



Holy Family Primary

Emerton

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Term 1 Week 5

Greetings!

Thank you to everyone who was able to be part of the Welcome Ceremony for the 2016 Kindergarten class. It was a beautiful liturgy highlighting the importance of belonging and welcome. Thank you to Mrs. Boss, Mrs. Preston, Mrs. Smith and the other staff who helped prepare the children, badges and the church. Thank you also to the Grade 5 Buddies for their assistance and encouragement.

I trust that our Kindergarten children enjoyed the special part of the day and that they know we are very happy that they are part of our Holy Family Community. I hope that mums and dads know that they are also very welcome.

Before School Supervision

As you may know supervision does not begin until 8.25am. This means that the children should arrive at school after this time and before 8.55am. We attempt to open the gates before this time and we expect the children who are at school before this time to sit in front of the office.

The new gate and extra school entrance in Weber Crescent is now in operation. This allows the children to enter the school from Weber Crescent. You are welcome to drop your child off here in the morning. Please note the parking signs and the conditions listed on these signs. Failure to follow the requirements may result in a heavy fine and the loss of points on your license.

Best Wishes Mrs. Ali

This Friday Mrs. Ali will commence her maternity leave. This is a special and an exciting time for Mrs. Ali and her husband. We wish them all the blessings that accompany the birth of a child.

World Youth Day

The countdown is on for World Youth Day 2016. The diocese is asking each primary school to send at least one teacher who will be able to participate in the event and share the excitement with the school community. All of the schools are asked to help with the cost of sending the teachers and high school students. The main source of fundraising is through the sale of the World Youth Day Raffle. Could I ask that you return these tickets (sold or unsold) as soon as possible please? We have a teacher who would like to attend World Youth Day and we would like to assist with the cost of the trip. Any help you can give would be appreciated. So lets find those raffle tickets!

Zone Swimming Carnival

Congratulations to our Zone Swimming team who represented Holy Family at the carnival last Friday. Congratulations to Lauren Reason who won a number of events and is through to the Diocesan Carnival this week.

Thank you to Mrs. Preston for organising the team. Thanks also to Mrs. Fallon and our parent helpers on the day.

Opening School Mass

Our Opening School Mass is this Friday morning. We take this opportunity to celebrate as a learning community and to give thanks for the gift of education. We also have the opportunity to congratulate and bless our 2016 school leaders.

Please feel free to join us and celebrate the joy of learning.

Best wishes,
John Spradbrow.

22nd February 2016

Inside this issue:

<i>Dear Parents</i>	1
<i>Literacy News</i>	2
<i>Numeracy News</i>	2
<i>Sports Update</i>	2
<i>School Cross Country</i>	2
<i>Library News</i>	3
<i>Opening Mass</i>	3
<i>Staff Development Day</i>	3
<i>Fundraising Meeting</i>	3
<i>Dates for your Diary</i>	4
<i>Lent 2016</i>	4
<i>Student Leaders for 2016</i>	5
<i>Cancer Council Nutrition Snippet</i>	7

The Learning Corner

Literacy News



Dear Parents,

Over the first few weeks of the school year, teachers have been collecting initial data on all of our students to assist them in the programming and planning of each and every child at Holy Family. Numeracy and Literacy Data walls are used so that all children can be tracked and monitored throughout the year. So how can you help your child develop as a life long learner? One way is to get them into a routine of reading every day.

Tips for Making a Regular Time for Reading Every Day

- ✓ Let your child know that you *enjoy* the time together
- ✓ Make listening to reading a *special* time
- ✓ Your child will sense when listening to reading becomes boring for you
- ✓ Be seen as a reader *yourself*
- ✓ Encourage your child to make use of the local and school *libraries*.



Mrs. Alex Ali
Literacy Co-ordinator

Sports Update

Zone Swimming Carnival - 2016

Congratulations to all our swimmers that represented Holy Family last Thursday at the Zone Swimming carnival. Extra congratulations to Lauren Reason who swam spectacularly and won all her events and received Senior Girls Age Champion for 2016 – well done. This is a very exciting achievement for our school. We wish Lauren the best of luck at the Diocesan Swimming carnival this Friday 26th February.

NRL Assembly Visit

This Monday we had a visit from the Games Development Officer and two Penrith Panthers players to promote healthy eating and wellbeing in sport to Grades 3-6. The focus was on the most important meal of the day – BREAKFAST and hydrating the body with water. It was an important reminder for students that they should



not be leaving home without having something healthy to eat. Please find included with this newsletter another healthy eating option from the NSW Cancer Council – enjoy!

Cross Country - Friday 11th March

It is coming up to that time of year again that we will be holding our school cross country. All students should have received the Adidas Fun Run Fundraising booklet. This is one of our major fundraising events of the year for the school to purchase school resources and your support in participating with this activity would be appreciated.

We also need some parent helpers to be course marshalls to ensure the safety of children as they run outside the school grounds so if you can spare some time on this day it would be very much appreciated. A note will be sent home shortly with further details of the day.

Regards,
Leonie Preston
Sports Co-ordinator

Numeracy News

Mathematics Assessment Interview

During the first three weeks of school, the teachers have administered the Mathematical Assessment Interview individually to our students. This one to one interview between teacher and student provided the teachers with a wealth of information about the children's number knowledge, including the mental strategies that the students use when solving mathematical problems. The teachers have been meeting over the last few weeks and planning the learning program for the students using the information gained during the interview.

