FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Parents and Friends of St Vincent’s,

Welcome to Book Week

Yesterday it seemed that many of the characters that we have grown to love and cherish had stepped out of their books and into our assembly area. Students from kindergarten to Year 6 dressed up as their favourite story book character and paraded class by class across the stage to much applause and appreciation from the audience.

This year’s theme is ‘Escape to Everywhere’ which provides a wonderful opportunity to examine how books can fire our imagination, educate us about our world and take us to unimaginable places. I encourage you to spend some time during the week ‘escaping’ with your child and a book.

Thanks to Susan Ashmore who hosted a very successful Book Fair last week and has planned a number of exciting adventures for the children during their library lessons to celebrate Book Week. Teachers also got into the spirit of the day yesterday and had fun. We all love a ‘hot read’ that let’s us escape somewhere too.
On Friday our Years 3 & 5 students received their NAPLAN envelopes to take home to their parents, with results from the tests they completed in May this year. These results give details of specific areas of learning that the students completed correctly and also their incorrect answers for each of the tests. It is interesting to look for trends & common concepts that need to have a focus for improvement for your child. Another important point is that these tests are three months old and the students have progressed significantly since then. Congratulations to all of our students for their excellent results and for those who have made personal gains in their learning. As a school, we have achieved some very good results and are very proud of the level of achievement of so many of our students. Thank you to all those involved in supporting these children, particularly the staff who have prepared the students.

The school is provided with access to the School Measurement, Assessment and Reporting Toolkit (SMART), which provides feedback and data analysis for NAPLAN. The staff look forward to analysing the extensive data we have been provided and ensuring there is additional support for those students who require assistance.

Wishing everyone a great week and thanking you for your ongoing support and encouragement.

Lina Vigliotta
lina.vigliotta@cg.catholic.edu.au

FOOTY FEVER FUN FOOD DAY  30th August

Orders for next week’s Fun Food day are now closed. Children are able to come to school next Wednesday wearing the colours of their favourite sporting team.

SCIENCE WEEK THANKYOUS

Thank you to all the wonderful parents who helped St Vincent’s celebrate an amazing Science Fair last week. The students thoroughly enjoyed the hands on experiences and the launch of our new Makerspace. I would like you all to join me in thanking our own scientists—Claire O’Brien (Phoebe’s mum), Juliet Bell (Eliza and Harriet’s mum) and Michelle Stuckey (Lucca and Chloe’s mum) who gave up their valuable time to carry out exciting experiments with the classes.

Charlotte Fitzpatrick

FATHERS’ DAY BREAKFAST 2017

FRIDAY, 1 September  7.30 – 8.45am

Let’s all come together and celebrate all those wonderful fathers in our St Vincent’s community.

To all those fathers, grandfathers and all male role models out there, please come along with your children to our Family Fathers’ Day BREAKFAST. It will be held on FRIDAY, 1 September (Week 7). There will also be the opportunity to have a look through your child/children’s class rooms from 8.40 – 9.00am.

Please return your RSVP by next Wednesday, 30 August.

2017 Father Day Breakfast RSVP

Family Name: ______________________________

Adults: ______________  Children: ________________

Dietary Requirements (please circle): Gluten Free/Vegetarian or other ____________________________

Please contact Nicole in the Front Office - office.svdp@cg.catholic.edu.au or 6251 2442 or fill in below and return.
Our New Makerspace

Last Friday, 17 August as part of the St Vincent’s celebration of Science Week with the support of the Honourable Doctor Andrew Leigh, Member for Fenner, we officially opened our brand new Makerspace in what was, the old Resource Room. After a large removal of clutter, unused, old and outdated resources we utilised recycled materials and new resources from around the school to create our Makerspace. This room has been designed to encourage our children to experiment, problem solve, code, program, and play with Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) concepts.

Our Makerspace is a creative, self-directed learning space where students can create, invent and learn. In a ‘Maker’ environment, students have the opportunity to become involved with collaborative hands-on projects that promote multidisciplinary thinking and learning. Students tinker, explore, discover and create new concepts and ideas using a variety of tools and materials. Our Makerspace offers computers, electronics, craft supplies, tools, a wide variety of recycled materials and much more. Our Makerspace is hoped to be evolving and changing with the children’s needs and wants. Makerspace projects have the opportunity to be fully integrated into the current units we have at St Vincent’s.

Why did we create our Makerspace?

The opportunity for integrated play in our classrooms is becoming increasingly rare. Our Makerspace provides the perfect place where play, inquiry and curriculum are fused and integrated to incorporate 21st century learning skills and thinking.

The ever exploding range of new information and multimedia technologies has meant that students need to be equipped with not just understanding around new technologies, but equipped more than ever with skills to solve the complex problems of the future. These problems we do not even know about yet. Our Makerspace at St Vincent’s allows for students to explore problem solving concepts in a way that values their varied interests and strengths.

The St Vincent’s Learning Dispositions of perseverance, collaboration, goal setting, creativity, questioning, challenging, managing mistakes, and succeeding are taught and encouraged in our new Makerspace.

Please feel free to visit our new Makerspace to view what we are doing. If you would like more information about our Makerspace or Makerspaces in general please contact sam.beattie@cg.catholic.edu.au

Please have a look at the photos on the following page celebrating projects that have already begun in our new Makerspace.

Sam Beattie
Information Communication and Learning Technologies
FROM THE ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

Dear Parents and Carers,

This term, I can be found in a number of different classrooms doing a variety of activities with your children. I conference with students in their reading and writing, assist with rotation activities, work 1:1 with students, read stories and help students solve mathematics problems.

