Dear Parents

Last night the Staff of St Martin’s School thanked parents who have helped the school this year and those who have been involved for many years at the annual “Thank you night”. Cathy and Andrew Walbank have been volunteering for a number of jobs for 16 years and Dom and Susanne Bragge have worked continuously for 10 years to help our school, and many other families were given a special thanks last night for their contributions over the years.

Lisa Arcus has stepped down as our P&F Secretary after three years and will be greatly missed in this role. Thank you Lisa for keeping us organised with agendas, meeting invitations and minutes as well as your continuously positive approach.

Our new P&F executive team is Scott Howells (President), Michelle Hrnjak (Vice President), Fiona Yaglipinar (Secretary), Con Koudsy (Treasurer), and Maria Mury (Diocesan Parent Council Representative).

Many of the other committee positions on the P&F were filled last night. There are still a few places where you could offer to do “just one thing”. This year nominations will be taken for the positions for Class Parent Representatives over the next few weeks. Later in the year, once Class Teachers have been finalised, parents who have nominated will be invited by the staff to those positions.

Staff

At the end of last week Mrs Shine let the staff know that she has decided to retire at the end of this year. Mrs Shine has taught at St Martins for many years and closer to the end of the year we will celebrate her long career in education and particularly the many areas of contribution to St Martins Community.
Mission Mass

Jarryd, Georgia and Sarah – Mission Senior Leadership Ministry – attended Mass at the Cathedral last week and watched a moving story about children in Cambodia, who are not as fortunate as our children are.

In the poorest and most disadvantaged communities of Cambodia, and other developing countries all across the world, children are always the most vulnerable.

Many cannot attend school because they have to care for their younger siblings while their parents work long hours to earn barely enough to survive. Some children are even forced to work themselves to help support the family.

St Martin’s Playgroup

St Martin’s Playgroup is a relaxed way to meet other parents and to help children to learn new skills. If you have young families in your street, please extend an invitation to them to attend from 9 am – 10 am on Mondays (weather permitting).

I look forward to seeing you at the St Martin’s Feast day celebrations on Thursday 3 November and at the 9:00 am Parish Family Mass on Sunday 6 November.

Kind regards,
Helen Leigh
Principal
**Semester 2 School Reports:** Semester 2 School Reports will again be emailed home in December. Over the next few weeks, children will be undergoing a range of assessment tasks in class to ascertain their academic development for the second half of the year. These will include on-line English and Mathematics testing. However, it is more common these days for teachers to use student work samples from the whole of the second semester to monitor student progress across all subject areas.

**Peninsula Debating Competition:** Our school debating team unfortunately came second in their first round debating match last week. They argued the topic “that people who drive should plant a tree.” Well done debaters.

**Christmas Concert:** This year’s Christmas Concert will be held here at St Martin’s on Friday 11th November. The students will be presenting “The Magical Christmas Jigsaw”.

**Formal Assembly:** The next formal assembly will be on Thursday, 3rd November at 2:30pm. Family and friends are most welcome to attend.

Christopher Biefeld  
Assistant Principal

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**Diary Dates**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>October 27</td>
<td>9-10.30am 2017 Kindergarten Transition followed by Pickles pop up shop</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>9.15am Mass (Yr 1)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>2pm Reconciliation (Yr 6)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>3.30pm Yr 6 Debating (Mater Maria)</td>
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<tr>
<td>November 1</td>
<td>3.15pm Manly Utd Soccer Week 2</td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>1.15pm Warringah Mall Concert, Training band and Choir</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>8am Yr 5 Debating Training</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>9.15am St Martin de Porres Feast Day Mass</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2.30pm Assembly</td>
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<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>9am St Martin de Porres Feast Day Family Mass (K-6)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>3.15pm Manly Utd Soccer Week 3</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Book Fair Commences</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
St. Martin’s Feast Day:

All Families and friends are invited to attend St. Martin’s Feast Day Parish Mass on Sunday 6\textsuperscript{th} 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 bring a plate to share.

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 3\textsuperscript{rd} 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!
Family Prayer Bag

Thank you for the ongoing support for the family prayer bags. This is an important faith connection between the school and the family. Below are some images and examples of special intentions Year 1 students have recorded in the prayer book.

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Dear God thank you for my mum, dad, brothers and sister. Thank you for the love and care they show me. Amen.

Zach, Eden

Dear God thank you for the beautiful world.

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![Family Prayer Bag Image]
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:
- Be Prepared and Do Your Best

KIDSMATTER:

Social and emotional learning

Supporting children’s social and emotional development

Social and emotional learning for students is the second KidsMatter Primary component area.

Social and emotional learning is about developing the ability to care for others, make responsible decisions, establish positive relationships, and handle challenging situations. (*Collaborative for Academic, Social, and Emotional Learning*, 2003)

As a Kidsmatter School, St. Martin’s values the academic, social and mental health benefits of developing student SEL skills. These skills are explicitly taught in PDH/PBL lessons and embedded in all academic subjects including Religious Education. These are specific skills that can be taught and that students can learn through modelling and practicing.

There is a continuum of skills relevant to student developmental age.

