Dear Parents

I would like to thank Father George and Father Robert for their service to and leadership of this parish. Their guidance and support helps to make our school a vital part of a faith filled community.

Thank you to the staff of Sacred Heart who have provided empathy and care for their students every day as well as an excellent education. A special farewell to Miss Mitchell, Mrs Woodward and Miss Tyler.

Thank you to our courageous parents who tackle the task of bring up children in a challenging, modern environment and have chosen to help create a faith filled community here at Sacred Heart where their children can grow and flourish. Particular thanks to Juliana Johnston for her leadership of the parent community.

A very special thank you to the students of Sacred Heart for a year of love as they tackle the task of living in community, learning balance and loving each other with compassion.

Farewell to the families and students who will move on through graduation or are moving away from Mona Vale.

Thank you Mrs McBryde, Miss Tyler, Simon, Julia and Natalie for a lovely farewell mass.

Congratulations to our many ex-students who received Gold Awards, Academic Awards and Sporting Awards at the Mater Maria awards ceremony last week. We saw excerpts from their “schoolies” Cambodian House building trip led by Simon Hyland and sporting tour through Europe. Very impressive and delightful to see the wonderful young men and women our ex-students have grown into.

Events over the last few days shake us to the core and can make us look at the future in an uncertain way. One of the things I have resolved to do is to celebrate Christmas well because it is a time and symbol of peace for all people. In our Catholic tradition it is a time for Christ to enter our lives yet again. We can allow the entry of Christ by accepting others, our church attendance and our outreach to others at Christmas. We will be celebrating Christmas Eve Masses at school at 5pm and 9pm again. I hope to see you there.

I wish you all a very best for the New Year. The theme for the coming year is JOY. We have included the parish newsletter with this newsletter, sharing Father George’s thoughts on the theme.

Classes for 2015

KE Miss Jemma Euers  KP Miss Brooke Perry
1D Ms Louise De  1F Miss Elle Fisk
2B Mr Stephen Behan  2D Mrs Suzy Driscoll / Mrs Alison Thornton
3C Miss Jessica Carroll  3R Mrs Sarah Russell
4B Mrs Chris McBryde  4N Mrs Caroline McNally
5N Mrs Fiona Ngamu  5S Mrs Bernadette Sheehan
6F Mr Daniel Felsman  6W Mrs Liz Williams
Please remember to book in for your child’s assessment on the first two assessment days. **Tests are compulsory and will not be held in class time and so all families need to book their children in for their assessment on the allocated days.** This is a crucial part of the beginning school process and a benchmark where we can measure your child’s academic growth. Please see flyers in this newsletter with booking codes.

**2015 Class Parents**
A very big thank you to our class mums who have performed the valuable service of welcoming and social networking to enable everyone to feel part of the community. If you are interested in the position for next year, please contact the office.

**School Zones Notice**
Parents are reminded that even though school finishes for our children today, **school zones are in force until the end of Friday this week.**

**Helpers for Christmas Eve Mass**
Thank you to the many families who have offered to assist with setting up for Christmas Eve Mass. We will begin setting up from 10am on 24 December 2014. In previous years this has taken about an hour or so. Everyone is welcome to come and lend a hand.

A letter from our new Bishop is included in this newsletter. Should you require resources for grief and well-being during the holidays, we have links to many services on our website [here](#).

A very special farewell to you all. Thank you for your good wishes and prayers.

**Forward Planner / Return to School Dates**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tues 27 Jan</td>
<td><strong>NO STUDENTS</strong> - Staff Development Day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wed 28 Jan</td>
<td><strong>STUDENTS BY APPOINTMENT</strong> - Testing Day (make appointment via online module)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thurs 29 Jan</td>
<td><strong>STUDENTS BY APPOINTMENT</strong> - Testing Day (make appointment via online module)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fri 30 Jan</td>
<td>Year 1-6 commence</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mon 2 Feb</td>
<td>Kinder commence</td>
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Our full school calendar can be accessed on our [school APP](#) or on the [school website](#) on the Significant Dates page: [here](#).

