

21 June 2018

#### 150 Fragar Road South Penrith 2750 Telephone: 02 4724 3200 Fax: 02 4736 2681 Email: stmarymackillop@parra.catholic.edu.au



www.mackilloppenrith.catholic.edu.au

#### Dear Parents and Friends of St Mary MacKillop School,

#### Our school constantly strives to be:



Touc

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

> At this time of the year our teachers are analysing assessment tasks, reporting student growth and progress and preparing to meet with you to discuss your child's learning.

Throughout the year, teachers regularly meet with their teaching partners to reflect, analyse and compare each student's work with the syllabus standard. This reflection phase allows teachers the opportunity to evaluate the success of teaching strategies as well as setting a clear direction for future planning for the learning of the students in their class. This phase allows for individual needs to be clearly understood and specific programs to be developed.

At St Mary MacKillop we have developed high expectations for our students' learning. When you receive your child's report, remember to refer to the statements of achievement that describe your child's level of success in each Key Learning Area. Also remember to pay attention to your child's work habits. You might like to keep the following four tips in mind when reading your child's report:

1. Look for strengths first. Focus on the strengths and celebrate these areas.

2. Take into account your child's effort and attitude to learning. If the report indicates that effort needs attention, then they have something to work on. If your child is putting in the required effort, speak to your child about how pleasing this is and how it has a positive impact on their learning.

3. Broaden your focus to form a picture of your child's progress as a member of a social setting. How your child gets along with his or her peers will influence their happiness and well-being.

4. Discuss the report with your son or daughter talking about strengths first before looking at areas that need improvement. Ask for their opinion about how they performed and discuss their concerns.

Students from Years 1 to 6 will receive a level of achievement in each Key Learning Area based on a scale described by the letters A-E. It is important to remember that the majority of students are expected to receive 'C' grades which indicate that they are achieving the expected outcomes. Students in Kindergarten will receive a level of achievement based on a scale: Working Towards, Working At and Working Beyond.

A lot of time and consideration is put into allocating the grades for each student. Grades are allocated based on a number of variables such as student work samples, assessment tasks, observations and class work.

Please keep in mind that your child's grades may have varied from previous years, especially if they have moved into a new stage this year.

Sometimes the A-E scale is confusing for parents as it is not graded in the same way that reports were constructed when we were at school. To put the A-E reporting system into perspective, it may be helpful to look at the analogy below for driving a car.

E	D	С	В	Α
A person on 'L' plates must al- ways be accompanied by	A person on 'P' plates, drives independently	Full drivers licence, like most of us!	Advanced driver training with extra skills.	Grand Prix Racer!
an experienced driver.	but is still learn- ing.	And		Contraction of the second s

Together We Grow. Mr Scott Buchan - Principal

#### Religious Education News

#### Sacramental Program – First Holy Communion

We pray for and congratulate the following children who have received their Sacrament of First Communion. The reception of this Sacrament is another step in their initiation into the Catholic Church.

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, Coby R, Sara R, Amber S, Tanya T, Amelia T, Chantelle W and Cooper W.

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

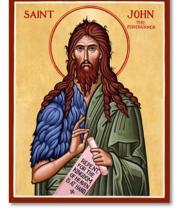
Please join us for a whole school mass at 9:15am on Friday 22nd June to celebrate the Feast of the Birth of John the Baptist (Sunday 24th June). This feast is special because ordinarily the Church observes the day of a saint's death as their feast, because that day marks their entrance into heaven. There 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.

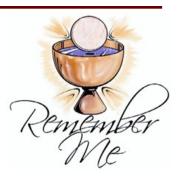
#### Mrs Mitchell's Retirement and Farewell Prayer - 2pm Wednesday 4th July

Please join us as we gather together in the hall as a school community to pray for and farewell Mrs Mitchell. Mrs Mitchell has been at St Mary MacKillop for 30 years and over these years she has held many different roles and made many wonderful contributions to our school.

At this celebration we will pray that God will bless Mrs Mitchell and her family with happiness and success in her new endeavours. All in the community are warmly invited to attend.

Mrs Gillard Religious Education Coordinator





PLEASE JOIN US FOR A FAREWELL LITURGY IN

Mrs Leonie Mitchel

and give thanks for the 30 years of education she has provided for the St Mary Mackillop Community

> When: Wednesday 4th July @ 2pm Where: St Mary Mackillop School Hall All Welcome!

