Dear Parents and Friends,

Welcome to the school year of 2017. I extend a very warm welcome to all new families and staff members who have joined the Rosary community and an equally warm welcome to returning families. Kindergarten commenced on Tuesday this week with the children attending for half days. It was an exciting beginning for the children who settled impressively into class and quickly made friends on the playground. The first day of school is always a ‘big’ day for families and I congratulate the parents for coping so well with this emotional event! Heartfelt thanks to the Year One parents who provided ‘tea and tissues’ for parents of the Kindergarten children. We wish all our students every success and much happiness at Rosary.

I take this opportunity to thank everyone for the very warm welcome that I have received. It has been a pleasure stepping into a new position in a community that shows such genuine care and support for the school.

In the week prior to the children’s return, the staff worked very hard to complete a number of professional learning days which included engaging in spiritual reflection. The time was spent working with a facilitator on spiritual formation, updating first aid qualifications and attending a system wide conference about teaching and learning that was titled “Yearn to Learn”. At the conference, we heard from some very inspiring speakers including Archbishop Christopher Prowse, Kath Murdoch, Professor Alfie Kohn, Erin Erceg, Professor Tom Lowrie, and our new Director of Catholic Education, Ross Fox. In addition, one day was dedicated to an administration meeting and to classroom preparation. I take this opportunity to thank everyone on staff for their hard work in the days leading up to the start of the term and for ensuring that the children had a wonderful first day.

Opening School Mass
We will welcome in the new school year with a whole school Mass which is scheduled for Friday 3rd February at 10.00am – tomorrow. We would love to have family members join us at this Mass.

Parent Questionnaire
A Parent Questionnaire is being sent out during this week for parents to fill out and return to the class teachers as soon as practicable. The questionnaire will provide important information for the teachers to help them get to know your child and put appropriate supports in place should they be needed.

Parent Information Night and Welcome BBQ
The Parent Information Night and Welcome BBQ will take place on Tuesday 7th February. There will be two information sessions held in classrooms prior to the BBQ which will be held in the quad. Some staff members will provide supervision for children on the junior playground whilst parents are attending interviews.

The first information session will commence at 5.00pm and the second session will begin at 5.30pm (repeat of first session). The BBQ will commence at 6.00pm in the quad. From this time, staff will no longer be responsible for the supervision of children.

Please come along to welcome in the new school year amongst friends. We would love to see you there. Food service will take place between 6 and 7pm. There is no cost for food but drinks will need to be purchased. Please note that this is a ‘family affair’ and is a non-alcoholic event.
Asthma Management
Following staff training in First Aid, there has been a change to the Asthma Management Policy. Students who have asthma medication at school are required to keep it in the classroom in their school bag or on their person. If a student is a chronic asthma sufferer, they are to carry their medication, and a spacer if necessary, with them to the playground and lessons that take place away from their regular classroom (a ‘bum-bag’ that clips around the waist may be useful to contain items as it doesn’t hinder activity). If a student has an asthma management plan, this must be updated and signed by a doctor at the beginning of each school year and lodged at the front office.

Supervision
Staff commence playground supervision at 8.30 each morning. No child is to be on the premises before supervision begins in the morning. The formal supervision period concludes at 3.30pm. Please make every effort to keep within this time frame.
NB: please ensure your child is wearing the school hat prior to leaving home in the morning.

Security
To assist us in keeping everyone safe, we ask that parents and any other visitors to the school enter the building through the front office and sign in. External doors will be locked during the day. In the event of an emergency, it is imperative that we know exactly who is in the building.

Mobile Phones
I understand that it is sometimes necessary for a child to carry a mobile phone for use before or after school. Should this be the case for your child, he/she must keep it in their school bag during the day. The school takes no responsibility for mobile phones. Please be aware that students will only be permitted to use these devices, both in the morning and afternoon, when they are off school grounds.

