

# Holy Spirit Primary School



## From the Principal

Dear Parents and Carers,

I recently read an article about keeping children safe, respectful and responsible online.

Given the prevalence of the internet and social media it is important that children learn responsible online behaviour to keep them safe.

Parents support children with their social skills and these skills are transferable to 'social media' situations. That is children online should participate in a respectful and safe way.

Young people's use of technology should be age appropriate. This requires a high level of supervision but even so children may be exposed to anti-social media on the internet.

By taking an active role in monitoring and limiting access, as needed, we can assist in preparing young people for future independent and responsible online use.

Top Tips for Parents to Help Keep Your Child Safe Online  
(Catholic Outlook July 2016)

- Be aware of how your child uses the internet and explore it with them;
- Discuss with your child the importance of keeping personal information private;
- Talk about cyberbullying and remind your child online communication should be responsible and respectful;
- Advise your child not to respond to any negative messages;
- Consider using inbuilt filters and controls on your digital devices to manage your child's access; and
- Keep your virus protection up to date.

Kind regards  
Anne Hines  
Principal

### Mrs Alexander

Our wonderful Religious Education Coordinator and Librarian, Mrs Lorraine Alexander, has decided to take long service leave in term 4 and then retire. Lorraine has been at Holy Spirit for fifteen years. She is first and foremost a woman of faith. One of Lorraine's legacies is our practice of Augustinian Prayer. All of us have enjoyed the Masses, liturgies, mission days, stories, book fairs that Lorraine has beautifully and tirelessly prepared for us. We are very happy for Lorraine and will miss her very much. Lorraine's last day at Holy Spirit will be Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> September.

### Mass

The whole school will gather to celebrate Mass in our parish church this Thursday (11<sup>th</sup> August) at 10:15am.

Term 3, Week 4

10 August 2016

## Prayer 4B

Dear Lord,

Help us to  
confess to  
people that we  
have done  
wrong to and  
help them to  
forgive us and  
mend our  
relationship.

Help us to be  
loving and  
compassionate  
to each other.

Amen



### School Performances

There is a school performance for students in years 3-6 in the MPA on Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> August from 2pm. A school performance for K-2 will be held at 2pm on Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> August in MPA. Parents and carers are welcome to attend these performances.

### Partial Absences Raffle

As we are still having a large number of students arriving at school late we are striving to turn this around with a 'raffle'. All children that are at school on time for the next four weeks (beginning Monday 15<sup>th</sup> August) will go into a raffle for a surprise gift. There will be seven prizes with a gift per grade. Good luck!!!

### Diary Date

Term 4 Staff Development Day: Friday 18<sup>th</sup> November

### Coffee and Chat

On Monday 15<sup>th</sup> August parents and carers with children in Year 3 and Year 4 are welcome to join Mrs Hines for a 'coffee and chat' in the MPA at 9am following morning assembly.

### Social Justice

Thank you to the families that supported the St Vincent De Paul drive for: tooth brushes, tooth paste, deodorant, socks. They were well received!!

### Congratulations

Congratulations to Ella in year 4. Ella represented the state last year in football. This year she has been selected to represent Australia with the Australian Futsal Institute in Spain in 2017.

## Assistant Principal

This is the fourth week of the term and the third week of Early Bird Reading for this term. Early Bird Reading takes place during Terms 2 and 3. The procedures remain the same. They are:

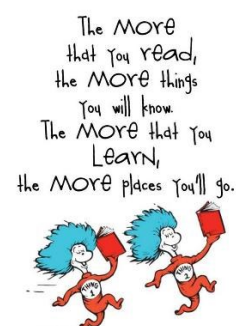
- A call is made inviting the readers and tutors into the MPA
- Readers and tutors line up and are paired with one another
- The reading and sharing takes place
- Everyone has a card which is stamped at the end of the session

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. Early Bird Reading develops friendships across the grades and allows the older children to be role models by listening attentively and supporting the younger students as they learn new skills. 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



# Reflection of Year of Mercy

The Year of Mercy calls us to greater heights in loving others. It means being attentive and compassionate, especially in those circumstances when we have to 'dig deep' to find the inner resources to do so. In order to nurture those inner resources, we need to make space for contemplation and reflection; easier said than done when we are so very time poor. But Mary Jo Leddy (theologian and social activist) writes of the absolute necessity to claim time for silent reflection, for prayer, for gratitude, for appreciating the gifts of God that fall into our daily lives. She writes, "*when we create time for contemplation, we open within us a place for God, for the other, and for our continued participation 'with' God in works of mercy. One thing is for sure... without some such spiritual discipline, the negative forces of stress, anger and dissolution will continue to grow*". The truth of this statement is echoed time and again across the Internet. With this in mind, let me invite you once again to participate in our Augustinian Prayer which provides our students with that sacred space and silence in which to nurture their inner spirit, develop their relationship with God, and strengthen them for... *works of mercy*. Augustinian prayer is at 3pm (each odd week) throughout the year.

Lorraine Alexander  
Religious Education Coordinator



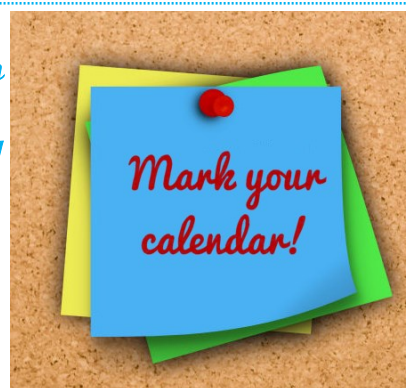
## Premier Reading Challenge

Just a reminder if your child is participating in the Premier Reading Challenge their reading logs are due to be entered online by 19 August. Well done to all students who have taken part in the Challenge this year.



