Dear Families,
Our early Christmas Concert was a huge success last Friday night with each child doing their very best performance. It was a wonderful community celebration and great to see so much support for our young performers.
Thank you to Mrs Melinda Forster, Creative Arts Teacher and Concert Director, who has worked with the children for many months to achieve the high standard and such an enjoyable concert. Our thanks also go to Mr Biefeld who also worked with the whole school to coordinate each of the rehearsals. Our staff is very dedicated and talented and ensured that each class’s item came together with costumes, music and actions – a great team effort. Thank you to Jaqueline Cleary and Dom Bragge for helping with traffic on the night.

Our next community event is the Bare Creek Trail Run. Remember to mention St Martin’s when you log on to join.
http://www.barecreektrailrun.com/
Inspire Project

“learning is a product of thinking” … Ron Ritchhard

Last week Mr Biefeld, Mrs Godfrey, Miss Riley and I represented all at St Martin’s and very proudly presented our school’s achievements so far in our “learning beyond the walls” project. St Martin’s was one of only seven schools (out of 42) to receive a grant to think big and create the best learning opportunities for our children.

Our focus has been on learning, thinking and understanding with the goal of having children who can solve problems for themselves, think creatively, connect their learning to what they already know and work collaboratively – just to name a few. We were reminded last week that for children to become good problem solvers they need us to let them have opportunities so solve their own problems along the way. The Understanding Map (link below) lists eight areas that we consider important and work towards weaving these into all our curriculum areas. This project will continue next year and we look forward to sharing more information with you.

http://www.pz.harvard.edu/sites/default/files/Understanding%20map%20circle.pdf

Learning excellence in a caring community

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Bushfire Evacuation Drill
This afternoon we have a scheduled bushfire evacuation drill. Our bushfire plan has been carefully developed in consultation with Catholic Schools Office and the NSW Rural Fire Service. Our safe place is the specially constructed library building which is equipped with emergency provisions. Your child will bring home a discussion sheet that might serve as a family conversation starter. You will notice that the information recommends that your child will be safest at school, if the school needs to have a “lock-in” for a bushfire. In this case all staff and children will not be able to leave the school until emergency officers give the “all clear”. If there was a bushfire in the area, emergency services do not want parents driving and putting themselves at risk or adding to traffic congestion. The NSW Rural Fire Service recommends that all families develop their own bushfire survival plan well in advance of the bushfire season and have useful resources on their website.

Message from Pope Francis this week

Pope Francis reminds us that our Christian vocation is one of building bridges. This call to cooperation and mutual understanding is rooted in our shared identity as children of God. Since climate change will affect everyone, we are invited to find ways to engage all people in helping to protect our common home.

“May we make God’s merciful love ever more evident in our world through dialogue, mutual acceptance and fraternal cooperation.” (Tweet from Pope Francis)

Enjoy your week,
Helen Leigh
Principal
Magical Christmas Jigsaw Concert: What a fantastic concert! The children dazzled us with their fine performances and the Year 6 students were extremely polished. Thank you to Mrs Forster for her wonderful directing and choreography. Here are some of the pictures I took during the performance.
Thursday Assembly: The next formal assembly will be this Thursday, 17th November 2:00pm. The school bands will be playing and M Factor awards presented. Family and friends are most welcome to attend.
“Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful”.

(Lk 6:36)

On 20 November 2016 the Jubilee Year of Mercy officially comes to a close. It has been a year in which the Church has been invited by Pope Francis into a focused encounter with the mercy of God. Although the Year of Mercy comes to an end, God’s mercy never ends. The merciful face of the Father continues to turn towards us, inviting an ever new encounter with the risen Jesus in the freedom of the Spirit.

With this in mind, let us acknowledge the year past, and to bless our steps forward.

We give thanks:
• for the gift of Jesus, who shows us the face of God’s mercy;
• for those who enflesh Christ’s presence in our lives, especially those in our families and friendship circles, in our neighbourhoods and workplaces.
• We thank God for the gift of Pope Francis and the ways he has encouraged and challenged us in faith.
• We give thanks for the merciful love of those who have gone before us in faith.

What can you be thankful for this year……..?

CLOSING PRAYER:

Inspired by the words of Pope Francis, we pray:

Lord God, continue to renew us by your mercy. Let us be loved by Jesus. Let us continue to live mercifully and to accompany others as Spirit-filled agents of this mercy; channels through which God can water the earth, protect all creation and make justice and peace flourish.

