaching assistance to teachers at the same time. The process will involve regular observations of lessons by a coach and reflection by the classroom teacher with their coach.

SCHOOL REPORTING:

The decision has been made by staff that during 2017, portfolios from PP-Year 6 will not be sent home in Term 3. Instead teachers in Years 1 to 6 will send test books home every three weeks starting from Term 1. This will provide ongoing information throughout the year to parents of their child's progress. The Term 1 parent interviews and Semester 1 and 2 reports will remain the same as in previous years.

TEACHER PARENT NIGHTS:

The last parent information night will be tonight. I would like to thank the parents who have attended and those who are attending tonight. Your child's education is a partnership between families and school staff and the students need to know that the school and families are working together in partnership. With so many attending the information sessions it signals a great school home relationship.

SCHOOL BOARD:

There will be a School Board meeting Monday February 20 at 7pm in the school staffroom.

P&F:

I would like to advise families that there will be a change to the P&F Campout this year. We are required by law to have a Working With Children clearance for any person who will be staying overnight. Unfortunately, this is not negotiable and is in the interests and safety of the children who will be attending. I am meeting with Dave Palermo, the organiser of the Campout. More information will be sent home to families shortly.

A huge thank you to Ann Reutens for offering to take on the role of P&F president. We now have a complete P&F Executive for 2017. The next P&F meeting will be on TUESDAY March 7 @7pm.

TERM DATES:

A reminder, students will finish this term on Friday April 7.

God Bless

Allen McMahon

(Principal)

COMING EVENTS:

Tonight	Parent Teacher Evenings Years 1, 4, 5 and 6
Tuesday 14 February	Year 6 Camp departs
	Valentines Day
Thursday 16 February	Protective Behaviours Workshop
Friday 17 February	Year 6 Camp returns



ASSISTANT PRINCIPALS:

GATES:

A reminder that school gates will be locked shortly after the morning bell and parents and visitors are to access the school via the front office.

KISS AND DRIVE:

Children who are waiting to be collected after school on the benches opposite the tennis courts, will be asked move to the undercover area if they have not been collected by 3.20pm. You may then park your car and collect your child from the undercover area or use our Kiss and Drive facility, which is open until 3.30pm. Any children not collected after this time will be asked to wait in the front office. We certainly understand that at times there may be circumstances beyond your control that may cause you to be late in picking up your child/ren on time, however we would like to take this opportunity to remind all parents that school ends at 3.10pm for students in PP-Year 6, and late collections can often cause staff, including front office staff to be late to meetings or appointments themselves. We thank you for your cooperation with this matter.

HEALTH ACTION PLAN:

Copies of health action, anaphylaxis and asthma plans were sent home this week. We ask that you sign and date the back of these forms confirming that all information is current and up to date. Please return these forms to your class teacher so that our records can be updated. Please ensure that any medication that your child requires is handed to the front office. Epipens and medications are kept in the classrooms in safe boxes. Expiry dates have been checked and parents notified if medication is out of date.

MEDICATION:

If your child requires medication during the course of a school day, whether this medication is to be administered by themselves or a staff member, you will need to complete a Medication Authority form. This form is available from the office.

ABSENCES:

Please email the school office admin@stcolumbassp.wa.edu.au by 9am each day your child is not attending school. It is important also to let the school office know if you are going to be late on any morning. There is a sign in / out book in the office. If you do arrive late, or wish to pick your child early, you must sign in or out and obtain a card from the office to show the teacher.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION:

SACRAMENT DATES:

Confirmation – Saturday 3 June at 6pm

Eucharist – Sunday 11 June at 9.30am



Sacrament enrolment forms have been handed out to parents in Years 4 and 6. If your child is in Year 5 or 6 and did not receive the Sacrament of Eucharist in Year 4 and they would like to receive this Sacrament in 2017, please contact Mrs Ondine Komnick.

Please note that there is an expectation that all children who will be receiving the Sacrament of Eucharist or Confirmation this year will attend the [Sacrament Commitment Mass on Saturday 11 March at 6pm](#). Children in Years 4 and 6 who are not receiving a Sacrament this year, are welcome to attend the Commitment Mass to support their peers.

COMMITMENT MASS:

The Commitment Mass was a wonderful opportunity for the school to come together to receive a blessing and to commit to a shared vision of reflecting the Gospel values in our school community. Our school leaders were presented with their badges which Monsignor blessed. Our Head Boy, Oscar Palermo and the Head Girl, Kate Bourne, addressed the school community for the first time, making an excellent speech in front of a very large audience. Staff new to Catholic Education were commissioned and blessed by Monsignor.

