Dear Parents and Staff

This Sunday signals the beginning of the Liturgical season of Advent. This is a time for us to take stock and prepare for the birth of Jesus at Christmas. It's a great time to reintroduce prayer into our family routine if this has slipped lately. Remember, CHRISTmas is about Christ and the gift giving and gatherings, whilst important, should be secondary to this. The purple and rose coloured fabrics that have been hung in the central courtyard are there to remind us of the real significance of what is to come over the next few weeks. The Advent season will be discussed with the children in their classes and on Thursday and Friday of next week and Monday and Tuesday of the last week of term we will have a short reflection and lighting of the Advent candles at 2.45pm. Parents are most welcome to join us.

AGM
Thank you to all who attended the School Board AGM and Presentation of the PRC Sub-committee Reports last night. 2015 has been a strong financial year at Notre Dame under the guidance of the School Board and the PRC has offered a wide range of activities that encompass social, educational and fundraising events. Whilst I offered a vote of thanks to those who served on these committees at the meeting, I would also like to do the same publicly here. The work of both of these groups is vital to the effective operation of our school and I appreciate the time and energy that the parents who serve offer so freely.

I would like to make particular mention of two members of the School Board who have now finished their term. Cheryl Blanton and Michelle McKeown have significantly contributed to our school through a number of years of service on both the PRC (P&F) and the Board. Thank you for the wonderful work that you have done during the time of amalgamation and in the subsequent years. It is due to parents such as you that our school continues to thrive and provide excellent facilities and standard of education for our children.
Immediately after the AGM the new Board members met to elect their executive.

Mario Fisicchia  Chairman
Brynsley Chilton  Secretary
Tanya Secker  Treasurer
Jocelyn Jancik  General Member
Leonard Lau  General Member
Fr Nelson Po  Parish Priest
Darryl Winsor  Principal

Leonard Lau, who is new to the School Board, has provided the following bio.

My name is Leonard Lau and my wife, Louise and I have three children. Our older two children, Lachlan (Year 1) and Emerald (Pre-Kindy) both attend Notre Dame. I am currently the General Manager of Corporate Development Manager at Western Areas, a Western Australian based nickel mining company. My background is in mergers and acquisitions, corporate finance, strategy and planning. I am passionate about the development of children and have volunteered as a swimming teacher for the Asthma Foundation for over 10 years. I have also been an active member at my son’s local football club. It would be an honour to serve on the school board to give me an opportunity to give back to the school, the church and the wider community. In my spare time I enjoy going to Burswood Park for picnics with the family and going to the occasional Wildcats game.

Thank you to all members of the 2016 School Board. I look forward to working with each of you to support our school families.

VOLUNTEERS MASS & MORNING TEA
Yesterday morning we celebrated Mass and held a morning tea to thank all of the parents and grandparents who volunteer in our school. Support is given by being members of the School Board and PRC, listening to children read, assisting with art projects, attending excursions and helping out in the canteen, uniform shop and with student banking. Without the support of these very generous people we could not offer the children the same level of opportunities. So thank you to all who help us to provide the best for your children, we really appreciate your support.
CAROLS EVENING & PRESENTATION OF AWARDS
It’s just under a week until our end of year concert and the children and staff are putting the finishing touches to the class performances. Families are welcome to bring a picnic to have on the grassed area if they would like to arrive early to secure a good vantage point to view the concert. Below are the details from last week’s newsletter regarding the evening.

- The children will finish school at 3.00pm. There will NOT be an early finish, as has been the case in previous years.
- The concert will be held on the large grassed area with the stage located on the eastern side of the central courtyard.
- The children are to go to their class at 5.45pm.
- The concert commences at 6.00pm and should conclude between 7.30 and 7.45pm.
- Children (PP – Year 6) are expected to stay for the entire concert and not leave early.
- Parents may collect Kindergarten children after they have performed their item which will be early in the programme.
- The area closest to the stage will be for those on picnic rugs or very low chairs.
- The school will not have chairs available for parents so please bring your own.
- For safety reasons no children are to play on the playground equipment. If parents allow children on the equipment it will be necessary to delay the concert until they are removed.

CLASSES 2016
- The class lists for 2016 will “go live” on the school website next Tuesday at 4.00pm. Parents will receive a telephone message with a passcode on Monday so that you may access the lists.
- Year Six parents please note that Mrs Daniela Boyle is listed as teaching her class for 3 days per week. This is due to her taking on an Assistant Principal role in first term during Mrs Erskine’s absence.
- All children will have a transition session with their new teachers between recess and lunch on Friday 4 December.

SEMESTER REPORTS
These will be available for parents to access online on Friday 4 December from 4.00pm. The process will be the same as for the first semester Reports, however a letter will be sent to all families in the next few days as a reminder of the process.

Darryl Winsor
Principal
**YEAR 5**

Last Friday, all the Year Five students attended a Leadership Day organised by the Year Six teachers, Mrs Boyle and Mr Seers and the eight current Year Six leaders. The students participated in different activities that will help prepare them for the challenges of being leaders next year. Below are a few recounts of the day from the children.

