

A Lenten Fast

- Give up harsh words: use generous ones.
- Give up unhappiness: take up gratitude.
- Give up anger: take up gentleness and patience.
- Give up pessimism: take up hope and optimism.
- Give up worrying: take up trust in God
- Give up complaining: value what you have.
- Give up stress: take up prayer.
- Give up judging others: discover Jesus within them.
- Give up sorrow and bitterness: fill your heart with joy.
- Give up selfishness: take up compassion for others.
- Give up being unforgiving: learn reconciliation.
- Give up words: fill yourself with silence, and listen to others.

*Anonymous, Latin America
5 March 2014*

Dear Parents,

This week we began the Lenten season with Shrove Tuesday and the traditional serving of pancakes to students and staff by the P&F Executive and several volunteers. Thank you to this group of parents for continuing a much appreciated tradition.

As a school community, we marked the beginning of Lent today by attending the Ash Wednesday Mass with the wider parish community. The season of Lent is traditionally one of prayer, penance and almsgiving. My own memories of Lent as a child were of giving up chocolate, lollies and other treats with Easter Sunday being an over indulgent feast of sugar! With the hands of time, I have come to understand that Lent is more about working towards a good relationship with God and others. This year during Lent staff will be talking daily to the students about Lent as a time to follow in the footsteps of Jesus. We will be highlighting the importance and power of the everyday little things in life - a smile, hello, please, thanks, can I help? or that was great! These 'little things' are in essence Prayers of Actions. The challenge can be for each of us this Lenten season to be people whose daily actions are ones of prayer.

Today...

Give a stranger one of your smiles.

It might be...

The only sunshine he/she sees all day.

SCHOOL RENEWAL PLAN 2014 Thank you to the parents who returned the recent school renewal plan surveys. This feedback along with input from staff was collated to form the school's priorities and goals for 2014. Please find included with today's newsletter the School Renewal Plan for 2014.

STUDENT LEADERSHIP SHIRTS – The Year 6 and 7 students will be presented with their leadership shirts at Assembly on Monday at 2.15pm. Thank you to the P & F for providing the funds to purchase these shirts which will be present by the P & F President, Mr Dave Vidler.

Ann Hall, Principal

FAMILY MASS - Our first Family Mass of the year was on Sunday. It was wonderful to see so many families enjoying the celebration. Thankyou to the children who read, sang and took up the offertory. Our next Family Mass will be on Sunday 29 March at 8.30am.



PROJECT COMPASSION - Caritas Australia's annual fundraising and awareness raising appeal runs through the six weeks of Lent each year. It brings us into solidarity with the world's poor to help end poverty, promote justice and uphold dignity. Project Compassion is an extraordinary, ongoing demonstration of faith, love and generosity.

On Tuesday Maddy L, Bella H, William L, Archie W and I attended the Project Compassion Launch 2014 at the Cathedral of St Stephen's. The CARITAS theme this year is *Have Life And Have It To The Full*. Project Compassion collection boxes go home today.

LENT AND ASH WEDNESDAY - In the Liturgical Calendar we now start the preparation time for Easter called Lent. The colour purple is used to show this. The old palm branches from last year's Palm Sunday are traditionally burned to make the ashes. The children received their ashes at the parish mass. The swimming groups received them later in the day. We launched our theme 'Our Footsteps to Easter'. Each Monday at assembly I will share a simple statement for the week displayed on a footprint, which will focus our school community as we journey through Lent. These will be displayed in classrooms.

PARISH SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM - The children receiving the Sacrament of Reconciliation have started their second week of the program. Please keep them in your prayers. They will attend a retreat day on the 21st March at Rosalie. Please contact Jenny directly if you have any issues at jend@donnellys.net.au.

There is no class Mass this week. *God Bless, Kathryn*



REMINDERS

Wednesday 5 March	Ash Wednesday Mass 9am Swimming – Years 1 to 7
Thursday 6 March	Parish Mass – No school attendance
Friday 7 March	Tuckshop
Monday 10 March	Assembly – Awards – 2.15pm – Year 4 Charity
Tuesday 11 March	P & F Meeting in Library 7pm
Wednesday 12 March	School Swimming Carnival – Stafford State School
Thursday 13 March	Anointing Mass – No school attendance
Friday 14 March	Tuckshop

IN & OUT

	IN	OUT
Thur 6 March	Miss Tenille Webber	Mrs Fiona Whelan
Mon 10 March	Mrs Sharon Kennedy	Mrs Donna Fiechtner
Tue 11 March	Mrs Sharon Kennedy	Mrs Donna Fiechtner

SCHOOL BEHAVIOUR SUPPORT PLAN – GOTCHA AWARDS AND SCHOOL RULE OF THE WEEK.

 <p>GOTCHA AWARDS Congratulations to Dean Graham, Year 1 and Madeleine Teall, Year 3.</p>	<p>SCHOOL RULE OF THE WEEK I AM SAFE</p> 
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TUCKSHOP ROSTER Friday 7 March Team 3 Margi Johnson 0438 540290, Cath Dooley, Lisa Pimm, Kylie Bell, Renee Mills, Jackie Champion. **Homebaking:** Cath Dooley, Lisa Pimm, Jackie Champion, Francene Harry, Rebecca Michael, Vivienne Hased, Rhonda Fowler. **Jelly:** Deanna Wong.