Collector’s Cards
This is a gentle reminder to parents that we do not allow students to bring collector’s cards to school. The reason for this is that they create issues on the playground. Children will often intend to ‘lend’ a card but the borrower considers it a ‘swap’ which is for ‘keeps’! Also, cards can be lost or damaged which causes some distress. Please ensure that your children keep their card collections at home.

Lost Property
Please label everything and ask your child to check lost property as soon as a particular item is not brought home.

Dogs at school
If you are walking to school and taking your dog out for some healthy exercise at the same time, please leave the animal tied up outside the school grounds. Some children have a terrible fear of dogs and others have allergies that are exacerbated by pet hair. If your child wishes to bring in a pet for ‘news’, please see the teacher first to find out whether this is appropriate for the particular group of students in that class. Thank you.

Reminders & Important Information
- Starting time is 9.00am sharp. Students arriving after this time will need to be signed in at the Front Office by an accompanying adult.
- Supervision commences at 8.30am and NO STUDENT should be at school before then. Students arriving before 8.30am are not supervised.
- Correct School Uniform is to be worn at all times.
- If a student’s hair is longer than shoulder length, it must be tied back in an appropriate school-coloured band.
- No jewellery is to be worn to school - only plain studs and watches are acceptable.
- Parents are requested not to send any nut products to school such as Peanut Butter, Nutella, nut based or topped muesli bars, etc. Please understand bringing these items to school may be life threatening to other students.
- Please ensure that all school items are clearly labelled with your child’s name.
- Students who are collected by their parents during the day for appointments must be signed out/in at the Front Office before and after the appointment.
- Parents assisting at the school must have a WWVP card on their person and are also asked to sign in/out at the Front Office and will receive a visitor’s badge.
- Please ensure that the school always has up to date parent and emergency contact details for your child. Please ensure that any notes/envelopes sent to the front office are clearly labelled.
WWVP (Working With Vulnerable People)

Any adult who volunteers to help in the school or with coaching, driving children to excursions, canteen, etc. must have a registered Working With Vulnerable People card and be able to show it upon request. The card also needs to be presented at the front office for a copy to be made and filed for the school’s records. When a card is renewed, it must again be sighted by the front office and a copy made for the file. Please be aware that the card now needs to be sighted at the front office on every occasion that a parent volunteers in the school regardless of it being recorded on file.

The Working with Vulnerable People (Background Checking) Act 2011 (WWVP) took effect in the ACT on 8 November 2012 and it is now essential that all volunteers at schools be registered in accordance with the WWVP. Registration for volunteers is free and you will find the registration application on the Office of Regulatory Services website at:

www.ors.act.gov.au/community/working_with_vulnerable_people

When registering for the WWVP you will need to complete the application form then take your accepted forms of ID, together with the application, to an ACT Shopfront or the Office of Regulatory Services to complete the registration. Your photograph will be taken when you register and this will be on your WWVP Volunteers Card which you will receive upon completion of your registration.

Please note that on page 5 of the application form it asks for details of your Employer or Organisation. As a volunteer at Rosary Primary School, you simply need to fill out the name of the school, the address (Fleming St Watson ACT 2602) and the school phone number (6248 0010) and leave the other fields blank.

Where to find information

There are a number of ways in which the school communicates with parents. If you are seeking information about a particular event or want to know what’s coming up, please check the following sources:

- the Skoolbag application that is a free download for your mobile phone
- your email account if you have notified the school of your email address
- your child’s bag for hard copies of notes and the newsletter should you not have access to email
- the school website for the calendar and digital copies of notes sent home and the newsletter
- For Your Diary (showing a fortnight at a time) included in the school newsletter.

The Skoolbag app is an immediate form of communication that alerts parents to upcoming events and any changes to plans. It also has a number of other handy features such as the notice of absence and correction to contact information. Please download it as soon as you can to keep in touch with what is happening for your child at our school and to keep in contact with us.

