Dear Parents and Guardians,

2008 was a momentous year for our Aboriginal brothers and sisters with our then Prime Minister, Mr Kevin Rudd making an apology to them on behalf of the nation for what happened to the stolen generation. Who will ever forget the emotion of February 13, 2008 a day which was a long time coming but thank God it happened.

On Saturday May 18 the annual Mt Druitt Walk for Reconciliation will be held around Westfield Shopping Centre. This is the 16th year of this event and what a great opportunity for each of us to continue our support for the event of 2008, by attending this walk. Hopefully each family has received a flyer about it by now. The walk begins at 12pm but before the actual walk there will be free entertainment and food available at the Dawson Mall.

I am asking for as many as possible to attend. We will have our school banner there and hopefully have many people to walk behind it. Please take some time out of your busy schedules to support a worthy cause and to teach your children about our history.

Holy Family Parish has always been very involved in the organisation of this march, so please come along and support it.

Blessings on you and your families.

Sr Brenda Kennedy
Principal

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**Sr Brenda on Leave**

On **May 31** I will be taking leave to visit my family in Ireland and will return on **Monday July 29**. In my absence Mr Phil Mahony, principal of St Francis Glendenning, will be Acting Principal until the end of term 2. Mrs Kelly will take on the role for the two weeks in term 3. I know that you will give your support to these generous people in their new positions. I thank them for their generosity.

*Sr Brenda*

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**Principal’s Morning Tea**

Once a term we acknowledge the efforts of those children who consistently try to be responsible, to do the right thing and be the best they can be. These children are invited to a special morning tea with the Principal, Sr Brenda and presented with a certificate of appreciation.

Congratulations to the following students who were at the Principal’s Morning Tea that took place in Term 1. Well Done!

- KSM Lili Creswell
- KS Marnie Boylan
- 1C Hannah Nichols
- 1F Kody Pitt
- 2B Faith Luatuanuu
- 2W Marius Magisa
- 3M Gabriella Galea
- 3P Alexis Saaghy
- 4B Bianca Smith
- 4S Shaylee Stanford
- 5A Malia Otukolo
- 5AG Annie Rowan
- 6S Emmanuel Anyuon
- 6W Simone Fordham

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**Fundraising Matters**

**Fun Run**

Thank you to the many families who supported us in our recent fun run. All money should be in by now. We received $4089.40. The school does not receive all of this money as the organisers take a percentage. Prizes should arrive soon.

**Mother’s Day Stall**

Thank you to Renee Bowden and her helpers for a very successful Mother’s day stall on Wednesday. We made a profit of $441.60. Our next fundraiser will be our raffle at our athletics carnival on **June 7**.

Tickets for this event will be sent home soon. The main prize is a 10kg chocolate bar from Cadburys. The children will be able to buy tickets in the 2 weeks before the carnival at a special rate of 50 cents per ticket. We ask you to be as generous as possible. As you know the State Government will be cutting funds to schools in July this year so we need all the financial help we can get.

**Fundraising Committee Meeting**

The term 2 meeting will take place on **Thursday May 16 at 9am** in the school hall. All are welcome to come along to this meeting and find out what is happening and to give your ideas.

**Sympathy**

Our sincere sympathy and prayers to Graeme (2B), Samipeni (3P) and Malia Otukolo (5A) and Mateaki (3M), Telesia Viliamu (6W) on the recent death of their grandmother.

**Congratulations**

Congratulations to the Tuimavave Family on the birth of their new baby boy. May God bless him as he starts his journey in life.
**School Attendance**

Congratulations to the following children who had 100% attendance at school during first term.

