



# MATTHEW GIBNEY CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

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**NEWSLETTER No. 1**  
**7th February 2020**

*At Matthew Gibney Catholic Primary School, we recognise our role in supporting parents as the primary educators of their children and thus believe that strong connections between parents, school and parish are essential. The quality of these connections requires respect for the individual, honouring the dignity of each other and reverence for our faith. Our aspiration is therefore to be a place where,*

*Every child has the opportunity to learn successfully, to live faithfully and to respect the dignity of others.*

Dear Parents, Friends, Students and Staff

There was a great sense of optimism and joy evident around the school on Monday morning as students and parents returned for the commencement of the new term. The enthusiasm displayed by the students as they reconnected with friends and met their new teachers was a delight to see. I too, as new Principal at the school, was delighted to receive such an enthusiastic welcome from the children and parents as they arrived at school. Thank you to our parents for preparing the children so beautifully for the start of the term and for your encouragement and positivity about the return to school.

Welcome to you all! I look forward to getting to know you as the term progresses and working together with yourselves and the staff to ensure we provide the best possible school experience for our students. Thank you to the Parents and Friends for organising the welcome morning tea on Monday morning. It was lovely to see so many parents stay to welcome new families and to reconnect with friends. I would like to particularly welcome our new families and our new Pre-Kindergarten students to Matthew Gibney Catholic Primary School. We pride ourselves on being a welcoming community. Best wishes to all new families as you commence your journey with us. I hope, most sincerely that your time at the school will be faith filled, life giving and nurturing.

I am delighted to welcome two new staff members to Matthew Gibney Catholic Primary school. We welcome Miss Giulia Pasquale as Year One Teacher and Mrs Susan Donaldson as Education Assistant in the Pre-Kindergarten. Please join me in welcoming both Giulia and Susan to our school community. We wish them a most fruitful and enjoyable connection with the school community.

On your behalf I thank, most sincerely, all our staff for their generosity of time during the holidays in ensuring all is prepared for the students return to school for the new year. The staff have spent countless hours preparing their classrooms to look inviting and engaging for the students. It was such a pleasure to witness the children's excitement as they entered their new classrooms for the year.

My thanks to Mr Steve Vajas for his work in preparing the school grounds for the return of the students. The grounds and buildings are looking wonderful for the start of the year.

As we are in the privileged position of enjoying a smooth start to the new school year, we need to keep in mind the families and communities in other parts of Australia who are not experiencing a smooth start to the year due to fires devastating communities, homes and families. Our thoughts and prayers must be with families who have suffered loss and trauma, especially children who have experienced so much more than they should. Be mindful of your own children, who may have seen the impact of the fires on the television over the past few weeks. This type of viewing can be confusing and frightening for young children. Please be mindful about this and have gentle conversations with your children if they are watching scenes which are catastrophic and frightening.

*We pray for all who have suffered loss of home, health, animals, income or any treasured possessions following the recent bushfires in our country; that they will experience the love and support of all God's people as they seek to rebuild their lives and communities.*

It was encouraging to see such good attendance at the Parent Information Evening on Wednesday night. Thank you for coming along and thank you to the staff for preparing the evening. Students whose parents are engaged in their education have improved outcomes in all areas. I thank you for your interest and engagement. I am excited about the success that your children can achieve as we have strong connections between school and home.

The Parents and Friends Association have organised a **Welcoming Night on Friday 21<sup>st</sup> February**. Please keep this date free and come along to reconnect with families and welcome new families to our community. Thank you to the P&F for their hard work in preparing the evening for us.

I encourage all families to read the newsletter as it is published each week. The format of the newsletter may change this year, but it remains the main source of information for families. In addition to the newsletter we have the Skoolbag App and our school Facebook page as means of communication. I encourage families to download the Skoolbag App to assist in keeping up to date with what is going on.

***Continued***

I look forward to welcoming parents to our opening School Liturgy to be held on Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> February commencing at 2.15pm. Year Six students will be commissioned into their various leadership roles during the Liturgy. Parents and friends are invited to come along.

Loving God,

*Our creator, our savior, our companion,  
bless this journey of a new school year at Matthew Gibney  
Catholic Primary School.*

*Refresh our souls  
and renew our spirits  
as we embrace all that lies ahead.*


*We welcome those who are new to this community and  
ask that you strengthen them to share the wonderful gifts you  
have given them.*

*Lord, make our hearts pure as we prepare for the new year,  
and may you guide our students, parents and staff to begin the  
year with open hearts and minds eager to learn.*

*We ask this in Your name,  
Amen*

Best wishes for the week ahead.