BLESSING OF CLASSES:

Yesterday Monsignor O'Loughlin visited all the classrooms to bless students, teachers and classrooms. Monsignor was informed by a Pre-Primary student that she loved her mother despite her mother having short hair, and was also asked some thought-provoking questions like 'How is God a King?' and 'How does a soul continue to live?' Monsignor was entertained with a beautiful solo rendition of 'Away in a Manager' by a Pre-Primary student who wanted to sing for him.



Ondine Komnick and Susannah Robinson
Assistant Principals

LIBRARY NEWS:

The Footpath Library is an organisation that collects books for people living on the streets and are now collecting books for children. These books are delivered to people living on the street, in homeless hostels and refuges, or through **community organisations here in Perth. It is heartbreaking to think that children don't have access to books to take them to another world!** If you have any good quality books that you no longer need, we are collecting them in the library.

Please make sure that you follow these requirements. Donated books must be in excellent condition. Think of the kind of **book you'd give to your best friend or your mother to read. That is, almost brand new, something someone would be excited to receive and unwrap as a present.** There will be two pickup times, on Monday of Week 4 and Week 8. Please leave books in the boxes located near the library door.

Thank you in anticipation of a wonderful response from the St. Columba's School Community.

LIBRARY ROSTER:

Wednesday 15 February

Jenny Collins

Thank you to all parents who have volunteered to help in the library. Please complete the form attached to the newsletter if you wish to help out.

Many thanks,
Mrs Sandra Malarkey and Mrs Alice Shaw



MUSIC NEWS:

MUSICIAN OF THE WEEK:



Our musician of the week is Emma Loughnan from Year 4. Emma has played piano for 1 year. She plays from the Junior Hanon book and finds piano fun and exciting. Emma has also joined the school choir this year.

Donnay Brown and Heidi Graves

CANTEEN:

Canteen will operate on Monday, Thursday and Friday for 2017. Thank you to Emma McGann for continuing in her role as Canteen Manager.

The Online Canteen is an online ordering system that is a safe and convenient way to order students school lunches.

How to get started:

- Visit www.ouronlinecanteen.com.au .
- Sign up by completing the registration form.
- Receive a confirmation email with activation link.
- Activate your account and login to the website.
- Add your children and credit to your account.
- Order at your own convenience.

Online orders can be placed one calendar month in advance and up until 9am on the day of ordering. Sushi will no longer be available this year.

The Canteen will open at recess for snacks and at lunchtime for ice-creams.

Students attending Three Year Old Program on Friday and Kindergarten students are unable to order for Term 1. They will be able to order from commencement of Term 2.

Volunteers are an important part of the operation of the school canteen. It is a wonderful opportunity to meet other parents in the school, and to become involved. Children love to see you behind the counter. If you would like to volunteer or have any questions in relation to volunteering in the canteen, please catch up with Emma.

Volunteers are required in the canteen each Monday, Thursday and Friday either from 9am to 11.30am or 11am to 1.30pm.

We look forward to seeing you in the canteen.

UNIFORM SHOP:

The Uniform Shop is open on Tuesday mornings from 8.30am to 9am. Online ordering is available. Orders can be emailed through to uniformshop@stcolumbassp.wa.edu.au no later than 6pm each Monday during the school term. A new Uniform Shop Price list is attached to this newsletter.

PROTECTIVE BEHAVIOURS - MY NETWORK HAND:

Hilary Campos, the School Social Worker, will be holding a Protective Behaviours morning tea on Thursday 16 February from 9am to 10.3am in the school library. Please come along and find out about Protective Behaviours and learn how you can support your child and reinforce this safety programme. All details on the attached flyer with this week's newsletter. Please RSVP by Tuesday 14 February by return email to the school office, admin@stcolumbassp.wa.edu.au.

ST COLUMBA'S RUNNING CLUB - COACHED BY PERTH RUNNING CLUB:

Perth Running Club is proud to present St. Columba's Running Club. Head-coached by a triple Olympian, Sarah Jamieson and her team of incredible coaches. Wednesday's for Weeks 2 to 7 commencing on 8 February. 6 sessions from 7.45am to 8.30am for Years 1 to 6 to meet on the school's upper oval for warm-up. Cost is \$65 per child (payable by EFT). T&C's apply. Please apply sunscreen before the session starts. Wear non-uniform sports attire and pack the normal school uniform for your child to change into at the end of the sessions. Only 8 spots left.

To register go to <https://goo.gl/forms/bp2hcfqxjEB4j07F2>.

For further information please email: info@perthrunningclub.com.au with subject line: St Col .

Ly San Bong
Running Club Coordinator

COMMITMENT MASS



Congratulations to Mr and Mrs van der Bijl





ST. COLUMBA'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

Parents & Friends

*Save
the
Date*

"NIGHT ON THE GREEN":

Our first P&F social function for 2017. Come along and enjoy a "Night on the Green" Friday 24 February from 5.30pm. More details in next week's newsletter.

