Dear Parents and Students

Welcome back. I hope you all had a fantastic two and a half weeks break and a wonderful Easter. It is great to be back at school as we all look forward to the wonderful events planned for this term. It has also been wonderful to see so many students participating in the running program most afternoons and parents involved in the program. I am even considering participating in the running program, but don’t hold your breath!

It is a great pleasure to welcome back Angela Frisina to the Kindy White class following her long service leave.

NAPLAN TESTING:

We have pretty much hit the ground running this term with the students in Years 3 and 5 completing NAPLAN Testing this week. I request that parents in these year levels do not withdraw the children for other appointments during the week so they are able to complete all the assigned tests. I wish them all the best during the week and we look forward to viewing their results in the months to come.

NEW READING PROGRAM:

During our final staff meeting late last term, it was decided by the staff that they would like to investigate programs to further increase the students’ reading and comprehension skills in a number of ways. Research has shown that the more children read, the more their reading and comprehension skills will improve as they grow older. Research has also shown that their writing skills and love for books will also increase the more they read.

From the Principal’s Desk

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Be Allergy Aware!

Families are reminded that St. Columba’s is an Allergy-friendly school. Please DO NOT bring nuts or nut by-products onto the school grounds. Some of the foods to avoid are Muesli Bars with peanuts, Nutella products, peanut butter and any other foods containing traces of nuts.

Parish Priest: Fr. Minh-Thuy
Almondbury Street, Bayswater
Phone: (08)9271 1414
parish@stcolumbasbayswater.org.au

Parish Mass Times
Saturday—Vigil Mass 6.00 p.m.
Sunday—Mass 7.30 a.m. and 9.30 a.m.
Parish Youth Mass—Last Saturday of each month.

Term 2 Dates: Thu. 5 May—Fri. 8 Jul.
School Times: 8.30 a.m.—3.00 p.m.
Recess: 10.30 a.m.—11.00 a.m.
Lunch: 1.00 p.m.—1.40 p.m.

*PLEASE CHECK THE WEBSITE PLANNER FOR REGULAR UPDATES TO THE CALENDAR
A new reading program has been established at the school, commencing next Monday, where all students in Years 1 – 6 will enter the classrooms at 8.30 a.m., organise themselves for the day and read for approximately 10 minutes. This will occur each day until the school bell is rung at 8.40 a.m. to commence the school day.

The years 1 and 2 will continue with their programs of reading to parents, which is also beneficial to their development. I request from parents that they ensure their siblings are not running around the classrooms and disturbing the students who will all be trying to read quietly in the classroom. The new program will be explained to the children over the next few days and we look forward to wonderful results from the reading programs in months to come.

**REPORTING TO PARENTS (NEW REPORTS):** A parent information session has been scheduled for all parents to explain the new reports to be issued to all students in Years 1 – 6 this semester and beyond. The parent information session has been scheduled for Tuesday 7th June, commencing at 7.00 p.m. (Venue: TBA). The information session should take approximately half an hour to present and explain. I realise it has been scheduled the same night as the Board and P&F Meetings, but I have decided this would be the best night to encourage parents to attend both the reporting session and P&F meeting. The Board meeting will conclude at 6.55 p.m., giving Board members the time to make their way to the session. I look forward to seeing you all at the reporting session and P&F meeting.

**ASSEMBLY CANCELLED:** With the Year 6 students being on camp, and this week’s assembly being a general assembly, this week’s assembly has been cancelled.

**BEHAVIOUR MANAGEMENT & EXCLUSION POLICIES:** Over the last few months, the staff have been working tirelessly to formulate the attached documents. Hard copies will be sent home by next Monday for parents to read and will be uploaded on to the school’s website. Both documents have been derived from the Catholic Education Commission of WA (CECWA) policies and are in line with their expectations and guidelines. All Catholic Schools are required to follow the procedures and policies formulated by CECWA. I request all parents to read both documents and to go through each item with their children. I take this opportunity to thank the staff for spending countless hours creating these documents.

**THANK YOU – P&F:** A huge thank you to the P&F members for approving, purchasing and installation of the ovens, microwaves and fridges in both Kindergartens. Thanks also to Leesa Vinciullo who took the time to search for the best prices (Fridges were donated by Ross’s Auctioneers), purchase the items and have them delivered. I’m impressed with Leesa’s bartering skills. I wouldn’t be surprised if one day she comes to school with the items donated free of charge and a donation for the school, she’s that good! I am also looking forward to Mrs Neri’s wonderful cooking in the future!!

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**From the Principal’s Desk (continued)**

Lord Jesus,

Unite us to all children of our time, so that together we may create a world in which your spirit is present and experienced, so bringing peace and harmony to all.

Amen

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**P&F Dates**

- **Friday, 10 June 2011**
  - Disco
- **Friday, 17 June 2011**
  - Casino Night
- **Friday, 16 September 2011**
  - Quiz Night

More information closer to the date!

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**Greg Martin**

GREG MARTIN
Principal
Uniform Shop News

The Uniform Shop will be open every Tuesday between 8.15 – 8.45 a.m.
As always should you have any questions please contact Uniform Shop Coordinator, Pauline Moran (year 3 & Pre-Primary) on 0412 712 128, or alternatively Simone Dearle (year 5 & 3) on 0409 507 994. Thank you.

