

# Newsletter Update

Term 4 Week 11—17th December 2012



Dear Parents and Caregivers,

The end of the school year has come quickly and I would like to take this opportunity to wish you and your family a happy and joyous Christmas and a prosperous new year. We have had a very successful year at Mary Immaculate due to the combined efforts of all staff and parents.

Thank you to all members of staff who continually work very hard so that the students will learn their content and skills to help them realise their potential.

Thank you also to all parents who continue to walk alongside the school in the educational pursuits of the children. The educational work for the children is best done when home and school work in partnership and this is very evident within our school.

Thank you finally to the parish community and in particular, Fr. Ian who always is fully supportive of our school in all its endeavours.

While I look forward to the holiday, I am also looking forward to continuing leadership of the school in 2013.

Yours in education,

Paul Devlin  
Principal



## Third Sunday of Advent

The 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent is called Gaudete Sunday, the Sunday of JOY.

On this day the rose coloured third candle is lit.

Some Churches will also mark this with pink/rose liturgical colours and vestments.

The Gospel Acclamation for the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent invited us to bring joy to others:

*Alleluia, Alleluia!*

*The Spirit of the Lord is upon me; he sent me to bring Good News to the poor.*

*Alleluia!*

We give thanks for all the families at MIPS who donated items to the St Vincent de Paul Christmas Appeal bringing joy and goodwill to the poor and needy in our local community.

It is in small ways such as these that we can be witnesses to the light of Christ in the world. May we continue to be Christ like in all that we do over the next week as we prepare our hearts for the birth of Christ.

*God of Love, our hearts long for your presence.*

*God of Mercy, open our eyes to see you in the poor and vulnerable.*

*God of Hope, make us bearers of Good News.*

*God of Joy, we await the coming of your Son, Jesus with great expectation.*

Amen



## Important Dates

**Tuesday 18th December**  
7.00pm Year 6 Graduation Night

**Wednesday 19th December**  
Last day of school for students.

2013

**Year 1 to 6 will commence school**  
**Wednesday 30th January 2013.**

**Kindergarten will commence school**  
**Monday 4th February 2013.**

**Mary Immaculate**  
**Quakers Hill**  
[www.maryimmac.org.au](http://www.maryimmac.org.au)

## Mass Times

Mary Immaculate Church

*Reconciliation:*

Saturday 4.30 - 5.30pm

*Weekday Mass:*

Monday No Mass

Tuesday 8.30am

Wednesday 9.15am

Thursday 9.15am

Friday 7.00pm

*Weekend Mass:*

Saturday 6.00pm

Sunday 9.00am

10.30am

6.00pm

St. Joseph's Schofields

Sunday 7.30am

## Christmas Mass Times Mary Immaculate Parish, Quakers Hill

**Christmas Eve Masses**  
**Monday 24<sup>th</sup> December**

5.30pm, 7.30pm  
(Family Masses with Children)  
12.00am (Midnight Mass)

**Christmas Day Masses**  
**Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> December**

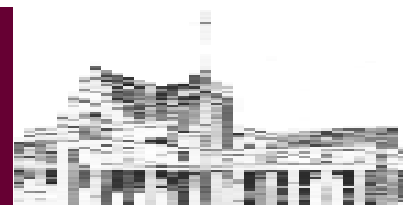
7.30am at St. Josephs Church Grange Ave. Schofields  
8.00am, 10.00am

**Mary Immaculate Primary School**

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### School dates - end of year

The school year for the children ends this week on Wednesday 19 December. The teachers continue to meet on Thursday and Friday in preparation for next year.

### School dates - start of next year

Year 1 to 6 will commence the 2013 school year on Wednesday 30 January 2013.  
Kindergarten will commence their 2013 school year on Monday 4 February 2013.

### Year 6 Graduation Mass

On Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> December at 7pm in the Church we congratulate and farewell our Year 6 students. The evening commences with a Mass celebrated by Fr. Ian with the theme of 'Let Your True Colours Shine' this will be followed by a light supper and a Farewell Celebration in the MPA.

### Farewell

This week we farewell 4 valued people from the Mary Immaculate community. Mrs Jacky Noort and Mrs Linda Ducksbury will be taking 12 months leave from our school and return in 2014. Mr Jim Eves, the parish Pastoral Associate will be retiring in early January after a lifetime dedicated to educational and Catholic communities. We wish Jim well and hope he thoroughly enjoys his well deserved retirement. The final person leaving our school is Mr Piotr Kohnke. Piotr has been the IT technician at the school and leaves to commence study in this field at Macquarie University.

### Parents and Friends Donation

This morning, the P & F President, Mr Ryan Hutton, presented the school with a donation of \$12000. This represents the fundraising efforts of the Parents and Friends Association for the year. This is a wonderful effort for the year and will be used for the purchase of iPads for the children to use in their learning. Thank you to the P and F Association for all their work of the year in the fundraising, social and maintenance events. We look forward to continuing the cooperation of school and P and F Association next year.

### Farewell for Mr Jim Eves

After almost seven years working as a pastoral associate for Mary Immaculate parish which also involved close connections with the staff, students and families of our school, Mr Jim Eves will be retiring from his ministry at the beginning of 2013. At last week's farewell assembly, the school community took the opportunity to say goodbye and thank you to Mr Eves and the students presented him with a special book of messages that each class had contributed to. We wish Mr Eves the very best for his retirement. A parish farewell will be held for Mr Eves on Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> December at the 10.30am Mass followed by some light refreshments in the multi-purpose area.

### OZ FASHIONS HOLIDAY TRADING HOURS

Monday 21st January 1.00pm-4.00pm

Wednesday 23rd January 9.00am-12.00pm

Then back to normal trading hours from Friday 1st February

OZ Fashions are open every  
Tuesday and Friday 8.30am - 10.00am

**Elle from OZ Fashions**  
**Please call between 9.00am and 11.00am**  
**Mobile 0421 216 414**

### CANTEEN NEWS

**Limited foods available in the canteen this week.**

Reminder:  
Chocolate Paddle Pops—\$1.60

Zooper Doopers—80c

Sandwiches available Wednesday



### FROM THE LIBRARY

All our best wishes for Christmas and the new year .

Thank you to everyone who supported book club this year. We have a total of \$6000 worth of free picks from book club sales and hope to continue in 2013. Thank you to Mrs. Henson for all her hard work.

Don't forget to get those library books back so we can have them ready on the shelves for next year.

Thank you to Mrs. Desira who helps in the library tirelessly. Thank you also to Mrs. Forster who does a wonderful job helping with our Integrated unit displays.

If you would like to come and have a look at our library or are able to spare a few hours helping us cover our wonderful books to get them on the shelves please ring the school office and let us know. Unfortunately books can't leave the school premises to be covered but there will be a cup of coffee or tea and a lot of gratitude if you are able to come in and help out.

Cheryl Belcastro  
Library Assistant