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www.mackilloppenrith.catholic.edu.au

Dear Parents and Friends of St Mary MacKillop School,

Our school constantly strives to be:

A Christ centered community which challenges students to develop their unique gifts and talents through a supportive partnership of school, parents and parish.

This week I attended the St Mary MacKillop, Parent and Friends meeting for Term Two. As always, a dedicated group of parents represented our community in guiding and advising the school on its growth and development.

One exciting item on the agenda was the review / evaluation of our 2018 fete and the announcement of the overall takings from the event. The team did a fantastic job in bringing our community together through a well organised, well attended demonstration of home, school and parish working as one. I am very pleased to announce on behalf of the P and F and the Fete committee that the profit collected from the 2018 fete is: \$20 299.59

The project that these funds will pay for was decided at the start of the year through consultation with the school staff, principal and P and F. The decision was made, that due to a number of our classroom i-pads becoming too old to remain on the school network beyond 2018, that we would purchase new i-pads for use across a number of our classrooms. The money raised through the fete ensures that we can continue the high quality of learning that we pride ourselves on at St Mary MacKillop. This learning will continue with the support of great, accessible technology. On behalf of our school........ sincere thank you to all those who contributed to making our 2018 fete an outstanding success.

Staffing News

As you know from our last newsletter, Mrs Mitchell has let me know that her intention is to take leave from teaching at the end of this term and then retire from full time teaching at the end of this year. This news was both happy and sad for me. I am happy for Mrs Mitchell and her family as she begins this next chapter of her life but sad for our community who will miss her so very much.

I invite you and any members of our St Mary MacKillop community to join us for a liturgy of celebration on Wednesday 4th July at 2pm in our school hall. At this liturgy we will farewell Mrs Mitchell and thank her for all she has given to our community and the teaching profession.

Keeping our kids Cyber-Safe

This term the staff at St Mary MacKillop have been working closely with our children to teach them how to stay safe when they are online and using technology. With Cyber-bullying becoming a significant concern for families across Australia, we decided to make 'Bullying' the focus area for our Peer Support sessions this year. Every Friday in Term 2, our students are put in mixed groups across grades and are led by Year 6 in understanding what bullying is and what we can all do to keep everyone safe. Our Year 6 students were trained to lead this program earlier this year.



News from Scott (Continued)

Our teachers have also taught every class about our school 'Acceptable Use of Technology' Agreement. They have taken the children through what their responsibilities are when using technology at school and at home and why this is an important part of being a Safe, Respectful, Learner.

The Year 4, 5 and 6 classes have also used technology at school, in the form of our 'Apple TV's' and 'Google Hangouts', to connect with professionals from Kids Helpline. During these online conference sessions, every class has been taught some very useful strategies to avoid being in unsafe situations whilst using the internet and social media.

I sincerely hope that the work we are undertaking here at school also supports each and every one of you as parents at home in developing safe online habits for your children.

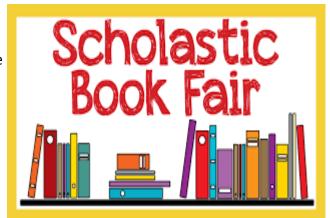
Together We Grow.

Mr Scott Buchan - Principal

Library News

Our annual Book Fair once again was a great success, thanks to the efforts of our volunteer helpers and staff members. We sold over **\$7500** worth of books from the fair, enabling us to receive a substantial amount in commission to purchase new resources for our teaching and learning.

Thank you to all the families who supported this fundraising event through purchases and donations of books for the library. We look forward to future success at our Book Fair next year.



Our colouring in competition winners will be announced at our next assembly, in week 7. Thanks to the library team for their assistance with this.

The MORE that you READ.

the more THINGS you will KNOW.

The MORE you LEARN.

the more PLACES you'll GO!

~Dr. Seuss

Please encourage children to read regularly, a reminder that the Premiers Reading Challenge is well under way, so keep logging those books. If any student has problems logging in, please see Mrs Eisenhuth in the library before the closing date (August 31st)

Students are also reminded to borrow regularly from our school library, keep a look out for new books on our shelves.

Mrs Eisenhuth

Teacher Librarian

Page 2 KEEPING IN TOUCH

Sacramental Program - First Holy Communion

The word 'communion' means to be united with; Catholics believe that in Holy Communion we are united in a special way with Jesus Christ.

