

# Holy Spirit Primary School



## From the Principal

Dear Parents and Carers,

I read this the other day and thought I would share it with you. In our busy lives we can at times get overwhelmed and keep looking to the future rather than being present in the 'now'.

*We convince ourselves that life will be better after we get married,  
have a baby or two.*

*Then we are frustrated that the kids aren't old enough and we'll be  
more content when they are. After that we're frustrated that we have  
teenagers to deal with.*

*We tell ourselves that our life will be complete when we get that nicer  
car, go on that special vacation or move to that grander home.*

*The truth is, there's no better time to be happy than right now. If not  
now, when?*

*Your life will always be filled with challenges. It is best to admit this  
to yourself and decide to be happy anyway.*

*So treasure every moment that you have and treasure it more because  
you have someone special to share it with.*

*So stop waiting until...*

*you get a new car, your kid's leave home, you lose 10 kilos, you get  
married, you go on that holiday, summer, you move home etc  
Be happy now.*

Kind regards  
Anne Hines  
Principal

### School Committee

Thank you to those parents who attended our first school committee meeting.

### 2014 Fundraising

Thank you to Jess Aldag for coordinating the fundraising last year, over \$22,000 was raised. These funds bought a data projector in Year 1, covers for some of the playground poles, blinds for the Year 1, 3 and 5 classrooms, furniture for the Year 1 room and concerts for K- 2 (Andy) and Years 3-5 (Anti- bullying) and subsidised the Year 6 fun day.

This year each grade will take leadership of a fundraiser. Please note your fundraiser and support your class delegates. The grade representatives chose the following:

Term 1	Table-a-thon (Year 2) Easter Egg Raffle (Year 6)
Term 2	Mother's Day (Year 4)
Term 3	Father's Day (Kindergarten) Cent-a-thon (Year 5)
Term 4	Disco (Year 1) Christmas Raffle (Year 3)

Money raised in 2015 will go towards the purchase of classroom technology.

Term 1, Week 6

4 March 2015

## Prayer IV

Loving God

Help us grow and  
change in Lent.

Help us be more  
like Jesus.

Help us to be  
thankful for all  
you have given  
us,

Please help the  
poor people get  
clean water,  
houses and  
medicine.

Amen



**Building Fund Levy**

This money goes to the Diocese of Parramatta to fund major building projects eg new schools. Further information can be obtained from <http://www.parra.catholic.edu.au/school-fees>

**Table -a-thon**

This week every student received a sponsorship card so now is the time to be collecting sponsors and learning numbers and tables.

The Table-a-thon will take place in class on Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> March and all money collected needs to be sent in to school by Friday 27<sup>th</sup> March.

**Catholic Schools Week**

This will be held in week 7. Please mark Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> March (Book character parade/Book Fair) and Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> March (Opening School Mass).

**Enrolments for Kindergarten 2016**

If you have a child born between July 2010 and June 2011 they are eligible for kindergarten enrolment. Please collect forms from the school office or download from the school website from Monday 9<sup>th</sup> March. Please pass on this information to family and friends. There will be tours of the school on Monday 9<sup>th</sup> March (3:30 – 4pm) and Tuesday (9:30 – 10:30am).

**Complaint Handling Policy**

If at anytime, you find that you have a concern with the school, you are encouraged to contact the school and make arrangements to speak with the teacher/s, assistant principal and/or the principal, to find a resolution for your concern. It is our aim to work with all members of our school community to ensure that we do the very best we can to provide a productive, safe and enjoyable learning experience for our students and a professionally fulfilling experience for our staff.

If you would like to raise a concern formally, the Catholic Education Office has procedures for ensuring that complaints are handled fairly. Information about how to lodge a complaint and a complaint form are available from the school office or in the Complaints Handling Policy and Procedures. The documents can be accessed on the school website or system website.. [www.parra.catholic.edu.au](http://www.parra.catholic.edu.au)

**Mufti Day**

On Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> March children are invited to wear 'green' for St Patrick's Day. Please ensure that your child wears sensible play clothes, with joggers. Children are asked to bring a gold coin on the day.

## Learning Matters

Dear Parents,

Over the next couple of years we will continue to implement the Australian Curriculum in all Key Learning Areas. English was the first of the new curriculums to be implemented. This year the focus at Holy Spirit will be on Writing, and the assessment of Writing. People sometimes question the need to teach children Handwriting because of role of technology in our world, so when I came across this article on the Board of Studies site I thought it clearly explained the need to keep teaching children this skill. It was written by Peter Lee who is an inspector at the Board of Studies.

