Holy Spirit Primary School

From the Principal

Dear Parents and Carers,

Sunday 11th May is Mother's Day and I wish all our mothers and grandmothers a very happy day. You are warmly invited to afternoon tea on Friday 9th May at 2pm on the library veranda.

Real Mums

Real mams don't eat quiche because they don't have time to make it. Real mams know that their kitchen atensils are probably in the sandpit. Real mams often have sticky floors, filthy ovens but happy kids. Real mams know that dry playdough doesn't come out of earpet. Real mams don't want to know what the vacuum just sucked up. Real mams sometimes ask 'Why me?' and get their answer when a little voice says 'I love you mam'. To a child's ear the word 'mam' is magic in any language.

Loving God, we thank you for the love of our mothers, whose love is so precious that it can never be measured, whose patience seems to have no end. May your loving hand guide them. Bless them always. Amen.

Mothers' Day

Thank you to Jessica and Katrina for organising our Mothers' Day stall. This will be held on Friday 9th May from 9am in the MPA. Gifts will be on sale for \$1.00 to \$15.00.

Thank you to Jessica, Deborah, Judith, Nancy and Katrina who helped wrap the Mother's Day gifts. All mothers and grandmothers are invited for a cup of tea at 2pm on the library veranda prior to our assembly.

Naplan

Our Year 3 and Year 5 students will sit their Naplan tests from Tuesday 13th May—Thursday 15th May. These tests assess students literacy and numeracy skills. Good luck to these students!

School Committee

Our next school committee meeting will be held on Tuesday $13^{\rm th}$ May at 7pm in the school library. All are welcome to attend.

Hair

Please ensure that hair beyond collar length is tied back. Radical or exaggerated haircuts including 'rats tails' are not part of our uniform code here at Holy Spirit.



Term 2, Week 2 7 May 2014

Prayer 3H

Dear God,

Help people who are in need of some hope;

> The sick The poor The elderly The lonely

May their smiles shine as brightly as the sun!

Amen.





Staff Development Day

There will be a pupil free day on Friday June 6th. Parents are asked to make arrangements for their children on this day. Teachers will be engaging in learning about the teaching and assessing of Mathematics.

Easter Raffle

Thank you for supporting our Easter Egg Raffle. There were 89 prize winners and a total of \$923 was raised. Thank you to Maryjane, Deborah and Emma who helped to wrap the prizes.

Reading Helpers

We are in need of some parents/grandparents to assist with reading in some classrooms. If you are available from 9 - 9:30am on any day, would you please leave your name at the office. Thank you.

Kind regards

Anne Hines Principal

Learning Matters

Welcome back after the Easter Break. I hope you were able to celebrate the Resurrection of Our Lord with your family.

As mentioned in an earlier newsletter the Early Bird Reading program will start this week. This is a way Holy Spirit continues to promote the importance of reading.

From past experience it was clear that the children were excited to read to another student. It widens the audience of people that they are able to read for and strengthens the bonds between our children as they realise we are all part of the learning community.

Your help and support is always vital. Whether it is making sure they are here early enough for Early Bird Reading or encouraging them to read at home. Of course the most important factor is that you keep you're attitude positive towards all aspects of their learning.

I have included an outline of the Early Bird Reading Process for you. This was included in an earlier newsletter.

In brief this involves readers and tutors meeting in the MPA at about 8:30am. The older children will listen to their younger buddies read. Cards will be stamped to keep a check on how many times the children attend the sessions during the term. Certificates will be issued to children who consistently attend. Teachers will be supervising the session. This is not a compulsory activity but it is another way of practicing and consolidating reading skills.

This will be a new experience for our Kindergarten children. We found last year that Kindergarten were very enthusiastic and had their readers ready for Early Bird Reading.

The Early Bird Reading Days will be Tuesdays and Wednesdays. It takes place in our Multi Purpose Area. We begin at 8:30am and must finish by 8:45 so that teachers who are helping with this extra supervision are able to get back to their classes when the bell goes.

