Welcome back all our families old and new. We are all looking forward to a rewarding and enjoyable school year. We have had a wonderful start to the new school year. The visit of Archbishop Tim Costelloe to our parish for the first time on Sunday to introduce Fr. Vinh Dong as our first parish priest was an enjoyable occasion. Over 400 people were here to celebrate and it was very pleasing to see so many of our Banksia Grove families here. Fr. Vinh will have an office on the school site and will be moving in once all the building has been completed which hopefully will be next week. Contact details for Father Vinh will be included in the newsletter each week.

In addition to Fr. Vinh joining our community we are also very happy to introduce you to our new staff members. Jason Cain who is teaching Joeys, Ursula Denton and Georgie Triance are our new Educational Assistants, Nic Netis is replacing Tim Maxwell while he is on leave and we welcome back Hayley Cramer and Caroline Porteous.

Although the building programme has not been fully completed we were very happy to be able to have all children and staff into their correct classes to begin the year. All the staff have put in many additional hours in very hot conditions over the past two weeks to ensure that this would be the case. I hope you have taken the opportunity to have a look in the new classes. We also had a very hard working group of mums in the uniform shop and thanks to those mums who hosted the parent morning tea on the first day of school and helped the new year to get off to such a happy and smooth start.

Swimming lesson for Years 1 – 6 began on Tuesday and will conclude Friday week. Parents wishing to go pick their children up from the pool will need to sign them out from the teacher on duty at the pool. Children will be brought back to school unless we have written permission for them to be picked up or a parent is there to pick them up.

After school pick up for day one was definitely tested with the thunder storm. Thank you for your patience once again. Children from Kindy and Pre Primary need to be picked up from their class by an adult. All other children will be taken to the front of the school and the kiss and drive area. Now that we have additional pedestrian gates on both sides of the school site PLEASE TAKE EXTRA CARE when picking up children and leaving the school site.

Congratulations to Dani Chivell who announced her engagement to Mat.

I hope you are all finding successful ways of keeping cool and are able to get enough rest despite all the thunder and lightning. It has certainly been an exciting start to the year.

God bless

Tricia Davis

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**BANKSIA GROVE MASS**
- Weekdays @ 8.00am beginning Mon 9.2.15
- Every Sun. 9.30 am in the school’s undercover area.
- Everyone is welcome.

**RECONCILIATION**
- Sundays @ 8.45am to 9.15am
- After Sunday Mass if required
- Anytime by appointment

**SCHOOL TIMES**
- Start 8.30am Finish 3.00pm
- Monday 2.00pm finish

**KINDY TIMES**
- Start 8.30am Finish 2.45pm

**UNIFORM SHOP**
- Tues. 8.00 to 9.00am
- Wed. 8.00 to 9.00am

**CHILDREN’S BANKING**
- Every Thursday

**P & F MEETINGS**
- Weds 11th Feb @ 8.35am

**BOARD MEETINGS**
DATES TO REMEMBER

FEB

9th - 13th
Swimming lessons
@ Aqua Motion
Wanneroo

13th
National Apology

16th
Parent Meetings
8.45 to 9.45am
Years 1 & 4
6pm
Years Pre-Primary
5 / 6 & 2

17th
Parent Meetings
8.45 to 9.45am
Years Pre-Primary
5 & 6
6pm
Years 1, 4 & 3

18th
Ash Wednesday
Whole school mass @ 11am undercover area

Parent Meetings
8.45am to 9.45am
Years 2 & 3

20th
Mission day Project
Compassion
P & F Bushdance, Animal Petting Farm
BYO picnic
5.30 to 8.30pm

27TH
Pupil free day

A Prayer for the New School Year

Blessed are you, Lord, God of all creation.
All beginnings are a sign of Your love for us.
Be with us as we begin a new year.
Bless each step we take.
Help us to feel Your presence in the exciting experience that awaits us. Teach us something new each day.
We want to learn new things, make new friends and say new prayers.
Give us courage to ask questions.
Help us to be a friend to the new people around us, in our classes, on the playground, at lunchtime and at home.
Let Your Holy Spirit guide our words and deeds.
Each time we experience a new friend or a new truth, let it remind us of you.

