

Holy Spirit Primary School



From the Principal

Dear Parents and Carers,

Next week we celebrate Catholic Schools Week.

The theme for Catholic Schools Week this year is 'I Belong, You Belong, We Belong.' The theme aligns with the Church's mission to support refugees and asylum seekers and the need to foster a more compassionate global community.

The theme also ties in with the global Catholic Church celebration of the Extraordinary Jubilee of Mercy, which focuses on pardon, strength and love. Pope Francis sees the Year of Mercy as an opportunity for forgiveness and reconciliation, and is calling on all Catholic communities to extend mercy to those in need, particularly refugees.

Catholic Schools Week is also about strengthening relationships between all those that have a stake in our schools – students, staff, families, priests, parishioners, and members of the wider community – by showcasing what happens in our schools every day.

Kind regards

Anne Hines
Principal

Easter Egg Raffle

Each family is asked to donate an easter egg towards our Easter Raffle. Please send the eggs to school by Friday 18th March. Raffle tickets will be sent home shortly. Please support this fundraiser, last year we had over 100 prizes.

Lord Jesus,

You came among us as teacher, to reveal to us the Father's endless love and mercy.

Our Catholic schools continue to give witness to your compassion and wisdom, seeking always to ensure that we are all welcome no matter who we are.

May our Catholic schools continue to be places of belonging and sources of hope and enthusiasm for our young people and their families.

May the work of our Catholic schools always be guided by the inspiration of your Spirit.

We ask this through Christ our Lord

Amen.

Term 1, Week 6

2 March 2016

Prayer 1A

Dear God,

**During this time
of Lent help us
to grow and
change and be
more like Jesus.**

**Help us to be
loving at home
by listening to
our family.**

**At school help
us to be
respectful by
using kind
words and
gentle actions
when playing
and learning
with friends.**

Amen

Quality Catholic Schools Survey

All Catholic schools in the Diocese of Parramatta will be once again participating in the Quality Catholic Schooling (QCS) survey.

The QCS survey provides information from students, staff and parents about our school's cultural behaviour, relationships and learning community, and assists us in our focus on continuous improvement.

Between 21 March and 1 April 2016 all staff and all year 5 and 6 students, and 60 randomly-selected parents will be asked to complete an online survey. Staff and students will complete the survey online at school. Parents will be sent home a paper survey but will also be able to complete the survey online if preferred. The survey will take about 20-30 minutes to complete.

This year we will again be able to get even more information about the link between student wellbeing and learning outcomes. To do this we will need to include a student identifier in the student survey. The survey will still remain confidential and individual survey responses will not be accessible by the school or the Catholic Education Office.

An independent survey consultant (Insight SRC) who manages the data collection will ensure the survey data is kept strictly confidential. Each school will receive a de-identified information report at the end of May to help them to develop strategies for further improvement. This will definitely help us in working with all students to improve their learning. If you have concerns, please feel free to contact Mrs Hines.

As a parent if you are randomly-selected to complete the survey, I would encourage your participation as this will help our school to identify our strengths and areas in which we can focus our improvement.

If you have any questions please contact Mrs Hines.

Roster for Grass and Library

Playing on the Grass

	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Recess	Stage 2	Stage 3	Stage 2	ES1/Stage 1
Lunch	Stage 3	ES1/Stage 1	Stage 3	Stage 2

Using computers in the Library

Everyone is invited to visit the library, however each stage will take a turn to use the computers at lunchtime.

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday
ES1/Stage 1	Stage 2	Stage 3

Fundraising

At the school committee meeting last week it was decided that the grades would take leadership of the following initiatives:

Term 1	Easter Egg Raffle (Year 1)
Term 2	Mothers' Day (Kinder)
	TBA (Year 2)
Term 3	Fathers' Day (Year 3)
	Cent-a-thon (Year 6)
Term 4	Disco/Movie Night (Year 5)
	Christmas Raffle (Year 4)

Year Six Sports Shirts

Although the measurements for these were taken last year we always invite the Year 6 children to vote on their preferred screen printing and wait until the start of the year to ensure that the names appearing on the shirt are correct. Sometimes students leave our school or seek enrolment in the January break. We have been advised that the children should receive their shirts by the end of week 6.

Resources

Thank you so much to the families who have supplied tissues, wipes etc. The supply of such items supports the school and enables funds to be available for the purchase of much needed school equipment.

We have recently purchased some new technology devices for all grades at a cost of \$30,000.

We have also supplied each learning space with both an analog and digital clock at a cost of \$2,000. This is to support the children in their understanding of time.

Attendance

Please be advised the Friday 4th March (school concert/assembly) and Thursday 10th March (opening school Mass) are school days and children are to remain at school following these events.

Recess and Lunch

Please remind your children of the need to sit and eat their food before playing games. We are noticing an increase in the number of children who are not sitting and eating before play.

Staff Development Day

There will be a staff development day on Thursday 24th March – this is a pupil free day. This is a day when the teachers come together for learning and planning. Please make arrangements for your children on this day.

