Greetings!
Congratulations to the children who have made their First Holy Communion over the last two weekends. First Communion along with Baptism and Confirmation is one of the steps in the initiation into our church. First Communion days are usually remembered for a lifetime and I am sure it will be the same for these children. Congratulations also to the parents and Parish Sacramental team for their part in the preparation of the children.

Afternoon Dismissal
Thank you for your ongoing support of this process. Please remember that we require a note from you if you are asking someone else to take your children home or changing the going home arrangements.

I am still concerned about children who want to walk through the parish car park on their own. This is not safe. Please meet your child / children from me in front of the church or from the hall.

Lost clothing
We have lots of lost clothing. We could reunite this clothing and the owners if each clothing item was labeled.

Our current Holy Family value is Responsibility. During this week we will be asking the children to think about exercising Responsibility in a number of ways including caring for their personal property. Could you assist us by talking with the children about how they can help you by being responsible for their own belongings? It would also help if they also checked that they have their own property and not the jacket / hat etc. of someone else.

Home Reading program
Thank you for your help with this. Is your child a reluctant reader? Is reading at home a chore for you or your child. Reading at home is an excellent strategy for building reading skills. We are happy to work with you to encourage your child to read. Please let us know if you would like some help with this.

John Spradbrow
Principal
**The Learning Corner**

**Market Research**

*By Sophia Suarez*

In year 6, we have been focusing on our Market Research Surveys for Holy Family Enterprise.

We have been put into our businesses and there are 9 Companies altogether. Each Company has a CEO, Secretary, Human Resources, Product Manager, Accountant and Marketing Manager. We all have a big part to play in our company and it is very hard work.

I am the CEO of my company. My group recently went to grades 2 and 6 to collect our Market Research data for our company. Since we are doing the Haunted House, we asked questions like:

*What are your fears?* - The Dark, Clowns or Ghosts.

*How scary do you want the haunted house to be?*

*What is your favourite type of lolly?*

After we have analysed our data, we made graphs to show our data using excel on a computer and shared this with our board of directors/ the teachers. So far, my business is continuing on that with a great effort and we hope to become a successful company.

We wish all the companies the best.

*Sophia Suarez 6A and Company C*

**The Reading Hour**

The reading hour was great! Everybody got to share a book with their family and got the chance to win a great prize. The prizes that we could win were books such as ‘Soon’ and ‘Inside Out’. There were animal books such as mammals and reptiles and loads of other great books! Just about everybody that came won a fabulous book to read while they were there.

Thank you to Mrs Ali who made this wonderful experience happen.

*By Tomika Harley 6W*

**Sports Update**

**Girls Tackle Gala Day**

Congratulations to the Stage 3 girls who participated in the NRL Girls Tackle Gala Day on the 19th August at Macquarie University. This carnival was attended by over 16 other schools across the state and gave our girls the opportunity to learn new skills and compete against a high level of competitors. Our girls won 1 game in their division; however, their other games were very close. Thank you to Mrs Smith for her dedication in supporting the girls and to Fr. Stan for driving the Parish bus to take the girls to the fields and being their number cheerleader. Results of the day can be found at [www.playnrl.com/sydnemetro](http://www.playnrl.com/sydnemetro) and photos can be found on the NRL facebook page [Play NRL Sydney Metro](http://Play NRL Sydney Metro).

**Diocesan Athletics**

On the 21st August, 5 children represented Holy Family at the Diocesan Athletics Carnival at Blacktown. Congratulations to Alannah Martin and Ailini Peti who progressed through to the Parramatta Athletics team to compete at the Mackillop Athletics Trials on Monday 14th September at Homebush. We wish Alannah and Ailini the very best of luck at their next competition.

**Netball Gala Day**

The Netball Gala day has been rescheduled to Wednesday 9th September. If your child is now unable to attend on this date, please let Mrs Preston or the school office know so a replacement can be organised.

*Please also find included another recipe from the Eat it to Beat it Cancer Council Nutrition Campaign on how to make a healthy dessert.*

*Mrs Leonie Preston*

**Sports Coordinator**

**Fundraising News**

**Cookie Dough Orders**

Thank you for the overwhelming response to the Cookie Dough and Heather Brae Fundraiser. Orders have been submitted and we expect delivery by 7th/8th September. All families that have placed an order will be contacted.

**Fathers’ Day Stall**

Our Fathers’ Day stall will be held this week on Wednesday 2nd September. A big thank you to all our wrapping volunteers and helpers on the day. Gifts will cost $5 and we have many wonderful presents for dad, granddad or that special someone in your child’s life.

**Netball Gala Day**

The Netball Gala day has been rescheduled to Wednesday 9th September. If your child is now unable to attend on this date, please let Mrs Preston or the school office know so a replacement can be organised.