School Fees

The school relies on the commitment that parents make, when enrolling their children, to pay fees to support it. School fees for this term are due at the end of week 5. Prompt payment of fees is appreciated. If you are experiencing difficulty paying fees, please contact me so that appropriate support structures can be put in place. Many families make use of the direct debit system. If you wish to set up an account, please contact the front office.

School Counsellor

I am sorry to report that Joelle, the Catholic Care school counsellor, has resigned from her position. A new counsellor is currently in the process of being appointed and Catholic Care will advise the name of the new person as soon as they are in a position to do so.
### Staffing

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Place</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fiona Chapman</td>
<td>Staffing</td>
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<td>Kinder Nagoya</td>
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<tr>
<td>Yvonne Solly</td>
<td>Staffing</td>
<td>Year 1</td>
<td>Vienna</td>
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<td>Elisa Pavlic</td>
<td>Staffing</td>
<td>Year 1</td>
<td>Hague</td>
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<td>Beth Toole &amp; Nicole Nolan</td>
<td>Staffing</td>
<td>Year 2</td>
<td>Rome</td>
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<td>Liz Higgins &amp; Elizabeth Fryar</td>
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<td>Dublin</td>
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<td>Diandra Blom</td>
<td>Staffing</td>
<td>Year 3</td>
<td>Barcelona</td>
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<td>Nicole Rich</td>
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<td>Year 3</td>
<td>Osaka</td>
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<tr>
<td>Alison Marks</td>
<td>Staffing</td>
<td>Year 4</td>
<td>Athens</td>
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<tr>
<td>Philippa Brotchie</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kath Watson</td>
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<td>Year 5</td>
<td>Washington</td>
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<td>Beth Clarke</td>
<td>Staffing</td>
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<td>Panama</td>
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<td>Amanda Jiang</td>
<td>Staffing</td>
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<td>Ann-Maree Hinds</td>
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<td>Cairo</td>
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<td>Sandy Vincent</td>
<td>Staffing</td>
<td>Library</td>
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<td>John O'Brien</td>
<td>Staffing</td>
<td>Music</td>
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<td>Jo Chilver</td>
<td>Staffing</td>
<td>Indonesian</td>
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<td>Principal</td>
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<td>Vicky van der Sanden</td>
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<td>Assistant Principal</td>
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<td>John O'Brien</td>
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<td>Religious Education Co-ordinator</td>
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<td>Liz Higgins</td>
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<td>Co-ordinator</td>
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<td>Julie Godfrey</td>
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<tr>
<td>Learning Support Teacher</td>
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<td>Janet Hanratty</td>
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<td>Kathy Brokenshire, Colleen Welsh, Tania O'Rourke,</td>
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<td>Learning Technologies</td>
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<td>John O'Brien</td>
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<td>Front Office</td>
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<td>Yvonne Morris, Tania O'Rourke</td>
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<td>Janitor</td>
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<td>Peter Ederle</td>
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### Condolences

Sincere condolences are extended to the Pham family, (Andrew Kinder Nagoya and Bridget 2 Dublin) on the passing of the children's grandmother earlier this week. May she rest in the eternal peace of our loving Lord. May the Lord grant the family strength at this sad time.

### Prayers Please

You may have seen the article in the Canberra Times this morning regarding Steve Doszpot's illness. Please keep Maureen, Steve and the family in your prayers as they deal with the difficulties associated with Steve's illness and treatment. We are all sending positive thoughts their way and would appreciate prayers for the family.

I thank the Lord for bringing everyone back to school safe and sound after the holidays and for the happy start to the year. I ask God's continued blessings on this community during 2017.

Vicky van der Sanden

### Thought for the week:

“Preach the Word wherever you go. Even use words if necessary.”

St Francis of Assisi
Rosary students are used to hearing me talk about the importance of language learning. As young learners in the 21st century, it is impossible for today’s students to go through life in a monolingual environment. In reality most adults have experienced living and working with people who speak languages other than their own. However, unlike most adults our students are lucky to be able to learn about other languages right from their first year at school.

