



Holy Family Primary Emerton

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Term 1 Week 4

Dear Parents/ Guardians

19th February 2015

Lent is a time set aside for each of us to think about the place of God in our lives and how we might build up our relationship with God. Each of us is made in God's image, whether we acknowledge this or not. Lent began yesterday with the celebration of Ash Wednesday when we received ashes as a reminder to us that we are mortal and one day our life here will end and our life with God will begin.

During lent we are asked to do three things in particular - pray, fast and give to the poor.

At school the children are encouraged to give to project compassion. Each class has a special box to collect donations of money the proceeds of which go to help people less fortunate than ourselves.

We thank you for your generous donations of \$215.00 yesterday which we will pass onto our ex student to help fund his overseas trip to represent Australia in football.

We also thank the parents who gave up their valuable time to cook the pancakes.

“God loves a cheerful giver”!

Blessings on you and your families.

Sr Brenda Kennedy
Principal

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FAREWELL and THANK YOU

On Friday week FEBRUARY 27 we will be farewelling Mrs Wilma Clenton who has taken up a new role at St Michael's South Blacktown. Wilma has been a very much valued staff member here at Holy Family for seven years and has done great work with Reading Recovery and EMU Maths. We thank her for her great contribution to our school and wish her many blessings in her future career.



Assembly

Our first assembly for the year will be held on March 6th at 2.15pm. Year 2 will lead this assembly. All are welcome to join us in the multi-purpose hall for this event.

Child Protection Training

If you would like to help at the school, it is essential that you do the child protection training. For more information please contact the school office and we will guide you through this training.

Swimming Carnival

Congratulations to all those who competed at the Swimming Carnival last Wednesday, 11th February. All children tried exceptionally hard and were extremely well behaved. The Zone Swimming Carnival was held today at Mt Druitt Pool. Congratulations to these competitors who represented Holy Family today: *Avalon Boylan, Kyle Bright, Naomi Dickson, Emily Gibbons, Paris Kojogian, Alannah Martin, Aiden Montgomery, Meroma Peti, Jodacei Poluteli, Lauren Reason and Max Reason.*

Kind regards,
Leonie Preston
Sports Coordinator



Life Education Visit

The children will be visiting Healthy Harold soon so please send back your permission notes as soon as possible after you receive them. There is no payment due as this cost is included in your resource fee. If we do not have your permission note your child will not be able to go.



- Wednesday 4th March**—6A, 4M, 4W
- Monday 9th March**—6W, KSM, KP
- Tuesday 10th March**—3V, 3J, 2W
- Wednesday 11th March**—5S, 5B, 2V
- Monday 16th March**—1A, 1S, Parent Session

We will not be making follow up phone calls.

On Monday last we enjoyed a visit from Harold, who came to remind the children of highly anticipated visit. Harold has asked that if you want to buy special items from him (see the poster in the school foyer), follow these steps:

1. Put the money in an envelope with your name, class, item to buy and amount of money written on the front.
2. Bring the envelope with you to Life Education when you visit Harold.
3. Your purchase will be sent back to school the next day after your visit. Please do not send money into the school until your child's visit to Life Education. If you have already, they will take it with them when they go.

School Cross Country

Our school cross country will be held on **Friday 13th March**. This will double up as a fundraising activity. We will be looking for lots of parent helpers for this event so please mark the date in your calendars.



Raffle Ticket Consent Forms

Just a friendly reminder to families to please return the raffle ticket consent forms as soon as possible. Copies are available at the office.



Fundraising Meeting

Many thanks to the parents who came to our first fundraising meeting for this year. They happily volunteered to coordinate various fundraising activities in 2015. We encourage anybody else who would like to help with these activities to come along when help is required. It is a great way to meet people and to contribute to your child's school.



We allocated different people to organise the various fundraising activities for the year as follows:

OVERALL COORDINATOR : Leonie Bright
Easter Raffle: Liz Hackett
Frozen Fridays: Leonie Bright
Holy Family Cookbook: Leonie Bright
Mother's Day stall : Heather Broomham
Athletics carnival raffle: Amber Hart
Father's Day Stall: Tracey Miller
BUNNINGS BBQ: Leonie Bright
Pie/ slice drive: Julie Jones & Liz Hackett
Christmas Raffle: Sita Manas, Laura Polu & Irene Taateo

Our first event for the year will be the our school cross country when we encourage the students to get sponsors to support them for this event. This will be held on **Friday 13th March**.