*Please also find included another recipe from the Eat it to Beat it Cancer Council Nutrition Campaign on how to make a healthy dessert.*

*Mrs Leonie Preston*

**Sports Coordinator**

**School Holidays**

Term 3 finishes on

**Thursday September 17**

Pupil Free Day

**Friday September 18**

Term 4 begins on

**Monday October 5**
Morning Supervision, Attendance and Punctuality & Afternoon Dismissal

Morning Supervision
Morning supervision of children at the school begins at 8:25am when the school gates open. Please see the Principal if there is a reason why your child needs to be at school before that time.

Attendance and Punctuality
I am concerned about the regular lateness of many children and I assume that parents do not want their children to be late. I understand that there are a number of pressures on parents before school, however, it is very important that children are at school on time. Children are required to be inside the school gates by 8.55am. After this time children are required to be recorded as late. Some people say to us that 8.56 or 9.00am is fine after all; it is only a few minutes. I take the view that late is late and that there is always push back at whatever time the start time is. It is essential training for children to know that movie theatres, trains, planes and lots of other organisations don’t wait for you to turn up before they start or leave. Most employers take a dim view of lateness.

Lateness is an issue for us because:

- Interrupts the flow of the class and lesson,
- Doesn’t allow for settling time before school and
- Is poor training in the life skill of punctuality and common courtesy.

Lateness is recorded in the class roll as required by the government (and this is why we ask you to fill in late notes and leaving school early notes: otherwise known as partial absences). All children who are late should be signed in at the office by a parent.

I assume that you want your children at school on time. Perhaps together we can talk to the children about the value of punctuality and how they can help you have them at school on time? Please talk to me if there are special circumstances that cause your children to be late or if we can help you with getting your child to school on time.

Afternoon Dismissal
If there are changes to your afternoon pick-up arrangements at 2:55pm please notify the school to avoid any confusion.

Holy Family Preschool
Holy Family Preschool, Emerton is now accepting enrolments for 2016. There are special rates for indigenous families.

They Preschool has received an exceeding rating in its assessment against the national standards. For full details on the report and to discuss enrolment, please contact Natalie Bugelli on 9628 7844.

Voice of Youth Finals
Congratulations to Helen Tuimavave for making it through to the Voice of Youth Finals which will be held on September 8th, 2015. Year 6 will be travelling to Our Lady of Lourdes in Seven Hills to support our finalist.

First Communion—Congratulations
To the following children who received the sacrament of First Communion during the month of August, may God’s blessings be upon you:
Liam Basar
Nadia Cunningham
Lalchlan Dimech
Ema Manas
Malcolm Maclean
Alysha Vendrasco
Gabriella Galea
Cooper Cavanaugh
Max Reason
Christian De Lara
Hannah Nicholls

Sympathy
Our sincere sympathy and prayers to the families of Hayley Ford (4M) and Macklin (3J) & Harrison Day (1A) on the recent death of their Grandmother Ellamay Ford. May she rest in peace.

Lost Property Volunteer Needed
Lost property continues to be a problem at the school, therefore we are looking for a parent volunteer who would be able to spend some time sorting through and returning lost jumpers, hats and other items to the correct students. Please contact the school office if you are available to help out.
**Holy Family Value of Compassion**

During this fortnight we are focusing on our Holy Family value of Responsibility. RESPONSIBILITY is “knowing and doing what is expected of you”. Our Holy Family, Jesus, Mary, and Joseph, modelled for us responsibilities within a family and the wider community.

Mary and Joseph were responsible for Jesus when he was a child - Mary and Joseph, tried to raise Jesus the best way they could and with great love. Joseph was responsible for teaching Jesus his carpentry skills and the Jewish traditions. Mary was responsible to Jesus as a mother, cooking, clothing and loving him. Jesus was responsible for bringing the message of God’s great love to the people. They showed a sense of responsibility to God even when it was difficult.

Look at the word responsibility – “response-ability” – the ability to choose your response. Responsibility is marked by how well we make choices in life and how we deal with the results. Responsible people purposefully choose their attitudes, words and actions, and accept responsibility for the consequences of these choices. Responsibility means doing what needs to be done to take care of yourself, your family, your friends, and the greater community.

Being responsible means:

- Looking after younger students and setting a good example
- Stopping and thinking before you act
- Always looking after your belongings
- Giving your best
- Being accountable for your actions towards others, the wider community and the environment

Please take a few minutes to discuss responsibility with your child/ren. Ask them what was discussed in the classroom and see if they can give an example of someone who has demonstrated responsibility.

Remind them that responsibility isn't just doing chores; it's following through on commitments, answering for their own actions, being reliable and trustworthy, using good judgment and taking care of their own things. Let them know that these are signs they are growing up and can be trusted with greater freedom. Be sure to praise your child/ren for responsible behaviour and motivate them to do more in the future. 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.

Response: Lord, hear our prayer.

Mrs Michelle Smith
Religious Education Coordinator