Learning a language is much like any other learning journey, the more we find out the more we understand. Everyone learns at least one language during their first years of life and the majority of people in the world learn more than one. Our students should be in that majority. Those Rosary students who already know more than one language often find it easier than their monolingual peers to learn a new language. Their brain is used to hearing and processing a broader range of sound patterns associated with meaning. They have already developed and practised the skills of meaningful listening, using context as a clue to decipher possible meaning and translating on the go. At Rosary, Indonesian is the language we study as a means to acquire these skills. A fabulous by-product is that students have the opportunity to learn to speak some basic Indonesian too!

The focus on skill acquisition over language fluency is a direct result of the reality that in primary school students receive one 45-60 minute language lesson per week. Mastery of any new learning requires significantly more time than this. Focusing on core language learning skills, where the aim is to build a foundation for future learning, I encourage students to view language learning as important and useful; a subject they seek to study further, in high school and beyond. With this in mind, I plan lessons which balance building skills for communication in another language, with fostering general ‘life skills’. For example, empathy, respect, responsibility, self-management, critical thinking and exploring ethical issues. These are outlined in the General Capabilities section in the Australian Curriculum. [http://www.australiancurriculum.edu.au/generalcapabilities/overview/introduction](http://www.australiancurriculum.edu.au/generalcapabilities/overview/introduction)

Our focus for Term 1 is ‘Expressing Myself’ and explores the idea that we use language to convey meaning. We will consider the following statement and questions; It is not difficult to learn basic phrases in a new language. What should I do in my head when I am trying to learn a new language? What I find challenging about speaking Indonesian?

In Kinder, I will be introducing Indonesia and Indonesian (Bahasa Indonesia) through greetings, children’s songs and ‘Kancil’ (mouse deer) stories. Students will participate in songs, guided group activities and learn to follow instructions. In Year 1 and 2 students will learn simple classroom instruction words and complete a daily record ‘Se hari saya’, based on their study of Fenty (an Indonesian girl). Year 3 and 4 students will be challenged to use basic classroom vocabulary during lessons and will create a bank of common phrases to talk about their home and school routines. Year 5 and 6 students will be given the opportunity to demonstrate their knowledge of Indonesian, creating a bilingual text on a topic of their choice. Watch out for Rosary @ Indonesian updates in the Veritas this year!

Ibu Chilver
Indonesian Teacher
Celebrating Languages in the ACT

Multilingual Youth Writing Workshop
Mother Tongue Multilingual Poetry, in partnership with Canberra Multicultural Youth Service, is presenting two workshops for young people. At the first, on 3 February 2017, young people who speak a language other than English are invited to come and write a poem or short story in their language. A workshop on performance skills will follow on 10 February 2017.

Date: Friday 3 February
Time: 4.30pm – 6.00pm
Where: Multicultural Youth Services: Level 2 Theo Notaras Centre, London Circuit, Canberra City.
Cost: Free. Email mothertonguemic@gmail.com to register, or join the event on Facebook at https://www.facebook.com/mothertonguemic/
More Info: Jacqui on 0433 845900 or mothertonguemic@gmail.com

Lantern Making Workshop
Come and make a lantern, be creative and then bring your lantern to the Lantern Festival the following Saturday. For adults and children (young children will need to be accompanied by adults). Bring a cutting board, scissors, ruler and pencil.

Date: Saturday 4 February 2017
Time: 1.30 – 3.30pm
Venue: Cook Community Hub, 41 Templeton St, Cook
Cost: $3 per person.
Workshop Bookings essential to acfsevent@gmail.com or ph Jean 62547732.

Multilingual Youth Performance Workshop
Mother Tongue Multilingual Poetry, in partnership with Canberra Multicultural Youth Service, is presenting two workshops for young people. On 10 February 2017, young people who speak a language other than English are invited to come and learn performance skills, to share their words aloud with impact. This follows a writing workshop on 3 February 2017.

