

Holy Spirit Primary School



From the Principal

Dear Parents and Carers,

In learning we can use the analogy of a car. Some children are definitely in the **'driver's seat'**. These students help to set the direction for their learning by taking responsibility for their achievements and challenges. They ask questions to clarify understandings so as to ensure their own success. They learn beyond what is set by the teacher, often in their own time and they embrace feedback because their primary goal is the learning. Performance is important to them. Mistakes and inaccuracies are indicators of the 'where to next' in the learning. These children will often determine the way they manage high school as they are used to taking ownership of their work habits and have learnt to be self reflective, that is, they are beginning to understand how they learn.

There are some students who are in the **'passengers seat'** of the learning vehicle. These students may vary their position from back seat to front seat depending on their mindset and confidence. Younger children, understandably are often in the passengers seats because they still need the guidance and skills required for good learning skills and habits. Interestingly however, teachers do see even younger students learning to be 'drivers' because they show such interest in making learning gains, for themselves. We can assist students to move into the most effective learning position by allowing them to take risks in their learning, which often means that they will make mistakes along the way. Not focusing on the 'failure' but rather on the achievements will encourage them to own their learning and not be frightened to get things wrong.

Finally, some students find themselves in the **'boot'** of the learning vehicle, and as learners we can all sometimes go there. These students do not align themselves with the learning at all. The learning is someone else's task; teachers, mum or dad's perhaps. Our challenge for these students is to make learning relevant for them by ensuring that we find what interests them and use that as a springboard. As we commence the learning for this new term it may be worth having a conversation with your children about where they would like to position themselves in the learning vehicle and how they can be supported in improving their own learning outcomes.

(Adapted from a paper by Bernadette Fabri principal St Patrick's Parramatta)

Kind regards

Anne Hines
Principal

Term 3, Week 2

22 July 2015

Prayer 3C

Dear Mary,
Mother of Our
Church

You have
received the
gifts of the Holy
Spirit. You are
our Blessed
Mother.

We pray for
those in need,
the sick and all
who need your
help.

Mother of Jesus
thank you for all
you do for us.

Amen

School Office

Ms Cheryl Bolton has been appointed as our new finance secretary. Cheryl will take up her position at Holy Spirit on Tuesday 4th August. I am sure you will make her feel very welcome.

All payments to the office are to be received between **8:45am – 3:15pm Monday to Friday**. Please note that our Uniform shop will now be open from **8:45am – 9:30am** Wednesdays and Fridays.

Ken Done Print

This year we have had a focus on writing and when we recently received some Ken Done calendars for classroom use some year 1 students wrote 'thank you' letters.

Ken Done replied to the letters with a signed print for the school! Wow the power of writing! It is displayed in the MPA.

Gates

Pauline (our wonderful lolly pop lady) routinely opens and closes various school gates and when she is away there may be a delay in opening the gates. Thank you for your understanding.

Lift Off

Congratulations to our Year 1 children for completing this reading program with Mrs Vumbaca at the end of term 2. This is a 20 week reading intervention program.

Extra Curricula

Many of our students regularly participate in extra curricula activities such as participating in sporting events (diocesan soccer, cricket, netball days), gymnastics competitions and in-school small group violin, viola and cello lessons.

Some classes may experience a 'uniform change' from term to term. This may be to enable them to experience extra curricula sport or music.

Social Justice Learning

Thank you to our stage 3 students for their Project Based Learning (PBL) presentation in the MPA on the last Wednesday of term. The presentations were fantastic and showed a depth of learning. \$250 was raised to support the Timorese people. Well Done Stage 3 teachers and students. Thanks mums and dads for your support and the various delicious dishes available for us to taste.

Woolworths 4 Schools

Woolworths is running a promotion for schools. In the past we have received many wonderful resources through this program. If you can, please support our school with this initiative. The collection box is in the school foyer. Thank You.

Stage 2 Parents

A date for your diary. All Year 3 and Year 4 parents are invited to a 'coffee and chat' in the MPA following Monday morning assembly on August 10 (9:00am – 9:30am). This is an informal opportunity to meet with Mrs Hines. Hope you can make it.

