Dear Parents/ Guardians

Life after death in one form or another is a common belief of most of the major faiths of the world. It is certainly a basic belief of Christians. Jesus speaks in the Gospels of life after death and he went before us to show his power over it.

During the month of November Catholics have traditionally prayed for the Holy Souls, those who have died and may not yet have reached their Eternal home. It is a lovely tradition to remember our loved ones especially at this time of year.

Death is the one part of life we have certainty about. We do not know when or where, we just know it is a certainty. However, if we believe that death is not an end but a change we should have hope. It does not, however make death any easier. The pain of losing a loved one is very real and takes time to accept. Our Christian hope helps us to recover knowing that the loss is not forever. We will meet again, how this will look or feel we are not sure, but we are certain that it will happen.

May those who are suffering after the death of a loved one be comforted in their sadness and not lose hope. We remember in a special way the Reardon Family who recently lost their daughter Amber. One never expects to bury a child, this is a particularly difficult death to accept. We at Holy Family pray for them and extend our sympathy at this difficult time.

Eternal rest grant unto Amber, O Lord. May perpetual light shine upon her, may she rest in peace, Amen.

Blessings on you and your family.

Sr Brenda Kennedy
Principal
Thank You
Thank you very much for your generosity in giving to our collection for the bush fire victims especially for Mrs Le Breton. A combination of our mufti day, sports events and parent contributions came to $705. Apart from all of that, the amount contributed by parents and staff in goods and vouchers was extremely generous. May all who opened their hearts and wallets be greatly blessed for their thoughtfulness and generosity.

Congratulations
Congratulations to the Weston Family (Corey KSM) on the recent birth of their little daughter. May she be blessed as she starts her journey in life.

Fundraising News
Thank you to the people who have offered to help with the BUNNINGS BBQ on Sunday November 24. We are still in need of a few more, especially towards the end of the day. If you could help for even an hour we would appreciate it, especially if you are a parent who cannot help during the week because of work commitments.

Our last fundraiser will be the Christmas Hamper Raffle which will be held on Friday December 13 at our awards ceremony and Christmas carols. Early next week we will be sending home a list of donations needed from each grade for the hampers. Please be as generous as you can. We also ask you to check expiry dates on food items before sending them to school. Apart from the hampers there will be other prizes like some Lowes vouchers to help with uniforms. Raffle tickets will also be sent home soon so we ask you to sell as many as possible to help our school.

End of Year Disco
The Disco will be held on Thursday November 14 from 5pm - 6:30pm. This disco is strictly for our students. We ask parents to drop the children off at 5pm and pick them up at 6:30pm. You are welcome to come back from 6:15pm to join in the last few dances. Parents do not stay for the disco as the staff will supervise the children. Thank you for your cooperation with this. Cost is $5 which includes a drink.

End of Year Christmas Concert
To celebrate Christmas this year we are doing something different from previous years. On December 11 there will be a concert that night involving all the children. The children will spend the day working with renowned songwriter, Peter Kearney who will be present for the concert that night. There will be more details later. On Friday December 13 we will have our usual prize giving, announcement of school captains, Christmas raffle and some carol singing. Please mark these two dates in your diary.

Sympathy
Our sincere sympathy and prayers on the recent very sad death of their daughter Amber. May they be comforted in their sadness and may Amber rest in peace.

Staff Development Day
Tomorrow is our last staff development day for this year. The staff will be joining St Michael's Baulkham Hills for a Spirituality Day. As a Catholic School one of our days each year is a Spirituality Day. We will be led by Fr Richard Leonard SJ. There will be no school for the children tomorrow.
Night at the Gallery
What a wonderful night last Wednesday! We hope you enjoyed it as much as we, as the staff enjoyed it. It was great to see and hear a small snippet of the talent of the students and teachers in the area of Creative Arts. It was a good night on a social and financial level as the school made a much needed profit of approximately $1200.

Thank you for your support. We would be interested in getting some feedback about whether or not you would like this as an annual event, as this was the first one we held. A short note, phone call are just even see any of the teachers in the morning or afternoon to give them some feedback would be appreciated. Our sincere thanks to Mrs Amanda Joseph and her committee for all their hard work in preparation for the night and to our very committed staff for their assistance on the night. Thank you also to the many generous parents and staff members who donated cakes for the cake stall.

Library News
2013 Book Fair
Wow! What a tremendous event!
Sales reached fever pitch, at just over $3,800.00 worth of books sold! This was a mammoth achievement as the school was able to reap a percentage of the sales in rewards. Please feel free to pop into the library before the end of term to view our new books and furniture that we have been able to acquire through the Book Fair.