St Mary MacKillop Subscribes to World Book Online. You can access this site from home as well as school. Login details can be found below. This site has an amazing range of features for everyone from K-6!



Maree Eisenhuth

Teacher Librarian

#### Captivate

Captivate's 10 Year Anniversary Showcase is coming up in Term 3. The notes for the showcase were sent home yesterday to all performers.

The notes need to be returned to school by MONDAY 2nd JULY for the Captivate team to organise and allocate seating.

Mrs Niamh McDonald

#### Kindergarten Excursion - St Nicholas of Myra

On Thursday, 7th June Kindergarten had their very first school excursion; to our local parish, St Nicholas of Myra Catholic Church. The children were very excited to be boarding the bus and travelling to the Church. The excursion was part of our Religion Unit *A Community that Celebrates God's Love* and it was wonderful to be able to have first hand experience of the Church including many of the sacred aspects of this special building. Under the guidance of Mrs Gillard and Mrs Rowan, the children learnt more about the altar, pews, holy water, candles, statues, Baptismal Font, Tabernacle and the Host (the Holy Bread.) We were very blessed to have so many Kinder parents join us at the Church, to celebrate our first excursion and a true partnership between school, home and parish life.





Mrs Harman and Miss McNally

The Peer Support Group Program continues for all students and will finish up next Friday 29th June.

#### Week 7

The issue of bullying is just one of a much broader range of issues that contribute to how safe children feel at school and whether our school represents a positive experience for them. This week children have the opportunity to reflect on what a positive school looks like and how they can play a role in creating and maintaining a positive school environment.



#### Week 8

The Peer Support Program concludes this week. Children have the opportunity to practise some of the things they have learned over the past 7 weeks, including what bullying is and what they can do about it. The children will be encouraged to realise that sometimes it can take a while to see that change is taking place, so they must persevere with their new skills.

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



**KEEPING IN TOUCH** 

The School Athletics Carnival for all children from Years 3-6 (and students from Year 2 turning 8 years old in 2018) has been scheduled for Thursday, 5 July 2018 at Parker St Oval, Kingswood. It is compulsory for all students to attend.

Buses will depart St Mary MacKillop School at 8:45am. We hope to begin the carnival by 9:30am with the 800m event. The children will remain in their age groups throughout the day, rotating through four activities including 100m, 200m, long jump and shot put. The day will conclude with 100m and 200m finals comprising of the fastest times from the heats. Please note that all children will compete and be measured in shot put within their class sport lessons prior to or after the athletics carnival.

There will also be a canteen available for snacks and each group will have a lunch break factored into their rotation. This is the only time that the canteen facilities can be used by the students.

The children are to wear their **school sports uniform** for the carnival including their hat and sunscreen. They may wear a t-shirt in their house colour. The grass is often wet in the morning, we recommend bringing a small towel to sit on. Students will need to bring their own morning tea, lunch and drinks. They will be travelling to and from the carnival by bus. In order to ensure the safety of all children, a note is required for children to leave the grounds with someone other than a parent, and any children leaving the grounds with a parent must sign out with the class teacher.

To provide all of the activities planned we will require a large number of parent helpers. No experience is necessary in place judging or time keeping. We need your help. If you would like to help, please fill out the form which was sent with the permission note or contact the school office on 02 4724 3200.

In the interest of safety please list any medical conditions on the permission note which may affect your child's performance and the medication required, such as asthma puffers. All children need to return their permission note by Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> June 2018.

\*Please note students in Year 2 who turn 7 this year **will not attend** this Athletics Carnival. They will remain at school with Kindergarten and Year 1 and will participate in the Infants Tabloid Carnival later this year.

Thank you

Maryanne McNally

Sports Coordinator

#### 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 re-

turned 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

Don't forget tomorrow night we have our first ever Mums and Sons night here in the hall from 5pm til 7pm!

All male students can come along with mum, grandma, aunty, whoever is an important female in their lives, and have a whole heap of fun plus a sausage sandwich and a drink. Sounds like a great night!!

Don't worry if you haven't rsvp'd yet, it's not too late to come along...it's just \$10 for your family group.

