Dear Parents,

CEBRATING CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK

Recently our school joined Catholic schools across NSW and ACT to celebrate Catholic Schools Week. The theme for 2015 is “Educating for Today and Tomorrow”. Our school celebrated this in various ways including the students thinking about what education might look like in the future. Here are some highlights as to what Kindergarten and Year 1 discovered.

Kindergarten celebrating Catholic Schools Week “Education for Today & Tomorrow”

Kindergarten began Catholic Schools Week writing about what they would like to be when they grow up. They were really excited to share this with their Year 6 buddies. The Year 6 children shared what it meant to be part of the profession the Kindergarten children had chosen, including the skills they needed, what they would need to wear, what equipment or technology they might use. The Year 6 children then had the opportunity to share with their buddies what they would like to be when they were older.

On Friday afternoon, Mrs Mamic (Christian & Lucas’ mum) explained to the children what it is like to be a nurse. She shared what it is like to work in the hospital, what her role entails, what she wears, the importance of hygiene and what a stethoscope is used for. The children were engaged and enjoyed the opportunity to share their thinking.

Year One learning “All About Me”

Year One students spent time writing about something they learnt to do in the past, something they are learning to do now and something they will learn to do. The students gave the 3 strips of paper, which described their learning, to a friend who was asked to guess, which was past, present and future and provide reasons for their guesses.

Regards,

Marina Hardy
Principal
You are invited to join us for HOLY WEEK

**PALM SUNDAY**
Next Monday 30th March at 9am our Kindergarten students and Year 3 will lead us for a special Palm Sunday morning prayer in the MPLC

**HOLY THURSDAY**
A special Holy Thursday reflection space will be set up in the school library. Classes will visit this space to reflect on the Last Supper and the Washing of the Feet. Parents are invited to also visit.

**GOOD FRIDAY**
Year 5 and Year 6 students will lead a special Good Friday Stations of the Cross on Thursday 2nd April at 9:15am under the COLA.

**First Eucharist (Holy Communion) Enrolment**
Reminding parents that the First Eucharist Sacramental Program parent meeting is on tonight (Tues, 24th March) at 7.30pm in the St John School XXIII / St Mark’s school hall.

It is important that parents attend the information evening.

If you have any questions regarding the Sacramental Program, please contact the parish office 9852 0580 or Mr Stennett at school.

**Lent - Project Compassion**
Please return your Project Compassion money boxes to school next week. Thank you to all families who are working to support this cause.

**Parish Mass This Week**
This week Year 3 will assist in leading mass which is the Feast of the Annunciation. All primary classes will attend mass at 9am in the MPLC.

Next week, Wednesday 1st April, Year 2 will celebrate mass. Please join us if you are able.

**WINTER UNIFORM**
All students are to wear their full winter uniform from Monday 20th April, 2015. In the event of warm weather during Week 1 and Week 2, students are able to wear either their full summer uniform or full winter uniform. Full winter uniform is to be from Monday 4th May (Week 3).

All winter uniforms are available for purchase at the Uniform Shop on Wednesday 2.30 - 4.00pm and Saturday 11.00 - 12.30pm until the end of Term 1. Wednesday 1st April will be the last day of trading and the Uniform Shop will reopen on Saturday 18th April from 11.00 - 12.30pm.

Uniforms may be ordered via email and via the phone. For enquiries please call Elle on 0421 216 414 or email elle@ozfashions.com.au

**KINDERGARTEN 2016 ENROLMENTS**
We will be commencing enrolment interviews for Kindergarten 2016 shortly. If you are intending to enrol any sibling/s of students already at Holy Cross for Kindergarten in 2016, please submit an enrolment form at the school office. Completed forms need to be returned as soon as possible. Thank you.

Please inform family or friends if they have children who are eligible to attend.
This week Year 6 challenged Holy Cross to do their personal best by thinking of others. One way we can all do this is by donating to Caritas through Project Compassion.

Money donated to Project Compassion can help those who aren’t having their basic needs met. It helps to provide them with food, water and shelter. The theme for Project Compassion 2015 is Food For Life. It addresses food issues globally and aims to empower the world’s poorest people to establish sustainable food sources for life (Caritas Australia, 2015).

If the whole school brings in $3 each that would raise $1494. Just $5 can provide a packet of seedlings for a farmer, whilst $20 could provide a 105 litre container of water. This can help a family of seven people! These are only some of the donations that Caritas is able to make.

