



7-17 Todd Row, ST CLAIR NSW 2759
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31st July, 2017

Dear Parents and Carers,

RELIGIOUS LITERACY

The Bishops of NSW and ACT in 'Catholic Schools at a Crossroads ' invite educational leaders and staff, clergy and religious, parents and parish communities, to dedicate themselves to ensuring that our schools are "truly Catholic in their identity and life" and "enable our students to achieve high levels of 'Catholic religious literacy' and practice."

With you, we are concerned to develop children's literacy in every area of learning, and this includes Religious Education. In one sense, a focus on 'religious literacy' is not new. Religious Education in Catholic schools has always aimed to develop children's capacity to express their growing understanding, appreciation, thoughts, questions and insights into God, Jesus, the Scriptures, the Church, the Sacraments, Prayer and life as a Christian. This is essential to their participation in the religious life of the school and the parish.

There is also a religious literacy that is needed for life in a multicultural society. Increasingly we love, live and work, learn and serve with people of differing cultures, Christian traditions, world religions and other people of good will. Religious literacy assists people to communicate and cooperate with other citizens in creating a more just and compassionate Australian society. Religious literacy also assists people in their work and in their relationships with family, friends and in the workplace.

Teachers are continually assessing students' learning and reporting to you on their developing religious literacy. In addition to this school-based assessment, and in consultation with the Parramatta Diocesan Schools Board, all Year 4 and Year 6 students in Primary and Year 8 and Year 10 students in Secondary will participate in a Diocesan Assessment of their religious literacy. Students in these grades will complete an online assessment during Term 3. The students will answer a series of multiple choice questions related to their learning in Religious Education.



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In addition, Year 4 students only will complete a variety of learning tasks related to the Religious Education unit, Reconciliation: God's Forgiveness and Healing. Their achievement in completing these tasks will be formally assessed. A report based on students' completion of these assessments will be forwarded to parents during Term 4.

We continue to delight in the goodness and faith of all our children. With you, we are dedicated to their learning, their wellbeing and their continued growth and development as people made in the image and likeness of God.

Should you require further information, please contact Mrs Anne Hines via the school office.

Kind Regards

Mr Patrick Mackey
Religious Education Coordinator

Mrs Anne Hines
Principal

RELIGIOUS LITERACY ASSESSMENT: PART B

Assessment Task

1. Explain the message of forgiveness and healing from the New Testament Scripture, 'The parable of the Forgiving Father'.
2. Relate the message from the Scripture story to your own life.
3. Describe the Sacrament of Reconciliation and how it helps us to be forgiven and renew our relationship with God.
4. Plan and create a presentation (from the list below).

Choose one of the following ways to present your work:

- Design an informative poster.
- Write and design a storybook.
- Create a sculpture.
- Create an audio-visual presentation; PowerPoint or PhotoJournal.
- Design and create a magazine.
- Create a painting.
- Or your own idea – which you have discussed with your teacher.

Marking Guidelines: Reconciliation: God's Forgiveness and Healing

Task	E: Elementary	D: Basic	C: Sound	B: Thorough	A: Extensive
What did Jesus teach us about God's love and forgiveness in either the Parable of the Prodigal Son or the story of Zacchaeus?	Needs assistance to identify Jesus' teaching in the Parable of the Prodigal Son or Zacchaeus.	Gives a basic explanation of Jesus' teaching in the Parable of the Prodigal Son or Zacchaeus.	Gives a sound explanation of Jesus' teaching in the Parable of the Prodigal Son or Zacchaeus.	Gives a thorough explanation of Jesus' teaching in the Parable of the Prodigal Son or Zacchaeus.	Gives an extensive explanation of Jesus' teaching in the Parable of the Prodigal Son or Zacchaeus.
How does Jesus' teaching in this story relate to your life?	Needs assistance to relate Jesus' teaching in the Scripture to their own life.	Demonstrates in a basic way how Jesus' teaching in the Scripture relates to their own life.	Demonstrates in a sound way how Jesus' teaching in the Scripture relates to their own life.	Demonstrates in a thorough way how Jesus' teaching in the Scripture relates to their own life.	Demonstrates in an extensive way how Jesus' teaching in the Scripture relates to their own life.
Describe the Sacrament of Reconciliation	Needs assistance to identify the elements of the Sacrament of Reconciliation.	Identifies the elements of the Sacrament of Reconciliation.	Describes the elements of the Sacrament of Reconciliation, using sacrament specific terminology.	Describes in detail the elements of the Sacrament of Reconciliation, using sacrament specific terminology.	Gives an extensive description of the elements of the Sacrament of Reconciliation, using sacrament specific terminology.
Explain how the Sacrament of Reconciliation helps us to be forgiven and renew our relationship with God.	Needs assistance to explain how the Sacrament of Reconciliation helps us to renew our relationship with God	Gives a basic explanation of how the Sacrament of Reconciliation helps us to renew our relationship with God	Gives a sound explanation of how the Sacrament of Reconciliation helps us to renew our relationship with God	Gives a thorough explanation of how the Sacrament of Reconciliation helps us to renew our relationship with God	Gives an extensive explanation of how the Sacrament of Reconciliation helps us to renew our relationship with God
Plans, presents and expresses their ideas.	Needs assistance to initiate their planning and complete their presentation.	Plans and creates a presentation with a limited level of competence.	Plans and creates a presentation with an adequate level of competence.	Plans and creates a presentation with a high level of competence.	Plans and creates a presentation with a very high level of competence.