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Principal: Mrs Regina Goodridge

**IMPORTANT DATES:****THIS WEEK (6):**

- 1/3 - Shrove Tuesday  
Pancake fundraiser
- 2/3- Ash Wednesday
- 2/3 - ZUMBA with Tracy

**NEXT WEEK (7):**

- 7/3 - Dio Swimming  
Carnival @ Condobolin
  - 8/3 - P & F AGM 6pm
  - 9/3 - ZUMBA with Tracy
- TERM 1**
- 16/3 -ZUMBA with Tracy
  - 17/3 - St Patrick's Day -  
Bishop Columba visit
  - 18/3 - Assembly @ 2:40
  - 19/3 - St Joseph's Day
  - 22/3 - Polding  
Swimming Trials at  
Homebush
  - 23/3 -ZUMBA with Tracy
  - 24/3 - NAPLAN Practice  
Test
  - 25/3 - Annunciation of  
the Lord
  - 30/3 -ZUMBA with Tracy
  - 6/4 - ZUMBA with Tracy
  - 7/4 - Easter Hat Parade/  
Family Picnic
  - 7/4 - Assembly
  - 8/4 - Marathon Health  
Hearing Clinics
  - 8/4 - Last day Term 1

Dear families and friends,

Over the last few weeks the teachers have been working one on one with each student to assess their skills, strengths and next steps for learning. For many years now we have been administering the Mathematics Assessment Interview (MAI) at the beginning of each year to ascertain student achievement and numeracy skills. The data from this assessment guides our Numeracy groups, teaching and learning programs and individual goal setting. In Literacy, we use many different assessments to gain information about student learning.

During the first week of school this year the staff participated in DIBELS training. DIBELS is a research based assessment that measures how students are performing in the key areas of learning to read. As a staff we use the data from these assessments to monitor each child over the year and plan learning activities to help students make further progress. As part of our participation in the Early Literacy Project in 2019, we have also been using another assessment, the Early Literacy Screening Tool, to monitor phonological awareness, phonemic awareness and phonics. I have included more information about DIBELS within this newsletter.

The Diocesan Swimming Carnival was postponed from today to next Monday due to the weather forecast.

Next week we will hold our P & F AGM on Tuesday, 8th March. All positions will be declared vacant. I hope to see you all there - the attendance at the 2021 AGM was wonderful.

Kind Regards,

Regina  
Principal

*She*  
IS CLOTHED IN  
*strength*  
AND  
*dignity.*  
AND SHE  
*laughs*  
WITHOUT FEAR  
OF THE FUTURE.

## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION MESSAGES: Miss Brooke Hanns

This week marks the beginning of Lent where we are called to pray, fast and give in order to prepare for Easter. At this time each year, our Mini Vinnies team fundraises for Caritas Australia, an organisation who support vulnerable communities around the world to tackle poverty, food security, education, water, sanitation and disaster risk reduction. Their 2022 Project Compassion theme “**For All Future Generations**” reminds us that the good we do today will extend and impact the lives of generations to come. We thank you in advance for supporting our Mini Vinnies team in their fundraising efforts.

**Staff will be selling pancakes and toppings tomorrow (Shrove Tuesday) from the canteen for \$2.50.**



## PARISH NOTICES



### LENTEN GROUP

There will be a Lenten group on each Tuesday, at 9.30am starting 8th of March at Boatswain House. If you would like to attend you are most welcome.

Parish Council AGM Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> March  
Have you considered nominating for the Parish Council? If you wish to nominate, please have your nomination in writing to Donna Kopp (Secretary) by Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> March.

World Day of Prayer, Friday 4th March at 7pm St Stephen's Anglican Church Peak Hill

### Important Dates

- 2nd March: 5pm - **Ash Wednesday Mass**
- 4th March: World Day of Prayer
- 13th March: Parish Council AGM
- 14th March: MASS OF HOLY CHRISM
- 17th March: St Patrick's day
- 20th March: Tridentine (Latin) Mass Sunday
- 25th March: Annunciation of the Lord

*Project Compassion Money boxes and envelopes available at the back of the church*