Some of the fun activities we have planned are:

Superhero Sketch



Soccer Goals



Catch and Throw

**Snap Station** 



And much more!

Can't wait to see you tomorrow night. Veronica Neal P&F President



#### 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 <u>http://www.parra.catholic.edu.au</u>, 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**.

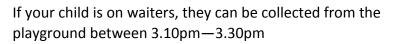


The old phone number is still in effect and will be for the next 12 months, however, when we call you the new contact phone number will be shown on your caller id.

#### 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.



Thank you for caring for our staff and kids.

#### Changing After School Travel Arrangements

If you need to change the after school travel arrangements for your child on a permanent basis, could



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).



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	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: <u>www.opal.com.au/en/about-opal/opal-for-school-students/</u>

#### 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

Dates for Your Diary Term 2 ~ 2018

DAY	DATE	TIME	EVENT
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	8:15am - 2:30pm	Stage 2 Boys and Girls Soccer Gala Day - Jamison Park
Thursday	28 June	8:30am - 3pm	Year 4 Hyde Park Barracks Excursion
Friday	29 June	2:20pm	Whole School Assembly— 1J 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

#### Dates for Your Diary 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
Monday	20 August	9am - 2:30pm	Captivate Showcase Dress Rehearsal
Tuesday Wednesday	21 August 22 August	7pm - 10pm 7pm - 10pm	Captivate's 10 Year Anniversary Showcase Performance Quaycentre, Sydney Olympic Park

## SCHOOL ZONE OFFENCES WHAT ARE **YOU** RISKING?\*

FACT

Children are small, harder to see, behave unpredictably and are extremely vulnerable. They need YOU to take extra care when driving and parking around school zones.



KIDS CAN ACT-JULY HOLIDAY WORKSHOPS				
MONDAY 9TH JULY SPRINGWOOD COURT	TUESDAY 10 <sup>TH</sup> JULY SPRINGWOOD COURT	WEDNESDAY 11 <sup>TH</sup> JULY SOUTH PENRITH	THURSDAY 12TH JULY SPRINGWOOD COURT	FRIDAY 13 <sup>TH</sup> JULY SOUTH PENRITH
9.30-2.30pm The Princess & The Fairy Wish	<sup>9.00-2.00pm</sup> Pirates of the Has-Been	8.30-1.30pm The Princess & The Fairy Wish	<sup>9.00-1.30pm</sup> Drama Games & Scenarios	<sup>9.00-1.30pm</sup> But Wait There's More! Sell It!
	<sup>2.00-5.00pm</sup> A Bag Full Of Stories	1.30-5.00pm If The Hat Fits	1.30-5.30pm What Lies Beneath? (9-16yrs)	1.30-5.30pm What Lies Beneath? (9-16yrs)
	Half or Full Day			
MONDAY 16 <sup>™</sup> JULY SPRINGWOOD COURT	TUESDAY 17TH JULY SPRINGWOOD COURT	WEDNESDAY 18 <sup>™</sup> JULY SOUTH PENRITH	For information, prices & bookings	
<sup>8.30-1.30pm</sup> Puppetry No.1	<sup>8.30-1.30pm</sup> Mime & Mask	<sup>9.00-2.00pm</sup> Pirates of the Has-Been	www.kidscanact.com.au	
1.30-5.00pm But Wait There's	1.30-5.00pm If The Hat Fits	A Bag Full Of Stories	Cathie Parkes 0414 475 158	
More! Sell It! Half or Full Day	Half or Full Day	Half or Full Day	0414 4	/5 158

#### KIDS CAN ACT - JULY HOLIDAY WORKSHOP DESCRIPTIONS

Owner reserves the right to cancel any workshops without a viable number. A refund or credit will be given.

#### The Princess and The Fairy Wish (4-12yrs)

Princess Heather's life is always so busy, and sometimes, she just wants to relax. As a result, she wishes that she was a fairy, as a fairy's life seems a lot easier than hers. However, when she turns into a fairy, her life seems even more difficult than before...

#### Pirates of the Has-been(4-12yrs)

A bunch of old pirates decide to come out of retirement to teach the young whipper snappers how to be a REAL Pirate. Come walk the plank, talk like a pirate and enter the world of the Has-been Pirates. Today we learn how to be a REAL Pirate.

