Hello Everyone

Here we are half way through Term One. The first five weeks have certainly been full of activity and with Open Night, Book Fair, Year Six Camp, soccer clinics and Harmony Day coming up, the next few weeks seem to be just as hectic. There is always something happening at Banksia Grove Catholic Primary School.

Last week we welcomed Ading Mathiang to our Sugar Gliders class. We hope you make her and her family very welcome.

Next Sunday, March 8th, we are having our first ever school community Commissioning Mass combined with the commitment for all those children wishing to receive the sacraments of either Penance, First Communion or Confirmation. Although all children prepare to receive the various sacraments through their Religious Education lessons it is always the parents’ decision as to whether or not they wish the children to receive the sacrament. It this way they are able to support and encourage them as they grow in the understanding and practice of their faith. The commitment forms with the children’s name on it will need to be presented to Fr. Vinh at Mass on Sunday. If you want your child to be enrolled to receive a sacrament this year please make sure they have received a form for you to complete. A copy of which is attached to this newsletter.

Last week there was a big turn out to the beginning of the year bush dance and visiting farm. There were many delighted children when one of the piglets escaped and decided to explore the school grounds. It was a great to see people mixing dancing and enjoying each other’s company. Thank you to Karen Walker and members of the P&F who organised the event. There was also a wonderful turn out to the various parent meetings for the beginning of the year. 46 people attended the Parent Volunteer Workshop last Wednesday which was a fantastic effort.

Last Friday our staff, combining with the staff of St Andrew’s in Clarkson, were involved in a professional development day in relation to one of our school foci of comprehension. The presenter was Alison Davis a respected educationalist and author who specialises in developing effective and practical literacy strategies. The chance to work with other staff under the guidance of Alison was a great experience for us all and the children will be receiving the benefit of it in the classroom.

We are looking forward to seeing lots of families here at Mass on Sunday and to share in the morning tea to follow.

God Bless
Tricia Davis.
DATES TO REMEMBER

**MARCH**

6th  Prayer Assembly @ 8.30am undercover area. Magpies & Blue Tongues

8th  BGCPS Commissioning Mass @ 9.30am undercover area followed by morning tea.

9th  Prayer Assembly @ 8.30am undercover area

12th Buddy Mass Goannas & Quokkas @ 9.00am

13th Merit Assembly @ 9.00am undercover area

18th Open night/Book Fair in the library. Immediately after school & from 5.30 to 7.30

20th Harmony day Class Assembly Pre-Primary @ 8.30am Undercover area.

23rd Year 6 Camp to 27th

24th Protective Behaviour parent workshop @ 8.45am in the library

25th Annunciation whole school Mass @ 9am undercover

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**PRAYER FOR LENT**

Jesus, you spent forty days in the hot, dusty desert to get ready to do your Father’s work.

Help us to get ready for Easter during the forty days of Lent. Help us to forgive others, to say ‘sorry’ and to make peace with everybody.

Help us to say ‘yes’ to others so that we can follow you more closely.

In this time of Lent give us generous hearts to become better people, More helpful people, More loving people.

Amen

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**BANKSIAGROVE CATHOLIC PARISH**

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.

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**Parish Update**

*What is in a name?*

*We need a name for our new Parish. What suggestions do you have?*

*What is needed is*
- the name of the saint
- the history of the saint
- Why he or she would be a good role model for our new parish.

*If you can’t decide on one, then you can suggest two, for example Peter and Paul.*

*We cannot have a name if it has already been used by a Parish in the Archdiocese e.g. St Anthony’s.*

*Gather some thoughts together and pass on your suggestions to the school office or to Fr. Vinh. We want to give a name to our new community as soon as possible.*

*Stations of the Cross will take place each Friday in Lent commencing at 7pm in the undercover area. Perhaps this could be a focus for you during Lent. I am looking forward to meeting many of you following Stations of the Cross, each Friday until Good Friday.*

*It has been wonderful to see so many people attending week day mass. Father Vinh.*

We offer our deepest sympathy to the O’Brien family on the recent passing of their mother and grandmother. Our Thoughts and prayers are with you at this time.
SCHOOL FEES

School fee statements were be sent home last week. Please be advised the statement is an **Annual** statement not a term statement. If full payment is made by **15th March** you will receive a $50 **discount**.

If you hold a healthcare card please update with the school office to receive the health care rebate discount.

HEALTHY EATING

**Rock melon and strawberry rockets**

- 1/2 (1kg) rock melon, peeled, seeded
- 8 large strawberries
- 16 vanilla marshmallows

Cut rock melon into eight 2cm x 8cm pieces. Trim 2 long sides of each piece to form a rocket tail shape.

Thickly slice strawberries horizontally into three pieces.

Using the picture as a guide, thread rock melon, strawberry pieces and marshmallows onto skewers to form a rocket ship. Serve.

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**BGCPS Commissioning Mass**

As part of us becoming a new parish this year
on
**Sunday March 8**
All Staff, Board Members and the P&F Executive
will be commissioned to the special roles being undertaken this year in our school community.

In addition
All children wishing to receive a sacrament of
**Penance** (Year 3 up)
**First Communion** (Year 4 up)
or
**Confirmation** (Year 6 up)
In 2015 will also need to attend, bringing with them their
**Sacrament Commitment forms which will be registered with Fr. Vinh during mass.**
These will be sent home with the children, printed from the attachment or be obtained from the school office.

