Dear Parents and Caregivers,

This term, students and teachers have been working hard to improve in all areas of Mathematics. Stage 2 and Stage 3 students have been working on tasks developed by Professor Peter Sullivan from Monash University, who has a professional learning partnership with the Parramatta Catholic Education Office.

Professor Sullivan says engagement of students in mathematics is critical to improve numeracy results. ‘Fundamentally, we have problems with the teaching of mathematics. There are not enough students finishing school, studying mathematics; the students who do study mathematics don’t like it; it appears that they don’t progress much; some students don’t progress at all beyond about Grade 3 and I think we have to think about can we teach maths in different ways?’,

‘In maths, we want the students to be the ones creating the mathematics not the teachers,’ said Professor Sullivan. ‘Not only do students learn the mathematics, but they actually appreciate better the idea of doing tasks that are more challenging and the teachers stepping back and letting them find their own solutions for themselves.’

Below is a task given to Stage 2 students and some of the work they achieved:

By letting our students do hard thinking with challenging tasks, we are creating engaged and persistent students who are motivated about learning and achieving fantastic results.

We are having a morning Maths Mania session next Wednesday 4 November at 8:30am for parents and children and then a new Kindy parent session at 9:30am.

God bless,
Kathryn Salkeld, Assistant Principal
All Saints Day and the Feast of the Holy Souls

Next week the church will celebrate two important events - All Saints Day and the Feast of the Holy Souls.

On the feast of All Saints, we honour men and women who have led lives that set an example for all Christians. Whether canonised or not, these people have truly witnessed their faith and teach us that no matter how rich we are or how well known we are or how wonderful our job is, our life is nothing without love. What really matters is how much we love God, others, and ourselves, and how well we show that love in all we do. Saints are people who want to make the world a better place.

The tradition of All Souls day was begun in the eleventh century by Saint Odilo a Benedictine Abbot who insisted that all in his monasteries would pray for the dead on the day after All Saints Day. Christians have always prayed for those who have died and are waiting for the full joy of Heaven. At Holy Trinity during the month of November, there will be a book of the names of Student and Staff family members who have died kept on the prayer focus in the school foyer. Let’s remember these people as we say the special prayer for the deceased.

Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace. Amen

Act justly, love tenderly and walk humbly with your God,

Mrs Amy Press, Religious Education Coordinator

---

Staff Development Day
Friday 20th November
No School for Student

New Baby
Congratulations to the Joseph family on the recent birth of a new baby girl, Dinah on Tuesday, 20th October, weighing 2.8 kg, a sister for Hannah in Kinder.

MERIT AWARDS
Congratulations to the children who have received their class award for week ending 23.10.15

Kindergarten  
Laasya Gaddi  
Olivia Taliauli

Year One  
Christabelle Al Katrib  
Fatmata Bah

Year Two  
Elly Hur  
Lucy Sultana

Year Three  
Neha Nair  
Jayden Toauk

Year Four  
Claressa Bechara  
Katerina Bui

Year Five  
Marnely Pelayo  
Abraham Tannous

Year Six  
Daniel Berou  
J Filo

Calendar Dates

Thursday 29th October  -  World Teachers’ Day
Friday 30th October    -  Mass – Year 3
Sunday 1st November   -  All Saints Day
Monday 2nd November   -  All Souls Day
Wednesday 4th November -  Kinder 2016 Orientation Day No 2 - 9.30-12noon
Thursday 5th November  -  Confirmation at Holy Family – 7pm
Friday 6th November    -  Mass – Year 2
                        -  Assembly Stage 2 in MacKillop Hall at 2.40pm
Saturday 7th November  -  Working Bee – 8-11.00am

Students of the Week
Week ending 23.10.15

Kindergarten  
Nyimeda Angui

Year One  
Simon Elzain

Year Two  
Ahmed Deng

Year Three  
Elvis Nguyen

Year Four  
Kaiser Anae Roberts

Year Five  
Andre Berou

Year Six  
Christopher Sande

Canteen Roster
Friday 30th October  -  Rosette Bou-Francis, Volunteer
Tuesday 3rd November -  Mabel Chen, Janine Estephane
Friday 6th November  -  Sophie Depares, Amanda George
Tuesday 10th November -  Lisa El-Hajj, Volunteer Needed
Friday 13th November -  Dianna Asmar, Joanne Batistic

New Baby
Congratulations to the Joseph family on the recent birth of a new baby girl, Dinah on Tuesday, 20th October, weighing 2.8 kg, a sister for Hannah in Kinder.