Yours sincerely

*Julie Caldwell*

PRINCIPAL

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Positive Behaviour For Learning</th>
<th>Respectful Relationships</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Our PBL focus for this week is:</td>
<td>Our Respectful Relationships focus for this week is:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>LEARN AND LET OTHERS LEARN</strong></td>
<td><strong>SHARE SOMETHING WITH SOMEONE ELSE</strong></td>
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Being joy-filled  
“We enthusiastically celebrate all aspects of Parish life”

Each year I invite each of you to reflect on a particular theme within the context of our Parish Vision, Mission and Values. The theme I have chosen for this coming year is “joy”. Joy is not always a word that we hear associated with our Catholic faith. Instead, we tend to hear it in our society more associated with a particular way of life: Find joy in this or that product! Enjoy yourself! Rejoice in what you have! However, in the past 12 months we have seen joy return to the front of Catholic consciousness through the work of Pope Francis, which we’ll consider shortly.

We will begin our consideration of joy with Saint Paul, who tells us in his letter to Philippians to rejoice: “Rejoice in the Lord always. I shall say it again: rejoice!” (Philippians 4: 4). In addition to this, Jesus’ words in the Gospel of John also reflect on joy: “These things have I spoken unto you, that my joy might remain in you, and that your joy might be full. This is my commandment, That you love one another, as I have loved you.” (John 15:11-12). And, as indicated earlier, Pope Francis has written about joy, in his wonderful Apostolic Exhortation entitled The Joy of the Gospel. Key in Francis’ message is that joy should be returned to the centre of our Catholic faith and become an integral part of our proclamation of this faith in the world.

What is joy? The dictionary defines joy as an emotion of great delight or happiness caused by something exceptionally good or satisfying. It is also defined as a state of happiness. In our rich Catholic tradition, joy is a state of soul equated with happiness and it is also defined as one of the fruits of the Holy Spirit. To be joyful according to this definition is to live a flourishing life, not in an individual sense, but in communion with other people and with God.

Joy is not to be understood as something superficial or immature. The person who is filled with Christian joy possesses an immense treasure because they can draw on this deep wellspring to be able to smile and laugh even in the middle of the most terrible hardships and sufferings. To be clear, this is not some sort of denial that refuses to see reality as it really is or engage with the sufferings of the world and others. Joy is not an epicure. Rather, it is a characteristic which allows us to situate ourselves in 21st century Australia. Sadness is an epidemic of our times, and we are all well aware of the rising rates of depression, as well as increased stress as a result of work and other social pressures. As a consequence of this, we see less and less people walking around with smiles on their faces and joy in their heart. In part, at least, these are social sicknesses. Our culture tells us to live for ourselves, strive after what we desire (usually pleasures associated with material wealth), and that ultimately our value will be judged based on our success in such striving. The best examples of this can be found in advertising which depicts people in a joyous state as the result of having some new product or experience - a joy that is impossible for us to share, even if we ourselves can afford what we see in the commercial.

Christianity is completely opposed to this kind of selfishness, self-absorption and narcissism. Christianity demands a radical reorientation of our personal lives. We must be empty of all self-seeking, which is counter-cultural in our current context. Hence, the joy that Paul, Jesus and Pope Francis speak about is not a joy to be found where our culture would have us look. Instead, it involves a joy which only comes about when we strive to live like Jesus and to choose joy as our Tradition understands it, by living for others and not for ourselves. In this way of life, we become a gift for others, fulfill our purpose and, in so doing, become a gift to ourselves too. When we move in this direction, we can begin to make sense of what the writer of the letter to the Hebrews states: “You have loved righteousness and hated wickedness; therefore God, your God, has set you above your companions by anointing you with the oil of joy.” (Hebrews 1:9).

During a recent homily, Pope Francis said that there is no such thing as a sad Christian - stressing that it is the Holy Spirit who teaches us to love and fills us with joy. Such joy is not an individual affair. We cannot be joyous without others, and if ever that is our view it is distorted. Family life is essential. Parish family life is essential. Community is essential in order to be human and Christian. A healthy Christian is a joyful Christian, even in times of sorrow and tribulation.

Pope Francis has also said that Jesus spoke of many things, but always dwelt on three key words: “Peace, love and joy.” Regarding peace “He told us that He does not give us peace, in the same way as the world gives it to us”. Instead, He gives us a “peace forever”. Regarding love, Jesus frequently said: “that the commandment was to love God and love your neighbour”. Furthermore, “Jesus says something new about love: 11Do not just love, but remain in my love”. Regarding Joy he says; “Joy is like the sign of a Christian. A Christian without joy is either not a Christian or he is sick. There’s no other type! He is not doing well health-wise! A healthy Christian is a joyful Christian.” He said that there are Christians with faces like pickled peppers, always with these [long] faces! Some souls are also like this, this is bad! These are not Christians. A Christian without joy is not Christian. Joy is like the seal of a Christian. Even in pain, tribulations, even in persecutions.”

