

Holy Spirit Primary School



From the Principal

Dear Parents and Carers,

A Light Lenten Reflection

You don't have to answer the questions. Just have a think about them...

Name the wealthiest person in the world
Name the last Melbourne Cup winner
Name the last winner of the Miss Universe Contest
Name 3 people who have won the Nobel prize
Name who won last year's Oscar for best actor

How did you do? The point is that none of us remember the headlines of yesterday. These are the best in their fields but the awards tarnish and their achievements are forgotten.

Here's another, see how you do in this one.

Name a teacher who helped you at school
Name a friend who helped you at a difficult time
Name 2 people who have taught you something worthwhile
Name 3 people you enjoy spending time with
Name someone's story that has inspired you

Easier?

The lesson – people who make a difference in our lives are not the ones with the most credentials, the most money or the most awards. They are the ones who care.

(From the 'Philosophy of Cherly Shultz' creator of the Peanuts comic strip.)

Thank You

Thank you to everyone for your participation and involvement in our Catholic Schools Week activities. Our Mass, Spellathon, Book Fair and Assembly items were a fantastic display of the gifts and talents of the Holy Spirit community. Thank you.

Spellathon

Please continue to collect and send in sponsorship money for our spellathon. Children who have returned their sponsorship money by 21st March will go in to a draw for a small prize. All children who have returned their sponsorship money by Friday 28th March will receive a free zooper dooper ice block at lunch on this day. Finally for every \$5 collected children will be given a raffle ticket. The raffle will be drawn at our assembly in week 10. Good luck!

Lego

We are hoping to offer a lego club at lunch time for interested students. If you have some 'unwanted' lego at home to donate to the school please hand this in to the school office. Thank you.

Term 1, Week 8

19 March 2014

Prayer 6H

Dear Lord,

*During this time of
Lent, help us to be
good role models
and leaders as we
become more
aware of the
needs of others.*

*Give us the
courage to
fulfill our
responsibilities
and our Lenten
promises and
thank you for the
opportunities we
have as Year 6
leaders.*

Amen



Enrolments for Kindergarten 2015

If you have a child born between July 2009 and June 2010 they are eligible for kindergarten enrolment. Please collect enrolment forms from the school office or download from the school website.

Skoolbag App

A separate note will go home in the next week or so with details about how to install the Holy Spirit App. This is a free App which can be accessed on smart phones and Android tablets. The App will have alerts and newsletters and provide a fast, simple and convenient way to communicate.

School Banking

School banking will be on Wednesdays fortnightly from Wednesday 19th March. A St George Bank representative will be available to collect bank money and stamp bank books.

Kind regards

Anne Hines
Principal

Learning Matters

Welcome to Week 8.

This term has been packed with many activities and processes. This included the assessment of your child's Mathematical knowledge using the MAI Tool. The MAI (Mathematical Assessment Interview) is part of the EMU process. Extending Mathematical Understanding (EMU) is a research-based intervention program developed by Dr Ann Gervasoni of ACU in association with the Early Numeracy Research Project (1999-2002).

The EMU Program has been shown by detailed research to improve children's learning and confidence with mathematics. It enhances their mathematical understanding through rich mathematical experiences. Children are actively involved in "hands on" mathematical learning. They use equipment to assist in developing mathematical knowledge, share and listen to the learning of their peers and reflect on and record their understandings in a supportive, fun and challenging environment.

As a school, our MAI results have shown growth. The teachers and the students are now familiar with the program and continue to refine and develop their skills. The older children at Holy Spirit are working on their Maths goals with their teachers. This is a useful activity as the student owns their learning and understands the steps they need to progress and improve their understanding.

If you would like to help your child with their understanding of Mathematics I have included a couple of tips which have been drawn from the experiences of Ann Gervasoni and the teachers who have implemented the EMU program.

1. Provide children with lots of experiences with counting quantities between 20 and 200 and providing proof for the total that convinces others. Such experiences assist children to notice that number words represent quantities and they also develop fast ways of checking totals.
2. When children are working with or counting quantities, ask questions such as:
What is one more?
What is one less?
What is ten more?
What is ten less?
These questions focus children's attention on the nature of the quantity they are working with and ensure that they are not simply reading or writing numerals without paying attention to their mathematical meaning.

It all sounds very simple, but with repetition and success, thinking is changed and learning improves.

Christine Figuero
Assistant Principal

Book Fair

Thank you for another very successful Book Fair! In this hi-tech age it's wonderful to see how much excitement can still be generated by the humble book.

We sold approximately \$9,500 worth of books on the day and the commission to the school is 35% of that total in books, making it a very profitable day.

Beyond financial profits though, the day generated lots of happy vibes for the children, and everyone else involved. The success of the Book Fair indicates the value we place on literature and literacy here at Holy Spirit. Thank you for your good will, generous support and participation.

A special note of thanks to all those wonderful parents and teachers who helped out with selling and supervision on the day, your assistance is appreciated more than you could know!

Many thanks
Lorraine Alexander
Teacher Librarian



School Photos

School Photos will be taken on **Wednesday, 26 March** from 8.50am. Please ensure your child arrives at school on time and is correctly attired in **full summer school uniform**. Forms will go home soon but for your information we have listed the prices:

(F) Group Only:	-\$22
No portraits included	
(E) Photobook Only:	-\$30
No portraits included	
(D) Basic Pack	-\$33
Group and basic portraits	
(C) Regular Pack:	-\$35
Group and student portraits	
(B) Regular Plus Pack:	-\$36
Group and larger range of student portraits	
(A) Deluxe Pack:	-\$40
Group photo, bookmarks, gift ideas and bonus frame magnet set	

Payment Options:

- Credit Card—processed online. You will be given a receipt number that must be placed on your child's order.
- Cheque payments.
- Cash Payments—**Payment sent in on the day only. Correct money only. NO change given .**



Parents for the safety of our children please obey the rules of Kiss-n-Ride.

