Dear Families,

St Martin’s has so much talent – the children, the parents and the staff. The judges – Mrs Hallinan, Miss Riley, Mrs Forster, Bianca Zammit (Catholic Care) and Mr Nicolaou had a very difficult time deciding on winners from the 20 fantastic items. The children had put hours of practise into their items and it showed in the great performances.

Thank you Leanne Schramm for organising this ‘event of the year’ with over 230 tickets sold again this year. Leanne coordinated a team of parents who helped with auditions, music, setting up, packing up, back stage, sound and lighting, encouraging, and performing – thanks to each of you and especially Bronwyn Keller, Amanda Kiersey, Bec Dearing, Nicole Barstow, Sue Walker, Anna Gordon, Josie Baker, Louise Howells (MC), Michael Herbert (Sound equipment) and Kurt Schramm (sound and lighting). Thank you to Year 5 parents for coordinating the refreshments for the night. Thank you to Louise Howells for keeping the audience entertained throughout the night and particularly between stage changes.

Looking back over the year we are very grateful that parents have been involved in so many aspects of our school life – literacy groups, science support, guest speakers, classroom help, excursions, gala days, athletics and swimming carnivals, welcome committee, school promotion, children’s social events, school band support, grounds working bees, tuck mufti, flexi-canteen, parent’s social events, book club, meal help, uniform shop, class parents, School Advisory Board and P&F executive roles, just to name a few.

Our staff would like to thank you for the support you have given St Martin’s School by volunteering this year. Our “Thank you evening” will start at 7 pm with light refreshments before the P&F meeting on Tuesday 25 October. If you can join us for the “thank you evening” please RSVP to the school office. Hopefully many of you will be able to stay for the P&F meeting featuring guest speakers Sam and Alex from CommPow, with a chance to chat to them during the second refreshment break and participation in the AGM at 8:30 pm. I look forward to seeing you at the P&F meeting and “thank you evening” next week.

Kind regards,
Helen Leigh
Principal
Mission and Pastoral Care News

End of Term Class Prayer:

It has been wonderful to have so many parents and friends join us for our end of term class prayer. This is a simple way to connect with our children and our faith. Just taking the time to reflect for a few minutes is so important in our busy lives.

St. Martin’s Feast Day:

All Families and friends are invited to attend St. Martin’s Feast Day Parish Mass on Sunday 6th November. Please see note below from the Parish Bulletin.

FEAST OF ST MARTIN DE PORRES

Please join us at the special time of 9.00 am on Sunday 6 November at St Martin’s for this whole-of-parish event as we celebrate the Feast Day of one of our parish’s patron saints.

Morning tea will follow.

PLEASE NOTE: THERE WILL BE NO OTHER MORNING MASSES IN OUR PARISH THIS DAY.

This means that the 8.30 am Mass at St Martin’s, the 9.00 am at St Anthony’s & 10 am at OLGC are cancelled that day.

However the Vigil and Sunday evening Masses are unchanged.

The School will also celebrate St. Martin’s special day on Thursday 3rd November beginning with Mass at 9:15am.
OUTDOOR SACRED SPACE:

Plans for this space are well underway. We would love more people to come on board so please contact me if you are interested.

A big thank you to Gabby and Mick Cramp who have been working hard planning and researching for materials. This will be a multi-use space for liturgy, spirituality and mindfulness and will be a very special asset for our school. Stay tuned for the Sacred Space working bee— we hope for many volunteers on this day!

PASTORAL CARE NEWS:

PBL

Positive Behaviours for Learning

A reminder that our three school rules are:

- Care for Learning
- Care for Self and Others
- Care for the Environment

Please take the time to discuss the school rules with your children this week.

This fortnight’s focus is:

- Care For Your Appearance
KIDSMATTER:

A reminder that St. Martin’s is a Kidsmatter School. What does this mean? Please find below some information about Kidsmatter and links to some other great family mental health resources.

KidsMatter is an Australian mental health and wellbeing initiative set in primary schools and early childhood education and care services. It's unique because it brings together all the most important people in a child's life - especially families!

Research clearly shows that children who are mentally healthy are better able to meet life's challenges. They are also better learners and have stronger relationships.

Good mental health in childhood lays the foundations for the future, and it is never too early for families to start supporting the mental health of children.

Why it is needed?

Mental health and wellbeing is vital for learning and life. Children who are mentally healthy learn better, benefit from life experiences and have stronger relationships with family members, school staff and peers. Good mental health in childhood also provides a solid foundation for:

- managing the transition to adolescence and adulthood
- engaging successfully in education
- making a meaningful contribution to society.

