Dear Parents

We have had a very smooth and happy beginning to the 2013 school year – a year that should be exciting and memorable as we celebrate Rosary’s 50th Anniversary. The staff returned to work last week and undertook four days of professional learning which included First Aid and CPR training; reworking our behaviour management policy, with input from Matt Casey on restorative practices; and, reflection on our core beliefs about teaching and learning. On Monday, the students from Years 1-6 arrived looking relaxed and keen to be back at school. A special welcome to our new Years 1-6 students and their families: Elisha Adisa, Amaaya Deen, Harrison Gough, Ruby and Thomas Higgins, Grace Jeffrey, Martha Jennett, Brighton McArthur, Caelee and Tatum Mazis, My Nguyen, Eloise O’Brien, Charles Potter, Georgia Rodgers, William and Emma Sheil, James Smith, Hamish Stuart, Flynn Woodward and Allara Zardo.

On Tuesday, 46 Kindergarten children arrived looking bright eyed and excited to begin their first day at school. We welcome the 20 children who have siblings already at Rosary and the new Kinder families: Abbondante, Adisa, Arthur, Baraniecki, Byrne, Cullen, Egan, Flynn, Frawley, Hanna, Hayward, Hon, Kelly, Laing, Liso, Macnab, McAlister, Millea, Monahan, Olivier, Palmer, Purcell, Sheil, Smith, Spolijaric and Thomas to the Rosary school family. Many thanks to the fantastic team of Year 1 parents who organised the ‘Tea and Tissues’ morning tea for the Kinder families.

Loving God, we ask you to bless our new students and help them to feel welcome and a part of our school community.

Remind students and teachers who are ‘old timers’ to be helpful and courteous to our new students. At the same time, help our newcomers to find their way around and adapt to their new classes easily. Bless them with many friends and much success in all that they do.

We pray in the name of Jesus the Lord. Amen

Staffing for 2013 is as follows:

Executive
Principal Mrs Maureen Doszpot
Assistant Principal Mrs Melinda Hall-O’Brien
REC Mr John O’Brien
Coordinator Mrs Julie Godfrey

Classroom Teachers
6 Cairo Mr Matthew Jones
6 Bangkok Mrs Philippa Brotchie
5 Panama Miss Vanessa Bogusz
5 Washington Mrs Alison Marks
4 London Mr Mark Konik
4 Athens Mrs Elizabeth Fryar
3 Osaka Mrs Liz Higgins
3 Barcelona Mrs Beth Toole
2 Dublin Mrs Jodie Dawson
2 Rome Mrs Hayley Shelley / Mrs Beth Hawkes
1 Hague Ms Janet Hanratty
1 Vienna Mrs Elisa Pavlic
K Nagoya Mrs Julie Godfrey / Mrs Trudy Grant (Fridays)
K Paris Miss Ann-Maree Smith

Learning Support Teacher Mrs Melinda Hall-O’Brien

Learning Support Assistants Mrs Kathy Brokenshire
Mrs Tania O’Rourke
Mrs Colleen Welsh

Fleming Street, Watson ACT 2602
Office.rosaryps@cg.catholic.edu.au ABN 14 964 349 708
Telephone: 02 6248 0010 Facsimile: 02 6247 8777
Teacher Librarian  Mrs Sandy Vincent
Music teacher  Mr John O’Brien
Learning technology  Mr John O’Brien
Indonesian teacher  Mrs Jo Chilver

School Secretary  Mrs Yvonne Morris
                    Mrs Tania O’Rourke

School Janitor  Mr Ross Harcombe

Canteen Managers  Mrs Kathy Turrise
                    Mrs Jo McAuslan

Our Catholic Care counsellor is Hannah Turner who is available on Tuesdays between 9:00am and 1:30pm. Please contact the school if you would like your child/ren to see Hannah.

