Dear Parents

This year, Holy Cross School will join Catholic schools across NSW and the ACT to celebrate Catholic Schools Week (CSW) from 6 -10 March. The theme for CSW 2016 is ‘I Belong, You Belong, We Belong’.

Catholic Schools Week is about strengthening relationships between all those who have a stake in our schools – students, staff, families, priests, parishioners, and members of the wider community. It is for this reason that I would like to extend an invitation to you and your family to join us to celebrate with our school and parish community Catholic Schools Week 2016.

In this newsletter you will find further details. This is an ideal opportunity to support our community and learn more about the great things that takes place in Catholic schools every day. Our school has a supportive community of teachers, parents, grandparents, carers, clergy, parishioners and support staff who work together to focus on giving students the best education possible, encouraging success, promoting discipline, supporting creativity and instilling compassion.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for all your support and I look forward to celebrating Catholic Schools Week.

Kind regards,
Marina Hardy
Principal

---

**Holy Cross**

**CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL**

**OPEN DAY**

**Tuesday 8 March 2016**

49 Meurants Lane, Glenwood

**PRINCIPAL’S WELCOME**

9.30 am and 4.30 pm

**SCHOOL TOURS**

10.00 -10.30 am and 5.00 -5.30 pm

**John XXIII Mass Times**

- Saturday Vigil: 6.00pm
- Sunday Masses: 7.30am, 9.00am, 10.30am, 6.00pm
- Weekday Masses: Mon, Wed, Thurs and Sat at 9.00am
Students are invited to come to school and dress in the traditional dress of their family. We welcome students across the school to participate in our Catholic School’s Week Monday Morning Prayer on Monday 7 March, by either coming to school in traditional dress or bringing it to school to get changed before morning prayer begins. We ask that students have their school uniform to get changed into after our morning celebrations.

**Coming Together to Belong – Collaborative Art Project**

Next week as a whole school community, we will be commence working on a Collaborative Art Project that aims to reflect the theme of Catholic Schools Week,

"I belong. You belong. We belong."

Monday morning before school (8 am to 8.30 am) and after Monday Morning Prayer you are invited to come and create a mini artwork on a paddle pop stick with your child/ren. Your creation may have colours, patterns, symbols or a word that is important to you and reflects a unique aspect about yourself, your family or your cultural heritage. All of our paddle pop sticks will then come together to form a large montage that reflects who we are.

It is by coming together as individuals with our own unique gifts that we truly create something that is rich and beautiful. So join us under the COLA to create and be in community together.

**Thursday 10th March School Cross Country**

The day will begin at 9.10 am with a modified Cross Country Race around the school oval for students in K, 1 and those students in Year 2 not turning 8 this year.

Following the infants Cross Country the Primary students will run their Cross Country.

Children 8, 9 or 10 years will run in the Junior event – 2 km
Children 11, 12 or 13 years will run in the Senior event – 3 km

The races will be held at school and parents are more than welcome to join us.

**Project Compassion: Knowledge helps our children grow**

Throughout Lent we encourage families to support Caritas’ Project Compassion through donations.

**Dominic - PNG**

Dominic’s village has achieved greater peace and increased respect, as well as reduced violence and alcohol abuse. Now, Dominic’s community has a chance to thrive.

Please support Project Compassion through this term to help families like these.

Watch his story here: [https://goo.gl/DeYm3v](https://goo.gl/DeYm3v)

**Wednesday Parish Mass**

This week, Year 4 will attend Wednesday mass in the library at 9am. We invite all parents who are able to stay to come along. Next week Year 3 will lead the Wednesday parish mass.
Captivate Choir

On Friday 26th February 46 students from Year 3 to Year 6 went to St Paul the Apostle Primary School at Winston Hills to learn songs for this year’s Captivate Choir performance to be held later this year. All together there were approximately 500 students from 10 other schools in the Parramatta Diocese there to learn this year’s songs.

We learnt a variety of songs which we will perform at the concert in June. We had the choice to be an alto (low notes) or a soprano (high notes). When we sang together the harmonies sounded great. Mr Russell taught us the songs we will perform. We were challenged by the songs we had to learn as well as some of the notes. It was a really enjoyable day for all of us.

