



ST. PATRICK'S PRIMARY SCHOOL

'Strength in Gentleness'

EDITION 1

www.stpatstrat.sale.catholic.edu.au

DATE 1-2-08

THE SHAMROCK

Gospel Mt 5:1-12

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

Happy are the poor in spirit.

Seeing the crowds, Jesus went up the hill. There he sat down and was joined by his disciples. Then he began to speak. This is what he taught them:

'How happy are the poor in spirit:

theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Happy the gentle:

they shall have the earth for their heritage.

Happy those who mourn:

they shall be comforted.

Happy those who hunger and thirst for what is right:

they shall be satisfied.

Happy the merciful:

they shall have mercy shown them.

Happy the pure in heart:

they shall see God.

Happy the peacemakers:

they shall be called sons of God.

Happy those who are persecuted in the cause of right:

theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

'Happy are you when people abuse you and persecute you and speak all kinds of calumny against you on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward will be great in heaven.'

Dear Parents and Students,

Welcome back! I hope all families enjoyed the holiday period and trust you are feeling ready and refreshed for the 2008 school year. I have already heard stories of fun had at the beach, trips to Melbourne for the tennis and many opportunities for a sleep in over the last 5 weeks. Just having a break from routine has been holiday enough for many.

I thought I would take the opportunity to introduce myself further. I grew up in Sale, attending St. Mary's and Catholic College Sale. For the last six years I worked at St. Margaret Mary's Primary School, Spotswood. Prior to this I worked in Braybrook and Altona Meadows. My wife Suzie and I have two children. Luka is four and a half and he is looking forward to beginning at Kindergarten this year. Grace turns two soon and she is also looking forward to Luka going to Kinder. We have settled in Sale after a relatively smooth moving process and are excited about our future in the area.

The opportunity to serve the St. Patrick's community as Principal is a wonderful one for me. I am excited about the challenge that it presents and look forward to working with you in varying ways in the future. I take this opportunity to thank-you all for the warm welcome I have received. If ever I can be of assistance, please don't hesitate to contact me at school.

We welcome Sharne Beesley (Yr 3), Sarah Boag (Yr 1), Judith Lamb (Yr 2) and Rose Lee (Yr 6) who join the staff this year. We look forward to their contribution to the school.

Welcome also to...

Our new students- Sam L year 4, Natasha M year 1, Shari O year 5 and Emily O year 2.

A big welcome to the new Preps starting school. To Lani, Harrison, Ethan, Mitchell, Tristan, Kane, Brendan, Ebony, Corban, Prue, Hannah, Jenna, Lachlan, Colby, Thomas and Jennifer we say welcome and good luck!

This term promises to be action packed, despite only lasting 7 ½ weeks.

LENT

The liturgical season of Lent begins Wednesday. Lent is the Church's time of preparation for the Easter mystery. Lent is the penitential season of the Church and is a time for contemplation and reflection on our faith. We are called to prepare for Easter through prayer, fasting and almsgiving. The colour of Lent is violet, the colour associated with humility. Lent lasts for forty days, beginning on Ash Wednesday and concluding on Holy Thursday with the celebration of the Mass of the Lord's Supper.

This Wednesday is Ash Wednesday. On this day we are marked with ashes to signify our belonging to the Catholic faith. It is a symbol of our identity. We will be holding a prayer service in the MPR at 2.50pm. All parents and younger siblings are welcome to join us.

BUILDING

Contracts for the building project will be signed in the next few weeks. Once the timelines have been confirmed by Tantaró Design I will communicate them through the newsletter.

GRADE 2 CLASSROOM

As a result of the building project, Grade 2 will be using the back half of the church until the new classrooms have been installed. Well done to Jo and Judith who spent many an hour setting up last week to create a unique learning environment for the students.

To help with this, every second Friday afternoon we need to move some furniture so that the church is ready for Sunday mass. If you are able to lend a hand for 10 – 15 minutes after school every second Friday, I'm sure Jo and Judith would greatly appreciate the help.

The Friday's are; 15th Feb, 29th Feb and 14th March.

Thank-you

SWIMMING

The swimming program has begun in earnest. Thank-you to Liz for her organisation of the swimming program. A huge thank-you to the parents who are giving up their time to instruct the students.

ASSEMBLY

Assembly is tomorrow at 9.00am in the MPR. As Tuesday will be the students' music day, we will hold assembly on Thursdays at 9.00am from next week.

