Holy Spirit Primary School

From the Principal

Dear Parents and Carers,

'Think solutions not problems' is a mantra in our year 6 classroom. This encourages the students to consider alternatives when met with an obstacle. Students consider the choices available, the pros and cons of the choices and then make a decision.

Such thinking enables the students to look positively at problems and seek creative ways to overcome them. I am sure that such thinking (and attitude) has led to success across fields such as literature, sport and science. It is a wonderful way for our students to grow in competence and confidence as they prepare for their transition to high school. Well done Year 6!

Kind regards,

Mrs Anne Hines
Principal

Video and computer games

Video games are incredibly popular and give a sense of great mastery, challenge and involvement. Boys particularly use video games in a social way. It is important to realise that the use of video and computer games is not completely passive. Too much playing of these games can be negative. These games can be so compelling they become addictive. While some games require quite intricate problem solving, the skills learned on these games do not appear to readily transfer into other arenas of life. Very few of the games require creative problem solving or an opportunity to be an active participant in determining a story line.

Some exposure to computer games is good. Too much, though, can be toxic. Sadly, there is no research that tells us what the right amount of time spent of computer games should be so you'll need to think about the balance of your child's life and their range of activities and interests.

From " Help Your Child Succeed at School" by Andrew Fuller
www.andrewfuller.com.au

Term 2, Week 6

27 May 2015

Prayer IT

Loving God,

Thank you for today and for each other.

Help us to be the best people we can be.

Thank you for our wonderful police. They keep us safe and help our community.

God bless them and their families.

Amen

Learning Matters

Dear Parents,

Assisting in the development of the children of Holy Spirit to become fluent readers and independent writers is a main priority of all the staff. There has always been a focus on reading at this school. We know that to become better readers you need to practice the skill. That is why it is so important to encourage your child to read at home. At times there may be a different level of reader sent home. This may be to help develop fluency and expression in reading; something that is not possible if the reader is too difficult. I would as that you trust the teachers in their judgements and their reasons for sending home certain levels. Once your child has completed the reading of their class reader it would be beneficial for them to choose another book. This may be their favourite storybook or a book borrowed from the library. All opportunities to be exposed to text are positive and help to develop a love of reading.

The teaching of Writing is an aspect of Literacy that we are revisiting. We are improving our knowledge about the way to increase the child's ability to communicate through words. Two strategies that are used in the classrooms are "Modelling" and "Sharing".

Modelling requires the teacher to use explicit demonstration of the writing process. In this process the teacher often shows how and why something is done. When using the *Sharing* strategy the teacher leads but there is student input and discussion. The teacher and the learner collaborate in the joint achievement of a clear purpose.

A journalist from The Telegraph interviewed a couple of student from Year 5 about their Naplan experience. Although the article didn't reflect the core of their discussion I must say I was very proud of the way they spoke. They were able to articulate that they were not anxious about Naplan at all and felt that they were well prepared for the assessments because of the Literacy and Numeracy work that is carried out on a daily basis at Holy Spirit. Well done Elise and Theo and the Holy Spirit teachers!

Mrs Christine Figuero
Assistant Principal

Healthy Living Tips

Tempting taste buds

Some children dislike vegetables, however they are still an important food group. Some ideas to tempt reluctant vegetable eaters include:

- Disguising them by blending, mashing and adding them to soups, stews or sauces.
- Offer them raw. Lots of kids prefer crunchy vegetables rather than cooked ones. Carrots, cauliflower, beans or broccoli are great eaten raw.
- Involve children in preparing or growing vegetables. This increases their familiarity and willingness to try new vegetables.
- Serve cut up carrots, celery, tomato and cucumber with salsa, dips, cottage cheese or salad dressing.
- Add kidney beans, red lentils, baked beans or four-bean mix to casseroles, mince or stews.
- Mix mashed potatoes with mashed pumpkin or sweet potato.

Congratulations to the following students who have received Principal Awards

Kinder:	Raphael, Angelina, Lailah Rose, Athok, Luke, Andrew, Tayla, Hayden
Year 1:	Hannah, Emily, Samuel, Jashan, Julia, Kristian, Bailey, Angus
Year 2:	Jorgiah, Duku, Xavier, Adrian, Jayden, Zaineb
Year 3:	Tiana, Katarina, Anthony, Jeselle, Mya, Caoilinn, Eloise, Curtis
Year 4:	Kaitlin, Kenyon, Sarah, Tahlia, Cooper, Madison
Year 5:	Holly, Athot, Mikayla, Andre, Rosemary
Year 6:	Lachlan, Ziyan, Myah, Julianna, Casey-Lee, Aaron

Administration

School Fees
Parents please be advised that Term 2 fees are now **overdue** and must be finalised immediately.

This excludes parents who have made and are adhering to direct debit/BPay arrangements with the Catholic Education Office or who have notified the school office, in writing, that they will be making regular part payments.

Uniform Shop
Just a reminder to parents the uniform shop operating hours.

Wednesday 8.30am—9.30am
Thursday 2.30pm—3.30pm

Uniform orders/Exchanges can be placed any day with the school office and filled on Wednesday and Friday.

Sports Days

Parents please note there has been some changes to the sports days for some grades -

Kinder - Tuesday & Thursday
Year 1 - Monday & Friday
Year 2 - Tuesday & Friday
Year 3 - Tuesday & Thursday
Year 4 - Friday
Year 5 - Tuesday & Thursday
Year 6 - Tuesday & Thursday

Community News

Don't forget to check our Parent Noticeboard in the MPA for additional events.

Upcoming dates...

Wednesday 27 May
Early Bird Reading

Parent Scripture Meditation

Yr 3 Incursion Mini Beasts

Thursday 28 May
Year 4 Excursion—The Rocks

9.00am Buddy Mass 6BV & KN

Tuesday 2 June
Early Bird Reading

11.30am 6B Reconciliation

Wednesday 3 June
Early Bird Reading

Parent Scripture Meditation

Science Competition

11.30am 6BV Reconciliation

Thursday 4 June
9am Buddy Mass Year 3

Friday 5 June
Augustinian Prayer 3pm

Monday 8 June
Public Holiday—No school

Tuesday 9 June
Early Bird Reading

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