



Thursday 7 September 2023

PRINCIPAL'S UPDATE

Dear Parents and Carers,

We have celebrated Well-being Week this week with a focus on Friendship in our Peer Support Groups. Peer Support activities are a great opportunity for our Year 5 and 6 students to develop and demonstrate their leadership skills and be positive role models to our younger students. It also provides a platform to develop connections and friendships across the grades while reinforcing the expected behaviours at school.

This week the children have also been acknowledged and rewarded for demonstrating positive behaviours particularly being "Friendship Ninjas" through the Spin the Wheel prizes. Children can gain an individual, group, class or grade reward for their positive behaviour.

National Child Protection Week

Well-being Week also coincides with National Child Protection Week. This week is a great time to consider how we all play a part in fostering a safe and supportive community for children and young people.

In our school and our diocese, we see Safeguarding as a shared responsibility and commit to ensuring our schools are safe for students to grow and flourish. We recognise that it takes a village to raise a child.

Each year, the children receive level appropriate lessons about personal safety as part of the Personal Development, Health and Physical Education (PDHPE) programs. PDHPE is one of the six learning areas of the NSW Primary curriculum. Our school's PDHPE program aims to help our students develop and lead healthy, active and fulfilling lives. Part of this program includes Child Protection Education.

This week, all students will be taking part in a Cyber Safety session with our local Police Liaison Officer with the aim of providing practical knowledge about how to stay safe online. I encourage parents to have a discussion with their child/ren about how they can be cyber safe.

To support this further we have also organised a parent session for early next term focusing on cyber safety. I also include a few resources below that will assist parents in supporting child safety in our community.

NSW Police Legacy have released their Child Safety Handbook. This is an excellent, practical resource for families and schools. Please take the time to read and promote within your school communities:

[CSHB – 2023 Winter Edition by Associated Media Group Pty Ltd - Issuu](#)

The 2023 National Child Protection Week Children's Activity Booklet is also available to download. The aim of the booklet is to:

- start conversations about how to build the safest possible communities for children
- link families to resources and support services.

The activity book can be downloaded from the webpage link below: [National Child Protection Website Page](#)

Kinder Enrolments 2024

Current parents who have school aged children to start Kinder in 2024 are encouraged to contact the school office to enrol now.

If parents are aware of families that have children ready to start school next year, I encourage you to recommend our school and the offer to come and find out more information. Prospective parents can contact the school to have a private tour and pick up an enrolment pack from the school office or enquire online: [Enrolment Enquiry Form](#)

Friday Assemblies

A reminder that our next scheduled Whole School Assembly will be the School Band Assembly is this Friday from around 2:10pm. The Band Assembly is a great opportunity for our musicians to perform some of the works they have been practising together. It is also a chance for students to see the band in action and consider learning to play an instrument. We are very fortunate to have such a wonderful and dedicated band teacher with Mrs Jacobson. Helen does a lot of work creating arrangements for the children to play. We look forward to another great concert next week.

The Kindergarten Assembly is scheduled for Friday Week 9.

Staff Development Day

Last week's Staff Development Day provided an opportunity for staff to learn about the new Religious Education Curriculum with a particular focus on the Year 3-6 syllabus. The new K-2 curriculum has been implemented this year with the new Year 3-6 RE curriculum to be phased in next year. The staff also had a chance to spend some time developing their own faith and learning about the recent World Youth Day held in Lisbon Portugal through the experiences of our own staff pilgrims Miss Fryar and Mrs Pugsley.

Let's Hear it for the Boys

We are excited to hold the 'Let's Hear it for the Boys' school mum and son dinner, music and games night this evening (7th September from 6pm-8pm). We are expecting over 30 students with their mums to enjoy a fun evening together.

P&F Movie Night - The Mario Bros Movie

The P&F movie night is nearly here. I encourage all families to support this P&F initiative next Friday 15 September commencing at 5.00pm. Bring along a picnic rug and dinner. Popcorn, drinks and ice-creams will be available for sale on the night. Tickets are a bargain at \$18.00 for a family of four and \$5.00 for a single ticket. The movie showing will be The Mario Bros movie. This is a great chance for our school community to come together for a fun filled night. Tickets are available on the QKR app now, closing time: 13 September at 8.00pm.

God bless,

Todd Vane-Tempest

Principal

ST. PATRICK'S WEEKEND MASS TIMES

SATURDAY	6pm
SUNDAY	8am
SUNDAY	10am
SUNDAY	5pm

Kuringai-Chase Parish

Parents are encouraged to click on the link to connect with all the current information regarding the parish through parish website including the weekly Parish Bulletin. [Link- Parish Bulletin](#)

Parish Choral Event- The Choir Games

The parish is holding a choral event for children in October. The Choir Games, scheduled for Sunday 22nd October, provides an opportunity for children from Year 2-6 to come together and sing, learn about singing as a choir and get to know each other and have lots of fun. There will be more information provided soon.

Dates to Remember:

Term 3

Thursday 7th September - Let's Hear it for the Boys

Term 4

Thursday 7th December -Year 6 Graduation

Friday 8th December -Christmas Concert performance

Wednesday 13th December -End of year whole school Mass

Thursday 14th December -Last day of school for students (Year 6 may differ TBC)

Friday 15th December - Staff Development Day (Pupil Free Day)