

## Keeping In Touch

16 February 2023



Click on the image above to see our St Mary MacKillop Facebook Page for the latest photos and updates. Like and Follow!

## News from Michelle

Dear Families of St Mary MacKillop,

It was wonderful to see so many of you who were able to join us last Thursday for our open classrooms and our welcome BBQ. Thank you to our P & F members for organising our BBQ, as well as to the volunteers who worked with the P & F to cook the tasty sausages.

Witnessing our many excited children, it was evident that they were proud to introduce their teachers for this year, present their learning spaces and showcase their beginning learning to their families. The partnership between the school and wider school community is one that we are very proud of, making this school a place that is special. We are extremely proud of our students and the communication that took place on this occasion.

If you weren't able to join us last week and would like to meet or speak to your child's teacher, you are welcome to make an appointment through the school office, to meet with your child's teacher before or after school.

Today we celebrated our Opening School Mass and Year Six Leadership Ceremony. It is always wonderful to welcome our incoming School Leaders for the new school year, as well as our new students, staff and families. This beautiful celebration was a testament to our faith-filled community.

Michelle O'Leary  
Acting Principal



*"Together We Grow"*

# News from the Assistant Principal

Dear Parents and Carers,

At St Mary Mackillop we encourage the children to take pride in their school uniform, and we maintain a high standard in this area.

As we settled back into Term One we are asking that all children transition back to school jewellery and school haircuts, instead of holiday jewellery and holiday haircuts.

The following information has been taken from the Parent Handbook:

## **JEWELLERY:**

No jewellery is to be worn with the exception of:

One set of gold or silver studs/sleepers may be worn in pierced ears.

## **HAIR:**

If hair is below shoulder length, it must be tied back with a bottle green ribbon or scrunchie. Hair is not to be coloured for either boys or girls. Hair cuts are to be suitable for school for both boys and girls.

No coloured hair extensions (NO MULLETS, NO. 1, ZIG ZAGS or RAZORING). Thank you for working in partnership with us and your assistance in maintaining our uniform policy.

## **A reminder about Appointments.....**

If parents have matters of concern, questions or difficulties, staff are available to assist. The first point of contact is the child's class teacher, followed by the Stage Co-ordinator.

To ensure availability please phone the office to make an appointment. If you wish to speak to your child's teacher regarding his/her progress it is necessary to make an appointment before or after school. Appointments with class teachers can only be made outside of school hours. Parents are asked not to disturb classes - if there is an emergency please go to the office.

Thank you for your cooperation,

Mrs Leesa Gillard

Acting Assistant Principal

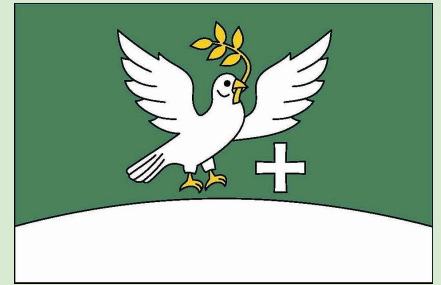
# Religious Education News

## **2023 Sacramental Program - Confirmation Parent Meeting**

The Parish based Sacramental Program began on Tuesday night (14th Feb) with a Parent Information Session about the Sacrament of Confirmation. All enquiries to Rodney Howard (Sacramental Coordinator) at St Nicholas Parish House.

Ph: 47212509.

Email: sacramental@stnicholasofmyra.org.au



## **Masses and Liturgies – Reverence and Safety**

St Mary MacKillop is a unique Catholic school, in the fact that we do not have a parish church on site for celebrating masses and liturgies. Prior to the construction of the hall many of our liturgical celebrations had to be held outside and were dependent on weather conditions.

Our beautiful hall is a wonderful space that is used for so many educational activities, however, whenever we use our hall for a religious celebration (prayers, liturgies or masses) this space becomes sacred, as it is our school church.

We are currently reminding our students about reverence in the hall - before, during and after all prayer times. When our hall becomes God's house it is important that we quieten ourselves to prepare to talk to God.

In addition, **hot drinks and food cannot be consumed in the hall/church out of respect for the sacredness of the space and Work, Health & Safety regulations about hot drinks around students.**

Thank you in advance for your support.

