



Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> April 2021

# PRINCIPAL'S UPDATE



Dear Parents and Carers,

## Anzac Day Commemoration

On ANZAC Day our school captains Jake F and Sophie W represented our school proudly at the Hornsby RSL Branch ANZAC Day Commemoration by laying a wreath at the Dawn Service in Hornsby. There were many St Patrick's families there to support our captains and pay their respects and thank all those who have served.

We also came together as a school on Monday to remember the ANZACS. Thank you to all the children, staff and parents for joining us on this very special day. Congratulations to our senior band members for ably providing the music during the commemoration and to Mrs Helen Jacobson for preparing the musicians. A special thank you to Melissa Spurrett for sharing her time with us. It was an honour to hear her reflection about her time in the Navy and what ANZAC Day means to her. It allowed us to think about how grateful and lucky we are to live in Australia and have the life that we do, due to the sacrifices of our Defence Force.



## Kindergarten Family Mass

Our first School and Parish Family Mass will be for our Kindergarten families on this **Sunday 2 May at 10am**. It will be a lovely opportunity for Kindergarten families to celebrate the Eucharist together. All families are most welcome!

## Sacrament of Confirmation

A reminder that the Sacrament of Confirmation 2021 will be celebrated within Masses on Sunday 5th September 2021 at 11.30am at St Bernard's ~ 2pm at St Patrick's ~ 4pm at St Patrick's. Under current Covid-safe restrictions these Masses are for candidates and incorporate ~ 1 child + 1 sponsor + 2 parents/caregivers only. Save the date!

During 2020, Bishop Anthony took the opportunity to make an adjustment to the age at which children in the Diocese of Broken Bay are eligible to make Confirmation. The Bishop advised that from 2021 Confirmation will be... *"celebrated with those who have reached the age of 8, and who are typically in Year 3."* and that *"Reconciliation and Eucharist will ... be celebrated with those who are 9 and in Year 4."*

## Mothers, Muffins and Maths Morning

We invite all mothers, mother figures and women role models in the lives of our children to come along on **Friday 7 May** from 8:00am as part of our Mother's Day celebrations. This year we will begin the day with a cuppa, muffin, and a chat from 8am followed by a Mother's Day Liturgy after morning assembly and some fun Maths activities in the classrooms as part of a Maths morning. We have nearly 60 mums who have indicated they are joining the celebrations, but it is not too late to register your attendance. If you are coming, **please register by Friday (tomorrow)** for catering and Covid-19 Safe planning purposes. Please [click here](#) to RSVP.

### **Mother's Day Stall**

All students will have the opportunity to purchase a gift for a significant female in their lives, for Mother's Day. If your child/ren would like to purchase a gift from the stall, please complete an individual order for each child in the family, through the Qkr App. All gifts are \$6.00 each & are to be purchased through the QKR app before 5pm, Wed 5th of May. The stall will be held at school on Friday 7th of May after recess.

### **Uniform**

We are now into the 'phase in' period towards Winter uniform. Students may wear either **full Summer** or **full Winter** uniform (but not a combination) for the first four weeks to begin the term. Students should be in full Winter uniform by Monday 17 May. Please [click here](#) to see expectations about uniform. Thanks to the students and parents who adhere to this.

### **North Shore Cluster Cross-country**

Congratulations to all our students who proudly represented our school at the North Shore Cluster Cross-country on Tuesday. The children competed against about 80 other students in their age group from 13 other catholic primary schools at Rofe Park Hornsby Heights. We congratulate the following children who won through to the Broken Bay Diocesan Cross-country Carnival: Liam D, Natalie S, Catherine M, Stella H, Emma D, Noah D, Colin P, Gemma T, Helena S, Lachlan H, Joshua W, Tara C, and Jake F. A special thank you to Mr Daly and Mr Collins for transporting and setting up the shade area for the children and all the parents and grandparents that supported the children at the event.

### **Covid-safe School Events and Photography**

We have been fortunate to have an increase of school events this year due to the Covid-safe practices that our community has worked hard to maintain. Although life has returned to some normality in recent times, we still need to maintain the hygiene and social distancing practices. Please remember to sign in through the school office if working within the school or register using the Service NSW App when waiting on site at pickup for an extended period of time.

I also acknowledge that many parents are kind enough to support school events like the carnivals, liturgies and assemblies that are held regularly through the school year. With the easy availability of digital technology parents often take photos of their children participating. While parents and carers are allowed to take photos of their children at school events, please be aware that the publishing of images of other people's children on social media without the consent of the parent is not permitted.

### **Wakakirri**

This year our school will be participating in the Wakakirri Story-Dance Festival in Term 3. The Aboriginal word Wakakirri means 'to dance a story' according to the Wangaaypuwan people from Cobar NSW. Wakakirri provides schools with a creative arts education program to develop student creativity, engagement and wellbeing through the sharing of stories and participation in the performing arts.

As a first-time entrant the school qualifies for extra support and will have the benefit of weekly input from a qualified dance instructor from Wakakirri. The children from Year 4, 5 & 6 who are participating in this event will be preparing from next week with our first rehearsals. It promises to be a wonderful experience for the children and we wish them every success with this initiative.

God bless you and your families.

Todd Vane-Tempest  
Principal