Dear Parents and Staff

IF YOU DON'T READ LIFE RIGHT, THINGS JUST MAY NOT ADD UP.
Literacy is not just about words. Numeracy is not just about numbers. We need to be literate and numerate in our emotional and relational lives. Indeed, we need to be constantly learning in these areas if we are going to help our children lead rich and full lives.

So how do we do it? Firstly, by stopping and pondering with head and heart the various situations of our lives and asking ourselves: does this add up? Is this making me happy? Is life just one meaningless thing after another? Too often we just plough on in difficult, or even in boring situations, because we fear change. “What if things got worse?” we counter. Well, that is a risk of life. But be assured, without change, that difficult or boring situation will get worse. There are ways and techniques for helping us with this type of change. I just finished reading ‘Rise’ by Ingrid Poulson. This excellent book offers a number of them.

But there is another area which is integral to our growth: recognising where we have come from and where we are going. We have been made in the image and likeness of God and we are destined to live in love with God forever. If God isn’t a real part of your life, it is like travelling without knowing where you came from or where you are going. Life becomes ‘stuff’ one just ploughs through. But with God, we have a history in love and a destiny in greatness and a present that is open grace, no matter how difficult or boring it may look.

Loving Father, when I am confused in the maze of my life,
let your good Spirit guide me to slow down and ponder just what is happening.
Let me read my life well and make good choices for change.
I ask this in Jesus’ name confident that you will hear me.

Book Week Parade
Tomorrow morning we will be holding our annual Book Week Parade commencing at 9.15am in the multi’ purpose hall. This is a fantastic day where the majority of students dress-up as their favourite book character. Parents and carers are most welcome to attend the parade.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Book Week committee, Mrs Achmad, Mrs Pethick, Miss Andrews, Mrs Evangelista, Mrs Flack and Mrs Jedrzejewski for their enthusiasm and preparation in this exciting event and for organising different book week activities throughout the week.

Father’s Day Breakfast
Dads, it is that time of year. On Friday 4 September, you are invited to breakfast with your children. Breakfast will be served from 7:30 am in the undercover area. So dads if you have not responded to your invitation for Friday, you still have time. The children really enjoy breakfast with dad.

Following the breakfast all dads are invited to stayed for a very special Year 3M morning assembly which will commence at 8.40am in the multi’ purpose hall. The children look forward to saying thank you, to their dads, through this special event. We hope you can make this celebration.

We are half way through the term, but there are many events still to come on our calendar.
The Year 6 students are busily preparing for the Sacrament of Confirmation, which will be celebrated on Saturday 5 September. On Thursday 3 September, Bishop Donald Sproxton will visit our school and meet with the Year 6 Confirmation candidates.

On Wednesday 9 September we will celebrate our school feast day with Mass at 8.45am followed up class activities and buddy class time. A lunchtime sausage sizzle and juice box will be served to all students.

**Communication**

As a community with a Catholic ethos, committed to Gospel values, Notre Dame Catholic Primary School has both a desire and responsibility to ensure that our school is a welcoming and inclusive one where everyone can feel accepted and valued. However, in any normal community, there are times when parents may raise concerns or complaints. Frequently such problems are minor and are resolved informally; sometimes there are occasions when a person wishes to make a formal grievance. In occasions related to your child, please be aware that the first contact is always the class teacher. We would also request that if there is something you need to raise or talk to a class teacher about, that you preferably make an appointment at the end of the school day. The duty of care for a teacher commences from 8.20am and therefore it becomes problematic if an issue is raised during this time with a teacher when they have the welfare of the whole class to consider. We thank you in advance for adhering to school procedures and guidelines.

**WHY NATURE PLAY IS GOOD FOR OUR CHILDREN!**

Children who play outside are happier, more relaxed, more cooperative, more independent, more inquisitive, more physical, more imaginative and… much noisier!

There is a growing body of research that backs up these observations and clearly demonstrates the benefits of being outdoors in nature. In fact, research demonstrates that unstructured, outdoor play in nature is fundamental to childhood and that it is as important to children as food and sleep!

I like to think that play is the ‘work’ of children. We know that play is an essential part of normal childhood development, but what the research demonstrates is that not all play is equal - where children play directly affects the quality of play and of development.

