



St Kevin's Catholic Primary School

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Dear St Kevin's Families,

A New Parish and a new Parish Priest

On Sunday I attended a joint meeting of ministry leaders from St Kevin's and St John's Narraweena, to hear Bishop David talk about his vision for the twinning of St John's and St Kevin's. Bishop David said that he was happy with the name proposed by the steering committee for the new Parish: *"The Parish of Warringah- comprising the worshipping communities of St Kevin's Dee Why and St John's Narraweena."* The twinning will take effect from the beginning of July. Bishop David also said the new parish priest for the Parish of Warringah would be Fr Vittorio Basso and Fr Vittorio who was present was warmly greeted by the gathering.

After spending a little time in ministry groups reflecting on our hopes and concerns for the future of the parish, the group gathered with the St John's community to celebrate Mass together with the Bishop. We prayed for Fr Vittorio and for Fr Rex and Fr John who will be leaving our communities and we prayed that the parish twinning process would prove to be a time of revitalisation for both communities.

Class names

Once again all classes have discussed their class names this year and Kevin Duncan, our Aboriginal community liaison contact person has kindly translated the children's vision into the Garigal names by which each class will be known. Some classes opted to stay with their given name from 2008 while others have struck out afresh with a new name. The class names this year are

Kinder	Yarraman	(Super Pony Riders)
Year 1	Nginyang Nyanga	(We all learn together as one)
Year 2	Ngaliya	(We as one Mob)
Year 3 / 4	Wana Gulang	(Flying Stars)
Year 5/6	Yudi	(Servant Leaders)

Early in term 3 we intend to hold a special ceremony with Mr Kevin Duncan present to celebrate our indigenous connection and officially open the courtyard where his art work stands.

Food Allergy Awareness

Last week was Food Allergy Awareness Week across Australia and so it is timely to remind ourselves once again, how important it is that we take steps as a community to ensure that all children are safe at our school. We have a number of children at St Kevin's who are severely allergic to a variety of foods. Some can even suffer very serious anaphylactic reactions to some foods, especially peanuts and cashews.

Because these are so dangerous for these children, even in very small quantities, we ask all families to be careful that they never send any nuts or foods with traces of nuts to school in students play lunches and lunches.

A little story: Last year one Year 2 student approached me concerned that he had peanut butter on toast before coming to school that morning. He was concerned because he wanted to play with another student whom he knew suffered an allergy to nuts. I was very proud of the Year 2 student and his sense of care for others, and told him to wash his hands and have a drink of water and that then everything should be OK. I was wrong! Thirty minutes later, the allergy-suffering student was at Mrs Moriarty's window counter showing signs of an allergic reaction- severe itching, emerging welts on the skin and some difficulty breathing. After treatment the student recovered, however the incident reminded me very strongly of how careful we must be. It is everyone's responsibility to look after every one else at St Kevin's. Being aware and vigilant for the sake of those who suffer from allergies is one important way we can truly be a community which is *United in Love*.

To help with the management of allergies in our school it has been suggested that we could make an allergy information chart for the canteen which would include photos of children who have allergies to certain foods. Canteen helpers would then have some guide as to who can be served various foods from the tuck shop. If you would like to have your child's picture and allergy information added to the chart please send in a recent photo and the information you want attached next week.

Mrs Winfrey, one of our St Kevin's mums has offered to talk to any parents who want more information about allergies. She is frequently in the playground both before and after school and is also happy to be contacted by phone. Call the school and ask if you would like her number.

"Write Away"

This week we are very proud to have received the first copies of an educational resource which was designed and developed by St Kevin's teachers. The resource called "Write Away", provides teachers with a highly flexible tool to support students' writing. It has been published by the Catholic School's Office for distribution to all schools in the Broken Bay Diocese in the next fortnight and it will be available for purchase by other schools throughout Australia and the world thereafter. St Kevin's students will be the beneficiaries of profits generated by the sales of the resource.

The "Write Away" resource was developed by our Year 3 /ESL teacher Rena Curl, along with ex St Kevin's teacher, Jodi Twidale in collaboration with the other St Kevin's teachers who participated in reviewing and refining it over time. It is a tribute to their professionalism, skills and special talents that such a resource has now been taken up for publication by the Catholic Schools Office. The resource will be officially launched at Toukley on Thursday 11th June.

Values Award – Compassion

Congratulations to Katrina (Year 1) who will receive this Award at tomorrow's assembly for 'being a great role model in showing class mates how to widen friendship circles'.

Principal's Award

Congratulations to the following children who will receive this Award at tomorrow's assembly.

