

Friday 15 February

Week 3, Term 1, 2013

P & F Association meets 2nd Tuesday of the Month at 7.00 pm.
All Parents are warmly invited to attend.



Newsletter

Dear Parents

Many people think that St Valentine's Day is a silly sentimental sort of thing, that it is simply the frontispiece for commercial opportunity. However, in the midst of all the cut-out hearts, red-wrapped chocolates and the red roses, there can be found a story of real love, compassion and concern for other people.

Historically, St Valentine served as the Bishop of Terni, a small city in the heart of Italy, during the third century. Emperor Claudius II decided that single men made better soldiers than married or engaged men, so he outlawed marriage or engagement for young couples. Realising the injustice of this law, Valentine secretly married young couples. As soon as Claudius found out about Valentine's activities, he had Valentine jailed and beaten; later he was sentenced to death and beheaded on February 14, 270 A.D.

On February 14, 1997, Pope John Paul II wrote that, because of Valentine, Terni had become the "city of love without borders, the city of universal love". The Pope went on to define the love that we all must have: "A love that conquers, breaks down frontiers, crumbles barriers among human beings. Love that creates a new society."

On February 14, 2007, Vincenzo Paglia, Bishop of Terni, said: "In our world where the risk is that love will be forgotten amidst so many forms of hatred, the message of St Valentine points towards love drawn from the depth of his own life, showing us a shared path that meets and welcomes all."

If you ever had the opportunity to see the musical, "Les Miserables", you might recall the final statement: "To love another person is to see the face of God." God is present in our love for other people, because He is present in everything that is good. We might proclaim our faith in God, but if there is no love and kindness associated with it, then our faith is a rather disconnected thing. "If we are lacking the kind of love that causes us to have compassion towards other people, to love them and to wish to make them happy, we cannot be united to God because we are not at all like Him, we are in no sense in God's image." Swedenborg.

A scriptural Valentine worth our consideration might be: "God so loved the world that He gave His only Son, so that everyone who believes in Him may not perish, but have eternal life." John 3.16.

Perhaps these words prompted the following verses:

"You can see God's beauty,
You can see His love shine
In everything around you,
Just look at all the magnificent signs.

You can see His love in a mother and child
As they share a loving embrace.
But it is easiest to see His undying love,
When you gaze at the Cross
And see Jesus' face." Michael Rew.

For us, God's love does not lie in great heroics but in the daily actions of our common lives. Our souls unite with God's through the quiet consistency of kind acts and expressions, in the affairs of our everyday lives. As St Valentine was able to see beyond the injustice of the Emperor's laws and offer support for true human love, so might we be able to see past the silliness and sentimentality of our modern St Valentine's Day and take the opportunity to thank God for His endless love for us and to reflect that, by our love, compassion and concern for other people. "Someday we will harness for the world the energies of love, and humankind will have discovered fire for the second time."

Teilhard de Chardin.

God, our Father, help us to choose to be in accord with Jesus' life and example to "Love one another as I have loved you."

Peace and Best Wishes.

Paul O'Heir.

CALENDAR of EVENTS

See updates on <http://intra.kurri.catholic.edu.au>

Username: kur.homeshare

Password: kur7232

To take advantage of any photographs printed, our Newsletter is available on the address above in Full Colour. On the home page look to the left for Newsletters and then click the required date.

TERM ONE

FEBRUARY

22-Assembly, Yr 5. 2.40 pm
25- Opening School Mass -9.30am
26-P & F Meeting, 7 pm @Abermain

MARCH

5-Diocesan Swimming Carnival
8-Assembly, Yr 6. 2.40 pm
11-Catholic Schools Week Begins
19-Harmony Day, Dio Winter Trials
22- Assembly, Yr 4. 2.40 pm
24-Sunday Mass, Palm Sunday.
28-Holy Week Liturgy
29 Good Friday
31-Easter Sunday

APRIL

12-Last day of Term One.

INSIDE THIS EDITION

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Volunteer Declaration
P&F News & Raffle
Opening school Mass
Library
Parish News
Community News
School Parking
Guitar lessons with Mr Smith

INCLUDED

Australian Catholics
Inform-faith & life matters
Newcastle's Child publication

CANTEEN ROSTER

Monday-18/2-S Hickson
Wednesday-20/2-M Archbold
Friday-22/2-R Latter & M Mehrton
Monday-25/2-s Bartley
Wednesday-27/2-M Archbold
Friday-1/3-R Payne & J Mieres



INFORMATION NIGHT

Thank you to the families who came along to our Information Night last week. It was wonderful to see such a good number. Part of the presentation included the new school website.