## **Shrove Tuesday – 21st February**

Shrove Tuesday is the day before Ash Wednesday - the first day of Lent. The Lenten Season is a time of abstinence, of giving things up, so traditionally Shrove Tuesday was the last chance to indulge yourself, and to use up the foods that weren't allowed in Lent. In the old days there were many foods that observant Christians would not eat during Lent: foods such as meat and fish, fats, eggs, and milky foods. So that no food was wasted, families would have a feast on the Tuesday, and eat up all the foods that wouldn't last the forty days of Lent without going off. For this reason, pancakes became associated with Shrove Tuesday as they were a dish that could use up all the eggs, fats and milk in the house with just the addition of flour.



To celebrate Shrove Tuesday we will be feasting on pancakes on Tuesday 21st February. A QQR code has been set up to enable all students at St Mary MacKillop to participate in Shrove Tuesday. The code will close on Thursday 16th February at 11:59pm as we will need to order the pancakes first thing Friday morning. We apologise for the change of dates, however, this is due to stock availability.

All money raised from Shrove Tuesday will be donated to Project Compassion. Project Compassion is an initiative run by Caritas Australia (the Catholic Church's international aid and development agency), who work hand in hand with the most marginalised communities in Australia and overseas, to confront the challenges of poverty.

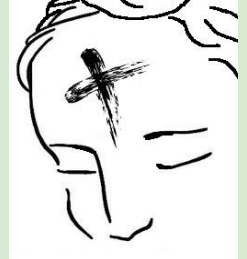
# Religious Education News - Continued

## World Youth Day Fundraising

Thank you to all the students and staff for participating in this initiative. We raised \$786 to assist our pilgrims from Catholic Schools Parramatta Diocese to attend WYD23.

## Ash Wednesday – 22<sup>nd</sup> February

Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> of February is Ash Wednesday, the first day of Lent. Ash Wednesday comes from the ancient Jewish tradition of penance and fasting.



The Season of Lent is the 40 days prior to Easter (Sundays are not included in the count) and is a time of preparation for the resurrection of Jesus on Easter Sunday. Lent is a beautiful way to remember Jesus' sacrifice for us and prepare us for the Easter season.

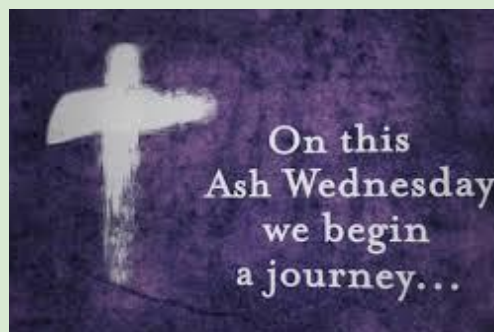
Ash Wednesday is the day for us to take stock of our spiritual lives and we are encouraged to attend Mass on this day in order to mark the beginning of the Lenten season. As Lent begins, we should set out specific spiritual goals we would like to reach before Easter and decide how we will pursue them—for instance receiving the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

***To celebrate the beginning of Lent all students will attend an Ash Wednesday (22<sup>nd</sup> February) Liturgy of the Word organised by Year 2 at 9:15am in the hall. All parents and family members are warmly invited to attend this special prayer time.***

During the liturgy the ashes, which give Ash Wednesday its name, will be distributed. The ashes are made from the blessed palms used in the Palm Sunday celebration of the previous year.

The distribution of ashes is a tangible reminder of our own need to focus on being better people. Through acts of penance comes a change of heart – a coming back to God. Our personal Lenten journey should be marked with reflection, prayer and penance. Throughout Lent we should strive to model the actions of Christ.

***'Say YES to God and do good things.'***



# Religious Education News - Continued

## Caritas Australia Project Compassion Appeal

The season of Lent begins with Ash Wednesday, which also marks the beginning of the annual Caritas Australia Project Compassion Appeal. The theme of Project Compassion 2023 is 'For All Future Generations' and reminds us that the good we do today extends to impact the lives of generations to come.

By donating to Project Compassion, Caritas Australia, the Catholic Agency for International Aid and Development, can work with local communities around the world to end poverty, promote justice and uphold dignity.

A QKR code has been added to the app should you wish to donate to Project Compassion. Your generous support can help change lives today - and For All Future Generations but together, we can make a difference now, and **For All Future Generations**.

