



P&F Meeting 20 February 2019

Principal's Report

Welcome

Welcome to 2019! - The school year has commenced successfully with an enrolment of approximately 670. Everyone seems to have settled well into the new year. I would once again like to affirm the enormous role that you, the parents and carers, have played in helping your children make the transition into the new school year.

The Year so far.....

While we have only been back just three weeks, already there have been a number of significant things that have taken place and that have been important to our own orientation into the school year ahead:

- ***Beginning of School Year Mass*** - This was indeed a wonderful occasion that set a welcoming tone as we embarked once again on another year of bringing Catholic Education to Berwick South.
- ***Parent Meet and Greet*** - Tomorrow evening, and again next Tuesday evening, an opportunity is being afforded for parents and teachers to meet to have a general conversation with respect to their child. Such opportunities are about nurturing the partnership between home and school which is just so critical to the learning that takes place for our children. Thank you to all for the time given to this process.

New Staffing

This year, we welcomed a number of new staff onto the team here at St Catherine's:

- ***Jasmine Fletcher*** (share teaching with Sigrun Hurren in Prep)
- ***Leonie Meehan*** (Prep)
- ***Darren Adams*** (Year 2)
- ***Maritta Abraham*** (Year 4)
- ***Jennibeth Aguilar*** (share teaching with Daniel Thatcher in Year 6)
- ***Jarrold Impey*** (Education Support Officer)
- ***Amanda Ebbage*** (Education Support Officer)
- ***Julie Dines*** (Canteen)

We are very much delighted to have these new members of staff as part of the community sharing in the ecclesial mission of bringing Catholic education to some of the many students of St Michael's Parish.

We also welcome back **Claire Culpitt** and **Victoria Donlan** who have been on maternity and parental leave for the past 12 months.

We pray that the respective areas of work for our new staff will be rewarding as they share the task of contributing to the teaching and learning within our faith context.

Swimming 2019

Students from Prep, Year 2, Year 4, and Year 6 will be involved in a Swimming this year.

- Preps – October
- Year 2 – August
- Year 4 – September
- Year 6 - February

It is a requirement of the Victorian Curriculum that swimming and water safety programs be taught as part of the Health and Physical Education. The Victorian Water Safety Certificate is a Victorian Government initiative, which describes specific competencies that should be achieved by the end of primary school.

Kilometre Club

Kilometre Club will continue this year but will take place of a Thursday morning before school. Organised and run by Justin Kenez, the initiative provides an opportunity for students to engage in physical activity with peers in an outdoor setting.

Reconciliation

Our Year 3 students (along with some older students) are soon to be preparing for the Sacrament of Reconciliation. This is an important part of their faith journey and one which we are invited as a community to support through prayer and active acknowledgement.

Coming up over the month ahead....

- 21 & 26 February Parent Meet & Greet
- 25 February Year 6 Swimming Program commences
- 1 March District Swimming
Family Movie Night
- 6 March Ash Wednesday