# Shrove Tuesday

Last week we celebrated Shrove Tuesday. Shrove Tuesday, or Pancake Day as it is often called, is the last day before the Christian festival of Lent begins. Lent is the time when Christians prepare for Easter. Traditionally Christians would fast (give up food) as a way of remembering the 40 days that Jesus spent alone in the desert. During Lent we slow down and reflect; we unclutter and focus on what matters. It’s a time set aside for our intentional acts of caring for others and for growing closer to God. The hope is that this ‘work’ of Lent leads to our own growth as loving and hopeful people.

Last week you also received a project compassion box. Project compassion is a practical means of enabling us to reach out in generosity to those in need.

“Together we can empower the world’s poorest people with opportunity to learn, grow and create change.”

Bishop Greg O’Kelly

A huge thankyou to the families who helped to cook and prepare the pancakes, they were certainly enjoyed by all!
Dear Parents and Carers,

I trust this newsletter finds you well.

**Parent Acquaintance Evenings**
I am writing this article just after attending our first Parent Acquaintance Evening for 2016 for families with children in Early Years and Stage 1 learning communities. The Early Years families gathered at 6.00pm and opened the evening with Karen Edwards who provided practical ways for families to support their child as a reader before meeting with home room teachers. The Stage 1 families gathered at 7.00pm to hear Catherine McCluskey share how we can work together to support our children as mathematicians before meeting with their child’s home room teachers. I have already received some feedback about the new format and especially about the supportive information about reading and mathematics. If you would like to share your comments with me please share this with your child’s homeroom teacher or myself in person or email me at agarton@galilee.catholic.edu.au. As I mentioned at the beginning of the evening, the staff at Galilee are very eager to be working in partnership with you to support your child’s learning. Next Wednesday 24th February, Stage 2 and 3 families will hold their Parent Acquaintance Evening. Session 1: 6.00-6.45pm - Stage 2 families and teachers, Session 2 - 7.00-.45pm - Stage 3 families and teachers.

**Annual General Meeting**
Our Annual General Meeting where we enjoy the opportunity to celebrate achievements and report improvement progress with you will be held on the evening of Tuesday of 8th March in the hall. We invite you to arrive from 6.45pm onwards for a 7.00pm start before finishing at 8.00pm. We are looking forward to our special guests, the children, sharing alongside staff and parents the achievements and future learning planned in eco-literacy, mathematics and our catholic identity.

**Galilee Catholic Community Council**
One of our parent representatives, Hamish Abbie, has completed his time on the council. We thank Hamish for his valuable contributions to our community through the council and around the school community in general. This means we are seeking one new parent representative. Our council meets twice a term on a Tuesday evening and is an important body that supports school leadership in matters of policy and direction for our learning community. If you are interested in being a member of the council please register your interest with the front office where you can pick up an information/nomination form. These forms will also be sent home shortly with other information and reports related to the AGM. Nominations will be due by Friday 4th March.

**Outside Learning Spaces**
We have a number of beautiful and inviting outside learning spaces that provide rich contexts for learning. At various times in the past we have closed some of these spaces to allow them to rest and renew before opening them again. At the moment we have opened the early years sandpit during outside learning times to support our new Reception children to engage in outside learning in a smaller, sheltered area that is close to their home rooms. The area behind stage 2 where the productive gardens are is currently closed at outside learning as it is being rested and prepared by the stage 2 children during inside learning times for new learning opportunities. At other times during the year we will open the beach volleyball court and the outdoor lounge at the back of stage 3 to provide other rich opportunities for our children.

**Car Park Reminder**
Thank you for your co-operation in helping our car park to be a safe place for our families to enter and leave the grounds each day. Please remember that if you wish to leave your car you need to park in one of the angle parks or the parallel parks beyond the Op Shop. When you are in your car in the kiss and go parallel car parks it is important that you move forward when the car in front of you leaves or moves up.

**After School Play**
Once your children farewell their learning communities at 3.10pm we ask that they move directly to OSHC in the hall, the car park to be picked up or to meet you and walk out of the grounds with you rather than play on the play equipment or in cubbies. We would like work in progress cubbies to remain as they are ready for the next day's outside learning and for the children to be safely supervised by their parents. Thanks for your anticipated cooperation in this matter.
Building Progress
The new administration building is progressing well and we are expecting it to be completed by mid to late April at this stage. From today onwards the first metal gate leading up to the current admin building will be closed to allow builders to access that area safely. The child safety lock will be transferred to the main gate next to it so that this can become the main gate in and out of the school during the day. All children, parents and visitors will still need to report to the front office upon arrival to sign in and out in between the regular drop off and pick up times each day to support our process for monitoring who has entered and exited the school grounds. This is an important safety procedure.

Thank you for your wonderful support and contributions during our first three weeks this year. We look forward to working closely with you to support your children in their learning and development.

Safety Reminder at the Beginning of the Year
With the weather being wonderful our children often enjoy spending more time outdoors in the local area and also if old enough walking or riding to and from school.