CAMPOUT:



THE most exciting event of March is fast approaching...the Annual P&F Camp Out. Mark your calendars off for the weekend of March 25, dust off the camping gear and prepare for an action packed night. Everyone is welcome to the P&F Camp Out, even though traditionally the Dads and kids camp whilst the mums enjoy a night off! There are some important changes to this year's arrangements for the Camp Out, so please keep a watch out for any emails and notices as these changes will affect everyone.

If you would like any information on the Camp Out please contact Dave Palermo Phone: 0412 249 002
Email: davidpalermo79@gmail.com

STUDENT BANKING:

Welcome to another exciting year of school banking. We are looking forward to all new and returning students to come and visit us on Thursday mornings before school in the library to start or continue their savings journey! We have some awesome new rewards to redeem for our consistent savers this year so please come in and see us!!

The theme this year is Future Savers and the major prize from the Commonwealth Bank is a family trip to Japan Disneyland! All the more reason to stick to a savings journey this year. All students who bank at least 15 times before the end of term 3 automatically receive an entry into the draw!

We are excited to launch the new reward items for 2017 from our Future Savers range.

- Cyber Handball and Colour Change Markers, released Term 1
- 3D Chalk Set and Tablet Case, released Term 2
- Smiley Emoji Keyring and Volt Handball, released Term 3
- Pencil + Tech Case and Epic Earphones, released Term 4



Please remember that the school banking program is run by parent volunteers. If you would like to join our awesome team of helpers and can spare an hour once or twice per term please contact Vanessa Wainwright on 0417 994 625.

Vanessa Wainwright
St. Columba's School Banking Coordinator

Win a family adventure holiday at Tokyo Disneyland



This year, School Banking is running a Future Savers Grand Prize competition that will take one lucky School Banker all the way to Tokyo, Japan. The winner gets an unforgettable family trip, for up to two adults and three children, where they'll explore Tokyo Disneyland with its amazing attractions, including the futuristic Tomorrowland, plus enjoy the fun rides at Tokyo DisneySea.

This prize includes:

- Five nights' accommodation at the Sheraton Grande Tokyo Bay Hotel
- Return economy airfares from the winner's nearest capital city to Tokyo, Japan
- Three-day Magic Pass to Tokyo Disneyland & Tokyo DisneySea
- AU\$1,000 spending money.

To enter, students have to make 15 or more School Banking deposits before the end of Term 3, 2017. This will automatically enter them into the competition for a chance to win.

COMMUNITY NOTICES

(See main noticeboard for more information.)

- South Perth– Manning Library: Literacy Through Story with Susanne Gervay OAM. Wednesday 15 February 2017. Book online at <https://literacythroughstory.eventbrite.com.au>
- Code Using Robots: 2017 Term 1 Workshops. Bookings at www.eventbrite.com.au
- Contact details: Michael @ UPlay 0427 059 257 / uplay.connect@gmail.com
- Goldilocks and the Three Bears: Kids interactive theatre on Thursday 16 March 9.30am to 11am at Neil McDougall Park, Como. Free. Bookings essential.
- Contact details: southperth.wa.gov.au / 9474 0777 / events@southperth.wa.gov.au
- Aurora Calisthenics Club: Calisthenics is a fun and healthy way to keep fit. It combines gymnastics, ballet, folk dance, jazz ballet, apparatus, figure marching and singing. Wednesdays 4.30pm to 6.30pm at LeisureLife Centre, East Victoria Park. Classes for girls aged 5 to 13.
- Contact details: Debbie McDonald on 0418 941 651.
- ADHD Awareness Information Evenings:
- Contact details: 6500 3277 / www.perthbraincentre.com.au
- Relationships Australia: Diffusing Angry and Abusive Customers seminar Wednesday 29 March 2017
- Contact details: 1300 364 277 / www.relationshipswa.org.au
- Family Life Coaching with Ashley Byrne.
- Contact details: www.facebook.com/ALBSlifecoachingresumewriting
- Grasshopper Soccer for boys and girls 2 to 12! info@grasshoppersoccer.com.au
- Kayaking for children Saturday 18 March kayaking@clbc.org.au
- Kidz n sports Programme—Term 1 programme available on the noticeboard
mikelee@kidznsport.com.au tel: 0417 923084 kidznsport.com.au
- Curtin University Football Club—Registrations and tryouts www.curtinfootball.com
- Watkins Southside Swimming nickandlee@watkinssouthsideswimming.com.au 0407681470



“In order to succeed, we must first believe that we can.”

Nikos Kazantzakis