BANKSIAGROVE CATHOLIC PARISH NEWS

Father Vinh Dong contact details
Mobile - 0422 422773
Presbytery 79 Joseph Banks Boulevard Banksia Grove WA 6031
Email - banksiagrovecatholiccommunity@gmail.com
Parish Office @ Banksia Grove CPS hours Tuesdays & Thursday 8am to 11am.
Baptism & Weddings by appointment.

ABSENTEE PROCEDURES & OFFICE HOURS

If your child is going to be absent please notify the school office by one of the following ways:

♦ SMS absentee line 0438 404 375 and include your child’s name and reason for absentee (do not phone this number)
♦ Email—admin@banksiagrovecps.wa.edu.au
♦ Written letter
♦ Phone call (which must be followed up by written notification)
♦ School Office hours are 8am to 4pm

CANTEEN

The canteen will NOT BE OPEN until Week 3 20th February due to swimming lessons.

There will be no meat products sold at the canteen until after Easter.

We are urgently seeking volunteers for the canteen. If you can assist please call the school office on 93037101.
No volunteers = No canteen

SCHOOL BANKING

School banking is every Thursday. Please remember your banking books and give to your classroom teachers in the morning clearly labelled with your child’s name and class. Remember you can earn lots of tokens. Tokens and prizes.
PLAYGROUP

Playgroup will be commencing again. This year in Week 3 Friday 20th Feb in the OshClub area. The cost is a gold coin donation.

We hope to see many families & friends coming along to meet new people while your children make new friends.

BABIES

Congratulations to the following families on the birth of their beautiful babies.

The Losondo family on the birth of a beautiful baby girl Lily born on 24.01.15,
The Hommer Family on the birth of a beautiful baby boy Iliya born on 25.12.14

BOOKCLUB

Please be advised that all book club orders were sent home with your child today. All orders have to be in no later then FEBRUARY 18TH.

HEALTHY EATING LUNCHBOX IDEAS

Rainbow wraps
225g can sliced beetroot, drained
4 spinach and herb wraps
50g baby spinach
90g (1/3 cup) chargrilled capsicum, halved
1 large carrot, grated
60g fetta, sliced ENJOY YUM!!!!!

PARKING & PICK UP PROCEDURE

Please drive slowly and carefully during drop off and pick up time in our school car park. Exit and entrance gates are on Kurrajong Drive, Snugglepot Street west side (Bottom carpark) Exit only. Laricini Bend east side you may use the top entrance and exit via the 2nd gate.
BANKSIA GROVE WELCOMES FATHER VINH
Dear Parents and Guardians,

Welcome to Term 1 2015.

For those who don’t know me, my name is Lesley Bird and I am the Social Worker at Banksia Grove CPS. I work with children, parents or staff – individually, in couples, as a family, in a group or in the classroom environment to assist with issues such as: self-esteem, grief and loss (i.e. around divorce and separation), social skill development, parenting challenges and relationship issues.

The Social worker is not involved with educational issues but may be able to assist children and families with issues that may impact on a child’s learning or overall functioning.
We will again be offering the Rainbows Program this year and an application form is attached to this newsletter. Later in the term I will be running a workshop for parents on Protective Behaviours in conjunction with the program your children will be participating in at school.
REFERRALS – requests to utilize the services of the Social Worker can be made directly to the Social Worker or via the Principal or teaching staff. The privacy of families and individuals is respected at all times.
If you would like any further information about the Social Work service or any of the programs mentioned please contact me via the school office.
Best Wishes for a very happy 2015,
Lesley Bird – Social Worker

P & F NEWS

P & F meeting to be held on Weds 11th February @ 8.35am all welcome.

Upcoming event

BUSH DANCE, ANIMAL PETTING FARM
BYO TWLIGHT PICNIC

Friday 20th February
5.30PM TO 8.30PM
Banksia Grove CPS
Free event

THOUGHT OF THE WEEK

Don’t wait for people to be friendly show them how!
Dear Parents,

We are very pleased to have the Rainbows Program at Banksia Grove Catholic Primary School again this year. Rainbows offers children from families who have experienced a major loss, either through the separation/divorce of parents or through the death of a family member, the opportunity to meet in a weekly support group over a period of 12 weeks. The sessions will be held at school with a trained adult working with each group and will last for approximately 45 minutes each.

