



Holy Spirit Primary School Newsletter

Term 4 Week 2 ~ 18 October 2017

7-17 Todd Row St Clair NSW 2759

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E-mail: holyspirit@parra.catholic.edu.au

From the Principal

Dear Parents and Carers,

Point of View

When I look at a patch of dandelions, I see a bunch of weeds that will take over my garden.

My kids see flowers for mum.

When I see an old drunk and he smiles at me, I see a smelly, dirty person who probably wants money and I look away.

My kids see someone smiling and they smile back.

When I feel wind on my face I brace myself against it, I feel it messing my hair and pulling me back when I walk.

My kids close their eyes, spread their arms and fly with it until they fall to the ground laughing.

When I pray I see thee and thou, grant me this, give me that.

My kids say "Hi God. Thanks for my toys and my friends. Please keep bad dreams away tonight."

When I see a mud puddle I step around it, I see muddy shoes and dirty carpets.

My kids sit in it. They see dams to build, rivers to cross and worms to play with.

When I hear music I love, I know I can't carry a tune and don't have much rhythm so I sit self consciously and listen.

My kids feel the beat and move to it.

They sing out the words but if they don't know them they make up their own.

I wonder if we are given kids to teach or learn from?

Both I believe.

No wonder God loves little children.

Enjoy the little things in life. One day you may look back and realise that they were the big things.

I wish you big mud puddles and sunny yellow dandelions.

Author unknown

Kind Regards

Anne Hines

Principal

Congratulations

Mrs Frances Garzaniti has been appointed principal at Holy Spirit from 2018. Frances visited recently and was impressed by the students' attention to their learning and our beautiful facilities.

Kindergarten Orientation for 2018

There is a **parent only** meeting on Monday 30th October at 7pm in the MPA. At this meeting the teachers will outline the program for the children starting kindergarten. On Wednesday 1st November from 9:15am to 10:30am there is a meeting for parents and new kindergarten children. Parents and children are asked to gather in the MPA. The children will then move across to the Kindergarten room and parents will hear from our financial secretary and school counsellor. The morning should conclude at 10:30am.

Extra-curricular Music Ensemble

Students learning 'strings' are rehearsing at lunch time each Monday for a performance at our week 4 assembly. Mr Phil Rook and Mr Glenn Green are facilitating these rehearsals.

School Committee

Our last meeting for the year will be held next Tuesday 24th October in the library at 7pm. Mr Mackey our REC will share some RE ideas that are used in classes. All parents and carers are welcome to attend.

Staff Development Day

On Friday 27th October the staff will engage in professional learning. The topic for the day is 'The stories Jesus told: the story Jesus lived'. Please note that there will be no classes for students on this day.

Mufti Day

On the last day of term our mufti day raised \$445 to support the family of Julian Cadman, Year 2 student (from St Bernadette's Lalor Park) who was tragically killed in the attack on Barcelona. Thank you for supporting this social justice initiative.

School Playground

We are very grateful to Catholic Education, Diocese of Parramatta for providing the funding to replace the softfall with cement. Once we have a firm surface we hope to install some artificial grass on some of the play areas. Weather permitting this work is planned to be completed in the next two weeks.

Extra- Curricular

This term we will host the **Nepean one-day chess Tournament** here at Holy Spirit on Thursday November 2nd. A number of children will participate.

Sunday's Readings

Next Sundays readings invite us to look carefully at our lives, to check the direction in which we are headed. We are being reminded to check our ambitions. What are my hopes for myself, for my family? Am I being caught up in ambitions that are really just distractions from what really matters? Are my hopes helping or harming my relationships? Am I so anxious about the future or so distracted by my dreaming about it that I am not really focusing on the only life I have - which is the life of the present moment? Thinking of God's love we can entrust the future to him. Thinking of Jesus' courage, we can face the present, whatever its pain, in trust, knowing that the best way to help our future is to live the present moment as well as we can. Let us long for the eternal communion with God that is heaven. We are made for that and our hearts remain restless till we enjoy it. But this longing must not distract us from living now as truthfully and lovingly as we can, while remaining open to God's grace. The one for whom we long is with us now, and at the end of our life God will take us as very dear children into an eternal embrace. May this sure hope give us the courage we need to concentrate now on living a life of love. *Fr Michael Fallon*

Date for your diary

On Tuesday 28th November at 7pm we will have a Christmas Carols Night here at Holy Spirit. Drinks and snacks will be on sale from 6:30pm. Children are asked to wear Christmas colours of red and green on the night. More information will be provided later in the term.

Attendance

Every Learner, Every Day is about the importance of attendance for every student, on every school day and to promote a healthy attendance culture. In term 4 it is important that we continue the good attendance that we have enjoyed during the year. Keep up the good work!

