

Update

Term 3 Issue 1

web: www.emmauskempscreek.catholic.edu.au

We walk with Jesus

Phone: 9670 4588

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2015 Important dates

TERM 3

July

24th Yr 7 Pastoral Day
27th Trial HSC begins
28th Yr 8 Retreat

August

7th Census Day
10th Trial HSC concludes
24th Sport Photo Day
28th Walkathon
31st Yr 11 Retreat

September

4th Yr 10 Pastoral Day
9th HSC Showcase
14th Yr 12 Rehearsal for Mass
15th and Final Assembly
16th Yr 12 Final Assembly
Graduation Mass / Awards
17th Yr 12 Formal
18th Mini Sports Carnival
End of Term 3

From the Principal

"I will achieve more"

Dear parents, students and staff,

Welcome back to Term 3! This week the lead article for our newsletter was written by two of our Sudanese students. It originated from focus group discussions Ms. Bowd and I had last term. One of the things that I came to realise during our discussion was how little I really knew about some of our students. This article is the first step in addressing this and I would encourage any students who would like their story heard to contact me.

I hope you enjoy learning about the situation in Sudan.

*God bless
Brad*

SOUTH-SUDAN INDEPENDENCE DAY

How would you feel if your country split in half and went to war? This was the experience that Sudan went through. Our country has been at war throughout its history and this includes two civil wars. We thought that it would be good to share with you a little bit of the history of our country.

In 1955, the northern part of Sudan and southern Sudan region had their first civil war due to the South wanting their own independent government. The North disagreed with their request and the two opposing sides went to war. The conflict lasted for 17 years and came to an end in 1972 with the Addis Ababa Agreement between the Southern Sudan Liberation Movement and the Government. However, there was still a lot of tension between the North and the South.

The second civil war that was a contributing factor in leading to South Sudan's independence, occurred in 1983. President Jaafar Nimeiry wanted to impose Islamic laws for the whole country, although the Southern Sudanese were Christians. This caused a dispute, which led the Sudan Liberation Army to fight against the Government of Sudan until a peace agreement was reached in 1989 and suspended the law that was enforced. Sadly, a significant impact of the second civil war was the killing of 2.5 million people and 4 million people displaced. The war was ongoing until January 9th 2005. Following this a six-year period was given before a referendum took place to decide to confirm unity or to separate. 98.8% wanted to separate while 1.2% agreed on unity between the North and the South. So, on July 9th 2011, the Republic of South Sudan was born!

College Leadership Teams

Executive

Principal Dr Campbell

Principal's Personal Assistant

Mrs Lawton

Assistant Principal Ms Bowd

Director of Learning & Mission

Mrs Kennaugh

Director of Learning & Teaching

Mr Welch

Director of Learning & Curriculum

Mr Conway

Director of Learning & Welfare

Mr Simpson

Director of Learning & Innovation

Ms Dalli

Heads of Teaching Mr Pahlke

Ms Bainbridge

Business Manager Mr Moran

Leaders of Welfare

Year 7 Mr Whiley

Year 8 Mr Brunt

Year 9 Mr Loutas

Year 10 Mr Scerri

Year 11 Mrs Luke

Year 12 Mrs Harris

Leaders of Learning

REC Mrs Kennaugh

Learning Support Mrs Tosh

English Ms Lathouras

Mathematics Mr Ibrahim

PDHPE Mr Stein

HSIE Mrs Hawkins

TAS Mr Bauer

Creative Arts Mrs Fante

Science Ms Dodds

Leader of Sport Mr Stein

Language Mr Jung

Library Mrs Ellery

VET Co-ordinator Mrs Pereira

Careers Adviser Mrs Ellery

Along with the newborn country was a new flag full of important symbolism. The flag consists of a black strip at the top which represents African skin; the red symbolises the blood that was shed in the struggle for freedom; green for the land; white means the peace received after the conflict, blue is the Nile river which was the main source of water and the star represents the unity of the states of South Sudan.

On this day we feel a great sense of community. We feel privileged to be a part of a strong community who recognizes the past, celebrates the present and looks forward to the future. We feel grateful that we can be a part of something this special and that we may continue this tradition by passing on the stories told to us to the next generation. We feel blessed to have an exceptional understanding of what the Independence Day actually means to the South Sudanese society, even though we didn't experience the wars firsthand. This is our history and it is so important that we don't forget it. We wanted to share this with the Emmaus Community because we wanted to give people an insight into the struggles that our country faced, so that what they did to get here is remembered by future generations.