The Pope recalled that people would say of the early martyrs that they went towards “martyrdom as if going to a wedding feast”. This is the joy of a Christian, he said, “ who safeguards peace and safeguards love”. Peace, love and joy, “three words that Jesus left us”.

I would like to close our reflections on joy with a story about a church conference in America. At this conference, people were given helium-filled balloons and told to release them at some point in the service when they felt joy in their hearts. All through the service worshippers kept releasing balloons. At the end of the service it was discovered that most of them still had their balloons unreleased. If this experiment were repeated in our church today, how many of us would still have our balloons unreleased at the end? Many of us think of God’s house is a place for seriousness, a place to close one’s eyes and pray, but not a place of celebration. The Christian assembly is a gathering of those who are called to the Lord’s party. In the Eucharist we say of ourselves, “Happy are those who are called to his supper.” The Lord invites us to a supper, a banquet, a feast. Can you imagine a wedding feast in which everyone sits, cold and quiet?

LOVEJOY
Message from Bishop Peter

Most Rev Peter A Comensoli
Bishop of Broken Bay

STATEMENT
16 December 2014

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

This morning our communities are coming to terms with the deep pain and loss that has come at the end of the terrorising and tragic circumstances that have occurred at Martin Place.

My heartfelt prayers go out to the families of those who have lost their lives; to those injured; to those that have suffered unimaginable anguish; and to those who have worked selflessly to bring about the best outcome in this sad and violent situation.

I am conscious, too, of the distress this event has created for the people of the city of Sydney, and in the wider Australian community. May I assure you that our Catholic community stands with all our neighbours at this time, and especially applauds the various displays of interfaith solidarity.

In this Advent season, as our communities look with expectation to the coming of the Christ-child, may we hold close to our hearts those whose lives have been forever changed.

I pray that we remain committed to the cause of justice and peace, to healing and understanding, and that in the shadow of this tragedy, we may all come to know that God’s love holds us to Him.

Yours sincerely in Christ Jesus,

Most Rev Peter A Comensoli
Bishop of Broken Bay

For further information please contact:
Annie Garrett, Diocesan Communications Manager
Catholic Diocese of Broken Bay
T: +61 2 9846 0724  M: 0439 600 233  E: news@dbb.org.au  www.dbb.org.au
Dear Parents

Sacred Heart Student Maths Assessments for Years 1-6 2015 will be held on Wednesday 28th & Thursday 29th January 2015.

You can now book interviews at times that suit YOUR FAMILY BEST. Go to www.schoolinterviews.com.au and follow these simple instructions.

BOOKINGS CLOSE: FRIDAY 23rd January 2015


YEARS 1 - 6 2015
Enter THIS school event code. Then follow the 3 simple steps.

1. Enter your details
2. Choose teachers
3. Choose times

When you click finish, your interview timetable will be emailed to you automatically - check your junk mail folder if you do not receive your email immediately.
You can return to www.schoolinterviews.com.au at any time, and change your interviews - until bookings close.

Parents can change their interview bookings, any time prior to the closing date, by re-visiting the www.schoolinterviews.com.au website, and using the event code. Remember to use the same name and email address, you used when you made your original booking.

- The assessment will take approximately 30 minutes
- If you have any queries or require assistance, please contact the school office on 9999 3264.
- We ask for parents to be within the school grounds in time to collect their child from the assessment as there will be no teacher supervision before or after the assessment.
- In the event that there are no times available an assessment will be carried out during class time.
- Term 1 commences on Friday 30th January for Years 1-6
Dear Parents

Sacred Heart Student Assessments for Kindergarten 2015 will be held on Wednesday 28th & Thursday 29th January 2015. You can now book interviews at times that suit YOUR FAMILY BEST. Go to www.schoolinterviews.com.au and follow these simple instructions.

BOOKINGS CLOSE: Friday 23rd January 2015


KINDERGARTEN 2015
Enter THIS school event code. Then follow the 3 simple steps.

1. Enter your details
2. Choose teachers
3. Choose times

When you click finish, your interview timetable will be emailed to you automatically - check your junk mail folder if you do not receive your email immediately. You can return to www.schoolinterviews.com.au at any time, and change your interviews - until bookings close.