Mrs Michelle Jarrett  
Acting Religious Education Coordinator



## P & F News

First of all on behalf of the P&F team, we'd like to say welcome to all our new families that have joined our amazing school community and welcome back to all our existing families, we hope 2023 is a great year for everyone.

Well, what a fantastic start to this year with our Welcome BBQ last Thursday. It was a great turn out with all our sausage sandwiches running out the door! It was great seeing all our beautiful families enjoying the open classrooms and a sausage or 2, we hope you all enjoyed it. Thank you to all our P&F and parent helpers - M and M Darwen, R Jenkins, K Beazley, C Watson, M Bachtis, S Snow, S Lee, C Vella, K Robinson, K Wallace, K McNally and J Fowler. Also a big shout out to Scotty at East Blaxland Butchery for providing the delicious sausages, they were a hit!!

On **Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> February** we will be having a **Zooper Dooper Day**, our 1<sup>st</sup> 2023 P&F mini fundraiser. Our P&F team will be selling Zooper Doopers at Recess for \$1, so don't forget your gold coins next Thursday.

Finally, we need volunteers throughout the year to help us with various events. If you're a baker, love to wrap or enjoy a good old-fashioned BBQ then we need you! Please send your name and contact details to [smmppandf@gmail.com](mailto:smmppandf@gmail.com) or to mobile number 0423763926 and we'll be in touch shortly to let you know of our upcoming events.

On behalf of the P&F, have a lovely weekend and look forward to getting to know all our new families throughout the year.

Michelle Darwen  
P&F President  
On behalf of the SMMP P&F Team

# THINKING MATHEMATICALLY

## What's the importance of skip counting?

Skip counting is an important part of early numeracy as it is a basic skill used in many different practices. Children use skip counting for basic tasks such as **telling the time** or dealing with **money**. Skip counting is also essential as it lays a mathematical foundation for developing a student's ability in other mathematical skills. Counting forwards and backwards in ones, or even in twos, fives and other multiples, are strategies that may be used to solve addition, subtraction, multiplication and division problems.

Skip counting is important not only because these mathematical activities and skills are developed and used in the classroom, but they are also a basic skill students can apply in life outside school. Activities such as **sport**, **shopping** or even **counting large quantities** are made easier by acquiring the ability to skip count. Some students, particularly those who play sports, may not even realise they are skip counting when scoring for games such as **basketball**, **football** or **netball**.

For further information about activities that can be done at home visit, <https://www.numeracyathome.com/>

## PROGRESSION OF LEARNING

### What does skip counting look like for Year 1 students

- Students are introduced to counting by 2's, 5's, 10's starting at 0

### What does skip counting look like for Year 3 students

- Students are counting by 2, 3, 5 & 10's and are using this skill with multiplication facts
- Students are beginning to multiply a double digit by a single digit e.g.  $30 \times 4$  and can use skip counting to calculate e.g.  $30 \times 4 = 30 + 30 + 30 + 30$

### What does skip counting look like for Year 5 students

- Students are skip counting by fractions and decimals and use this skill to mentally multiply single whole digit number by a fraction or decimal
- e.g.  $4 \times 0.4 =$        $4 \times \frac{2}{5} =$

Regular reading impacts a child's success at school.  
If not addressed early the educational gap widens...

### Child A



Reads 20 minutes  
per day

3,600 minutes  
per school year

1,800,000 words  
per school year



Scores in the  
90th percentile

### Child B



Reads 5 minutes  
per day

900 minutes  
per school year

282,000 words  
per school year



Scores in the  
50th percentile

### Child C



Reads 1 minute  
per day

180 minutes  
per school year

8,000 words  
per school year



Scores in the  
10th percentile

### Standardised Test Scores

By the end of grade 6, Child A will have read the equivalent of 60 school days, Child B will have read for 12 school days and Child C will have read for 3 days. Nagy and Herman, 1987.

## School Fees

Instalment 1 School Fees are in production with our Catholic Schools Parramatta Diocese and you will receive your statement by mail to your home address. Due date for Instalment 1 will be Wednesday, 15<sup>th</sup> March 2023.

