

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 showed 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 3rd 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 3rd 10th and 17th 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.

Parenting Course

I _____ (name) will attend the parenting course beginning on 3rd September at 6:30pm. _____ (child's name and class).

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

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 utmost 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 evening.

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

Community News



Little Athletics NSW aims 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 forming of good sportsmanship
- 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 8.45pm
Registration Dates for 2014 / 2015 Season

Friday	August 15 th	6.00pm to 8.00pm
Friday	August 22 nd	6.00pm to 8.00pm
Friday	August 29 th	6.00pm to 8.00pm

First Competition Day: 5th September

More Information - Website: www.nepeanlac.org.au
Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/pages/Nepean-Little-Athletics/205442380086>

**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 2014 / 2015 Season

Saturday	August 23 rd	8.00am to 2.00pm
Friday	August 29 th	6.00pm to 7.30pm
Saturday	August 30 th	8.00am to 2.00pm

First Competition Day: 6th September

More Information - Website: www.colytonstclairlac.com.au
Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/groups/colytonstclairlac/>





**Find out how to
protect your family**

Date: Saturday 13th Septem Time:


Location: Cox Luddenham
St Clair NSW 271
Activities include
Rapid Show, En
BBQ and much m

For more information visit www.rfs.nsw.gov.au

PREPARE ACT SURVIVE

STEPPING BEYOND

A Support Group for
Separated or Divorced Adults



STEPPING BEYOND is a Process/Personal Exploration Group. It is a monthly gathering for men and women who are separated or divorced. Through facilitated group interaction opportunity is given to individuals to address issues that arise as a result of changed life circumstances and ongoing adjustments. Emphasis is on personal awareness and self-development.

Date: Last Tuesday of each month
Time: 7.30pm to 9.30pm
Fee: \$5.00
Venue: CCCS Centre Blacktown
51-59 Alloway St
Blacktown

Facilitators: Sr. Eileen Quade and
Rita Chester

BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL
Solo Parent Ministry
Phone 9933 0205
soloparentministry@cccs.org.au

Focus Questions for Personal Exploration and Sharing

- How well are you "stepping beyond"?
- What do you want to "step beyond"?
- What are you currently "stepping beyond"?
- What is stopping you from "stepping beyond"?
- What have you learnt as you keep "stepping beyond"?

Upcoming dates...

Wednesday 20 August Early Bird Reading 8.30am	Thursday 28 August Year 6 Canberra excursion
School Banking 8.30am	Year 3 Blue Mountains excursion
Voice of Youth Final 11.30am	Friday 29 August Year 6 Canberra excursion
Thursday 21 August Buddy Mass Yr 3 9.00am	Book Club orders due
Friday 22 August Diocesan Athletics Carnival	K-2 Pet Awareness
School Assembly 2.30pm	Augustinian Prayer 3pm
Tuesday 26 August Early Bird Reading 8.30am	Tuesday 2 September Early Bird Reading 8.30am
Royce Simmons Shield— Stage 2	Wednesday 3 September Early Bird Reading 8.30am
Wednesday 27 August 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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