By Athal Tiap (10.1) and Akout Kuot (10.4)



GOSPEL CONCERT

“SPIRIT OF JOY”

DATE/TIME:

Saturday, 5th September 2015, 3pm to 5.30pm

LOCATION:

Mount Schoenstatt Spirituality Centre
230 Fairlight Road
Mulgoa NSW 2745

WHAT TO BRING:

- Fold up chairs
- Picnic blanket
- Torch
- Picnic dinner-food also available to purchase.
- Mozzie spray-just in case

This is an outdoor event, please be prepared for changes in weather conditions.

PROCEEDS: Repairs & Maintenance of the Home of Light, a retreat style accommodation facility used by schools, youth groups, community and religious groups.

ABOUT:

To bring people of all religious traditions together to feel the joy of God, through spiritually uplifting/upbeat music & song. Come share the joy!

Enquiries: manager@schoenstatt.org.au Ph: 47738338

TICKETS: Purchase at [trybooking.com-link:](http://www.trybooking.com/144537)

<http://www.trybooking.com/144537>

\$12 for adults

\$8 for school age children

\$35 for family of 2 adults-up to 4 school age children

Children under 5 – free

Assistant Principal

2015 Term Dates

Term 3: July 13 - Sept 18

Term 4: Oct 6 - Dec 18th

Uniform Shop

Trading Hours are 8am–2pm
Monday and Wednesday

Our Parishes

Holy Spirit

Todd Row, St Clair
Ph: 9670 8222

Our Lady of the Rosary

Saddington Street, St Marys
Ph: 9623 1962

Our K-6 Schools

Trinity Primary

61-83 Bakers Lane,
Kemps Creek. Ph: 9834 3212

Holy Spirit Primary

7-17 Todd Row, St Clair
Ph: 9670 5379

Our Lady of the Rosary

Yr K-6 Saddington St, St Marys
Ph: 9623 2500

Annual Emmaus Walk – Major School Fundraiser for 2015

During Week 7 of Term 3, the school community will be involved in the 'Annual Emmaus Walk'; a fun day to raise funds for a much needed covered area in the bus bay. The estimated cost of the work that is planned for this area is \$200,000. Last year's Emmaus Walk raised close to \$40,000 and this year it is hoped that we will raise another significant portion of this cost. Work will begin on the construction of this area towards the end of this term.

Once again, all parents are warmly invited to be involved by helping with supervision of the Emmaus Walk or cooking/serving lunch for the students. All students will be bringing home their 2015 Walkathon Card this Wednesday, as well as a note to parents/guardians outlining more specific details, as well as ways you can assist.

To obtain Sponsors, each student has been issued with a 'sponsorship card' and **everyone is encouraged to attempt to raise a minimum of \$50 before the Emmaus Walk**. This amount includes the cost of lunch on the day and the hire costs for the carnival rides.

Students may obtain Business Sponsorship by obtaining a 'Business Sponsorship' letter from Student Services, have the company complete all details and return the form and a business card to the student foyer. All money promised by Business Sponsorships is added to the student's personal tally. Business Sponsorships will be acknowledged through our newsletter after the Emmaus Walk.

Your child's 'sponsorship card' must be brought in *each Tuesday* for checking and tallying. Please note that there is a \$2 fee to replace any lost 'sponsorship card'. There are various incentive awards for students who actually raise sponsorship by seeking neighbourhood and community sponsorships through their own initiative. Those students who collect and **return all their sponsorship money** (\$50 minimum applies) to the school by **Friday 14th August** will receive special tokens for unlimited use of the carnival rides and other VIP privileges.

Importantly, there is a very clear expectation that all students will make an effort to contribute.

If your child is unable to walk on the day, a note explaining the reasons must be brought before the Emmaus Walk and those students will be allocated jobs to assist with the running of the Emmaus Walk. If your child is absent on the day, a teacher may walk as a substitute for your child so that sponsorship money promised or a donation can still be made.

All sponsorship money is to be collected and returned to the school on or before **Friday 21st August**. Prizes will be awarded to the students who raise the most money and return it to school – both on an individual and Homeroom basis.

We encourage all students, parents and families to be involved in this very important event for the College, as it is a great community builder. A fun aspect of The Emmaus Walk is dressing up in various themes. This year a fashion parade will be held with various prizes awarded for outstanding efforts in various categories. Details of the theme for each year group will be provided in coming weeks.