At his Last Supper, Jesus said of the bread that he shared among his followers, "Take and eat, this is my body."

When we receive Holy Communion, Catholics believe that in a

mysterious way we are sharing in the body and blood of Christ. Holy Communion and the whole celebration is also known as Eucharist, from a Greek word meaning thanksgiving.

First Eucharist is a special occasion – a further step in becoming one with Christ and united with the people of God. For most people First Eucharist takes place at about the age of 9-10 years. Children should have an understanding of the sacrament that is appropriate to their age. Hopefully, this understanding will develop over the years. The church affirms that parents are the first educators of their children in the faith. You are handing on your faith to your children all the time. You have the wonderful responsibility of preparing your child to receive the Eucharist for the first time.

Usually the celebration of First Eucharist takes place at Sunday Mass. This is the most appropriate time. As the first reception of Eucharist marks a key step in the initiation of your child into the community of the church, it is most appropriate that the gathered community welcomes your child. The celebration of Mass is not just a special occasion for your family, but for the whole parish community.

Your child needs to feel at home in the parish community. Therefore, ideally, your child should receive First Eucharist at whichever Parish and Mass she or he usually attends.

http://www.catholicaustralia.com.au/

We currently have 38 children in our school involved in the Sacramental Program. I invite all in our community to pray for the following children who are preparing to receive their First Eucharist (second Sacrament of Initiation):

Lily B, Emily B, Marie B, Riley B, Emma B, Jake C, Brok C, Emma C, Maddison E, Kymberley F, Taylah G, Abbi G, Grace H, Cameron J, Jayden J, Georgia K, Summer K, Darcy L, Jenna Mc, Siobhan Mc, Harrison M, Jasmyn M, Jonathan M, Connor M, Joshua M, Chanelle N, Hamish O, Isaac O, Alex P, Rylee R, Elizabeth R, Sara R, Amber S, Tanya T, Amelia T, Chantelle W, Coby R and Cooper W.

Social Justice Activity: St Vincent de Paul and

Penrith Community Kitchen

Beanie and Donation Day - Wednesday 20th June

This term our Social Justice Initiative will be based around supporting the St Vincent de Paul Winter Appeal and Penrith Community Kitchen. With winter upon us both these worthwhile charities are in need of our support.





Page 3 KEEPING IN TOUCH

Religious Education News

The St Vincent de Paul Society expects to see an increase in demand for assistance over the winter months. With energy prices and the cost of living increasing, more Australian families are struggling to make ends meet and cover basic household expenses.

Penrith Community Kitchen, is a community project that is staffed by volunteers and has been operating for 20 years. It is open five days a week and provides approximately 900 meals each week.

Sadly, too many Australians will experience a long, cold and often lonely winter this year. As part of our social justice program, on Wednesday 20th June we will have a Donation and beanie day. All the children will be asked to wear beanies to school and donate one or more of the following items:

St Vincent de Paul needs donations of:

beanies

gloves

scarves

blankets

money (gold coins or notes)

Penrith Community Kitchen needs donations of non-perishable food such as:

Tinned food such as; soups, vegetables, meat, tuna, salmon

Packets of rice, pasta or cous-cous

Bottles of pasta sauces

All donated items will be collected and presented to the appropriate charity. Thank you in advance for your help in reaching out and supporting those in need in our local community.

Feast of the Birth of John the Baptist - Whole School Mass - 9:15am Fri 22nd June

Please join us for a whole school mass at 9:15am on Friday 22nd June to celebrate the Feast of the Birth of John the Baptist (Sunday 24th June). This feast is special because ordinarily the Church observes the day of a saint's death as their feast, because that day marks their entrance into heaven. There are two notable exceptions to this rule, the birthdays of Blessed Mary and of St. John the Baptist. The day of John's birth, the day on which he began his mortal life, is sacred. The reason for this is that the Lord

wished to announce to the world His own coming through John the Baptist,

so that all the world would not fail to recognize Him.

Mrs Gillard

Religious Education Coordinator

KEEPING IN TOUCH

The Peer Support Group Program continues for all students. There will be 8 sessions and each week will have a different focus.

Week 5

The number of children directly involved in bullying behaviours is usually quite low, however the number of children who know that bullying is occurring is significantly higher. For the next 2 weeks in Peer Support, children will have the opportunity to discuss the ways they can speak up against bullying behaviours in our school and make a difference. This week they examine their role as bystanders and how to seek help for someone who is being bullied.