Students and families are reminded to be wary of approaches from strangers, especially when they are unaccompanied or travelling to and from school. If they are approached students should not respond and should not accept offers of rides or gifts.

Students should seek the assistance of other nearby adults if they feel unsafe and should report the event to a trusted adult (parent or school staff member) as soon as possible.

SAPOL advises that taking out a mobile phone and calling police can deter the offender and they recommend the student making a formal report to their closest police station.

Please have a conversation with your children to reinforce these safe practices with them.

Welcome back Picnic
Last Friday evening staff and families enjoyed a relaxing picnic evening together. This provided a great opportunity for staff and families to meet and chat in an informal way. It was a great way to begin the weekend.

"On Friday the Welcome Picnic happened. It was to start the year and to welcome all the families to school. You could play with your friends and show people who haven’t been to our school where the cubbies are and everything. Your little brothers and sisters could explore the school and play with you. You can make new friends."

Fynn Imeson from Ms Little’s homegroup

God bless.

Anthony Garton
Acting Principal
Welcome to Galilee Parents and Friends!

Please join us for our first PFCG (Parents and Friends Coordinating Group) meeting for 2016. All are welcome new and old.

Have you ever wondered what being a part of the Parents and Friends Coordinating Group is like?

Well wonder no more and come along to the first gathering for 2016 and join us for some light refreshments, meet some of the members and see how you can be a part of this dynamic and amazing group of parents and carers.

YOU ARE INVITED!
MONDAY 22ND FEBRUARY 6.30PM – 7.30PM
Galilee Staff room, enter via the gate by the 2nd hand uniform cupboard
Light refreshments will be served

There are many roles big and small which make up a group like the PFCG. Meetings are alternated between daytime and evening to try and accommodate everyone who would like to participate.

Over the last couple of years the group has created, planned, organised and held a number of fun, community oriented activities such as Quiz nights, Sports day BBQ and Cake stall, Galilee’s first community cookbook, various special lunch days (Burrito day, pasta day, soup day), Community Business directory, and our first Art show and Family Fun day. As you can see the events are diverse and so we need a variety of supporters!

At Galilee every parent is automatically part of our Parents and Friends and everyone is welcome to be a part of the Parents and Friends Coordinating Group (PFCG). The group is empowered to co-ordinate community activities in consultation with school leadership that focus on:

- Welcoming
- Community Building
- Parent education and support
- Fundraising
- Nurturing the faith and spirituality of parents
- Support for school’s outreach
- Uniform

The PFCG are committed to supporting the building of a strong, united community and are excited to welcome and meet you on Monday 22nd.

As a result of all your support towards the PFCG major fundraiser last year, we are in the process of getting shade sails put up over the early years sandpit. Further decisions on other items to spend the funds on will be discussed at future meetings.
Our whole school inquiry this year will focus on the concept of **Harmony**. Each homeroom will focus on this concept in different ways and through different curriculum areas. At this time we’re just at the beginning ‘wandering’ and ‘tuning in’ stages. You’ll hear more as the year progresses about learning activities and invitations to participate.

**Harmony** – advocates for difference, inclusion and balance.

“You don’t get harmony when everybody sings the same note.”

Another big idea for the year is **Mercy**. You may have heard Pope Francis announce a ‘Year of Mercy’. In his words …

“We are used to bad news, cruel news, and to even bigger atrocities, … Ending those tragedies requires a spirit of mercy.”

Pope Francis has called on Catholics around the world to use the year of mercy to “open wide” the doors of their hearts to be forgiving and to work against social exclusion.

Throughout this year we aim to bring these big ideas, **Harmony** and **Mercy**, into our learning, celebrations and relationships.

“We need a revolution of tenderness.” Pope Francis

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**The Federation of Catholic School Parent Communities**

During Lent, your school will be participating in Project Compassion which is Caritas Australia’s annual Lenten fundraising and awareness-raising appeal bringing thousands of Australians together in solidarity with the world’s poor to help end poverty, promote justice and uphold dignity.

This year the theme for Project Compassion is **Learning More. Creating Change**.

In each of the six weeks of Lent, schools will be sharing a weekly story that reflects this year’s theme. These inspiring stories will tell how the lives of six people have changed through our schools’ support of Caritas Australia’s development programs.

The Federation has formed a partnership with Caritas Australia to support families to share in this Lenten journey with their children.

Each week we will share ways families can talk together about the messages in each story and, together, be inspired to learn more and create change. We ask that you share this information with your school community.

**Week One: Doney’s story**


GETTING STARTED IN 2016

Working harmoniously to create a fun & safe, constructive learning community

Harmony....
This Year our learning group alongside the rest of the school will be focusing their Inquiry based learning through the 'Harmony' lens.

In the first week the students in 4/5 Buchanan start each morning with morning Inquiry which has the students interacting with each other positively and respectfully.