## SCHOOL COMMUNITY COVID CASES

- ❖ Our school has been advised of a total of seven positive cases of COVID-19 within our school community since Saturday. Students and staff who have been at school at the end of last week may have had contact with a person who was infectious with COVID-19. Thank you to everyone for being proactive when monitoring for symptoms, testing, keeping students home who are unwell even if the RAT result is negative and notifying us of each personal situation.
- ❖ With at least one half of our school going to be away from school all this week, learning will be modified accordingly. Work will not be provided for students already ill or isolating as children's chromebooks are at school. This week will see students at school completing revision tasks or alternative activities. Many children will need to rest and recover without the stress of learning from home. If your child is well and you wish to access learning from home materials you can find resources on the portal below.
- ❖ **LEARNING AT HOME PORTALS** can be accessed by families if you wish:
  - ❖ [New South Wales Department of Education](#)
- ❖ You are reminded that staff and students cannot attend school if they are showing any symptoms of COVID-19. These include fever, cough, sore throat, shortness of breath, runny nose, loss of smell/taste, muscle/joint pains, diarrhoea, nausea/vomiting, extreme tiredness, unexplained chest pain or conjunctivitis (eye infection).
- ❖ If symptoms occur at any time, you should not attend school and should undertake a rapid antigen test. If a rapid antigen test is positive you/your child should isolate as someone who has tested positive to COVID-19. If you cannot access a rapid antigen test, you can attend a PCR (nose and throat swab) testing clinic. At times it may be necessary to access a PCR test if you have symptoms and the RAT result is negative. There is a drive through clinic in Parkes from 9am-12pm where you receive the results back the same day.
- ❖ Just a reminder, everyone in our school community is **strongly encouraged** to use the **RAT** supplies that have been provided to **test** regularly. Extra RATs have been sent home to students today. Thank you for your continued support to keep our community safe.

## COVID GUIDELINE CHANGES:

- **Rapid Antigen Tests:** From Monday 28th February, we will move to symptomatic testing. Tests are to be used at your discretion such as if your child is symptomatic or there are cases in their class. Our school will provide each student and staff member with 10 tests to use as necessary. Beyond that, students and staff can access PCR tests or buy their own rapid antigen tests. These tests will be handed to your child next week.
- **Masks:** Masks will continue to be required indoors for all adults until Friday 4th March. This means that from Monday 7th March, masks will no longer be mandatory for all staff. However, those who wish to continue to use them will be supported to do so.
- **Visitors:** From Monday 28th February, there will be more opportunity to welcome visitors on-site if deemed safe for our school community. St Joseph's Parish School will consider how activities such as assemblies, parent-teacher meetings and other gatherings will proceed during Term 1. We will let you know how these can proceed within our school setting in a COVID-smart way through our newsletters or Compass. All visitors are still asked to follow our usual sign-in and sign-out process.
- **Employees and Volunteers:** Any person deemed to be a paid employee or a volunteer, must ensure they are double vaccinated and continue to comply with the Public Health Order.
- **COVID Safety Measures:** Our school will continue to ensure our COVID-smart measures are in place, including vaccinations, maximising natural ventilation in learning spaces, continued good hand hygiene practices and enhanced cleaning.

## Raffle Ticket Winners

Our Week 5 winners were:

- Gloria
- Harry
- Lucia
- Calvin (absent)



CONGRATULATIONS!

## STAR OF THE WEEK:



Due to the circumstances  
this week we will not have  
a Star of the Week



## What are DIBELS?

DIBELS are measures that help teachers and schools determine how students are performing on important reading skills. DIBELS stands for Dynamic Indicators of Basic Early Literacy Skills. These measures are designed for students in grades K-8.

## What skills are measured by DIBELS and why are they important?

The critical skills necessary for successful beginning reading include: phonemic awareness, phonics, fluency, vocabulary, and comprehension. The DIBELS measures assess students on four of these five critical skills, which are often referred to as the “Big Ideas” of reading.

## How often are students assessed?

All students are given the DIBELS test three times each year; usually this occurs at the beginning of the year, in the middle of the year and at the end of the year. This school-wide testing is called benchmark assessment. Teachers may also regularly check on the progress of students who receive extra reading help to make sure their reading skills are improving. These regular checks are called progress monitoring. Students who are progress monitored may complete one or two of the individual DIBELS tests as often as once a week or as little as once every 6 weeks depending on school resources and the needs of the student.

## How much time does it take?

Each of the DIBELS tests only takes about one minute to complete. DIBELS tests are “indicators” of the student’s overall reading status, and are not intended to be in-depth or comprehensive measures of reading. DIBELS measures allow teachers to get valuable information about students’ reading skills without using large amounts of instructional time.

## How will the results be used?

A student’s scores on the DIBELS measures give the school information about whether or not a student is on track for grade-level reading success. A school can quickly identify students who do not meet the goals on each DIBELS measure and provide extra help. For example, if your child is reading words accurately, but slowly, the teacher can provide extra practice re-reading stories and passages to improve his or her reading rate or fluency. The teacher can use the progress monitoring scores to make sure your student receives extra help to improve other reading skills during the school year. Teachers can review scores on DIBELS measures for all the students in a class to make decisions about how to prepare their day-to-day reading lessons. School and diocesan staff can also study the test scores across classrooms and grade levels to make decisions about how to best use resources to make sure that every child in the school, including your child, is on track to become an accurate and fluent reader.