Looking forward to an exciting term of Early Bird Reading,

Christine Figuero Assistant Principal



The early bird catches the word

Congratulations to the following students who have received Principal Awards

- Kinder: Kiarah, Bailey, Tyreece, Kirsten
- Year 1: Noah, Isabella, Jacinta, Declan
- Year 2: Mia, Andres, Flynn, Katarina
- Year 3: Annaleise, Jayden, Isaac, Jamie
- Year 4: Sebastian, Andre, Rahul, Savannah
- Year 5: Jonuel, Olivia, Julianna, Anthony
- Year 6: Brooke, Peter, Linda, Aaron



Spell-a-thon: Alex, Jasmine

If your child arrives late to school a parent must accompany them to the office to sign an absence note.

Children leaving school early must be collected from the school office by an adult. Please understand that we are not able to allow a child to go home with someone unless we have had written permission.

All absences including late/early absences are recorded on the roll.

As the whole class learning time is disrupted when children arrive late or leave early, it is important that this situation is avoided. Where possible appointments should be made outside of school hours.

Parents using Kiss-n-Ride are asked to display a sign on their dashboard with your family name. The sign assists the teachers on duty to announce your child. If you would like a sign made please fill in the slip below and return it to the school office.

Please send me a 'Kiss & Ride' name sign

Family name: Eldest child's name:

Class:

Community News

WOULD YOU LIKE TO HOST AN OVERSEAS EXCHANGE STUDENT Learn about another culture, learn a new language or perhaps improve your culinary skills

Hosting - An Experience for Life

Student Exchange is looking for host families across New Zealand to welcome overseas students into their home

Visit <u>www.studentexchange.org.au/host-a-student</u> or call 1300 135 331 for more information

SUPPORT FOR THOSE WHO ARE SEPARATED OR DIVORCED

The Solo Parent Ministry is now taking registrations for their next Post-Separation Recovery Program (commencing on May 14th) This is an excellent 7 week Program to assist you work through many of the issues that you face as you negotiate your way through the loss, pain and challenges following the break-down of your marriage relationship. It will be held at Blacktown from 7.30pm – 9.45pm for 7 consecutive Wednesdays. Cost \$80.00. For further details and registration contact soloparentministry@cccss.org.au or Ph. 99330205

UWS PENRITH OBSERVATORY Astronomy Night – Saturday 10 May (7pm – 9pm) MUMS & KIDS ASTRONOMY NIGHT - WOMEN IN ASTRONOMY AND ASTROBIOLOGY

Dr Carol Oliver, Associate Director of the Australian Centre for Astrobiology (ACA) at the University of New South Wales, is guest speaker for this special night. She is currently leading two major education and research projects – The Mars Lab and the Smart Science Initiative. This night not only includes Dr Oliver's talk but also a 3D astronomy movie and viewing of the night sky through the University's computerised telescopes. Our program will run regardless of the weather.

Cost: \$15 adult, \$10 child/concession and \$40 family. **Bookings are essential:** Book online: <u>www.uws.edu.au/observatory</u>,

Upcoming dates...

Wednesday 7 May Early Bird Reading 8.30am

Early Bird Reading 8.30am

Wednesday 14 May

School Banking

Thursday 8 May Buddy Mass Year 3 9.00am

Friday 9 May Book Club Issue 3 due

Mothers' Day Stall

Mothers; Day Afternoon Tea 2.00pm

Whole School Assembly 2.20pm

Tuesday 13 May Early Bird Reading 8.30am

NAPLAN

School Committee Meeting 7.00pm

NAPLAN

Thursday 15 May NAPLAN

Buddy Mass 4B & 1T 9.00am

Friday 16 May Year 1 Excursion Trainworks Thirlmere

Augustinian Prayer 3.00pm

Tuesday 20 May 4C Reconciliation 11.30am

Early Bird Reading 8.30am





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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