From the Principal

At their last supper together, Jesus took the opportunity to model discipleship for his followers: loving service performed with humility. When he washed the feet of his disciples Jesus already knew what the immediate future held for him in Jerusalem. Knowledge of his betrayal and suffering must have hung like a malignant backdrop behind everything that happened in those last days.

It is this celebration of Easter that is the most important occasion in the Christian calendar, it is through the discovery of the empty tomb that the pennies begin to drop and there is realisation that the Paschal mystery is complete: the passion, death AND resurrection of Jesus. Whilst Christ’s willingness to go to his death on the cross was an extraordinary statement of God’s love for humankind, it is his rising again from death that offers all Christian people hope.

It is the second disciple – the one whom Jesus loved – who is the first to grasp the meaning of what has happened inside the tomb. The gospel tells us that upon entering the tomb and seeing Jesus’ burial cloths lying there, ‘he saw and he believed’. Unlike the later encounters with the risen Lord, this disciple recognised the truth and significance of what he saw in the empty tomb. He didn’t need to see the risen Lord to believe. Perhaps it is he that we can best identify with. Not in a position to physically encounter the risen Christ, we are capable of seeing the signs of his resurrection and continuing presence in the world and choose to believe.

Principal’s Long Service Leave

I will be on Long Service Leave from 26th April until the 23rd May. During my leave Ms Bylsma will be Acting Principal, Mrs Ford will support her as Acting Assistant Principal and Mrs Maryanne Kelly will be Acting REC.

Important Date

Staff Development Day (Pupil Free Day) 10th June 2016

My School

The 2015 My School Data has recently been published to the My School Website. www.myschool.edu.au. Included in todays newsletter is the summary page of the St Agatha’s NAPLAN data. As you can see we can be very pleased with our school’s results with St Agatha’s being significantly above average in all areas of NAPLAN.

Click here to see our Naplan results.

Once again, thank you for your continued support. I believe that it is in partnership that we can achieve great things for our children.

Kevin Bauer - Principal

Important Diary Dates

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>April</th>
<th>26 First Day of Term 2</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1  Fete information Stand - 2:30pm</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5  Cake and Jelly Day Year 2 - 11:00am</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8  6G Assembly 2:30pm</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Last Day of Term 1</td>
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Phone: 9484 7200 | Fax: 9484 8235 | Email: saph@dbb.catholic.edu.au | Web: www.saphdbb.org.au
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From the Assistant Principal

Positive Behaviour for Learning (PBL)
As you know the three school rules at St Agatha’s are:
• We are RESPECTFUL,
• We are RESPONSIBLE
• We are LEARNERS.

This fortnight we will begin to focus on the rule We are RESPECTFUL with a particular emphasis on how we can “INCLUDE OTHERS”

“Do to others as you would have them do to you: as this is the law and the prophets” (Mt 7:12)

Our aim at St Agatha’s is to RESPECT SELF and RESPECT OTHERS. When we include others we are respecting ourselves and others.

In class the students will be discussing:
• appreciating and celebrating the differences of others
• times when they have felt included and excluded.
• the concepts of inclusion and the appreciation of our individuality.
• how to invite others to play in our games
• how to look out for and be aware of others playing on their own
• how to start up a conversation with someone new

At home you can include your brothers and sisters in your games by sharing your toys with them. Teach your brother or sister the rules to the game or the rules around looking after your property to alleviate any disagreements. Include each other in conversations by asking each person their opinions and listening to what they have to say. Taking turns in a conversation, and appreciating and accepting the opinions of others helps to develop deeper relations with others.

Woolworths Earn and Learn Program
Last year St Agatha’s took part in the Woolworths Earn and learn promotion. Over a number of weeks St Agatha’s parents collected stamps for doing their weekly shopping at Woolworths. At the end of the promotion all our stamps were tallied and we were able to trade our points for resources for our school. These new resources finally arrived at St Agatha’s this term. Some of the items we purchased were: Infants cricket bats, creative play construction equipment for our infants classes, large playground dominoes and noughts and crosses sets, mini whiteboards for classrooms, badminton raquets, soccer and netballs, Kinder and Year 1 gross motor equipment, new readers and teacher resource books to support the implementation of the new History syllabus and some new Mathematics resources. Special thanks to Simone Martin (parent of Olivia Yr 6 and Liam Yr 4) for coordinating the collection of our school’s stamps for the Earn and Learn program and thanks also to our wonderful parents and friends for collecting stamps for this Woolworths initiative. Your support has provided us with some wonderful new resources for our students and teachers.

Fiona Bylsma - Assistant Principal

From the REC

During Holy Week, all the students at St Agatha’s were engaged in liturgies that reflected the events of Holy Week. It was a different approach to other years but a very valuable learning opportunity for our students to understand the sequence of events that led to Jesus’ Death and Resurrection. After each liturgy, the students had the opportunity to delve deeper into their learning through discussion and further activities with their teachers. I would like to thanks all the teachers who put a lot of thought into creating these prayer liturgies and learning opportunities for our students.

