# Holy Spirit Primary School

## From the Principal

Dear Parents and Carers.

Welcome to term 4. I hope you enjoyed a relaxing holiday break with your children. This term is shaping up to be both busy and exciting, with excursions, sports gala days and year 6 festivities.

Our year 6 students work through a program called *The Leader in Me* based on the work of Stephen Covey. The premise of the program is seven life changing habits which are listed below. How different our lives might be if we all adhered to such wisdom. See what you think!

#### Habit 1 Be Proactive

I am a responsible person. I take initiative. I choose my actions, attitudes and moods. I do not blame others for my wrong actions. I do the right thing without being asked, even when no one is looking.

#### Habit 2 Begin with the end in mind

I plan ahead and set goals. I do things that have meaning and make a difference. I am an important part of my classroom and contribute to my school's mission and vision, and look for ways to be a good citizen.

#### Habit 3 Put first things first

I spend my time on things that are most important. This means that I say no to things I know I should not do. I set priorities, make a schedule and follow my plan. I am disciplined and organised.

#### Habit 4 Think win win

I balance courage for getting what I want with consideration for what others want. I make deposits in others' Emotional Bank Accounts. When conflicts arise I look for alternatives.

#### Habit 5 Seek first to understand, then to be understood

I listen to other people's ideas and feelings. I try to see things from their viewpoints. I listen to others without interrupting. I am confident in voicing my ideas. I look people in the eyes when talking.

#### Habit 6 Synergise

I value other people's strengths and learn from them. I get along well with others, even people that are different from me. I work well in groups. I seek out other people's ideas to solve problems because I know that by teaming with others we can create better solutions than any of us alone. I am humble.

#### Habit 7 Sharpen the saw

I take care of my body by eating right, exercising and getting sleep. I spend time with family and friends. I learn in lots of ways and lots of places, not just at school. I take time to find meaningful ways to help others.

Kind regards Anne Hines Principal



Term 4, Week 2 15 October 2014

Prayer Liturgy Committee

A Prayer for Social

Justice

Loving God,

We give thanks for the good things we have and ask you to make us generous in sharing with others.

We pray for those who live in poverty, who go to bed hungry, and who do not have a safe place to call home.

Help us to share what we have to make the world a better place so that goodness, kindness and fairness spread around the world.

We make this prayer through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

#### **Animal Welfare**

To ensure the safety of students, animals such as family pets are not to be brought onto the school site. Animals can only be brought onto the school site for educational purposes with the approval of the school principal.

We ask families not to walk dogs to and from school. Arrival and dismissal times are very busy times. There are also babies and toddlers around. It is simply not safe to have animals at school at this time.

These guidelines are for the safety and wellbeing of students, teachers and the animals and are inline with the NSW Department of Education and Training 'Animals in Schools' (2001) Animal welfare guidelines for teachers.

#### Raffle Information

We are planning a Christmas raffle with wonderful prizes. A separate note regarding raffles will be sent home this week. This requires you requesting tickets. Please return your request for tickets asap and as always we appreciate your generous support.

#### **School Committee**

Thank you to all who have supported our school committee this year. Thank you to Jessica, Katrina and Emma for their work in our fundraising initiatives. Well Done!

**Congratulations** to Mr David Bullock (Yr 2 teacher) and his wife Catherine on the birth of their baby daughter Alexandra.

## Learning Matters

Dear Parents,

There are many aspects of development that we focus on at school. These include, spiritual, academic and physical. But as far as the academic field, the importance of reading has always been of the utmost importance. Without the required reading and comprehension skills, a child will find it difficult to progress in any of the Key Learning Areas.

At Holy Spirit we are continually encouraging the students to improve their reading ability by READING, but one of the most significant influences on a child's reading and learning is YOU. Research has shown that the single most important thing that a parent can do to help their child learn language, prepare for school and instil a love of learning is to read to them. (Russ et al.,2007)

Reading helps develop the groundwork for language development. Being read to, builds language skills that are essential for later success in learning to read.

In addition to this, reading aloud to a child may do something even more important because you are developing a life-long love of learning and creating a bond between you and your child. Taking time to read to your child tells them that they are your priority and this is a special time together.

Try to choose books that are enjoyable to both of you. Reading books that you enjoyed as a child may bring back positive memories that you can share with your child. If you are excited about reading to your child, your child will be excited to listen, and the more you do it, the easier and more fun it will become. Soon it will be part of your daily routine and it will be the easiest and most fun way to prepare your child for future learning.

Christine Figuero Assistant Principal

## Congratulations to the following students who have received Principal Awards

Kinder: Ryan, Hannah, Matthew, Adau, Alisha, Riley,

Cameron

Year 1: Phillip, Zaineb, Tahyla, Calvin

Year 2: Mikayla, Adam, Abby, George, Isabella, Mitchell

Year 3: Altan, Skye, Terina-Grace, Caitlin, Maya, Tahlia,

Madison

Year 4: Savannah, Laura, Aiden, Cooper, Jack

Year 5: William, Isabella, Victoria, Alexa, Rebecca

Year 6: Ronan, Jordan, Kayla, Tyler

Music: Cliza, Lucas, Jack, Caitlyn, Nicolas, Dionne



## Parent Numeracy Night

## Growth Points? Learning Intentions? Success Criteria? EMU? Warm ups? Open Tasks? Reflections? MAI?

Do these terms mean anything to you? Do you hear your child speak of these things in their Mathematics learning yet you don't understand? Do you want to know how to help your child progress in their understanding of Mathematics? Then come along to our Parent Numeracy Night on Tuesday 21st October at 7pm!

The staff of Holy Spirit will be holding a Numeracy Expo at 7pm in the MPA where you will see first hand how your child learns in a Mathematics classroom in 2014.

Please reply below if you are attending so we have an indication of how many activities to prepare.

Thank you.

### Parent Numeracy Night

Family Name:	
Children's Grades:	

### Community News



#### **Important School Dates**

Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> October 7pm Numeracy Parent Night

Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> November 7pm 2015 Kindergarten Orientation Night for Parents

**Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> November 9:15am**2015 Kindergarten Orientation for students and parents

Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> November School Disco 4:30 - 6pm (Infants), 6:15 – 7.45pm (Primary). Cost \$5 which includes a popper and bag of chips.

## Upcoming dates...

Wednesday 15 October School Banking—8.30am

Mission Activities

Year 1 excursion

**Thursday 16 October** Buddy Mass 9am 2B & 5B

**Friday 17 October** Stage 2 Touch Football Gala Day

School Assembly - 2.15pm

**Tuesday 21 October** Numeracy Information Evening 7pm Wednesday 22 October

Diocesan Basketball Day

Thursday 23 October Stage 2 Milo Cricket

Friday 24 October Book Club orders due

Augustinian Prayer 3pm

**Wednesday 29 October** School Banking 8.30am

**Thursday 30 October** Buddy Mass 9am 4B & 1T

Friday 31 October Gymnastics Gala Day





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