

Holy Spirit Primary School



From the Principal

Dear Parents and Carers,

Last week for Kindergarten Orientation the year 6 students were invited to write a reflection on their time at Holy Spirit. I share with you some of their writing:

Throughout my 7 years at Holy Spirit I have so many memories, learnt new things, met new people and have had many different experiences. This year is our final and last year at Holy Spirit. It was such a good experience to go to Canberra and see the Australian War Memorial, Old Parliament House and many more great places. Everyone in year 6 is excited for graduation, fun day and high school. It has been an honour to have spent my primary school years with such a nice group of people. I cannot wait to see what's ahead of me in the future and at high school. Thank you to all teachers and classmates for always supporting and believing in me. Alexa

Hi I am going to tell you about my amazing years at Holy Spirit. My first year at Holy Spirit was one of the best years that I had ever had especially when I got to participate in many sport gala days. Even if the expectations were higher and the work got harder the teachers made it so much fun. Canberra was the experience of a lifetime. Now it's almost the end and I wouldn't have changed a thing. Ainslie

During my time at Holy Spirit, I have made a lot of new friends and had a lot of fun while completing my set tasks. In year 5 we learnt about the Gold Rush, electricity and also went to Bathurst. In Year 6 we learnt about East Timor and Government. Lachlan

Holy Spirit is a great school to cherish, to learn and to connect with many other students. The students at Holy Spirit are very kind and respectful and the staff members are very understanding and they've taught me well. If it weren't for the teachers here, I wouldn't be the person I am today. I have enjoyed being at Holy Spirit. I've built strong bonds with teachers and many students in year 6 and other grades. This school is a very cheerful place. Chloe

Kind regards
Anne Hines
Principal

Christian Values Award

A student in each class receives this award. Teachers and students discuss what qualities they believe are required to receive the 'Christian Values Award'. Students submit an anonymous peer vote for the student they believe strives to be like Jesus.

Movie Night

This will be held here at school on the afternoon of Thursday 19th November. Please see separate note.

Term 4, Week 6

11 November 2015

Prayer School Captains

Dear Lord,

On this
Remembrance Day we
remember the soldiers
who served their
countries in war.

We thank the soldiers
dearly for protecting
our country, our
armies and themselves.

Thank you Lord for
giving them the strength
and courage to fight in
the war, because of
these soldiers.
Everyday we get closer
to world peace.

Best we forget.

Amen



Thank you

Thank you for supporting our fund raising initiatives (Table-a-thon, Easter Egg Raffle, Coin collection, Mothers Day Stall, Fathers Day Stall, Movie Night and Christmas Raffle). The money raised has contributed to the purchase of new reading books (\$35,000) and technology (\$20,000).

Mobile Phones

All student mobile phones need to be handed to the school office in the morning before school and they may be collected in the afternoon at dismissal.

Students should not have mobile phones in the classroom or on the playground.

Emmaus Visit

This week we host 60 teachers from Emmaus College. The purpose of their visit is to observe our students in their learning environment and to ask our students questions about their learning so as to inform their work (particularly with Year 7) in 2016.

School Website

Our school website menus will be changing in the next few weeks to make them simpler and easier for you to find what you need. If you need any assistance please feel free to contact the office team at any time.

From the Assistant Principal

Last week our 2016 Kindergarten children arrived at Holy Spirit for their Orientation Day. They are an enthusiastic and energetic group and we look forward to getting to know them and watching them grow as learners and members of the community.

During the talks with parents I listened to discussion about the things that can be done before the 2016 school year that will make the transition a smooth and happy one. This then led me to thinking about how we encourage all our students to be life-long learners and what strategies we may use to develop a love of learning.

Carol Dweck is a professor of Psychology at Stanford University and the author of *Mindset: The New Psychology of Success*. Her research has shown that there are two sorts of mindsets. A *fixed mindset*, describes the children who believe they have a fixed or innate intelligence and the other is children who have a *growth mindset*. Children with a growth mindset are students who believe that their abilities can be developed through effort and learning. These children are enthusiastic, will take on a challenge, work hard and readily correct their deficiencies. These practices promote intellectual growth.

Carol Dweck believes that one way to foster a growth mindset is to praise children for their effort, concentration, choices and persistence when completing tasks rather than praising them for their intelligence.

Children who are praised for their effort enter a growth mindset and enjoy the challenge of learning and maintained confidence.

At school, when teachers hold a growth mindset, they see in each child the potential to be a life-long learner. This practice is true of our current children and will continue with all new students who will become part of our learning community.

Growth mindsets- parents, teachers and children – help students to seek learning, to love learning and to learn effectively.