Nature provides a means for children to learn without being taught through more structured activities, and offers possibilities for:

- developing an environmental identity and consciousness.
- control, mastery and manipulation of loose parts and construction of natural spaces.
- different ways of moving, which improves coordination.
- risk taking – children are more likely to develop responsible attitudes toward risk if they have experience dealing with risky situations.
- problem solving – children are more likely to encounter opportunities for decision making that stimulate problem solving and creative thinking because outdoor spaces are often more varied and less structured than indoor spaces.
- socialisation – much of play is social and play promotes learning about vital social skills such as turn- taking, sharing, negotiation and leadership.
- instilling a sense of wonder and stimulating creativity, imagination and symbolic play.
- supporting a child’s sense of self and recognising independence, interdependence and connectedness with their ecological worlds, developing a relationship with their environment and special outdoor places.

**Plans to build a nature playground at Notre Dame Catholic Primary School**

As part of our future development, we are endeavouring to build a nature playground for our students at Notre Dame Catholic Primary School. For this initiative to evolve a staff/parent steering committee will need to be formed. If you would like to be part of this steering committee please email me as soon as possible on the following email address erskine.velma@cathednet.wa.edu.au Please help us to further enrich our students at Notre Dame Catholic Primary School as we work together in partnership.

Have a wonderful Week.
God Bless

Velma Erskine
Acting Principal
The Peter Combe Incursion was lots of fun!

We have been learning all about Asian countries.
The Notre Dame Dance group performed at the Perth Convention Centre last Tuesday 18 August. They danced extremely well and did their group and the school proud. The adjudicators were impressed with their acrobatic work and execution of their dance moves.

The crowd and adjudicators enjoyed the theme of the Western Derby: Dockers V Eagles. The costumes looked fantastic. Thanks to Troy from the Western Australian Football Commission for lending us the Dockers and Eagles jerseys and socks.

A special thank you also goes to Mrs Hortin, Mrs Gough and Mrs Sellier for helping with the costumes. Also to Mrs Markovski, Miss Guillotti, Mrs Boyle and Mrs Mack for makeup and Samantha and Ally Hortin for helping with hair. Thank you to Mr Seers and Mrs Erskine for attending to help with supervision and support of the group. Also thanks to those parents in the school community who helped in other ways leading up to the performance and to those who came and watched on the night.

Thank you
Mrs Tiffany Donovan-Flintoff
Well it was another outstanding performance at the Performing Arts Festival last week by our school choir. They sang beautifully and are to be commended on their singing, presentation and behaviour. They certainly were worthy representatives of our school and our performance was the culmination of many months work. I hope at some stage we might be able to showcase our two songs some point in time down the track.

The adjudicator's report was very positive and she commented afterwards on the student's excellent work. We received notification this week that the choir received a Certificate of Merit for its performance at the festival. That is very good news indeed! Thank you to those parents who were able to attend. We greatly appreciate your presence. It means so much to us. Thank you also to Mrs Evans for accompanying us and to other staff who have along the way assisted in one way or another.

Choir practise continues next week as we prepare the music or the Sacrament of Confirmation.

Mr Alessio Loiacono
Music Teacher

Jump Rope for Heart
Congratulations to all our fantastic students on doing a brilliant job of fundraising for this great initiative. We even have one student who has raised over $1000 already...he will definitely be hard to beat! We are more than halfway to our goal of $4000 so keep skipping and keep donating! If you would like to donate to the cause then please click this link and register - https://jumprope.everydayhero.com.au/event/JumpRope2015-NotreDameSchool-115756. Students will receive a letter home this week in-regards to the scheduled jump off day. This will be run during class sport time for each respective year group. Please email or come and see me if you have any queries about the day.

Sporting Schools
The Sporting Schools Programs is well and truly up and running. It has been great to see so many children involved this term. Term 4 programs will be announced soon. Please check the newsletter to keep up to the date.

Brett Webb
Physical Education Teacher

Next Week’s Canteen Roster

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Rotator</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday 31 August</td>
<td>Caroline Wyder</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday 2 Sept</td>
<td>Dorina Hortin, Marcia Whitaker</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday 4 Sept</td>
<td>Dorina Hortin</td>
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Once again if you are able to help in the canteen come see me on Monday, Wednesday or Friday. Your help would be appreciated.