Week 6

This is the second week that we have focused on the behaviour of bystanders during Peer Support. This week, children will practise ways of responding to bullying whether they are directly involved or not, by talking to the child doing the bullying, the child being bullied or a responsible adult. We use a turn, talk or tell model to support children to develop strategies for dealing with bullying behaviours. This is not easy for many young people so your child may need encouragement to persevere.

We will keep you updated with the progress of this program through the KIT .



Page 5 KEEPING IN TOUCH

Sports News

Soccer Gala Days

Over 50 Stage 3 Students participated in the Soccer Gala Days held at Jamison Park in Weeks 5 and 6. A big thank you to Mrs Mathewson and Mrs Fox for organising the teams and running of the days. We thank our St Dominics students who represented our school as referees, and to all those parents who served as coaches and scorers on the day.

The Stage 2 Soccer Gala Day will be held at Jamison Park on Tuesday 26th June, Week 9. A big thank you to Mrs Middleton who has been busy trialling the many interested students during lunchtime. It is a huge honour to be selected to represent the school at a Gala Day and we aim to ensure students will uphold the virtues of safe, respectful learners as they participate in these fun events.

Athletics Carnival - Thursday 5th July

SAVE THE DATE! Our annual Athletics Carnival will be held at Parker Street Oval on **Thursday 5th July**. All students from **Years 3 - 6**, and **students in Year 2 who are turning 8 in 2018**, will be travelling from school by bus to the Oval for a day of fun and fitness. Watch this space for more details.

AFL Clinics

It has been great to see so many students embracing the after school AFL Clinic on our playground on Tuesday afternoon. We are so lucky to have these extra curricula activities and opportunities at our school. Kids, remember to thank your parents for all the little "extras" they provide you with!

Miss McNally
Sports Co-Ordinator



Stage 3 Boys Soccer Gala Day

On Tuesday the 5th of June, Stage 3 boys participated in the annual Soccer Gala day.

The boys represented our school in an exemplary manner and showed great sportsmanship. The boys played on through the wet and continued to improve as a team throughout the day. Our green team placed 5th in their pool and our yellow (black) team placed 3rd in their pool. A fantastic effort by all the boys and it was a pleasure to manage such fine gentlemen.

A VERY BIG THANKYOU to Mr Farrugia and Mr Morson for coaching the teams on the day and for all our wonderful parents who came to support the boys despite the wet weather.

Congratulations to all the boys for their fabulous effort.

Mrs Fox

Last Tuesday 29th May, the stage 3 girls soccer teams participated in the annual gala day at Jamison Park. We had a lot of fun and the girls did our school proud with their sportsmanship, encouragement of each other and participation! We had some wins, draws and loses, but what we really took away from the experience was a fantastic day, spent outside being active with our friends. A special thanks and mention to our awesome coaches on the day - Mr Bellman and Mr Rinaldi!





Yellow Team: Angelica P, Amelia M, Olivia R, Grace R, Mikayla C, Genevieve W, Elisha I, Ava D, Rafferti G, Layla B, Emilia G, Isla D, Kate F.

Green Team: Emily F, Chontelle R, Brianna K, Kalinda K, Elise C, Judith G, Amy J, Crystal P, Elise B, Ella D, Maddie S, Tori W

Mrs Mathewson

Lost Property

At this time of year, we have a lot of jumpers and jackets which end up in lost property. If your child has lost any clothing, please ask them to check lost property or come up before school and have a look with them.

Please clearly label your child's clothing and personal belongings. Jumpers and jackets are often handed in to lost property with no name on them so they are unable to be returned to students. These items are donated to the second hand clothing store at the end of each

term.

It is also a timely reminder to check that the clothing which your child has is their own as quite often children will accidently pick up and take home jackets/jumpers which are labelled with another child's name.

P&F News

Last week we celebrated grandparents day with a beautiful liturgy and morning tea. Our baking team did an amazing job (as always!) and thanks to them we were able to provide delicious treats for the grandparents.. Thank you to Melissa Rowley, Sharlene Lonsdale, Marissa Midgley, Kristi Cavanagh, Kate Clarke, Catherine Watson, Aly Petulla, Renee Cambel, Linda Proud, Kathleen McNally, Kylie Beazley and Dominee Hyslop.