By Roisin Gallacher Year 6

Our Aboriginal Cultural Experience

On the 25th February, Year 4 went on an excursion to the Murru Mittigar Aboriginal cultural centre. We participated and enjoyed a range of fun Aboriginal activities.

We painted using Aboriginal symbols with an Aboriginal artist, John Boney. We had to tell a story using the symbols. At the end we had to tell our stories that we painted. We found it interesting that boys were not allowed to paint girl symbols (women gathering and the digging stick), and girls were not allowed to paint male symbols (men gathering, spears, and boomerangs).

We also, explored a whole range of native aboriginal plants. Some were used for medicine, some were used as a source of drinking water during summer, some were used for sandpaper and the bark from a tree was used for painting.

Everybody got to throw a boomerang. There are nine different types of boomerangs. There are a club shape boomerang, a Y-shaped boomerang, a X-shaped boomerang and an upside down U-shaped boomerang. Some were used for hunting and fishing. Throwing the boomerangs was so much fun!

At the end of the day we looked at the map of Australia. We learnt that there were and are many different cultural tribes that belong to our country. We also have an understanding during Monday Morning Prayer and other events, why we acknowledge the Dharug people, the traditional custodians of this land, because they were and are the tribe that lived and still live here today.

We had so much fun and year 4 would like to thank everyone on the day that helped us: Mrs Christie, Mrs Moriarty, Mrs Menin, Mrs Ettehad and Mrs Kradjian.

By Chelsea Mortimer and Aysia Whinwray
Congratulations to the following students who represented the Blacktown Zone at the Parramatta Diocesan Carnival that was held last Friday at Blacktown Pool:

Jessica Aye, Jake Christie, Kye Christie, Alexandra Hewett, Sebastian Kiceec, James Kitcher, Julian Lockyer, Nayte Odgers, Joel Reeding, Carina Sastrillo, Dylan Supriadi, Jade Tietie, Angelina Warton and Ella Wood. The students achieved fantastic results with many students achieving their personal best.

Thank you to our wonderful parents who supported all our swimmers in this event.

**NSW Catholic Primary Schools Championships**

Congratulations to Jessica Aye, James Kitcher and Jade Tietie who will now represent the Parramatta Diocese at the MacKillop Selection trials on March 31. Amazing achievements. We are proud of you.

**Second hand uniform shop**

Our second hand uniform shop will be open on Monday 7th March 2.30pm to 3.00pm. Thank you to Mrs Ferguson and Mrs D’Silva for their time in organising the shop.

**Happy Birthday to the following students who celebrated their Birthdays this past week**

Lucas Szymoniczek, Rajvi Parmar, Marc Tepes, Daniel Arakelian, Sienna Jackson Poilly, Andrew Soosaipillai, Anya Douglas, Jacob Catabay, Oliver Zammit, Alex Pantaleone & Jake Wynne

**Upcoming Events**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wed 2nd Mar</td>
<td>Year 4 Mass @ 9:00am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mon 7th Mar</td>
<td>Year 1 Monday Morning Prayer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tue 8th Mar</td>
<td>School Open Day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wed 9th Mar</td>
<td>Year 3 Wednesday Morning Mass</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thur 10th Mar</td>
<td>School Cross Country</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fri 11th Mar</td>
<td>Year 2 Excursion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fri 25th Mar</td>
<td>Good Friday</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mon 28th Mar</td>
<td>Easter Monday</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tue 29th Mar</td>
<td>Students return</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**2016 Term Dates**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Term 1</th>
<th>First Day</th>
<th>Last Day</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Tuesday 26th April, 2016</td>
<td>Friday 8th April, 2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Term 2</td>
<td>Friday 1st July, 2016</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Monday 18th July, 2016</td>
<td>Friday 23rd September, 2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Term 3</td>
<td>Monday 10th October, 2016</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Friday 16th December, 2016</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**ALL ONLINE AND PAPER ORDERS ARE DUE ON WEDNESDAY 9TH MARCH, 2016**

For all online orders please log-in to www.scholastic.com.au/LOOP or download the new FREE iPhone and iPad app from the App Store!