5th February 2016

Dear Parents,

We hope that your child has enjoyed their first week at school and has shared many of their wonderful experiences with you. The aim of the Kindergarten newsletter is to inform you about what your child is doing in class and provide you with reminders for the following week. We trust that it will make your child’s transition into Kindergarten easier.

What’s happening in Kindergarten next week?

- **Religion** – We will begin our unit ‘From Ashes to Easter’ focusing on the meaning of Ash Wednesday and the liturgical season of Lent.

- **English** – The nursery rhyme focus for the week is ‘Hickory Dickory Dock’. Children are introduced to letters, words, text direction, spacing between words, full stops and capital letters. Children will be singing ‘Ants in the Apple’ to assist in developing their phonemic awareness.

- **Maths** – The focus for the week is whole number (counting, reading and writing numbers to 20).

- **Theme** – We will be beginning our unit ‘On the Move’. Children will explore movement and stillness.

Special Messages.....

- Next week school hours for Kindergarten are 8:30a.m to 2:30p.m.
- Children will line up outside the classroom in the morning from next Monday 8th February. We will not be attending the School Assembly until the following Monday (15th Feb).
- You are warmly invited to join us for the Bethany Opening School Liturgy which will be held on Friday 19th February at 9:45a.m. in the school hall.
- Next Wednesday 10th February is Ash Wednesday. It is the first day of Lent, the season of preparation for the resurrection of Jesus Christ on Easter Sunday. Kindergarten children will have a small liturgy with their teacher and other students in their classroom on this day. We will be discussing the meaning of this day with students prior to their participation in the liturgy.
- There will be a Welcome Barbeque for Kinder families, and all new families to our school, on Friday 12th February at 5:30p.m. in the school grounds. We hope you can join us!
- Newsletters and many notes are emailed directly to parents. Please ensure that the office has your correct email address, otherwise you will miss out on vital information. Please ensure you check your child’s bag daily for any other notes
which may be sent home. We ask children to keep notes in the front pocket of their bag.

- There will be a Kindergarten information night on Tuesday 16th February at 7:00p.m. This meeting will provide parents with information about routines and expectations of Kindergarten. It will be an opportunity to discuss ways in which parents can assist their children in various aspects of the curriculum, including reading, writing and numeracy.

- Kindergarten children are welcome to use the school canteen at lunch time from next week (Monday 8th February). However, please only send enough money for children to buy one food item so that they have plenty of time to eat their lunch and play with friends. Please do not send any more than $2. The school canteen will be open for lunch orders every day.

- Please ensure that lunch boxes, hats etc. are clearly labelled with your child’s name.

- Sports uniform is worn on **Monday** and **Thursday**.

- Please show your child their lunch box in the morning and remind them what to eat at recess and lunch.

- As the children continue to become familiar with school routines, we ask that you encourage your child to put their own school bag away and hand notes to their class teacher as they go into class.

- Children will be borrowing from the library from next Friday 12th February with their class teacher.

Kind regards,
Sue Neilly, Karina Sarkisian and Karen Shillito