Therese Hussey  
Principal

<b>Closing Early</b>	<b>REMINDER</b>	
	Tuesday 31st March at 12 Noon for Parent/Teacher Meetings.	

## URGENT!

Please check you have filled out the necessary forms you received on Monday and return them to us by **FRIDAY 7th FEBRUARY**.

- Family details printout (with or without changes).
- Emergency Action Plan (if any medical conditions).
- Asthma Management Plan (if applicable).
- Administration of Medication form (if applicable).
- School Masses Permission form (PP to Year 6 **one form per student**).
- Permission to Publish Student Photo form (Kindy & New Families)

Many thanks for your prompt attention to this matter.

### SENT HOME WEDNESDAY 5th FEBRUARY

- ★ Term 1 Canteen Menu

### Parents & Friends Association

Agenda item request for meeting - Wednesday 19th  
February @ 7.30pm.

Please submit your Agenda item request either through the *Skoolbag* app - *eForms - P&F Meeting Agenda Items* or through the Matthew Gibney website  
<http://web.gibney.wa.edu.au/pandf.html>

**You must attend the meeting if you wish to submit  
an agenda item.**

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Wed 12th Feb	Opening Mass Years 1 - 6
Wed 12th Feb	Staff and Student Council Commissioning @ 2.15pm
Wed 19th Feb	P&F Meeting @ 7.30pm
Fri 21st Feb	Year 5 Assembly
Fri 21st Feb	P&F Welcoming Night @ 6.00pm
Mon 24th Feb	Super Circus Incursion PP - Yr 6
Wed 26th Feb	Ash Wednesday Mass at St Francis of Assisi Church 9.30am
Fri 28th Feb	PUPIL FREE DAY
Mon 2nd Mar	PUBLIC HOLIDAY
Fri 6th Mar	Year 3 Assembly
Sat 7th Mar	Sacramental Commitment Mass at St Francis of Assisi @ 6.30pm
Sun 8th Mar	Sacramental Commitment Mass at St Francis of Assisi @ 9.30am or 6.00pm
Fri 13th Mar	Year 2 Assembly
Wed 18th Mar	Cool Pool Morning 9am - 12pm
Wed 18th Mar	P & F Meeting @ 7.30pm
Thurs 19th Mar	Harmony Day Activities
Fri 20th Mar	Year 6 Cricket Carnival
Fri 20th Mar	Pre-Kindy / Kindy Open Morning & School Tour 9.00 - 10.30
Wed 25th Mar	Year 6 Mass
Thurs 26th Mar	Minnie Vinnies Cake Stall
Fri 27th Mar	Pre-Primary Assembly
Tues 31st Mar	Early School Close @ 12 Noon Parent/Teacher Interviews 12.30 - 6.00pm
Wed 1st Apr	Year 1 Liturgy
Fri 3rd Apr	Easter Play
Mon 6th Apr - Thurs 9th Apr	Year 6 Camp
Thurs 9th Apr	END OF TERM 1 FOR STUDENTS
Fri 10th Apr	GOOD FRIDAY
Sat 11th Apr	EASTER SATURDAY
Sun 12th Apr	EASTER SUNDAY
Tues 28th Apr	STUDENTS RETURN TERM 2 2020

## YEAR 5 NEWS

We have had a great start to Year 5 2020. We are very excited to welcome our new student Reagan, and hope that he will be very happy here at Matthew Gibney CPS. We have spent the last couple of days learning more about each other and settling into new class routines. We started reading our class novel "Billionaire Boy", which is a lot of fun. To learn more about teamwork, we also stacked 6 cups, using only one elastic band and 5 pieces of string – which tested our determination, communication and cooperation skills. The Year 5 students have also started thinking about their commitment to Mini Vinnies this year, and it seems like we will have another successful year ahead.

Karen Keddie & Jess Bettridge

### P & F Meetings Term 1 2020

**Wednesday 19th February @ 7.30pm**  
**Wednesday 18th March @ 7.30pm**





### **Pupil Free Dates 2020**

In order to assist parents with childcare arrangements Pupil Free Days planned for 2020 are:

- Friday 28<sup>th</sup> February
- Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> May (following the WA Day Public Holiday)
- Monday 20<sup>th</sup> July
- Friday 25<sup>th</sup> September
- Monday 9<sup>th</sup> November

### **Uniforms**

Thank you to all families for sending the children to school dressed smartly in their school uniform. Please be reminded that sport shoes cannot be fluoro coloured and all students must have a hat to play outside. The Uniform Shop is open each Friday from 8.15-9.15am.

