

## Religious Education Matters

### What we know about World Leaders

#### Nelson Mandela

Nelson Mandela is a great example of a strong leader. He showed passion and commitment, when working towards gaining equality for all people. Nelson Mandela stood up for what was right. He stood up for the black people and tried to stop apartheid. Nelson wanted people of all races to have equal rights. He came together with the black and white people to be together as one. Nelson Mandela helped people who were bullied by racism. He always said, "it always seems impossible until it is done." He believed that "No one is born hating another person because of the colour of his skin, or his background, or his religion. People must learn to hate, and if they can learn to hate, they can be taught to love, for love comes more naturally to the human heart than its opposite".



#### Martin Luther King

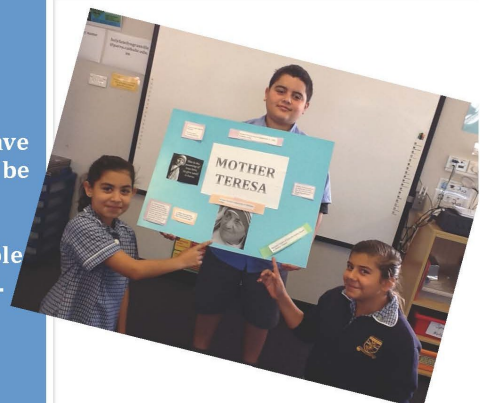
Martin Luther King was a great leader who helped the black American people by fighting for their civil rights and freedom. He believed that everyone had the right to be free to make their own decisions in life, the right to go anywhere that they wanted to, the right to be educated like anyone else, the right to have equal opportunity in employment and the right to live in society the same as anyone else. Martin Luther King had a dream that everyone was created equal, no matter what race, colour, or religion. He believed that all people should be able to walk together as equals.

#### Mother Teresa

Mother Teresa is known as a leader who devoted her life to helping others. She helped the poor and less fortunate. She gave all she had and also influenced others to change their lives to be better people by reaching out to the needy.

Mother Teresa organised a mission in India for the poor people so that they could become healthy, clean and better educated.

Mother Teresa always modelled what she believed in, she believed that to give until it hurts, is the meaning of real love.



# Student Awards

*We congratulate this week's Student of the Week Award recipients:*

<i>Alvin Lee</i>	<i>Amarise Koroma</i>
<i>Melissa El Hayek</i>	<i>Annalise El Khoury</i>
<i>Kaitlin Commodore</i>	<i>Chanel Makdissi</i>
<i>Augelique Tembo-Sievers</i>	<i>Antonia Aoun</i>
<i>Lucy Arida</i>	<i>Aweit Majak</i>
<i>Sam Georges</i>	<i>Joey Diab</i>
<i>Julie-Anne Habib</i>	<i>Aushlesa Ghale</i>



## Principal's Message

### Upcoming State Election- What does it mean for us.....

With less than two weeks before the state election, I urge you to contact your local MPs and candidates to talk to them about the importance of capital works funding for Catholic schools in western Sydney. Without capital works funding for Catholic schools, it will be difficult to meet growing enrolment demands for Catholic schooling. This will place an even greater burden on the tax payer if places for these children need to be found in government schools.

Recently, our Executive Director of Schools, Greg Whitby met with Minister Adrian Piccoli to urge him to consider the needs of the 25% of children and young people who attend Catholic schools in western Sydney. Although the meeting was positive, no commitment to capital works funding was made. I urge you to email your local STATE member for Granville, Tony Issa, and STATE opposition candidate, Julia Finn, to tell them that capital works funding is an important issue for you in the upcoming election.

**DID YOU KNOW?** Catholic schools support increased Government funding for ALL schools – government and nongovernment – because each school is an integral part of NSW's economic and social infrastructure. Every student is entitled to receive the best education possible, regardless of the school they attend. 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.

### Celebrating Catholic Schools Week - Parish/ School Sunday Mass

On Sunday many families and staff members joined with our parish community to celebrate the Eucharist. This celebration was the culmination of Catholic Schools Week. I wish to thank the children and staff who assisted during the Mass. My sincere thanks to Mr Munday who led the Music Ministry, Mr Bawden for his coordination with our Parish friends, Mr Khattar for creating an outstanding imovie reflection and to Fr Jerson for his continued spiritual guidance and friendship.

