



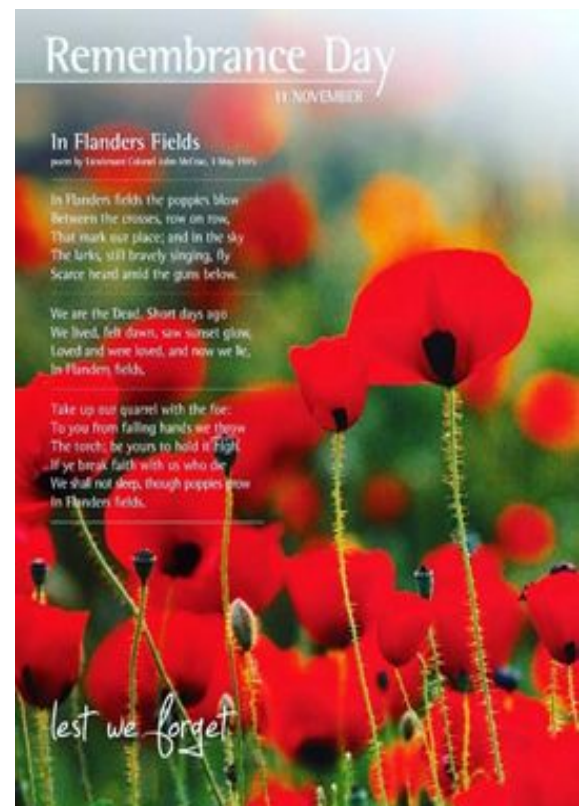
REMEMBRANCE DAY

Centenary of Armistice

100 Years

Marking the end of World War 1

From 1914 until 1918, at a time when our population was less than five million, 416,809 Australian men enlisted in the war. The loss of 60,00 Australians meant that scarcely a family in the country were left untouched. November 11 2018 marks the 100th Anniversary of the end of World War 1. Yesterday our school community paused in prayer to "Remember and pay tribute to our Diggers".



Christmas Concert - Thursday 6th December @ 7pm



On Thursday 6th December all parents are invited to attend an evening of entertainment, presented by all Holy Cross students. The theme is "An Australian Christmas".

We hope that all parents are able to attend.

The Sacrament of Reconciliation

Last weekend a number of our students completed their preparation for the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

Please remember the children who will receive Reconciliation for the first time in your prayers during this special time.

First Reconciliation Times:

Tuesday 13th November 4pm-5pm Church OR
Wednesday 14th November 4pm-5pm Church OR
Thursday 15th November 4pm-5pm Church OR
Friday 16th November 4pm-5pm Church

If you have any questions, please contact Jill on 9852 0583 or at admin@john23rd.org.au.



IMPORTANT DATES

Wednesday 14th November

Year 6 will attend the Parish mass in the library. Mass is at 10am.

Friday 16th November

St Mark's Year 7 2019 Orientation Day
Friday Morning Prayer
Year 1 will be leading us in prayer.

Monday 19th November

Year 6 Excursion

Tuesday 20th November

2019 Kindergarten Orientation

Wednesday 21st November

Year 2 will attend the Parish mass in the library. Mass is at 10am.

Friday 23rd November

Friday Morning Prayer
Year 6 will be leading us in prayer.

Thursday 6th December

Christmas Concert

Tuesday 11th December

Years 2 - 5 Swimming Trials

Thursday 13th December

Year 6 Graduation 7.30pm at St John 23rd Church

Monday 17th December

Dance Fever Showcase

Wednesday 19th December

Last Day of Term for students

Thursday 20th December

Last Day of Term for teachers

Year 6 Reflection Day 2018

On 8th November, 2018, Year 6 engaged in their Reflection Day. This is a day where we reflect on our past 7 years at Holy Cross. We participated in four activities and had a lot of fun while doing all of them. The teachers that were with us during the day were Miss Garland, Miss Lagudi, Mrs Clements, Mr K, Mrs Fowler and Mrs O'Rourke.

