Dear Parents,

Thank you to all the families who attended our Welcoming Ceremony on Monday. It is always rewarding to see how well our new little ones are settling into school routine and observe the great job the year six students are doing in caring for their buddies. I am also very grateful to our year two mums, Shayne Reid, Catherine Walker and Anne Peachey, for organising such a lovely morning tea following this event. At the ceremony I spoke about our joint responsibility as parents and teachers to help the children grow into young women and men of faith, integrity, empathy, leadership and commitment. You may have noticed that we have these five core values displayed in our office foyer.

As a parent and now a grandparent I often reflect on the great joy children bring into our lives. Along with this happiness, of course, comes a great responsibility to nurture the child in all aspects of human growth and development. Ensuring that a child is loved, clean and well fed are probably the easier tasks in child raising when compared with the more difficult challenges of nurturing spiritual, moral and emotional development.

As parents and teachers we have a responsibility to foster positive values and social skills in our children thus ensuring that they develop into young men and women who respect themselves, others and the environment. In order to do this it is important that as adults we speak to our children about the values we know are important and to do our best to live out these values in our own lives.

In order to support parents in this task, our school has a Values Education and Social Skills Program. This week our focus is on the important social skill of greeting others in a courteous manner. The example and guidance of parents and other adult family members can indeed make all the difference for a child so I encourage you to discuss these social skills and values with your child and how they can be lived out at home and school.

God Bless you and your families

Chris Gibson, Principal

CONGRATULATIONS AND THANK YOU
The Parents and Friends’ Association welcomes Mr Tim Ellis, father of Samantha (KN) as our Treasurer for 2010.

Thank you also to Mr Spencer (husband of year three teacher, Mrs Spencer) for his very generous donation of DVDs on digital photography for each member of the publishing team.

PARENTS OF CONFIRMATION/FIRST COMMUNION CANDIDATES
You are reminded of your obligation for at least one parent to attend the Parent Talk next Thursday evening 11th March in the Church at 7.30pm. Workbooks and parent notes will be available for collection.

KINDERGARTEN 2011 ENROLMENTS:
St Paul the Apostle School will commence accepting enrolment applications for Kindergarten 2011 on Monday 8th March. Please bring your child’s original Birth and Baptismal certificates when applying.

If your child was baptized at St Paul’s a certificate is not required.

Applications must be made in person, between the hours of 8.30am - 3.30pm. Applications will close in April. A non-refundable enrolment application fee of $30 is payable on return of the completed application.

SCHOOL FEES
Unless you have an arrangement for the payment of the fees they are due to be paid by this Friday, 5th March. Any families experiencing financial difficulty should contact the school office and make an appointment with Mrs Chris Gibson. We appreciate your co-operation with this.
BISHOP ANTHONY FISHER OP INSTALLATION MASS
To-morrow evening, Thursday 4th March, Bishop Anthony Fisher will be installed as the 3rd Bishop of Parramatta in St Patrick’s Cathedral. The Mass will commence at 7.30pm and will be streamed live over the web at www.xt3.com

ICAS COMPETITIONS
To make sure students wishing to enter the English, Maths competitions etc. do not miss out we are issuing a single form for entry in all competitions. The form is yellow and has gone home this week. For administration reasons the closing date for all competitions will be Thursday, 25th March. No late entries will be accepted.

PARENT LIAISONS 2010
Thank you to the following parents (in addition to those named last week) who have generously volunteered to act as Parent Liaisons for 2010

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<tr>
<td>KN</td>
<td>Melissa Ellis</td>
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<td>Antionette Akle, Jennifer Petkos</td>
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<td>3S</td>
<td>Elena Ayoub, Nikki Jackson, Shirley Massoud, Elsa Pereira</td>
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SOCIAL SKILLS FOCUS
Our social skills focus for next week (Week 7) is

Say good morning and good afternoon to other teachers, children and adults.

Please check your school calendar regularly for upcoming events

Dates to Remember

March

Clothing Shop open every Thursday 8.30am-10.30am and 1.30pm-3.30pm

5th
Diocesan Swimming Carnival
Year 1 Mass 9.10am
Primary Assembly 3S

6th
**Working Bee Kindy & Year 6**

7th
Third Sunday in Lent

8th
Kindy 2011 enrolment applications commence

12th
Year 3 Mass 9.10am
Infants Assembly - Year 2 Witches & Wizards Parade

14th
Fourth Sunday in Lent

17th
St Patrick’s Day - Green Mufti day

19th
Feast of St Joseph; Kindergarten Mass 9.10am
Primary Assembly 4D

21st
Fifth Sunday in Lent

MT ST BENEDICT COLLEGE, PENNANT HILLS
Mount St Benedict College, an independent Catholic high school for girls is holding its annual Open Day on Sunday 14 March from 10 am until 2 pm.

If you need any more information, please contact Mrs Mary Jane Trujillo on 9980 0415, or email us at larmstrong@msben.nsw.edu.au