**Please explore the University of Oregon’s DIBELS Data System website at <http://dibels.uoregon.edu> to learn more about the importance of early literacy instruction and assessment.**



# Leaders' Induction Mass



## DRIVING SAFELY NEAR SCHOOL BUSES

There is a 40km/h speed limit for traffic passing a school bus that is setting down or picking up school children. This speed limit is for all traffic travelling in the same direction as the bus, whether the bus is stationary or moving.

Lights will flash on the front and back of the bus reminding drivers that there may be children crossing or about to cross the road.

Buses can't stop quickly because they are large and heavy vehicles. So, remember:

Reduce speed to 40km/h when bus lights are flashing

Give way to buses

Watch out for children crossing

Never park in or near a bus stop or bus zone.



## Informal school bus stops

Informal bus stops are not sign posted and are usually found in rural areas. They may be at the front of a property, or on the side of the road, which may make children difficult to see.

For more information on keeping our kids safe around schools visit the parents section on [safetytown.com.au](http://safetytown.com.au)

### FREE WOOLWORTHS CRICKET BLAST SCHOOL HOLIDAY PROGRAM:

Cricket NSW are running a **FREE** Woolworths Cricket Blast School Holiday Program at **Lindner Oval, Peak Hill on Tuesday April 12 and Wednesday April 13.**

Sessions are suitable for boys and girls aged 5-12 and will run from 10am – 1pm each day.

Participants will learn the skills of cricket through a range of activities and modified games.

To secure a place, you will need to register online here -

<https://www.playhq.com/cricket-australia/register/62faaf>

All registered participants will receive a bucket hat and shirt.

For more information

please contact [matt.ellis@cricketnsw.com.au](mailto:matt.ellis@cricketnsw.com.au)



**Peak Hill Central School**  
**TUCKERBOX MENU**  
**CANTEEN DAY EACH FRIDAY**

Vegemite or jam sandwich	\$2.50
Chicken/cheese/mayo sandwich	\$4.50
Ham/cheese/tomato sandwich	\$4.50
Salad Sandwich/Wrap	\$5.00
Salad Box with dressing	\$4.50
Chicken/ham salad Box	\$6.00

Pie and sauce	\$5.00
Sausage Roll and sauce	\$5.00
Pizzarounda	\$4.00
Pizza Single	\$3.00
Lasagne and garlic bread	\$5.00
Sweet Chili Wrap	\$6.00
Garlic bread	\$1.50
Dino Nuggets	3 for \$2.50      6 for \$4.50

Chips	\$1.50	Water	\$2.00
Custard	\$1.00	Flavoured Milk	\$2.50
Yoghurt	\$1.00	UP and GO	\$2.50
Muffins	\$2.00	Popper	\$2.50
Ice Block	\$1.00	Juice Bomb	\$2.50

LUNCH ORDERS CAN BE ORDERED BY WRITING ON A PAPER BAG  
AND PLACING IN THE SHOPPING BAGS ON ARRIVAL TO SCHOOL  
ON FRIDAY MORNINGS.

ALL ORDERS MUST BE PAID FOR AT TIME OF ORDERING.



Royal Far West and Project Sprouts, in partnership with Ronald McDonald House Charities, and supported by ARTC Inland Rail, CMOC Northparkes, and Parkes Shire Council, brings you the:

# PARKES SHIRE



## HEALTHY KIDS BUS STOP

A free health screening for 3-5 years old children  
**Monday 21<sup>st</sup> March – Friday 25<sup>th</sup> March 2022**

### WHAT IS IT?

The Healthy Kids Bus Stop is a **FREE** child health check and pathway to care program for children aged 3-5 years old. The program includes:

- ▣ Fine and gross motor skill assessment
- ▣ Speech assessment

**\*\*All children must be accompanied by a parent or guardian\*\***

### HOW DO I BOOK MY CHILD IN?

Registrations are essential. Please ask your local preschool or school for a form.

You can also Google Healthy Kids Bus Stop to fill out the online form or call Royal Far West on 0408 555 249.

### WHY ARE HEALTH CHECKS IMPORTANT?

Health checks will help identify lifestyle, development, or illness-related issues.

Having your child screened early can change a child's developmental path and improve outcomes for children, their families and community.

### WHERE WILL IT BE HELD?

Parkes – THE LEARNING CENTRE in Reid Street at Parkes East Public School. Look for the HKBS van and signage.

Contact your preschool in Trundle, Tullamore and Peak Hill for other venues.

### WHAT DO I NEED TO BRING?

- ▣ proof of vaccination



Ronald McDonald Care Mobile®



PARKES SHIRE COUNCIL