Diary Dates

MARCH 2015

Family Mass 14th
6.00pm Mary of Galilee
PFCG Meeting – 6.30pm  16th
Learning Conversations  17th
SACPSSA Swimming Carnival  18th
Year 7 Retreat Day  19th
Sellicks Community Hall
Harmony Day  21st
Confirmation Workshop 1  24th
5.30pm
Annunciation  25th
SPORTS DAY  27th
Palm Sunday  29th
Holy Week  30th - 3rd April

APRIL 2015

Holy Thursday  2nd
Good Friday  3rd
Easter Sunday  5th
Public Holiday  6th
Easter Monday
Easter Mass  7th
9.15am
Term 1 Finishes  10th
Term 2 Commences  27th
Dear families, staff and friends of Galilee community,

Learning Conversations
The teachers are looking forward to meeting with and talking to you about your child/ren’s learning and development next week. These meetings are essential for:
- Students, parents and teachers to set goals for the year ahead
- To work together to achieve the goals and to celebrate achievements

FACT: When parents and schools both take positive responsibility for learning the results will reflect more positively than when education is not in partnership.

I remind you to continue working in partnership to support your child to meet their potential by:
- Making future meeting to help support your child
- Attend information sessions, read notes etc
- Be aware of home learning program
- Reading to, Reading with, model Reading encourage independent reading

Snakes!
As you would be aware through the text messaging services, there have been a few snake sightings at Galilee and as a result we have held Lock-Ins. The students are trained in the Lock-In procedure, including returning to the nearest building when it occurs during outside learning. Students have been very responsible in their response.

We have worked with the snake catchers since the sightings to try to catch and minimize the risks as well as establishing risk assessment and a flow chart. As a precaution a deterrent has been sprayed, and in future will have this done late September, which is the best time to reduce risk. We will continue to call the snake catchers, as removal also reduces the risk. Fortunately as the weather becomes cooler snakes will hibernate. I thank you for your understanding and we will continue to put in place processes to reduce the risk.

What are the teachers learning about?
Each Tuesday afternoon at staff meeting we have a professional development focus. A current area of focus is our work with a group of four catholic schools in SA researching learning in childhood, with a focusing on Reggio Emilia approach. Kim Calderbank and Bec Little are the key teachers, however all staff are involved. The conversation at staff meeting was very insightful, reflective and intentional. I created a Wordle from the minutes of our meeting. The larger the word, the more often it was recorded, highlighting its significance. Clearly learning and inquiry were the main focus areas, and well as words such as documentation, different, bring, involved, research, engage and understanding which were often used to consider who we are teaching and how we are teaching.

Bec and Kim are researching how to engage students more deeply in their learning so they can go beyond ‘surface level thinking’ to ‘deep thinking’. As children get older we are finding this especially significant, as they become increasingly concerned with what their peers think about what they say rather than freely expressing their thinking and ideas. This we believe inhibits their learning.

Kind Regards,
Jodie Higgins
Principal

There is information on the ‘Sports Vouchers’ programme inside this newsletter
Sports Vouchers Programme

Many of you may have heard about the Sports Voucher system and maybe wondering where your voucher is. I have contacted SA Office for Recreation and Sport, as we have not received the vouchers. They can be accessed at the website, and we will send them out as soon as they arrive.

If you have not heard about this, it is a newly created State Government initiative entitled ‘Sports Vouchers’. This initiative is administered by the Office for Recreation and Sport (ORS) and not the school, therefore if you have any queries you will need to visit the Sports Vouchers website: www.sportsvouchers.sa.gov.au In short this programme offers an opportunity for primary school age children from Reception to Year 7 to receive a $50 discount from sports club membership fees. All children in South Australia will receive a letter from the Premier at school (or home if home-schooled) informing them of Sports Vouchers and how it works. Clubs and providers can then offer a $50 discount on joining fees and recoup that money directly from the Office for Recreation and Sport. The purpose is to increase the numbers of children playing organised club sport and to reduce the costs for parents. In response to queries as to whether the vouchers can be applied to school sports and the response is …“Schools do not meet the eligibility for the Sports Voucher Program. Parents and carers of primary school children will be directed to the approved clubs/associations through the Sports Vouchers website. Vouchers are unique to individuals and cannot be applied to teams, and the vouchers can only be used to reduce the membership fees of the sport club/association.” Our advice is that if you have a child playing club or association sport; please do not pay your fees / subs until you have completed the voucher as it is harder to redeem your voucher once fees have been paid.

Federation of Catholic School Parent Communities

The latest edition of Federation e-News has been posted on our website www.parentfederation.catholic.edu.au
The direct link to e-News is here Be connected. Be informed. Be heard.

Parish News

Stations of the Cross
During the season of LENT the prayer ‘Stations of the Cross’ will be prayed in the Chapel at Mary of Galilee every Wednesday evening at 7pm. All are welcome to attend.

