Principal’s Message

It has been a very busy start to the year! The children appear to have settled into the daily routines of school life and are immersing themselves in their learning. Thank you to those families who were able to catch up with the class teachers last week. Hopefully you had the opportunity to hear about the expectations and events of the year ahead. I encourage you to contact the class teacher if you have any questions you feel were not answered or that areas that you are still unsure of. The teachers will be more than happy to clear these up for you. If you have not completed the "What You Need to Know About My Child" form as yet, I encourage you to complete it immediately and return to the class teacher.

The attendance at the Parents and Friends Meeting that followed the class meetings was excellent. Many topics were covered under the guidance of our new P&F executive. Further details can be found in the newsletter.

Father Rex Curry, our new Parish Priest, is holding three listening nights this week. The first two have already been completed but the last will be held in the Parish Hall tonight. The four questions being put forward for response were in last week’s newsletter. If you were unable to attend but would still like to comment on the questions, you can contact the Parish Office and leave your responses with them.

This evening the Diocesan Parent Council is hosting a night with Michael Grose, one of Australia’s leading educators on parenting. Many of our parents are attending but it is still possible to register. Please visit http://www.brokenbayparentcouncil.com/michael-grose.html to register.

My door is always open if you would like to chat or discuss any issue. Contact the school office to make an appointment.

Michael Gallagher

Sunday’s Gospel Quote

Do you think that these Galileans were worse sinners than all the other Galileans because they suffered this way? I tell you, no! But unless you repent, you too will all perish.

Third Sunday of Lent
Religious Education News

Whole School Parish Family Mass:
Just a reminder our first upcoming Parish Family Mass, with the support of our excellent host families from Kindergarten is to be held this **SUNDAY**. It is an excellent opportunity to come together as a Parish community and celebrate our faith. Please feel free to invite friends and family to this special celebration.

**When:** Sunday 28th February  
**Time:** 6pm  
**Where:** St Rose Catholic Church

Preparation For Reconciliation
Many of our Year Three students have begun their Preparation for Reconciliation classes.

**What is Reconciliation…**  
**The title ‘Reconciliation’** -
- Centres on God’s loving and forgiving nature in the Bible  
- It is a fixing up of relationship with God  
- This Sacrament is celebrated in a place of light, not as before in a place of darkness or ‘confessional’.

**The rite of Reconciliation.**  
Preparation includes;  
Gathering  
Gospel Reflection  
Review of life  
Confession: telling one’s faults aloud  
Contribution: telling God you’re sorry  
Absolution: receiving God’s sure forgiveness  
Penance: a prayer or action that shows your new mind and heart.

*We take this time to pray for all of those who are preparing for the Sacrament of Reconciliation.*

Year of Mercy

This year the Church is celebrating the Holy Year of Mercy. This theme provokes us to act in peace, joy, conversion and grace. In the words of Pope Francis “There are no walls or distances which can prevent the Father’s mercy from reaching and embracing us.” I look forward to sharing more thought provoking aspects of this focus throughout the year.

Stef Thom  
Religious Education Coordinator
**Library News**

**Helpers:** At the moment we have only 3 parents able to cover books at home. If you are able to help with this would you please let me know so that we don’t overburden these 3 parents.

**PRC:** We will once again be participating in the Premier’s Reading Challenge. This is a challenge that encourages a love of reading through quality literature. The children in Kindergarten to Year 2 have to read, or have read to them, 30 books 25 of which must be from the PRC lists. Those in Years 3-6 must read 20 books, 15 of which must come from the PRC list. If you wish your child to participate please let me know by next week so I can register them. Once I receive user names and passwords I will send them home and you can begin to add the children’s books to their reading log. They can count anything they have read this year.

**Carnival Book Club:** Orders for this book club are due online by 29th February. Orders do not come to school.

**Red Gum Book Club:** Orders are due online by 7th March. Orders do not come to school.

Fran Jones
Teacher/Librarian

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**P&F News**

A letter from the P&F President

Thank you to everyone that attended the P&F Meeting last week. We had great numbers and lots of topics were covered. I appreciate everyone’s open mind and bringing up topics in the meeting. If you ever have an idea or suggestion and would like to discuss it at a meeting, feel free to let the P&F Committee know and we can add it to the agenda. Otherwise contact me and we can have a chat.

Open Day for the school is just around the corner and we need volunteers for the morning of March 9th to walk potential new families around the school. We’re in need of 9 people to help as we’re also going to serve coffee/tea in the canteen as well.

Please contact me if you are available from 9-11am to volunteer. It’s for the benefit of the school and doesn’t require a lot of time.

**FUN FAIR is ON! October 29th from 10am-3pm so put this date in your calendar!**

*There is a poster competition form attached below for students to compete in.*

If you have any questions or suggestions, please feel free to contact me. My info is: pagekatie1@gmail.com or M 0411 247 709

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**Office News**

**GENTLE REMINDER**

**FEES:** Payment Options & Due Dates

Annual and Standard (3 instalments): payment is due - Friday February 26
Monthly: first payment beginning February 15;
Fortnightly and Weekly: first payment beginning February 12.