And thank you to Kristi Cavanagh, Kate Clarke, Jo Randall, Jill Trad, Carlea Calder and her mum, for keeping the much needed hot drinks coming on that cold morning!

The Book Fair held the same day was a great success thanks to Michelle Lynch, Catherine Watson, Aly Petulla, Nellie Ellis and Tracey Ellis, you ladies were amazing! And lastly a huge thank you to the counting team consisting of Aly Petulla, Melissa Rowley and Mick Petulla, your help was invaluable.



FRIDAY 22ND JUNE 5PM-7PM \$10 PER FAMILY GROUP

It's almost time for our first ever mums and sons evening here at St Mary MacKillop!! Male students are asked to invite the special ladies in their lives...be it mums, grandmas, aunties...and come along for a heap of fun activities and a bite to eat. There will be a separate note going home this week with all the details so please keep an eye out for it in your children's bags

YEAR 6 END OF YEAR FUNCTION

Year 6 parents it's time to start planning the parents and friends run end of year function for your children...exciting!!! The first meeting is going to be held on Tuesday 12th June at 8.45am in the conference room and we'd love you to come along! We understand that some of you won't be able to make that meeting but would still love to be involved and that is great...feel free to message me and I will add you to our email group and share with you what was discussed. Regular meetings will be held in terms 3 and 4 and we will try our best to have them at a time convenient for the majority. Looking forward to a fun night to farewell year 6 2018.

Veronica Neal

P&F President

0425213850

Building Child Safe Communities - Forms For All Volunteers

'Building Child Safe Communities' is an initiative developed by Catholic Education Diocese of Parramatta that enhances our commitment to ensuring the safety and wellbeing of all students in our care. It is now a requirement that all volunteers complete an online undertaking form that confirms expectations in relation to behaviour whilst volunteering at schools. This undertaking form also seeks to determine the suitability of volunteers and contractors by requiring them to declare that they do not have a criminal history involving children.

Volunteers – please access the form via the Catholic Education Diocese of Parramatta public webpage http://www.parra.catholic.edu.au, then click on 'Child Protection Training Forms' (halfway down page on the right hand side).

Then click on 'Volunteer Form' (halfway down page).

You will receive a confirmation email once the form has been submitted. Your details are maintained confidentially in a central database and a copy of your confirmation is emailed to the location where you are volunteering.

If you would like to be a parent helper at sports carnivals, reading groups, gala days, excursions etc you will need to complete the form.

School Fees

Thank you again for your patience with any issues you may have experienced with school fees while CEDP have transitioned the management of school fees.

If you have not yet received your school fee statement or have requested a direct debit arrangement which has not yet commenced could you please contact the school office on 02 4724 3200.

School Banking

School banking day is Friday. School banking encourages your child to develop regular savings habits by giving them the opportunity to deposit money into their Youthsaver account at school each week. If you are interested in school banking and your child does not already have a Youthsaver account you can apply online at commbank.com.au/schoolbanking or visit any CommBank branch.



School Contact Information

St Mary MacKillop has migrated to a new digital phone system which in turn means our phone number has changed. The new school phone number is **02 4724 3200**.



The old phone number is still in effect and will be for the next 12 months, however, when we call you the new contact phone number will be shown on your caller id.

Page 9 KEEPING IN TOUCH

Afternoon Pick Up

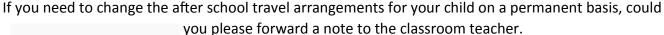
Please pick up all children at 3pm across the road in the park. Do not come into the playground to collect your child or take them from lines as this creates safety issues for our children.

The teacher on duty will bring any children who are not collected from the park by 3.05pm up to the school playground onto our waiters line. If a child is not collected by their parent across the road, please **DO NOT** keep the child waiting with you, they must return with the teacher on duty.

If your child is on waiters, they can be collected from the playground between 3.10pm—3.30pm

Thank you for caring for our staff and kids.

Changing After School Travel Arrangements



you please forward a note to the classroom teacher.



If a change to after school travel arrangements is required after you have dropped your child at school, please contact the school office. Please be mindful that the office staff need to communicate this message to teachers and students and the process for this is to send a form to the child via the office bag which is collected from the office at 2pm. We ask that you please, where possible, make these requests before 2pm so that we can ensure the message reaches your child in a timely manner.