Extra Curricular Cricket Clinic

This will run across the school from K-6, this term. It is a 4 week program run by Cricket Australia. The program is made up of practical cricket activities that focus on fun, fitness and friendships with the aim of increasing participant's confidence and competence.

Liturgy Committee

A Prayer for Mission

God of love and
goodness,
You raise up good
people who show
with their lives
that they follow
the gospel of your
Son, Jesus.

Fill us with your
grace, so that our
lives and words
will be as true as
our faith.

May we grow more
and more in your
sons likeness.

We ask this
through Christ our
Lord.

Amen

From the Assistant Principal

Literacy is pivotal to all learning and key to enhancing lifelong opportunities for each and every student. Knowledge, skills and understandings in Literacy are central to overcoming social, cultural and economic disadvantage and providing the skills to participate fully in democratic society. It is therefore critical that each student has every opportunity to learn to become fully literate.

As a system, Catholic Education, Parramatta Diocese is committed to improving literacy skills in our students. As a diocese we focus 100 minutes per day on the specific task of teaching English. This time is broken up to cover aspects of literacy that include reading, writing, speaking and listening.

As a staff we are continually learning by attending Professional Development, at school and off site and working towards our specific goal to improve literacy at Holy Spirit. This year our goal was centred on the improvement of writing. The children have experienced exciting activities that are a stimulus for their writing. They are also given the opportunity to write daily for different purposes and audiences.

Teachers make choices everyday to use activities that have a high impact on student learning. They evaluate their teaching processes by looking at data and discussing student growth. We continue to focus on surface level learning (e.g. punctuation) but teachers are trying to extend students by assisting in the transfer of their learning to new tasks in all areas of the curriculum.

Christine Figuero
Assistant Principal

**Joke of the
Day**



**What did the
ground say to the
Earthquake?**

You crack me up!

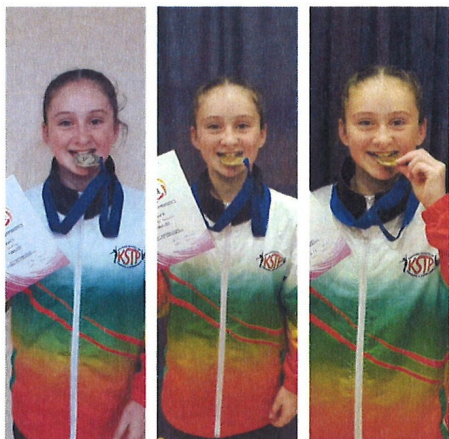
Student Attendance rate for last week was 92.57%
Remember every school day counts!

Gymnastics

At the end of last term two of our students travelled to Bendigo, Victoria to participate in the 2017 National Clubs Gymnastics Carnival.

Hayley Sepping (6W) competed for her club, KSTP, in Tumbling, Trampoline and DMT (double mini tramp) and placed first in all three events. Hayley was also awarded 'Best All Around Athlete' for her efforts. Congratulations Hayley.

Hayley would like to thank all her friends and family for all the support given to her that made her more confident to go out there and do her best.



Elijah Barros (4W) competed with his team from SGAC in the Men's Artistic Gymnastics. After 2 rounds of competition his team placed 7th overall and Elijah placed 6th (out of 80 competitors) on pommel. A week later Elijah placed first overall in another competition and was the recipient of the highest overall score over all compulsory levels (146 gymnasts). This weekend Elijah will compete in the State Championships. We wish him the best of luck.



Parents if your child is sent home with a change of uniform from sick bay. We ask if you can please wash and return the items to the office as soon as possible. Thank you for your understanding.

What's Happening at Holy Spirit...

<i>Thursday 19 October</i>	<i>Buddy Mass ~ Years 2 & 5 ~ 9am Mission Week Activities ~ Recess (10:50am) & Lunch (1:30pm)</i>
<i>Tuesday 24 October</i>	<i>Year 4W Reconciliation ~ 11:30am</i>
<i>Wednesday 25 October</i>	<i>Year 4R Reconciliation ~ 11.30am</i>
<i>Friday 27 October</i>	<i>Staff Development Day ~ No classes today</i>
<i>Monday 30 October</i>	<i>Kinder 2018 Parent Information Night ~ 7pm</i>
<i>Tuesday 31 October</i>	<i>Year 5 Leadership Day ~ Blue Gum Lodge</i>
<i>Wednesday 1 November</i>	<i>Kinder 2018 Orientation Morning 9:15am ~ 10:30am</i>
<i>Thursday 2 November</i>	<i>Buddy Mass ~ Year 3 ~ 9am Nepean Chess Tournament</i>
<i>Friday 3 November</i>	<i>School Assembly ~ 2:15pm Mission Liturgy Diocesan Gymnastics Competition</i>

Message from Busways

School Opal Card – Help Us to Help You!

