2017 School Goals at Holy Cross

Each year our staff develop our school goals which focus on three areas, Formation (Religious Education), Literacy and Numeracy. These goals are determined and developed based on the current needs of the students at Holy Cross. Staff will continue working with colleagues within our Diocese, Teacher Educators, as well as Academic Partners such as Dr Peter Sullivan (Monash University) and Dr Ann Downton (Monash University) to continue to deepen student learning.

In 2017 our school goals are:

**Religious Education**
*To increase student knowledge and understanding of their Catholic faith through a focus on responding to scripture.*

**Literacy (Writing)**
*Students will increase their knowledge of language features when composing a range of texts.*

**Numeracy**
*To increase all student growth in Multiplication and Division through a focus on visualisation.*

Throughout the year parents will be updated on how we are achieving our school goals.

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**PBS4L (Positive Support For Learning)**

What is Positive Behaviour Support for Learning?
A framework to enhance the capacity to educate all children by developing research based, school wide and classroom support systems.

The students receive ‘rainbow’ tokens each day in their learning spaces and on the playground for being safe, respectful and doing their personal best. Whilst each grade collects rainbow tokens they are all working towards a different reward.

Some questions that can be used to discuss PBS4L at home are:

- What did you earn a rainbow for this week?
- How can you do your personal best during Mathematics?
- How can you be respectful when working with your TRIBE?
- What does it look like when you are learning with your peers?

PBS4L provides systems for schools to design, implement and evaluate effective school wide classrooms, non-classroom and student specific plans.

Instruction in social skills. Helping students regulate their own behaviour.

Creates effective environments where students make positive behaviour choices that support academic success.

PBS4L plays an important role in the students’ learning at Holy Cross. The students are involved in regular lessons focusing on social skills related to our school agreements – We are safe, we are respectful, we do our personal best. These agreements are taught, modelled and practised in different areas of our school each day.
At Holy Cross our Year 6 leaders experience being part of a buddy program. They each have at least one student in Kindergarten to look out for, work with them and make them feel comfortable in their first year of school. The buddies meet regularly and work on a variety of activities including reading, writing, maths and art.

Both Year 6 students and the Kindergarten students gain greatly from the buddy program. Year 6 learn how to teach, assist others in learning, build positive relations and develop that highly important skill of patience. The Kindergarten students learn to work co-operatively with others, gain confidence in learning, develop their communication skills and social skills and it helps them to feel welcome and relaxed in their first year of school.

Without the knowledge, the skills or the support that schools are so good at providing, young people can be left behind and find themselves underprepared for a fast-paced and often very challenging world. We can all work together to ensure that every learner participates in learning everyday at Holy Cross.

Parents can access the school calendar on our school website to see upcoming events. This calendar is updated as events are scheduled or changed. To access the parent calendar please go to the school website http://www.hcglenwood.catholic.edu.au. On the top right hand side click on School Calendar.

Parents can access “Notes Sent Home” on our school website if they have been misplaced. To access the “Notes Sent Home” please go to the school website http://www.hcglenwood.catholic.edu.au. Click on the link Parents and you will find Notes Sent Home on the dropdown.
**What is CAPTIVATE?**

CAPTIVATE is the creative and performing arts program for Catholic Schools in the Diocese of Parramatta. It provides learning and performance opportunities for students and connects them with Australia’s leading creative arts professionals and their wealth of experience and networks. CAPTIVATE offers students the opportunity to collaborate and engage with students from other schools to enrich their performing skills and experiences through combined school programs in music.

**Is your child interested in joining the Combined Primary Choir?**

This year students in Years 3, 4, 5 and 6 will have the opportunity to be involved in the Combined Primary School Choir which will perform in a Music Showcase on the evening of Friday 23rd June, 2017. This performance will be at Nagle College, Blacktown South.

Participation of the students is voluntary and does not require any audition. This is a wonderful opportunity for the children to showcase their creativity and talents.

Please contact Miss Camilleri or Miss Cook if you require any further information.

**MUSIC String Things**

The String Things Program is a classroom-based foundation method in string playing which focuses on students in Years 4. Our school has a class set of string instruments for each student to use in the lesson. We are fortunate to have Mr Komorowski who delivers the program, Mr William Tu (Music Specialist Teacher) who assists with the cello as well as Teacher Educators who specialise in string instruments. Please see Mr Komorowski for further details.
Maths Assessment Interview
Thank you parents for your support with our one to one Mathematical Assessments Interviews. The information gathered is invaluable in getting to know your child’s level of knowledge in counting, place value, addition & subtraction and multiplication and division.

Second Hand Uniform Shop
Thank you Mrs D’Silva and Mrs Burakowski for organising our Second Hand Uniform Shop. This is a wonderful service for families to access throughout the year. Our second hand Uniform Shop will open again towards the end of Term 1.

Scholastic Book Club
Thank you Mrs Wearing for organising Book Club. The children are always very excited to look through the Book Club catalogue and choose new books. If you would like to join our parents and assist with Book Club please contact the school office.

Focus Groups for Terms 1 & 2
At Holy Cross we are very fortunate to have many parents assisting our school community in various ways. We are inviting parents to join our Fundraising Focus Group for a period of 6 months (Term 1 & Term 2):

Fundraising Focus Group
The role of the Fundraising Group will be to plan and organise fundraising activities throughout Terms 1 & 2. If you would like to join this Focus Group during Term 1 and 2, please complete the slip below and return to school by Monday 20th February, 2017.

Please contact the school if you require further information about this group.

KISS AND DROP ROSTER FOR 2017 – Term 1
As you are aware our Kiss and Drop area is available every morning to assist our families, traffic flow and more importantly the safety of all of our students. We would like to organise a roster of parent volunteers to assist students getting out of the car each morning in the “Kiss and Drop” area. You must have completed the Child Protection Course.
Details of completing this course are below.
1. Go to http://childprotection.parra.catholic.edu.au Scroll half way down the page until you see an image ‘Volunteers & Contractors’ - click here

After successful completion of the module, fill out the form by typing name, email address, contact number, contact address and the school.

A notification of successful completion of the module will be sent via email to the school and also the volunteer’s email address.

Fundraising Group
I, ____________________________ would like to join the: Fundraising Focus Group.
Signature: ____________________________ Child’s Name: __________________ Class: ________
If you are enrolling your child into Holy Cross in 2018 please contact the school office and complete the Expression of Interest. Holy Cross will be holding an Open Day and Enrolment Day on Tuesday 7th March, 2017. Please let the office staff know if you will be attending the Open Day.