Parents can change their interview bookings, any time prior to the closing date, by re-visiting the www.schoolinterviews.com.au website, and using the event code. Remember to use the same name and email address, you used when you made your original booking.

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<tr>
<th>CLASS</th>
<th>TEACHER/S</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>KE</td>
<td>Please select either Miss Jemma Euers or Mrs Jayne Wheen for your child’s assessment</td>
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<tr>
<td>KP</td>
<td>Please select either Miss Brooke Perry or Mrs Emma Woodward for your child’s assessment</td>
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- The assessment will take approximately 45 minutes
- If you have any queries or require assistance, please contact the school office on 9999 3264.
P&F News

Thank you to all those that enjoyed having a cup of tea with us last Friday, it was so lovely to have the opportunity to say thank you to so many people.

Before the end of the year wraps up we would like to bring your attention to The Athlete’s Foot flyer that came home this week when purchasing your children’s school shoes and sports shoes for next year. Please consider shopping at The Athlete’s Foot during the holidays and mention that you are part of the Sacred Heart community and a donation will be made to the school for every pair of shoes sold. This offer is not only available to students but parents as well. You can find The Athlete’s Foot at Warriewood Square shopping centre.

Lastly from all the P and F team we would like to thank you for your support in 2014 and wish you and your families a very Merry Christmas. We hope you all travel safely over the holidays and enjoy having some down time with the children. We look forward to seeing you back in 2015 for our Golden Jubilee year.

Merry Christmas

Lynette Suchanek - P&F Secretary (shpandf@gmail.com)
**Happy Birthday**

**Happy Birthday** from all at Sacred Heart to the following students who celebrate a birthday during the coming week and in the school holidays:

James C  
Cooper L  
Luca S  
Jonathan T  
Declan R  
Nikolas M  
William Munro  
Martin S  
Grace S  
Angelica K  
Jacqueline L  
Felicity T  
Lucinda T  
Samara T  
Kiara K  
Emersen B  
Alyssa L  
Renae B  
Georgia J  
Ashmita K  
Carla F  
Anelise F  
Emma T  
Alice T  
Natalie M  
Maya K  
Amy E  
Angelina G  
Ella K

**School Awards**

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>KN</td>
<td>Charlie M, Izzy A, Bella L</td>
<td>KP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1F</td>
<td>Luca O, Molly M</td>
<td>1T</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2D</td>
<td>Charlotte M, Malia M, Annelise S, Milana G</td>
<td>2M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3R</td>
<td>Olivia W, Ryan O</td>
<td>3W</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4F</td>
<td>Alex B, Sienna B</td>
<td>4M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5B</td>
<td>Andie H, Zoey M</td>
<td>5S</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6M</td>
<td>Ruby-ose U, Abby R</td>
<td>6W</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3-6S</td>
<td>Jeremy R, Joel B</td>
<td></td>
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</table>

**Community Awards:** Cameron D, Ruby R, Martin S, Thomas N

**Morning Kiss & Drop Zone Roster**

Thank you to all the volunteers on our Kiss and Drop morning roster. If you would like to be on the 2015 roster, please contact Selina Nichols: 0416 157 198 or email nicholsselina@gmail.com.

**Canteen News**

| Canteen Roster (start 9.30am - finish 1.45pm) |
|---|---|
| FRI 30 JAN | Angela S, Fiona McC, Chantal W |
| MON 2 FEB | Margaret H, Siobhan B, Kellie C |
| THUR 5 FEB | Jacqueline C, Theresa G, Emma W, Rochelle W |
| FRI 6 FEB | Angela B, Virginia T, Lucy B, Virpi T |

Hi everyone

The canteen is now closed for 2014 and will re-open on Friday 30 January 2015 for all online ordering and counter service. Please see instructions on the school website here regarding online ordering.

We would like to say thank you to our many volunteers that have supported us throughout the year. We appreciate your time and look forward to seeing you in 2015.

To all the families of Sacred Heart, may we wish you a very happy Christmas and fun holiday time.

*Kay & Marie – Canteen Coordinators*
Volunteering at school – with the introduction of new working with children rules last year, we had requested all parents who volunteer in the school complete a new Declaration for Volunteers. The office holds **136 current Declarations**.

**In 2015 parents will not be able to volunteer at school without a current Declaration.** This will include canteen, excursions, library, sport days, incursions and helping in classrooms. If you are unsure whether you have a current Declaration on file at school, please telephone the school office. You can download a Parent Volunteer Declaration Form from our school website [here](#).