An important requirement of School Opal card is the need for students to Tap On and Tap Off when they travel to and from school.

Opal data gathered by tapping on and off is used to determine demand for bus services. If students don't tap on and tap off, services may be cancelled due to the lack of recorded patronage.

With this in mind, we ask for your assistance in reminding your child that tapping on and off at the beginning and end of each trip is one of the conditions of using a School Opal card. This in turn helps us ensure we are able to provide the appropriate level of service to your students.

To further promote the use of School Opal, Busways will also be conducting checks on School Opal cards over the coming months. All students travelling on buses to and from school will be required to show their card and ensure they Tap On and Tap Off every time they catch the bus. Students without an Opal Card will be provided with a brochure to take home identifying how they can get an Opal Card.

Please support Busways staff with afternoon boarding and checks to ensure minimal delays to bus departure times and demonstrate a united front to students on bus travel and Opal Card use.



Catholic Education
Diocese of Parramatta

2018 Team Sport Trials

Parramatta Diocese 2018 Information For Parents of **current Year 4** and Year 5 students – Registration window open only for Basketball & Tennis ONLY

All correspondence to:

PDCPSSC

Aengus Kavanagh Education & Equity Centre

PO Box 215, Rooty Hill 2766

Tel (02) 9677 4314

Mobile 0408 278 918

mthornton@parra.catholic.edu.au

www.primarysportparra.catholic.edu.au

Facebook: Primary Sport Parramatta Diocese

Dear Parents,

Parramatta Diocesan Primary students enrolled in Year 5 and 6 in 2018 are invited to participate in the Parramatta Diocesan Team Sport Trials during Term Four in 2017 and Term One in 2018. It is important to note that these trials are generally for those children who display an above average ability and/or have representative experience in their chosen sport. While teams are open in age it is **strongly recommended that only children of a representative standard in years 5 & 6 in 2018 be invited to attend**. To facilitate this, Parramatta Diocesan trials will be held in the following sports:

Sport	Age Group	Trial Date	Registration closing date
AFL	Open boys & girls	Term One 2018	Friday 2nd February 2018
Basketball	Open boys & girls	14th November 2017	Friday 27th October 2017
Cricket	Open boys & girls	Term One 2018	Friday 2nd February 2018
Diving	10/11yrs girls & boys & 12/13yrs girls & boys	Term One 2018	Registration via CSSS in 2018
Football (Soccer)	Open boys & girls	Term One 2018	Friday 2nd February 2018
Golf	Open boys & girls	Term Three 2018	Registration via CSSS in 2018
Hockey	Open boys & girls	Term One 2018	Friday 2nd February 2018
Netball	Open girls	Term One 2018	Friday 2nd February 2018
Rugby League	Open boys & 11yrs boys – NB. No State team selected for 11 yrs	Term One 2018	Friday 2nd February 2018
Rugby Union	Open boys	Term One 2018	Friday 2nd February 2018
Softball	Open boys & girls	Term One 2018	Friday 2nd February 2018
Tennis	Open boys & girls	20th November 2017	Friday 27th October 2017
Touch	Open boys & girls	Term One 2018	Friday 2nd February 2018

To be eligible for selection for these trials an Online Team Registration Form must be completed that can be accessed via the website www.primarysportparra.catholic.edu.au ~ Click on "REP SELECTIONS" tab and scroll down to the SPORT you wish to register for and click on the "REGISTER" button below the heading "PDCPSSC Expression of Interest Registration Form". **Each sport has a different registration criteria.**

This online form is an **EXPRESSION OF INTEREST** for the 2018 Parramatta Diocesan Primary Sport Team trials. You may complete this form to attend a selection trial or if you have been selected in a representative squad or team. One form is to be completed per child, per individual sport and when completed, click SUBMIT.

Please note that your online registration is an **EXPRESSION OF INTEREST ONLY** and **MUST** be approved by your child's school. In order for your child to attend the nominated trial or event this may come down to the discretion of your school as to who is selected to attend the trial. In some sports only 2 students per school can be nominated. **Please complete all fields and especially "Representative Experience".**

Your child's school will notify you one week prior to the trial date if your child is to attend to the Parramatta Diocesan trial for their selected sport by providing a trial information sheet.

Under no circumstances will a child be eligible to trial if the Online Registration Form has not been completed and approved by the school by the closing date.

\$8.00 trialling fee is payable on the day for after school trials & \$10.00 trialling fee is payable on the day for half day and full day trials.