“Help the world’s poorest people access and develop sustainable food sources for life.”  [www.caritas.org.au](http://www.caritas.org.au)

**Loose change can really make a difference in the lives of others.**

Beatriz, Kyah and Michael
Year 6 students

*At Holy Cross we learn together – we do our personal best, we are respectful and we are safe.*
Our Year 6 students have applied themselves across this term as leaders in many ways: they have welcomed our new Kindergarten students as well as helped them settle into school as their buddies, they have assisted with our school cross country as well as distributed our school PBS4L wrist bands.

This term our Year 6 students have also formed specific leadership teams. These teams work with specific staff to assist the school in a variety of ways. The students have enthusiastically taken up their responsibilities and are already at work around the school when the need has arisen.
SPORT NEWS
CROSS COUNTRY

Our school Cross Country Carnival for Primary students was held on Thursday 12th March. The track wound its way around the school grounds.

♦ Under 11, 12’s and 13 ran 3km
♦ Under 8, 9 & 10’s ran 2km

The students enjoyed the race, with some students keen to participate in more sport in the afternoon. The Year 6 Student Leaders did an amazing job of assisting in setting up the course and directing students.

The students and staff at Holy Cross appreciate the assistance of parents in running the Cross Country. Without parents willing to give up their time to help, events such as these would not be able to be run smoothly. Thank you to Mrs Sullivan, Mrs Elmasri, Mrs Calabrese, Mrs Lim, Mrs Jo, Mrs O’Reilly, Mrs Keady Menin, Mrs Howe, Mrs Singh, Mrs Kaur, Mrs Baird, Mr De Castro, Mrs Inns & Mr Irving. Thank you to Mrs Richardson and Mrs O’Rourke for organising this event.

Congratulations to the following students who will participate in the Diocesan Cross Country Carnival which will be held in Term 2:
Christopher Abdelseed, Christina Kiceec, Nicholas Bivona, Andre Scott, Cameron Gornall, Zachary Mason, Jaiden Selvan, Nayte Odgers, Jake Arakelian, Oceane Parker, Luke Giumelli, Michael Justin, Jazmyn Acosta, Nicholas Taylor, Mike Issa, Lovette Boachie, Akuec Deng, Nathan Inglis, Ben Inns, Athalia Huang, Sophia Ettehad, Leticia Zec, Claire Szymaniczek, Angelina Sekulic, Sebastian Kiceec, Elisha Kumar, Beatriz Matias, Orlando Pawlik, Franchesca Samonte, Carina Sastrillo, Callum Scott, Joshua Taylor, Xavier Villanueva, Thade Williams, Angelina Warton, Matilda Connolly, Jessica Youssef, Henrietta Bateng, Madeleine O’Rourke, Anna-Caitlin Assam, Elizabeth Kitcher, Ruby Villiers, Talijah Tietie, Abbey Mey, Mathew Clements, Michael Kinsella, Ruvarashe Kanyongo, Tru Hagens

SWIMMING

Last Friday Talijah Tietie represented the 2015 Parramatta Diocesan Swimming team at the NSWCP's Swimming Trials on Friday 20th March at SOPAC, Homebush. Talijah accomplished a remarkable achievement by coming 2nd in the 50 metres Breaststroke event. Congratulations on a wonderful achievement.
Talijah now progresses to the PSSA Swimming Championships.
Happy Birthday to the following students who celebrated their Birthdays the past two weeks:


**K – 2 Fun Run**

Kindergarten, Year 1 and Year 2 students participated in a fun run around the oval of the school. The students enjoyed participating in the race, with lots of smiles at the finish line.

**FUNDRAISING EVENTS UPDATE**

Thank you to Mrs Scott and Mrs Inns for co-ordinating the Mother’s Day stall which will be held on Monday 4th May, 2015 after Monday morning prayer in the Multi Purpose Learning Centre. Each child is to bring along $5.00 to purchase a gift. The gift comes wrapped and with a label for the child to write their name on.

Any parents who are able to assist at the Mother’s Day stall please meet in the Multi Purpose Learning Centre at 9.30 am after Monday morning prayer on Monday 20th April.

**WRAPPING MOTHER’S DAY GIFTS**

We are asking for parent helpers to assist with wrapping the Mother’s Day gifts on Monday 20th April, 2015 at 9.30 am (after Monday morning prayer).

**Upcoming Events**

- **Monday 30th March**: Kindergarten Monday Morning Prayer
- **Thursday 2nd April**: Last day of Term 1
- **Monday 20th April**: First day of Term 2
  - Winter Uniform to be worn
- **Monday 4th May**: Mother’s Day Stall
- **Tuesday 5th May**: Diocesan Cross Country