Dear Parents and Guardians,

Greetings!

Thank you Sr. Brenda, parents, teachers and students for your warm welcome to Holy Family Emerton. I am excited to be part of this learning community and I am looking forward to meeting you and working with you as we continue the great work that is already in place.

This fortnight is a busy time for our students as Year 6 head to Canberra; Year 5 head to Bathurst and other students compete in the Panther Cup and the Soccer Gala day. We also have students participating in the Captivate Choir program. We wish them well and hope that they have an exciting time.

I know that some of these events are expensive and all of them require extra effort on the part of parents and staff. Thank you parents and staff for helping to make these experiences special for our students. This combined effort is typical of how a family works together. Holy Family Emerton does this work well. Thank you.

I look forward to meeting you.
Best wishes,

John Spradbrow
Principal
**The Learning Corner**

**Vocabulary Building in Year 6**

One of the goals in year 6 is to build vocabulary. A way in which we do this is using a “word builder”. Students are encouraged to make meaning of the word, looking at synonyms, antonyms and using the word in context.

Regards,
Mrs. Williams & Mrs. Alonzo

**Mathematical language is crucial to children’s development of thinking**

Our Mathematics word wall is used to identify words and phrases that students need to understand and use. This vocabulary assists students when explaining their thinking and the processes used to obtain a particular answer.

We introduce new words in a suitable context, where students relate these words to relevant real objects, pictures and/or diagrams to help explain their meaning.

Year One Teaching Team

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**Sports Update**

The Diocesan Cross Country was held last Tuesday 5th May at Sydney Motorsport Park. Congratulations to all our representatives who put in their best efforts and to Alini Peti who placed 6th in her event and will compete at the MacKilliop Carnival on the 12th June. It was great to see Sister Brenda at her last sporting event by opening the Cross Country with a prayer and receiving a loud round of applause. There were a few tears shed amongst Holy Family. Thank you to all the parents for transporting your children to and from the event.

The Stage 3 Girls Soccer Gala Day has been changed to Thursday 21st May, which will be combined with the Stage 3 Boys Soccer Day. Please return your permission note and Code of Conduct form as soon as possible.

The Panther Trophy will be held on Tuesday 19th May, followed by the rescheduled Greg Alexander Shield on Thursday 28th May. We wish all players the best of luck play safe and with pride in your school colours. All those playing MUST have a mouthguard for safety reasons. These can be purchased at the school for $7.00.

**Dates for the Diary:**
- Panther Trophy: 19th May
- Stage 3 Girls Soccer: 21st May
- Stage 3 Boys Soccer: 21st May
- Greg Alexander Shield: 28th May
- School Athletics Carnival: 5th June

Regards,
Mrs. Leonie Preston
Sports Co-ordinator

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**Fundraising News**

Thank you to all the parents who came to our fund raising committee meeting on Monday 4th May. Our next event will be our Athletics day raffle. Please be generous in supporting this initiative to raise money for our school. We need your financial support.

**Athletics Carnival**

Our annual Athletics carnival will be held on Friday June 5th at Blair Oval (situated behind Ripples car park). Please return your child’s permission slip as soon as possible, so they can attend this event.

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**Recipes Wanted**

The deadline is fast approaching...have you submitted your favourite family recipe to be included in our Holy Family Cookbook?

**Deadline:** 1st June 2015

**How to submit:** www.PublishedAuthors.com.au

**For more info:** Leonie Bright at holyfamilyfundraising@hotmail.com
Parent/Teacher/Children
Meeting June 16, 17, 18, 19
Reports will go home on Tuesday June 9th. A note will be sent home for families requesting a late interview on Tuesday June 16th. If you request a late interview on this night please return signed note to your child’s teacher when you receive the note.

Choir and Band Performances
Some of our children will be singing and playing instruments in a special performance with other schools on June 15 & 17 (Choir) and June 17 & 18 (Band) Letters have gone home to all families about this. Tickets for these events are available online. If you do not have access to the internet please contact Mrs. Denise Carroll for assistance. If you have not seen this note ask your child and if that fails please ask them to pick up another one from the office. Don't miss out on your tickets. The children are very talented and worth seeing and hearing and must be picked up by you on the nights of the performances.

School Attendance
Due to an error in the school’s new reporting system, some students were not recognised for their attendance in Term 1. Congratulations to the following children who had 100% attendance at school during first term.

Year 1
Kamsotochi Igbojiaku  Jocelyn Graf
Harrison Laupola-Burnett  Sepuita Graf

Year 2
Tyrone Campbell

Year 3
Drew Stevenson  Max Reason

Year 4
Aiden Stevenson  Somtochi Igbojiaku

Year 5
Akon Deng

Year 6
Amelia Aggar.