Here are a couple of reflections from Year 3 after their Palm Sunday liturgy.

You wouldn’t believe it. I’ve been waiting so long but it finally happened. Jesus, yes Jesus rode a donkey down
a path and everyone put some bright green palms and shirts on the path for Jesus and the donkey to walk on. It was the most magnificent, awesome, coolest and amazing day of my life and we all yelled out Hosanna. by Ben

If I was there I would put my big jacket on the floor and wave my palm when Jesus comes through. When the donkey goes on my jacket I will feel special because my jacket was just blessed by God. When Jesus comes I will feel excited because the son of God is coming to my town. by Elaina

Our Religious Education curriculum allows our students to express their learning through many ways. I would like to share an example of the wonderful work that is being done in Year One. The students were learning about Zacchaeus and were able to respond in a variety of ways, for example, written, drawing and drama. Here is a written version and a picture of some students acting out the story.

**The Story of Zacchaeus  by Mark Wassef  1Blue**
Zacchaeus was a tax collector. He always cheated people. One day Zacchaeus heard that Jesus was coming to town. “I want to see him, but I don’t think he wants to talk to me.” He decided to climb a sycamore tree so he can see Jesus. When Jesus saw him he said, “Come down Zacchaeus. I want to go to your house to eat.” Zacchaeus gave the people more money than he stole from them.

I want to provide opportunities for parents to attend Parent Prayer so I am trying a new time. There are many parents who are on the grassy area each afternoon, so I thought I would offer the opportunity for you to engage in prayer reflection at 2:45, just before the bell goes. I will trial it next term in Weeks 4 and 8. Please come and bring your toddlers. It is a non-threatening way of prayer where you can sit and relax before the madness of the end of the day.

Please keep Tina Muscat and her family in our prayers as her father has recently passed away. Tina does an amazing job in preparing our children for their Sacraments.

God bless

Vicki Ford - REC

**From the Parish**
The Easter ceremonies attracted very big numbers this year. The parish has received many messages of appreciation. It was great to see many of our families from St Agatha’s school participate.

On Sunday 3rd April we look forward to Bishop Peter celebrating Mass at Redfield College (8.30am) and at St Agatha’s for Divine Mercy Sunday (special Mass at 2pm).

We farewell Fr Joseph Choi this week. We thank him for his ministry at St Agatha’s and wish him well as he begins at Wyoming on Sunday 3rd April.

The priests and members of the parish team wishing all the staff, students and their families well for the school holidays.

Fr Paul

**From the Library**
Congratulations to Taj Pereira, Jemima Moore, William Gillooly, Caitlin Goh, Samantha Goh and Ben Cullen who have completed the Premier’s Reading Challenge. Remember you may enter books read since September last year.

Kindergarten and new student’s passwords should be going home today. Please use pen and paper to record your books until then.

Julie Mason and Vicki Ford
**From the Sports Desk**

**Cross Country**

Congratulations to the following Cross Country Age Champions:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age</th>
<th>Boy</th>
<th>Girl</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Liam Worne</td>
<td>Caitlin Shannon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Riley Pereira</td>
<td>Isabella Pereira</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Jack Lovell</td>
<td>Charlotte Prasad</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Joshua Easton</td>
<td>Olivia Martin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Tom Martin</td>
<td>Charlotte Hall</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

A squad of 60 runners will be representing St Agatha’s at the North Shore Cluster Cross Country in Week 2 Term 2. Congratulations to Therry house who were the overall winners of the Cross Country.

**Kristen Vella - Sports Co-ordinator**

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**Uniform Shop**

Winter uniforms are now available in the uniform shop. We will be changing into winter uniforms next term and all children will need to be in winter uniform by Monday the 9th of May 2016. As there are a few public holiday Monday’s between now and then, please make sure you have your uniforms by that date. Visit the uniform shop or order online.

A reminder that school sport shoes as part of the St Agatha’s uniform, should be **predominantly white with just a small amount of colour** as described in the St Agatha’s Uniform and Grooming Policy.

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**From the P&F**

Minutes from the P&F Meeting held on the 2nd March are now available on the School Website. You can find them under School Community or [click here](#) to access.

A reminder about our 2016 Parent Social survey. We would love to have an event that connects the whole school community, and would love your feedback. Please complete the 2016 Parent Social Survey by clicking on the following link- [https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/F2SGBHL](https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/F2SGBHL).

**Jocelyn Hordern-Smith - P&F President**

0412 114 038

[jhordernsmith@gmail.com](mailto:jhordernsmith@gmail.com)

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**Silver Awards**

Congratulations to the following students who have obtained their Silver Awards.

Charlize S, Lachlan T

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**Community News**

**Play hockey for Northern Districts**

**Happy Birthday to:**

Mitchell A, Isaiah M, Isobel L, Finntin G, Benjamin W, Charlotte L, Christina M, Kate S, Nicholas T

**TROOSH  Contact Greg on 0423 647 607**