Catholic Schools Week
Special Monday Morning Liturgy
Monday 7th March @ 9:00am

Catholic Schools Week this year is in Week 7, from Monday 7th March to Friday 11th.

During this week, Catholic schools across NSW and the ACT celebrate their Catholicity and promote the quality education that is offered within the Catholic School system.

On Monday 7th we will begin the week with a special Monday Morning Prayer where children from every grade will participate.

The theme for CSW 2016 is ‘I Belong. You Belong. We Belong.’ The theme ties in with the global Catholic Church celebration of the Extraordinary Jubilee of Mercy, which focuses on pardon, strength and love. Pope Francis sees the Year of Mercy as an opportunity for forgiveness and reconciliation, and is calling on all Catholic communities to extend mercy to those in need, particularly refugees.

Catholic Schools Week is also about forging and strengthening relationships between everyone who has a stake in our schools – students, staff, families, priests, parishioners, and members of the wider community – by showcasing our activities and actions.

During Catholic Schools Week, we take the opportunity to highlight not only the best of what we do, but also what happens in our schools every day.

We hope that you can join us on Monday 7th for this special morning prayer.

Project Compassion: Knowledge helps our children grow

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

Hum Noy’s story - Laos

Duangmala wishes for a bright future for her eight-year-old son Hum Noy, who is living with a disability. But faced with discrimination and limited learning opportunities, Duangmala feared he might never reach his full potential. Thankfully, a program supported by Caritas Australia has opened up a world of change for this small family.

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

Watch her story here: https://goo.gl/cZ2vaA

Wednesday Parish Mass

This week, Year 5 will attend Wednesday mass in the library at 9am. We invite all parents who are able to stay to come along. Next week Year 4 will lead the Wednesday parish mass.
Happy Birthday to the following students who celebrated their Birthdays this past week

Lucas Mamic, Christian Mamic, Emma Baird, Devansh Singh, Michael Makarous, Shirin Kattukaran, Ella Wood, Jessica Thomas, Jacob Diab, Bridget McKinley Corben, Charlotte Moriarty, Vherra Sivakumar, Jason Arevalo, Selina Porracin, Jacinda Caruana, Cayden Chan, Russell Muchabaiwa, Amritha Balachandar & Christian Adviento

Zone Swimming Carnival
On Thursday the 18th February the students from Holy Cross that had been selected for the Blacktown Zone for swimming went to Mt Druitt Pool.

The students selected were: Jessica Aye, Allyson Barroga, Jake Christie, Kye Christie, Stefan Fernando, Lachlan Frevre, Dylan Frevre, Lily Foran, Alexandra Hewett, Jade Howe, Sebastian Kiceec, James Kitcher, Julian Lockyer, Bethany Menin, Nayte Odgers, Taj Pryun, Joel Reeding, Carina Sastrillo, Angelina Sekulic, Dylan Supriadi, Jade Tietie, Elisha M. Tomy, Angelina Warton, Ella Wood and Leticia Zec.

It was a long day for the swimmers and their families but all students at Holy Cross displayed our School Agreements. They did their Personal Best not only in the pool but while waiting for their race. They always showed respect to not only their friends from Holy Cross but demonstrated fair play and good sportsmanship to students from other schools. They were also demonstrating Being Safe by being in the right place at all times. They should feel very proud of themselves.

The end of the day was very exciting when the Relay races began. Holy Cross came first in the Junior Girls Relay, first in the Junior Boys Relay and second in the Senior Boys Relay. The Senior Girls Relay just missed out on a place.

James Kitcher received Junior Boy’s Champion and Jessica Aye received Runner up for Junior Girl’s Champion.

A special thank you to parent helpers on the day who gave up their time to write names on Place Ribbons – Mrs Menin, Mrs Frevre and Mrs Mitchell.

The following students have been selected to represent Holy Cross as part of the Blacktown Zone at the Diocesan Carnival to be held this Friday at Blacktown Pool.


Welcome Mrs Vicki Wharton
Today we warmly welcome Mrs Vicki Wharton who will be joining our office staff at Holy Cross. Mrs Wharton will be working in the school office on Tuesday to Friday each week.

School Fees for 2016
We advise that the Catholic Education Office have mailed out the 2016 School Fees statements to all families. The term 1 fees are due to the school by 7th March 2016. Please note that all Flexible Payment Plans forms are to be sent to Catholic Education Office by 26th February 2016. If you like to discuss your account, please contact the school office between 8.30 am and 3.30 pm Monday to Friday.

Applications are now being accepted for Kindergarten 2017. Parents are asked to obtain an Enrolment Form from the school office or download from our website. Please inform family or friends if they have children who are eligible to attend.

Up Coming Events
- Wed 24th Feb: Year 5 Mass @ 9:00am
- Fri 26th Feb: Diocesan Swimming Carnival
- Mon 29th Feb: School Photo Day
- Mon 29th Feb: Year 2 Monday Morning Prayer
- Wed 2nd Mar: Year 4 Mass @ 9:00am
- Fri 11th Mar: Year 2 Excursion
School Photo Day

Our School Photo Day will be held this Monday 29th February. All photo envelopes are to be returned on Photo day. **Please do not send the envelopes in early.**

If you are paying by cash please send the correct money in as no change will be given by the photographers. The school does not open these envelopes. The school office will not be able to give change on the day.

The envelope needs to be with the class teacher at the start of the day, the photographers use the barcode to identify each child. Family envelopes are available from the school office.

The students are to wear their full summer school uniform. Please ensure your child’s shoes are polished.

As the photos will be starting at 9.00 am please ensure your child is at school by 9.00 am, if your child is late they may miss out on their class group photo.

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**Parent Community – Focus Group 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 any parents who would be interested in joining the Fundraising Group.

The role of the Fundraising Group will be to plan and organise fundraising activities throughout Term 1 & 2.

If you would like to join group during Term 1 and 2, please complete the slip below and return to school by **Monday 29th February, 2016**. Please contact the school if you require further information.

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**FUNDRAISING GROUP**

I would like to join the Fundraising Focus Group

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