A morning tea will follow.

**Please bring a plate of food to share.**

Please join us for this special occasion.
Possums
SCHOOL OPEN NIGHT

All parents, families and friends are invited to our school Open Night.

**When:** Weds 18th March  **Time:** 5.30 to 7.30 pm
All classrooms will be open to view the children’s work.

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**Book Fair**

King’s, Queen’s & Castles
Come and Enter the Kingdom of Books

**When:** Wednesday 18 March
**Where:** School Library
**Time:** 3.00pm to 3.30pm
5.30 to 7.00pm

Time: We invite you to visit our Book Fair and experience a celebration of reading, with lots of fun, engaging, and affordable books for students to discover.

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**HARMONY DAY SHARED LUNCH**
**COME & CELEBRATE WITH BGCPS**
THE WONDERFUL COMBINATION OF CULTURES

Everyone belongs celebrate Australia’s diversity.

**On the 20th March,** we will be celebrating Harmony Day. **Dress in traditional national costume or uniform of a group/team to which you belong.** This day will include lots of wonderful activities.

We are having a shared lunch with your year level (Class teacher will send note home.)

The children are being asked by their teachers for some special dishes they enjoy from home and what they would like to share.

**There will be no canteen on this day.**
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 _________________
Thank you to those people who are wishing to advertise
On the Banksia Grove Business Billboard

If you are interested in advertising in the Banksia Grove Business Billboard this will be commencing next week. This will be included in our school Newsletter, the Grove, Parish Newsletter and School notice board & Website.

For a small fee of $20 per term you can advertise your service or business. We would require a contact name, Tel no, service provided & name of business (if applicable).

Plumber  Electrician
Painter  Gardner  Cleaner
Protective Behaviours Parent Workshop
Helping your children to develop personal safety skills.

We have the right to feel safe at all times.
We can talk with someone about anything, no matter what it is.

Facilitator: Tiffany Dowling, Department of Local Government and Communities, Parenting WA
Date: Monday 9 March 2015
Time: 9.15am to 12.15pm
Location: Child and Parent Centre – Neerabup, 14 Viridian Drive, Banksia Grove
Creche: Free

BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL
To Register phone Pam Wall
Child and Parent Centre – Neerabup 9367 0964

Supported by:
Department of Local Government and Communities, Parenting WA

In partnership with Ngala
Multicultural BeachSAFE Program
Surf Life Saving Western Australia

Who: Multicultural Youth (Aged 4 -17) from the City of Wanneroo
Duration: 9am-2pm
Cost: FREE (Lunch Included!)
Venue: Start and finish at a local community centre, with free transport provided to and from Quinns Mindarie Beach.

April 7th: Hainsworth Community Centre
April 8th: Hainsworth Community Centre
April 9th: Butler Community Centre

The day includes:
Introduction to BeachSAFE Presentation: Participants experience the coastline through a visual PowerPoint presentation assisting them to identify key features when they visit the beach including how to identify lifesavers and a patrolled beach, rip currents, wave types, marine life and sun protection.

Sand Based Activities: Participants will engage in sand based games and activities to increase their familiarity and confidence in a beach environment.

Water based Activities: Participants will increase their skills and fitness in the water to increase their capacity to recreate safely at the beach through activities including board riding, surf negotiation, swimming and beach games.

The day will finish with a surf life saving carnival where participants will form small groups and compete in events such as beach sprints, flag relays and board races.

For more information, or to register your group for the program, please contact Chrissie Skehan at Surf Life Saving WA

Chrissie Skehan
Health Promotion and Research Officer
Surf Life Saving WA
t. (08) 9207 6666 e. cskehan@dswa.com.au
Over the next few weeks in your child’s class we will be teaching Protective Behaviours. This program has been designed to give children the skills to keep themselves safe with other people and to support them to get help from caring adults if they need it.

The program will be taught by your child’s teacher but to be successful we need your help and support and ask that you participate as much as possible and talk to your child about what they have been learning at school. This will reinforce the messages that the school is giving and support your child to use their new skills with confidence. In forthcoming newsletters we will give you information about what we have been teaching at school and ask that you discuss this information with your children.

In the first two weeks we will look at Theme 1: “We all have the right to feel safe all of the time”. This means everyone, and is a human right that we are all born with and have ALL of the time, at school in the playground, at home, at the shops. We will discuss what it feels like to feel safe – (secure, loved warm) or unsafe (danger or under threat) and encourage children to talk about how they feel, especially when they have a problem. Look out for posters around the school displaying these messages. We will also be looking at ‘The Safety Continuum' which teaches children that to feel safe you need to have a choice and some control, and the difference between healthy risk taking, such as going on a ride at the show or learning to ride a bike, or when you just feel unsafe.

Please contact the school if you have any further questions about this program.

Lesley Bird Social Worker March 2015
Banksia Grove Catholic Community
Sacramental commitment form

NAME OF RECIPIENT: ____________________________________________

SACRAMENT BEING RECEIVED: (PLEASE TICK ONE BOX)

☐ RECONCILIATION (Yr 3 < 6)  ☐ FIRST EUCHARIST (Yr 4 < 6)  ☐ CONFIRMATION (Yr 6 <)

BAPTISM DATE & CHURCH: ______________________________________

AGE: ________________________________________________________

CHILD’S SIGNATURE: __________________________________________

PARENT’S SIGNATURE: _________________________________________