Dear Families,

We have had an outstanding last couple of weeks with a huge range of activities and events being held at Resurrection. We held our School Christmas concert on Monday evening, Year 1/2 Out and About Day to Fairy Park, and the Prep swimming program just to name a few. I would like to thank all the staff and parents that have assisted at and supported these events.

**ADVENT**

This Sunday is the Second Sunday of Advent.

**ADVENT REFLECTION**

The weeks leading up to Christmas are always full of things that need to be done before the year ends. We race through the day, often without reflecting on what Advent is really about. As busy as most of us are, it is important to stop for a little while, to reflect and live the Advent experience.

Evergreen branches also symbolize Christ. As evergreens stand firm against the barren winter, Christ stands firm against the barrenness of sin and death, beckoning us to eternal life. The circular shape of the wreath reminds us that all is complete in Christ and that all is brought to perfect union in him.

**CLASSROOM MINI-WORKING BEE**

In the last weeks of school, we request that each class have their own MINI-WORKING BEE. Many jobs need to be completed in all classrooms to prepare them for 2016, eg. washing of chairs and tables, dusting, cleaning out cupboards, washing dirty walls, sorting games etc. If you are able to assist, please speak to your child’s teacher to organise a convenient time. Teachers will really appreciate any help they receive.
WORKING BEE

Thanks to all those who attended and contributed to the upkeep of our facilities! The photos show the efforts completed by the families who attended. Your efforts have ensured our grounds and buildings continue to look great.

PARISH CHRISTMAS PARTY

Last night over 200 parishioners gathered to celebrate their year’s work at our annual Christmas party. Everyone enjoyed the food and the company of those who gathered.
CHRISTMAS CONCERT

On Monday evening we had our Christmas Carol Concert with Peter Kearney. Thank you to all the families and students who attended, despite the wild weather that we had. It was a great night with families joining in the community spirit by sharing a picnic together and celebrating the spirit of Christmas. Our new Principal John Connors enjoyed the night and spoke highly of the wonderful Resurrection community atmosphere that was present on the night and he looks forward to joining our vibrant school in 2016. Special thanks goes out to Frances Barone for all the hard work that she put in for the night, the Utoasega Family who donated the bread and sausages, the Fundraising Group as well as the teachers and staff that also worked tirelessly to ensure the evening was a great success.

2016 ORIENTATION

Over the past couple of weeks, the class teachers have been putting a great deal of time and effort into placing students for 2016. Parents are reminded that many factors are taken into account when classes (for the upcoming year) are formulated, as we are obviously striving to achieve a balance in areas such as gender, academic ability, co-curricular strengths, talents, class dynamics, etc. Please remember your child is placed in a grade where they will work to the best of their ability (not necessarily with all of their friends). Orientation will occur next Tuesday 8th December.

MISSING RESOURCES

Visitors to Resurrection often comment on the wonderful library and classroom resources we have. As we prepare for the end of the year, one of our tasks is to do a stocktake all of our Library resources and take-home readers. Unfortunately many of these, for one reason or another, go missing over the course of the year. It would be much appreciated if families, as they prepare for Christmas, could check bookshelves, children’s bedrooms and other places around the home and look for any books or materials belonging to the school. Any books and materials belonging to the school that are found may be returned as soon as possible.
GRADE 1 AND 2 EXCURSION TO FAIRY PARK

On Friday the 27th of November the Grade 1 and 2 children went to Fairy Park in Anakie. Each class explored Fairy Park and looked at the 36 different fairy tale displays. Some of the favourite attractions were Rapunzel’s tower, the castle and the giant green dragon. The highlight of the day was definitely the amazing adventure playground. After a long day we arrived back at school to have pizza for dinner. It was delicious! It was a fantastic way to celebrate our hard work this year!

REPORTS

Children’s 2nd semester Reports will be sent home on Friday 11th December. If you have any questions about your child’s report please speak to your child’s classroom teacher.