Date: Friday 10 February
Time: 4.30pm – 6.00pm
Where: Multicultural Youth Services: Level 2 Theo Notaras Centre, London Circuit, Canberra City.
Cost: Free.
Email mothertonguemic@gmail.com to register, or join the event at https://www.facebook.com/mothertonguemic/
More Info: Jacqui on 0433 845900 or mothertonguemic@gmail.com

Lantern Festival
Bring your own lantern or buy one at the event. Prizes for the best hand-made lanterns. Bring your own picnic and enjoy the colour and spectacle of the traditional Chinese Lantern Festival.

Date: Saturday 11 February
Time: 6.15 pm to 8.45pm
Venue: Beijing Garden, Lennox Gardens, Flynn Pl, Yarralumla (in the event of rain the Festival will move to Lancaster Hall, 20-22 National Cct, Forrest)
Entry: Free
For further information please email acfsevent@gmail.com or ring Carol on 6247 8231.
Proudly sponsored by the ACT Government Office of Multicultural Affairs.
Mother Tongue Multilingual Poetry Showcase at the Canberra Fringe Festival

Mother Tongue Multilingual Poetry Showcase will celebrate the cultures and stories of our community in many languages. The showcase will include poets from the Canberra community sharing poems in many languages, feature poet Eunice Andrada sharing poems connected to her Filipino heritage and music and song from Latin America. If you speak a language other than English, you are invited to sign up for the open mic. Any language is welcome, and any style, from traditional to hip hop. Each person will have up to 5 minutes to read or recite a poem or story in their language/s, or a mix of their language/s and English. Original work is encouraged, or share a favourite by another poet.

**Date:** Saturday 18 February  
**Time:** 10am – 1.00pm  
**Where:** Canberra Fringe Festival, London Circuit, Canberra City.  
**Cost:** Free.  
**More Info:** For more information or to sign up to share a poem, call Jacqui on 0433 845900 or email mothertonguemic@gmail.com

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International Mother Language Walk – celebrating International Mother Language Day

For the fourth time Canberrans will be invited to join in a Language Walk to mark the UNESCO-designated International Mother Language Day. This event brings together people from different communities to raise awareness of the value of all languages, especially endangered languages, in a multilingual and multicultural context.

**When:** 10.00am (11.00am start) – 1.30pm, **Sunday 26 February**  
**Where:** Walk starts at the International Flag Display behind Questacon car park and ends at Stage 88  
Feel free to bring along posters and banners publicising various languages and/or to wear national dress. Then enjoy free family fun activities near the Stage 88 after the walk:

- Multicultural entertainment
- Jumping castle
- Various multilingual activities.

Free sausages-sizzle or bring a picnic. Organised by the Canberra-based International Mother Language Movement (IMLM).

For more details contact IMLM.21feb@gmail.com or follow IMLD Canberra on Facebook. For more information on International Mother Language Day see [http://imlm21.org.au/?page_id=1109](http://imlm21.org.au/?page_id=1109)

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Religious Education News

**Opening Mass**
Welcome to our new families and welcome back to you all. Our Opening School Mass is on tomorrow in Rosary Church at 10am. All are welcome!

**Sacramental Programs**
At Rosary, students receive the Sacraments in the following grades:

- Year 2 Reconciliation
- Year 3 Eucharist
- Year 6 Confirmation

If any students (Baptised Catholic) have come to Rosary in the higher grades not receiving these Sacraments, and wish to do so, please let me know.

Peace and best wishes

**Liz Higgins**  
Religious Education Co-ordinator (Acting)

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**Missing mobile phone:** A Samsung J1 Mini in a black case with white trim has gone missing from the school. If you should happen to find it, please hand it in at the front office. The owner will be most appreciative. Thank you.
ROSARY EAGLES RUGBY SEASON 2017

In 2017 the Rosary Eagles Rugby Club will once again be fielding teams in the ACT Junior Rugby Union competition. Our club, established in 1964, is the only stand-alone primary school-based rugby club in Canberra.

