Dear Parents, Friends and Students

Staff and students have all enjoyed a very settled and smooth start to the year and students are working well. It was heartening to see many families attend our Meet the Teacher evenings last week. These important gatherings help build the partnership between home and school which support the ongoing development of your child. Staff value the support of parents and look forward to a number of conversations and contact with each of you during the course of the year. Please feel free to make a time to speak with your child’s teacher as issues arise or to share information about children’s progress and development. Please note that Parent Teacher Discussions will be held towards the end of Term 1.

This Tuesday we celebrated Shrove Tuesday. Classes and staff enjoyed pancakes as part of the tradition of the day before Lent. Today all classes shared in a mass or liturgy to celebrate Ash Wednesday. As part of the class programme students will focus on this liturgical season as a time of personal reflection, renewal and the building of relationships. Our thanks to Fr Tony Densley who celebrated a very prayerful and meaningful mass with our community this morning and who will celebrate the sacrament of Reconciliation with classes during Lent.

Our Parents and Friends group met last week to plan this term’s events. Students always look forward to our Easter Raffle and parents are already busy organising for this year’s Mother’s Day stall. I thank our small but energetic group of parents who meet to plan and organise activities which help build community and also provide activities for students. All parents are welcome to join this friendly and very informal gathering each term. Please speak with Nives or myself to find out more or check the newsletter for meeting dates.

Students in Years R-5 have received notices regarding this term’s Swimming Programme. For your child to participate please return all consent forms by the due date. Parents will also soon receive information relating to Parent Teacher Discussions to be held in Weeks 8 and 9. Please mark these important dates on your calendar as soon as an interview time is confirmed for your child.

With best wishes
Grace Parletto

“Take fresh courage. Lean more on God and less on ourselves.”
Mary MacKillop 1877
From the Deputy Principal/REC

Ash Wednesday

The Lenten season began today with Ash Wednesday. Ash Wednesday begins the 40 day period of Lent. Lent is traditionally a time of prayer, fasting and almsgiving. On Ash Wednesday, our foreheads are marked with ash in the sign of the cross in memory of Jesus. The ashes are made from the blessed palms used on Palm Sunday from the previous year. Lent is a time during which we are encouraged to reflect on our lives and recall what our faith means to us. It is a time of personal change. It is a time for renewal, for reflecting on who we are and where we are going.

The colour traditionally associated with Lent is purple which symbolises penitence and humility.

Swimming Lessons for Years R-5

I ask that swimming forms be returned to your class teacher no later than Friday 24th February. This allows teachers time to follow up any areas of concern prior to lessons beginning. Please check invoices for due date of payment of monies.

Student supervision

In the interest of student safety, parents are reminded that any student who arrives at school prior to 8.15am will be directed to Before School Care. Students not collected by 3.20pm will also be directed to After School Care. A fee may apply in both instances.

Project Compassion

Yesterday, students celebrated Shrove Tuesday with many of the students enjoying the sharing of pancakes. Today we celebrated Ash Wednesday which marks the beginning of the Lenten season. All students attended a class liturgy and received the ashes. Our thanks to all those who were able to join us.

Sent home with today’s newsletter is a Project Compassion box for each family. Lent offers us the opportunity to share what we have with others who have less. Caritas Australia, with your support, is working hard to support communities who lack access to basic human rights such as food, water, shelter, education and health care. You and your family may like to donate a little of your pocket money each week or think of creative and fun ways to raise money for Project Compassion during this season of Lent.

Boxes can be returned in the last week of school this term. All donations over $2 are tax deductible (don’t forget to fill in your details on the box insert).

If you would like more information about Caritas and the work they do, you may like to visit the Caritas website – www.caritas.org.au

Our journey through Lent is a time for reflection on how we are living in response to God’s love.

Throw your cares on the Lord, and the Lord will support you.

God Bless

Nives Kresevic

Position Vacant

Desperately Seeking Volunteers!

Do you like being around children?

Can you spare 2x35 mins a week to help a child learn to read?

Have you thought of joining our very successful Rocket Reading programme?

(Training is provided)

*Get to know others in the school
*Make a difference to a child
*Increase your own skills
*Be able to help your own child with Literacy

We’d love you to join us. Grandparents welcome!

You’ll be amazed at the difference you can make!

If you would like to find out more about Rocket Reading please contact Nadia Santin or leave your name at the front office.

2012 School Card

Eligibility for School Card assistance is dependent upon the combined family gross income for the 2010/2011 financial year being within the School Card income limits (as shown below)

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Please note School Card is not automatically approved – it must be applied for each year. Applications forms are available from the front office.
School Assemblies Term 1

Week 5
Friday 2nd March
Whole School
Organisers— R/1W, 2/3TS & 3/4VC

Week 8
Friday 23rd March
R/1,
(Years2/3 and 3/4 at Mass)
4/5,
6/7

Week 10
Thursday 5th April
Whole School
Holy Week
P & F Raffle

Canteen Roster

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Pizzas are now available

Thank you Pat

THANK YOU FOR MAKING OUR SCHOOL “ALLERGY AWARE”

Please note that Our Lady of Mt Carmel is an “ALLERGY AWARE” school. Foods containing nuts or nut products must not be brought onto school grounds. This includes Peanut Butter, Nutella etc.

Health Notification

Please Note we have been notified of a diagnosed case of Chicken Pox within our School Community.

Happy Birthday

Harry Hills-Brewer, Crystal Do, Chelsea Chakudza and Erin Braid

Joke of the Week

What do you call a carton of Ducks?
A box of quackers

Weekly Mass Times
24-26 February, 2012

- Friday 24 February
  Port Adelaide  12.00 noon Mass
  Saturday 25 February
  Port Adelaide (Vigil)  6.00 pm
  Sunday 26 February
  Our Lady of Mount Carmel  9.00am Mass
  - Our Lady Queen of Peace 10.30am

P & F Raffle

Swimming Fees
(Rec-Yr 5 students): Must be paid prior to the commencement of swimming to enable your child to participate. The fee is not covered by direct debit and will need to be paid separately.

Sports News
We have been unable to secure any coaches for our netball teams therefore no teams have been nominated in this current competition round.

Uniforms
We are waiting on delivery of our shorts and sports polo tops. Hats have arrived. Secondhand uniform items are available during shop hours.

P&F Committee
Our thanks to those parents and friends who were able to attend last Monday's meeting.
The next meeting will be on Monday March 26 in the staff room and some of this time will be used to prepare prizes for the Easter Raffle. If you can spare 30 mins to help, you would be very welcome. Please let Sylvia in the front office know if you would like a copy of the minutes from the last P&F meeting.
Regards,
P&F Committee
Ash Wednesday is the first day of Lent.

On Ash Wednesday we receive ashes on our forehead.
The ashes are a sign for us to be like Jesus.

During Lent, God wants us to look at our lives
to see how we can grow closer to Godself.

We made a Lenten tree for our class to
display our Lenten promises.

Year 2/3TS

During Lent I will help my mum with the dishes. James

During Lent I will help, care and respect others. Isaac.

During Lent I will help feed my pets.
Angelina.

In Lent I will help others.
Satine

During Lent I will be a good listener.
Cynthia.

During Lent I will help my brother.
Jessica

In Lent I will help my friends.
Arthur

Our Lady of Mt Carmel Parish School
17 Pennington Tce Pennington SA 5013
Phone 8447 1405/8240 0903 Fax 8341 1017 email info@mcps.catholic.edu.au

A Community of Learners Making a Difference