School is the most significant developmental context, after family, for primary school-aged children. Schools play a crucial role in building children's self esteem and sense of competence. They can also act as a safety net and assist in protecting children from circumstances that affect their learning, development and wellbeing.

Schools, working closely with families and the community, are key environments for comprehensively supporting children's mental health and wellbeing.

As a national initiative, KidsMatter Primary, through its national and state and territory teams, provides a range of resources and support to all interested primary schools. These are provided free of charge. KidsMatter is funded by the Commonwealth Department of Health.

The following are links to valuable resources for families to access in regards to mental health and wellbeing. Please contact the school if you require further information about available resources.
History Workshop:

On the last day of Term 3 students in Year 3-6 were lucky to take part in a ‘Living History’ workshop called: Knights in Shining Armour.

This was enjoyed by all but was also a vital link to the learning objectives in our new History Syllabus:

Students will-

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develop knowledge and understanding about the nature of history and key changes and developments from the past

develop knowledge and understanding about key historical concepts and develop the skills to undertake the process of historical inquiry.

The workshop exposed students to a range of sources and historical terms and concepts.

Have a great week,
Pip Smith (Acting REC)
Lost Property

Found after M Factor – Girls size 6 Summer Uniform – No Name Tag – Please collect it from the Office if it is yours. Please check the lost property box outside the office if you are missing any other items of uniform.

Fees

All standard fees are now due. Please be advised that the Office has been requested by CSO to contact overdue accounts over the next few weeks.

Ticks

Tick season is upon us! Although the school sprays for ticks each year, as an added measure you might like to use a daily tea tree or similar product to repel ticks and insects.

Leaving Students

If you have a child in K-5 and are not returning next year, please advise the Office in writing with the date of leaving and the name of the new school.

Bus Passes

If your child is in Year 2 and going into Year 3 next year, you will need to complete a new Bus Pass Application. Please complete this online, print off and bring into the Office. We will authorise and return the forms to STA around the middle of November.


FROM THE OFFICE

ASSEMBLY AWARDS THURSDAY 20TH OCTOBER 2.40PM

Alex Coutinho       Jack Amato         Oliver Gambrill
Alyssa Sorbara     Jasmine Baker     Olivia Howell
Amelia Ianni       Jhai Ballesty     Reagan Miller
Anya Valancia      Kate Quillan      Ryan Danielian
Bronte Leel        Liam Haines       Sami Horne
Charlie Lill       Lucas Novosel     Sanctus Mackenzie
Chloe Fenech       Luken Gandia Gordillo
Christopher Pereira Massimo Bivona  Savannah Brine
Cohen Leonard      Matthew Danielian
Grace Ianni        Max McGregor      William Howell

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BIRTHDAYS

Happy birthday to the following children who are celebrating their birthdays this week and in the next week:

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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Year</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>19</td>
<td>Cooper Ballesty</td>
<td>Year 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22</td>
<td>Sam McGregor</td>
<td>Kindergarten</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23</td>
<td>Brianna Juhasz, Lucas Novosel</td>
<td>Year 1, Year 3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

SCHOOL BANKING NEWS

New School Banking rewards now available!

Exciting new Term 4 rewards with an Outback Savers theme are now available, while stocks last!

Bush Fly Fan  Wriggly Glow Worm

For every deposit made at school students will receive a silver Dollarmites token. Once students have individually collected 10 tokens they can redeem them for exclusive School Banking reward items in recognition of their regular savings habits. There are two new items released each term so be sure to keep an eye out for them!

Thank you for supporting the School Banking program and remember, School Banking day is every Thursday.

There will be a cut off date for ordering rewards and stock on the School Banking Portal this year. Please be advised that last orders must go through the Portal on **1st of December 2016**. Students with 8 tokens or more will be asked to pick a reward item by this date. Note that you must provide a deposit alongside your choice to be eligible for pre-ordering. Students missing out on rewards, will be able to order them again from the first day of the first term of the 2017 school calendar.

School Banking will accept deposits until the 15th of December.
Library News

The Scholastic Book Fair is coming to our school library again this year, running from Tuesday 8th - 15th November. Further details will be highlighted in our next newsletter.

