Dear Parents and Guardians,

Last Sunday week we celebrated Mother's Day, a very important day in the year's calendar. I say this because of the special attention given to mothers on this particular day. However, mothers should be celebrated every day because of the very important role they play in their children's lives and hence their important role in society. I would go so far as to say that the role of mothers is the most important role in society. With this importance of course comes great responsibility, which is perhaps a scary thought!

The way in which you bring up your children has a great effect on them and on each of us who come into contact with them. Your children our the backbone of our society for the next generation.

My experience as a teacher, for longer than I like to admit these days, is that children who are brought up in loving homes where they have definite boundaries, where parents are consistent and fair and where they are taught how to respect every other person, are a joy to teach in school and have a profound effect on teachers and their school friends. I have come across many beautiful children like this and I thank God for their gift to me. I also thank God for the homes that have helped to shape them.

I suppose my challenge to each of you is to reflect on the way in which you look after your children. Are you consistent in the way you discipline them? Are you the decision maker in the home or do you allow your children to decide for you? Each of us needs to reflect on what we do each day. None of us is perfect and there is always room for improvement. My prayer for you is that Mary who raised Jesus will be with you in his great and important role you have. My own mother had great devotion to Mary and spent many moments in prayer to her. She was a great mother to me and I still thank God for her. May each of you be blessed in your role as mothers and enjoy your children every day.

Blessings on you and your families.

Sr Brenda Kennedy
Principal
United in Faith, Love and Learning

**Fundraising News**

Thank you to all the parents who came to our fund raising committee meeting on Thursday last. Our next event will be our Athletics day raffle. From next Monday the children will have the opportunity to buy raffle tickets at school for, among other things, a 10 kilo bar of chocolate. Wouldn't you love to win this??

Tickets for the children will be 50 cents or 3 for a $1.00. Books of tickets will be sent home later. Please be generous in supporting this initiative to raise money for our school. We need your financial support.

**Staff Development Day**

Our next staff development day will be held on **Tuesday June 11**. The teachers will be focussing on how Literacy is being taught at Holy Family. There will be no school for the children.

**Parking Around the School**

A reminder to all parents to please park correctly around the school. If you park in the wrong place you could be fined as schools are very often patrolled for this purpose.

More importantly though, you should park in the correct place to ensure that all our children and their families are safe. How hard is it to walk a little distance to ensure the safety of all? We ask your cooperation with this matter.

**Morning Assembly**

Because of the building site we have not been having assemblies in the morning. I, for one, have been missing them!

We have decided to have assembly each Monday in the hall. During this assembly we will have our prayer, our acknowledgement of country, the National Anthem and all the birthdays for the week. Parents are very welcome to attend.

We look forward to having the return of our normal daily assembly after our building is finished.

*Sr Brenda*

**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. If you are not with your child we send home a letter each Friday 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.

**Holy Family Primary School, Emerton**
School Mass
Tomorrow we celebrate the feast of OUR LADY HELP OF CHRISTIANS. The students will be attending Mass at 9.15 in the church. You are very welcome to join us for this celebration. Take some time from your busy lives to be refreshed in the presence of God and your beautiful children.

Congratulations
Congratulations to Miller Tauiliili-Pelesasa on being chosen to represent Mackillop in the next stage of the State Rugby League competition. Miller represented the Parramatta Diocese recently and has now progressed to the next stage. We wish him

Athletics Carnival
Our annual Athletics carnival will be held on Friday June 7 at Blair oval (situated behind Ripples car park). Please send back your child’s permission slip as soon as possible. If we do not receive the permission slip they will not be able to go.

Congratulations
Congratulations to the Tinao Family (Tyrese 2B and Jyela 1C) on the recent birth of their little daughter. May she be blessed by God as she starts her journey in life.

Assembly
Year 1 will lead us for assembly tomorrow at 2.15pm in the hall. All are welcome to attend.

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

Parent/Teacher/Children Meeting June 24, 25 & 26
Reports will go home on Monday June 17. A note was sent home for families requesting a late interview on Tuesday 25th. If you request a late interview on this night please return signed note to the school office.

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 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.
**Sporting News**

**Soccer Gala Day**
On Tuesday, May 21, a group of 11 Stage 3 boys represented Holy Family at a Soccer Gala Day. The day began sunny and bright, but then the clouds and wind appeared, cooling the day down. The boys played a total of 7 games during the day. They drew 0 all in 3 of those games, were victorious in 2 games and lost 2 games. The team came third on the day and played the best that they could. The attitude, behaviour and sportsmanship of the boys were a tribute to our school and to themselves. Congratulations! Thank you to the parents who stayed for the day and to Mrs Keating and Miss Canderle for coaching the team.

**Under 10 Panther Trophy**
On Wednesday our school went to Whalan Reserve to play in the Panther Trophy. The people in the team were Blake, Oscar, PJ, Tyrese, Paulo, Jeremy, Samipeni, Sam F, Ares, Bol, Tyla, Issac P, Jack, Cameron T and Aiden T. The teams we played were Tregear, St Monicas Richmond, Bennet Rd and Shelley. The score against Tregear was Tregear 16 - Holy Family 6. The next game was against Shelley. We won that game. The next was against St Monica. The score was 10 to 0 St Monica’s. The last game was against Bennet Rd. The score was 12-6 Bennet Rd’s way. Thank you to the Mr Tamarua as the coach and Mr Amiatu as the trainer, also thanks to Mrs Smith for managing our team. Better luck next year!

*By Blake Lumsden.*

On Wednesday Holy family football team played at Whalan Reserve in the Panther Trophy. We played St Michaels Blacktown, St Marys Nth, St Monica’s Richmond, Bligh Park. We won all of our games against these teams and played Shalvey in the semi-finals. Unfortunately we lost 10-6. It was a very close game and we were very disappointed to lose but happy to make the finals. Our players were Caleb Tiedemann, Saone Tuimavave, Lane Madwick, Keanu Amiatu, Ayoola Shogunle, Tauvao Falaniko, Matthew Graf, Marley Barrett, Veni Luli, Braydan Duncan, Tristen Bridge, Blake Travers, Jaydan Lavender, Augustino Mauu, Scott Mossman, Emanuel T’Mali, Michael Atihe. Thank you coach Mr Aggar and Troy Stanley and Braydan Travers for giving up a day of school to be our trainers.

*By Lane Madgwick*

**Pastoral Care Worker**
We have been very fortunate to get a government grant for a pastoral care worker at Holy Family until the end of this year. Her name is Miss Anna Maka and she will be working on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. Anna is also a trained teacher and may do some casual teaching on the other days. Anna will be working in classrooms with groups of students. She will have activities for students at lunch time and will also be available to chat to parents. Part of her role too will be to assist Sr Brenda with phone calls to families about attendance problems and/or other reminders. Anna started at Holy Family yesterday. If she can help in any way please contact her through the office.

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**Dates for your Diary**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Month</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>May</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>Our Lady Help of Christians - Mass at 9:15am in the Church Assembly at 2:15pm in the Multi Purpose Hall - Year 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>Athletics Carnival at Blair Oval</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>11</td>
<td>Staff Development Day - no school for children</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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