We will also have our Easter raffle which will be drawn just before the end of term 1. More information on these events soon. We will be asking families to donate Easter eggs in a few weeks time .

Open Day Mt Druitt Swimming Pool – Free Entry

Saturday 28th February, 10am-4pm

Everyone is welcome.

Come along and join the fun

Enjoy a sausage sizzle and deadly entertainment.



Mt Druitt Says "No" to Ice and other Substance Abuse

The Learning Corner

Thank you to the parents and friends who came along to our information evening last week. For anyone who missed out, we discussed some easy and practical ways that parents can support their child with reading. Below are a few ideas to try.

Happy Reading!

Kind regards,
Alexandra Ali
 Literacy Co-ordinator

Ways a Parent Can Help with READING

- 1** Let your child see you reading!
 Have magazines and books in your home.
- 2** Help your child find appropriate reading and word games online.
 Keep a dictionary on hand. Help your child look up new words.
- 3** Read mysteries with your child and try to figure out the clues together.
- 4** Movie version coming out?
 Read the book together first, then talk about which you each liked better.
- 5** Set aside a time and place for your child to read -
 like a comfy chair and a reading light in a quiet place
- 6** Visit your public library regularly.
 Look for and read together the books that were your favorites when you were a kid.
- 7** Encourage your child to write -
 letters, thank you notes, emails, journals, lists, stories about their own trips, events, and daily life
- 8** Ask your child questions about what her or she is reading, such as:
 - What is the story about?
 - Who are the important people in the story?
 - Where does the story take place?
 - Why do you think that person made that choice?
 - What do you think will happen next?
 - How did you know about...?
 - Would you recommend this book to your friends?
- 9** Ask your child to draw a comic strip about what happens in the story.
 Provide word searches, crossword and other word games and puzzles, or help your child make his/her own

Share with your child about what you're reading... and encourage your child to do the same

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Dates for your Diary

February

- 20 Welcome Ceremony for New Students and Staff (Tomorrow)
- 22 First Sunday of Lent
- 26 School Audit
- 27 Diocesan Swimming Carnival
- 27 Opening School Mass



March

- 4 Life Education Visit—6A, 4M, 4W
- 6 Assembly at 2.15 - Year 2
- 9 Life Education Visit—6W, KSM, KP
- 10 Life Education Visit—3V, 3J, 2W
- 11 Life Education Visit—5S, 5B, 2V
- 12 School Disco



Holy Family Value of Compassion



During this fortnight we are focusing on our Holy Family value of Compassion.

COMPASSION is to reach beyond yourself. Our Holy Family, Jesus, Mary, and Joseph, are the finest example of this great value of compassion. They had their own struggles and used them to learn to be understanding, empathetic and to reach out and show care and concern for each other, as well as for others in need. Compassion is perhaps the most important value that we can seek and strengthen in our hearts. Just as there will be times when we need compassion from others, there will be times when others will need it from us.

So, in this season of Lent, let us give gifts of compassion, understanding and healing love to each member of our family and those in our wider community. Let's listen, pay attention, acknowledge gifts and affirm them. Let us find gestures, acts of kindness, time and support to give each other. Encourage your child/children to do something small that could donate to a bigger cause, like Project Compassion. This year, Project Compassion throws a spotlight on food issues across the globe, every dollar we raise will help the world's most vulnerable people to establish sustainable food sources for life.

Let us put our compassion into action and model for our children how to think of each other's needs first. Let us pray and work together to promote and teach our Holy Family value of compassion to our children.

Our Holy Family prayer for the Value of Compassion

We pray that in our Holy Family community we may learn to follow the example of the Holy Family and show compassion; by showing concern for what other people have to say, through acts of kindness, by being helpful and giving, and by reaching out and responding to others in need.

Lord, hear us.

Lord, hear our prayer.

Kind Regards,

Mrs. Michelle Smith

Religious Education Coordinator

