**St. Kieran's Newsletter**

20th February, 2015

**DATES FOR YOUR DIARY**

**Tuesday 3rd March** – Family Night for parents only at St Kieran’s

**Monday 8th March** – Preps start full days with Wednesdays off till start of March.

**Thursday 5th March** – St Kieran’s Day

**Tuesday 12th March** – Family Night with children at St Mary’s

**Tuesday 24th March** – Reconciliation 7pm

**Friday 27th March** (last day of school Term) - School Closure Day – Staff Inservice

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**St Kieran’s Day**: On Thursday March 5th we celebrate St Kieran’s Day. We start with a whole school mass at 9am. Keep this date free so you can come and celebrate with us. If it is a wet day we will still have our sausage sizzle but we will not be going to Apex Park. The children will have a ‘fun day’ at school. A permission note will be sent out soon and must be signed and returned.

**Congratulations to Amie Cook who is now our new Breakfast co-ordinator. Thank you to Shirley Weir who has been our co-ordinator over the last few years. She has done a wonderful job.**

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**Car Park**

Unfortunately our Pre Service teacher, Lauren Halket’s, car (blue Honda Jazz) was damaged on Friday in the back carpark. This may have been by a car door, it is a large dent. We realise it is difficult to find the owner of the other car but we are asking if anyone saw anything to let me know.

Thank you

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**Parent Teacher Meetings**

During Week 5 we will be having our Parent/Teacher Meetings. These meetings are for you to speak about your child and let the teacher know any information that may be pertinent to the education and welfare of your child. You should have received a time for your meeting to discuss your concerns. If you cannot make this time please let the teacher know so they can reschedule. If you need a longer time please ask to make another appointment at a different time.

**Out of School Care Program** OSHCare 4 Kids

We are lucky now to be able to access the out of school care program being run at South St Primary school. This is an independent company using South St facilities.

The program has commenced and the bus picks up from St Kieran’s. The children will be picked up at the car park. If you want to use this facility you must register – you can register online at [www.oshcare4kids.com.au](http://www.oshcare4kids.com.au) or you can visit the facility at South St.
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|        | 23 Playgroup 9am  
Parent Teacher Meetings | 24 | 25 Preps Day Off | 26 | 27 | 28 Commitment Mass 6.30pm |
| 1st March Commitment Mass 10.30am | 2 Playgroup 9am  
Preps start full time | 3 Family Night for Reconciliation – Parents only 6pm at St Kieran’s | 4 | 5 St Kieran’s Day | 6 | 7 |
| 8 | 9 Playgroup 9am | 10 Family Night for Reconciliation – parents and children. 6pm at St Mary’s | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 Presentation of Prayer 6.30pm |
| 15 Presentation of Prayer 10.30am | 16 Playgroup 9am | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 |
Parents and Friends News

We are looking for more people to join our P&F. Unfortunately we have lost some parents due to work commitments. Please come along and help us out.

Tuckshop

A note has gone out asking for helpers in the tuckshop. If you could spare a couple of hours once a week, once a fortnight, once a month or once a term it will be greatly appreciated. New helpers will be shown how to work in the tuckshop.

We would like to congratulate our senior children who have volunteered to be leaders in our school groups.

Mini Oblates Reps:
Riley Pearce
Tracy Anseline
Ben Westhorpe
Chelsey Zekic
James Orton
Connor Emans

Health and Wellbeing Team Reps
Jordon Wilk
Nyaluak Ruot

We would also like to congratulate our House Captains who were voted in by the children on Tuesday.

Mazenod: Ben Westhorpe & Jordon Wilk
Nagle: Nicola Efandis & James Orton
Curtin: Jobie Heusman & Chelsey Zekic
McInernay: Riley Pearce & Connor Emans

At our Assembly next week we will be commissioning these children. Come and join us to congratulate these children.

Our Very Busy Preps

The Preps have been very busy in their first week of school and have already learnt a lot! On Tuesday we planted a number of different types of flowers as a part of our science unit, where we will be investigating living and non-living things and discussing what they need to survive.

The seeds we planted were very small and we made sure that we buried them in soil and then we watered them, but we didn’t water them too much. We will be checking daily to see if they grow and we encourage you to come and have a look!
Children in Year 2/1D are enjoying learning Mandarin with Luo Lao Shi. They are very quick learners and are already saying *ni hao* (hello), *Xie Xie* (thankyou) & *hen hao* (very good).

**New Junior Playground**
As you may have noticed or heard from the children, we now have new Junior Playground equipment. This was installed this week and the children were able to play on it today. The equipment will be paid for from funds raised by the P&F and the school. The cost was too great to do both playgrounds so the senior one will be replaced maybe next year.

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**Ash Wednesday**
Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of the Season of Lent. It is a season of penance, reflection, and fasting which prepares us for Christ's Resurrection on Easter Sunday, through which we attain redemption.

**Why we receive the ashes**
Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of the Season of Lent. It is a season of penance, reflection, and fasting which prepares us for Christ's Resurrection on Easter Sunday. Ashes are a symbol of penance made sacramental by the blessing of the Church, and they help us develop a spirit of humility and sacrifice. The ashes are made from the blessed palms used in the Palm Sunday celebration of the previous year. The ashes are christened with Holy Water and are scented by exposure to incense. While the ashes symbolize penance and contrition, they are also a reminder that God is gracious and merciful to those who call on Him with repentant hearts.

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**Monica Huffer – Family School Partnership Convenor**
Thank you to staff, parents, parishioners and students for welcoming me back to St Kieran’s to resume my role as Family School Partnership Convenor. I look forward to further strengthening St Kieran’s Family, School and Community Partnerships for improved learning for all. The Family School Partnerships noticeboard is located in the entrance of the library and includes some relevant information regarding how you can become involved and engaged with your child’s learning. My office is located behind the junior classrooms. My working days may vary from time to time but generally will be all day Monday, Tuesday and half day Wednesday. All parents are welcome to drop by for a cuppa and chat.

**Crafty Knitters** Do you want to knit for your family or favourite charity? Come and join us on a Monday afternoon in the Mazenod room – behind the presbytery from 12.30pm – 2.30pm. Wool and needles provided. Gold coin donation. No children please. For more details contact Diane Harold 5126 1809