It has been found that when something significant happens in a family, the entire family is affected. If a parent dies or divorce occurs, not only do the parents grieve, the children do also. Because of their age and short life experience, children can find it very difficult to verbalise their feelings.

If you would like your child to be included please fill in the tear off slip and return it to the school office by March 20th. This offer will be made available to children from Pre Primary- Year 6.

If your child is part of a single parent or stepfamily or if they are struggling through a painful experience this will be an opportunity for them to meet with others in similar situations in a safe and confidential atmosphere.

If you feel the Rainbows program will be helpful for your child please complete the form below and return to Ms Bird via the school office.

If you would like to discuss the program further please feel free to contact me at the school.

Yours sincerely

Lesley Bird
Social Worker
Banksia Grove Catholic Primary School

I __________________ would like my child to be part of the rainbows program
Child’s name __________________________________________ Class __________________

Child’s name __________________________________________ Class __________________

Signed ___________________________ Date _________________________
Dear Parents / Caregivers

Welcome to the start of 2015 academic year.

I would like to offer a very warm welcome to the many families who are joining our system for the very first time.

In 2015 we are witnessing exciting signs of continued growth and renewal within the Catholic Education system. Two new schools have opened in term 1, taking the total number of Catholic Schools in WA to 163. I wish the students, parents, principals and staff of St John Bosco College in Piara Waters, St Francis’ School in Maddington and the new Bunbury Catholic College Mercy Campus at Australind all the very best as they open their doors for the very first time. These new facilities are a tangible reminder of the value that the community continues to place on a Catholic Education right across the state.

To all who are returning to Catholic schools, welcome back. In 2015 all Year 7 students will be located within secondary settings right across the state. This important shift has already been in place in metropolitan settings for a number of years and regional schools have been planning for this transition for an extended period. I am certain that the students will find this new chapter in their schooling lives an exciting time with many opportunities for personal growth.

To our Year 11 and 12 students who are embarking on this important phase of your secondary schooling, I wish you all the best and encourage you to work hard and make the most of every opportunity presented to you.

Last year our system achieved our best WACE results of the last five years. Whilst we are very pleased with that performance, there is no room for complacency as continuous improvement requires an ongoing effort at all levels of the system and remains my clear priority for 2015 and beyond.

We are all part of a dynamic Catholic education community that promotes the mission of the Church with Jesus Christ at its heart. All 163 of our schools rely on the contribution of the parish, staff, students and parents working in partnership to build a successful Catholic community. Within the limits of your busy family and working lives, I encourage you to share your time and talents with your school community. You can contribute by nominating to become a member of the Board, joining the P&F, volunteering to be a class representative, helping out at the annual sports carnival, doing a shift at the canteen or helping with school reading rosters. Every contribution makes a difference to your child’s education.

I once again wish to acknowledge the critical role that you as parents and caregivers play in the education of your children. Your involvement combined with the efforts of more than 10,000 dedicated school staff and principals, means that children educated in Catholic schools have the very best chance of reaching their potential.

I wish you all the best for 2015.

Regards

Tim McDonald
Executive Director
The Wheatbelt welcomes

Maggie Dent
quietly improving lives

For a community open event

Date: 4th March 2015
Time: 1:00pm ‘Sandpit to Adulthood’
7:00pm ‘Dear Boys’
Place: Granville Civic Centre - Weld Street, Gingin, WA 6503
Cost: $15.00 per talk OR Book and pay for both talks $20.00
Pre-purchasing tickets is recommended as there is limited seating

‘Sandpit to Adulthood’: Helping today’s children to thrive
Every parent wants their children to thrive – to grow up happy, healthy, strong, kind and capable of realising their full potential.

‘Dear Boys’: Understanding, nurturing and connecting to today’s boys
Maggie has a deep concern for today’s boys, who will become tomorrow’s men. Statistically boys are still at greater risk than girls of injury, death, school failure, cancer... the list goes on.

Please book and pay for your tickets by phoning the Gingin District Community Resource Centre Inc. on 9575 1253 or come into the centre at 1a lily King Place, Gingin

Building family connections...

Bendigo Bank

Gingin District Community Resource Centre
your local connection