



P&F Meeting 8 May 2019

Principal's Report

The past few weeks in review.....

The recent weeks have remained busy with various occasions, events and initiatives having taken place:

- **2019 Ride2School** - It was absolutely marvellous to see the involvement of just so many students (along with other family members) who used the day as an opportunity to be active in their commute to school. Last week, we draw the winning tickets for the three Rebel vouchers valued at \$50 each. The winners were:
 - Ashwin Crasto (6DT)
 - Amelia Martin (5JO)
 - Ethan Reyes (6GM)
- **Kilometres for Compassion** - It was absolutely fantastic to see all students participate so enthusiastically in last Friday's *Kilometres for Compassion* initiative. Organised by our Social Justice Leaders and supported by Nerida Byrden, the aim was to help students to understand and empathise with others as well as as walking solidarity to help support those in need. A huge thank you to all who got involved and who supported the students in this cause by way of encouragement and donations. Well done to all!
- **Easter Egg Hamper Raffle** - Tomorrow, our winners of the the Easter Raffle will be announced. Thanks to the fantastic response by families and students, an incredible number of baskets of chocolate goodies have been beautifully put together by our P&F. (Thank you so much to all of those wonderful mums!) This particular fundraising venture by the P&F has raised in excess of \$3138. Thank-you to everyone for the generosity of spirit and goodwill.
- **Year 3 Overnight Stay** - The last week of Term 1 saw our Year 3 students participate in an overnight stay at school. This is the first experience in our camp program at St Catherine's and encourages independence and self-reliance. The sleepover was held in the MacKillop Building. A huge thank you to parents who volunteered to help the teachers and for the support shown for this initiative.
- **Year 5 Camp** - Last week, our Year 5 students were involved in 3-day/2-night trip to Sovereign Hill. The trek to Ballarat provides a wonderful opportunity for students to explore a little more about Australia's history. Students will return no doubt a little more weary than when they departed, but a great experience has been had from all accounts received. Once again, we thank staff and parents who have looked after the students, going over and above to support such initiatives and giving generously of their time.

Incident Recovery

- **New Learning Spaces** - Students in Years 2, 3 and 4 have settled well into the new portables that have been set up on the basketball court area. Works are all but complete with some more permanent fencing to go in at either end to better secure the space. I am incredibly grateful particularly to the work of staff who have gone over and above in getting learning spaces ready and functional. We are just finalising still some additional chairs.
- **Traffic Management** - Thanks to the support, understanding and cooperation of parents, the adjusted conditions to movement of traffic and with drop off and pick up of students, appear to be working as best as what can be achieved given the change of circumstances. We anticipate that the level of support from official traffic management will be reviewed over time with a view to scale back as deemed appropriate.
- **Timetable Changes** - With the physical changes around the school, a split play program has been introduced to accommodate student play given the decreased play area. Whilst start and finish times to the school day remain the same, play times have been adjusted as follows:
 - Years Prep, 2, 3 and 6
 - Recess play - 10:20-10:50am (Students will eat after play)
 - Lunch play - 12:30-1:00pm
 - Years 1, 4 and 5
 - Recess play - 11:00-11:30am
 - Lunch play - 1:10-1:40pm

Staff News

At the end of Term 1, we farewelled two of our Canteen staff - Donna Perrone and Denise Heinze. Donna and Denise have been valued members of staff here at St Catherine's - Donna since 2011 and Denise since the end of last year. Both ladies have contributed significantly as members of the canteen team, supporting students and families through their service delivery. We thank them for all that they have given through their work and extend our best wishes for future endeavours.

We are presently interviewing applicants to fill outstanding Canteen positions. These will be finalised over the coming couple of days.

With the commencement of Term 2, we welcomed the following people as new members of staff:

- Kylie Fitzgerald (share teaching with Kylie Hudson in 1HF)
- Angela Ioculano (share teaching with Debbie Carpentier in 2WC for Term 2)
- Rebecca Overeem (share teaching with Jodie Kennedy in 5TK for Term 2)
- Ben Brennan - Education Support Officer
- Julia Roy - Education Support Officer

Insight SRC Annualised Surveys

Each year, schools across the Diocese are required to survey students, parents and staff as part of our annual reporting requirements. Participation by all various stakeholders with a vested interest in what we do at St Catherine's enables a rounded perspective to be gained.

The purpose of the survey is to provide valuable information that can be used in planning and accountability processes. It also enables a focus for reflection, evaluation and

improvement and informs the development of the school's Annual School Improvement Plans.

This year's survey is now open online and will close Friday, 9 May. Staff and selected students from Years 3-6 will complete the survey. To ensure this balance of views, it is critical that parents have the opportunity to also have their say. With that in mind, we are calling for 60 parents to complete the survey, either on paper or online. *As an incentive, all completed surveys will receive a ticket into the draw for a \$100 Coles/Myer Gift Voucher.*

Parents who would be interested in completing this survey are asked to make contact with the School Office. A copy of the survey information and material can either be collected from the School or alternatively sent home with the eldest child. Completed paper surveys are to be returned to the Office sealed in the "Confidential" envelope provided by this Friday, 9 May.

School Policies - Update

The school has recently updated the following policies and uploaded to the school website:

- Privacy Policy
- Standard Collection Notice

Upcoming events:

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| ● Thursday, 9 May | - District Cross Country |
| ● Friday, 10 May | - Mothers Day Stall |
| ● Mon & Tues, 13 & 14 May | - Year 4 Camp |
| ● 14-24 May | - NAPLAN |
| ● Wednesday, 15 May | - School Closure Day |