Mrs Bradshaw, Miss Cutri, Mr Safe

**Year Five Leadership Day**

As soon as the Year Five classes arrived at the parish hall, Mr Winsor welcomed us and talked to us about the day and gave us advise and tips to become a student leader. After Mr Winsor’s introduction, Mrs Boyle, Mr Seers and the Year Six student leaders talked to us about what we were doing in session one. In session one we did the introduction activities. We did the 3 ‘B’s of leadership and a game where you had to count up all the squares. Then after that we had recess.

Session two started after recess. Firstly, we played an island game that was all about teamwork. The goal is that we had to get everyone to the other side with only four mats and not falling off the mats. Also in session two, we did the high five hand of leadership.

Then it was lunch! For lunch we had a sausage sizzle with a juice box. It was cooked by Emma’s dad, Greg and Joshua’s mum, Vanessa. Some people ended up having two because they finished quickly.

**Fun Leadership Day**

Last Friday was Leadership day. The Year Fives went to the Parish Hall. Mr Winsor introduced himself to the Year Five children.

First, Sarmara from Year Six gave us booklets to fill in along the way. We had to sit with our factions. Then, we started to talk about leadership with Mrs Boyle and Mr Seers and also the Year Six student leaders.

After that, we went to have recess and played for a little while at school. When we got back from recess, we played a spelling game, where we have to try and spell a word using the letters on the board and if we got the word right then we won a point for our faction.
Next, we played a raft game where the factions were mixed up, we had to get over the ocean with only four mats which were rafts. After that, we had lunch which was a sausage sizzle for lunch, yay! Then, we went back to the parish hall to learn more about leadership.

Finally, we had the big finale and and asked the student leaders questions. And then we packed away our chairs and went home.

By Amanda

We’re Ready for Year Six

On the 20th of November, the Year Fives participated with Year Six leaders and the Year Six teachers, Mr Seers and Mrs Boyle in a leadership day. We were allowed to wear free dress so I enjoyed it. The Leadership Day was held in the Parish Hall.

When we entered the Parish Hall, we were split into fractions. I sat in the McAuley area. Shortly after, Mr Winsor came in and talked briefly about leadership. He said even if we weren’t elected, we were still leaders. He talked about his experiences as a leader which got all the hopes of the students up. Then, he left and we were introduced to Rohit, Sarmara, James, Aaron, Luis, Chris and Declan, the school leaders.

We started off with some activities about how to be a leader. We were given a booklet full of activities. We then had a game where we scored points if we unjumbled the letters on gloves worn by students correctly. We then had recess. That was the end of session one.

Session two started when we were called back into the Parish Hall and we sat in our spots. We did some more activities and one of them was to identify the leader in a movie scene and to find out how the leader was acting as a leader. We then went to the multi-purpose hall and played a team work game called the raft game. I was in a team with Alice P, Brandon, Stefan, Amity and Yvan. We all did very well and I came up with a strategy called shuffling. We ended up coming second but we all enjoyed it. We ate our sausage sizzles which were cooked by Josh’s mum and Emma’s dad. We all devoured it.

In session three we had many activities designed around leaders’ qualities, cleaning chairs and Nagle won the faction points. We all thought that the Leadership Day may have been a lot of sitting in a chair, but we learnt a lot about what a good leader is.

By Sunwoo
Next week’s roster - Week 8

Monday 30 November: Caroline Wyder
Wednesday 2 December: Michelle Thomas
Friday 4 November: Dorina Hortin

Unfortunately I have run out of time to have an end of term lunch special, I will run recess specials for the last two weeks instead.

Monday 30 November: APPLE & CINNAMON PIKELETS 20c each (max 3 per child)
Wednesday 2 December: POPCORN BAGS 50c each

Thank you to all of the lovely ladies who have helped over the last twelve months. Your help has been appreciated. If you are able to help in the canteen in 2016 even for an hour, please come and see me in the canteen. Anyone can help MUMS, DADS, AUNTS, UNCLEs, GRANDPARENTs, OLDER SIBLINGS. Come by yourself, in twos or threes, stay for half an hour or all day, every little bit helps. As a thank you lunch is on me (as long as it’s on the menu) and as much tea or coffee as you can drink.

Hope to see you at the canteen.

Kayleen McLean
Canteen Manager

LIBRARY NEWS

LIBRARY NEWS - END OF SCHOOL YEAR:

Borrowing from the library for children will finish at the end of this week (Week 7).

Please ensure all library books are returned next week (Week 8) on the usual day your child has library exchange.

Your assistance will be greatly appreciated.

Mrs Judy Jedrzejewski
Library Officer

UNIFORM SHOP NEWS

Opening Times:

Tuesday 8.15am to 10.30am
Thursday 1.30pm-3.30pm

Sharmane Dowse
Uniform Shop Coordinator