



Mini-Newsletter – Week 4

Wednesday, 16th August, 2023

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

CANCELLED FRIDAY LUNCHES – FRIDAY 18TH AUGUST

Unfortunately, we have to cancel Lunch orders for this Friday as we do not have enough volunteers. Thank you for your understanding.

LEARNING EXPO: WEDNESDAY 23RD AUGUST – 3.30-7.00PM

Thank you to parents who have fed back that they are unable to attend the Learning Expo during the hours previously advertised.

To accommodate families, the finish time has been extended and the Learning Expo will be on from 3.30-7.00pm.

If you are unable to make it to the evening, you can visit your child/children's classrooms the next morning or contact class teachers to arrange another time when you can come in.

We do want to be able to make it possible for all parents to come in and share and celebrate student learning.

SCIENCE WEEK 2023: Innovation powering future industries

This week is Science Week with the theme around innovation. There are so many Science innovations that benefit us in all sorts of industries, whether that be medical, agricultural, space, environment, technology, aquaculture, the list is endless. Creativity, innovation, critical thinking are all skills that we teach as part of the Australian Curriculum and hopefully will inspire and equip our student to contribute to various industries into the future. Science Week is being celebrated at our school this week with various activities in Science lessons and classrooms.

BOOK WEEK 19TH – 25TH AUGUST

Book Week is next week! The theme this year is Read, Grow Inspire....

On Friday, 25th August, we will be having our annual Dress Up Day!

On the morning of the 25th August between 9:00-9:30am, we will be holding our annual dress up parade where each class will get a chance to display their costume followed by a Dance Party!

At lunch time, students will gather for a free BBQ sausage lunch on the oval prepared and supplied by the Parents and Friends. Thank you to parents who have volunteered their time to cook and serve lunch.



There will be other Book Week related activities for the children during the week leading up to the dress up day.

BOOK WEEK DRESS UPS

Book Week Dress Up day is always a fun day and we love seeing each other's costumes. At school we have talked about costume choice. Students are asked to dress as a book character, the character may then be in a film as well, however, primarily a book character. Students would ideally be able to name their character and which book the character is in.

Costumes that feature characters from horror and crime movies/film clips are discouraged. Characters such as the following examples are not very appropriate for our Book Week dress up day because of the profile of the characters and films they come from:

Annabelle – Horror/Thriller

(Samuel and Elle embed their daughter's spirit into a doll, only to realise it is a demon. Years later, they open their home to a nun and six orphan girls, one of whom finds the doll.)

Wednesday Addams – Comedy/Horror

(While attending Nevermore Academy, Wednesday Addams attempts to master her emerging psychic ability, thwart a killing spree and solve the mystery that embroiled her parents 25 years ago.)

Joker – Crime/Drama

(Arthur Fleck, a party clown, leads an impoverished life with his ailing mother. However, when society shuns him and brands him as a freak, he decides to embrace the life of crime and chaos.)

Thank you for your support with appropriate costumes for school Book Week dress up day.

COUNSELLING – WELLBEING BOOST

I mentioned a couple of weeks ago that we have received a Wellbeing boost funding from the Federal Government of just under \$12,800. I am excited to let you know that these funds will be used to increase Kris Strauss-Scott's counselling days with us. Kris is able to work with us on Fridays as well as Wednesdays (as of Week 5) for the remainder of this year. We are all extremely thankful to have a school counsellor such as Kris supporting our students and families. Kris develops an excellent rapport with the students and has a very holistic approach, working closely with teachers and parents as required. Kris, who is employed by Centacare for us, offers a wonderful, very much needed counselling service for our students.

Further information about what our student counselling service can offer and referral to Kris can be discussed with your child's class teacher or Michelle.

CHANGES TO OSHC SERVICE FOR KINDY-AGE CHILDREN

After much deliberation and consultation with our School Board OSHC sub-committee we advise families that as of the beginning of 2024 when OSHC starts on Monday 15th January 2024 we will not be able to accept kindy children for attendance at OSHC as we have in the past. We will continue to cater for the Kindy-age children currently enrolled with us for the remainder of this year and then the change will be implemented.

Our reality is that we experience staff shortages; a higher ratio of supervision (therefore more staff per shift) is required when kindy-age children are attending plus we need extra staff for pick-up and unfortunately there are many times when we really struggle to meet this.

Our school is committed to being able to offer an OSHC service for our school-age children and this needs to be our focus, there have been times when our enrolled school-age students have missed out on a place in OSHC and we want to ensure they have priority.

Over time this may change and we may be able to offer OSHC to kindy-age children again but unfortunately at this stage it is not viable to maintain effectively for next year. Thank you for your understanding.

DANCE CONCERT TICKET ORDER FORM

Enclosed with today's newsletter is an order form for Dance Concert tickets. Families are able purchase a maximum of 5 tickets per session.

Blessings for the week ahead.

Michelle Miller

Principal

OLYMPICS UNLEASHED



Nicholas Timmings is visiting us on the 28 August at 2:00pm as part of the Olympics Unleashed program.

Olympics Unleashed connects athletes with schools across the country to inspire students to find and follow their passion and provide lessons in goal setting, overcoming challenges and developing resilience.

Nicholas Timmings will be drawing on his Olympic journey and overcoming challenges to compete in their chosen sport at the highest level to help inspire the students at St Mary MacKillop School to be the best they can be – whether that's in school, at home, on the sporting field or with friends.

For more information on Olympics Unleashed visit www.olympicsunleashed.com.au

THE WITNESS MAGAZINE

The August edition of The Witness Magazine is available online. Please click on the link to view the magazine.

<https://ppcatholic.org/info/witness-magazine/>

COMMUNITY NEWS

23/24 Registration Night



**Thursday 17th August
5pm-6pm
Junior & Senior
at the Wallaroo courts**