If you have to get out of your car to unlock your child's door or assist them enter/exit the car then Kiss-n-Ride isn't the option for you.

If your child is late in the morning can you please ensure a late note is completed at the school office before your child goes to class.

Parents are asked to accompany their child to the office to sign the form.

☆ Kinder: Saadet, Mitchell, Kara, Brody
 ☆ Year 1: Daniel, Jasmine, Zog, Isaac
 ☆ Year 2: Dominic, Lillian, Elija, Anthony
 ☆ Year 3: Harry, Marina, Kaitlin, Cooper
 ☆ Year 4: Cohen, Jada, Justin, Dionne
 ☆ Year 5: Joshua, Ashleigh, William, Jack
 ☆ Year 6: Blake, Zog, Damon, Elisha

Student from Years 3, 4, 5 and 6 are invited to participate in the Science, English or Mathematics competitions.

Science- 4th June, English- 29th July and Mathematics- 12th August.

Thank you,
Donnalee Hughes

If you have any skills or interest in a particular field that you think Year 5 and 6 children could benefit from, we would love to hear from you! Our life skills and Electives classes take place each Tuesday afternoon (Term 2& 3) from 2:00 – 3:00 with groups of about 6 - 8 students per group. Some examples could be: gardening, photography, cooking, art, pottery, scrapbooking, music, sewing, etc.

Please complete and return the form by Friday 28 March.

Thank you
Donnalee Hughes
Stage 3 Coordinator

Stage 3 Life Skills and Electives

Child' Name: _____

Helper's Name: _____

Contact Phone number: _____

Skill / Interest:

Community News



The Australian Childhood Vision Impairment Register

The Australian Childhood Vision Impairment Register is hosted by the Royal Institute for Deaf and Blind Children and is supported by Vision Australia and Guide Dogs. It is the first national register of children in Australia with vision impairment. The Register has been collecting data since 2009, and this data is providing important information about the types of eye disease and vision disorders children have and the support they need. The data is also used by service providers and researchers. Data is stored securely and no child can be identified in any way when the data is released.



Families are invited to register their child (aged 0-18 years) if they have vision impairment in both eyes which has been diagnosed by an eye specialist or ophthalmologist. Registration can be completed by contacting Register staff on (02) 9872 0303, or by visiting the VI Family Network website at: www.vifamilynetwork.org.au. The website also provides information on eyes and vision; family support; education and related issues; braille and low vision aids; technology supporting vision impairment; newsletters from Australian low vision agencies and support groups, useful websites; and news and events that might interest families across Australia.

Sue Silveira Research Fellow, Renwick Centre

Royal Institute for Deaf and Blind Children

sue.silveira@ridbc.org.au

(02) 9872 0248

Penrith City Library have a variety of fun school holiday activities for eg magic show, art workshop, science workshop, lego robotics and many more fun activities. Tickets are on sale now. For bookings and enquiries phone 4732 7891 or visit www.penrithcity.nsw.gov.au

A **Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend** is a *Marriage Enrichment* experience for married couples – set in peaceful, picturesque surroundings, away from the distractions of everyday life. During the weekend, couples have a unique opportunity to reconnect, rekindle and refresh their relationship. Take time out of your busy schedule, to invest in your most precious asset . . . your Marriage!

Weekend date: 13 – 15 June at Mt Carmel Retreat Centre, Varroville, NSW

Bookings: Ardell & Bill Sharpe tel. 02 4283 3435 or wsharpe@bigpond.net.au

www.wmme.org.au www.facebook.com/WWMEasternUnit

UWS PENRITH OBSERVATORY

Astronomy Night – Saturday 22 March (8pm – 10pm) DADS & KIDS NIGHT

Kids and dads also include grandfathers, kids and grandkids. So it is for everyone. Age is no barrier to spending an evening with the family and the stars. This night not only includes a multimedia presentation but also a 3D astronomy movie and viewing of the night sky through the University's computerised telescopes (weather permitting). Our program will run regardless of the weather.

Cost: \$15 adult, \$10 child/concession and \$40 family.

Bookings are essential: Book online: www.uws.edu.au/observatory, What's On

Enquiries: Phone (02)4736 0135 or email r.mccourt@uws.edu.au (Mon, Wed, or Thurs)

Upcoming dates...

Wednesday 19 March
School Banking

Thursday 20 March
Buddy Mass—KS & 6H
9am

Friday 21 March
Whole School Assembly
2.30pm

Wednesday 26 March
School Photos
(Full summer uniform)

Thursday 27 March
Holy Week Reflection
Part 1 2.00pm MPA

Friday 28 March
Spell-a-thon money due

Augustinian Prayer 3pm

Wednesday 2 April
School Banking

Thursday 3 April
Holy Week Reflection
Part 2—2.00pm MPA

Friday 4 April
Whole School Assembly
2.30pm

Thursday 10 April
Holy Week Reflection
Part 3—2.00pm MPA

Friday 11 April
Augustinian Prayer 3pm

Last Day of Term 1

School resumes
Monday 28 April



Term Dates

Term 2 Monday 28 April to
Friday 27 June

Term 3 Monday 14 July to
Friday 19 September

Term 4 Tuesday 7 October to
Friday 19 December

Staff Development Days will be advised separately.

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