ST GERARD’S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL
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ISSUE #30
25TH NOVEMBER, 2016
CALENDAR OF EVENTS

NOVEMBER
Tues 29th Last Prep Orientation Day
Wed 30th Parent “Thank You” Breakfast

DECEMBER
Tues 6th Christmas Carols Night at 7pm
Thurs 8th End of Year Mass at 12. All Welcome!
Thurs 8th Meet and Greet New classroom teachers for 2017
Fri 9th Choir Christmas Carol Excursion to Retirement Villages
Mon 12th Grade 6 Excursion
Wed 14th Reports go home today

UNIFORM SHOP
Open in the Parish Hall each Monday from 8.30am—10.00am

School Prayer
God, our Father, as members of the Parish Community of St Gerard’s we praise you for your love.
May we grow stronger in faith and hope, and may our love for each other, become deeper in our daily lives.
Grant this through your Son, and our brother, Jesus Christ,
AMEN

Photo Gallery of our Building Works to date!
To the St. Gerard’s school community,

**St. Gerard’s Family Breakfast**

To all of our families please join us here in the school hall for pancakes, bacon, eggs, toast, fruit, tea and coffee and great company on Wednesday morning.

**Breakfast will be served from 7.30 a.m. until 8.30 on Wednesday 30th November.**

This is always a joyous time for our school community and gives everyone a chance to chat with each other and enjoy a hearty breakfast.

**Grade 6 Reflection Day**

The grade 6 celebration day was a celebration of the 7 years the students have spent at St. Gerard’s. The students reflected on their time at school and shared many memories. The day was led by Mrs Stack, Mrs Verhoosel and Mrs O’Brien. We thank them for their dedication to the students and the school. Once again we had a wonderful band of parents prepare lunch and help out in any way they could. These parents were ably led by Allyson Joseph, Pamela Arias and Julie Stefanovic. We say a special thank you to all of the parents from Grade 6 and from other levels who all supported the reflection day.

**Prep Orientation**

We remind our families that there is only one Prep orientation session left for our 2017 preps. **This is on Tuesday 29th November.**

**School Building**

It is remarkable how once the frame work begins; it feels like we have a building. To those parents who visit regularly you have seen the building rise from the concrete and to those who are not able to visit the school there are some photos in this newsletter to look at.

If you have anything you wish to speak to me about, please feel free to either approach me personally or call the school. I am usually out in the quadrangle in the morning or in the car park in the afternoon.

With kind regards,

Carol Stewart
Acting Principal

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**THANK YOU!!!**

A special “Thank you” to the wonderful mums not only from Grade 6, but from across the school who helped with our Grade 6 Graduation Reflection day on Tuesday of this week. A special thank you to the teachers, Mrs Julie Verhoosel, Mrs O’Brien and Mrs Stack for the great organizing of this special event for the students.

Thanks goes to Mrs Julie Stefanovic, Mrs Pamela Arias, Mrs Niranjana Linnell, Mrs Carly Torelli, Mrs Karen Skey, Mrs Apsara Kumarapperuma, Mrs Katarina Adamopoulos, Mrs Brandy Rinaldi, Mrs Afet Tofa and Mrs Kathy Pham and Mrs Allyson Joseph.

Giving up your precious time is so gratefully appreciated.
**Important Dates for your diary**

- **Tuesday 6th Dec:** Christmas Carols Evening
- **Friday 9th Dec:** Choir Christmas Carols Excursion
- **Thursday 8th Dec:** End of year Mass @ noon
- **Thursday 15th Dec:** Year 6 final assembly and Graduation.

**Whole School Masses:**
- **Thursday 7th December:** End of year Mass at 12:00

**Rosary**

Each Tuesday we have a group that comes together to pray the rosary in the Church at first lunch, led by Jenny Gelderbloem from the Parish. Children are welcome to attend and encouraged to bring their own Rosary beads if they have them. Otherwise, Rosary beads will be provided.

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**Jessica is on her way!!**

A huge “Thank You” to our St Gerard’s family for helping Jessica on her way to becoming the Australian Champion in Shot Put Girls under 12.

We have raised a total of $979.75 as a school who has come together to support one of our own!

*Jessica is in Sydney as we go to print today!*
Weekly Prayer

Advent begins

Advent is the first season of the Church year where we prepare ourselves to celebrate the wonderful feast of Christmas.

A reading from first letter of St Paul to the Thessalonians.

May the Lord be generous in increasing your love and make you love one another and the whole human race as much as we love you. And may he so confirm your hearts in holiness that you may be blameless in the sight of our God and Father when our Lord Jesus Christ comes with all his saints.

Let's take a moment to ask for God’s help when this is difficult...

Lord, we are so often overwhelmed by the busyness of this time of year. O come Emmanuel, come into our hearts and show us by your light the beauty of your way of love. We are your people, Lord, and we are waiting for your return. Come Lord Jesus.

Amen.

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St Gerard’s Annual Christmas Carols

Each class will be performing a Christmas themed play sprinkled with lots of beautiful Christmas carols sung by the children.

Tuesday, December 6th 2016 @ 7.00pm to 8.30pm

in the St Gerard’s Parish School Hall

Mark your diaries now!