2015 Christmas Appeal!

This year we will be running two Christmas appeals, both for St Vincent de Paul, but each supporting different needs.

All grades will receive two laundry baskets. One basket will be dedicated to collecting Christmas food items to support our own parish Vinnies chapter.

They have specifically asked us as a community to help them during this time as the need is great and their supplies are very low. We are hoping to collect non-perishable Christmas food that can offer struggling families a happy Christmas meal together.

The second basket is dedicated to collecting toiletries for the Matthew Talbot Hostel for Men. This is an appeal that we have run over the last few years and that we feel has been very beneficial for students. Students are able to see the real needs of the homeless and have been able to contribute in a meaningful and tangible way. Items such as toothpaste, combs and thick socks can be luxury items to the needy, where we often take them for granted. Collecting items such as these can make a real difference for those who are sleeping rough.

Year 6 Reflection Day

This Wednesday Year 6 will spend a special day, looking back across their years at Primary School and their many adventures and learning experiences that they have shared. As well, they will be discussing the challenges and exciting years ahead in Secondary School and their goals for this time. It will be a time where they will have the opportunity to pray together as a grade and to begin their preparation for graduation. Please remember these students in your prayers during this special time.

November - The Month of Holy Souls

As we remember those who have gone before us, you may like to include a note of specific reference to a loved one in our school’s book of remembrance. This book is available in the school foyer throughout November and names from the book will especially be remembered in prayer.

Wednesday Parish Mass @ Holy Cross

This week we will celebrate a special mass as our Year 6 students will help lead their last Wednesday parish mass at Holy Cross. This will form the start of their Year 6 reflection Day with Fr John spending some time with the students after mass, talking with them about their transition into high school.
Happy Birthday to the following students who celebrated their Birthdays recently

Joel Justin, Matthew Mifsud Hall, Hamnoor Kaur, Sienna Williams, Rayshan Perera, Zachary Mason, Joshua Gobbo & Jake Arakelian

Whooping Cough Alert

If your child (or any member of your family) has any of the symptoms of whooping cough, such as a dry or persistent cough which may be especially bad at night, please see your doctor. If your doctor diagnoses whooping cough, please advise the school and keep your child at home until they have taken 5 days of antibiotics. A whooping cough fact sheet is available on the NSW Health website at http://www.health.nsw.gov.au/Infectious/whoopingcough/Pages/default.aspx

SCHOOL FEES

Thank you to all those families who have finalised their 2015 School Fees. If your account is still outstanding and you have not contacted Miss Hardy and you are not on an arrangement, you are requested to finalise the account before Thursday November 19th 2015. Please contact the school office if you would like to discuss fees with Miss Hardy.

Kinder 2016 Orientation

Our Orientation Day for all parents and children commencing Kindergarten in 2016 will be held next Thursday, 26th November, 2015 between 9.00am and 10.00am. We warmly welcome them to our Holy Cross Community.

Invitation to End of Year Celebrations

**Years 2 - 5 School Swimming Carnival**
Thursday 3rd December, 2105

**Thanksgiving Mass**
Wednesday 9th December at 9.15 am
in the MPLC

**DANCEFEVER CHALLENGE**
Friday 11th December, 2015

Date: Friday, 11th December, 2015
Time: Doors open 4.30pm for a 5.30pm start - finish 9.00pm
Venue: Sydney Olympic Park Sports Centre, Homebush
Cost: $5.00 per person to be paid on the night (including children competing) EFTPOS NOT AVAILABLE

The challenge is open to students from Year 3 to Year 6. The atmosphere will be fantastic and it will be a wonderful occasion for our whole school community. Entry fee has been kept to the lowest price possible.

How to enter:

It’s simple! Students just need to read something they enjoy and tell us in 50 words or less why they loved it.

The more material a student reads, the more times they can enter the reading challenge and the more chances they have of winning one of four iPad minis.

To enter go to: www.parra.catholic.edu.au/summer-reading-challenge

Entries open on 2nd November, 2015 and close at 5pm on 5th February, 2016. Terms and Conditions can be found at www.parra.catholic.edu.au/summer-reading-challenge

These summer holidays, Mr Whitby, our Executive Director from the Parramatta Diocese of Education, is once again launching the Summer Reading Challenge and is encouraging all students to read, read, read!

**Diary Events**

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<td>Fri 20th Nov</td>
<td>Year 7 2016 Oakhill College Orientation</td>
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<td>Thur 26th Nov</td>
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