Dear Parents and Guardians,

The amount of time we spend, as teachers, trying to help students who have friendship difficulties because of gossip they spread about one another is incredible. They can be the best of friends one minute and have no time for each other the next, sometimes because another friend has said something unpleasant about one of them. They have engaged in gossip! However, children have short memories and have the ability to forgive and forget so they eventually get over the difficulties.

We as adults could learn a lot from them. We listen to gossip and pass on information that sometimes is not true. The role of social media can be very dangerous in this regard and comments can be made that are untrue and often hurtful. We should always remember that if we are having difficulty about something that somebody has allegedly said or done it is much more sensible to talk to the person involved rather than put it in writing for the world to see. It is hard to take it back and of course it can be misunderstood. Food for thought!

We say farewell to Mr Aggar tomorrow as he takes up an acting role as Religious Education Coordinator at Joseph's Kingswood until the end of the year. We congratulate him on this temporary promotional position.

The holidays are coming up next week. Enjoy this time with your children as they grow up very fast.

Blessings on you and your families

Sr Brenda Kennedy
Principal
The Learning Corner

Peer Reading - Our younger students are reading to older students every day after lunch (Monday - Thursday). This ensures that each of them is getting regular reading practice. It also has the added bonus of nurturing relationships and between students and is great for our older students as they get to be the competent role model.

Don’t forget that families can read library books together - so ensure your child is borrowing from the library each week. Extra books can be borrowed over the holidays so parents, come up and select a few books yourself!!

Library News

Premier’s Reading Challenge 2014

Congratulations Class 2W on finishing the Premier’s Reading Challenge! As in previous years, Mrs Pat Wicks and all children in her class have read over 30 books and are the first class to have finished the Challenge in our school. Well done 2W! We also have an individual student who has already finished the Challenge. Congratulations Allison Zunniga-Terry from, yes, you guessed it, 2W! Allison read over 30 books at home, with assistance from her mum. What a fabulous effort! The Challenge is well underway at our school. Please note that all children in Kindergarten, Year One and Year Two complete the Challenge in class, with their teachers.

Students in Year 3, 4, 5 & 6, will do the Challenge partially in class and partially on their own. All students have been involved in the Challenge since the end of Term 1. Primary aged children are encouraged to borrow books that they can read as part of the Challenge.

Borrowing is also available before and after school on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, if children are accompanied by a parent or carer. Books for the Challenge are also available at your local public library. Please encourage your child/ren to complete the Challenge this year. We at Holy Family, see the Challenge as being an integral part of your child’s literacy. By participating, your child gets to practice their reading and gets the opportunity to experience excellent children’s books.

Book Club and Library Volunteers

A big thank you goes to all of the volunteers who help out with the Scholastic Book Club. Our school is doing really well, and we have been able to purchase a number of new books, as part of our rewards. We could not run the Book Club without our volunteers. A number of mothers and grandmothers have been covering books tirelessly, since the end of last year. We were very fortunate to receive a substantial grant last year, which enabled us to buy a large number of new readers. These have now been nearly all covered. This has been a mammoth effort. Again, many thanks go to our amazing volunteers.

Mrs Janet A. Marie - Librarian Teacher

Sports Update

Panther Trophy Finals

Wednesday 11th June our school won the right to compete in the Finals of the Panther Trophy at St Marys Leagues Stadium against Glenmore Park Public School. It was HUGE day and we played exceptionally well, scoring the first try to lead 4-0. Unfortunately Glenmore Park scored with less than a minute to go to make the score 4-6. At the end of the game the players were addressed by rising Panthers Stars Bryce Cartwright and Dallin Watene-Zelezniak. I am extremely proud of their efforts and hopefully we can get another wild card into the State Cup.

Athletics Carnival

Friday 13th June we travelled to Blair Oval St Marys to participate in our school Athletics Carnival. The weather was kind to us and allowed us to complete all events successfully. The students enjoyed a great day and showed excellent sportsmanship towards other competitors. The day would not have been a success without the fantastic support of so many parent volunteers, and past students that came to assist on the day. Thank you for your ongoing support of our school. Congratulations to the eventual winners, the RED Team.

Mark Aggar - Sports Coordinator

Fundraising News

Thank you to all for your generosity in buying so many raffle tickets for our bar of chocolate. A special word of thanks to our fundraising committee for their hard work in organising it and in particular, Renee Bowden. We made a profit of $895.00. This money will help towards the cost of the buses for our Athletics Carnival.