Learning excellence in a caring community

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What is SEL? (Personal & Social Capability)

Social
- Understanding other people

Emotional
- Knowing our self

Learning
- SEL can be taught & learnt

The Melbourne Declaration on the Educational Goals for Young Australians (MCEETYA 2008)

Recognises that personal and social capability (SEL):

- assists students to become successful learners, improve academic learning and enhancing their motivation.
- Needs to be addressed in all learning areas and at every stage of a student’s schooling.

For more information on the benefits of SEL please visit the following link on the Kidsmatter Website:

Families matter

https://www.kidsmatter.edu.au/families

https://healthyfamilies.beyondblue.org.au/home

PARISH BULLETIN

Please find attached the link to the latest edition of the Parish Bulletin http://www.ffcp.org.au/parish-news/parish-bulletin

Learning excellence in a caring community

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In week 1 of this term Year 6 were privileged to have the opportunity to work with Mr David Ella (CSO Education Officer for Aboriginal Education and Indigenous students). The students created an outdoor artwork for the school which is centred around the traditional Aboriginal meeting place. This artwork was a Year 6 end of year community activity but also helps to meet the NSW K-10 Syllabus “Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander histories and cultures cross-curriculum priorities”.

Have a peace-filled week,

Pip Smith (Acting REC)
Happy birthday to the following children who are celebrating their birthdays this week and in the next week:

October 27 Ethan Shallvey Year 1

Issue 7 of Book Club was sent home to all students last week.

Orders and payment **due by Thursday 3rd November** using the LOOP (Linked Online Ordering and Payment) system as detailed in the scholastic brochure. No cash or paperwork should be returned to the school office for book club purchases. Don't miss the special offers in this issue!

Please forward any questions to Bec Russell

Becandruss@hotmail.com

New School Banking rewards now available until 1st December!

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 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.
Our annual Scholastic Book Fair will be held on Tuesday 8th November until Monday 14th November in our school library.

We are very excited, as this event is only a few weeks away! Families will be given the opportunity to browse through some of the latest titles, book packs and a variety of stationary items. These fabulous Scholastic items can be purchased and taken home for your children. A percentage of the Book Fair proceeds goes right back to our school in the form of book commission.

If you are interested in making a book donation to our school, a table will be set up in the library with a range of books for you to choose from.

Students will be given the opportunity to browse through the books on offer on the afternoon of Tuesday 8th November during their library time and during the lunch hour. Students from year 3 - 6 will be given a wish list, which they can complete and take home to show parents. Students in Kindergarten, Year 1 and Year 2 are encouraged to bring along their mums or dads throughout the week of the book fair to help them choose appropriate books/items. There will be more than one of each book available, however if the book your child wishes to purchase sells out, I can order more.

You can complete the credit card option on the reverse side of the wish list if you are unable to attend the book fair with your child. I will also send out a book fair flyer showing some of the books on sale which also has a credit card payment option available to parents. The payment options available are cash, Eftpos and credit card. If you are sending cash in with your child, please ensure it is sealed in a clearly marked envelope.

Please refer to the following time table for opening times:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday 8th November</td>
<td>3.15-3.45pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday 9th November</td>
<td>8.30 – 9.15 am</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday 10th November</td>
<td>8.30 – 9.15 am</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday 11th November</td>
<td>8.30 – 9.15 am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday 14th November</td>
<td>8.30 – 9.15 am</td>
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</table>

Families can make their purchases as from the afternoon of Tuesday 8th November up until the following Monday 14th November. I plan to open the book fair on the last day (Monday afternoon) from 2.00 - 3.00pm for mums and dads only. This will be a great opportunity to do some Christmas shopping without the kids!

**Book Fair Helpers**

I am looking for volunteers to help with the book fair. Please let me know if you can help during any of the times above. Your time and help would be greatly appreciated. Please fill in the section below and return the tear off slip to the office. I will organise a short training session for helpers prior to the book fair (time to be arranged).
**Book Fair Helpers 2016**

I _______________________________ would like to assist with the Book Fair on:

- Tues 8th (pm)
- Wed 9th (am)
- Wed 9th (pm)
- Thurs 10th (am)
- Thurs 10th (pm)
- Fri 11th (am)
- Fri 11th (pm)
- Mon 14th (am)
- Mon 14th (pm)

Please circle to show when you are available.

_N.B. The library will be open for families from 8.30- 9.15am (morning sessions) and from 3.15pm (afternoon sessions)._

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**We hope you can join us in making our Book Fair a big success for our school.**

Thank you for your ongoing support.

**HAPPY SHOPPING!**

Angie Debien Teacher / Librarian

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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/](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](http://www.barecreektrailrun.com/). 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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**Learning excellence in a caring community**

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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!
BRIGHTEN AN OLDER PERSON'S DAY!

ALL YOU NEED IS AN HOUR A FORTNIGHT.

THE COMMUNITY VISITORS SCHEME

IS A PROGRAM THAT MATCHES FRIENDLY

CARING VOLUNTEERS WITH OLDER RESIDENTS

LIVING IN LOCAL NURSING HOMES AND HOSTELS.

YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE TO THEIR

DAY BY VISITING AND SHARING

A CHAT AND A CUPPA.

CALL ROSEMARY 8968 5100

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