As you would be aware a letter was sent home at the end of last year seeking your permission to include photographs of your child. The website will be published next week. If you have any questions regarding the school website and student photographs please contact Mr O'Heir.

WELCOME

We welcome our new school counsellor Mrs Gayna Turner. Mrs Turner has been appointed to our school and Abermain to support student wellbeing.

FOCUS ON READING

It's a good time to revisit our schools special focus. **Focus On Reading**. Sometimes you may see the title referred to as a FoR School. What the term means is that the teachers in our school have been trained in teaching and using the 'Super Six Comprehension Strategies' as part of their classes' reading curriculum.

The Super Six Strategies are:

Making connections: In this aspect the children make **personal** connections from the text with: something from their own life (text to self) another text (text to text) or with something they have experienced in their own world of experience.

Predicting: The children use information from what they are reading, heard or are viewing and relate it to their own experiences. Using their background knowledge they make predictions about what may happen next.

Questioning: The children are taught how to pose and answer questions that help

them clarify the meaning of what they read and help deepen their understanding. These questions could come from themselves, each other or the teacher.

Monitoring: The children learn about how to stop and think when they find a text difficult and are taught strategies that will help them know what to do when they are finding it difficult to get the meaning of the text.

Visualising: The children learn how to create a mental image from the things they read, view or hear. Visualising brings the text to life, engages the imagination and uses all of the senses.

Summarising: The children learn how to identify and talk about the most important ideas and how to put them in their own words.

Over the year we will focus on one of these strategies and explain it more fully. We will give you some ideas on what you can do at home. All the teachers will welcome any questions you might have. If there is anything about **FoR** you would like to know about just ask.

VOLUNTEER DECLARATION

According to Child Protection legislation all volunteers are required to complete a Declaration form to be eligible to volunteer at school activities. If you wish to be a volunteer please ask for a copy from the school office. If you have any questions regarding the form please contact Mr O'Heir. A 100 point security check is required for this form.

Yr2 (2012) READERS

Could families of Yr3 students please check if they have any readers from Abermain? A number of Readers have not been returned from last year. Your assistance in this matter would be appreciated.

P&F NEWS

The next P&F Meeting will be on Tuesday 26 February 7pm Abermain. This is an opportunity for families to become involved in the life of the school. The 2012 Executive have finished their term of office and we are looking for a new executive for 2013.

Raffles will be held at the Kurri Kurri Bowling Club on Friday nights for February, March and April. Helpers are needed from 6.00 pm—7.17 pm.

Please call Kerrie Phillips on 4936 4794 or 0412 264 446 for more information.

SCHOOL HOURS

Morning duty begins at 8.40am. Therefore students should not arrive before this time.

If there are exceptional circumstances please speak with Mr Chambers. Teachers are often at school well before this time but are preparing for lessons and are not available to supervise students. Mulbring students who travel on the bus are to sit on the veranda as usual.

OPENING SCHOOL MASS

The 2013 Opening School Mass and School Leaders Commissioning will be on Monday 25 February commencing at 9.30am. Students from Abermain will also join the celebration.



LIBRARY BORROWING

Library borrowing will commence on Monday.

Please ensure students have a library bag.

PARISH NEWS

BLESSING of the VALLEY: HEALING & HOPE!

This Liturgy will occur on Sunday, 3 March, 2013. Please arrive at 11.30am for 12 Noon at Pokolbin Community Hall, 128 McDonalds Road, Pokolbin.

The liturgy will last about 30 minutes and we will give thanks for the blessings bestowed on us over the past 12 months, acknowledge our sins, pray for what we need and invoke God's blessing on our valley. A shared picnic lunch will follow. BYO everything. Activities will be provided for children.

Pokolbin Community Hall has nice grounds and the hall is modern and well-appointed, ideal for hot or cold and wet weather, with a good kitchen and toilet facilities.

SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM 2013

KURRI KURRI/ABERMAIN

There will be an INFORMATION MEETING for Parents, Grandparents and Guardians of children who have been baptised and are in Year 4 and upwards regarding Reconciliation, Confirmation and First Holy Communion for this year. This meeting will be held on Wednesday, 20th February at 7.00pm in the Kurri Kurri Parish Hall. Due to privacy laws, we are unable to send letters out to families in our State Schools, so if you know of any families who have children who would like to make their sacraments, please let them know about this meeting. If you have questions, please do not hesitate to call Cathy Brown on 4937 4574 or 0437 457 409.

STUDENT EXTRA CURRICULA ACHIEVEMENTS

This space is reserved for student extra curricula achievements. Please let us know if you have any noteworthy news.

COMMUNITY NEWS



KCDANCEHQ

DANCE
Jazz, Hip Hop, Contemporary,
Ballet, Tap, Cheerleading,
Musical Theatre,
BoYs hIP hOP, Eisteddfods,
Exams.

ENROL NOW

ONLINE: www.kcdancehq.com.au
PHONE: 0404 043 405
OR @ the studio: Weston Civic Centre

FITNESS
Konga, Pilates
(Casual Classes for Adults)

www.kcdancehq.com.au

KURRI KURRI JUNIOR FOOTBALL

Soccer Registrations

Birrilee Park Kurri

Tuesday -19th & 26th Feb 2013

Friday 15th & 22nd Feb 2013

5pm to 6.30pm

Rego Costs :

5 - 7 years \$65

8 - 11 years \$80

12 - 18 years \$95

You must register online prior to coming to the club.
Please see our website kkjfc.com.au for instructions.

New players need to bring copy of birth certificate.

Please contact Jo Foster 0414 619194 with enquiries.

WESTON JUNIOR SOCCER CLUB

Registration Days

16Feb-9 am-12noon

20, Feb- 3.30 pm to 5 pm

23 Feb-9 am-12 noon

& 27 Feb-3.30 pm to 5pm

Where: Varty Park Swanson St Weston

Who: Boys & Girls aged 5 yrs and up

How Much:

5 - 7 years \$65

8 - 11 years \$75

12 - 18 years \$95

All new players welcome (birth certificate required)

All enquiries please contact Colleen on

0421 907 536.



SCHOOL ZONE PATROLS

THE 2013 SCHOOL YEAR HAS NOW COMMENCED AND PARENTS AND TEACHERS ARE REMINDED THAT THE RANGERS WILL BE OUT IN FORCE THROUGHOUT THE CESSNOCK AND SURROUNDING LGA AREAS TO ENSURE ALL DRIVERS ARE PARKED LEGALLY IN SCHOOL ZONES.

CESSNOCK CITY COUNCIL RANGERS ARE REMINDING ALL DRIVERS OF SCHOOL CHILDREN TO PARK SAFELY WHEN TRANSPORTING THEIR CHILDREN TO AND FROM SCHOOL.

COUNCIL'S RANGER TEAM LEADER, HOLLY PATTERSON, SAID "IT IS IMPORTANT FOR DRIVERS TO OBEY THE AUSTRALIAN ROAD RULES IN SCHOOL ZONES. SCHOOL ZONES ARE AN ESSENTIAL PART OF KEEPING OUR CHILDREN SAFE WHEN THEY ARE ENTERING AND LEAVING SCHOOL."

A RANGER OR AUTHORIZED OFFICER ONLY HAS TO SITE A VEHICLE OFFENCE IN A SCHOOL ZONE TO ISSUE A FINE TO THE REGISTERED OWNER OF THE OFFENDING VEHICLE.

THE FOLLOWING FINES APPLY TO OFFENCES

STOP ON/NEAR BUS STOP—SCHOOL ZONE

\$298.00 & 2 DEMERIT POINTS

STOP IN BUS ZONE—SCHOOL ZONE

\$298.00 & 2 DEMERIT POINTS

DOUBLE PARK—SCHOOL ZONE

\$298.00 & 2 DEMERIT POINTS

OTHER FINES ALSO APPLY FOR PARKING INCORRECTLY.



GUITAR LESSONS

PRIVATE GUITAR LESSONS ARE AVAILABLE EACH TUESDAY DURING SCHOOL HOURS IF YOU WISH YOUR CHILD TO

LEARN GUITAR.

MR ROBERT SMITH, A LOCAL MUSICIAN, TEACHES GUITAR.

HE CAN BE CONTACTED ON 4930 8027.