Dear Families of Chisholm,

Lent is a time for strengthening our faith; a time to reflect on who we are and where we are going. It should be a time when we make time to be quiet and pray. We should spend time discovering our strengths and our weaknesses.

Just as Jesus spent forty days in preparation for his work of redemption, so we too prepare for our own redemption. We are called to look at ourselves – at how we relate to others.

Will you take up this challenge this Lent?

The symbol of the cross reminds us that we all have to face some hard times in our lives. When we accept these challenges as Jesus accepted his cross ... we are following in his footsteps.

We are also familiar with the sign of the cross but may not always think of it as a most powerful prayer. When we make the sign of the cross we express the basic Christian conviction that Jesus is the Son of God, that the one God is Father, Son and Spirit, and that God saves us through the death of Jesus on the cross. When we make the sign of the cross it is a prayer of hope and love. As we celebrate Holy Week this week may we have open hearts and minds to the presence of God in our lives.

Let us pray:

Jesus you came to help us to see what you could see in the world. Your love for the poor, the downhearted, the outcast, the lonely, the weak, and the marginalised was enormous.

During this time in Lent, lend us your eyes, your heart and your mind so that we may see, feel and think as you do.

May we be always generous in our resolve to reach out to others with respect, honesty, tolerance, care, forgiveness and compassion.

Amen

God Bless

Keiran Byrnes
FROM THE REC

Sunday Mass at Chisholm
Mass is held here at Chisholm every Sunday at 9:30am. Each Sunday, a small community gathers together in the school MPA to celebrate Mass, followed by a light morning tea.

Holy Week is the most important season in the Church Year. At Chisholm this year, we celebrated Palm Sunday on Monday and the institution of the Last Supper on Tuesday. At 9.00 am on Wednesday we are remembering Jesus washing the disciples’ feet to remind us to serve one another. At 9.00 am on Thursday, we are remembering Jesus’ last journey to the Cross, with the Scriptural Stations of the Cross. Please join us for these occasions.

ANZAC Day this year is the centenary celebration. This will be celebrated at 9.00 am in the MPA on 24th April, which is the Friday of Week 1 of Term 2. We have a link to the actual commemoration at Gallipoli on ANZAC Day 2015 with Sgt Paul Obersteller who has been chosen to recite the Ode. Sgt Paul Obersteller, who is the uncle of Alyssa Adams in 5G, has recorded the Ode for us to use at our celebration. Our choir is learning “Lest we forget” to sing. We have a guest speaker, Mr. Leon Walker, who is the grandfather of Nicholas Walker in 6W.

Our Easter celebration will be at 9am on Monday 28th April in the MPA. The Easter Season goes for 50 days and ends at Pentecost.

Merilyn Hancock – Religious Education Co-ordinator

NAPLAN

Parents of children in Year 3 and Year 5 please be aware that with this newsletter is a letter advising you of details about NAPLAN testing in 2015. If you have any concerns or questions feel free to contact the school.

SCHOOL SAFETY ZONE LIGHTS

Recently the NSW Government funded the installation of School Zone Safety Lights in Collith Avenue. Parents are reminded that the area is a school zone and that the speed limit is 40kms between the hours of 8am-9:30am and 2:30pm-4pm. Thank you for your assistance in keeping our children safe.

PARENT ONLINE RESOURCE LEARNING DIFFICULTIES COALITION NSW

A number of terrific resources and services related to parenting, mental health and wellbeing have come to my attention recently and I’d like to pass on the information for those of you who might be interested.

The BRAVE free online anxiety management program
BRAVE is a free, online, interactive program for the prevention and treatment of childhood and adolescent anxiety, written by a team of mental health professionals from Beyond Blue and The University of South Queensland. The BRAVE programs are designed to help children and teenagers learn to cope with their worries. For more information about the child and teen programs, visit the BRAVE website
https://brave4you.psy.uq.edu.au

NATIONAL YOUNG LEADERS DAY

On Monday the 23rd of March, Miss Byrnes and the six student leaders visited the entertainment centre for National Young Leaders day. We listened to five different motivational speakers that taught us many new things and helped us understand more about leadership. Each told us about different leadership skills and qualities. The speakers were Bindi Irwin, Mike Martin, Mike Baird, Rachael Leahcar, Dylan Parker and James Norton.

Some of the things we learned was that leadership is about influencing others. That you need to be compassionate and to follow your heart to be a good leader. Leadership requires patience, hard work and courage. Leadership is also about standing up for what you believe is right.

This day was a great opportunity for the 6 leaders and Miss Byrnes to learn about how to become a better leader. All the speakers were extremely encouraging and enthusiastic. Everyone had so much fun at the National Young Leaders day.

SCHOOL PHOTOS

Chisholm school photos will be taken on Wednesday 22nd April.
Children need to bring their photo envelopes to school on this day even if you decide not to purchase a photograph pack. If you are wishing to purchase a family photo, children need to collect an additional envelope from the office. Please note … Please have correct money for the photographers on this day, as no change can be given from the office.

Children are expected to wear full summer school uniform. Please ensure that you or your child takes the time to fix up the ‘little things’ (shoes polished, correct hair colour accessories, correct sock colour etc). Girls with shoulder length hair are expected to have it tied back and children are asked not to use excessive gel products when styling their hair.