# What's Happening at Holy Spirit....

<i>Thursday 11 August</i>	<i>Nepean Zone Athletics Carnival Whole School Assumption Mass in Parish - 10:15am School Performance Tour - Primary 2.00pm in MPA Hoyts Movie Night Fundraiser 6:30pm</i>
<i>Monday 15 August</i>	<i>Coffee and Chat with Mrs Hines (Year 3 &amp; Year 4) - 9am</i>
<i>Tuesday 16 August</i>	<i>Early Bird Reading - 8:30am in MPA ICAS Maths Competition</i>
<i>Wednesday 17 August</i>	<i>Early Bird Reading - 8:30am in MPA Parent Scripture Meditation - 8:50am</i>
<i>Thursday 18 August</i>	<i>School Performance Tour—Infants 2:00pm in MPA</i>
<i>Friday 19 August</i>	<i>Parent Afternoon Tea in MPA - 2:30pm Augustinian Prayer - 3:00pm in your child's classroom</i>
<i>Monday 22 August</i>	<i>Coffee and Chat with Mrs Hines (Year 5 &amp; Year 6 ) - 9am</i>
<i>Tuesday 23 August</i>	<i>Early Bird Reading - 8:30am in MPA Netball Gala Day</i>
<i>Wednesday 24 August</i>	<i>Early Bird Reading - 8:30am in MPA Parent Scripture Meditation - 8:50am</i>



## PLEASE NOTE:

**FRIDAY 23RD SEPTEMBER WILL BE A STAFF DEVELOPMENT DAY - NO CLASSES ON THIS DAY.**

## Administration

### Uniforms

Parents ensure you check your child's bag on a regular basis. Children accidentally may take home jackets, hats, jumpers etc that do not belong to them. If this does happen please return the item to their class teacher or school office.

Parents please ensure you clearly label your child's belongings. We have many unlabelled items in our lost property cupboard located in the MPA.

### 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.



# Community News



"Little Athletics NSW aspires to provide the community with recreational athletics activities that contribute to the healthy development of our children. Such activities will promote:

- Fun
- Fitness
- The development of skills
- The building of character and self esteem
- The fostering of good sportsmanship

In a safe, positive, family-friendly and inclusive environment."

**Registration to be held at Blair Oval, St Marys,  
The home of**



## Nepean Little Athletics

**We run on Friday Nights between 5:30pm and 9:30pm**  
Registration Dates for 2016 / 2017 Season  
Ages: U4's through to U17's

Friday	August 12 <sup>th</sup>	6:00pm to 8:00pm
Friday	August 19 <sup>th</sup>	6:00pm to 8:00pm
Friday	August 26 <sup>th</sup>	6:00pm to 8:00pm

First Competition Day: 9<sup>th</sup> September

More Information - Website: [www.nepeanlac.org.au](http://www.nepeanlac.org.au)  
Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/pages/Nepean-Little-Athletics/205442380088>  
Registrar: 0449 767 037



**Registration to be held at Saunders Oval, St Clair,  
The home of**

## Colyton St Clair Little Athletics

**We run on Saturdays between 8am and 11am**  
Registration Dates for 2016 / 2017 Season  
Ages: U4's through to U17's

Saturday	September 3 <sup>rd</sup>	10:00am to 2:00pm
Saturday	September 10 <sup>th</sup>	10:00am to 2:00pm

First Competition Day: 17<sup>th</sup> September

More Information - Website: [www.colytonstclairlac.com.au](http://www.colytonstclairlac.com.au)  
Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/groups/colytonstclairlac/>  
Registrar: 0407 251 645

## CatholicCare CHOICES

Western Sydney and Blue Mountains

**NDIS and YOU**  
Your Questions Answered

NDIS APPROVED PROVIDER

All Thursday's in August (commencing 4 August 2016)  
10am - 4pm (Bookings preferred)  
38 Prince Street, Blacktown

Phone: 02 8822 2222 | Email Choices: [choices@ccss.org.au](mailto:choices@ccss.org.au)



## 'ZERO TOLERANCE' OF ILLEGAL PARKING IN SCHOOL ZONES TO PROTECT YOUR CHILD

When it comes to the safety of vulnerable road users like school children, drivers found breaking the law will be met with zero tolerance. Children are small, harder to see, behave unpredictably and are extremely vulnerable. They need you to take extra care when driving and parking around school zones

WHEN AN OFFENCE IS DETECTED A  
FINE AND 2 DEMERIT POINTS APPLY

Illegal parking around schools  
endangers children's lives.

**PENRITH  
CITY COUNCIL**

## Multicultural Mass

**Sun 28 August**  
**9.30am**  
**Holy Spirit Parish**  
5 Todd Row, St Clair

Bring a plate to share  
Wear your cultural dress  
Bring family & friends

**7-17 Todd Row  
ST CLAIR NSW 2759  
Phone: 02 9670 5379  
Fax: 02 9834 3209  
E-mail:  
[holyspirit@parra.catholic.edu.au](mailto:holyspirit@parra.catholic.edu.au)  
Web address:  
[www.hsstclair.catholic.edu.au](http://www.hsstclair.catholic.edu.au)**