Congratulations to the Farfan family on the arrival of George, brother of Oscar (3 Osaka) and Molly (1 Hague), the Mair family on the arrival of Eleanor, sister of Riley (2 Rome), the Smith-Burns family on the arrival of Madison, sister of Declan (2 Rome), the Spoljaric family on the arrival of Thomas, brother of Eva (Kinder Paris) and the Wadley family, on the arrival of Curtis Sydney, brother of Ella (3 Barcelona),

Congratulations to Sandy Vincent who was selected as the runner-up for ACT in Scholastic’s Literacy Champion competition.

Congratulations to Ann-Maree Smith who very excitedly announced her engagement to Damien Hinds early in January.

Congratulations to our new PTFA executive:

President  Lana Junakovic
Vice President  Jan Cleland
Treasurer  Ivo Matesic
Secretary  Vacant

A huge thank you to Jo Mitchell, Michelle Inglis and Peter Kenna, the outgoing members of the PTFA Executive for their amazing contribution to the school, and to Catherine Beasley for her efficient and effective running of the clothing pool last year.

We are on the hunt for a PTFA secretary and a clothing pool coordinator. If you are interested, or would like to find out more, please do not hesitate to contact Lana, the ladies in the Front Office or myself.

You would have noticed the impressive new signs at the front of the school and at the car park entrance. Sincere thanks to the PTFA Executive for their vision and to Michelle Inglis in particular for her drive in seeing the project to completion.

Our sympathy to Beth Toole and her family as they grieve the loss of her father, Terry O’Shaughnessy who passed away on 21 December last year.

I look forward to seeing you at our Opening School Mass tomorrow and at the Welcome BBQ and Information Evening next Thursday (details in the AP column on the next page).

Kind regards

Maureen Doszpot

50th Anniversary Commemorative Cookbooks

Available  at the front office for the cost of $30.00

Quick “family secret” recipes inside.......
FROM YOUR AP

Dear Parents and Friends

Welcome back to a new and exciting year as we celebrate the 50th anniversary of our school. One way that we can show our love for our school and our community is through involvement. The first event to commence the year is the welcome BBQ next week. All families are invited to attend as it is a wonderful opportunity to make new friends, meet old ones and find out what will be happening in your child/ren’s class this year.

Next Thursday night (14/2) the Yr 6 parents will be providing a BBQ dinner for our Welcome to Rosary and Parent Information Evening. Thank you to those parents who are able to assist in preparing and providing time and energy on the evening.

The BBQ will be held on the Junior playground. The idea is to come for dinner; bring your families, bring picnic blankets and your welcoming smiles. It is a wonderful opportunity to meet new and old friends and for the children to play together.

Teachers will provide information sessions about the planned teaching and learning and other arrangements for their class. There will be two information sessions. The first session will commence at 5:30—6:00 and the second session will be from 6:45—7:15. Both sessions will have the same information presented and will be an opportunity for parents with siblings to attend both sessions. Then if you wish to share a special ‘valentine evening’ book the babysitter for a while and enjoy some precious time together!

Looking forward to seeing you on Thursday evening. (In case of inclement weather we will move the BBQ to the canteen and use the school hall as a meeting place)

Yours in the Dominican spirit

Melinda Hall-O’Brien
Assistant Principal

Parenting Ideas by Michael Grose

http://www.parentingideas.com.au

A new school year means a fresh start for students. Regardless of your child’s performance last year, they start school with a clean slate. A break offers students the chance to begin new habits and adopt new behaviours. Here are seven ideas to help you make the most of the fresh start and make this year your child’s best year ever at school:

1. Commit to your child going to school every day on time. One of the most important things you can do to ensure your child has a bright future is to make sure he or she goes to school every day – and gets there on time. Kids spend more time asleep than at school, so we need to maximise every day to get full value.

2. Help kids start each day well. A good night’s sleep, a healthy breakfast and some words of encouragement from you will help set a positive tone for a day of learning. This may mean that you adjust your morning routine so that kids have plenty of time get up, eat and get ready for the day.

3. Establish work & study habits. The most successful students are those that develop regular study habits that suit their lifestyle, their study style and their school’s expectations. Find out the work expectations from your child’s or young person’s school and help them establish a work routine that matches.