The Book Fair took a lot of effort to set up and run. We were very lucky to have a fabulous team who worked tirelessly throughout. Thank you very much Tracey Miller (mother of Luke and Blake Miller), Theresa Vella (mother of Maddison Lambert), Heba Atihe (mother of the twins, Michael and Elie), Sharon Faulkner (mother of Nathan), Lee Mansfield (grandmother of Abby Collins) and Margaret McCarron (mother of one of our Teacher's Aides, Linda Keating). We could not have had such a successful fair without you!

Tracey, Theresa, Heba and Sharon are all involved in running our Book Club as well, so they are the experts at selling books! If anyone is interested in joining these ladies, in assisting with the Book Club, please speak to one of them, or come in and see me. Volunteers are always most welcome!

As the Book Fair was so successful, we will definitely be running another one again next year probably in Term 4, 2014.

Roslyn J. Motter

Our Book Week author will be coming back to the school to fill any late orders for her Doofuzz Dudes series of books. If you would still like to purchase any of these titles please drop in and see Marie (at the Office) or myself for order forms. All orders need to be paid for before delivery and must be in by Thursday 21st November. Each book costs $10.00, which is much cheaper than shop prices. They're terrific reads for over the school holidays!

Janet A. Marie (Teacher Librarian)

Gymnastics News
On Friday 1st November 2013, 21 Holy Family students went to compete in the Parramatta Diocesan Gymnastics Competition. Each competitor had 5 individual skills/routines to perform. There were 19 schools represented on this day. All students were very well behaved and were supportive of each other. We did not receive any medals this year, but all students put in 100% effort. Congratulations to you all and thank you for your dedication to training.

Mrs Mac and Mrs Archer

Sports Afternoon
On the 7th of November the school held a fundraiser for Mrs. Le Breton and her family after the loss of their home in the recent bushfires. This fundraiser was a fun sport, one where teachers versed the students of Year 6 in game of netball. The teachers won with a total score of 15-5, showing that Year 6 were no match for them. There will be other events of handball and soccer that will be held on days with suitable weather. It was great fun to watch.

Caleb Cunningham
Yellow Sports Captain
**Assembly Term 4**

Our last assembly for the year will take place on FRIDAY DECEMBER 6. This is a special one when we will be treated by year 6 to a trip down memory lane! They will recall their memories of the past 7 years here at Holy Family. Please put this date in your diary.

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**Lunch Packaging**

Parents, please note that the children are not to bring any glassware or tins into the school grounds. These include glass bottles, glass jars, tins of tuna etc...

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**Dates for your Diary**

**November**
- 14th School Disco
- 15th Staff Development Day
- 24th Bunnings BBQ

**December**
- 06th Final Assembly
- 11th End of Year Christmas Concert
- 12th Kindergarten 2014 Morning Tea
- 13th Award Ceremony & Christmas Carols
- 18th Final Day for Students

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**New Zealander's Living in Australia**

If you know a New Zealander please send them this link and share. It could help them.


or like us on Facebook [https://www.facebook.com/OzKiwi2001](https://www.facebook.com/OzKiwi2001)

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**Holy Family Preschool**

The Holy Family Preschool is now taking enrolments for 2014. Please contact Natalie Bugelli to obtain details for your child.

Holy Family Preschool
254 Luxford Rd
Emerton NSW 2770
Phone - 96287844
Email [celcemerton@parra.catholic.edu.au](mailto:celcemerton@parra.catholic.edu.au)
Website [www.celcemerton.catholic.edu.au](http://www.celcemerton.catholic.edu.au)

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**OLQP Parish Greystanes Craft Market**

The Our Lady Queen of Peace, Greystanes will be holding a Craft Market and Antique Valuations is on **Saturday, 23 November** from 8am to 2pm in Camilleri Hall. Preforming at this market will be the NSW Police Band and Belinda Adams also from The Voice, and Holroyd Police will have a display. It is just over a month before Christmas, so be assured the Market will have special gift ideas for everyone on your Christmas list, and don't forget those teachers, work colleagues and special friends. There are over 35 stalls from all over Sydney, selling quality Christmas decorations and gifts, baby wear, home-made décor, kitchen goods, edible treats, scarves and bags, jewellery, violets and plants and much more. This is a great social day out for the whole family with traditional Devonshire teas and a fantastic sausage sizzle by Holroyd Lions Club serving breakfast and lunch from 8am. Profits from the Craft Market will be donated to NSW Police Legacy who support for the widows, widowers and dependent children of deceased NSW Police officers For further information please contact: [events@olqp.org.au](mailto:events@olqp.org.au)

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[www.olqp.org.au](http://www.olqp.org.au)