Skool Bag App Instructions

For iPhone and iPad users:

- 1. Click the "App Store" icon on your Apple device.
- 2. Type your school name in the search, using suburb name will help.
- 3. You will see your school appear, click "Get" then "install".
- 4. The app is FREE to download.
- 5. When installed click "Open"
- 6. Select "OK" to receive push notifications, when asked.
- 7. Click the "More" button on the bottom right of the App, then "Setup".
- 8. Toggle on the Push Categories that are applicable for you by tapping the on/off switch.

For Android users:

You must first have signed up with a Google Account before installing the app.

- 1. Click the "Play Store" button on your Android Device
- 2. Click the magnifying glass icon at the top and type in your school name, using suburb name will help.
- 3. Click the school name when it appears in the search.
- 4. Click the "Install" button.
- 5. Click "Accept" for various permissions (please note, we do not modify any of your personal data on your device).

Page 10 KEEPING IN TOUCH



Busways School Opal Tap Campaign Term 2

We have received the following information from Busways:

Term 2 will see Busways continuing to look to your school for support in our efforts to enforce the use of Opal cards on our buses.

This term will see Busways Inspectors checking to ensure students are using their Opal cards when boarding the school bus. Students that do not present a valid Opal card will be asked to pay a fare. Failure to produce a valid Opal card or bus fare will result in the Inspector recording the student's name.

Below is an example of the form our Inspectors will use.

Route Ser- vice/School Bus No.	Date	Students Name	Grade	Comments
Eg School bus 4620	25/5/18	John Smith	3	Invalid School Opal card

After the school inspection the names that were recorded will be emailed to the school, with a request for the school to follow-up with the students and parents/guardians concerned.

All students need to produce a •School Opal card •Child/Youth Opal card •Or pay a fare to travel on our buses.

Please explain to the students and parents involved that an Opal card is important because it is used to determine demand for bus services. If students don't have an Opal card to tap on and off the service will appear underutilised and may be considered for cancellation based on low passenger numbers.

For students that currently do not have an Opal card please direct them to the Opal website: www.opal.com.au/en/about-opal/opal-for-school-students/

Calling for old Smartphones!

St Mary MacKillop will be trialling using Google Cardboard this year. Google Cardboard is a virtual reality (VR) platform developed by Google for use with a head mount for a smartphone. Named for its fold-out cardboard viewer, the platform is a low-cost system. The benefits of using VR in education include;



- Enabling students to learn about science, history, and geography in a much more immersive way
- Promoting curiosity and exploration by inviting students to go on impossible field trips in space or in history
- Taking students to places where they can't physically go.

As we are trialling Google Cardboard, we need smartphones to get them working. We are asking for any old smartphones that you would be willing to donate. The VR apps only require WIFI capability. SIM cards and personal data should be removed off your phone (this can be done by restoring factory settings). If you don't have a charger to go with the phone that's not a problem.

Thanks in advance,

Amanda Joseph

Pates for Your Diary Term 2 - 2018

DAY	DATE	TIME	EVENT	
Friday	8 June		Staff Development Day	
Monday	11 June		Queen's Birthday—Public Holiday	
Thursday	14 June		Year 5 Excursion to Mary MacKillop Place	
Friday	15 June	9:15am 2:20pm	Kindergarten Liturgy Whole School Assembly—5M Item	
Wednesday	20 June		Social Justice Activity: St Vincent de Paul & Penrith Community Kitchen Beanie and Donation Day	
Friday	22 June	9:15am 5.30pm– 7pm	Whole School Mass NO ASSEMBLY TODAY Half Yearly Reports sent home today P&F Event - Mums and Sons Evening	
Monday - Friday	25th - 29th June		Half Yearly Parent Teacher Interviews	
Tuesday	26 June		Stage 2 Boys and Girls Soccer Gala Day - Jamison Park	
Thursday	28 June		Year 4 Hyde Park Barracks Excursion	
Friday	29 June	2:20pm	Year 4 Liturgy Whole School Assembly—Year 1 Item	
Thursday	5 July		Athletics Carnival for students in Years 3-6 and students in Year 2 who turn 8 in 2018	
Friday	6 July		Last Day of Term 2	
Pates for Your	l Piary Term 3	~ 2018		
Monday	23 July		First Day of Term 3	
Friday	27 July	11 - 2pm	Captivate Orchestra Rehearsal - John Paul II Schofields	
Monday	30 July	11 - 2pm	Choir Rehearsal - Nagle College Blacktown	
Wednesday	1 August	9:30am - 11:30am	Dance Rehearsal - John Paul II Schofields	
Thursday	2 August		Year 5 Excursion - Discovery Museum at the Rocks	