Medication held in sick bay - we ask parents to take responsibility for noting expiry dates of medications supplied to the school. Please ensure your child’s medication is in original packaging and labelled with student’s name and dosage. If you do not have a record of the expiry date on your child’s medication, please telephone the school office.

School Buses – information on bus numbers and routes can be found on the Sydney Buses website [here](#). Select Sacred Heart from the drop down menu and navigate.

Children who currently hold a bus pass for 2014 will automatically receive a new pass for 2015 **EXCEPT CURRENT YEAR 2 STUDENTS**. Year 2 students **MUST RE-APPLY** to receive a pass for 2015 (if he/she is eligible). If your child is eligible, you will have received an application form which must be returned to the school office no later than **Monday, 1 December 2014** for processing.

School App – Download links and Tip Sheet


Tip Sheet for the app can be found [here](#).

Email - All correspondence from the school is now sent home via email. If you find you are no longer receiving our emails, your mailbox could be full.

New Privacy Laws – with the introduction of new privacy laws in Australia, the CSO has advised we are **no longer** allowed to provide parents with a “Class Contact List”, as we have done in the past (ie parents’ phone numbers).

Birthdays / Ice Blocks - we request ice blocks only be brought in on canteen days when we can store them in large freezers, ie **Mon, Thurs and Fri. Ice blocks and cupcakes can only be brought to celebrate a birthday (no other purpose please).**
Pittwater Council Notice – New Parking Restrictions

CHANGES TO PARKING - TERM ONE, 2015
WARATAH STREET AND KEENAN STREET
Mona Vale Public School and
Sacred Heart Catholic Primary School

Pittwater Council is working with Mona Vale Public School and Sacred Heart Catholic Primary School to implement changes to the current parking arrangements on Waratah Street and Keenan Street. These changes will assist with traffic flow and will allow for a higher turnover of vehicles during the peak AM and PM periods.

Families from both schools are being asked to use the "NO PARKING - STOP, KISS AND LEAVE" zones on the side of the road where your child's school is located. If this is not possible, then your child must use the supervised pedestrian crossings on Keenan Street and Waratah Street to reach their school.

Parents must not risk their child’s safety by allowing them to cross Waratah Street or Keenan Street to reach their school at any other location other than the supervised pedestrian crossings. Drivers can use the roundabouts on Waratah Street to circulate through the school zone.

WHAT IS CHANGING?
1. The current P2 and P5 "Stop, Kiss and Leave" zones on Waratah Street (both sides) and Keenan Street are being removed and replaced with "NO PARKING 8AM-9.30AM - 2.30PM-4PM, SCHOOL DAYS ONLY".

2. The Waratah Street "NO PARKING ZONE" on the Mona Vale Public School side of the road will be extended for the AM drop-off period. This will allow for an additional three cars to use this space between 8am-9.30am, school days only and will remove the current unrestricted parking during the peak AM period, which is in place until 2.45pm.

3. The existing AM and AM/PM school bus zones on Waratah Street will be swapping locations. The existing unrestricted parking in place until 2.30pm will be removed and replaced with "NO PARKING 8AM-9.30AM, SCHOOL DAYS ONLY". This will allow for an additional three cars to use this space for the morning drop-off.

4. The existing 1P parking will be removed on Keenan Street (Woolworths side) and replaced with a P5 "STOP, KISS AND LEAVE" zone between 8-9.30am - 2.30-4pm, school days only". You can only park here for a maximum of 5 minutes.

HOW DO WE USE THE "NO PARKING" ZONE?
- The driver must remain within 3 metres of the vehicle.
- Drivers are only permitted to stop here for 2 minutes to drop off and pick up passengers.
- "NO PARKING" will be in place between 8am-9.30am and 2.30pm-4pm, school days only. Outside of these times unrestricted parking will apply.
- School zone parking offence - Rule 168 (1) - $173 fine and 2 demerit points.
- In the afternoons, arrive after the bell has gone and allow time for your child to reach the "NO PARKING" zone. If your child is not waiting to be collected, do not stop - please continue to circulate through the roundabouts and approach the "NO PARKING" zone again.
- If you need to walk your child into school, then you must park elsewhere, such as the Keenan Street P5 Zone, Woolworths carpark or the Bungan Lane carpark (opening late 2014).

"NO PARKING" zones provide a safe place for children to be dropped off and picked up and allow for a high turnover of vehicles. It works, if everyone follows the rules and does the right thing.