Open Day

If you have a child starting school in 2017 or know of someone who does, please join our 'open morning' on Monday 7th March at 9:30am or 'open afternoon' at 3:30pm.

Diary Dates: Catholic School Week

You are warmly invited to attend the school on Friday 4th March at 10:15am to visit classrooms. This will be followed by a morning tea for parents and carers on the library verandah. At 11:30am each grade will perform an item in the MPA. There will be a book fair in the library as well.

On Thursday 10th March we will celebrate our opening school Mass at 10:15am in the parish church. Please join us for these events.

Crossing

Please ensure that you slow down and observe the crossing supervisor for the safety of all.

No Parking in Driveways

We have received complaints from some of our neighbours that parents and carers are parking across their driveways. This is a traffic offence. All driveways must be kept clear at all times.

Learning Matters

Holy Spirit has been an EMU school for a number of years now. Classroom teachers have had Professional Learning around how best to advance the mathematics learning of all the children in their class. After initial assessment at the beginning of the year, the teachers develop activities that will improve and consolidate the mathematical understanding of the children. Students are often given goals that they need to work towards.

There are four key beliefs that underpin the EMU program:

1. Children construct mathematical ideas from their experiences;
2. Children learn through being actively and intensively engaged in mathematical learning experiences;
3. Children construct mathematical ideas through discussing, listening, simulating and reflecting upon their mathematical experiences;
4. Mathematical learning involves taking risks and this requires confidence.

One of the contexts in which the program works is within the home and community. As parents and carers you may be required to take part in a mathematics task that is part of Homework. This may be a supervisory role or as an active participant, such as playing a number game. Your participation is always welcomed and needed. Remember it's your attitude to learning that will greatly affect your child's attitude as they grow. There are many simple things that you can do on a day-to-day level to develop mathematical understanding and a positive mindset to learning. During the holidays I overheard a Mum asking her child to weigh one kilo of tomatoes. When the scale didn't quite show one kilo she asked the child; "How many more tomatoes should we add to make it one kilo?"

It's that easy. Let's think about all the concepts that we could tick off from that little interaction:

- Mass is measured using grams and kilograms
- The actual amount of tomatoes that might equal one kilogram
- Scales are used to measure mass
- We pay for the weight of the fruit or vegetable
- We can estimate how much objects weigh

Thanks for your participation in the education of your children.

Christine Figuero
Assistant Principal

DEVELOPING RESILIENCE IN OUR CHILDREN

A presentation for parents covering:

- **What is resilience and why is it important?**
- **What makes some kids more resilient than others?**
- **Reducing anxiety in our children and further develop their resilience**
- **Emotion coaching and problem solving**



WHERE: Holy Spirit Catholic Primary, St Clair
WHEN: 9am - 10am, Tuesday 8th March 2016
WHO: All parents are welcome to attend
RSVP: School Office by Monday 7th March
PRESENTER: Anoushka Houseman, Clinical Psychologist,
K-12 Coordinator of Wellbeing, Catholic Education,
Diocese of Parramatta



CEDP Wellbeing Team, Student Services

School Committee 2016

School Committee

Thank you to the following parents who have accepted to be class representatives/delegates this year.

If you have a question or concern please mention this to your class representative/delegate who can then put it on the agenda for our next school committee meeting.

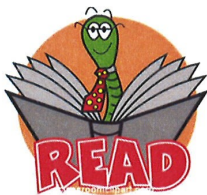
Congratulations to the following parents who have volunteered to be part of the School Committee for 2016.

Executive Committee

Chairperson	Vacant
Deputy Chairperson	Vacant
Secretary	Danielle Garay
Assistant Secretary	Vacant

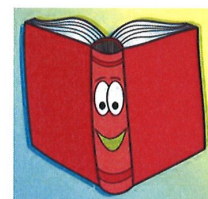
Class Representatives/Delegate

Melissa Worobiej	KB	Class Representative
Jessica Aldag	KB	Class Delegate
Kimberly Gallagher	KC	Class Representative
Yvonne Badr/Danielle Garay	KC	Class Delegate
Suzana Matic	1N	Class Representative
Anna Gregoriou	1N	Class Delegate
Louise Chapman	1T	Class Representative
Emma Greczko	2CV	Class Representative
Paola Dicenso	2CV	Class Delegate
Michelle Reynolds	2KV	Class Representative
Julieanne White	2KV	Class Delegate
Nicole Brock	3C	Class Representative
Agata Curley	3G	Class Representative
Phyllis Stylianou	4B	Class Representative
Emma Carter	4B	Class Delegate
Paula Koroma	4S	Class Delegate
Germaine Gil	5A	Class Representative
Natalie Gauci	5A	Class Delegate
Renee Muradian	5B	Class Representative
Diana Fox	5B	Class Delegate
Sharon Mingramm	6H	Class Representative
Bernie Lampard	6H	Class Delegate
Jessica Aldag	6W	Class Representative
Amanda Gorej	6W	Class Delegate



Catholic Schools Week

Starts early at Holy Spirit!