DROPPING OFF AND PICKING UP STUDENTS

Please remember to take care when dropping off and picking up from school. For the safety of all please observe speed limits, use the crossing and be vigilant at all times.

NEW PLAYGROUND EQUIPMENT

The new playground equipment has been installed. Tan bark has been delivered but it needs to be spread. We will have a mini working bee Wednesday afternoon from 4.30pm to spread the tan bark around the equipment. If you are able to help anytime after 4.30pm it would be greatly appreciated. Please bring a shovel, rake or wheel barrow. Thanks.

RECONCILIATION

A reminder that workshops for parents of students preparing for the Sacrament of Reconciliation are being held this Thursday at 10.30am and 7.30pm.

WHAT'S ON NEXT WEEK:

Monday	1 st February	* Swimming program commences
Tuesday	5 th February	* Assembly 9am in Multi Purpose Room(MPR).
Wednesday	6 th February	* Ash Wednesday * Prayer service to be held in MPR at 2.50pm *Working Bee 4.30pm
Thursday	7 th February	*Reconciliation Workshop 10.30am and 7.30pm.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Friday 22 nd February	Beginning Year Mass
Friday 7 th March	School Closure Day
Monday 10 th March	Labour Day Holiday
Monday 17 th March	St Patrick's Day Grandparents Day
Tuesday 18 th March	Year 5/6 camp (3 days)
Thursday 20 th March	End of Term 1

VALUE OF THE WEEK

This year we will be continuing the Healthy Relationship Program and this will commence in the next few weeks.

MUSIC PROGRAM

This year as part of our music program we are offering guitar, singing, piano and flute as private lessons. Ellen Condron is offering piano and flute. If you are interested in your child/children learning any of these please indicate in the **attached music lesson slip** and return to the office. Those who have already replied need not reply again.

Those students who did guitar or singing last year and have not let me know if you are intending to continue please fill in slip and return to office.

Guitar and singing are offered to children in grade 3,4,5&6. Children are only able to take one of the options i.e., only guitar or only piano. We are intending to start lessons week 1 of term 2 as term I is already looking extremely busy with swimming etc and a very short term.

Note: These lessons are separate to the class music sessions that I take each week.

Anita Hensen. - Music Teacher.

SCHOOL NURSING PROGRAM

The primary School Nursing Program offers a health assessment to children in their first year of school. All Prep children will receive a School Entrant Health Questionnaire. Please complete the questionnaire and return it to school. A school nurse will be in touch with you when she sees your child and the school will be in touch with you when the school nurse arranges her main school visit. If you have any further questions you can contact the Primary School Nursing Program in your region which is listed in the back of the School Entrant Health Questionnaire.

"Not one of us is as good as all of us."

THANKYOU

Thank-you to our parents who cleaned up the school grounds prior to school starting. Your hard work is very much appreciated.



HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO:
January- Taylor T, Brett T ,Lincoln C, Caitlin G, Kade H, Abbey R, Ryleigh G, Aidan G.
February- Jackson C, Cooper D, Harrison C, Natasha M, Aimee J.

Kind Regards

Nicholas Hall

COMMUNITY NEWS

STRATFORD NETBALL CLUB -JUNIORS
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
WHEN - MONDAY FEBRUARY 11TH 2008
TIME - 7.30PM
WHERE - STRATFORD FOOTBALL OVAL CLUBROOMS
All parents of players aged 7-16 years wishing to play for the 2008 season are welcome to attend.
Enquires-please call Lee Dugan 51456216

MAFFRA MARDI GRAS 2008
STRATFORD & DISTRICT AMATEUR BASKETBALL ASSOCIATION.
Krystal Van Sluys is representing the S.A.D.A.B.A. in this years Maffra Mardi Gras. Money raised will go towards much needed maintenance (floor resurfacing and backboards) and basketball equipment.
Events planned for this week are:
February 7th Cinema night-'Fools Gold'
\$15.00 per person-includes supper and door prize.
February 9th Progressive Dinner-locations around Stratford. \$20.00
Drinks at below bar prices.
February 12th Coffee morning-10.00am
Janine & David Boyle's
471 Redbank Rd, Stratford
raffles, lucky door prize, trading table. \$5.00 entry.
For more information please call-
Krystal- 51456425
Janine- 51456435
Sue- 0427456274

MUSIC PROGRAM

Yes I would like my child/ren to receive music lessons in 2008.

Child/rens name.....

.....

(Please circle)

GUITAR

SINGING

PIANO

FLUTE

Note: These lessons are separate to the class music sessions that Anita takes each week.