MERIT AWARDS
Congratulations to the children who have received their class award for week ending 23.10.15

Kindergarten  
Laasya Gaddi  
Olivia Taliauli

Year One  
Christabelle Al Katrib  
Fatmata Bah

Year Two  
Elly Hur  
Lucy Sultana

Year Three  
Neha Nair  
Jayden Toauk

Year Four  
Claressa Bechara  
Katerina Bui

Year Five  
Marnely Pelayo  
Abraham Tannous

Year Six  
Daniel Berou  
J Filo

Calendar Dates

Thursday 29th October  -  World Teachers’ Day
Friday 30th October    -  Mass – Year 3
Sunday 1st November   -  All Saints Day
Monday 2nd November   -  All Souls Day
Wednesday 4th November -  Kinder 2016 Orientation Day No 2 - 9.30-12noon
Thursday 5th November  -  Confirmation at Holy Family – 7pm
Friday 6th November    -  Mass – Year 2
                        -  Assembly Stage 2 in MacKillop Hall at 2.40pm
Saturday 7th November  -  Working Bee – 8-11.00am
Why is my kid building patterns again?
The Importance of Patterning.

Posted on October 4, 2015 by kellivogstad

This post is written for all those parents who have ever wondered why their child, whether in kindergarten, grade three, or grade seven, is exploring, identifying, creating, and naming patterns in Math class. It is also for the many teachers who want to help parents understand the importance of patterning.

Researchers say that when children explore and learn about patterns, we help them build important foundations for later number work. Creating, extending, naming, and talking about patterns help build strong mathematicians. Even the most scholarly mathematicians can be challenged with studying patterns. In many classrooms, students of all ages learn about patterns at the beginning of their school year. Patterns are at the heart of math. The ability to recognize and create patterns help us make predictions based on our observations; this is an important skill in math. Understanding patterns help prepare children for learning complex number concepts and mathematical operations.

Our Math Curriculum, from kindergarten to grade seven, identifies and describes the big ideas behind the tasks and activities students are engaged in and working on in their classrooms. These big ideas are:

- We use patterns to represent identified regularities and to form generalizations.
- Patterns allow us to see relationships and develop generalizations.
  Patterns are everywhere! From the very simple patterns that repeats with two or three elements, to repeating patterns with multiple elements attributes.

Students learn to identify and create increasing and decreasing patterns, to name rules for patterns with words, numbers, symbols, and variables. Older students learn to record and manipulate number patterns using tables, charts, and graphs. Learning about patterns provides students with an understanding of mathematical relationships, which is a basis for understanding algebra, analysing data, and solving complex mathematical problems.

We find patterns in math, but we also find patterns in nature, art, music, and literature. Patterns provide a sense of order in what might otherwise appear chaotic. Researchers have found that understanding and being able to identify recurring patterns allow us to make educated guesses, assumptions, and hypothesis; it helps us develop important skills of critical thinking and logic. The knowledge and understanding of patterns can be transferred into all curriculum areas and open many doors where this knowledge can be applied.
And so, when you see your child building a repeated pattern with blocks, recording a decreasing number pattern in their math journal, or creating a table of increasing multiples to solve a mathematical problem, you will know that they are building important foundations for future learning.

I invite families to explore and have fun with patterning at home. Go on a pattern hunt and identify and name patterns all around you. Create patterns with shapes and colours, letters, numbers, and variables. Share them, extend them, and record them. Talk about how patterns influence the world in which we live and the decisions we make.

Now when someone asks why are children building patterns again in school, you will be able to tell them the importance of patterning.

Article link: http://kellivogstad.com/2015/10/04/why-is-my-kid-building-patterns-again-the-importance-of-patterning/