If you feel you may have difficulties in paying your school fees please contact our Senior Finance Officer, Mrs Monique Kearins **once you have received your statement** on 4724 3200 to discuss.

School Office hours are 8:30am – 3:30pm. All payments and enquiries can be made during this time. Payments through the office can be paid by **EFTPOS**. When paying by BPay, Bpoint & Post BillPay please use the current statement. Details are located on the bottom of the statement.

We advise that we are unable to process EFTPOS payments after 3:30pm.

## Leaving Students

A term's notice (10 school weeks) in writing must be given to the Principal before the removal of a student or a full term's fees will be payable. The notice can be given any time during term for the next term. Where appropriate notice has been received a pro-rata credit can be calculated based on a pro-rata 40 week year. **One exception is that notice in writing will be accepted at any time during Term 4 in relation to the following years' enrolment i.e. the notice period of 10 school weeks will be waived in this circumstance. If you know your child will be leaving at the end of the year, please advise the school as soon as possible.**

# Sport News

On Thursday 2nd February students from grades 2 - 6 competed in the St Mary Mackillop Twilight Swimming Carnival. This was a great event with many students stepping out of their comfort zone and competing in a range of different swimming events. Students put in 110% in each and every race and should be incredibly proud of their efforts in the pool. No matter the stroke each student demonstrated excellent technique and a willingness to participate. Well done everyone.

As always these events wouldn't be run without the support from parents. Thank you to all those parents and families who helped on the night. You made a huge difference to the successful running of the carnival, thank you very much.

Event	1st Place	2nd Place
100m Opens Boys Freestyle	Peter B	Sebastian D
100m Opens Girls Freestyle	Amelia B	Sophija P
8 Years Boys 50m Freestyle	Thomas B	Zac S
9 Years Boys 50m Freestyle	Mitchell B	Fletcher M
9 Years Girls 50m Freestyle	Everleigh R	Katelyn G
10 Years Boys 50m Freestyle	Chase D	Spencer P
10 Years Girls 50m Freestyle	Isabelle F	Tyla D
11 Years Boys 50m Freestyle	Peter B	Joel H
11 Years Girls 50m Freestyle	Misa F	Amelia B
12 Years Boys 50m Freestyle	Micah K	Parker M
12 Years Girls 50m Freestyle	Sophija P	-

# Sport News - Continued

<b>Junior Boys Backstroke</b>	Sebastian D	Patrick T
<b>Junior Girls Backstroke</b>	Isabelle F	Sophie P
<b>11 Years Boys Backstroke</b>	Peter B	Joel H
<b>11 Years Girls Backstroke</b>	Misa F	Amelia B
<b>Senior Boys Backstroke</b>	Micah K	-
<b>Senior Girls Backstroke</b>	Sophija P	-
<b>Junior Boys Breaststroke</b>	Sam H	Spencer P and Thomas B
<b>Junior Girls Breaststroke</b>	Tyla D	McKinley C
<b>11 Years Boys Breaststroke</b>	Peter B	Joel H
<b>11 Years Girls Breaststroke</b>	Misa F	Amelia B
<b>12 Senior Boys Breaststroke</b>	Micah K	-
<b>12 Senior Girls Breaststroke</b>	Sophija P	-
<b>Junior Boys Butterfly</b>	Sebastian D	Thomas B
<b>Junior Girls Butterfly</b>	McKinley C	-
<b>11 Years Boys Butterfly</b>	Peter B	Joel H
<b>11 Years Girls Butterfly</b>	Amelia B	-
<b>Senior Boys Butterfly</b>	Micah K	-
<b>Senior Girls Butterfly</b>	Sophija P	-

# Sport News - Continued

Congratulations to the following students who will be representing St Mary Mackillop at the upcoming Zone carnival held next Monday the 20th February. We wish them all the best: Peter B, Amelia B, Thomas B, Zac S, Mitchell B, Fletcher M, Everleigh R, Katelyn G, Chase D, Spencer P, Isabelle F, Tyla D, Joel H, Misa F, Micah K, Parker M, Sophija P, Sebastian D, Patrick T, Sophie P, Samuel H, McKinley C, Lincoln C, Eli S and Immogen B.



