Dear Parents, Teachers and Friends,

Last Wednesday we marked the beginning of our Lenten period with Ash Wednesday masses for our Primary and Middle School classes and a liturgy in our Junior Learning Centre.

During Lent we are called to fast, repent and pray to prepare for the death and resurrection of Jesus. The biblical custom of repentance was to fast, wear sackcloth, sit in dust and ashes and to put them onto one’s head. In the early church, Ash Wednesday marked the onset of a period of sober reflection, self-examination and spiritual redirection. At first, only public penitents – those who were guilty of serious misdemeanours – received the ashes. They were made to appear barefooted at the church and perform penances for their sins. Friends and family began to accompany them, perhaps in sympathy and in the knowledge that no person is free from sin; so gradually, the ashes were given to the whole congregation. The ashes are made by burning the left over palms from last year’s Palm Sunday to give a sense of connectedness with those who have gone before us and shared the Christian tradition.

Lent is also a period where Christians are called to ‘give up’ or abstain from some of the pleasures of life as a means of sacrifice. Perhaps this Lent we might still do some of the ‘giving up’ things, such as no sugar in our coffee, but as mature Christians we should be able to look outside our own personal square and look for opportunities to be people of kindness, respect, dignity, comfort, love – true reflections of who we are called to be.

SCHOOL CAMP
The Year 7 and 8 students today went on a school camp to Coral Bay where they will explore the unique Ningaloo coast and develop collaborative relationships with their peers and teachers. We wish them all their best on their travels and we look forward to hearing about their adventures next week.

YEAR 6 PARENT INFORMATION NIGHT
There will be a Year 6 parent information night on Thursday beginning at 6:15 in the Year 6 room to discuss class procedures and expectations this year. This will be followed immediately by a parent information session regarding the 2016 Confirmation programme.
FIRST P&F MEETING 2016
All parents and friends are invited to our first P & F Meeting for this year on Thursday evening at 7:30 in the staffroom. I encourage all to attend as we have a new executive this year who are looking for ideas for this year’s activities.

EASTER BREAK
This year, the Easter break includes Easter Tuesday. Students’ last day of school for Easter will be Thursday, 24th April, recommencing school on Wednesday, 30th April.

God Bless

Steve O’Halloran
Principal

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News from the Bursar

SCHOOL FEES
Please remember to complete your Payment Options form and return it to the school. This indicates your commitment to the school with regards to your fees. Forms will be sent out with accounts to any families who have not returned their form. If you have any queries please call Anna on 99411328.

FEE CONCESSIONS
Holders of Centrelink Health Care and Pension Cards may be eligible to receive Fee Discounts. The card must be current and show the names of the children attending school. The discount can only be given to the person responsible for payment of the school fees. The discounts are available for students from Kindy to Year 10.

Secondary Student Assistance  Parents who hold either card and have children in Yrs 7 – 10 may also be eligible for the Education Dept Secondary Student Assistance. Applications for Secondary Assistance close on Friday 8th April.

All families claiming fee discounts MUST complete new forms for 2016. Please bring your card with you as we are required to sight and copy the card.

Thankyou. Anna Brooks

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St Marys Parents and Friends will meet this Thursday the 18th February at 7.30pm in the school staff room.
All welcome to attend

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Book Club
Book Club is due to the office on Wednesday 17th February. No late orders will be accepted. Thank you

Mrs Tracey Fernihough
Book Club Co-Ordinator

I ❤ Book Club
Parish Priest  This year we have only Fr Maurisz for the parishes of Carnarvon and Exmouth. From time to time there will be a visiting Priest to assist. Fr will travel to Exmouth every two weeks after the 10am Sunday Mass usually returning to Carnarvon on the Tuesday.

LENT Stations of the Cross will be held each Friday at 7pm followed by Mass.

CAN YOU PLEASE HELP?

Our School is an integral part of the Parish, and we are appealing for help from Parents to commit to the Rosters in the Church. We need names on the Reading Roster, the Power Point Roster and especially the Cleaning Roster. There is a roster sheet on the table at the back of the Church or you can leave your name with Anna Brooks if you are prepared to commit to a Roster. The more names we can have the less times your name comes around. If you can spare just 1 hour with a partner to clean the Church it would be so very much appreciated.

We do all expect the Church to be kept nice but we need people to help do this. Thank you all for considering this request.

Yvonne Fahl, Parish Council Secretary

The 2015 Year 10 Students are proud to announce that the 2016 School Calendar is now available. The calendars feature several images from each class. All proceeds raised will go towards the purchasing of a new school bus.
LOST PROPERTY

We have several items of casual clothing possibly left here after swimming lessons or Presentation Night. There is also one bath towel. Please come to the office to collect if your child is missing anything. Any clothing not collect after Friday 19th Feb will be taken to FOCUS.

There is also a collection of hats and jackets on the bench outside the office. A couple of items do not have names. Please ensure you name every article of clothing.

The Council and Staff of the Parents and Friends Federation of WA would like to welcome everyone back to the new school year. We trust that at this stage, into week 2, you are all back into the routine of lunches, uniforms and searching for those elusive permission slips at the bottom of school bags.

The staff here in the office have hit the ground running and are currently working hard to get information about our upcoming conference in May out to all schools. The dates for the conference this year are Friday 20th and Saturday 21st May. The Awards of Excellence in Building Positive School Communities will be presented at the conference dinner on Friday 21st May. Nomination forms for the Awards of Excellence are already available on our website, so get your entry in early!

We are also receiving lots of calls in the office from parents who are working hard to ensure P&F’s and parent groups get off to a good start for the year. If you need any information about office bearer’s roles, governance or just some general advice please don’t hesitate to contact us.

Theresa McDonnell, the new Liaison Officer at the Federation, has settled beautifully into our small office and she, along with Siobhan Allen (our Executive Officer) is looking forward to getting out and about and meeting with parents and parent groups in Catholic schools throughout the state. If you would like to arrange a visit from PFFWA to your school, please contact the office or email theresa@pff.wa.edu.au and we would be delighted to organise a time.

Best wishes

PFFWA Council and Staff

https://www.facebook.com/pffwa www.pff.wa.edu.au 9271 5909 103 Wood St, Inglewood, WA
RAMBLERS FOOTBALL CLUB
SENIORS AND COLTS
PRE-SEASON TRAINING

Pre-season training will begin this February and March.
Training will start at 5.30 sharp!
Tuesdays training – meet at Pelican Point car park.
Thursdays training – meet at Pioneer Park, everyone will need runners and $5 for a cool drink.

Contact:
Ryan 0431716792
Taddy 0429412233