Ms Bowd, Assistant Principal

Director of Learning and Welfare

The commencement of Term 3 has seen a real focus on one of the College's primary goals this year- developing positive relationships. On the first Monday of Term, College teaching and support staff were involved in professional development activities that emphasised building an understanding of adolescent behaviours and restorative practice strategies.

This was complemented on Wednesday when the College celebrated the induction of the new Student Leadership Team for 2015-16. The genuine applause for each student within the Hall reflected the excitement that surrounds the incoming group of leaders. They inherit the wonderful service passed on to them from the Year 12 students who were part of the 2014-15 team.

The focus of this year's team is to implement initiatives that assist in building an 'inclusive' community, where all students feel a strong sense of connection with not only the College but also their peers and teachers.

One initiative that will be immediately noticed is the variation in the Student Leader Ministries: for example, there are now 2 leaders assigned to each year group to assist students and staff with initiatives. They will liaise with the appointed Class Captains in Years 7-9 and representatives from senior cohorts. House, Culture & Events and Liturgy Leaders will be encouraging students from across the College to be involved in the proposed initiatives.

Congratulations are again extended to the following students:

COLLEGE CAPTAINS **Jessica Dura** and **Michael Harbouki**
VICE CAPTAINS **Georgia Lee** and **Jordan Azzopardi**

MINISTRIES

Liturgy: Marygrace Lardizabal Mikaele Tuimavave

Community: Lara Tuffin Lachlan Multari
 Caitlin Webb Lukasz Matuszewski
 Emily Chinery Jordan Azzopardi
 Kristie Borg Nicholas Ippoliti
 Georgia Lee Olivia Lord
 Jessica Dura Michael Harbouki

Culture & Events: Cultural: Klong Athum
 Social Justice: Claudia Galea
 Communications: Isaac Lemos
 Sustainability: Salvatore Turano

Sport & Recreation: Mamre: Madisen Carling Sebastian Melosi
 Cana: Rochelle Christensen Vlatko Mijatovic
 Tabor: Rachael Turner Anthony Khoury
 Jordan: Emma Willoughby Liam Devaney

Finally, with the winter cold having settled in I remind students that there are clear guidelines and expectations about the wearing of the Winter Uniform.

Whilst the majority of students wear the uniform with pride I want to stress that the blazer should be worn to and from the College at all times. Parents and students should refer to the College Learning Planner if there is consideration given to the wearing of scarves, gloves or beanies to ward off the cold. Furthermore, unless there is a note providing an explanation, male students should be clean-shaven each day.

Mr Simpson, Director of Learning and Welfare

Religious Education

Community Prayer Intentions



We have begun our Term praying as a community for particular intentions. These intentions have been focused on particular needs of families within our Emmaus community as well as wider issues that are affecting people within Australia at the present time. Every time we pray at school, these intentions are said and offered up, so at the beginning of every lesson, as well as homeroom, our students and teachers are offering up these prayers. As a community as large as ours, we are able to offer over 7,000 prayers per day! This is pretty significant.

I would like to invite you all to submit your prayer intentions to me so that we can include these in our prayers. Each day, our prayer intention changes so anything that you would like us to pray for will certainly be included. Please feel free to contact me via phone or email (dkennaugh@parra.catholic.edu.au) with either just your name or the name of the person who needs prayers at this time or, if you would like, short details about what you would like us to pray for. We also have a Book of Intentions at Student Services where students are invited to write an intention and these will be regularly reviewed and included in our prayers.

World Youth Day Raffle Tickets

As part of our commitment to the Diocesan initiatives with World Youth Day, we are required to send four students on pilgrimage to the Philippines and Poland in 2016. In order to support this, raffle tickets have been distributed to all families to help raise the funds to send these students on this very worthwhile venture.



Could I encourage you all to please sell these tickets and support our students. All tickets and monies should be returned to school at your earliest convenience. If any families would like extra books of tickets, please contact me at school and I can arrange these for you.

Thank you all, for your much appreciated support in this very worthwhile venture for our students.

*God bless
Mrs Kennaugh, Director Of Mission (REC)*





Spotlight on Creative and Performing Arts

RECORDING PROJECT

Recently selected students went into re-recording the Emmaus song.