We invite all interested players to consider joining our club:

· all boys and girls are welcome
· NO TACKLING for players in the U7s age group
· equal opportunity is provided for all children and we cater for beginners in all age groups
· fully-supervised training sessions are held on the school oval after school each Wednesday - this means pick-up isn’t required until 4.30pm. (wet weather activities take place on rainy days)
· players receive a free kids’ membership and entry passes to Brumbies home games and the optional chance to participate in half time entertainment in front of the crowd
· our club is supported by ex-Rosary student and current Brumbies player Jordan Jackson-Hope
· players have the opportunity to meet Brumbies players and mascot Brumby Jack during the season
· ongoing support is provided by our assistant coaches (former Rosary students) from Daramalan College
· ongoing recognition of players’ achievements is provided in the weekly school newsletter Veritas.

Matches, held on Saturday morning, will begin in Term 2 but we will be holding our registration day shortly during Term 1. Keep watching Veritas for further details or, for more information, please contact Philip O’Brien (0401 903 637)
School Bus Information

Details of all school and regular bus services are now available for parents and students. We ask that parents and students familiarise themselves with the most suitable route, times and stop locations for their children before the school term commences.

School bus services are available to school students only however, parents with young children may apply to travel on these services for a few weeks to help their child get used to bus travel.

We are urging parents and students to check MyWay cards and top up if required. MyWay cards can be topped up automatically using the handy autoload service, online, over the phone via the Transport Canberra information line (13 17 10), or in person with a MyWay recharge agent. Passengers who top up using Autoload attract a further 5% discount on all fares.

New bus fares came into effect on 14 January 2017. Single trip concessions cash fares cost $2.50 and MyWay fares are now $1.16. School Students are almost $60 a month better off when using MyWay rather than paying a cash fare to and from school. Parents and students can find more information at transport.act.gov.au or by calling 13 17 10.

Smith Family – Saver Plus Program

The Smith Family offer a program which offers families $500 to spend on schools uniforms, sports lessons and equipment, a computer, iPad, or anything educational for their children.

The program is called Saver Plus and is delivered by The Smith Family in the local area. It is a federally funded government savings program for parents.

Saver Plus is a matched savings and financial literacy program. Participants save money over a 10 month period, where they are matched dollar for dollar, up to $500. Participants also undertake financial workshops are part of the program.
- More than 30,000 Australians have participated in Saver Plus. Saver Plus is offered in 60 locations across Australia.
- The program is funded by ANZ and the Australian Government Department of Social Services.
- Participants are assigned a Saver Plus Coordinator from the local delivery organisation, and open an ANZ Progress Saver account at their local ANZ branch, into which they make regular deposits. They undertake MoneyMinded workshops to build their financial management skills and when they reach their savings goal after at least 10 months ANZ matches the amount, up to $500, for the purchase of a nominated educational item.
- For more information please visit https://www.thesmithfamily.com.au/what-we-do/our-work/at-home/saver-plus or contact your local Saver Plus Coordinator, Kathleen Watson on 0448 730 305

For Your Diary

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Location</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Friday 3 February</td>
<td>Opening School Mass</td>
<td>10.00am</td>
<td>Holy Rosary</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
| Tuesday 7 February| Welcome BBQ & Parent Information | Session 1 5-5.30
                  |                              | Session 2 5.30-6
                  |                              | BBQ 6pm           | Classrooms and Quadrangle |
| Wednesday 8 February| Kindergarten Rest Day     |                 |                   |
| Friday 10 February| BEST Focus Assembly 1H, 2D and 5W | 12.30pm         | School Hall       |
| Thursday 16 February| Year 6 Leadership Mass    | 10.00am         | ACU Chapel        |