God of compassion,  
You sent Jesus to proclaim a time of mercy  
reaching out to those who had no voice,  
releasing those trapped by their own shame,  
and welcoming those scorned by society.  
Make us ambassadors of reconciliation.  
Open our ears that we may listen with respect and understanding.  
Touch our lips that we may speak your words of peace and forgiveness.  
Warm our hearts that we may bring  
wholeness to the broken-hearted  
and dissolve the barriers of division.  
Guide the work of your Church and  
renew us with the Spirit of your love.  
Help us and all people shape a world where all will have a place,  
where the flames of hatred are quenched,  
and where all can grow together as one.  
Forgive, restore and strengthen us through our Lord Jesus Christ.  
Amen.

Dear Parents and Staff

Yesterday afternoon some lawn was dug up, a pipe was laid and then covered over again in the grassed area between the Year Three and Pre Primary classrooms. This small project, which will form part of a network of speaking tubes later in the project, marks the beginning of the Nature-Based Playground that many of you have heard about for such a long time. From this small beginning, hopefully things will start to move forward at a reasonably rapid rate.

Mr Mick Dumps, whose daughters Jesse and Summer are in Year Two and Pre Primary, has arranged for a large tunnel to be donated to our school by Rocla Industries. This will form a central component of the playground and we are negotiating with Rocla to have it delivered in the near future. After this is in place we will have a busy bee at which parents can assist us in creating a dry creek bed.

BULLYING

Unfortunately, we are likely to encounter forms of bullying throughout our lives. It exists in workplaces, on our roads, within some families and, sadly, in our school. Bullying can be defined as:

The persistent (and normally deliberate) misuse of power or position to intimidate, humiliate or undermine.
It can take the form of physical, verbal, or non-verbal acts and can be very difficult to deal with. There are a few points about bullying that I would like to share with you based upon my years of experience working in schools.

- Schools must have a zero tolerance towards any form of bullying and must act upon reported situation quickly and firmly.
- Schools can’t deal with things that they are not aware of. Children need to report instances that make them feel unsafe so that they may be acted upon. They need to realize that telling someone about what is going on isn’t “dobbing”, it’s looking after their own safety.
- It is necessary to determine whether a particular situation constitutes bullying or is a one-off occasion of inappropriate behaviour. Whilst still a concern, which will be dealt with, an isolated incident does not constitute bullying.
- It is not okay to be a bystander when bullying takes place. Bystanders need to intervene by telling the bully to stop, if they feel confident, or by telling an adult.
- Bullying issues can be very emotional for parents and should be dealt with through the school. In my experience, contacting the parents of the perceived perpetrator is generally not productive and rarely ends well.
- Our school will not make idle accusations about bullying behaviour. If parents are contacted by the school about their child being involved in bullying behaviour, it will be after significant investigation has taken place.
- In many cases of bullying behaviour, both the victim and the perpetrator are in need of support. Obviously the inappropriate actions need to cease, but perpetrators often engage in bullying behaviour due to their own insecurities formed by being bullied in other situations.
- We must continue to build the resilience of children so that they have a strength of character that makes them unlikely to be targeted by bullies.

Please be assured, that at Notre Dame, we are very concerned about the physical and emotional welfare of all children and will continue to monitor behaviour in an effort to eradicate all forms of bullying.

On Friday 18 March, our school will be taking part in the National Day against Bullying and Violence. Details will be in next week’s newsletter and information will be sent home to families.

**CONFERENCE**

I will be attending the Catholic Primary Principals’ Conference in Geraldton throughput next week. Miss Carmel Cutri and Mrs Daniela Boyle will share the school leadership role during my absence.
Our school community is proud to take a stand against bullying and violence.

National Day of Action against Bullying and Violence

Friday 18 March 2016
www.bullyingnoway.gov.au

SAFE AUSTRALIAN SCHOOLS
TAKE A STAND TOGETHER.

BULLYING. NO WAY!
**STATIONS OF THE CROSS**
During Lent the Stations of the Cross will be every Friday evening at 7.00pm

**NOTRE DAME CARE (NDC)**
Many parishioners offer support in the community through *Notre Dame Care*, a parish outreach program. We offer services in home support, transport, visiting and handyman/gardening. During Masses of the weekend 12/13 March, we will invite new volunteers to join the program and existing NDC volunteers to recommit (and perhaps change the areas where they like to help).