Term Holiday Birthday Wishes

Belated Birthday Wishes are extended to the following students who celebrated their birthdays during the Easter School Holidays and last week:

Bryce O’Shea
Gabrielle Ziino
(Pre-Kindy)
Ruby Shanahan
(Kindy Green)
Keiren Smith
Angela Nguyen
(Pre-Primary)
Wesley Karvinen
Tiandra Seal
(Year 2)
Luca Raschella
(Year 3)
Chloe Pedersen
Harrison Morgan
(Year 4)

Andrew Chinn Family Concert for Lifelink

Andrew Chinn is a well-known liturgical musician from New South Wales. He is visiting Perth in June and we are very excited to announce that he will be at St. Columba’s School on Thursday 23rd June. Andrew will be conducting singing workshops with students from Pre-Primary to Year 6 during the day and will be performing with the students at a Family Concert in the evening. All students are expected to attend. This will be a fundraising event to raise money for the Archbishop’s Lifelink Appeal and everyone is asked to donate a gold coin for this worthy cause.

Please take careful note of the following details:
Date: Thursday, 23 June 2011
Time: 6.30—8.30 p.m.
Venue: Chisholm College Auditorium
Cost: Gold coin donation for the Archbishop’s Lifelink Appeal

First Holy Communion Update

First Holy Communion will be celebrated on Sunday, 26 June at 11.00 a.m. Please check the Eucharist Booklets (given at the Parent Information Evening at the beginning of the year) for all important events, commencing with the Enrolment Mass on Saturday, 28 May.

Megan Dwyer
Parish Cleaning Roster

THANK YOU!
Thank you so much to everyone who has volunteered their time. To those of you who are continuing on the roster this term, thank you for your on-going support. To the new volunteers, thank you for your very welcome help.

The parish hall cleaning takes about 1.5 hours or less if you have 2 people working together. The hall can be cleaned after school on Friday or on Saturday before 4pm. Please contact Jill Brazil on 0411 592 234 or jbrazil@iinet.net.au for further information.

The key to clean the parish hall is located at the school office and can be picked up on Friday afternoon. Once you have finished cleaning, please remember to lock the hall and return the key to the office on Monday morning.

If the date allocated does not suit, please call another team to arrange a date swap.

JILL BRAZIL

Canteen News

A new menu for Term 2 is attached to this newsletter.

Any help which can be offered to prepare recess and lunches would be greatly appreciated.

SHERYL MILONAS

Pastoral Care

The raffle recommences on Friday, 20 May. See the notice outside each class room for rosters for Friday 20 and 27 May.

A big thank you to all students who participated in the Pastoral Care competitions. Entries were of a very high standard. Fr Minh-Thuy had a difficult job choosing the winners. Congratulations to all winners.

Well done everyone!

THANK YOU!

Friday, 13 May
Sally-Ann & Andrew Cook
9272 7214

Friday, 20 May
Michelle & Paul Pedretti
6161 3159

Friday, 27 May
Simone Dearle 0409507994
Wati Regan 9276 9795

Wishing a very happy birthday this week to:

Sienna Migliore
(Kindy Green)
Walk Safely to School

FRIDAY 20th MAY, 2011

Now in its twelfth year, the National Walk Safely to School Day (WSTSD) initiative will be celebrated on Friday 20th May, 2011. This event encourages parents, carers and their children to build regular walking to and from school into their weekly routine. It also encourages adults to drive less, aiming at decreasing dangerous vehicle congestion around schools and reduce carbon emissions.

WORLDWIDE MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER

A weekend for married couples. Take time out of your busy schedule, to invest in your most precious asset . . . Your Marriage! This is a unique opportunity to recharge your relationship batteries, refocus on each other and fall in love all over again!

Weekend Date: 29-31 July
Venue: Penola By The Sea, Safety Bay

For Bookings/details contact: 0424 220 625 - Joe & Margaret or Email: WAbookings@wwme.org.au

Information: Website – www.wwme.org.au

Lisa Baker MLA
MEMBER FOR MAYLANDS
(08) 9370 3550
(fax) 9272 4291
Tennis Coaching

During the school term Ross Gerrans’ Tennis School will be conducting tennis coaching for children and adults in your area.

Application forms are attached to this newsletter, available from the school office or by calling Ross on 9284 9588 or 0408 945 509. If times or venues are unsuitable, please call for details of alternative venues.

Junior Hockey Players Wanted

Eastern Blades Hockey Club is looking for players for this winter’s Hookin2Hockey program (designed for 5-12 year olds) and our junior teams for school years 5/6 and 7/8 upwards. Training is Tuesday afternoons and games are played on Saturday mornings for the years 5/6 and 7/8 groups.

For enquiries, please contact Michelle Naughtin on 9377 4432 or email us at juniors@easternblades.org.au.

Mercedes College

Victoria Square, PERTH WA 6000
www.mercedes.wa.edu.au

OPEN DAY

MERCEDES COLLEGE, a Catholic secondary school for girls, founded in 1846 by the Sisters of Mercy, is having an OPEN DAY on Sunday, 22ND May from 11.00am – 1.30pm. Throughout this time there will be conducted tours (last tour leaves at 1.00pm), displays, drama and music performances. Come and see how the building programme is progressing. Refreshments will be available. All are welcome.

Please join us to celebrate 165 years of education at Victoria Square

ASPIRE EXCEL LEAD
Classifieds

Advertising space available!

$50.00 per term
for a business card-sized ad.

Contact admin@stcolsbays.wa.edu.au
with your pdf and to arrange payment
to the P&F.