**Kindergarten**
- Blake Miller
- Rayne Siega

**Year 1**
- Lachlan Dimech
- Hannah Nicholls
- Drew Stevenson
- Megan Fuimaono
- Kizito Mutebi
- Max Reason

**Year 2**
- Jordan Keeley
- Nadia Cunningham

**Year 3**
- Kyle Bright
- Emellia Lepoualii
- Lauren Reason
- Adhok Akol

**Year 4**
- Tyla Amiatu
- Samuel Fuimaono
- Oscar Sultana
- Luke Dimech
- Raewen Nansen
- Ares Siega
- Shaylee Stanford
- Gai Uguak
- Akekaro Atera-Chapman

**Year 5**
- Keanu Amiatu
- Selenna Fuimaono
- Elie Atihe
- Grant Pilcher

**Year 6**
- Jessica Reason
- Caleb Cunningham
- Soane Tuimavave

**Mother’s Day Liturgy**

We will celebrate and thank God for our Mothers and Grandmothers with a special Liturgy in the church at **9.15am on Friday May 10**. Please come and join us for this special occasion.

**Mobile Phones**

Children must not have mobile phones with them in the classrooms. If your child has, for whatever reason, to take one to school the phone must be left in the office and picked up at the end of the day.

**Kindergarten 2014 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 enquires 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.

**High School 2014 Enrolments**

Parents wishing to enrol their son or daughter at St Agnes Catholic High School, Rooty Hill for 2014 need to do so as soon as possible. There are vacancies, however, you need to get your forms in to the office to confirm enrolment.

**Assemblies**

Assemblies this term will be held on **May 24**, lead by Year 1 and **June 14** lead by Year 4. All are welcome to attend. Assemblies start at 2.15pm in the school hall.

**School Counsellor**

Mrs Anne Michelle is our school counsellor and works at Holy Family on Tuesdays and Wednesdays each week. If you think your child would have any reason to see our school counsellor please contact the school office or Sr Brenda. The counsellor will always speak to parents before meeting with the children.
Diocesan Cross Country

On Tuesday, 7th May, 2013, 14 students represented Holy Family at the Parramatta Diocesan Cross Country. All students displayed true sportsmanship by running a difficult 2km or 3km course around Eastern Creek Raceway. All our students performed to the best of their ability and achieved some good results in their age group. In particular, Allanah Martin placed 2nd in the 8/9 year age group. Congratulations to Allanah who will now go through to represent the Parramatta Diocese in the MacKillop Team at Eastern Creek in June. Well done to all our other competitors and thank you to the parents for taking your children to and from the venue.

The team consisted of: Tiana Glyntzos, Allanah Martin, Bol Anyuon, Keegan Duncan, Aiche Qablawi, Bianca Smith, Tyla Amiatu, Blake Lumsden, Ares siege, Jacob Borja, Aiden Montgomery, Joshua D’Mello, Oscar Sultana and Brianna Smith.

Yr 5/6 Greg Alexander Rugby League

The following boys represented our school in a 7 a side rugby league competition held at St Patricks Blacktown Tuesday the 7th of March.

Matthew Graf, Taulvao Falaniko, Soane Tuimavave, Tristan Bridge, Keam Amiatu, Marley Barrett, Veni Iuli, Caleb Tiedemann, Braydan Duncan and Ayoola Shogunle

Our results were: Holy Family 20 v Shelley 4, Holy Family 12 v Crawford 6, Holy Family 18 v Glendenning 6. This meant we came first in our pool and we therefore played Marayong in the Final. The winner would win the right to represent Blacktown in the upcoming Finals Day held at St Marys.

The final was a close game and saw Marayong score first, however we quickly replied and the scores were 6 all at the break. Marayong scored again, only to see us reply to lock up the scores at 12 all. Marayong scored again and missed their conversion to make it 16–12. We needed to score again to win and with less than three minutes to go we went in out wide, we also made our conversion to make a final score of 18-16.

I am really proud of the effort of all the boys, everybody did their job and made it a real team effort. They have really showed tremendous Holy Family Spirit and have done themselves, their families and their school proud.

A huge thankyou to Mr Falaniko and Mr Amiatu for helping me with the boys, and to all the other supporters who encouraged the boys to try their best, we could not have done it without you!

Mt Druitt Walk for Reconciliation

On Saturday May 18 the annual MT Druitt WALK FOR RECONCILIATION will take place around Westfield. This walk is one of the few left where we have the opportunity to show our support for our Aboriginal brothers and sisters. There will be activities during the day and the walk will start at 12pm. Please come along and join us. The children will have the chance to carry the school banner during the march.