2015 YEAR 6 GRADUATION AND FAREWELL CEREMONY

On Monday 14th December, all Year 6 families are encouraged to attend the Year 6 Graduation Ceremony starting at 7.00pm with a prayer service followed by presentation of certificates.

DONATIONS

We are currently seeking second hand uniform donations, including school shoes that are in good condition. If you are able to assist with this request could you please leave the donation items at the school office.
Resurrection School Staff invite All Families

To join us in giving thanks for the 2015 School Year
On Thursday 10th December
at 9.15am at Resurrection Church

2015 & 2016 ADVANCE NOTICE:

- School finishes for 2015 on Friday 18th December at 1.00pm.
- Parent/Child/Teacher chats will be held on Thursday 28th January 2016 for all families (more information to follow soon)
- School begins on Friday 29th January 2016 for Preps (only)
- Year 1-6 children begin on Monday 1st February 2016.

CHRISTMAS HAMPER RAFFLE

This year we are having a Christmas Hamper Raffle. We are asking each child to donate an item of food or something associated with Christmas, such as bonbons, decorations etc. which will be placed into a hamper. All hampers will be raffled in December. Please send your item with your child on the casual dress day on Monday 7th December.

Christmas Hamper wrapping will be on Wednesday 9th December at 9am. This will also be our Final Fundraising Meeting for 2015.

Raffle books will be sent home soon. Many hampers to be won. 50 cents per ticket or $5.00 per book which are due back Friday 11th December. Raffle will be drawn on Monday 14th December (last year we had over 70 hampers).

PRAYER

Lord, this Advent, give us your Spirit to change our lives and see the divine in unexpected places and people.
In your name
Amen

Thought for the Week

You cannot paint a masterpiece without the paint.
Kay.

Best Wishes,

Mark Miatello
Acting Principal
OSHClub News
Before School / After School Care Program

Program Update

Highlights from last week

Last week, the children assisted educators in cleaning. One major job was to give the chairs a wash, as they were very sticky. The children used buckets of water with some sponges to do the cleaning; they all did a fantastic job.

The children also used shaving cream to draw and create some designs on the table. The children had so much fun and the tables ended up being very clean.

Next Week’s Activities for week commencing 7 December 2015

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<td>Before Care Activities</td>
<td>Christmas banner</td>
<td>Popstick</td>
<td>Handmade</td>
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<td>Stain glass</td>
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<td>Balloon blowing race</td>
<td>Christmas tree</td>
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<td>Bombard</td>
<td>Cat and mouse in pairs</td>
<td>Clothes peg race</td>
<td>Eye ball relay</td>
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<td>After Care Activities</td>
<td>Stained glass designs</td>
<td>Stained Glass Christmas tree</td>
<td>Stained Glass designs</td>
<td>Decorating biscuits</td>
<td>Children’s Face Christmas ornament</td>
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<td>Wheelbarrow race</td>
<td>Zig Zag ball passes</td>
<td>Underarm Return Relay</td>
<td>Three legged races (sack races)</td>
<td>Sack Relay</td>
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IMPORTANT NOTES:

- Parents and carers please park your car in gate 3 when collecting your child from after school care.
- Please ensure your child has a hat. OSHClub has a strict policy on wearing hats in term 1 and term 4.

Parent Information

OSHC program phone: 0408 477 328 (during program hours)
Coordinator: Judy Leckie
Assistant: Kelly, Melanie, & Rizza

OSHClub Head Office: 03 8564 9000

All families must be enrolled to attend the program, remember this is Free!! Please create an account online at www.oshclub.com.au all bookings and cancellations can also be managed via your online account. For on the day bookings please contact the Coordinator direct at the program.
PILGRAM TALK

Fr Noel will give a talk on Monday 7 December in the Community Centre at 7pm on the part pilgrimage has played in church history. He will focus on the Camino Santiago and offer advice and encouragement to anyone who is thinking about making a pilgrimage; including all those contemplating walking as pilgrims next Sunday.