Please ensure payments are regular and contact the school office if there are any difficulties meeting these requirements. Thank you.
Students of the Week

Kindergarten
Riley R: for PBL - a good listener
Jaxon P: for great rhyming.
Ciara Q: for great sentence writing.

Year 1
Mathew P: for being a good listener in class.
Reid S: for consistent effort in school this week.

Year 2
Ryan C: for always listening to instructions.
Amelie P: for excellent work in addition.

Year 3
Anthony P: for being a very kind and caring friend.
Elena B: for excellent listening skills to stay on task.

Year 4
Chloe S: for helping her peers do the right thing at the right time.

Year 5
Boden W: for being a great listener.

Year 6
Georgia N: for being a good listener including using good eye contact.

St. Lucy’s-San Clemente
Jasmine C: for making new friends and being a kind class member.
Ashley D: for sitting on a chair during morning circle and working at the desk.
St. Lucy’s-Siena
Elijah C: for working well in the morning circle.
Nicholas D: for kind and caring citizen of class Siena.

Swimming Carnival News

Last Thursday all Year 2-6, parents and staff all enjoyed a fantastic day at our school swimming carnival at Manly Pool. Thank you to all the colour captains, teachers and parents who all contributed to ensure that the carnival was a great success.

Congratulations to POLDING – BLUE who won the Overall Point Score. Congratulations to all the other colour houses for the wonderful team spirit they displayed.

POINT SCORE

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>ST</th>
<th>Colour</th>
<th>Score</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1ST</td>
<td>POLDING BLUE</td>
<td>185</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2ND</td>
<td>ALOYSIUS GREEN</td>
<td>168</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3RD</td>
<td>ST JOSEPH’S RED</td>
<td>120</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4TH</td>
<td>THERRY YELLOW</td>
<td>100</td>
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Important Dates

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<th>Date</th>
<th>Details</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Sunday 28th February</td>
<td>Family Mass Night 6.00pm at St Rose Church - Kindergarten</td>
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<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Wednesday 9th March</td>
<td>St. Joseph’s School Open Day (Volunteers needed)</td>
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<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Wednesday 23rd March</td>
<td>EMU/MAI Parent Information Night (Library) 7.30-8.30pm (return slip by 9/3)</td>
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| 11    | Monday 4th April  | - Staff Development Day  
|       |                  | - Parent Information First Eucharist At St Rose 7pm |
All you need to do is **GET CREATIVE** and include everything you love about going to the fair!

For example:
* Rides & Games
* Balloons & Face Painting
* Cakes & Lollies

Use as many colours and any materials you like to make your poster. Please use a piece of white A4 or A3 paper. **Only one entry per student.**

* * *Don’t forget to write your name and class on the back and hand into your classroom teacher. * * *

**1st Prize:**
2 ride wristbands for the fair for you and a friend plus an art pack

**2nd Prize:**
1 wristband and an art pack

**3rd Prize:**
An art pack

*Ride wristbands entitle the wearer to unlimited rides at the fair*

**ENTRIES CLOSE ON 8th APRIL 2016**
THE WINNER WILL BE ANNOUNCED AT THE FIRST SCHOOL ASSEMBLY IN TERM 2
What is EMU, the MAI Assessment and how is Mathematics being taught to my child?

Would you like to further understand the assessment and mathematical learning of your child?

Would you like ideas of how you can support your child at home with their learning of Mathematics?

Would you like the tools to do all of this?

Join us for our

EMU Parent Information Night

Date: Wednesday 23rd March, 2016

Time: 7:30 - 8:30pm

Where: St Joseph’s Catholic School Library

RSVP: To ensure that we are able to adequately provide support resources for those that are attending, could you please complete the tear off slip below and return by Wednesday 9th March.

EMU, MAI, Mathematics Parent Information Night

I ________________________________, will be in attendance for the Mathematics Parent Information Night on Wednesday 23rd March, 2016 at 7:30pm- 8:30pm.

_________________________________________    ___________________________________________
Signature                                    Date
Open Day - Sunday March 13, 2016 11.00am - 2.00pm
A warm welcome is extended to all prospective families to join us for Open Day on Sunday March 13, 2016 from 11.00am to 2.00pm. We are now enrolling students currently in Year 5. Please visit the College website www.matermaria.nsw.edu.au or contact our Enrolment Registrar for a prospectus, Application for Enrolment or to register for a College tour. Applications for Year 7, 2018 close on April 6, 2016.
Thursday 3rd March
4:00pm-7:00pm
Come and tour our new hall with its state of the
art facilities, watch classroom demonstration
lessons, listen to our College bands and
enjoy a BBQ on our magnificent grounds
overlooking beautiful Sydney Harbour.

Applications for enrolment for Year 7 2018
will close on Thursday 31st March 2016

St Paul’s Catholic College · Manly
EDUCATING BOYS IN YEARS 7 TO 12