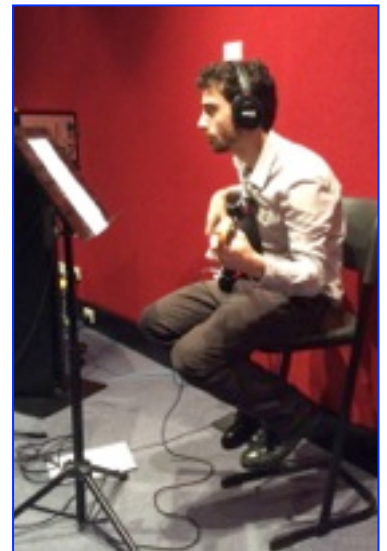
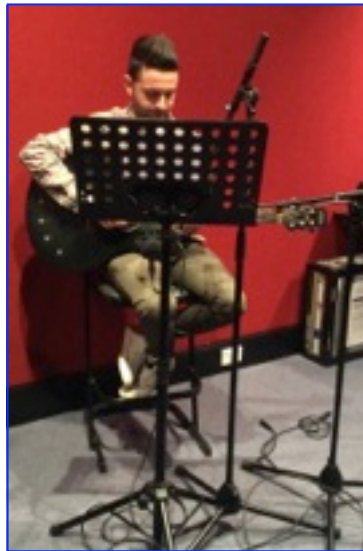
This was a fabulous opportunity for both students and staff to refine skills of performance.

The students involved in the project were: Melissa Francis
Lachlan Multari
Oliveri Yousif
Winodhee de Silva
Jasmine Suffling

I would also like to say a big thank you to Miss Granturco, Mr Ferreri and Mr Sutcliffe who joined us on the day.

The recording is currently being mixed professionally by the staff of the Learning Exchange at the Catholic Education Office Parramatta.

We look forward to the finished product and being able to share that with the Emmaus Community.



SUCCESSFUL AUDITION

Recently students from Emmaus auditioned for the Don Bosco Community Project. I am happy to say that we were successful and the committee commented on the way the Emmaus students interpreted the story of Don Bosco in drama and original song. The event will take place on August 15th.

MADDD NIGHT - Have you saved the date?

MADDD night will occur in the Sr Patricia Tully Centre on the evening of Wednesday Week 7, August 26th. Entry is via gold coin donation this year and we look forward to seeing as many Emmaus community members as possible. The evening promises a Visual Arts and Design and Technology exhibitions and displays from 5.30 until 6. At 6 o'clock there will be performances on the main stage. The major winners from the Emmaus Portrait Prize will be announced and there will be a raffle of original jewellery.



Emmaus Portrait Prize - is closing SOON. Students need to see Mrs Harris or Mrs Stevenson for an entry form. Winners will be presented at this year's MADDD Night.

Emmaus Portrait Prize is awarded to the best portrait, based on choice of an 'influential person' in your life. (Someone you know in real life!). The influential person can be someone significant to you in many ways.

Entries will be judged and prizes awarded in the following categories:

- Judge's Award (\$200 Westfield Gift Card)
- Principal's Award (\$100 Eckersley's Gift Card)
- People's Choice Award (\$100 Westfield Gift Card)
- Encouragement Award (Art Prize Pack)

For more information, please see Mrs Harris or Mrs Stevenson.

CAPTIVATE AUDITIONS

There are a few students from the College who will be auditioning for Captivate's Got Talent. We wish them well and look forward to hearing about their wonderful success stories



FAREWELL MISS GRANTURCO



I would like to acknowledge the work of Miss Granturco for the Emmaus community. Whilst at Emmaus she collaborated with many Creative and Performing Arts activities and I know she will be missed by many.

WELCOME MR CONNOLLY

I would sincerely like to welcome Mr Connolly to the Emmaus Community. Mr Connolly was indeed an ex Emmaus student, which goes to show that you can achieve anything you set out to while studying at the College. He brings a wealth of both teaching and performing experience and is excited to be working with the students of Emmaus on some very exciting projects in the future.

He has already been busy rehearsing for Christmas in July and the Assumption Mass. Mr Connolly, we hope that your stay at Emmaus is a memorable one and you walk the journey with us.



Mrs Fante, Creative and Performing Arts Leader of Learning

Sleepover with a Difference

Sleepovers with school friends have become a common event for many students. Whether for a party, music night or just to be together, the overnight visit encourages communication and affirms friendships.

