# Holy Spirit Primary School

# From the Principal

Dear Parents and Carers,

I share with you two recent events where your children excelled.

On Friday August 8 our year 3-6 children formed a guard of honour for a policeman from our parish who passed away. The school received many comments of praise commending the students on their excellent behaviour.

Last week a group of boys in Year 5 represented our school at a cricket gala day. When the Holy Spirit team played against a school with some children with disabilities, our team slowed their bowling and fielding skills. Holy Spirit still went on to win the gala day. Well done boys!

Kind regards Anne Hines Principal

#### Reminder

Have you a new email address?

Have you moved house?

Do you have a new phone number?

Have your emergency details changed?

Has your child's medication changed?

If you answered YES to any of the above please contact the school office to have your information updated. Thank you.

#### Fathers' Day Stall

Thank you to all the families who supported our Fathers' Day mufti last week. Our Father's Day stall will be held on Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> September. Gifts will range from \$1 to \$15.

### **Parenting Course**

We are in need of at least 10 parents to run this course. Please consider attending the fantastic parenting course called "1-2-3 Magic" which is being offered at our school this term. This is a three session program that will take place on Wednesdays  $3^{\rm rd}$   $10^{\rm th}$  and  $17^{\rm th}$  September from 6:30pm - 8:30pm. The course teaches ways to handle challenging behaviours and encourage good behaviours. A separate note has been sent home. As we need definite numbers by next Monday (25th August) please complete the slip below if you are able to attend. Thanks.



Term 3, Week 6 20 August 2014

Prayer KB

Dear God,

Thank you for the beautiful creation you have given us.

We appreciate the trees, the colourful flowers, all the animals and the land and sea.

Thank you God, we all love you.

Amen

Parenting Course							
I September at 6:30pm	(name)	will	attend	parenting d's name ar		on	3rd

### **Learning Matters**

Last Friday the staff of Holy Spirit spent the Staff Development Day looking at the Writing component of the new English Curriculum. We were able to look at theories and beliefs about writing and also analyse some writing samples.

The children are exposed to several different types of writing strategies during their Literacy Block. These include: modelled, guided and independent writing. As the children grow they become able to write longer texts on various topics that aim to achieve an intended purpose.

The children learn how to revise, edit and proof-read their work. The purpose of their writing begins to grow as they try to explain and express an opinion. As their skills and confidence in writing develop they should also be demonstrating the ability to spell correctly and use appropriate grammar conventions. As with many other things, getting better at writing requires doing it. The more children write the easier it gets and the more they get motivated to write. Each writing session gives the children the opportunity to draft, rethink, revise and write again. Children are encouraged to make their writing better. Feedback from teachers is essential in this process and is part of the overall experience of writing.

During the development of writing skills the teacher constantly monitors, assesses and guides the student to improve. Children write with a specific PURPOSE and for an AUDIENCE.

As with reading at home writing should also be encouraged. Children could keep a journal at home or have a book in which they write about a topic of their choice. Believe it or not when you ask them what they learnt at school today the standard response of "nothing" is not exactly true. Further investigation may lead to something worth writing down and sharing with another family member. I have kept some samples of writing that my own children completed during their Primary school years. Reading over it occasionally makes me laugh at the content and then feel proud of the articulate adults they have become. Enjoy the journey with your own children.

Christine Figuero Assistant Principal

### School News

### Skoolbag App

Have you installed the Skoolbag App? This is a free App which can be accessed on smart phones and Android tablets. This App has alerts, important school updates/information, newsletters etc and provides a fast, simple and convenient way to communicate to parents.

If you would like further information visit www.skoolbag.com.au and click on the Parent link where you will find instructions on how to download the application or contact the school office.

### Safety at School

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

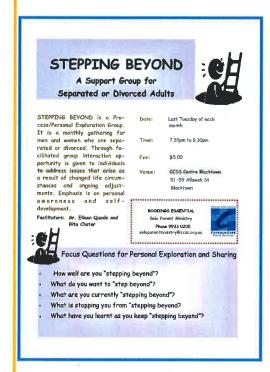
- In the afternoons, parents are **NOT** allowed to park and leave their car to pick up children in the designated Kiss-n-Ride area. This stops the movement of cars in the queue as they wait for you to return to your car. The Kiss-n-Ride area is a drop off/pick up zone from 8.00am-9.30am and 2.30pm-4.00pm. 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 <u>NOT</u> permitted. Also please do not walk your child through the carpark in the morning or evening.

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

### Community News







## Upcoming dates...

### Wednesday 20 August

Early Bird Reading 8.30am

School Banking 8.30am

Voice of Youth Final 11.30am

### Thursday 21 August

Buddy Mass Yr 3 9.00am

#### Friday 22 August

Diocesan Athletics Carnival

School Assembly 2.30pm

### Tuesday 26 August

Early Bird Reading 8.30am

Royce Simmons Shield— Stage 2

### Wednesday 27 August Early Bird Reading 8.30am

Thursday 28 August Year 6 Canberra excursion

. Car o Camborra Oxografor

Year 3 Blue Mountains excursion

### Friday 29 August

Year 6 Canberra excursion

Book Club orders due

K-2 Pet Awareness

Augustinian Prayer 3pm

### Tuesday 2 September

Early Bird Reading 8.30am

### Wednesday 3 September

Early Bird Reading 8.30am

School Banking 8.30am

Fathers' Day Stall

Parent Course 123 Magic 6.30pm—8.30pm

Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend
(a marriage enrichment experience for
married couples)

12 – 14 September (7 – 9 November) at Mt Carmel Retreat Centre, Varroville, NSW

Bookings: 02 4283 3435 or wsharpe@bigpond.net.au

www.wwme.org.au

www.facebook.com/WWMEasternUnit

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