4. Make sure your child gets enough sleep. Many children and young people are sleep-deprived, which impacts on their well-being and their learning. A good night’s sleep consolidates learning, as well as assist future learning. Children need between 10-12 hours of sleep each day, while teens need a minimum of nine hours. Help kids get sufficient sleep by having a regular bed-time and get-up time each day. Have 45 minute wind-down time each night, and remove screens and mobile phones from bedrooms.

5. Encourage kids to exercise. Kids today get less exercise than those of past generations, which is an impediment to learning and mental health. Health professionals recommend a minimum of 60 minutes of exercise per day for kids of all ages. Encourage kids to play sport; promote free and active play and look for ways to make moving part of their daily lives.

6. Focus on being friendly. Schools are very social places requiring kids to negotiate many different social situations each day. Encourage kids to be open and tolerant; to be friendly; to be involved in plenty of activities and to be social risk-takers.

7. Develop self-help skills. Successful students are often well-organised, self-directed and self-motivated. You can foster organisational skills and self-direction by developing simple, age-appropriate self-help skills related to their every day lives. Such skills as making lunches, packing school bags, and organising after school schedules can be great lessons that impact on how kids perform at school, than at any other time. Julie Godfrey Coordinator
Religious Education News

School Focus
Our major school focus this year is a program called ‘Making Jesus Real’ (MJR). It is centred around the belief that we are the image of Jesus to all those people around us. We are His representatives and our actions should reflect His values. Jesus also made the comment that we are part of his family and we should “Love one another as I have loved you”. Making Jesus Real is a way of life that allows students to see Jesus working in their lives through people and creation. These are the God Moments and they happen in our schools, on our playgrounds and in our homes 100s of times a day. MJR is a simple message, it is part of our lives, the way we live our daily lives.

“Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me.”
(Matthew 25: 40)

Vinnies Doorknock invitation
The Vinnies Doorknock Appeal is held each February to raise much-needed funds for people in need in the Canberra region. During the 2013 Doorknock Appeal, the Society is hoping to raise $350,000.

Monies raised through the appeal help fund a range of services provided by Vinnies - from the unique home visitation service through to emergency accommodation, and the Young Parents Program.

If you are interested in donating or helping with collections please go to the St Vincent de Paul website.

New Families
At Rosary students receive the Sacraments in the following grades. Yr 2 Reconciliation; Yr 3 Eucharist; Yr 6 Confirmation. If any students (Baptised Catholic) have come to Rosary in the higher grades not receiving these Sacraments, please let me know if you would like them to receive the relevant one(s).

Dates to Remember
OPENING SCHOOL MASS:
Our Opening School Mass is on tomorrow, Friday 8th February, at 10am. All are welcome.
ASH WEDNESDAY MASS:
Ash Wednesday Mass is on Wednesday 13th February at 10:00 am. All parents and friends are welcome.

Regards
John O’Brien

BRINGING UP GREAT KIDS

Parents and Carers are invited to Bringing Up Great Kids a parenting program developed by the Australian Childhood Foundation for parents and carers of children aged 2-10 years.

This course will give you insights and skills needed to....

Promote positive and nurturing relationships between parents and children
Explore the management of stress in your parenting role
Encourage the development of your child’s positive self-identity
Develop the ability to contain strong emotions and to think through the responses to your child, rather than give ‘knee-jerk’ reactions
Overcome some of the obstacles that are getting in the way of being the kind of parent you would like to be.
Create opportunities for positive exchanges with your children.

The course is offered 3 hours per week over a 4 week period
DATE: WEDNESDAY 27 February 2013
TIME: 6 – 9pm
LOCATION: 57 Hicks Street, Red Hill (cnr Hicks and Nuyts Streets)
COST: $60.00 Fee includes course materials and supper.
(Concessions available)

BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL contact Gayle 61626122
Welcome to all our returning families and a very special welcome to all new Rosary families!! The library is in full swing with children from year one to six taking home the first of many book borrowings for 2013! Find following the library days for this year. Each term there may be changes which your child’s teacher will alert you to for example, camps and the swimming program.