Teaching handwriting continues to occupy an important place in the new NSW English K-10 Syllabus.

Writing by hand is an essential skill for supporting learning. Through the physical act of writing, children learn about letters, their shapes and sounds. The act of writing has clear links to enhanced, lifelong learning and memory retention across all learning areas. Reading, saying and writing is part of a trilogy of strategies and expectations that are used when teaching the development of literacy skills.

Handwriting provides benefits beyond communicating and expressing thought. The teaching of handwriting develops in children fine motor skills that they use throughout their lives. It also develops what is termed proprioception (the ability to control minute pressure and fine muscle contractions in the hand). This enhances body awareness and muscle control and it is this skill that enables users of digital technologies to control touch and apply fine soft movements.

The act of learning to write promotes patience, perseverance and skill. The writing itself can also be viewed as an art form.

In 21<sup>st</sup> century classrooms, children need to be exposed to both handwriting skills and using digital technologies as set out in the Syllabus for English K-6. Students continue to use the written word in and beyond the school. It remains a vital and significant skill and means of communication across all societies throughout the world.

Christine Figuero  
Assistant Principal

## School Committee 2015

*Congratulations to the following parents who have volunteered to be part of the School Committee for 2015.*

### ***Executive Committee***

Chairperson	George Kang
Deputy Chairperson	Natalie Bradbury
Secretary	Nicole Brock
Assistant Secretary	Leonie Wilmore

### ***Class Representatives/Delegate***

Jenni Barat	KB	Class Representative
Joshua Chapman	KB	Class Delegate
D'Anne Worsley	KN	Class Representative
Beata Mazzaferro	KN	Class Delegate
Mary Morales	1T	Class Representative
Michelle Reynolds	1T	Class Delegate
Emma Greczko	1V	Class Representative
Natalie Gauci	2B	Class Representative
Mary Kingi	2B	Class Delegate
Helen Zappala	2C	Class Representative
Phyllis Stylianou	3C	Class Representative
Kim Grieve	3C	Class Delegate
Sharon Mingramm	3G	Class Representative
Kathi Polkamp	3G	Class Delegate
Jessica Aldag	4A	Class Representative
Linda Feneck	4A	Class Delegate
Germaine Gil	4S	Class Delegate
Leanne Rolls	5H	Class Representative
Nadene Tucker	5H	Class Delegate
Audrey McKinder	5HV	Class Representative
Mary Inguanez	5HV	Class Delegate
Karen Seidenkamp	6B	Class Representative
Evelyn Cea	6B	Class Delegate
Paola DiCenso	6BV	Class Representative
Lisa Galvin	6BV	Class Delegate

## *Congratulations to the following students who have received Principal Awards*

**Kindergarten:** Leshawn, Lillian, Aidan, Alexander  
**Year 1:** April, Ryan, Ava, Daniel  
**Year 2:** Ashton, Julian, Isabella, Daniel, Phillip, Zoe  
**Year 3:** Cameron, Jarred, Emily, Benjamin, Ella, Mia,  
 Dominic, Adam  
**Year 4:** Ading, Jack, Hagley, Anthony  
**Year 5:** Kaitlyn, Cameron, Trey, Ellie  
**Year 6:** Lizzi, Jaslyn, Nicolas, Josh, Emily, Isabella, Tyrrell,  
 William



## Live Life Well Tip

### Breakfast provides brain food

Eating breakfast each morning improves children's learning, concentration, behaviour, overall nutrient intake, and establishes healthy eating patterns for life. Some quick breakfast options include:

- wholegrain cereals and reduced-fat milk
- baked beans on wholegrain toast and a glass of reduced-fat milk
- fruit smoothie and toast
- toast topped with cheese and sliced tomatoes
- egg on toast with a glass of reduced-fat milk
- wholemeal or wholegrain toast or fresh bread, with margarine spread plus a topping, such as tomato, reduced-fat cheese or baked beans
- reduced-fat yoghurt, fruit and raisin bread
- fruit salad and yoghurt.



## Book Fair Helpers

The Book Fair becomes very busy throughout the day especially before school and during recess. If you are able to come along for all, or part of the day to help sell the books it would be very much appreciated!! Please sign the form below and return to the school office as soon as possible. Please note: the Book Fair will close during the Parade so that everyone can attend and enjoy this exciting part of the day!