Over 20 students recently participated in a different sleepover experience.

"It was so we could better understand the situation of homeless people," explained Linda Slyman of Year 9. "Of course we weren't sleeping in the streets, park or under a bridge but we were away from the comfort of our own beds".

The venue for the Winter Sleepout was the College Library where the students and staff improvised bedding with pillows and sleeping bags.

"Next year we hope we will be allowed to actually sleep outdoors", said Rachel El-Rachkidi of Year 7.

Before settling themselves on the floor, the students took part in an Amazing Race, a liturgy and had talks from representatives of the St Vincent de Paul Society on the theme and incidence of homelessness in Australia today.

"We also donated blankets and sleeping bags to the Vinnies Winter Appeal", Linda added. "It makes everything we read and hear about the struggles of homeless people seem so much more real and more urgent".

Matthew Aquilina an Emmaus student from Year 8 hopes that "next year we can sleep outside and have things a bit rough." He found the sleepout evening informative, saying "I learned things I didn't know before from the talk by the Vinnies people and I was glad I had a bag of clothes to donate". Matthew also felt that the activities of the evening were "good fun and showed us we can help people but still enjoy ourselves".

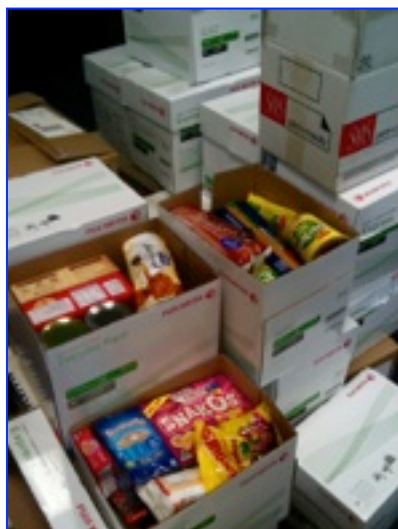
Soup kitchens and the distribution of cups of soup is a feature of the help many charitable organisations offer to the hungry. It was appropriate for the sleepout students to have a further sense of awareness by being provided with soup for dinner. Our Business Manager Mr Moran made the soup and was on site in the evening and next morning to help ensure security and safety for all. Asked why she had volunteered for the sleepout, Linda said, "I thought it would be a good way to really be part of the Winter Appeal, not only by donating items. I don't think many of us really know how it must feel to have no proper bed or even to be sure of where our next meal is coming from".

Rachel agreed. "I think everyone who spent the night at school went home appreciating how lucky most of us are."

Mrs Mowbray, Assistant Religious Education Leader of Learning commended the students for their generosity and mature attitude. "There are already students signed up for next year's Winter Sleepout", she said, thanking parents for their support and the Emmaus staff members whose energy and enthusiastic help made the evening a big success.

The Winter Appeal at Emmaus is continuing with many donations arriving daily, comprising clothing, bedding and footwear.

Aline Lyons, Publicity Officer



Breakout Spaces in the Library

Breakout Spaces in Library

We have two new rooms available for student/teacher use in the Library – these spaces are quieter “breakout” spaces for Senior students to book independently through our Librarians.

Break Out rooms could be for: - Group study - Blended classes - Practicing presentations - Quieter study - Group work - Meeting teachers - Completing assessments

Even though the new rooms are yet to be fitted with furniture, they have almost been booked out all week! I encourage students to recognise what types of work need quieter space and seek to book/utilise these two spaces.

Arranging these spaces was not without hard work from our Librarians Sharon Ellery and Rose Marsh and logistical planning of work during the holidays by our Business Manager, Paul Moran – our students thank you.

KNITTING - during the holidays 51 knitted squares were dropped off to Wrapped with Love Charity in support of their knitted blankets.

Thank you to the following staff who knitted or donated supplies:
Amelia Granturco, Pia Waring, Carmel Fante, Helen Holubinskyj, Rose Marsh, Sharon Ellery, Janet Keenan, Laraine Taranto.

Also a thank you to our student knitters in the Library who collaboratively knit squares together and to Natalie Nasr who has taken knitting down to the Emmaus Village.

This initiative will run all year round, we would love donations of wool (8ply), needles (4mm) OR knitted squares. Squares should be made in a plain knit pattern with 55 stitches so they measure 25cm square when completed.

For more information about the Wrap with Love Charity: <http://www.artsandcraftsnsw.com.au/Wrap.htm>



IMPORTANT REMINDER TO PARENTS

The staff car park is becoming dangerous!