Live Jesus in your hearts,

Mrs Baird  
Principal

## Cross Country Carnival

Today our primary children participated in our annual Cross Country Carnival. The children were very excited to participate in this race of endurance. The children who qualify will be able to participate at the next level - the Diocesan Cross Country Carnival at Eastern Creek. I wish to thank Miss Peachey for her coordination of the event, our teachers for their continued support and the many parents who attended to cheer our wonderful children. The stars of the day were our students. They are all champions!



*In Christ we Live, Love and Learn.*

## Learning Matters from the Assistant Principal

### Friday Bowtie Day...

#### **(...and the importance of silliness at school)**

You may have noticed that each Friday this term I have been wearing a bowtie. Why, I hear you ask?

#### **It's not really a fashion choice...**

So far, I've found the bowtie a great conversation starter with students (mostly, parents are too polite to say anything!). Last week, someone commented that I look like a clown, which I think is great – who doesn't love clowning? I juggle, I stand on my head, I wear a bowtie...if the oversized shoe fits, wear it, I say.

#### **But what does any of this have to do with learning?**

There is lots of research that connects fun with learning. Engagement is a significant factor in success at school. If you feel connected to your teachers and interested in life at school, you are more likely to 'have a go' and feel like it's worth taking a risk on something hard, like some new concept, technique or strategy.

So, the bowtie is really a way of communicating to students that I am just a big kid who loves fun as much as they do. You've probably figured out by now that I'm not trying to trick anyone here – I really am a big kid.

#### **I'm dead serious about learning, but why be boring about it?**

I'm perfectly happy for children to join in with Friday Bowtie Day too. Let's be clowns together and learn together!

*Benjamin Munday*  
*Assistant Principal*

### **Education Mass**

On Thursday the 19th of March our Diocese of Parramatta will join together as a Catholic community to celebrate the Eucharist at St Patrick's Church, Blacktown. Before Mass, the commissioning of New Principals and new teachers will occur. Our Mass will be celebrated by Fr Peter Williams and our Diocesan Priests.

### **Invitation to all to join us for our last assembly for the term**

Please join us on Friday the 27th of March for our end of term assembly. The assembly will commence at 2pm in our parish hall. The students from Kindergarten, Year 2, Year 4 and Year 6 will have an opportunity to showcase their great learning and our school community to celebrate the many successes we have shared as a learning community. During the assembly, Principal Awards will be given to children who demonstrate the value of *Respect*.

### **Enrolments 2016**

Kindergarten Enrolments for 2016 will start on Monday 23rd, March. Enrolment Packages will be available from the office for collection. Please notify family, friends and neighbours wishing to enrol their child at Holy Family.



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## Dates for your Diary



### March/April

Monday 23rd March	2016 Enrolment to commence.
Wednesday 25th March	Feast of Annunciation.
Friday 27th March	2:00pm School Assembly.
Monday 30th March	Stations of the Cross — in the school grounds.
Tuesday 31st March	Harmony Day — the school grounds.
Wednesday 1st April	Last day of Term 1.
Thursday 2nd April	Staff Development Day — no school for students.
Parish Mass times for Easter.	
Good Friday 3rd April	3:00pm Celebration of the Lords Passion.
Easter Saturday 4th April	6:00pm Saturday Vigil
Easter Sunday 5th April	8.00 am and 9:30am Mass



### Birthday Wishes!

*Congratulations to the following students who celebrate their birthday this week:  
Abeiku Kwansah-Aidoo, Milad Issa, Aisha Seasay, David Soukhar, Erica Tamang, Rita Dik, Dut Atak, Edwina Tu, Edward Tu and Stephen Estephen.*

## Diocesan and Community News



# THE ROSARY ARMY



## IRAQ CRISIS - INTERNATIONAL APPEAL

### DONATION LIST

MONEY FOR THE POOR IN IRAQ  
DRY FOOD  
ANY SORT OF SHEETS OR BLANKETS  
CANNED FOOD  
SHOES  
KITCHEN ITEMS - CUPS, PLATES, ETC.  
CLOTHING  
STATIONARY  
TOWELS  
TOILETRIES - SOAPS, PERFUME ETC.

*“Please, may all items be new and unused,  
we only want to give Jesus our best!”*

Any donations, please call  
**Joe 0414 693 927 or Karen 0405 358 089**

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