Greetings,

This Sunday we hear the Parable of the Mustard Seed in Mark 4:26-34.

Jesus says, 'What can we say the kingdom of God is like? What parable can we find for it? It is like a mustard seed which at the time of its sowing in the soil is the smallest of all the seeds on earth; yet once it is sown it grows into the biggest shrub of them all and puts out big branches so that the birds of the air can shelter in its shade.'

How is that a picture of the kingdom of God? Well, when Jesus first began his earthly ministry, he had no followers. The Bible tells us that Jesus was walking along the shore of the sea of Galilee when he saw two fishermen, Peter and his brother Andrew, casting their nets. "Come, follow me," Jesus said to them. They immediately followed Jesus. As they continued on their way, they saw two other brothers, James and John, mending their nets. Jesus called them and they immediately left their nets and followed him. One by one, Jesus called his disciples until there were twelve of them. That is still a pretty small beginning, isn't it? Jesus sent out the twelve and they brought others to Jesus and the kingdom of God grew. From a very small beginning, the kingdom of God has grown and grown until it has spread over the entire earth.

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St Vincent de Paul Winter Appeal

We have kicked off our annual St Vincent de Paul Winter Appeal and are asking families to donate new or used blankets, jackets, jumpers, scarves and beanies for the poor and homeless. We have some big buckets in the hall ready to collect your donations.

Reconciliation

Reconciliation classes continue on Tuesdays and Thursday for those children in Year 3 and other grades who are undertaking the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

What’s happening?

- On Sunday the 21st June Year 3 will have their Family Mass with the Parish. At the end of the Mass we will remain in the Church for a quick practice for Wednesday when the children will be making their First Reconciliation.

- The Sacrament of Reconciliation Service is at 7.00pm on Wednesday the 24th June, 2015.

- End of Term Mass will take place on Friday the 26th June at 9.00am.

May Christ’s peace be with you all!

Jacqueline Fletcher
FROM OUR PRINCIPAL.............

**Stranger Danger**
An incident involving a St Brigid’s secondary aged student occurred on Tuesday morning. The student is safe and well. The student was approached by one man in red four-wheel drive while waiting at a bus stop. The police are investigating the incident.

I advise parents to take extra precautions with their children as they travel to and from school over the next few days. Please talk to your children about Stranger Danger. Please contact the school if you have any concerns.

**Bus Safety**
Last week each child attended the school safety bus talk presented by Busways. The children each received a bag to take home to share with their parents the learnings. They received information on how to behave on the buses and safe travel.

**School Times**
Just a reminder that it is essential that children arrive at school each day on time. It is imperative for each child’s own individual learning that they are present for the morning assembly to join together in prayer as a school and also to hear any important notices and that they move into their class together settled and prepared for learning. If children are late to class not only does your child miss out on vital instruction to begin the lesson but also the learning of the remainder of the class is disturbed when they come into class. I thank you in anticipation of your support with this.

**Athletics Carnival**
Today the athletics carnival was held and was a great success. Thank you to all of the parents who helped out and made sure it ran so smoothly. Further details regarding the carnival will be in next week's newsletter. Thank you to Mrs Fiona Bolton for her organisation of the day.

**ICLT Training**
Yesterday the whole staff spent until 6.30pm receiving some professional learning on the use of iPads in the classroom. Some wonderful apps were worked with and I look forward to seeing the children present some great work utilising these tools. I am hopeful once the iPads are up and running successfully in Years 5 and 6 that we can expand the use of them into Years 3 and 4. I congratulate the teachers on the dedication to improve their own learning and also to strive to learn how to utilise technological tools that can assist in the children’s learning and confidence with technological.

**Kindergarten Enrolments 2016**
The official enrolment period has now closed. In saying that we will still be accepting returned enrolment packages for the next two weeks but it is vital we receive them as soon as possible. It is important that any present families, who have a Kindergarten child starting next year, contact the office as soon as possible to get an enrolment form and return it so that we can set up an interview and screener time. If you know of someone who has a child ready for school please let them know enrolments are now overdue.
St Vinnies Winter Appeal PJ Day

Earlier in the newsletter you would have read about the St. Vinnie’s Winter Appeal asking each family to donate a blanket, jacket, jumper etc. for those less fortunate than ourselves. To support this SRC initiative each family is asked to donate an item. In return for this and also to have a celebration for the end of term the children are invited to wear their PJs on Thursday 25th June. Please make sure that the pyjamas the children wear are suitable for school and the weather and a reminder that they must wear suitable footwear which can be their school shoes or normal joggers.