Amen

(Resources courtesy of Teresa Pirola:CSO)

Please follow this link to a song reflection for the Year of Mercy:

https://youtu.be/sKWah9-1LDg
FEAST of ST. MARTIN CELEBRATION:

Farewell Dance:

“We go, we fly from the people of this camp. We go, we fly, we dance.”
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:
- Use Kind Words

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Families matter

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

https://healthyfamilies.beyondblue.org.au/home
CHRISTMAS HAMPERS FOR COOLAH

It is a tradition at St. Martin’s to prepare these food and gift hampers for our St. Vincent De Paul community friends in Coolah, NSW. Thank you for your support of this vital work as we reach out to others who are less fortunate.

Location

Coolah is located on the Coolaburragundy River 487 m above sea level. It is 376 km north-west of Sydney via Mudgee or 395 km via the Pacific Highway and Merriwa. It is 109 km north of Mudgee.

Have a merciful week,

Pip Smith (Acting REC)

### Assembly Awards 2.00pm THURSDAY 17 NOVEMBER

*At our special Band Assembly this Thursday at 2pm we shall present the following awards, plus the M factor participation awards. All are welcome from 2pm in the Library.*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Abby McMartin</th>
<th>Ethan Shallvey</th>
<th>Luca D'Alessandro</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Adelaide Gepner</td>
<td>Eva Yaglipinar</td>
<td>Lucas Dearing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aidan Boulton</td>
<td>Gabby Gallo</td>
<td>Matthew Danielian</td>
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<tr>
<td>Amelia Giardina</td>
<td>Holly Calleia</td>
<td>Matthew Lill</td>
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<tr>
<td>Amelia Horne</td>
<td>Jack Rigney</td>
<td>Nicholas Ozaltin</td>
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<tr>
<td>Andre Mury</td>
<td>Josh Arcus</td>
<td>Olivia James</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ben Rigney</td>
<td>Juliette Amato</td>
<td>Rohan Chang</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brianna Juhasz</td>
<td>Kalan Miller</td>
<td>Sam McGregor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cassandra Keller</td>
<td>Lachlan Connell</td>
<td>Siena D'Alessandro</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chloe Connell</td>
<td>Lachlan Formica</td>
<td>Sienna Nyberg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Christopher Warian</td>
<td>Lili Mury</td>
<td>William Kelly</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Connor Nicolaou</td>
<td>Lily Batchelor</td>
<td>Zoe Barstow</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dylan Vlatko</td>
<td>Luca Karcher</td>
<td>Zoe Wood</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
A reminder that any uniform in good condition may be dropped at the office. Thank you.

Uniform items will be available for $5 donation each piece following the Band Assembly next week.

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Name</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>Cohen and McKenzie Leonard</td>
<td>Year 4</td>
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<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>Christian Nyberg</td>
<td>Year 4</td>
</tr>
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<td>Year 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Luken Gandia-Gordillo</td>
<td>Year 1</td>
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<tr>
<td>19</td>
<td>Harrison Banks</td>
<td>Kindy</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Nicholas Tozer</td>
<td>Year 4</td>
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**Book Fair 2016**

Our annual book fair ended yesterday. A BIG thank you to the families who came along to our Scholastic Book Fair and made it a HUGE success. The book commission money we receive from the fair will go towards many new library books.

I would like to say a special thank you to Kylie Ford, Cathy Walbank, Bernadette Chang, Bronwyn Keller, Ricardo Gandia, Sandra Wood, Kate Miller, Sue Walker and Amanda Kiersey; the wonderful parents, who helped every morning and afternoon of the book fair. We were very busy indeed and I could not have done it with out you. Your enthusiasm and assistance as always are greatly appreciated.

The students waved good bye to Clifford this week. They thoroughly enjoyed greeting our friendly canine and following him around the school over the past week.

Families who have placed a book order will receive their books, all being well, within the next few weeks. I have already sent the order through. Popular titles may take a little longer. I will let students know when the books arrive.

Parents who have requested that I hold their purchases may come and collect their books on a Monday and Tuesday.

We hope you enjoyed the Book Fair! Thank you again for your ongoing support.

**Parent Helpers**

Thank you to the many wonderful parents who have helped in the library or at home covering books this term. I am always extremely grateful for your time and support. I will organise a thankyou morning tea for the parent helpers later this term. I am currently seeking parents to assist in the library. We have many lovely new books which need to be labelled, stamped and covered. So if you have any spare time please pop in on a Monday afternoon (from 2.00-3.15pm). Please complete the tear off slip below if you are interested in helping. Thank you.