#### A Bag Full Of Stories- Storytelling(4-12yrs)

The ancient art of storytelling is for all ages. Storytelling can encourage children to explore their own imagination and expressiveness. In our fast-paced world of mass media, storytelling can be a nurturing way to remind children that the spoken word is powerful, listening is important, and warm communication between people is an art.

#### Mask & Mime (4-14yrs)

Masks have a long history of use in performance. Students will develop an understanding of 'mime' as a technique used for expressing emotion, character, action and bodily movements. Students create their own masks & use these in mime performances.

#### If The Hat Fits (4–12yrs)

Today we will have a ball and use hats to develop interesting characters, learn positive group dynamics, cooperation and physical awareness. The hats will be used as a tool for creating, developing and experimenting with characters. What type of character will you become?

#### What Lies Beneath? Let's Make A Movie (9-16years)

Have you heard the noises coming from under the floorboards? Things are disappearing from the house, lights are on that you are sure you turned off and you can't find that old suitcase you brought in from the garage. Who or what could be responsible these mysterious happenings? Come film the story and help solve the mystery.

#### Puppetry No.1 (4 –12yrs)

Children are naturally curious! Children communicate more easily with a puppet on their hand, giving them confidence to express their ideas and feelings. The children will have great fun as they try out different types of puppets.

They will also make a number of their very own puppets to take home. They take home a puppet theatre to make as well!

#### But Wait There's More! Sell It!(5-16yrs)

Today, we will learn the art of persuasion and how to sell any product to anyone. Convince the audience they really need it and to buy anything you offer. Can you sell ice to the Eskimos? Let's make and film some fabulously fun ads.

#### Drama Games & Scenarios (5-16yrs)

Great fun where children get to work in groups or individually and be creative. Working as a team improves friendships and teaches us how to work with , cooperate, develop leadership skills and listen to others.

www.kidscanact.com.au Cathie- 0414 475 158



### NAIDOC WEEK AT OUR HOUSE

Tuesday July 10, 2018 10 am – 2 pm Parliament of NSW

Join us for a fun day filled with activities for the whole family including: Didge & Dance, Aboriginal Art & Crafts, Wiradjuri Language Workshops and Storytelling. Join us for the whole event or just drop in for a little while.

Sausage sizzle on the day! (\$3 per sausage sandwich)





This event is organised by the NSW AECG Inc. in association with Parliamentary Education Bookings not essential For more information: Phone: (02) 9230 2047 Email: dps.education@parliament.nsw.gov.au www.parliament.nsw.gov.au Parliament of New South Wales, 6 Macquarie Street, Sydney

FREE FUN ACTIVITIES ALL WELCOME!





## Penrith City Children's Choir

is about to start its second project for 2018

## **The Elements**

directed by

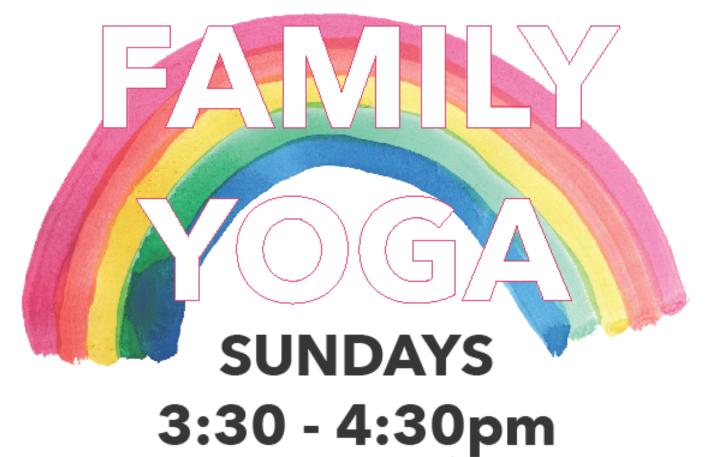
### Lucy McAlary

Boys and girls (7 – 13 years) are invited to join us for this project: Workshops Sundays 1 July (Part I) and 29 July and 5 August (Part II) Participate in Part I or Part II or both!

# If you love to sing, act and wear costumes, please join us.

No auditions!

For further information contact the Administrator, Liz Strasser: 0418 202 849 or pccc@penrithcitychoir.com.au



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 <u>soloparentservices@ccss.org.au</u> 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!