Attendance at School
In a few weeks time you will be receiving your child's report. The number of days your child was absent will be recorded on the report. It is amazing the number of parents who are shocked when they see the number of days missed by their children. Every minute missed by your child potentially has an impact in his/her education. Also if your child is late for school we are legally bound to record the time he/she arrives. This happens even if your child arrives 3 minutes late. If you are not with your child we send home a letter each Monday to give you the opportunity to explain so that the recording is not an unexplained absence. Thank you to those parents who make sure that this letter is returned each week. Please remember also that school begins at 8.55am.

We ask that you make a big effort to get your child to school on time every day and to make sure that they do not stay away unless he/she has a very good reason. If your child reaches a number of unexplained absences we have to report this fact to Community and Family services.

Class Masses
You are invited to attend any of the Masses being celebrated this term. All Masses will be held in the Church at 9.15am. It is a good opportunity to take time out of your busy lives and spend time in prayer with your beautiful children.

May 28 - Year 6 Mass
May 29 - Year 5 Mass
June 04 - Year 4 Mass

Whole School Mass
June 12—Feast of the Sacred Heart in Church
June 24—Farewell Mass for Sr. Brenda in Church

Assemblies
Year 3 will lead us for our next assembly on May 22nd in the hall. All are welcome to attend. Assembly starts at 2:15pm.
**Feast of the Sacred Heart**

On June 12 we will celebrate the Feast of the Sacred Heart at 9.15 in the Church. This will be a whole school Mass.

The Feast of Sacred Heart is the great feast of God’s love for us in Jesus. It has been the custom at Holy Family to collect non-perishable food for those who are more needy than ourselves.

We ask you to be as generous as you can and send donations to your child’s class. We ask that you check the expiry date on the food items as we cannot use them if they are out of date. Thank you in advance for your generosity.

**Holy Family Value of Responsibility**

During this fortnight we are focusing on our Holy Family value of Responsibility.

Responsibility is being accountable for who you are and what you do. Someone who is responsible does his/her best and doesn't blame others for his/her mistakes. Our Holy Family, Jesus, Mary, and Joseph, modelled for us responsibilities within a family and the wider community. They showed a sense of responsibility to God even when it was difficult. The Holy Family reminds us that responsibility involves following through on commitments, answering for our actions, being reliable and trustworthy, using good judgement and taking care of each other. Let us follow this example and work together to take care of our families, friends, the greater community, and ourselves.

Let us pray and work together to promote and teach our Holy Family value of responsibility to our children.

**Our Holy Family prayer for the Value of Responsibility**

We pray that we may learn to follow the example of the Holy Family and become responsible members of our Holy Family community; by working to the best of our abilities, being fair, taking responsibility for our actions, helping others when they need help, and by taking care of others and our environment, to help make our world a better place.

Lord, hear us.

Mrs. Michelle Smith
Religious Education Co-ordinator

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**Kindergarten 2016 Enrolments**

Enrolments close at the end of May. Please send in your enrolment forms, if you have a child eligible for enrolment.

There are a number of enquiries this year so don’t miss out!

**If you have already picked up an enrolment package but have not returned it to the school office, please do so as soon as possible to avoid missing out on a position for your child.**

If you have any questions please contact the school office on 9628 9232.

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**Congratulations**

We would like to congratulate the following children for preparing for and receiving the Sacraments of Confirmation on May 19th & 20th.

Vonzelle Acuesta-Lowe
Anna Antakley
Holly Brooker
Naomi Dickson
Jumikah Donovan
Ethan Grayson
Marcus Graf
Emellia Lepoualii
Lilijana Hackett
Jordan Keeley
Alannah Martin
Lauren Reason
Faith Luatuanuu
Ashton Roffey
Riana Roffey

We would also like to acknowledge the hard work and commitment of their families and the Parish, who have worked together to prepare these children for this sacrament.

**May God bless these children and be with them at this special time in their lives as they grow in love and faith.**

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**Dates for your Diary**

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<th>May</th>
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<th>June</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>Year 6 Canberra Excursion</td>
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<tr>
<td>19</td>
<td>Panther Trophy</td>
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<tr>
<td>21</td>
<td>Captivate Choir</td>
<td>Staff Development Day</td>
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<td>22</td>
<td>Stage 3 Girls &amp; Boys Soccer Gala</td>
<td>Year 3 Assembly</td>
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<td>28</td>
<td>Year 5 Bathurst Excursion</td>
<td>Greg Alexander Shield</td>
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<td>Year 3 Assembly</td>
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