### **Punctuality**

Parents are reminded that classes commence promptly at 8.55am. Students have smooth start to the day if they are on time and organised for the commencement of lessons. Please support the teachers by ensuring students come to school on time each day. Doors open at 8.30am and the time in class before school is beneficial organisation and catch up time. Students arriving at school prior to 8.30am must sit in the undercover area as supervision is not provided prior to 8.30am.

### **Holiday During the Term**

From time to time parents organise family holidays during the school term. Whilst I understand that for some parents there is limited opportunities during school holidays for family holidays, I do request that time away from school is kept to a minimum. Please send an email directly to me and the class teacher, as a matter of courtesy, should you be planning a family holiday. As Principal of the school it is my responsibility to ensure the Education Act is followed and students are attending school.

### **Return of Collections Forms**

Thank you to parents who have completed the collections forms, including medical forms, that are required for the beginning of the year. Please return all forms by the end of this week.

### **Crunch and Sip**

All classes will be participating in Crunch and Sip in 2020. Crunch and Sip is important as it provides the children with healthy nourishment in the middle of a long morning and promotes healthy eating habits. Please ensure your child has fresh fruit or vegetables which are easy to eat during the morning Crunch and Sip time.

### **Term Planners**

A Term Planner for Term One accompanies this newsletter. Please make sure you keep this somewhere that is accessible to ensure that you are aware of all school events that are important for your children. A copy of the planner will also be available on the website.

### **Pre-Kindergarten and Kindergarten Vacancies**

We continue to have vacancies for Pre-Kindergarten and Kindergarten in 2020. Please continue to promote our early learning centre to your family and friends and encourage others to enroll in our beautiful school. I am always available to take new families on a tour of our facilities and to answer any questions for prospective families. Word of mouth is always the best advertiser and I thank all our families for their support in promoting Matthew Gibney as an excellent school for families to attend.

### **SPORTS NEWS**

Just a reminder for students to please come to PE with a full drink bottle, correct sport shoes and their school hat. Sunscreen will be supplied; however, students can also bring their own sunscreen if needed. Students cannot participate without a hat unless the lesson is undercover.

If a student is unable to do sport due to injury or illness, please provide a note to the office or they can bring this to their PE lesson.

Kind Regards  
Shannon Andersen

### **RUNNING CLUB**

**WHEN:** Every Friday morning Term 1. Everyone is welcome

**WHERE:** Please wait patiently at the front gate. Meet Miss Andersen in the undercover area, leave your school bag there.

**TIME:** 8.00-8.30am Friday. When finished please get a drink, go to the toilet and to class to get ready for the day.

**Please bring your drink bottle to training**

## TERM ONE PLANNER FOR PARENTS 2020

5/2/2020	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
WEEK 1	February 2	3 Students return	4	5 K-6 Parent Information evening @ 7pm	6	7	8
WEEK 2	February 9	10	11	12 Opening Liturgy Yr 1-6 Staff and Student Council Commissioning @ 2.15pm	13	14	15
WEEK 3	February 16	17	18	19 Board Meeting 6pm P & F Meeting 7.30pm	20	21 9.00am Year 5 Assembly 6.00pm P & F Welcoming Night	22
WEEK 4	February 23	24 Super Circus Incursion PP - 6	25	26 Ash Wednesday Mass at church in Maida Vale 9.30am (Mini Vinnies)	27	28 <b>PUPIL FREE DAY</b>	29
WEEK 5	March 1	2 <b>PUBLIC HOLIDAY Labour Day</b>	3	4	5	6 9.00 Year 3 Assembly	7 Sacramental Commitment Mass 6.30pm
WEEK 6	March 8 Sacramental Commitment Mass 8am, 9.30am or 6pm	9	10	11	12	13 9.00am Year 2 Assembly	14
WEEK 7	March 15	16	17 Year 5 Service Leaders Immersion Programme (SLIP)	18 Cool Pool Morning 9am-12pm Board Meeting 6pm P & F Meeting 7.30pm	19 Harmony Day Activities	20 Year 6 Cricket Carnival 9.00-10.30 PK/Kindy Open Morning and School Tour.	21
WEEK 8	March 22	23 PP Speech Assessment PP- Yr 6 MJR Focus 2.30pm	24	25 9.00 Year 6 Mass PP Speech Assessment	26 PP Speech Assessment Minnie Vinnies Cake Stall	27 9.00am PP Assembly	28
WEEK 9	March 29	30 Yr 1- 6 Diana Rigg End of Term One Review	31 Early School Close @ 12pm Parent / Teacher Interviews 12.30pm to 6.00pm	April 1 9.00 Year 1 Liturgy	2	3 Easter Play @ 9.00am	4
WEEK 10	April 5	6 Year 6 Camp	7 Year 6 Camp	8 Year 6 Camp	9 Year 6 Camp	10 <b>GOOD FRIDAY</b>	11 Easter Saturday