When we arrived at school in the morning we sat in a prayer circle and reflected on our past time at Holy Cross. We filled out a form asking when we came to Holy Cross and who our first friend was. We shared our answers with the grade and then we split into groups to read bible passages that are going to be read at our Graduation Mass. We then came together as a group and read out the three different bible passages. The theme of the bible passages were clay pots and how God moulds us into the people we are.

During lunch and recess, we all enjoyed a Sausage Sizzle and an ice block which was provided by the school.

After lunch, we gathered together as a grade to create our individual clay pot! These clay pots are a representative of us and how God has moulded and shaped us. It ties in with our theme, ***"We are the clay, You are the potter; we are all the work of Your hand"*** Isaiah 64:8.

We were all so excited that we had the opportunity to work with clay, since we haven't done used in a long time. A number of us were stressing because this will be one of the first things everybody will see at our graduation, so we needed them to be perfect.

After art we moved into our groups to begin preparations for our graduation. The groups were: Liturgical movement (Dance for graduation), 1st group of Writers (Speeches, Prayers, Welcoming speech and concluding speech), Second group of Writers (Invitations, Powerpoint and Booklet), Art group (Canvas) and Music group (Introduction music and Songs for graduation).

A few weeks ago during art, we all created and painted a small individual canvas with a symbol that best represents us. In the last session on our Reflection Day, we wrote good things about someone that best describes them on their canvas'. We really enjoyed the task because we can take a memory home with us.

By then it was already the end of the day. Everything just went way too fast. It was a really enjoyable day for everyone.

Thank you to our wonderful parent helpers Mr de Bruin and Mr Kiceec who cooked a beautiful BBQ for us all.

By Elisha M and Sophia



Blacktown City Council challenged the Year 5 and 6 classes in the local area to write about the diversity, culture and friendship of our community and how it helps unite us together as a family. Our responses needed to be 200 words or less! We had to write about the ways Blacktown City Council has interacted with its sister cities all over the world. Some of these include Porirua City, Liaocheng City, League of Cities in the Philippines and more! We had to write about how diversity strengthens friendship and bonds, and how it opens up opportunities for business and development.

Blacktown City Council have achieved many important things for other councils around the globe. For instance, the council organised and held a wonderful flag raising ceremony to celebrate the Filipino independence day and the Filipino population living in Blacktown.

Last Friday, Holy Cross were honoured by the visit of Gordon Allen and Wilma Drover from Blacktown Council to our school to present awards to our students who won and also those who achieved great results. **Frida Vazquez Vega from Year 5 was fortunate enough to be one of 2 winners from her ward.** Holy Cross is extremely proud of her amazing achievement! She won two Hoyts tickets and \$100 for our school to spend on educational resources. Other students who received awards for their writing on the day were **Caitlin Walton, Emma Baird, Christopher Morgan, Nicholas Chapman and Jamie Chin.** We are very proud of everyone's achievements and their fantastic results by showing their great writing skills to Blacktown Community. This was a great opportunity to show how writing can make a difference to others and help unite us together.

By Frida, Caitlin and Emma (Year 5)



What's Happening? IN YEAR 3

On Thursday 8th November, Year 3 left school bright and early for an exciting day at the Powerhouse Museum. There was lots to see in the transport area - there were large steam trains, old buses powered by horses and all different types of planes hanging from the roof. One of our favourites was the room that had a space shuttle that moved and made it feel like you were in space. We learnt about lots of different types of transport and how they have changed over time - we even saw a penny farthing!

In History this term, we have been learning about how our community has changed over time and the positive impact this can have. One of the new changes we have been exploring is the Sydney Metro Northwest Link. We were lucky enough to have Mrs Chand (Zara's Mum) and Sophie, another expert from Sydney Metro, come to speak to us and answer our wonderings. We learnt lots of new information such as:

- It took 1,100,000 tonnes of concrete to construct the tunnels
- They used recycled concrete which is more environmentally friendly
- The trains are the first driverless trains which are automatic
- The trains are able to transport more than 40,000 people per hour
- In peak hour, trains will arrive every 4 minutes
- The entrance for each station is shaped like a blue gum leaf

Stay on track and keep up to date as the Northwest Rail Link will be ready for us to use in mid-2019!