# Dates for your Diary

Friday 17 February	2:20pm	Whole School Assembly	School Hall
Monday 20 February		Zone Swimming Carnival	Glenbrook Pools
Wednesday 22 February	9:15am	Ash Wednesday Liturgy	School Hall
Friday 24 February	2:20pm	Whole School Assembly	School Hall
Thursday 2 March	9:00am	Whole School Cross Country	School Grounds
Friday 3 March	2:20pm	Whole School Assembly	School Hall
Monday 6 March	9:30am	School Tours for Kindergarten 2024 Families	
Wednesday 8 March	6pm-7pm	Kindergarten 2024 Parent Information Evening	School Hall
Friday 10 March	2:20pm	Whole School Assembly	School Hall
Friday 17 March	2:20pm	Whole School Assembly	School Hall
Monday 20 March		Naplan (Year 3 and Year 5) Commences	
Thursday 23 March	5pm-6pm 7:30pm-8:30pm	Confirmation Mass	St Nicholas of Myra
Friday 24 March	2:20pm	Whole School Assembly	School Hall
Friday 31 March	2:20pm	Whole School Assembly	School Hall



## St Mary MacKillop Primary School Canteen Menu Term 1 2023

### Sandwiches & Wraps

All Sandwiches are made on wholemeal bread

Upgrade to Wrap	\$0.80
Vegemite, Jam or Cheese	\$2.50
Tuna or Egg	\$3.50
Ham, Chicken or Roast Beef	\$4.20
Salad Sandwich	\$4.20
Lettuce, Tomato, Cucumber, Beetroot and Carrot	
Salad with Tuna or Ham	\$4.50
Salad with Chicken or Roast Beef	\$5.00
Extras including; Toasting,	\$0.60
Cheese, Avocado, Sprouts	

### Build your own Sub Roll

**\$5.50**

One choice of Meat with any fillings and sauces

1. Choose your Meat;  
Chicken Breast, Ham, Tuna, Meatball, Roast Beef
2. Choose your Fillings  
Carrot, Cheese, Tomato, Lettuce, Cucumber, Beetroot
3. Choose your Sauce/Dressing  
Caesar, Garlic Aioli, Sweet Chilli, Tomato, BBQ, Mayo

### Salads

	Small	Large
Garden Salad	\$4.50	\$5.20
Lettuce, Tomato, Cucumber, Beetroot and Carrot		
Garden Salad with Ham or Tuna	\$5.20	\$6.00
Garden Salad with Chicken	\$5.20	\$6.00
Chicken Caesar Salad	\$5.50	\$6.00
Extras - each		\$0.70

### Burgers & Wraps

Chicken Tender Wrap	\$5.50
With Lettuce & Mayo	
Chicken Burger	\$5.00
With Lettuce & Mayo	
Cheese Burger	\$5.00
Beef, Cheese & BBQ Sauce	
Veggie Burger	\$5.00
With Lettuce & Mayo	

### Hot Food

Macaroni & Cheese	\$5.00
Butter Chicken & Rice	\$5.00
Beef or Vegetable Lasagne	\$5.00
Fried Rice	\$5.00
Traveller Pie	\$4.60
Sausage Roll	\$4.00
Spinach and Ricotta Roll	\$4.00
Party Pies	2 for \$3.00
Garlic Bread	\$2.50

### Drinks

Bottled Water - 600ml	\$2.00
Plain Milk - 300ml	\$2.20
Juice Popper	\$2.60
Flavoured Milk - 300ml	\$3.00
Juice Bomb Sparkling Juice	\$3.00
Up 'N' Go	\$3.20

### Snacks

Laughing Cow Cheese	\$1.20
Carrot Sticks	\$1.20
Piece of Fruit	\$1.50
Boiled Egg	\$1.20
Popcorn	\$2.00
Custard Cup	\$2.00
Red Rock Crips	\$2.00
Grainwaves	\$2.00
Riviana Fruit Cup	\$2.00
Banana Bread Slice	\$3.00

### ORDER ONLINE

For a detailed menu, and online ordering, please visit [spriggyschools.com.au](http://spriggyschools.com.au)



**Cut-Off time for all orders is 8:30am**

# High School Tours

## Save the Date



**ST DOMINIC'S COLLEGE**  
**2023 OPEN DAY**

**THE RIGHT CHOICE FOR YOUR SON**  
SUNDAY, 26 FEBRUARY  
WELCOMING ALL FAMILIES TO JOIN US ON  
A GUIDED TOUR OF OUR COLLEGE CAMPUS

