Parents and Caregivers,

This week our students will take part in the filming of a music video for Catholic Care. The production is to help raise awareness of an online Resilience Resource for primary aged children. The students have been practicing their routine with Dance Fever over the last few weeks. A professional film crew will be at Holy Cross on Thursday and Friday this week to finalise the product. We wish the children all the best on the day.

PBS4L UPDATE

This week during Monday Morning Prayer Kindergarten set a challenge for us to be Respectful.

Being Respectful at Holy Cross means that

- We use our manners when we speak with others.
- We listen attentively to each other.
- We include everyone in our games and sports.
- We clean our spaces and look after our environment.

It is important for students to learn to listen to others; peers, as well as teachers. It is important that students know their body language is also part of how they demonstrate active listening.

Reflection questions

How do we show we are a good listener?

How do we make sure that everyone is heard?

Do we respect other people's opinions?

At Holy Cross we learn together – we do our personal best, we are respectful and we are safe.

Regards,
Sarah O’Rourke
Acting Principal

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
WYD Gold and Fold Appeal

Next year, thousands of pilgrims from around the world will be travelling to Poland in the footsteps of St John Paul II for World Youth Day 2016. Joining this assembly will be representatives from the Parishes and schools of our Parramatta Diocese.

Before reaching Poland though, many will first travel to the Philippines and undertake a special mission project. They will arrive in Bohol Island, where in 2013, the Diocese of Tagbilaran was devastated by an earthquake. Pilgrims will spend four days working with young people in schools, parishes, and orphanages looking to rebuild and provide hope for the future.

During the earthquake, the community of Bohol Island completely lost their parish and school facilities and they have been struggling to rebuild this vital resource ever since.

Next week, we will be holding a “Gold and Fold” mufti day to raise money which will specifically fund the resources needed for the Diocese of Tagbilaran.

We will be having our WYD Gold and Fold Mufti Day on Friday 4th December.

St Vincent de Paul Christmas Appeal

We have begun collecting for this year’s St Vincent de Paul Christmas appeal and invite everyone in the community to contribute.

Over the next three weeks, please keep in mind the many families who are struggling and will not be able to afford any kind of Christmas celebration without the support of their community.

Also, please spare a thought for the many homeless men who are finding shelter at the Matthew Talbot Hostel each night and are struggling to survive. We can make a real and tangible difference in their daily life. We sometimes forget that we are also teaching our children the importance of charity and that this is a very real way in which we can live like Jesus taught us.

Please bring in either Christmas food items for our hampers or toiletries and warm socks. Thank you for your support.

Reconciliation Sacramental Program

Congratulations to all children who received Reconciliation for the first time last week. Well done on your efforts to prepare for this and be a part of this year’s Sacramental Program.

Reconciliation is offered at Church after any weekday mass as well as on Saturday between 5:00 - 5:45pm.

November - The Month of The Holy Souls

We continue this week remembering our loved ones who have passed away and are with God in heaven. In our school foyer we have a book of remembrance for anyone who would like to record the name of someone who has died and is wished to be remembered in prayer through November.

Wednesday Parish Mass @ Holy Cross

This week Year 5 will be attending our Wednesday Parish Mass. This begins at 9am in our school library and all parents and parishioners are more than welcome to join us for what is a lovely way to begin the day. Next week Year 3 will assist in the Wednesday parish mass which will also be the final one for the year.

Year 4 – Preparing for Jesus

At the beginning of the term, Year 4 were exploring how we could be of service to others and treat everyone like our ‘neighbour’ as Jesus explained in the parable of the Good Samaritan. We linked this learning to our Advent Unit of preparing for the coming of Jesus. To show that we can be like the Good Samaritan in serving others, as a project year 4 have been making their own Christmas Advent calendars to prepare for Christmas. So instead of receiving something each day, we will be giving or doing something for someone.

On Monday, we will start to explore our Advent calendars in small groups, firstly we will be discussing how we will be of service to someone, and then we will be reflecting on whether we were successful with our act of service or what prevented us from helping someone.

We have really enjoyed this project! Here is a photo of Year 4’s advent calendars.

Jade H and Ashleigh
(Representatives from the Creative Year 4 Team!)
2016 Diocesan School Fees

Dear families,

As you may be aware, there is still uncertainty around long term government funding for Catholic schools. Indications are that federal government funding for education post 2017 will be linked to the Consumer Price Index (CPI), which historically has been much lower than the education inflation rate. Funding growth linked to CPI will not meet increases in the real costs of schooling.