Year 1 Publishing Party



For the past few weeks, Year 1 have been writing informative texts about topics of their own interest. We have read informative texts on a variety of topics and learnt new, interesting facts. Did you know most spiders have eight eyes? We learnt that the Blue Whale is the largest animal, measuring approximately 30 meters in length! WOW! We have been learning all about the world we live in and have learnt interesting facts about the 7 continents. Did you know that Australia is 1 of 25 islands in Oceania and Australia is the largest island in the world?



We published our texts on Google Sites, Google Slides and Google Docs and once we had completed our work we had a PUBLISHING PARTY! We invited our parents, grandparents and siblings into our classroom on Friday the 9th of November to share our writing and receive feedback on our work.

HOLY CROSS ENGAGE IN AN EXCITING PARTNERSHIP PROJECT WITH TARONGA ZOO



Recently Holy Cross teachers have engaged in a fascinating and exciting educational partnership with Taronga Zoo to plan and collaborate deep teaching and learning experiences and activities for our students at Holy Cross, particularly Year 5. The purpose is to develop our students skills in working scientifically, such as gathering and recording data and making decisions and future planning based on the data.

We have been extremely fortunate to also work closely with Science and Mathematics Teacher Educators from the Catholic Education Diocese of Parramatta.

Through this partnership our Year 5 students have engaged in an inquiry based project on Endangered Species with a particular focus on the Green and Golden Bell Frog. Educators from Taronga Zoo and Catholic Education Office have visited our students at school bringing along a turtle and a frog and shared their knowledge with the students. The students asked interesting questions on what they needed to know about endangered species to assist them with their inquiry.

Last week the students continued their inquiry with an amazing visit to Taronga Zoo to gain 'hands on experience' from the experts. You can find out more through the newsletter and also on our school Facebook or simply - ask one of our students - they are keen to share.

In the coming weeks the Year 5 students will present a "TED TALK" to their peers, students from St Bernadette's Castle Hill and other educators. We look forward to them explaining and presenting their learning.

Year 5 explore Taronga Zoo and the Institute of Science and Learning

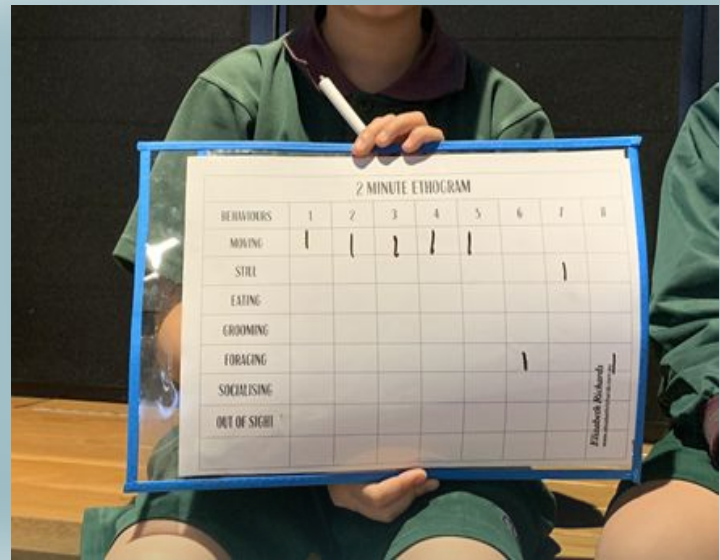
Last Wednesday, our Year 5 students had the privilege of spending the day visiting Taronga Zoo and the newly opened Taronga Institute of Science and Learning. It was such a powerful learning opportunity for our students who were immersed in a living laboratory for conservation education and scientific investigation, built to empower the scientists of tomorrow. Our students had many opportunities to work scientifically and collect data and information.