Yarraman	(Kindy)	Jocelyn for completing all her work efficiently!
Ngiyang Nyanga	(Yr 1)	Waya for his detailed description of a paramedic's uniform
Ngaliya	(Yr 2)	Flone for her clear, neat recording of directions using diagrams
Yana Gulang	(Yr 3)	Jayme for his positive attitude and enthusiasm to learning
Yana Gulang	(Yr 4)	Sione for his fantastic 'shooting' skills in basketball
Yudi	(Yr 5/6)	Maddison for meeting the challenges of learning and readily incorporating technology skills

Sincerely

Peter Rafferty
Principal

Assistant Principal Update

Mathematics Number Profiles

Over the past term teachers have been busy engaging in professional learning in the area of numeracy. At present we are focusing on developing a 'Number Profiling' section in our daily numeracy blocks.

The Key Learning Area of Mathematics is broken into five content strands, with Number being one of these. At St Kevin's, we believe that the Number strand underpins all other areas of mathematics; where students are able to work competently in the other mathematical strands (such as Measurement, Space and Geometry, Patterns and Algebra and Data) if they have a quick recall of number facts and relationships.

Number Profiling is a daily process used throughout our school to build each child's number skills. Students engage in 20 minutes of number skills activities at the start of each numeracy session. The session allows teachers and students to identify and practice the explicit skills necessary to build number facts. These skills are recorded on Number Profiles. At this stage, teachers are working towards developing the resources required for daily Number Profile time and teaching students about the Profile process.

Each student will have their own Profile to work towards mastering a particular skill according to his/her own ability and need. Our hope is that your child will become very familiar with this Profile and monitor his/her progress. Learning and mastery can take place at school and further practiced at home. One area you might like to focus on with your child over the next week is to develop the quick recall number combinations that add up to 10.

Year One's Description of a Paramedic

Darren My paramedic's name is Vinnie. He wears a uniform. He has a blue jacket and a name badge. He has a beard and he has boots. He drives an ambulance van.

Nio My paramedic's name is John. He has boots and a name badge. He also has a beard. He has blue eyes. He wears a yellow jacket. He drives a van.

Danna My paramedic's name is Caroline. She has long brown hair. She always wears a ribbon in her hair. She wears a uniform with a badge. She also wears boots. She helps people in fires and people that can't breathe. She works at an ambulance station. She drives an ambulance. Mrs Fitzhenry

Religious Education Coordinator's News

Confirmation

Congratulations to the following children who will receive the Sacrament of Confirmation on Saturday:

Chiara	Trisha	Grigan	
Kristine	Kalyen	Christopher	
Christopher	Arnold	Adam	
Flone	Mitchell	Leonardo	Mrs O'Donoghue

SRC News

Guide Dog Speaker

Mr Darcy Sharp and his dog Rizzo will be visiting St Kevin's School assembly this Friday. We will begin assembly a little earlier (2:30pm) to allow for the presentation of birthdays and awards. Mr Sharp will speak for approximately 30 minutes and is happy to answer questions from the students, parents and staff. Please remember Rizzo is a working dog and you must not distract him from his duties as guide dog. Please don't call out to him or try to pat him. It would be appreciated if parents could reinforce this message with their children. Hopefully our school community will be more aware of the challenges facing the vision impaired and also be more confident about how to interact with those in the community who need assistance from a guide dog or cane.

St Vincent de Paul Winter Appeal

The SRC have decided to support the St Vincent de Paul Winter Appeal. They have been busy over the last week making posters that will be displayed throughout the school. We are collecting blankets and warm clothing. If children bring donations to class the SRC will collect them and bring them to the Year 5/6 classroom. All donations must be in by Friday 19th June. Thank you in anticipation. Mrs Banfield

Library News

What a wonderful day all the students and teachers had on Wednesday. At 11.00am the whole school was reading 'Pete the Sheep' in their classrooms as part of National Simultaneous Storytime. An interesting story that involved sheep, a sheep shearer named Shaun who loved to create wonderful hairstyles for sheep and the sheepdogs.

Wednesday was also a day of celebration as the first children presented their Read With Me cards to receive their first book reward for reaching the 100 level. They will receive them at Friday assembly. The children are:

Kindergarten:	Jonathan & Reinhart	Year 1:	Matthew
Year 3/4:	Alice & Angela	Year 5/6:	Stephanie & Jade

It is interesting to note that these children are siblings and come from 4 families. Reading together as a family can be one of the most important activities to share together. Mrs O'Rourke (Teacher Librarian)

Canteen

Please see attached note for Canteen for tomorrow. Thank you to the following parents who will be helping in canteen next week:

Monday, 1st June
Mrs Ocampo & Mrs De Sagun

Friday, 5th June
Mrs Fletcher & Mrs Moriyama-Cox