Parents and carers can help in several ways: (a) consider signing up as a volunteer; (b) pray for the success of the program, (c) call Ross on 0407 195852 if you have suggestions about how NDC might better service young families.

**CLASS NEWS**

**PRE-PRIMARY**
During our literacy block we have been learning about sight words. Sight words are words that cannot be sounded out. The children need to know these words by sight. To reinforce these words in an authentic learning context, we use provocations such as children’s literature, or outdoor exploration, to inspire our writing. We then use the sight words to construct short sentences. We have also been focusing on writing our names, and holding a pencil correctly.

During our numeracy block we have been exploring numbers and shapes. We have been forming numbers and matching each with its quantity. We have been counting forwards and backwards and using mathematical manipulatives such as dice, counters and ten frames. In shape exploration we have been using pattern blocks and geoboards. These manipulatives allow children to see how shapes can be transformed, and offer exposure to tessellation in shapes. We have also been discussing where shapes can be seen in our environment,

To mark the beginning of Lent we learnt about making Lenten Promises and wrote these on ‘promise hearts’. We had the opportunity to participate in the Ash Wednesday Mass with our whole school community.

We have had a very busy and productive start to Term One!

Miss Gerrard and Mrs Donovan-Flintoff
Pre Primary exploring shapes
**SPORTS NEWS**

**SWIMMING CARNIVAL - BAYSWATER WAVES THURSDAY 17 MARCH**

Students from Year 4 – 6 will be participating in the ‘Senior School Swimming Carnival’ to be held at **Bayswater Waves on Thursday 17 March**. The day will commence at 9.20am and conclude at approximately 2.10pm. Students will be taken back to school by bus after the carnival in time for the 3.00pm bell. Notes will be sent home next Tuesday and will need to be returned ASAP.

Teachers were given checklists to go through with their students to decide what events they would like to compete in. Students who want to be in contention for champion boy & girl, as well as, Interschool selection must compete in 50m events. Students have been reminded they must be in stage 6 or above to compete in the 50m events. Any students who are not confident in their swimming ability have been given novelty race options to participate in the shallow end of the pool (kick board and noodle relay). Please email or come to see me if you have any queries or concerns.

Mr Brett Webb
P.E & Year 4 Teacher

---

**CANTEEN NEWS**

Next week’s roster

- **Monday 7 March**: CLOSED PUBLIC HOLIDAY
- **Wednesday 9 March**: Carley Chua & Marcia Whitaker
- **Friday 11 March**: Dorina Hortin

Thanks once again to my volunteers for all your help I wouldn’t survive without you. To anyone who has a spare 15 minutes or a couple of hours your help would be appreciated. If you have time to kill from drop off until you are needed for a class parent helper I would love the help, every bit helps to make the canteen keep on track and run smoothly.

I’m thinking about doing a DAD’S day once a term in the canteen, so if there are any dads interested in helping me out for the day come and see me about dates/times, we could run it in shifts if that is easier. The kids would love it!

Hope to see you at the canteen soon.

Kayleen McLean
Canteen Manager

---

**UNIFORM NEWS**

The uniform shop opening times:

- **Monday**: 1.30 - 3.30pm
- **Thursday**: 1.30 - 3.30pm

Sharmane Dowse
Uniform Shop Coordinator
COMMUNITY NEWS

SCHOOL BANKING
A reminder that Thursday is School Banking Day and students should bring in their weekly deposit with the completed bank slips. The banking hours are from 8.00am to 8.25 am in the school library.

PRC NEWS

NDCPS ONLINE FOOTY TIPPING COMPETITION 2016
Footy tipping will be run as an online competition through footsteps.com.au on the internet administered by Danielle Lawrie.

GREAT PRIZES, GREAT FUN AND A FANTASTIC FUNDRAISING OPPORTUNITY PROVIDED THROUGH PRC

Forms are available at the front office and must be returned with an entry fee of $50.00 by Tuesday 22 March.