One of these opportunities included spending time working in the immersive classroom habitats. These multisensory spaces are the first of their kind in the world, themed around rainforest, desert and woodland habitats. A blend of living animal habitat and classroom where our students were able to spend time with the wildlife, making scientific observations and recording data to better understand our animal friends.

Our students also had the privilege of spending time with Hayley who is the Interpretation and Experience Officer at Taronga Zoo. Her powerful message to our students was that science is only useful if you can share your knowledge and discoveries to make a difference. She shared some great tips with our students for effective communication in her lecture entitled Hooks, Headers and Hopefulness.

Our students were also very fortunate to spend some time visiting the new Tiger Trek exhibit where they boarded a flight to Sumatra to be transported to the beautiful forests of Way Kambas National Park to see the magnificent Sumatran Tiger. This was a fantastic opportunity to get up-close with these magnificent, critically endangered Sumatran Tigers and learn how simple shopping choices can help to preserve their precious, natural habitat.

A great learning experience for our students who will now use this knowledge as they present TED Talks that will hopefully shape the mindset of the next generation of conservationists and inspire them to action.



PHYSICAL EDUCATION PROGRAMME FOR SCHOOLS

DANCE FEVER
MultiSport



You are invited to our

Dance Fever Showcase

MONDAY 17TH DECEMBER

Kindergarten to Year 2 Showcase - 9:15AM

Years 3 - 6 Showcase - 6:00PM

Venue: Holy Cross Primary, Multi Purpose Learning Centre

2019 KINDERGARTEN

Over recent weeks Holy Cross has had many new visitors to our school. Our 2019 Kindergartens were very excited to meet new friends, explore our school. During their visit they were involved in construction, imaginative play, coding blue bots, playing on the equipment and meeting some of their buddies. Some of our excited year 5 students were showing their leadership skills as they prepare for being buddies next year.

Thank you to Mrs Xuereb, Mrs Jo, Mrs D'Cruz, Mrs Campanale, Mrs Ettehad, Mrs Kumar, Mrs Christou, Mrs Baird, Mrs Elmasri, Mrs Hunt, Mrs Shuker & Mrs Semina who kindly volunteered to assist with the transition program

*Thank
You*

TERM 1 DATES 2019

Monday	28th January, 2019	Australia Day Holiday
Tuesday	29th January, 2019	Staff Development Day (MAI's administered)
Wednesday	30th January, 2019	Staff Development Day (MAI's administered)
Thursday	31st January, 2019	Years 1 - 6 return to school
Friday	1st February, 2019	Kindergarten first day at school (full day)

Are you moving at the end of 2018

To assist with 2019 enrolments we would be grateful if the school could be notified in writing of any children who may be leaving Holy Cross at the end of the year from grades other than Year 6.

If your child is changing schools for 2019, please let us know. **You are reminded that CEO policy is that families need to give the school one full terms notice in writing in these circumstances.**

COSHC 2018/2019 Dates

Our COSHC service will be closing on Wednesday 19th December and recommencing in the New Year on Monday 7th January, 2019.

We will be running three weeks of Vacation Care up until the commencement of the new school year. However, please be mindful that all COSHC services will be closed on Tuesday 29th January, 2019 due to a COSHC Staff Development Day.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Leonard Piotrowski, Atticus Dreyer, Addison Vlismas, Sean Clarkson, Nicholas Chapman, Joel Justin, Braxton Criniti, Irene Kim, Aislinn Keeley, Indie Dreyer, Kent Vergara, Grace Channell, Emily Elmasri, Audrey Crescini, Tyler Minahan, Sienna Williams, Brodie Nelson & Rafael Benatiro



Dear Parents who have volunteered throughout the year,

You Are Invited
to our
Parent Helpers Morning Tea

When: Friday 30th November, 2018
Time: After Friday Morning Prayer
Where: Multi Purpose Learning Centre

*We would really love to express our gratitude for your
generosity throughout the year and look forward to
seeing you.*

Please RSVP to holycross@parra.catholic.edu.au