Our first giant step into our inquiry is taking weekly visits to the local environment and working with each other harmoniously outside the classroom and school environments. We are all very excited to wonder, discover and engage with each other through this lens.
Lent begins with Ash Wednesday. Traditionally Christians rub ashes on their forehead on this day, as a way of showing they were sorry for their sins. The ashes are made from the palm crosses from last year’s Palm Sunday celebrations, and symbolise the death and resurrection of Christ.
On Tuesday morning we all gathered in the church with Fr Charles and lots of parents and parishioners to celebrate Mass (or Eucharist). This formal type of prayer is central to the Catholic faith community. Its prayers are about the important things in life – community, connections with people everywhere, trust in God, hearing about Jesus, having hope no matter how bleak things look, forgiveness and new starts, being loved.

If you would like to know more about this form of prayer don’t hesitate to ask – your questions and wonderings are very welcome.

The reading of ‘Good News’ at mass from the Bible was from ‘the Gospel of John’ and it explained a central part of Jesus’ message to his followers …

I give you a new commandment, that you love one another.
Just as I have loved you, that you also love one another.
By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.
Please text 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) 0407761162. Note new number

Please provide child’s name, reason, and teacher. Please record this number in your mobile.

**Q Can I buy a Galilee school hat from the front office at school?**

**A** Yes. Hats are $16 each and will be available from the front office. We have two sizes and styles available; bucket and slouch. Small/medium or large/extra-large.

**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:** Tammara Wellman 0410 595 300
- **VIOLIN:** Robin Anthony 0450 981 476
- **PIANO:** Beth Maddock 0412 284 594
- **DRUMS:** Kyrie Anderson 0403 882 382

**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 open?**

**A** The uniform shop will be open the following times in term 1:

- **MIDAY** Morning and afternoon
- **THURSDAY** Morning and afternoon

Morning opening times: 8.45am–9.15am - Afternoon 3.00pm–3.30pm

**Q When will I receive my Fee statements?**

**A** Your Fee statement will be posted this week you will also receive a F&Qs sheet with your statement, should you have any queries please refer to the F&Q sheet. If your question is not answered on the F&Q sheet please call, email finance@galilee.catholic.edu.au or pop in and chat with Kylie Taylor.
The Noarlunga GP Plus School Dental Clinic is a free dental service for most school-aged children and all preschool children. All babies, children and young people aged 0-17 years are welcome. Please call 8384 9244 for an appointment.

80 Years of Catholic Education
Friday 15th April – Sunday 17th April 2016 at Our Lady of the River Catholic School. To celebrate 80 years of catholic education there will be events held. Family Fun day at OLOR Friday 15th April 12.30pm onwards. Old scholars benefit (2 course dinner, cabaret & auction) Saturday 16th April 6.30pm. 80th Birthday mass and morning tea at St Mary’s Church Sunday 17th April – 9.00am.

‘The Pipes are Calling’
Dedicate a pipe to a loved one through the ‘Pipes are Calling’ campaign for the St. Francis Xavier’s cathedral restoration appeal. All gifts are tax deductible. To donate or for more information contact Jane Juniper p) 82108223 or e) jjuniper@adelaide.catholic.edu.au

‘100 Years of St Teresa’s School’, Brighton.
Wednesday 2nd March at St Joseph’s church, Strathmore Terrace, Brighton – 6.30pm Mass. Followed by a sausage sizzle and a catch up with old friends. RSVP for catering purposes to info@stteresa.catholic.edu.au p) 8298 8899

‘Onkaparinga Youth – Top Nosh’
OzHarvest Nest programme. Improve your skills in planning, preparing and cooking nutritious health food in a six week course. Tuesdays Term1, starting 23rd Feb to 29th March – Time 4.30 – 6.30pm. Age: 8-12 years at Sellicks Community Hall, William Eatts Reserve, Sellicks Beach. Bookings: p) 8557 7555. Cost: No charge

‘Onkaparinga Youth – Parkour’
Learn the basics of Parkour and be part of a sport and training programme that involves vaulting, landing, jumping, running, rolling, balance and climbing. Commencing Saturdays during Erm 1 ongoing from 10.00 – 11.00am. Cost $5 per session. Age: 8 years plus at Onkaparinga Youth – Aldinga Shopping Centre. Bookings p) 0488 596 233

‘Onkaparinga Youth – Youth Advisory Group- BBQ’
Would you like to get involved in what happens at your local Youth Centre? This Friday there is a free BBQ to meet the current members of the Youth Advisory Group to see what it’s all about. From ages 8 and over. Friday 19th February at 4.30 – 6.00pm.

Siblings in Focus
After school social groups for 5-12 year old siblings of children with special needs, disabilities and/or chronic illness. Cost: No charge. Afternoon snacks provided. Bookings essential. Call Tanya p) 81866944 or 0439 800785 or e) tgalbraith@junctionaustralia.org.au. Held at Aldinga Community Centre, Stewart Avenue, Aldinga Beach. Wednesday from 3.3 – 5.00pm

Lego Adventure Club
Have fun building Lego with a different challenge each week. Tuesdays 3.30pm – 4.30pm during school term. For all ages. Held at Aldinga Library