Holy Spirit Primary School

From the Principal

Dear Parents and Carers,

Families come in all shapes and sizes. Many have members of their extended family (nans, pops, aunts) living with them. The size and makeup of a family is not so important, what is important is that a family is resilient and healthy. The characteristics of a resilient and healthy family include:

- They have communication patterns that are affirming, caring and supportive
- Self-reliance and independence are valued and there is an equal respect for each family member
- They have some kind of spiritual belief
- There is flexibility in their roles, rules and lifestyles
- Truthfulness is valued, practiced and searched for
- Hope for the future is maintained
- There is a commitment to work together
- Family time is maintained

Kind regards

Anne Hines
Principal

Staff Development Day
Friday 26th June is a staff development day. There is no school for students on this day. This will be a day for teachers to engage in formation and evangelisation.

Mrs Jeanette Antao Retires
Our school finance secretary, Mrs Jeanette Antao has been at Holy Spirit for 27 years. Jeanette will be retiring at the end of term. To celebrate her retirement and to thank her for all the hard work, support and dedication she has given to the Holy Spirit community you are invited to attend a liturgy at 10:15am in the MPA on Thursday 25th June. This will be followed by a light morning tea in the school library.

Office Review
Recently Sienna Consultancy reviewed our 'office procedures'. As part of the review they observed the 'day to day' operation. Their report found that there were 51 interruptions within an one hour time frame. These interruptions were mainly to do with homework, jackets, money and lunch left at home by students. The report suggested we tighten our practice to minimise these interruptions. Please ask your child to check their bags before leaving home each morning. If items are handed in to the office late, children may collect these in their break times. This will avoid unnecessary interruptions to class work.

Term 2, Week 8

10 June 2015

Prayer 6B

Dear God,

We ask for your forgiveness today, for the times we have judged people unfairly, misbehaved and for any other time we have sinned.

Thank you for our families and friends and please guide us safely to you.

Amen

Kindergarten Parents
All kindergarten parents are invited to a 'coffee and chat' in the MPA following Monday morning assembly on June 15th (9:00am – 9:30am). This is an informal opportunity to meet with Mrs Hines. Hope you can make it!

Staff Changes in Term 3
In Term 3 we have 4 teachers taking long service leave:

- Mrs Barros (Kindergarten) first 2 weeks, to be replaced by Mrs Higginbotham/Mrs Johnson
- Ms Collins (Year 2) first 7 weeks, to be replaced by Miss Perreira
- Mrs Hughes (Year 5) all Term 3, to be replaced by Mrs Viera
- Ms Brooker (Year 6) all Term 3, to be replaced by Mrs Vumbaca

A reflection on life

Ready or not, some day it will all come to an end.
There will be no more surprises, no minutes, hours or days. All the things you collected whether treasured or forgotten, will pass to someone else.

Your fame, wealth and temporal power will shrivel to irrelevance. It will not matter what you owned or what you were owed. Your grudges, resentments, frustrations and jealousies will finally disappear.

So too your hopes, ambitions, plans and to-do lists will expire. The wins and losses that once seemed so important will fade away. It won't matter where you came from or what side of the tracks you lived on in the end.

Living a life that matters does not happen by accident – it is a choice. You choose to live a life that matters.
So live your life, because it matters.

Learning Matters

Dear Parents,

This is the last week for Early Bird Reading for this term. It will resume again in the second week of Term 3. Children who filled their Early Bird Reading card will receive a special certificate. We hope to have these distributed by next week.

Most Tuesday and Wednesday mornings were a very busy time in the MPA. It was wonderful to see so many children arrive with their readers and willingly be part of this "readathon". I would like to say thank you to the parents who made sure their children were at school on time to participate and for encouraging their child to improve their reading ability.

Research over the past two decades has identified repeated reading as the key strategy for improving students' fluency skills. Repeated reading has two essential elements: 1) Giving students the opportunity to read and then re-read the same text, and 2) having students practice their reading orally with an opportunity to receive corrections and guidance. (if necessary). The Early Bird Reading sessions give the children the opportunity to re-read the same text, receive some guidance and encouragement from their tutors and the opportunity to read to someone different.

The Tutors at Holy Spirit are a very generous group. They would often line up several times to listen to their buddies read. They did this with a positive attitude and a smile on their face. How wonderful that they are able to pass on their love of reading to the younger members of our school.