Term Two 2020: Students Return – Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> April

*12<sup>st</sup> April EASTER SUNDAY, 13<sup>th</sup> April EASTER MONDAY, 25<sup>th</sup> April ANZAC DAY, 27<sup>th</sup> April ANZAC DAY Observation (All during the school holidays)*



## Anti-Bully/Self Defence Karate Classes

Kalamunda kids' karate classes (5-11 years old) are structured to provide a balanced mixture of physical activity, self-defence training and fun. These classes instil in the children better confidence, hand-eye coordination skills and discipline as well as being great for fitness.

All classes are run by fully qualified and accredited instructors and beginners may start at any time during the term, as all training is ongoing.

Kalamunda Kickboxing & Martial Arts  
1/27 Laurence Road,  
WALLISTON, WA, 6076.

For further information or to book a place for your child/children please contact the office on:

Ph.: (08) 6293 1633

Email: [info@kalamundakickboxing.com.au](mailto:info@kalamundakickboxing.com.au)

Website: [www.kalamundakickboxing.com.au](http://www.kalamundakickboxing.com.au)

## KIDS SELF DEFENCE CLASSES



Kalamunda Kickboxing and Martial Arts run anti-bully/self defence classes that cater specifically for children from 5-11 years of age.

- Anti-bullying
- Self defence
- Self confidence
- Discipline & respect
- Co-ordination
- Fun & fitness

These classes promote the responsible teachings of Karate.

### Class Times:

Monday-Friday: 3.45-4.30pm Saturday: 11.30am-12.15pm



## CALL US TO BOOK A FREE TRIAL



Unit 1, 27 Laurence Road  
Walliston WA 6076  
(08) 6293 1633

[info@kalamundakickboxing.com.au](mailto:info@kalamundakickboxing.com.au)  
[www.kalamundakickboxing.com.au](http://www.kalamundakickboxing.com.au)



After School Arts  
St Barnabas Anglican Church  
42 Railway Rd, Kalamunda

Creative Art Activities for Kids 6 to 12 years

2020 Term 1

Starts Feb 20

Thursdays 4pm to 6pm

Hooked on Hessian

The fun textile art of rug hooking...create wall hangings, rugs or cushions with a variety of colours and textures that will bring your designs to life. Suit ages 7 +

Pottery

Play with clay and create little animals, pinch pots, bowls, wind chimes...imagine and create! A variety of clays and glazes available, returning from the kiln bright and shiny.

All materials provided.

Book at St Barnabas Thursday Feb 13 from 4 to 5pm

Norma: 9293 4486

[hookedonhessian@hotmail.com](mailto:hookedonhessian@hotmail.com)

Marie: 040 9796183

[inspireart@live.com.au](mailto:inspireart@live.com.au)



1-2-3 Magic and Parenting  
South East Metro Parenting

For parents and carers of children 0-12 years

Please note this is a 3-session workshop

Course Overview

In this workshop parents and caregivers will be taught practical skills on:

- Effective boundary setting
- Strategies to promote positive behaviour in children
- How to manage and teach emotion and emotion management to children

DATES

Tuesdays

18, 25 February and  
3 March 2020

TIME

10.00am - 12.00pm

LOCATION

Foothills Information and  
Referral Service  
35 Edinburgh Road  
Forrestfield

COST

No cost

BOOKINGS

9251 5777

[parenting@communicare.org.au](mailto:parenting@communicare.org.au)

[123magicforrestfield.eventbrite.com.au](https://www.eventbrite.com.au)

CRECHE

Yes - bookings essential