– This is to be paid upon registration at the trials once your child has been approved to attend the Parramatta Diocesan Trials.

Please note that the full day trials will be for boys cricket, boys soccer, boys rugby league & boys rugby union.

Due to the popularity of boys cricket, boys soccer and girls netball a maximum of 2 children only are eligible to trial from each school.

Selection of the 2 boys and girls will be made jointly by the school sport coordinator and principal.

Half day trial for tennis and netball... all other trials will be held after school beginning at 4pm.

MACKILLOP TRIAL

It should be noted that the main purpose of the Mackillop trial is to select a team to compete at the NSW PSSA Championships. The Inter-Diocesan Mackillop Trial is not a competition although a round robin format is often used to facilitate the selection procedure.

NSW PSSA CHAMPIONSHIPS

Children who are successful at being selected in the Mackillop team will compete at the N.S.W. P.S.S.A. Championships. These championships involve three or four days of competition at various locations in NSW. Children selected in these teams may also be required to attend training sessions. At the NSW PSSA Championships a State team will be selected to participate at the School Sport Australia Inter State Exchange for some sports.

SCHOOL SPORT AUSTRALIA

To be considered for selection in the NSW PSSA state team for participation at all School Sport Australia 12 Years & Under championships: Students must be turning between the ages of 10 and 12 in the year of competition i.e. Students turning the ages of 8, 9 and 13 in the year of competition are not eligible for NSW PSSA State selection.

Please note the following information:

- Parents are responsible for all transport and supervision arrangements and **must remain to supervise their child at the trial at all times.**
- Children need to generally be of representative standard.
- Attendance at training days, where applicable is compulsory.
- The selector's decisions are final.
- **Parents will need to make their own travel arrangements for children representing Parramatta at Inter-Diocesan MacKillop trials. This may mean travel to Sydney, Wollongong, Canberra, Wagga or Forbes.**
- Please be aware that the teacher conducting the trial and accompanying the team to the venue is a "Team Manager" ~ not a coach.

If you would like your child to participate in one of the Parramatta Diocesan trials **please complete the Team Online Registration Form** that can be accessed via the website www.primarysportparra.catholic.edu.au ~ Click on "REP SELECTIONS" tab and scroll down to the SPORT you wish to register for and click on the "REGISTER" button below the heading "PDCPSSC Expression of Interest Registration Form".

**NOMINATIONS close Friday 27th October 2017 for the sports of Basketball & Tennis
and entries close Friday 2nd February 2018 for all other sports.**

Kind Regards,

Margaret Thornton

Teaching Educator Primary Sport ~ CEO Parramatta

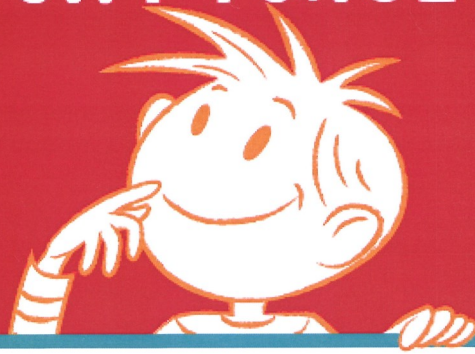
WEBSITE: www.primarysportparra.catholic.edu.au



This is the message that appears once the registration has been submitted correctly and a NO-REPLY email should be received within 24 hours.

Click on "REP SELECTIONS" tab and scroll down to the SPORT you wish to register for and click on the "REGISTER" button below the heading "PDCPSSC Expression of Interest Registration Form".

DON'T FORGET!



 **SCHOLASTIC**

Book Club

orders are due:

Wednesday 25/10/17

Community Events

----- THE 29TH ANNUAL -----

DOLL, BEAR & Craft Fair

Adults \$6
Concession \$4
Children \$2

9:30am to 4:00pm
Saturday & Sunday, October 28-29th

AT THE MUSEUM OF FIRE
1 MUSEUM DRIVE, PENRITH

TEDDY BEARS & MAKING SUPPLIES • WOODEN TOYS & FURNITURE
DOLLS & ACCESSORIES • DOLL HOUSES & SUPPLIES
JEWELLERY & CRAFT • REBORN DOLLS • AROMATHERAPY
UNIQUE HANDMADE PRODUCTS • & MORE!

 Museum of Fire

For more information, call 4731 3000
or visit www.dollbearcraftfair.com.au

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 - (Jan–Nov)
New Time: 7pm to 9pm
Fee: \$5.00
Venue: Ann D Clark Centre
2A Villiers St, Parramatta

BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL
Solo Parent Services
Phone 8822 2222
soloparentservices@ccss.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"?