If students are being dropped off and/or picked up from the College – the area for this is **outside** the College gates and **not** in any part of the staff carpark.



There is a sign at the car park entrance that indicates the times that this applies – 8.00-9.30am and 2.00-4.30pm. This is for the safety of our students, parents and staff. This applies all year round in wet or dry weather.

Should a student be physically incapacitated or requires special need, application can be made to the Principal for a drop off and pick up permit. Any Parent/ Caregiver having business with the College (i.e. school fees, interview, collecting from sickbay etc) during those hours are welcome to enter the staff car park and park his/her vehicle in one of the two visitors parking bays. If no parking bays are available, parking is available in Bakers Lane outside the College gates. Parking on the kerbside of the staff car park is not permitted.

ALSO PLEASE BE MINDFUL OF OUR DISABLED PARKING BAY.

The College has a clearly marked Disabled Parking Bay. These spaces are for **DISABLED DRIVERS ONLY** who display the appropriate authority. These are not to be used as quick parking spots. They must be kept clear at all times for disabled staff members and disabled visitors to the College.



From the Office

Leave for Students

New legislation will alter the way parents apply for leave for their son/daughter.

Below are the three areas of extended leave:

- (i) Leave less than 10 days - a *written note* is required from parents addressed to the Principal requesting the leave (sickness, surgery, holidays).
- (ii) Leave 10 days or more - the completion of an "*Application for Leave*" form is submitted to the Principal for approval. This form is available at the College Office.
- (iii) Participation in Elite Sports / Arts, Entertainment and Extenuating Family Circumstances - the completion of an "Exemption from Attendance" form is submitted to the Principal for approval.

From the Diocese

Child Protection Information Line - Royal Commission

– the Catholic Education Diocese of Parramatta has established a Child Protection Information Line in response to the Royal Commission into Institutional Child Sexual Abuse. The dedicated Information Line will provide information about how schools are handling child protection matters and will be able to respond to individual enquiries and assist people who have concerns or help them take allegations to the police. It can also put people in touch with appropriate support services if needed.

The Child Protection Information Line is 1300 661 015 (cost of a local call within Australia). The line is available outside of school hours and connects directly to a Catholic Education Office staff member. A message service is also available on this line.

Parent Representative Council

Term 3 General Meeting will be held on Monday August 3rd, 2015. Unpacking NAPLAN and a case study for improvement. The evening will begin at 7pm at the Diocesan Assembly Centre, cnr Flushcombe Road and Marion Street, Blacktown.

From the Community



HAWKS ST CLAIR
Cricket

Play Cricket!

2015/16 Season Approaching Fast!
Fun, exciting games for ages 5 through to Adult. Maximum participation for all players is encouraged through modified game formats.

Millo Program for 5 to 8 year olds teaches basic skills, run during the week for 10 weeks, Oct to Dec.

All other ages (from 6 to 15 years old) play on a Saturday morning. Girls are most welcome.

Competition begins mid-September.
Men's competition also available on Saturday afternoons.

Registration Dates
10am – 2pm
St Clair Shopping Centre
26th July, 2nd, 9th & 16th August

For more information
Web: stclaihawks.nsw.cricket.com.au
Email: stclaihawks@stclai.nsw.cricket.com.au
Ph: 0410-448689 Facebook: www.facebook.com/stclaihawks

Flyers are available from Student Services

The Catholic Diocese of Parramatta wants to hear from you

If you or someone close to you has suffered **ANY** abuse by a representative of the Catholic Church (school, parish, other Catholic group) in Western Sydney and the Blue Mountains we invite you to contact us. Our professional staff will listen to your experience, respect your confidentiality and discuss all available options.

You can contact us on:

Phone: (02) 9933 0233
Web: www.parra.catholic.org.au/safeguarding
Email: safeguarding@parra.catholic.org.au
Mail: PO BOX 3066 North Parramatta, NSW, 1750

For any complaints that may relate to criminal conduct we encourage you to contact **NSW Police on 1800 333 000**



Funerals of Compassion

A Family business committed to caring for your family in your time of need.

A part of the Penrith community – "locals caring for local people"
Call John or Vicki Musumeci at anytime, 24 hours
Phone: 1300 906 060 or 0408 116 747
329 Wentworth Road, Orchard Hills
Quality Care and Compassion with No Comprise