TERM 2, WEEK 6

What's On at Penrith Observatory in June

Date: 9 June

Event name: Astronomy Night: Following Light to the Beginning of the Universe

Event details:

Speaker - Dr Luke Barnes

How do we know what the Universe is made of? And what shapes its parts into the stars, galaxies and clusters of galaxies that we see around us? Starting from the very early universe, Dr Luke Barnes will discuss how the fundamental factors of our universe, its forces, particles, and the dynamical stage that they tread (space time), compete and cooperate to fashion the Universe today.

Includes presentation, short 3D movie, tour of the dome and viewing of the night sky through a range of telescopes (weather permitting).

\$18.00 Adult

\$12.00 Child/Concession

\$50.00 Family (2 adults + 2 children)

Children under 3 years of age free.

BOOKINGS VIA OUR WEBSITE ESSENTIAL

Time: 7pm – 9pm

Venue Address: Penrith Observatory (Building AO), Western Sydney University, Werrington North campus, Great

Western Highway, Werrington 2747

Contact phone or website for public enquiries and bookings:

https://www.westernsydney.edu.au/observatorypenrith/penrith_observatory/whats_on_

Facebook Event: https://www.facebook.com/events/1282338418563881/

Date: 23 June

Event name: Astronomy Night: From Darkness to Light: Star Birth in the Milky Way

Event details:

Speaker - Dr Nick Tothill

Stars like our sun are still being formed all around us in our Galaxy, although they're sometimes hard to see. Some of them are going to be like our own Sun, some of them will be smaller, and some will be much, much bigger. I'll talk about new stars and the places we can see them, and what this means for our understanding of our Sun and our place in the Galaxy.

Includes presentation, short 3D movie, tour of the dome and viewing of the night sky through a range of telescopes (weather permitting).

\$18.00 Adult

\$12.00 Child/Concession

\$50.00 Family (2 adults + 2 children)

Children under 3 years of age free.

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Venue Address: Penrith Observatory (Building AO), Western Sydney University, Werrington North campus, Great

Western Highway, Werrington

Contact phone or website for public enquiries and bookings:

https://www.westernsydney.edu.au/observatorypenrith/penrith_observatory/whats_on_

Facebook Event: https://www.facebook.com/events/469203220181770/



To enrol

www.kidscanact.com.au

ENQUIRIES:- Mrs Cathie Parkes - 0414 475 158



3:30 - 4:30pm

at Om Yoga Studio
120 Russell St, Emu Plains (upstairs inside Penrith Skatel)

casual rate: \$10/person or \$30/family (full term block rate upon request)

Remaining Term 2 dates: June 17, June 24 and July 1.

(no class June 10 - long weekend)

Term 3 commences Sunday July 29



Please contact Justine to book your family's place!

Justine Schafer | 0413 236 542 | justineschafer85@gmail.com

ENLIVEN YOGA

Stepping Beyond Support Group for Separated / Divorced Adults



- Are you separated or divorced?
- Have your emotions overwhelmed you at times?
- Are you struggling with the impact this is having on your life?
- Is communication difficult with your ex-partner?
- Do you find it difficult to support your children through this process?
- Would you like support as you deal with your changed circumstances?

If you relate to any of the above, please call PH: 8843 2530 or e-mail Rita at soloparentservices@ccss.org.au for more information about our Support Group.



VENUE: 13 Buller St, North Parramatta

DATE: Last Tuesday of each Month (Jan –Nov)

TIME: 7.00pm - 9.00pm

COST: \$5.00





- DO NOT SHARE FOOD
- WASH HANDS
 AFTER SNACK AND MEAL TIMES.
- ASK QUESTIONS IF YOU ARE UNSURE OF "SAFE" FOODS.
- READ ALL INGREDIENT LABELS.



www.beyondapeanut.com 1-877-ALRG-TIP (257-4847) Thank you for helping us provide a safe environment for our friends with food allergies!