**Library News**

**PRE LOVED UNIFORM 3.15pm THURSDAY 17 NOVEMBER**

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

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Library Parent Helpers

I would like to assist in the Library on a Monday/Tuesday. (Please circle)

Signed ________________________________

Angie Debien
Teacher/Librarian

Diary Dates

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Events</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| November 17 | 8.00 Year 5 Debating Training  
9.15am Mass (Year 3)  
2.00pm Band Assembly  
3.15pm Pre Loved Uniform  
3.30pm Year 6 Debating |
| 18 | Tuck Mufti  
Year 6 Leaders to Parliament House  
| 21 | Year 6 Games Day |
| 22 | 3.15pm Manly Utd |
| 23 | 5.00pm Training Band Solo Night  
6.00pm Training Band Solo Night |
| 24 | 9.15am Mass (Year 6)  
2.00pm Reconciliation (Year 4)  
Year 6 Debating Finals  
7-8pm K/1 (2017) Planning night |
<p>| 27 | P&amp;F Bare Creek Trail Run |
| 28 | First Week in Advent Liturgy (Year 4) |
| 29 | 3.15pm Manly Utd |
| 30 | Years 3-6 Surf Ed (Freshwater Beach) |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>December</th>
<th>Event详情</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| 1        | 9.15am Mass (Year 5)  
School Banking Rewards Ordering Deadline  
6.00-7.15pm K/1 2017 Books B4 Bedtime |
| 2        | Year 6 Italian Day Excursion |
| 4        | 8.30am Family Mass (K-6) |
| 5        | Second Week in Advent Liturgy (Year 5)  
Christmas Hampers Due Please |
| 7        | K-2 Water Safety Day |
| 8        | 9-11.30am The Great Debate  
9.15am Mass (Year 4)  
2.00pm Reconciliation (Year 3) |
| 12       | Last Before School Chess  
Third Week in Advent Liturgy (Year 6)  
5.00pm Year 6 Graduation Mass  
7.00-9.00pm Year 6 Graduation Forestville RSL |
| 13       | Year 6 Reflection Day |
| 14       | K-6 Cake Celebration for Year 6  
Catholic Care OSHC Christmas Party |
| 15       | Last Day of School Banking  
PBL Reward Day (wear clothes in the colour of your house if in winning house) |
| 16       | 11.30am Strength and Gentleness Mass  
Last day of Term for Students |

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**St Martin’s Playgroup**

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!

*Learning excellence in a caring community*

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Thanks to all volunteered so far in 2017 – its greatly appreciated!

For those still thinking that they might like to help or are in a position that they can help, there’s still time!

We are still in need of volunteers for the following roles. If you can help please complete and return form to school office asap – or email Lisa Arcus at smd.pfexer@gmail.com

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class Parent</th>
<th>Please Tick</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Kindy</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 1</td>
<td>Nominations received</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 2</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Year 3</td>
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<td>Year 4</td>
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<td>Year 5</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Year 6</td>
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</table>

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Without volunteers especially for the social events, we are unable to run some of our most loved functions!
The more the merrier for these - let us know if you can help! You may even want to team up with a few mates.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Kids Social Events</th>
<th>Involves helping out with events such as M Factor</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Parent’s Social Event</td>
<td>Involves helping out with Trivia Night</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Name: ________________________________
Email: ________________________________
Phone Number: ________________________________

Years that my children will be in in 2017: ☐ K ☐ 1 ☐ 2 ☐ 3 ☐ 4 ☐ 5 ☐ 6
You’re invited!

Help us celebrate the festive season at the OSHC annual Christmas party! We have Leo Bonne, A French mime and entertainer to dazzle and amaze!

When: Wednesday 14th Dec, 3pm – 5.30pm
Where: The school hall

Dress for the occasion and have some fun. Program cost for the afternoon is $28.00 per child. Parents are welcome to join in the fun so little ones can enjoy also*

Places are limited so please let us know if you can make it!
To reserve your spot, text 0409 877 663 or email davidson.oshc@dbb.org.au

*This only applies to a child under the age of 5 who is not booked into the service for the afternoon but still wishes to participate in the festivities. They are more than welcome as long as they are supervised by an adult/guardian at all times. We cannot accept responsibility for any persons who are injured if they are not registered with us for that afternoon.
MANLY WARRINGAH BASKETBALL HOLIDAY CAMP

Mon 23rd, Tues 24th & Wed 25th January 2017
9:30-12:30 Doors open @ 9:00am
Ages 5-14 graded in small training groups
Venue: NBISC, Jackson Rd Warriewood

- Professional Guest Coaches
- Every child receives a camp t-shirt
- Professional coaching
- Competitions with great prizes

Cost: $95 (3 day camp ONLY)

Enquiries-99133622

MWBA will not accept applicants on the day.

Photos may be taken on the day of camp to place on our website. Please advise staff if you do not want your child photographed.

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