School Hours

School starts at 8:50am and concludes at 3:10pm. Please be punctual in bringing your children to school and collecting them of an afternoon. Thank you.

Student Focus Groups

During this term students from Year 5 and 6 will be randomly selected to take part in a focus group research session. This will be held during school hours and will take approximately 45 minutes. The research will help identify the school's strengths to support the school's promotional materials.

Catholic Care

To access Catholic Care newsletter and know about their services subscribe via: goodnews@ccss.org.au.

Learning Matters

Welcome back to Term 3. I hope you all enjoyed the break. We started our Early Bird Reading Program this week. The first day was rather quiet but I am hopeful that we will get into the swing of things rather quickly.

It was so encouraging to see the children from all grades line up with the announcement was made. The first day entails some preparation as the children write their details on their Early Bird Reading card. I was very impressed with the way the children organised themselves and lined up on their appropriate lines. They were confident with the routine and everything was done without fuss.

Early Bird Reading gives the children an opportunity to read aloud to a partner. Reading aloud is widely recognised as the single most important activity leading to language development. Among other things, reading aloud builds word-sound awareness in children, a strong predictor of reading success.

“ Children who fall seriously behind in the growth of critical early reading skills have fewer opportunities to practice reading. Evidence suggests that these lost practice opportunities make it extremely difficult for children who remain poor readers during the first three years of primary school to ever acquire average levels of reading fluency.” Torgeson, J. Avoiding the Devastating Downward Spiral, American Educator. (2004)

Reading aloud is a great way to stimulate language and cognitive skills. It builds motivation, curiosity and memory. So encourage your child to join us on a Tuesday and Wednesday morning in the MPA as we learn and grow together.

Christine Figuero
Assistant Principal

Religious Matters

Parent Prayer Group

Each Wednesday at 8:50am we offer a short prayer time for parents here at the school. Prayer changes things! It puts us in touch with our inner selves and connects us with God. Time spent in quiet reflection and listening builds inner strength and helps build resources to tackle life's biggest problems. When our spirit sags and our mind is troubled, we can bring our worries before the Lord who reminds us, “Come to Me, all you who labour and are heavy burdened, and I will give you rest” (Matt 11:28)

Our prayer here at the school takes the form of a Gospel reading followed by some meditation time. If you would like to be part of this prayer group, please come along to the library conference room at the bell on Wednesday morning. There's no obligation to come each week and the prayer usually concludes by 9:15am.

Looking forward to welcoming you.

Lorraine Alexander
Religious Education Coordinator

Year 5 parents will be conducting a 5 cent-a-thon fundraiser later in the Term. Parents and carers are asked to start collecting 5 cent coins in preparation for this fundraiser.



Parents are reminded that it is illegal to park/drop off in the bus bay. Police have been patrolling this area and issuing fines to parents. Please do not park/drop off your child in this area.

**BUS
ZONE**
No Vehicles
Permitted

Uniform Price Increase

Due to an increase in the price from our supplier of our school hats, there will be a price increase **effective Term 4**. School hats will be \$15 next Term.

The Catholic Diocese of Parramatta wants to hear from you

If you or someone close to you has suffered **ANY** abuse by a representative of the Catholic Church (school, parish, other Catholic group) in Western Sydney and the Blue Mountains we invite you to contact us.

Our professional staff will listen to your experience, respect your confidentiality and discuss all available options.

You can contact us on:

Phone: (02) 9933 0233

Web: www.parra.catholic.org.au/safeguarding

Email: safeguarding@parra.catholic.org.au

Mail: PO BOX 3066 North Parramatta, NSW, 1750

For any complaints that may relate to criminal conduct we encourage you to contact **NSW Police on 1800 333 000**

Sports Days

Please note the Sports Days for Term 3.

Kindy - Tuesday & Thursday

Year 1 - Tuesday & Friday

Year 2 - Tuesday & Friday

Year 3 - Tuesday & Thursday

Year 4 - Friday

Year 5 - Tuesday & Thursday

Year 6 - Monday & Thursday

Community News



Junior Indoor Soccer

THE BEST COMPETITION IN THE WEST!