Christine Figuero
Assistant Principal

School Bus Pass Information

Parents please read the information below regarding changes to school bus passes for 2016.



Fact sheet: School Opal card

The School Opal card provides free travel to school aged students between home and school on weekdays under the School Student Transport Scheme (SSTS) across the Opal public transport network.

School Opal card can be used:

- On approved travel on school days between the student's home and school, and
- For travel between 06:30 and 19:00 weekdays (21:30 for TAFE school students).



Who is eligible?

To be eligible a student must be a resident of NSW plus:

- Infant student (K-2) older than 4 years and 6 months who lives any distance between home and school; or
- Primary student (Years 3-6) who lives more than 1.6km (straight line) from school, or 2.3km or more by the most direct practical walking route; or
- Secondary student (Year 7-12) who lives more than 2km (straight line) from school, or 2.9km or more by the most direct practical walking route; or
- TAFE student under 18 years of age at 1 January of the year of application and enrolled in a full-time TAFE course for a minimum of 20 hours a week, and is not employed, lives more than 3.2km from the college by the most direct practical walking route, and attends the college closest to their home where enrolment is available.

School Opal Cards enable a student to travel on:

- Mode(s) of transport most applicable for the student's travel requirements; train or bus or both. For bus travel, cards are restricted to individual or a combination of bus operators. For approved ferries; and
- School days only.

For travel outside school hours or days a Child/Youth Opal card is available and provides concession fares and other Opal benefits.

How do parents/students get a School Opal card?

Students with school travel passes this year will be not need to apply for a School Opal card *unless* they are changing schools or their home address or moving from year 2 to 3 or year 6 to 7.

Those students who do not need to apply will have a School Opal card sent to their school for the beginning of the first term in 2016.

For new applications or for students with changing circumstances, the parents, guardians or students over 16 years are required to fill in a form online at www.transportnsw.info/school-students

After filling in the online application they print it off and take it to the school to endorse. Transport for NSW has the data online from the application and waits for the school to then endorse the application and will mail the School Opal card to the applicant's home address.

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



Kinder: Mawize, Charlotte, Taylor, Jacob
Year 1: Kirsten, Chelsy, April, Daniel, Kiarah, Julia
Year 2: Tahlya, Alexis, Ayesha, Francis
Year 3: George, Charlotte, Rheana, Sienna
Year 4: Elijah, Jordan, Ryan, Maya, Olivia, Altan
Year 5: Jack, Darnel, Arianz, Shanmugan, Daniel, Laura
Year 6: Elise, Lachlan, Mariah, William

Community News

Parents Representative Council, Parramatta Diocese (PRC)

Term 4, 2015 General Meeting
Monday 16 November 2015

Doors Open 6:30pm. Meeting starts 7:00pm

All students are gifted and talented...identifying personalised pathways to success

Tim Hardy, Team Leader- Numeracy at CEDP and Mr Anthony McElhone, Principal of St Oliver's Primary School, Harris Park will be helping parents navigate the path for success in education

Diocesan Assembly Centre (DAC)
Cnr Flushcombe Rd & Marion St (Ground Floor)
Blacktown NSW 2148

Expand your imagination by reading this summer and you could **win an iPad mini**

Read as many books as you can, tell us why you love them, and you could win one of four iPad minis. The more books you read, the more chances you have to win!

Enter online at www.parra.catholic.edu.au
Entries close 5 February 2016.

Executive Director's Summer Reading Challenge

@CatholicEdParra
catholicedparra
Catholic Education Diocese of Parramatta
*Terms and Conditions apply

Christmas Carols at the Shrine

The Schoenstatt Sisters would like to invite you to join them for an evening of carol singing at the Shrine.

Please bring a blanket or chair and some snacks if you wish.

Children are encouraged to come dressed as angels and shepherds.

Where: Mount Schoenstatt Shrine
230 Fairlight Rd Mulgoa
When: Saturday 19th December
7pm-8.30pm

Upcoming dates...

Thursday 12 November
Buddy Mass 1V & 4S - 9am

Wednesday 18 November
Parent Scripture Meditation

Kindy 2016 Transition Program

Thursday 19 November
Kindy 2016 Transition Program

Year 3 Calmsley Farm excursion

Movie Night Fundraising

Friday 13 November
Emmaus Step Up Program

Friday 20 November
Emmaus Step Up Program

School Assembly—2.30pm

Augustinian Prayer 3pm

7-17 Todd Row
ST CLAIR NSW 2759
Phone: 02 9670 5379
Fax: 02 9834 3209
E-mail:
holyspirit@parra.catholic.edu.au
Web address:
www.hsstclair.catholic.edu.au