Thanks also to the teachers who would see me hurriedly setting up for the session and would stop and lend a hand, at times joining the tutors queue to listen to the readers.

In this instance everyone has worked together for the common good…..learning. This is another example of the Holy Spirit community upholding our motto:

TOGETHER WE GROW

Mrs Christine Figuero
Assistant Principal

Congratulations to the following students who have received Principal Awards

Kinder: Daniel, Emily, Angel, Heleana, Myles
Year 1: Yara, Bridy, Corey, Morbe, Carisma, Scarlett
Year 2: Calvin, Ashleigh, Izaac, Aria, Elijah, Ayesha,
Year 3: Katarina, Charlotte, Elija, Taylor, Abby, Chloe
Year 4: Thomas, Makayla, Caitlin, Sonia, Hayley,Thomas
Year 5: Janelle, Connor, Riley, Brohym, Savannah, Erin
Year 6: Christopher, Kyla, Ainslie, Devni, Alana

Administration

Safety at School

The safety of your children is of the upmost importance at Holy Spirit. Please remember the following:

- In the afternoons, parents are **NOT** allowed to park and leave their car to pick up children in the designated Kiss-n-Ride area. This stops the movement of cars in the queue as they wait for you to return to your car. The Kiss-n-Ride area is a drop off/pick up zone from 8.00am-9.30am and 2.30pm-4.00pm. Parents are to **REMAIN** in their car and children to enter from the kerbside.

- Parents are asked not to use the parish driveway to complete a u-turn it is dangerous, as it blocks traffic coming in the opposite direction and there is always the chance of a child (not necessarily from our school) walking behind the vehicle.

- Parking in the parish carpark is **NOT** permitted. Also please do not walk your child through the carpark in the morning or afternoon.

Please follow the guidelines outlined by the school and keep safety, not convenience a priority.

Kiss-n-Ride

Just a reminder to parents that Kiss-n-Ride finishes at 3.30pm. All students need to be picked up by this time. We understand on the odd occasion that parents/carers may be delayed, if so please contact the school office.

Early Departure/Late Arrivals

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.

Primary Athletics Carnival

Just a reminder that the Primary Athletics Carnival (Years 3-6) is on Thursday 11th June at Blair Athletics Oval Creek Road, St Marys. Students will be transported to and from the ground by bus. Students are to wear their sports uniform and/or house colours.

The canteen at the oval will be open for use on the day. Please ensure your child has enough water to keep them hydrated as they will only be permitted to go to the canteen at certain times of the day.

Community News

OLMC Parramatta Open Morning Tour

Our Lady of Mercy College Parramatta invites you to attend our Open Morning Tour on June 15, 2015.

Discover how our rich tradition and cutting edge approach makes a Mercy Education at OLMC Parramatta treasured for life. Tour the College and enjoy a 'comfortable cup of tea' with the College Leadership Team.

The College is now enrolling for 2016 and 2017.

GOLDEN THREADS
EMBROIDERY
Don't lose another jacket or hat.
Embroider your name on the front.
$8.00 each
First name 1cm high
on Jackets, Jumpers & Hats
goldenthreads.com.au
4731 5221
Shop 15, Riverlands Centre
566 High Street, Penrith
(facing Union Lane)

Upcoming dates...

Wednesday 10 June
Early Bird Reading

Parent Scripture Meditation

Thursday 11 June
Primary Athletics Carnival

Friday 12 June
Kinder Featherdale Excursion.

School Assembly

NSWCPS & CCC Cross Country Eastern Creek

Wednesday 17 June
Parent Scripture Meditation

Thursday 18 June
Stage 1 Liturgy

Friday 19 June
Reports go home

Augustinian Prayer

Tuesday 23 June
Parent/Teacher Interviews

Wednesday 24 June
Parent Scripture Meditation

Thursday 25 June
Liturgy for Jeanette Antao's retirement

Friday 26 June
Staff Development Day - No school

Parents please be advised that Friday 26 June is a Staff Development Day.

Term 3 will commence on Monday 13 July.

7-17 Todd Row
ST CLAIR NSW 2759
Phone: 02 9670 5379
Fax: 02 9834 3209
E-mail:
holyspirit@parra.catholic.edu.au
Web address:
www.hsstclair.catholic.edu.au