The Maths Apron!
One strategy I have adopted when I am rotating through classrooms during the Numeracy block is to wear a Maths apron! Now this might seem a little peculiar, as I am not in a kitchen or doing art/craft, but it has a pocket and I carry a lot of necessary Maths equipment on me that I can give to students straight away! Things like sharp pencils, rulers, counters, dice, a hundreds chart and calculator live in the pocket of my apron. The benefit of this is that I don’t have to send a student searching for the item they need, it is there straight away and valuable learning time is not interrupted!

Philosophy with children
Another idea I am currently trialling with 5Y is Philosophy with Children. Philosophy with children is exciting, challenging, awe-inspiring and fun. It is an opportunity for the students to think critically and creatively yet in a thoughtful and caring manner, therefore it is necessary to create a set of rules to allow the discussion to proceed well.

1. We listen to one another
2. We think about what other people say and build on their ideas
3. All ideas are respected
4. There may be no single correct answer that we can find

One of the questions that was posed to the students in recent weeks was “Is it ever okay to tell a lie?” During the discussion, it was amazing to watch and listen to the students imagine, wonder, reflect, question, puzzle, talk and speculate. Other lessons, after reading the book “Ish” by Peter Reynolds, have opened up discussions such as “Should you do your best all the time?” and “What does it mean to be perfect?” Philosophy encourages the students to explore beneath the surface of things, it challenges them to question and go beyond the easy or obvious answers.

“Easy is boring.... Challenging is Interesting”

Philosophy is a perfect fit for the Visible Learning environment we are creating here at St Vincent’s.

Enjoy the rest of your week
Lisa
lisa.harris@cg.catholic.edu.au

AWARDS

We congratulate the following recipients of this weeks awards

KINDER YELLOW: Luke I, Paul R
YEAR 1 BLUE: Christopher N, Jayla M
YEAR 2 YELLOW: Melvin S, Maggie M
YEAR 3/4 BLUE: Hilmi K, Charlie H
YEAR 3/4 YELLOW: Reuben W, Shanaya R, Eleni M

Due to tomorrow’s Prayer Assembly these awards will be given out at Monday morning’s assembly.

YEAR 5 BLUE: Vincent H, Lottie D
YEAR 5 YELLOW: Sabrina T, Sean’Hope C
YEAR 6 BLUE: Alizzandra T, Angela G

BIRTHDAYS

Happy Birthday to the following students celebrating their birthday over the coming week:

Lottie D, Maria G, Jasmin H
‘You are Called…’
Jesus said to them, “Come with me, and I will teach you to catch people.” At once they left their nets and went with him.
(Matthew 4:19-20)

Update - Amalgamation of Aranda and Page Parishes
You may or may not be aware that a merging process of the parishes of Aranda and Page has begun. The Archbishop held an open forum on the amalgamation, last Wednesday evening at St Matthew’s, Page.
At this forum some of the items discussed included Mass times, youth and family involvement/ministry and a new name for the merged parishes.
No decisions have been made at this point as the amalgamation of the two parishes will be put to the Council of Priests on the 31 August 2017.

Prayer Celebration
Tomorrow, Year 1 Blue will be leading our school and parish community in prayer. All members of the school community are very welcome to join us at these celebrations. The Prayer Celebration tomorrow will begin at 9am in the Church and will conclude at 9:25am.
If you are coming along to the Prayer Celebration tomorrow, please note that there is Mass at 9:30am which you are very welcome stay for.

Important Dates – Term 3

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<tr>
<th>First Eucharist Dates</th>
<th>Prayer Celebration Dates</th>
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<tr>
<td>Retreat - Wed, 13 Sept (9am - 3pm)</td>
<td>The New Commandment - 1 Blue -Friday, 25 August</td>
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<tr>
<td>First Eucharist - Sunday, 17 Sept (10am)</td>
<td>Unity in the Body of Christ - 3/4 Yellow - Friday, 8 September</td>
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Peace and best wishes,
Luke Maher
Religious Education Coordinator

FROM THE PARISH
Children’s Liturgy will be held during 10am Mass, next Sunday, 4 September in the Parish Centre. All welcome.

CANTEEN
Order your children’s lunches online – www.flexischools.com.au
Next week’s Specials are: Roast Tomato and Capsicum Soup-$1.00
Butter Chicken with rice-$4.00

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>CLASS 9.30am-2.00pm</th>
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<tr>
<td>25 August, 2017</td>
<td>Kinder Yellow</td>
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<tr>
<td>1 September, 2017</td>
<td>Year 1 Blue</td>
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</tbody>
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PLEASE NOTE: Reminder that all orders made through Flexischools will be due on WEDNESDAYS AT 5PM.
BELCONNEN LITTLE ATHLETICS

Does your child like to run, jump and throw?
If so, then little athletics could be the summer sport for you.

The philosophy of little athletics is self-improvement in an environment promoting fun, family and fitness. The development of skills and fitness is encouraged in children of all abilities aged 5-17.

Belconnen Little Athletics, meets on Saturday mornings at Cook oval, commencing Saturday, 14 October. If you are not sure whether Little Athletics is for you, feel free to come and try for a couple of weeks before registering.

For more information:
- Visit our website www.bwlac.org.au
- Attend our registration days at the Cook Community Centre, 41 Templeton St on:
  - Wednesday, 6 September 6:00pm–8:00pm,
  - Wednesday, 20 September 6:00pm–8:00pm
- or at Cook Oval on Sunday 8 October from 10:00am – 1:00pm

Contact our Registrar – Leanne Wilkinson at blacregistrar@gmail.com or 0406 375 195