PH: 9623-5523
0406 237 779

STARTING MONDAY 7th September 2015

- Times from 4:30, 4:55, 5:20 and 5:45pm
- 5 A SIDE
- U/6- U/16- Boys and Girls
- \$7 per game per child
- Individuals and teams welcome!
- Rego includes a Playing shirt and shorts



REGO:

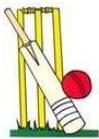
\$65 per Child

ACCEPTING REGISTRATIONS: Weekdays 4pm-6pm from July 20th 2015

Where to Find Us:

20 Forthorn Place
St Marys NSW 2760

www.stmarysindoorsports.com.au
info@stmarysindoorsports.com.au



Play Cricket!

2015/16 Season Approaching Fast!

Fun, exciting games for ages 5 through to Adult. Maximum participation for all players is encouraged through modified game formats.

Milo Program for 5 to 8 year olds teaches basic skills, run during the week for 10 weeks, Oct to Dec. All other ages (from 6 to 15 years old) play on a Saturday morning. Girls are most welcome.

Competition begins mid-September.

Men's competition also available on Saturday afternoons.

Registration Dates

10am - 2pm

St Clair Shopping Centre

26th July, 2nd, 9th & 16th August

For more information

Website: stclairhawks.nsw.cricket.com.au Email: stclairhawksc@bigpond.com
Ph: 0410-448669 Facebook - www.facebook.com/stclairhawks

Upcoming dates...

Thursday 23 July

Buddy Mass 9am 5HV & 2C

Stage 2 Boys & Girls Soccer
Gala Day

Tuesday 28 July

Early Bird Reading MPA
8.30am

English Competition Years
3-6

Wednesday 29 July

Early Bird Reading MPA
8.30am

Parent Scripture Meditation
8.50am

Thursday 30 July

Buddy Mass Year 3

Friday 31 July

Augustinian Prayer 3pm

Tuesday 4 August

Early Bird Reading MPA
8.30am

Wednesday 5 August

Early Bird Reading MPA
8.30am

Parent Scripture Meditation
8.50am



ARTEXPRESS

MARGARET WHITLAM GALLERIES,
UNIVERSITY OF WESTERN SYDNEY, PARRAMATTA
8 AUGUST - 26 SEPTEMBER 2015

Opening Hours: Thursday-Friday 10am-4pm
Saturday 11am-3pm
(Monday to Wednesday for group bookings by appointment)

ARTWORK: Roberta Antoni, Anthony Petroski, Wynhlan Collage



ARTEXPRESS exhibitions showcase exemplary HSC Visual Arts works and have become a beneficial teaching resource with examples from all 12 expressive forms.

School groups from all years are invited to visit the ARTEXPRESS exhibition featuring 32 bodies of work, including 18 from Greater Western Sydney schools.

OTHER ACTIVITIES

Enjoy a full educational day at UWS - visit at the Margaret Whitlam Institute Collection's permanent exhibition and the Parramatta Sculpture and Heritage Walks - information & activity sheets are available.

Register your school excursion through Rosemary Hopkins on 4820 3460 or chopkins@uws.edu.au

STAGE 5 & 6 STUDENT FORUM - 2 SEPTEMBER

Hear the ARTEXPRESS coordinator interview current exhibitors about their HSC visual arts journey. Your chance to ask questions.

WORKSHOPS - 26 AUGUST

Book into a student or teacher workshop for a full day of ARTEXPRESS experiences.

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON ARTEXPRESS AT UWS

Go to visualarts.uws.edu.au/female-orphan-school/ ARTEXPRESS-2015 or visit the ARTEXPRESS website artexpress.artsunit.nsw.edu.au

University of Western Sydney

THE ACADEMY
FUTURE THINKING. NEW POSSIBILITIES.

NSW Education
Public Schools

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BOARD OF STUDIES
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TEACHERS
ASSOCIATION
NSW

Our Lady of Mercy College Parramatta warmly invites you to attend our Open Morning Tour on August 3, 2015.

Tour the College and discover why A Mercy Education is treasured for life and enjoy a 'comfortable cup of tea' with the College Leadership Team.

The College is now enrolling for 2017 limited places 2016.

Visit www.olmc.nsw.edu.au or phone 8838 1222 to reserve your place or obtain further information.

7-17 Todd Row

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