Church Cleaning Roster
We are about to draw up a new roster for the cleaning of Mary of Galilee Church. If any parent/caregiver could spare some time to help clean the Church it would be greatly appreciated - just vacuuming the carpet ... it could be done in your own time and would take about an hour. Please see Sr. Margaret Ann - 0488 287 552.

Baptisms at Mary of Galilee
Congratulations to Kaylee Brookes and Sebastian Antonowicz who will be Baptised into the catholic Church on Saturday evening at the 6pm Family Mass. Kaylee and Sebastian will be part of the group who will be celebrating their Confirmation in May, and who will make their First Communion in September.

Galilee Netball News

I had the pleasure of coaching the Galilee White Under 9 netball team this season. What an outstanding effort all the girls put in! The girls who had never played before improved with each game and the girls who were familiar with netball did an outstanding job supporting those who weren’t. By the end of last year we were moved into Division 1 and played amongst the top teams. Overall it was a fabulous team effort by all.
Well done girls! Coach: Moira Roedlach

In term 4 2014 Galilee blue had our first game of Under 9 netball. We had a very successful season and we learnt a lot about how to play netball and the passes you use and skills needed to play. We only lost 4 games in the whole season (including the finals) we played really well together as a team. If we won the last game we would be playing in the grand final Galilee Blue players were: Chiara, Lucy, Missy, Cyan, Kaylee, Amity, Guenever and Runi

Thank you Tracy for being our coach throughout the season. Lucy Freeborn
Exiting and Entering the Gravel Car Park Safely
It is a community safety expectation that we access the gravel car park via the entrance and exit on Quinliven Rd rather than over the kerb via How Rd. This ensures all pedestrians using the paths along How Rd can do so in safety. If you are running late, it is better to run a few minutes behind than to be involved in an accident.

Healthy Eating Policy Launch
You are most welcome to join us in the library space in stage 1 on Thursday 26th March at 9.15am for the launch of our new Healthy Eating Policy. This policy has been developed using national and state healthy eating guidelines resources in consultation with children, staff and parents in our community and aims to support families in providing nourishing foods that fuel our children's growth and learning. All families will receive a copy of the policy with a covering letter on the day.

Sports Day - Friday 27th March
Our school sports day is coming up on Friday 27th March and will be centred on the Galilee Oval with some activities spilling out onto the asphalt area near stage 2 and the figure eight grass area. You are all welcome to join the children to watch them enjoy the various activities and to join in when the opportunities are invited. Your participation is welcomed by the teachers and children.

You will have read the notice sent home recently about the barbecue shared lunch. If you have sent in an order to your child’s teacher it would be most helpful if you send in the payment for your child’s lunch in a labelled envelope prior to sports day too so that teachers are not having to collect all of the money on the morning of sports day. The teachers will mark off which children have paid in advance.

A separate note was sent to you about the ‘healthy’ bake stall for parents and visitors. With our new healthy eating policy being launched shortly, the PFCG thought this bake stall could provide a great opportunity for families to bring in and share healthy morning tea delights and recipes with our community. We welcome all of your healthy morning tea ideas and invite you to bring in the recipe too. The recipes can be shared on the day or in the weeks that follow through our school newsletter.

The bake stall will not be open to the students to purchase their morning tea as this becomes a logistical issue for supervising up to 350 children from multiple home groups. It is important for the children to remain with their teacher during the sports day activities and to eat at the designated morning tea time. The children will remain with their learning community to eat their packed morning tea either inside their home room or adjacent to it. Having a packed morning tea supports all children, as we understand not all families can attend. This will also be an opportunity for them to check their water bottle and go to the toilet if necessary. Please remember to supply your children with plenty of water to drink too.

At the end of the shared lunch you are welcome to take your children home with you after speaking with their teacher. Children that remain at school until the regular finishing time of 3.10pm will participate in some winding down, quieter activities after completing more physical, sports activities all morning.

Parent, Student, Teacher Learning Conversations
You will have recently received a letter home inviting you to make a time to meet with your child's and their home room teacher(s) to discuss your child's learning progress during the early stages of 2015. These meetings will be held next week, so if you have not booked in a time, please do this as soon as practicable. These conversations are an important part of our reporting process along with the written reports that are forwarded to you at the end of terms 2 and 4. Your children are expected to be an active part of this conversation and will be preparing for this with their home room teacher prior to the meeting. If you wish to discuss an issue without your child being present this could be left to the end of the meeting time or a more suitable time to discuss this can be made with the teacher.
Ms Campbell’s learning group led Community Prayer yesterday …
As part of our inquiry this term we have been sharing what we are connected to in our lives, like family, friends and what we are passionate about.

We say we are passionate about something if it’s really important to us. And the things we are passionate about can give clues about our personality or what we’re good at.

Our thoughts and prayers …
Thank you God for all the things that are important to us. Thank you for our personalities and that we’re all different, so that we can all be passionate about different things.

Amen.

Zac
I am passionate about football because it is fun.

Eliza
I am passionate about ponies because they are cute and I like riding them and it is very fun.