The winners were as follows:

Chocolate - Flora (Grandmother of an ex student)
Coles Gift Voucher - Renee Carr (Mereki KM)
Coles Gift Voucher - Elijah Moeliesi (1F)
Coles Gift Voucher - Susana Mavae
(Taniella 2W/Cynthia KA)
Feast of the Sacred Heart
On Friday June 27 we will celebrate the Feast of the sacred Heart at 9.15am 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 Choir & Band
The school choir performed extremely well on Tuesday night at the concert held at Nagle College, Blacktown South. The students were a credit to their families and to the school. Special thanks to Miss Cecilienne Matienzo for preparing and training the choir. The Year 6 band will be performing tonight at the same venue. We wish them well.

Assembly
Year 3 will lead us for assembly, tomorrow on Friday June 20 at 2.15pm in the hall. All are welcome to attend.

Crazy Hair/Hat Day
We will be holding a crazy hair/hat day on Monday June 23 to collect donations for our school. The children may come to school with a ‘crazy hair style or crazy hat’ in return for a donation.

Naidoc Day
On Thursday 26th June we celebrate the wonderful culture of our Aboriginal brothers and sisters. This celebration has been an integral part of Holy Family since we started in 2004.

The day will be a mufti day so we ask the children to wear red, black and yellow if possible, to highlight our celebration.

In order for the event to be a success we require parent helpers to cook the BBQ and serve the food. Parents and family are invited from 12.15pm to join us for our liturgy. Afterwards please join us for a family picnic (don’t forget your picnic blanket). Sausage sandwiches and drinks will be available on the day. Please come along and join us for the Liturgy and sausage sizzle.

Congratulations
To the following students who received the Sacrament of Confirmation on Wednesday 4th June. May God’s blessing shine upon you:

Jeremy Ayoub
Gai Uguak
Alana Hanna
Sophia Suarez
Bianca Link
Ofakimotu Tuuhetoka
Kallindra Brown
Christina Tuliatu
Luke Dimech
Raewen Nansen
Georgie Mallia

The Value of Respect
During this fortnight we are focusing on our Holy Family value of Respect. What better place to learn the true meaning of RESPECT than in our own families!

It is in the home that we can learn powerful lessons about listening to others, sharing, taking turns and helping those in need. The safe haven of home is also where we learn that we cannot truly love others until we love and respect ourselves.

This fortnight let us turn our thoughts to how our own family can mirror the same patience, devotion and kindness that was characteristic of the family relationships between Mary, Joseph and Jesus. In so doing, we will be reinforcing this important value of respect. There is no single road to success and personal fulfillment but one thing is sure: If our children learn to live harmoniously in community, treating others with respect and loving kindness they will become considerate members of the wider community. Let us pray and work together to promote and teach our Holy Family value of respect to our children.

Our Holy Family prayer for the Value of Respect – written by the Year 5 and 6 Religious Education Committee

We pray for ourselves, and for others, that we may learn to follow the example of the Holy Family and act with respect; by taking turns, listening to others, speaking with kind words, treating each other with kindness and tolerance, and by looking after the environment around us. Lord hear us.

Lord, hear our prayer.
### Dates for your Diary

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<td>NAIDOC Day</td>
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<td>Feast of the Sacred Heart</td>
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<td>Last Day of Term 2</td>
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<td>First Day of Term 3</td>
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### Quality Catholic Schools Survey

At the beginning of this year a number of parents were randomly chosen to fill out a survey about Holy Family. We received the results of this survey and are analysing it to give us guidance for the future. It gave us great data on what we are doing well as well as pointers to help us improve as a school community. We thank those parents who took the time to do the survey and later in the year we will feed back on the data. Of course this will be an annual event so if you were not chosen this year to do the survey you may get the opportunity in the future. Thanks again to all who sent back the survey.

### Lost Property

Lost Property is continually full of students clothing. We have a large amount of clothing left over from the Athletics Carnival including non school items. Parents and children are invited to come and check the lost property baskets which are held in the school office.

**Please label all clothing with your child’s name and class clearly printed.**

### Enrolments

This is a reminder to all families that your child is not enrolled until the enrolment form is handed in. This applies to students for Kindergarten or Year 7 in High School. At this stage it is first come first served. There are a number of students in Year 6 who have not been enrolled anywhere. Please do not leave it too late and miss out on a place either at Holy Family or Year 7 in High School.

### Back Gate - Weber Cres

Just a reminder that the back gate will not be open during wet weather. If the gate is closed, please move up to the next gate. Thank you for your assistance in this matter.

### Congratulations

Congratulations to the Rowan Family (Annie Y6 & Nicky Y4) on the birth of their little boy, **Jep**, and to the T’Malli Family (Carson Y3, Chantelle 4S & Georgina KA) on the birth of **Gloria Rose**. May God bless them as they start their journey in life.

### School Holidays

- Term 2 finishes on **Friday June 27**
- Term 3 begins on **Monday July 14**

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