Please note classes involved in sports activities on this day need to wear their school uniform and bring sports shoes to change into.

Please ensure your child is on time to school as there is a strict timetable in place and photographs will be unable to be made up if your child misses their scheduled time.

If you have any other queries please contact the office.

SCHOOL TERM DATES – 2015

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Term</th>
<th>Start Date</th>
<th>End Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Term 1</td>
<td>Monday, 20 April</td>
<td>Friday, 26 June</td>
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<tr>
<td>Term 2</td>
<td>Monday, 13 July</td>
<td>Friday, 18 September</td>
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<tr>
<td>Term 3</td>
<td>Tuesday, 6 October</td>
<td>Friday, 26 December</td>
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Term 4 | Monday, 6 October | Friday, 18 December|

School Zone Safety Lights in Collith Avenue.
The first event for the year “The Chisholm School Disco” and “Twilight Markets” were a great success. We would like to thank all who attended and the helpers we had on the night. Our next event will be Mother’s Day Liturgy & Morning Tea along with the Mother’s Day Stall Friday 8th May.

Chisholm has once again been approached by the Rotary Club of Richmond to provide volunteers for the Hawkesbury Show. They require volunteers for the car park, ticket scanning and monetry collection. We have been asked to fill shifts on Friday 24/4, Saturday 25/4 and Sunday 26/4. A shift goes for 4 hours. For every shift that a volunteer works, money is donated to our school. In the past we have made close to $1000 for our school.

Volunteers can work single shifts or multiple shifts over the 3 days. We need as many volunteers as possible in order to fill the available shifts and make the maximum return for our school.

CHISHOLM COMMUNITY GROUP

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Stage 3 Touch Football Gala Day

Well done to the Bede Polding students who assisted as track officials and the amazing group of parents who assisted on the finish line. Well done to all!

T20 Blast indoor Cricket Gala Day

Congratulations to the 4 Chisholm Stage 3 Cricket teams who competed in the T20 Blast Indoor Cricket Gala Day at Richmond. It was great to see the spirit of the day enjoyed by all of the teams. The highlight of the day was the Year 5 boys playing the Year 6 boys in the final game. It was the most competitive game of the day. Thank you to Mr Egan, Mr Carstairs, Mrs Bruce, Mrs Bietola and Mrs Williams who managed and coached the teams on the day.

Stage 3 Touch Football Gala Day

Well done to our 5 touch football teams who participated in the Diocesan Touch Football Gala Day. All teams competed with enthusiasm and a great team spirit. Congratulations on the way in which you conducted yourself on the day. Thank you to the Bede boys who gave up their time to referee for Chisholm, a huge thank you to Mr Saba, Mrs Ayscough, Mrs Cox, Mrs Azzapardi and Mrs Kennedy who acted as coaches and managers on the day. Your time and commitment is appreciated.

Karen Baxter & Belinda Barnes – Sport Co-ordinators

SPORT

Chisholm Cross Country

Well done all of the students in Years 3-6 who participated in the recent school cross country run on the school grounds. The encouragement and perseverance of all those who competed is to be commended. Thank you to the Bede Polding students who assisted as track officials and the amazing group of parents who assisted on the finish line. Well done to all!

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Karen Baxter & Belinda Barnes – Sport Co-ordinators

STAR SPOT

Congratulations to . . .

Toby Camilleri (3M)

Who competed at the State Athletics Carnival last weekend. Toby came 1st in the under 9’s Discus with a throw of 26.32m. Well Done!!!
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>STATIONS OF THE CROSS</th>
<th>1 Jesus in the Garden of Gethsemane</th>
<th>2 Jesus is betrayed by Judas and arrested</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Thursday at 9.00 am we are walking with Jesus to the Cross. Year 6 is presenting the Scriptural Stations of the Cross instituted by Pope John Paul II in 1991. We remember that Jesus’ story shows his great love for us.</td>
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<td>3 Jesus is condemned by the Sanhedrin</td>
<td>4 Jesus is denied by Peter</td>
<td>5 Jesus is judged by Pilate</td>
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<td>6 Jesus is scourged and crowned with thorns</td>
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<td>7 Jesus takes up his cross</td>
<td>8 Jesus is helped by Simon to carry his cross</td>
<td>9 Jesus meets the women of Jerusalem</td>
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<tr>
<td>10 Jesus is crucified</td>
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<tr>
<td>11 Jesus promises His kingdom to the repentant thief</td>
<td>12 Jesus entrusts Mary and John to each other</td>
<td>13 Jesus dies on the cross</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14 Jesus is laid in the tomb</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Dear Jesus,
Even on the cross, you thought of others and forgave them. Forgive us for the times we have turned away from you.
Amen

Dear Jesus,
You knew you were going to die and they were trying to trap you with their words. Give us courage to face difficult times in our lives.
Amen

Dear Jesus,
The soldiers made fun of you. Help us to respect others and include them in our games and not ridicule them if they make a mistake.
Amen

Dear Jesus,
Simon, the Cyrene, offered to help you. Give us confidence to show compassion to others and especially to those who have no voice.
Amen

We remember how you loved us to your death And still we celebrate, for you are with us here. And we believe that we will see you, when you come in your glory, Lord, we remember, we celebrate, we believe.

We are safe, honest, respectful learners!