The Numeracy Block

Each day across the school students work through a 60 minute Numeracy Block. The structure of this block involves a **Warm Up** activity, followed by an **Investigation** with a clear Mathematical focus and ends with a **Reflection**, where students share strategies and tune in to the Mathematics that has been learnt.

Mrs Alonzo
Stage 3 Coordinator





Library News

Over dues from last year: parents please encourage your child to return any loans that they still have out from last year. There are a number of children who borrowed books over the Christmas Holidays and have still not returned these to the library. Thank you for your assistance in this matter.

In addition, if your child has overdues that you believe your child has returned, or that your child has lost, please drop in and see me or send in a note. Or, if you have an older child, please encourage your child to pop in and see me one lunchtime when the library is open to students. I do try to help out with these situations. My aim is to keep the children excited about reading and borrowing from their school library. My hours are Tuesday to Friday each week and I am usually in the library before and after school on these days.

The library is now open to all students three days a week. We open second lunch each Wednesday, Thursday and Friday! We have lots of 'regulars' who enjoy visiting the library at lunchtime, now the library is open to them on Wednesday's as well!

We have a green flag which is placed outside the library on the days that we are open.

Thank you,

Janet A. Marie
Teacher-Librarian



Opening Mass

We invite you to come and celebrate the start of the 2016 school year at our Opening Mass on **Friday 26th February at 11:40 am**. During our Opening Mass we celebrate the new school year and we present the leaders with their badges.

The Opening Mass will take place in the Church at 11:40am.



Staff Development Day

Our Staff Development Day for TERM 1 2016 will be held on **Tuesday March 15th**

THERE WILL BE NO SCHOOL FOR CHILDREN ON THIS DAY

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 2016. 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 will also have our Easter raffle which will be drawn just before Easter. We will be asking families to donate Easter eggs in a few weeks time .





Dates for your Diary

February 26 Opening School Mass @ 11:40am in the Church
 School Choir Practice @ St Paul the Apostle Primary
 Diocesan Swimming Carnival

March 1 Year 6 Visit to St Clare
3 Sacrament of Reconciliation Year 3 & 5
4 Sacrament of Reconciliation Year 4 & 6
11 School Cross Country
15 Staff Development Day



LENT 2016

In his 2016 Lenten message, Pope Francis explored the theme of mercy and how it is connected with Lent. He encourages us as Christians to practise the works of mercy. These works of mercy can impact on our hearts.

In particular, he identifies that *“in the corporal works of mercy we touch the flesh of Christ in our brothers and sisters who need to be fed, clothed, sheltered, visited; in the spiritual works of mercy – counsel, instructions, forgiveness, admonishment and prayer – we touch more directly with ourselves”*.

Yesterday was the 2nd Sunday of Lent. Take some time to read and reflect on the Gospel reading as a family. Spend some time in silence. Then invite your family to share what they think the Gospel is saying, how it touches their heart, or how it motivates them to take some action or show an act of mercy.

Luke 9:28-36 - The Transfiguration

²⁸ About eight days after Jesus said this, he took Peter, John and James with him and went up onto a mountain to pray. ²⁹ As he was praying, the appearance of his face changed, and his clothes became as bright as a flash of lightning. ³⁰ Two men, Moses and Elijah, appeared in glorious splendor, talking

with Jesus. ³¹ They spoke about his departure which he was about to bring to fulfillment at Jerusalem. ³² Peter and his companions were very sleepy, but when they became fully awake, they saw his glory and the two men standing with him. ³³ As the men were leaving Jesus, Peter said to him, “Master, it is good for us to be here. Let us put up three shelters—one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah.” (He did not know what he was saying.)

³⁴ While he was speaking, a cloud appeared and covered them, and they were afraid as they entered the cloud. ³⁵ A voice came from the cloud, saying, “This is my Son, whom I have chosen; listen to him.” ³⁶ When the voice had spoken, they found that Jesus was alone. The disciples kept this to themselves and did not tell anyone at that time what they had seen.

The Transfiguration

As he was praying, the appearance of his face changed, and his clothes became as bright as a flash of lightning. Luke 9:29 (NIV)

The puzzle is based on Luke 9:28-36 (NIV).



D Y G M S T A L K I N G I M J
 L E N U O E U S G S F P E F O
 A T S C S U E M E D T C P A H
 B E K E H M N L L W A G M P N
 J R S J A A P T G F C U J P I
 K O I J I I N N A R G O T E I
 M V N G C Z I G J I K P G A B
 P X M S H N Q B E Y N Q V R Y
 R I I W T T I Y T D J F U E C
 A D D H D V R M K P E L G D H
 Y E G U H X A F N E K A V E O
 W I O D E P X Q B T W S O J S
 L L R V E T R R F E E H I Z E
 C C L O T H E S H R E E C X N
 C D H N P Y E L I J A H E J F

flash	lightning	Moses	John	mountain
cloud	Peter	changed	voice	Jesus
James	pray	chosen	clothes	Elijah
talking	face	bright	appeared	disciples

Mrs Michelle Smith
Religious Education Coordinator