Kindergarten- Thursday  
Year 1- Tuesday  
Year 2- Wednesday  
Year 3- Thursday  
Year 4- Tuesday  
Year 5- Wednesday  
Year 6- Tuesday (Cairo) Wednesday (Bangkok)

Always feel free to pop down to the library to have a chat or assist with shelving, book-covering etc if you have the time or inclination!

Chess Club
Rosary has a chess club that operates on Tuesdays from 3.10-4.45pm with tutors from the ACT Junior Chess League. The program will start back for the 2013 school year next Tuesday and continue until the end of term one. Cost is $90 per child per term. Conducted in the library, I supervise the students and bring them to the front office at 4.40pm to wait to be collected by parents. Please send a note or contact the school if you would like your child(ren) to participate in this program as I need to know transport arrangements for all children.
Sandy Vincent
Teacher Librarian

Rosary Rugby and Netball Clubs
Calling all Junior Rugby and Netball players
Registration time: Wednesday 20 February 2013
3-4 pm in the car park
Players and parent volunteers wanted - no experience necessary!
Rugby : Ted 0405 736 980 or Annette 0419 546 896  
Netball : Mel 0424 522 598

BEGINNING VIOLIN ?
1/4 Violin for sale ($195) or hire ($100 for six months).
Perfect for Beginner, was originally from Musiccorp. Moving up to 1/2 size.
Contact Ruth Jarvis by phone 0430 816 700 If you are interested.

For Your Diary

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Location</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Friday 8 February</td>
<td>Opening School Mass</td>
<td>10.00</td>
<td>Holy Rosary Church</td>
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<td>Monday 11-13 February</td>
<td>Year 6 Camp</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday 13 February</td>
<td>Ash Wednesday Mass</td>
<td>10.00</td>
<td>Holy Rosary Church</td>
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<td>Wednesday 13 February</td>
<td>PTFA Meeting</td>
<td>6.30</td>
<td>Board Room</td>
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<td>Thursday 14 February</td>
<td>Welcome BBQ &amp; Parent Information Evening</td>
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<td>Junior Play Ground</td>
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<td>Tuesday 19 February</td>
<td>Swimming Carnival</td>
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<td>Dickson Pool</td>
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Clothing Pool open every Wednesday 3.00 pm—3.30 pm—Coordinator Needed
Our swimming carnival is approaching quickly and volunteers are needed to help on the day. A note has been sent home to families requesting assistance. If you are able to help please return the note to school addressed to Mrs Elizabeth Fryar.

Kindergarten and Year One will be attending the carnival, but won’t be participating in formal swimming races. They will have the opportunity to enjoy novelty events and play in the water park.

It is essential that all students are SUN SMART on the day. Every student will need to have a hat, sunscreen and plenty of food and water. Sunscreen will be available on the day. The pool canteen will be open during the day and students will have the opportunity to purchase food. There will be no school lunch orders.

If you are planning on taking your child home from the pool, please advise your child's classroom teacher in writing.

SUNSMART

Australia has one of the highest rates of skin cancer in the world. This is due largely to our climate, the fact that many of us have fair skin that isn’t suited to such harsh conditions, our proximity to the equator (high UV levels) and our social attitudes and love for the outdoors.

Each classroom has sunscreen available for students. Teachers will remind students about the importance of using sunscreen each day.

It is important to remember that at Rosary we have a ‘NO HAT, NO PLAY’ policy.

2013 Canberra Goulburn Catholic Schools Soccer Carnival
Sunday 24 March 2013

Holy Trinity Primary, Curtin ACT is delighted to be the host for the 2013 Catholic Primary Schools’ Soccer Carnival. This year’s event will be held at the University of Canberra, Bruce on Sunday 24 March, 2013. Kick off will take place at 8.30am sharp and we are aiming to wrap up with a 3.30pm presentation. Students interested in participating in this carnival will receive nomination forms shortly. We will be asking for parent help to coach and manage teams.

Julie Godfrey
Coordinator

A project the PTFA commenced on your behalf was completed last Friday, with the installation of two new, elegant school signs. The signs are to help keep us all informed of events happening in our community.

Thank you to Grantley and Brendon from Well Erected Homes for putting the signs in the ground for us.

PTFA