Thank you in anticipation of your help!  
Lorraine Alexander (Teacher Librarian)

.....  
**I am able to help out at the Book Fair on Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> March.**

NAME (Please print) .....

HOME PHONE..... MOBILE .....

CHILD'S CLASS..... Signature .....



# Holy Spirit Primary School

Phone: 9670 5379 / 9670 5377  
Fax: 9834 3209



7-17 Todd Row, St Clair 2759  
Email: holyspirit@parra.catholic.edu.au  
www.hsstclair.catholic.edu.au

## Enrolments 2016



Enrolment packages for Kindergarten 2016 will be available from the school office from Monday, 9 March 2015. All forms need to be returned by Friday, 24th April 2015.

Please ensure forms are filled out correctly, signed by both parents and returned with enrolment fee, original Birth, Baptism and Immunisation Certificates. If both parents are born outside Australia or the child was not born in Australia, we need to sight the Citizenship Certificate.

*If you would like an enrolment package sent home either for your child, or the child of a friend or relative, please complete the form below and return it to the school office as soon as possible.*

### 2016 ENROLMENT PACKAGE

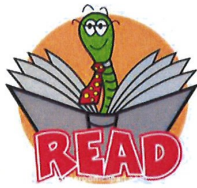
Please send home an enrolment package for my child, friend or relative

Name of prospective student: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact details of family seeking enrolment: \_\_\_\_\_

Please send package home with: \_\_\_\_\_ (child's name)

Class: \_\_\_\_\_



# Catholic Schools Week



Dust off those tiaras! Shake out that old  
superman costume! Practise your most dashing pirate pose!

The Holy Spirit 'Book Parade' is only weeks away!

The feature of this year's Catholic Schools Week will be a book  
parade. Each child is invited to choose their favourite book  
character and come dressed in theme as we celebrate the  
wonderful world of storybooks and learning.

## Monday 9<sup>th</sup> March

3:30 – 4:00pm School Tours for families with children to start Kindergarten in 2016

## Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> March

9:30 – 10.30am School Tours for families with children to start Kindergarten in 2016

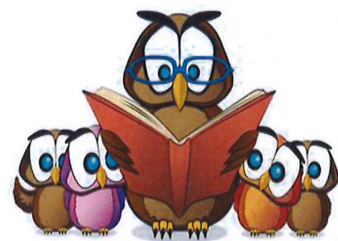
## Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> March

8:00am To assist working parents - Book Fair opens for any student with a  
parent/grandparent

8:20am Book Fair opens for all students wanting to purchase books

10:00 – 10:50am Book Parade

- Year 1
- Year 5
- Year 2
- Year 4
- Year 3
- Kinder with their Yr 6 buddies



## Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> March

10:15am Opening School Mass

10:50am Recess – picnic on grass for parents and families

11:30 – 12:00pm Open Classrooms



# Community News



ENROLLING NOW FOR 2016



Catherine McAuley is a Catholic girls' secondary school, located at Westmead. Our broad curriculum encourages young women to pursue independent lifelong learning.

**OPEN NIGHT** Tuesday 17 March 2015  
4.00 - 6.30pm

Tour our school grounds, visit classrooms and view displays. A Year 7 2016 Information Night will be held following at 7.00pm with presentations from the school leadership team.



CONTACT OUR SCHOOL  
ON 9849 9100 FOR AN  
ENROLMENT PACK.  
APPLICATIONS CLOSE  
27TH MARCH 2015



Catherine McAuley, 2 Darcy Road, Westmead | [www.mcauley.nsw.edu.au](http://www.mcauley.nsw.edu.au)



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## Upcoming dates...

**Wednesday 4 March**  
Parent Scripture Meditation  
8.50am

**Thursday 5 March**  
Buddy Mass—Year 3 9am

**Friday 6 March**  
Whole School Assembly  
2.30pm

**Monday 9 March**  
Catholic School's Week  
Open Day for Kinder 2016  
families 3.30pm - 4.00pm

**Tuesday 10 March**  
Catholic School's Week  
Open Day for Kinder 2016  
families 9.30am - 10.30am

**Wednesday 11 March**  
Catholic School's Week  
Book Fair  
Book Character Parade

**Thursday 12 March**  
Catholic School's Week  
Opening School Mass  
10.15am

Table-a-thon

**Friday 13 March**  
Augustinian Prayer 3pm

## St Patrick's Day Mufti Day

Tuesday 17 March

Please ensure that your child wears  
sensible play clothes, with joggers.

Gold coin donation.



7-17 Todd Row  
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