S.O.S.

If you are not able to make the pilgrim walk to the cathedral on December 13; are you prepared to be on stand-by in case any of the pilgrims need assistance?

What is required is that you would make your telephone number available and be prepared to come in your car to pick up any parishioner in difficulty. Most pilgrims will make their own arrangements, however we need a few people on standby - just in case.

If you are able to help would you kindly leave your contact details at the Welcome Desk or the Parish Office 93678177 email kingspark@cam.org.au

Also if you are able to be at one of the churches we will visit just to check up on everybody please contact as above. We can give you a list of the churches and expected times of arrival.

A CALL TO SERVE

Last weekend parishioners had the opportunity of committing to at least one Parish Ministry for 12 months commencing from 1 February 2016.

Did you make a commitment?

Serving others is central to being a Christian. It is recorded John’s Gospel that after Jesus had washed the disciples’ feet he said, “So if I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another’s feet” (Jn. 13:14). The word “Ministry” comes from a Latin word meaning service. Every Christian should take this instruction of Jesus seriously. Most Catholics serve others by participating in a ministry in their parish.

Are you following Jesus’ instruction? In what way do you serve? It does not matter if you are new to Resurrection or you have been here for a long time there is a ministry for you. A description of each ministry is available from the Parish Office or from the Welcome Desk. It may also be accessed from the parish web www.res-parish.org

ADORATION DURING ADVENT

During Advent there will be an opportunity for parishioners to have some quiet time and prayer in front of the Blessed Sacrament. Come and spend one hour with Jesus on Tuesday 8th December – Feast of the Immaculate Conception from 12.00pm – 1.00pm.

CHRISTMAS NEEDS YOU

Do you realize that with six Christmas Masses this year over 450 parishioners are required to exercise one ministry or another? Each Mass requires 4 Proclaimers, 12-18 Special Ministers of Communion, 6-8 Hospitality Ministers, 12-16 Collectors, 20+ in each Choir, 2 (at least) car park attendants, 1 Mass Overseer, 1 Data Projectionist, 6 handing out Christmas Bulletins, 4 to straighten chairs etc. after each Mass.
This does not include the 80-100 required to deliver the Christmas brochures.

Sign up sheets available from this weekend.

**WORKING BEE**

Last weekend’s working bee was a great success. Many jobs were completed. There also was a great spirit among those who came. Thank you, the next working bee is Saturday 27th February. Mark your calendar.

**A BIT OF HISTORY FOR SALE**

Our plastic chairs have served us well since Archbishop Little consecrated our church on 4 June 1993. However new chairs have been ordered and will be in place by Christmas.

Should any parishioner be interested in purchasing any of the old chairs they are on sale for $20 each or $150 for 10. Expressions of interest are invited by contacting our parish office on 9367 8177 or email kingspark@cam.org.au

**ST VINCENT DE PAUL**

Thank you for supporting St Vinnies with your donations of food hampers, toys and money. The Vinnies team will be distributing these donations before Christmas to our local area in St Albans, Kings Park, Albanvale, St Albans West up to east Esplanade and Delahey.

Throughout the year, Vinnies i.e. St Albans West Conference to which we belong, have visited households and provided support to 71 adults & 53 kids on a monthly average.

We are proud to belong to a parish that supports the least of its brothers and sisters.

Wish you all a very Happy and Joyful Christmas. Peace health and happiness for the New Year!

Your Vinnies team: Caroline Concessio, Heidi Taranto, Pat Marek, Sue & Dan Christie, Gina & Hugh Snudden, Lorna Salalila, Rocky Hughes, Suzanna Tienzo, Luisa Fletcher, Julia James, Anna & Andrew Cassar, Miro Jencik, Joe Borg, Imaleta, Eddie Medilo & Karen D'Souza