Angie Debien
Teacher Librarian

Diary Dates

| October 20 | 8am Yr 5 Debating Training  
| 9.15am Mass (K)  
| Mission Mass Waitara (Senior Leadership Team - Mission)  
| 2.40pm Assembly  
| 3.30pm Yr 6 Debating (Mater Maria)  
| 7pm School Advisory Board Meeting  
| 21 | RSVP’s due for P&F Thank you evening and P&F Meeting and AGM  
| 25 | 7pm Thank You Evening for P&F Volunteers and AGM  
| 27 | 9-10.30am 2017 Kindergarten Transition followed by Pickles pop up shop  
| 9.15am Mass (Yr 1)  
| 2pm Reconciliation (Yr 6)  
| 3.30pm Yr 6 Debating (Mater Maria)  
| November 2 | 1.15pm Warringah Mall Concert band and Choir  
| 3 | 8am Yr 5 Debating Training  
| 9.15am St Martin de Porres Feast Day Mass  
| 6 | 9am St Martin de Porres Feast Day Family Mass (K-6)  

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St Martin's Primary School, Davidson
Chess Championship 2016

Prize Winners

Tournament run on Thursday 15th September, 2016
Arbitred by Devan Cloutton

Trophies:
1st Place  Andrea Mury  6/6
2nd Place  Oliver Gambill  5/6
3rd Place  Luka Karchar  5/6

Medals:
Best Yr 4 Player  Christopher New  4.5/6
Best Yr 1 Player  Ethan Shallow  3.5/6
Best Girl  Eden Russell  3.5/6
Best Junior Girl  Georgia Gordon  3/6

We hope that you enjoyed the 2016 St Martin's Primary School Chess Championship.
For all other tournament enquiries please visit our website:
sydneyacademyofchess.com.au/tournaments

Level 1 30A George St, Burwood 2134
Office: (02) 9745 1170

CHESS!!

Learn to be a chess champion! Coaching for students at St Martin's Primary School (Davidson) is held on Monday, 10 October 2016 from 7.30am to 8.30am.

Learning and playing chess helps children develop their logical thinking and problem solving skills, improves their concentration and focus, while also being a great source of enjoyment. Activities include group lessons on a demonstration chess board or interactive whiteboard, puzzle solving and fun practice games.

Students earn merit awards by making checkmates, or by displaying skills and positive qualities, which all good chess players strive to develop.

If your child is interested in taking part, you can collect an enrolment form from the school office, or email enrol@sydneyacademyofchess.com.au for a copy. For all enquiries, please contact Sydney Academy of Chess on (02) 9745 1170.

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Dear Participating Schools,

We would like to thank you for participating in Forestway School Rewards. The promotion was from Wednesday 3 August until Wednesday 14 September 2016. Response from our community was fantastic. Both young and old all seemed to get involved in supporting their local schools. We are pleased to announce . . .

The Winning Schools Are:

1st Prize: $2,500 Frenchs Forest Public School
2nd Prize: $1,000 Wakehurst Public School
3rd Prize: $500 Mimosa Public School

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Save the Day - Sunday 27th November! Well save the morning at least......

Over the last year the P&F has been looking for how we can engage in a community event to assist with fund raising for the school. I am pleased that we have been able to make some progress with this endeavour. This year we are partnering with the Bare Creek Trail Run

http://www.barecreektrailrun.com/ as our first step down this path.

How is this going to work?

The Race Committee for Bare Creek have indicated that they will donate 10% of ticket sales back to the school, where the entry is clearly marked to have come from St Martin’s. Also if we can manage to encourage more than 200 people to enter and nominate St Martins as the referral pathway an additional sum will be paid to the school. This is the first year where the Race Organizers have adopted this model and there is certainly room to negotiate next year. To help improve our position it would be great to generate as much interest as possible and as many entrants as possible from the school and school community.

What can you do to help?

There is a run/walk for everyone, with 2km, 6km and 10km events on offer. It would be great if as many of the school’s families could come along and take part in one of these events. Grandparents, extended families, next door neighbours are all welcome! If we could get 2 people from every family in the school to enter one of the events then we would easily reach our target of 200 people from the St Martins community. Just make sure that you mention St Martins in the referral area. Click on this link to Enter Here. Also send an email to smd.pfexec@gmail.com letting us know if you have been able to enter, with the number of people so we can follow up with the Race Committee after the event. Maybe the kids could generate some entries from your street. There are lots of ways we can build a broad based community support. Finally there is a special early bird rate up until the 15th of October so enter early and save some money.

I have run this course before and it is a great part of the bush for a run or a walk, just across the valley from our school. I really encourage you to come and join me and hopefully many other St Martin’s families on the day. This partnership has great potential and you get to enjoy a great part of our local environment.

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You are very welcome to come and play at

St Martin’s Playgroup

Mondays from 9am – 10am

147 Prahran Avenue
Davidson 2085

This informal playtime will be held in our new playground (weather permitting). Bring a snack for your child if you wish and we will make you a tea or coffee.

Tel: 9452 2022 for more information – otherwise just turn up!