SESSION 1	SESSION 2
Commences at 10.00am, followed by a tour of the College at 10.30am	Commences at 12.30pm, followed by a tour of the College at 1.00pm

**BOOK ONLINE FOR YOUR GUIDED TOUR**  
www.stdominics.nsw.edu.au or scan the QR Code provided

54-94 Gascoigne Street, Kingswood NSW 2747 | Enrolments: enrolments@stdominics.nsw.edu.au | Enquiries: 4721 1933 | Follow us



Ready



Respectful



Safe



**Xavier College Open Night**  
**Tuesday March 7, 2023**  
**4pm-6pm. Prospective 2023**  
**students and families are**  
**welcome to attend.**  
**Tours and application forms**  
**available on the night.**

## 2024 ENROLMENTS

FOR GIRLS YEARS 7-12

OPEN NIGHT TOURS:

Mon 13th to Wed 15th March 2023

Join us to see for yourself why girls are so  
happy to learn at Caroline Chisholm College.

Tours of the college: 3:30 - 6:30pm

BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL

Limited places available in other years

Further information and bookings can be made  
via our website and Facebook page.

www.cccglenmorepark.nsw.edu.au

90-98 The Lakes Drive Glenmore Park

Enrolment packages can be obtained by  
contacting the college on: 4737 5500

CAROLINE  
CHISHOLM  
COLLEGE



Follow us



**OPEN NIGHT** **PENOLA**  
CATHOLIC COLLEGE

**Tuesday 7 March 2023 4pm - 7pm**



Enrolling now for Year 7 2024

Self-guided & guided  
tours available  
no bookings required

Your local 7-12 co-educational Catholic School

Walking in the footsteps of Saint Mary MacKillop

@PenolaEmuPlains P: 02 4728 8100 www.penolaemuPlains.catholic.edu.au

## St Mary MacKillop, South Penrith

150 Fragar Road, South Penrith NSW 2750

Ambrose School Age Care provides fun, engaging programs before and after school. Our programs include games, sport, art, craft, and free-time facilitated by Ambrose educators experienced in the nationally approved learning framework, My Time Our Place. Children love Ambrose as the programs are developed around their interests and ideas

They're also a great way to make friends, develop social skills, and most importantly – have fun!



## Our Opening Hours

**Before School Care:** 6.30am – 8.45am

**After School Care:** 2:30pm – 6.00pm

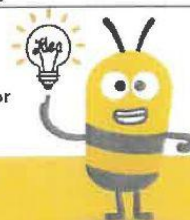
**Pupil Free Day:** 6.30am – 6.00pm

## Our fees Government subsidy (CCS) available depending on each family's eligibility.

Session	Time	After 85% Child Care Subsidy*	After 50% Child Care Subsidy*	Advertised Fee No Child Care Subsidy
Morning	6.30am – 8.45am	\$4.23	\$11.55	\$22 per session
Afternoon	2.30pm – 6.00pm	\$6.06	\$16.54	\$31.50 per session
Pupil Free Day - Standard Fee - Early 'Bee' Special	6.30am – 6.00pm	\$14.43 \$ 12.51	\$39.37 \$34.12	\$75 \$65

\*Child Care Subsidy (CCS) can provide up to 85% of the cost of your childcare fees. External party charges for in-service workshops and excursions may apply.

All educators working directly with the children hold a valid working with children check and there is always an educator rostered who is qualified in first aid, asthma, anaphylaxis and CPR.



To enrol now - please complete the enrolment form [here](#)

Or contact the service on

Email: [stmarymackillop@ambrose.org.au](mailto:stmarymackillop@ambrose.org.au) Phone: 0492 367 298

*Learning for life*

Is this safe?



# PEANUT AND TREE NUT ALLERGY AWARE SCHOOL



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

**B E Y O N D**  
**A PEANUT**  
FOOD ALLERGY AWARENESS PRODUCTS

[www.beyondapeanut.com](http://www.beyondapeanut.com)  
1-877-ALRG-TIP (257-4847)

Thank you  
for helping us  
provide a safe environment  
for our friends with food allergies!