Tiah
I am passionate about giving gifts to others because it makes me feel happy and glad.
With our new SMS Texting service available, if your child is going to be absent, late, leaving early for an appointment etc., you can send a SMS text message before 9am on m) 0408 508 892. Please provide child’s name, teacher and record this number in your mobile.

Q Have we changed School Banks?
A Yes. This year we will be using Bendigo Bank at Aldinga for our school banking, as Bank SA no longer pick up in our area. If you would like to open a new account for your child/ren with Bendigo, please come to the front office to collect an account enrolment pack. Once your account is opened you will be supplied with a Welcome passbook account pack for your child/ren. Tuesday will still remain our school banking day. If you have a current school bank account opened with Bank SA it will still remain open.

Q Has there been any cases of measles reported at Galilee?
A No. However there has been a case of measles reported in the Aldinga, McLaren Vale & Willunga area. Please be mindful if your child/ren show any symptoms.

Q Do private music tutors teach lessons on site at Galilee?
A Yes for Guitar, Piano and for Violin. If you are interested in private tuition for your child you can contact the relevant tutor below and they will provide information about lessons which are held on site and during the school day. These lessons are rostered at a different time each week so that your child will not miss out on the same lesson each week. I.e. the lesson may be at 9am one week and at 10am the next and so forth. For more information contact:

GUITAR: Tammarra Wellman 0410595300
VIOLIN: Robin Anthony 0450981476
PIANO: Beth Maddock 0412284594
DRUMS: Kyrie Anderson 0403882382

Q What are the times for locking / unlocking the school gates?
A Each morning the gates will be locked at 8.55am by the staff member returning from the car park. Each afternoon the gates will be unlocked at 2.55pm. You are most welcome to enter and exit via the front office and deck should you be engaging in special activities such as a sharing afternoon, afternoon prayer, listening to reading and so on.

Q Where is the Lost Property located?
A Lost Property is located adjacent the Front Office on the Eastern side. Lost property will be cleared out each fortnight.

Q When is the Second Hand Uniform shop?
A Yes. The uniform shop will be open the following times this term:
MONDAY Morning and afternoon
WEDNESDAY Morning and afternoon
Morning opening times: 8.45am–9.15am - Afternoon 3.00pm–3.30pm
The Second Hand Uniform Shop will no longer be accepting the 'old' white sports polo shirts, as they are now in the process of being phased out.
Junior Soccer Clinic
Aldinga Rec Centre are looking for children of all ages to come along to their Soccer Clinics or if you have a team or would like to join a team for competitions, please call Maureen on m) 0401489089 or visit Aldinga Rec Centre, 2McRae Street, Aldinga.

Youth Group
Are you in Year 7, 8 or 9? Are you interested in having fun, socialising and meeting up? If ‘yes’, join the youth group on Friday 20th March at Cardijn College (Language Centre), from 7pm- 9pm. For more information: e) sridings@cardijn.catholic.edu.au

Change a Child’s Life
Become a Foster Carer. There is an urgent need for long-term Foster Carer’s in your community. Life without barriers are seeking compassionate people to provide a child in need with a therapeutic, safe and nurturing home. For further information please contact Deborah on p) 8415 6900 /e) deborah.whitelock@lwb.org.au. www.lwb.org.au.

Willunga and Districts Basketball Association
Players wanted to join junior and senior competitions. Air-conditioned. $5 per game no registration fee for new teams. Season starts in Term 2. Contact Petrina for more details on 0414 511 572

Keeping teens and pre-teens safe online
Free parenting seminar. Are you the parent or carer of a 10-15 year old? Are you worried about their online safety? An internet safety expert and a child and adolescent psychologist will be speaking. To register online: http://parentingsa.eventbrite.com.au/ or p) 83031660 or e) health.parentingsa@health.sa.gov.au or register for webcast: http://paretingsa.eventbrite.com.au/ Tuesday 17th March, 7-9pm at Panorama Room Adelaide Convention Centre

Aldinga Football Club
Mini’s, juniors and senior players wanted. For further information please call David Peart m) 0411239924.

National Youth Week
Friday 10th of April from 7.30 - 10.30pm in partnership with The Volt we will be hosting the National Youth Week Party at the Aldinga Recreation Centre for young people between the ages of 10 - 15. They’re currently running a poster competition with the chosen artist receiving a $50 voucher. e) lauren.jew@sa.gov.au or Jeannie.agostini@junctionaustralia.org.au

Lego Adventure Club at Aldinga Library
Lego building fun. Each month there will be a different lego challenge. Lego provided. Ages 7+. Thursdays 3.30-4.30pm. Starting March 19th. p) 8384 0022.

School Dental Service
The School Dental Service is a Child Dental Benefits Schedule provider. All babies, children and young people under 18 years are welcome to attend. Dental care is FREE for most children. A small fee may apply for children who are not eligible for the Child Dental Benefits Schedule. All dental care provided is FREE for preschool children. To locate your local School Dental Clinic, or for more information about the Child Dental Benefits Schedule, visit www.sadental.sa.gov.au