



Holy Spirit Primary School Newsletter

Term 4 Week 4 ~ 1 November 2017

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From the Principal

Dear Parents and Carers,

Happy relationships lead to good parenting.

- Eye contact. When we stop seeing each other, our relationship dies. Eye contact shows we care.
- Put away devices. To improve our interpersonal connection. We need to disconnect to reconnect. Relationships aren't built sitting side-by-side staring at a screen. Switch off the TV or device, look at each other, talk and connect.
- Sleep. The world looks better and so does your partner and children when you are well rested. Of a night switch off the TV earlier and go to bed. Your ability to function and be there for each other will be better the next day.
- Zip it. Sometimes the best thing you can do in a relationship is to be quiet. Sometimes we say things when we are angry that we would not say if we were calm and we have regret.
- Stop trying to fix them. Research shows that the less we try to fix others the more they try to fix themselves.
- Compassion. Sometimes we feel as though our partner makes no sense. Be patient and see the world through their eyes, showing you care makes a difference.
- Gratitude. Everyone wants to feel appreciated. Find things to thank them for. A simple 'thanks' can heal broken relationships.
- Be positive. It's amazing what a smile can do to make others feel better.

Dr Justin Coulson, 7/10/17 Daily Telegraph

Kind Regards

Anne Hines

Principal

Playground Equipment

Please avoid allowing your children on the play equipment before or after school to protect them against falls and injuries.

School Committee

Thank you to the parents that attended our last meeting for the year. Particular thanks to Mrs Mitchell and Mrs Feneck who have children in year 6 and will be finishing their connection with Holy Spirit.

Mission Day

Thank you so much for your support of our mission day last week, a total of \$2,300.05 was collected on the day. Well done Holy Spirit Primary!

Date for your diary

Our 'end of year' Mass and thank you morning tea will be held on Monday 11th December. Mass will begin at 10:15am with a delicious morning tea to follow in the MPA. Please join us.

Media Committee

The Lord is good and listens
to our prayers.

Let us pray for those who
need God's help.

Let us pray for those who
don't have access to
fresh food and water.

Let us pray for those who
don't have education and
access to affordable health
care.

Let us pray for those who
don't have the comfort of
family and friends.

Let us bring our hopes and
needs to God.

Let us pray the words Jesus
taught us,

Hail Mary, full of grace.
The Lord is with you.
Blessed are you among
women, and blessed is the
fruit of your womb, Jesus.

Holy Mary, Mother of God,
pray for us sinners,
now and at the hour of our
death.

Amen.

Sunday's Readings

Next Sunday's Gospel ends with the words: 'If you exalt yourself you will be humbled; if you humble yourself you will be exalted' (Matthew 23:12). What might Jesus mean by this?

To picture humility, we are to look at a two-year old - vulnerable, needy, dependent, but cuddled up against its mother's breast, knowing that everything is okay because of the mother's love. The child knows, however unconsciously, that it is not self-reliant. It needs its mother - but she is there and so there is no need for fear. This is humility. It fits beautifully with the following scene from the Gospels: 'The disciples came to Jesus and asked, 'Who is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven?' He called a child, whom he put among them, and said, 'Truly I tell you, unless you change and become like children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven, Whoever lowers himself like this child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven. Whoever welcomes one such child in my name welcomes me' (Matthew 18:1-5).

The last remark makes it clear that Jesus identifies with the child. He is among them, showing them how to rely on the God he called 'Abba', 'my Father'. Disciples are to share this absolute and total trust, for being in the kingdom of heaven means accepting God as a loving Father. Humility involves the realisation that all we are and have is a gift; that we are dependent upon God for everything; that of ourselves we can do nothing. It includes a response to this awareness that is characterised by joy, because we are confident, like a child, that we are not alone, but are embraced by a God who loves us unconditionally and in whom we can have absolute trust.

Fr Michael Fallon

**Joke of the
Day**



**Q. Why was
Cinderella no good
at tennis?**

**A. Because her
coach was a
pumpkin!**

Student Attendance rate for last week was 95.2%
Remember every school day counts!

From the Assistant Principal

Speech and language problems in children are not uncommon. According to Speech Pathology Australia, one in seven Australians has a 'communication disability' – that is, problems with speech, using and understanding language, voice, reading, writing or hearing. The disability can be present at birth or maybe acquired in later life.

Speech pathologists assess and treat difficulties in:

- speech (pronunciation)
- language (understanding and using words and sentences)
- stuttering
- literacy (reading and writing)
- social skills
- listening and auditory processing
- voice
- swallowing

Learning to speak is a crucial part of a child's development and progress made in the preschool and early school years is crucial to mastering the rules of language. Even though children vary in their development of speech and language, there are certain 'milestones' that can be identified as a rough guide to normal development. Typically, these skills must be reached at certain ages before more complex skills can be learned. These milestones help speech pathologists determine whether a child may need extra help to learn to speak or use language.