To maintain our current service levels we will need to increase diocesan tuition fees by 5%. This increase will mean we can continue to fund important initiatives to improve student learning, including:

- literacy and numeracy programs such as Focus160, Reading Recovery, EMU, EM4 and professional learning for teachers and leaders to support the implementation of these programs
- increasing support for students with disabilities, behavioural and emotional needs
- improving our learning spaces, technology and infrastructure
- building new schools and expanding existing schools to cater for new places

Scholarships and fee arrangements
We are committed to ensuring that no child will be refused enrolment due to a family’s financial situation. There are a range of scholarship and support programs to assist families including:

- The Bishop Manning Scholarship Fund
- Fee arrangements and discounts
- The Byailaw co-contribution scheme for Indigenous families

Annual Diocesan Tuition Fees - 2016
Annual Diocesan Tuition Fee can be paid upfront at the start of the year or as three equal payments in Terms 1, 2 and 3. Flexible payment plans are also available around weekly, fortnightly or monthly payments. The fee is only charged for the first three children currently enrolled in the diocese. There is no additional Diocesan Tuition Fee for the fourth child attending a systemic school in the diocese or other participating Catholic schools.

Annual Diocesan Building Levy - 2016
The Diocesan Building Levy enables us to continue to maintain all schools to a high standard, and ensure we can expand or build new schools in high growth areas. To ensure this continues we will need to increase the building levy by $33 per family per year. The levy for 2016 will be $735 per family, payable in three equal instalments of $245 in Terms 1, 2 and 3.

We continue to make every effort to contain educational costs and we do not take the decision to raise fees lightly. If a school fee increase will be difficult for your family to manage, please contact your school principal. We will provide every assistance to families in financial need.

Thank you for your ongoing support of Catholic education.

Yours sincerely,

[Signature]
Gregory B Whitby
Executive Director of Schools

The 2016 Annual Tuition Fees are as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>1st Child 100%</th>
<th>2nd Child 75%</th>
<th>3rd Child 50%</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Annual Fees</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuition Fee Primary</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Kindergarten</td>
<td>$1,098</td>
<td>$825</td>
<td>$549</td>
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<tr>
<td>Years 1 - 6</td>
<td>$1,419</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuition Fee Secondary</td>
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<tr>
<td>Years 7 - 8</td>
<td>$1,968</td>
<td>$1,476</td>
<td>$984</td>
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<td>Years 9 - 10</td>
<td>$2,184</td>
<td>$1,638</td>
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<tr>
<td>Years 11 - 12</td>
<td>$2,790</td>
<td>$2,094</td>
<td>$1,395</td>
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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!

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

NEW BUSWAYS SCHOOL TIMETABLE
The new timetable for Busways will come into effect from Monday 30th November, 2015. There will be changes to our current school and public route services. A new timetable will be sent home with all students that currently use this service.

CHANGE OF FAMILY DETAILS
Please ensure that your family details, especially contact numbers are updated at the office when they change. This is very important in cases of an accident or illness when we need to urgently contact parents.

Swimming Carnival
All swimming notes were due at school last Wednesday. Mrs Richardson will now be organising heats for the children. Parents are encouraged to offer assistance on the day so that the carnival can run safely and smoothly. If you are able to assist please ensure that you have completed the Child Protection Module.

Staff Carpark
Thank you to all the parents for taking care when dropping your children off at school and picking them up at the end of the day. Parents and families are reminded that the car park at the front of the school is not accessible for parent parking either before or after school. Please DO NOT ENTER the car park even when the gate is open as this puts the safety of all our children at risk.

Library News
This week will be the last week for Library borrowing as we will commence stock-take in Week 9. Please ask you children to search under their beds, in drawers, on bookshelves and desks for any overdue books they may have forgotten about.

Happy Birthday to the following students who celebrated their Birthday
Mathea Estaca, Edward d’Silva, Nirvana Maharaj, Ethan Tran, Samiya Lakhani, Jason Budiman, Rianna Arcega, Hanah Bloodworth, Mathew Clements & Natasha Sullivan

Parent Helpers
Thank You
Morning Tea
On Monday 30th November, 2015 at 9.45 am we will be having a “Thank You” Morning Tea in the Multi-Purpose Learning Centre. The purpose of this Morning Tea is to express our appreciation for the generous involvement of parents as classroom helpers, library assistance, Book Club, Kiss and Drop, excursions, sport carnivals, tabloid sports day, gala days, excursions religious events, Mother’s & Father’s Day stalls as well as many other ways. It will also give us all an opportunity to meet others who are part of this important work.

We are looking forward to seeing you on the 30th November at 9.45 am.

Diary Events

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Thu 26th Nov</td>
<td>Kinder 2016 Orientation</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mon 30th Nov</td>
<td>Parent thank you morning tea</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thu 3rd Dec</td>
<td>Swimming Carnival</td>
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<td>Wed 9th Dec</td>
<td>End of Year Mass</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thu 10th Dec</td>
<td>Year 6 Graduation</td>
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<td>Fri 11th Dec</td>
<td>Dance Fever Challenge Years 3 - 6</td>
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<td>Tue 15th Dec</td>
<td>Creative Arts Showcase</td>
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<td>Wed 16th Dec</td>
<td>Last day of Term for students</td>
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<td>Thurs 17th Dec</td>
<td>Pupil Free Day</td>
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<td>Fri 18th Dec</td>
<td>Pupil Free Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thu 28th Jan</td>
<td>Years 1 - 6 Return Term 1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mon 1st Feb</td>
<td>Kindergarten 2016 commence</td>
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