If you require any further information or assistance please do not hesitate to contact

Danielle Lawrie
Home No : 9477 4409
Mobile : 0405700125
Email : dani.lawrie@hotmail.co.uk

ND NETBALL 2016

We will again be coordinating netball and NetSetGo teams for ND students in Years 2-6. Games are held throughout terms 2 and 3 at Belmont Netball Association (BNA), Kooyong Rd Rivervale. We will field Netball teams for year 4-6 students and a NetSetGo (modified rules) teams for year 2-3 students. For year 1 students interested in learning netball skills, BNA runs a NetSetGo skills program.

This year registration for all members is online via the MyNetball portal. All existing members will need to log in using their MyNetball log on details, which will be emailed out to existing ND families shortly (please check your junk inbox). If you don’t receive an email or are new players, go to the appropriate web address below, click “Get Started” and follow the on screen instructions. Registration closes 4th March 2016. Training begins Wednesday 9th March 2016 (for year 5 training date TBA).

Year 4-6:

Year 2-3:

Year 1 BNA offer a NetSetGo Skills program, (all enquires and fees to BNA)
Complete the registration form. When you submit the form it will automatically be sent to the club (or BNA). The system sends an automatic email confirming your registration as well as giving you payment details.

A reminder that if you are interested in coaching an ND team or managing a team this year to please return the slip on the information sheet to classroom teachers. This will allow us to select children appropriately and ensure all teams have a coach and a manager.

Thank you also to all the parents for encouraging your children to play netball. It is a fantastic team sport and gives children the opportunity to exercise in a group environment and socialise outside the school setting.

Many thanks

Tanya Steele & Karen Aravena

BELMONT OASIS LEISURE CENTRE - CHILDCARE

Vacancies exist. Please contact the centre on 9277 1622, fax: 08-9277 1340 or email: childcare@belmontoasis.com.au if you need any information.

Nicole Clarke, Childcare Manager

CITY OF BELMONT

Harmony Day - Sunday 20 March 2016 from 3-6pm - venue: Tomato Lake
To celebrate Harmony Week, Tomato Lake will come alive with a free outdoor family concert to acknowledge and celebrate our cultural diversity and unique heritage.

Autumn River Festival - Sunday 3 April 2016 - venue: Garvey Park 11.00am-3.00pm
Garvey Park will come alive with the sights, sounds and smells of the Autumn River Festival with a riverside location, delicious food and activities for the whole family.

City of Belmont Community Race Day - Saturday 9 April 2016 - venue Ascot Racecourse
Experience and thrill of thoroughbred racing at Ascot Racecourse. Belmont residents receive FREE general admission with proof of residency, a limited free food and drink offer, free entertainment and activities.
PARENTS AND FRIENDS FEDERATION OF WA

Save the Date!

PFFWA Conference and AGM 2016

“Congratulations! We Hear You’re Engaged!”

The Parents and Friends Federation of WA are excited to be putting the last touches to our conference program for this year. As usual the conference opening dinner will be held on Friday evening 20th May at Crown Perth.

The conference will commence the following morning and go through until 5.00pm. Refreshments including morning tea, lunch and afternoon tea are provided on the day of the conference, along with great speakers, interactive sessions and the usual fantastic networking opportunities.

With both Federal and State elections on the horizon, PFFWA have invited politicians from the major parties to attend and you will have the opportunity to hear what their vision is for education in Western Australia in the foreseeable future.

Dates for your diary – 20th & 21st May 2016

At Crown Perth

For more information, please keep an eye on the PFFWA website and our Facebook page or contact admin@pff.wa.edu.au telephone 9271 5909


103 Wood St, Inglewood, WA 6932
RELATIONSHIPS AUSTRALIA
The ‘Rock and Water’ Program – Saturday 12 March 8.30-12.30. $60 per pair. West Leederville Primary School, 58 Northwood Street, West Leederville.

Physical exercises are constantly linked with mental and social skills. The Rock and Water program leads from simple self-defence, boundary and communication exercises to a strong notion of self-confidence. The program offers a framework of exercises and ideas to assist boys and girls aged between 8 and 14 years to become aware of the purpose and motivation in their life.

Topics include: intuition, body language, mental strength, empathic feeling, positive feeling, positive thinking and positive visualising. For further information and to enrol please phone 6164 0200.