Friday 4th 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
10:15am	Open Classrooms
10:50am	Morning Tea for parents and carers on Library verandah
11:30am	Concert in MPA (Students to wear normal uniform on this day)

Monday 7th March

9:30 – 10.30am	School Tours for families with children to start Kindergarten in 2017
3:30 – 4:00pm	School Tours for families with children to start Kindergarten in 2017

Thursday 10th March

10:15am	Opening School Mass
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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 2017



Enrolment packages for Kindergarten 2017 will be available from the school office from Monday, 7 March 2016. All forms need to be returned by Friday, 29th April 2016.

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.

2017 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: _____

Congratulations to the following students who have received Principal Awards



Kinderg: Hunter, Lachlan, Yasmin, Michael, Jarryd, Ava
Year 1: Dylan, Roman, Bol, Angelina, Emily, Aidan
Year 2: Aling, TJ, Julia, Riley, Scarlett, Chelsy
Year 3: Bianca, Alexis, Isabella, Polyxeni, Lilly, Noah
Year 4: Josh, Benjamin, Eloise, Cahill, Jaida, Christian
Year 5: Ryan, Terina-Grace, Jake, Thomas, Arthur, Tyler
Year 6: Aidan, Athot, Rahul, Austin, Abigail, Stefan

Prayer Group

Dear parents, carers and grandparents,

Each Wednesday morning throughout the year the school hosts a prayer group for parents, carers and grandparents.

Beginning the day with God is a great way to launch into the day with a renewed mindset. Here's what one participant has to say...

"How nice would it be to spend time relaxed in your thoughts to allow spiritual growth and fulfilment to encompass you? Come along and give it a try. Gospel-based meditation with Mrs Alexander once a week. It's worth a go. Wednesday's from 8:50 to approximately 9:15 in the library. Hope to see you there!"

(Roslyn Smith – Brendan Yr 6 & Charlotte Yr 1)

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 Grade presentation 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 Friday 4th March.

NAME (Please print)

HOME PHONE.....

MOBILE

CHILD'S CLASS.....

Signature

Community News

St. Mary's RSL Sub-Branch will conduct its



ANZAC



Commemorative March & Service
Sunday 17th April

Everyone is invited to march or show your support.
St. Mary's area schools, sporting and community groups will be involved in the service.

The March starts at 2.30 pm at Coachman's Park and culminates for a Service at Victoria Park.

JOIN US IN THE MARCH ... OR JUST THE SERVICE

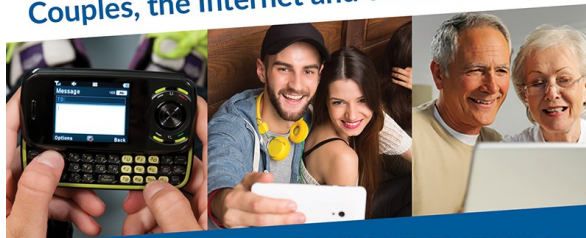
ANZAC DAY DAWN SERVICE

at St. Mary's RSL Club starting at

5.00AM

TEXT, TWITTER, TWEET

Couples, the Internet and Social Media



COUPLE EVENING
Friday, 18 March at 7.30pm

St Paul the Apostle Parish Hall, 40 Buckley's Rd, Winston Hills

The evening will be addressed by Shane Smith on the topic:
"Text, Twitter, Tweet - Couples, the Internet and Social Media."

Shane Smith is the Director of Prepare/Enrich Australia and Vice President of the Marriage and Relationship Educators Association of Australia. He is an enthusiastic presenter who actively promotes and facilitates marriage and family relationships. He has a broad understanding of digital technology and his presentation will focus on the impact of the internet, mobile technology and social media on couple relationships, and how digital technology matters in the lives of Australian couples.

Come along and find out the latest research on how this technology affects relationships and how it can be managed in your relationship.

Free entry and a light supper will be served.

Please register your attendance to:
marriage@ccss.org.au
or ring Lyn Keane on 8822 2222



Upcoming dates...

Thursday 3 March
Buddy Mass—Year 3 9am

Friday 4 March
Book Fair

Open Classrooms - 10:15am

Morning Tea for Parents -
10:50am

Grade Presentation -
11:30am

Monday 7 March
Catholic School's Week
Open Day for Kinder 2017
families 9:30am - 10:30am &
3:30pm-4:00pm

Tuesday 8 March
Catholic School's Week

Resilience Presentation
9am

Wednesday 9 March
Catholic School's Week
Parent Scripture
Meditation 8:50am

Thursday 10 March
Catholic School's Week
Opening School Mass
10.15am

Friday 11 March
Catholic School's Week
Augustinian Prayer 3pm



Parents please
note
Thursday 24th
March is a Staff
Development Day.
There are no classes
on this day.

7-17 Todd Row
ST CLAIR NSW 2759
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