Coming Up

15th June  Year 5 excursion
16th June  ICAS Spelling test
           CCC Soccer Gala Day—Stage 3
17th June  Year 1 excursion
19th June  Staff Development Day – No children at school
22nd June  Reports sent home
24th June  Reconciliation 7pm
25th June  St Vinnies Winter Appeal PJ Day
26th June  Last day of Term 2
13th July  First day of Term 3

Toys at School....

We have recently had some disputes happen in the playground regarding certain toys (especially Pokémon trading cards). It is recommended that toys be left at home to avoid them being lost or broken.

Regards,

Paul Toomey, Principal

St Patrick’s OSHC

Ph: 4323 4819 Mob: 0408 165 671

Will be OPEN for St Patrick’s Pupil Free Day on the 19th June 2015.

Hours of Opening are 7.30 am – 6pm.

Bookings Essential.

125th Anniversary Celebrations

Saturday 13th June 2015

Reunions Mass
2:00 - 3:00pm - Our Lady of Dolours Catholic Church

Open House
3:00pm - 5:00pm - Mercy Catholic College Chatswood

Reflect and Reconnect
We welcome all Mercy ex-students and ex-teachers to attend our celebratory event.

Rsvp: mcchatswood125years@gmail.com

Visit facebook for further details.
From the P&F …

Coming up next term, so save the date –

Friday 7 August – School Disco
Thursday 13 August – Term 3 P&F Meeting
(to be held at 9am in the infants library, younger siblings welcome)
Thursday 3 September – Father’s Day Stall
Saturday 24 October – Dinner Dance

Premier’s Reading Challenge

Congratulations to Vito and Remi De Toffol and Mahidi Ranasinghe for completing the challenge this week.

We have many enthusiastic readers again this year, keep reading everyone.

Carmen Hartz
Teacher Librarian

HELPING YOUR CHILD WITH READING

WOULD YOU LIKE TO KNOW MORE ABOUT HELPING YOUR CHILD WITH THEIR READING?

Reading is a complex process, it involves messages expressed in language, which requires a knowledge of the conventions of print and visual patterns to gain meaning. This can be hard work for your child. If you would like some help with how to assist your child with their reading, please join us at 9am in the infants library on Wednesday 24th June. I will explain the process of reading, how to help your child and provide some take home notes. Hope to see you there! Michelle Perry

Year 6 Blue are using the iPads to research injustices in our world during their religion lessons this week.

School Bell Times

Teacher on duty: 8:10 am
First Bell rings: 8:37 am
School commences: 8:40 am
Recess: 10:55 am to 11:20 am
Lunch: 1:00 pm to 1:50 pm
School concludes: 2:55 pm
Teacher on duty finishes: 3:15 pm

THANK YOU to those parents who ensure their children arrive on time and are collected on time.

NO DOGS ARE ALLOWED IN THE SCHOOL GROUNDS
We are looking for Volunteers for the 2015 School Year.  
We need Volunteers to ensure canteen will remain open during the year.  

If you can help out we would love to hear from you. If you have a date in mind, let us know and we will slot you in.  

Contact Adrienne on 0414 509547 or mrspraz@gmail.com if you would like to volunteer.  
Mrs P is contactable anytime, so check your 2015 calendar and if you have a date in mind, even if its months away, let her know your availability. 

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>INFANTS</th>
<th>PRIMARY</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>WEDNESDAY 17th June (Recess only 9.30am -11.30am)</td>
<td>Jay Clark</td>
<td>Hayley Lanham</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FRIDAY 19th June (ALL Day – 8.15am – 2.00pm)</td>
<td>PUPIL FREE DAY</td>
<td>PUPIL FREE DAY</td>
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<tr>
<td>WEDNESDAY 24th June (Recess only 9.30am -11.30am)</td>
<td>HELP NEEDED 0414509547</td>
<td>Hayley Lanham</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FRIDAY 26th June (ALL Day – 8.15am – 2.00pm)</td>
<td>Annabel Cockerton Angela Stitt</td>
<td>Hayley Lanham Adrienne Prazauskas</td>
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</tbody>
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If you have dates in mind for NEXT TERM (3), please contact Adrienne on mrspraz@gmail.com or 0414 509547