Hope to see you soon.

Kayleen McLean
Canteen Manager
WOOLWORTHS EARN & LEARN

Woolworths Earn & Learn is back and it is now easier than ever to earn valuable resources for our school.

If you shop at Woolworths, it is easy to participate:
From Wednesday 15 July to Tuesday 8 September 2015, you can collect Woolworths Earn & Learn Stickers from the checkout operator or through an online order and place them on a Woolworths Earn & Learn Sticker Sheet. There’ll be one Woolworths Earn & Learn Sticker for every $10 spent (excluding liquor, tobacco, and gift cards).

Once a sticker sheet is completed, simply place it in the collection box at school, which is located in the administration office.

At the end of the promotion the school will redeem the stickers for educational resources from Modern Teaching Aids.

15 July to 8 September, 2015
Collect Earn & Learn Stickers

UNIFORM SHOP NEWS

An order form was sent home to all families last Monday to place a summer uniform order for your child/children for back to school 2016.  Your order form needs to be submitted by Thursday 3 September 2015.

Term 4 requires all students to be in their summer uniform.  So now is the time to try your child/children’s uniform on to see if you require a larger size.

The Uniform Shop hours are Tuesdays 8.15am to 10.30am and Thursdays 1.30pm to 3.30pm.

Thank you.
Sharmane Dowse
PARISH NEWS

**Confirmation Mass for Yr 6 candidates**
(Notre Dame Catholic Primary School)
to be officiated by Bishop Sproxton

**11-13 September**
Canonical Visit Notre Dame Parish by Bishop Sproxton

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**Notre Dame Catholic Church**

*Celebrating 55th Anniversary (1960-2015)*

**Tuesday 8 September**
**Feast of Our Parish**

High Mass at 6.30pm officiated by Archbishop Timothy Costelloe
(followed by light supper - please bring a plate)

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**Parish Dinner/dance - Saturday 19 September** *(Celebrating 55th Anniversary 1960-2015)*

The Notre Dame community is invited to join in the celebration at the Belmont Sports and Recreation Club, cnr Abernethy and Keane Street, Belmont at 7.00pm. Tickets on sale at **ALL WEEKEND MASS** $30.00 each or $50.00 per couple. Roast dinner, sweets, coffee and tea included in the price of the ticket. Strictly NO BYO. Drinks at bar prices. This is an adults only function.

**TICKETS NOW ON SALE**

**AT ALL WEEKEND MASS**
**NOTRE DAME CHURCH**

**STRICTLY NO DOOR SALES AS IT IS A CATERED FUNCTION.**
Vegas Games Night

Notre Dame’s Biggest Fundraiser for 2015

Tickets are now on sale for $25 each.....Huge prizes and giveaways.....Big door prize, Prize for the best dressed.

Show your support by coming along and supporting your School and Community.

Advancedlife Studios
Photographic Fund Raising Day
19 September 2015
Please return your form to admin along with $20.00 in an envelope.
Any questions
Please contact Carly Heath on
PH: 0438171589
or
summerluvinphotography@gmail.com
Kewdale Little Athletics Club - Attention all 6-17 year olds!
The 2014-2015 WA Little Athletics season commences in early October. New competitors are invited to attend the Gerry Archer Athletic Centre, located on the corner of Leach Highway and Abernethy Road, Cloverdale for National Registration Day on Saturday 5 September 2015 between 10am and 1 pm.

This is an exciting, safe and cost effective sporting environment to keep your child happy and fit.

For further information call either the President Mark Ninyett on 04112852737. Registrar Karen Winterburn on 0439906112 or email admin@klac.asn.au

Vic Park Phoenix Little Athletics Club (boys & girls 5-17)
sprints—mid-distance—race walks—hurdles—long jump—triple jump—shot putt—discus—javelin

Training: commences 8 September 2015 4pm-5pm every Tuesday and Thursday, East Victoria Primary School

$180.00 Membership Fee. Family discounts. Telephone 0407082794. 
vicparklac.org.au
vplacreg@gmail.com

Cuddles School Holiday program
For details check the noticeboard or www.cuddleschildcare.com.au.
Carlisle: 94724702 Bertram: 94191844 St James 93584673