Preschool children start to use much longer sentences and their speech should be understood by unfamiliar people (outside of the family) about 75% of the time. By 5 years of age, anyone (including unfamiliar listeners) should be able to understand the child's speech in conversation 95-100% of the time.

Teachers are often able to recognise difficulties a child may be having with aspects of their language development. In these instances we may discuss our concerns with parents and suggest a speech assessment. With intervention and continuous support from the speech pathologist, parents and school, difficulties are addressed and improvements seen.

If your child displays any of the following behaviours it would be beneficial to speak to the teachers at the school and consider a speech assessment.

- you or other people are having difficulty understanding your child
- people think your child is younger than they are because of the way he speaks
- your child is being teased or showing frustration because of the way he talks
- your child is using fewer words than other children his age
- your child stutters
- your child's interactions or play seems unusual or inappropriate
- your child is struggling with reading or writing
- there is a diagnosis that could affect speech or language such as hearing loss, auditory processing disorder, autism spectrum disorder or developmental delay

Christine Figuero
Assistant Principal

What's Happening at Holy Spirit...

Thursday 2 November

Nepean Chess Tournament

Year 4 Life Education Centre excursion

Friday 3 November

School Assembly ~ 2:15pm Mission Liturgy

Thursday 9 November

Stage 2 (Year 3 & 4) Mass in Parish ~ 12pm

Friday 10 November

Augustinian Prayer 3pm

Friday 17 November

School Assembly ~ 2:30pm

Social Justice in Action ~ Mission Day



What a wonderful experience this year's Mission Activities provided for our students! The children worked hard to raise as much money as they possibly could to support the poor and needy through Catholic Mission.



We were impressed with what our students can achieve when they put their minds to it. The children were not only responsible for creating and organising their activities, but they had the added responsibility for collecting, counting and handling the money they'd raised.

It was wonderful to see so many parents and carers joining us this year. Thank you for your generosity with regards to donations, and for instilling in your children a desire to help others.

The total raised in just **one hour** was an astounding **\$2,300.05**



This money will go to Catholic Mission.

Thank you.



2018 Schedule of Fees

2018 Diocesan Tuition Fees and School Based Fees

Annual Diocesan Tuition Fee can be paid upfront at the start of the year, as three payments in Term 1, 2 and 3 or by a payment plan. The fee is only charged for the first three (3) children currently enrolled in the Diocese (in other words there is no additional Diocesan Tuition Fee for the fourth child attending a systemic school in the Diocese or other participating Catholic schools). To work out how much the fee is for each child, check the table below.

2018 Annual Diocesan Tuition Fees:

Annual Fees	No charge for 4th + children	1st Child 100%	2nd Child 75%	3rd Child 50%
	Kindergarten	\$1,173	\$879	\$588
	Years 1-6	\$1,515	\$1,137	\$759

2018 term rate for each of the first three terms is as follows:

Term Fees	Charged in Term 1,2,& 3	1st Child 100%	2nd child 75%	3rd child 50%
	Kindergarten	\$391	\$293	\$196
	Years 1-6	\$505	\$379	\$253

Diocesan Building Levy - 2018

All families with one or more children in a Parramatta Diocesan school or at St Dominic's College, Kingswood are required to pay the annual Diocese of Parramatta Diocesan Building Levy. The levy for 2018 is \$783 per family, payable in three equal instalments of \$261 payable in Terms 1,2 & 3.

Diocesan Temporary Residents Education Fee - 2018

The Diocesan Temporary Residents Education Fee for 2018 is **\$1,935 per student, payable in three equal instalments of \$645 in Terms 1, 2 and 3.** The fee applies to new students on the following Visa numbers: 173, 401, 402, 411, 415, 416, 417, 418, 419, 420, 421, 422, 423, 426, 427, 428, 442, 456, 457, 459, 462, 476, 485, 497, 580, 600, 601, 651, 675, 676, 679, 685, 884, 944, 956, 976 and 977 including where any of these are the preceding visas for families on bridging visas 010 to 090.

Families charged the fee in 2013 will continue to be charged on a per family basis to the eldest student whilst the family has continuous current students.

Holy Spirit School Based Fees for 2018—In addition to Diocesan fees

Activity Fee – Paid per child

This one payment covers all one-day excursions and special events. This payment is based on the cost of individual grade excursions and therefore varies across grades. K-2 - \$50, Years 3-4 - \$65, Year 5 - \$155 (includes Year 5 Leadership Day), Year 6 - \$260 – (includes Year 6 Canberra excursion)

Family Levy

For school cleaning and to purchase equipment for ongoing improvements. To provide computers, purchase relevant software and maintain current equipment - \$120 per family per year.

Resource Fee

\$100.00 per year, per child.