Dear Parents and Caregivers,

**WELCOME BACK TO 2013**

A warm welcome is extended to all students, families and staff at Holy Cross. We welcome our Kindergarten students and new families who have joined our school community. It has been delightful to greet the students and families and hear about their holiday. The teachers have been meeting over the last few weeks and planning the learning program for the students. On January 29 the staff of Blessed John XXIII, St Marks and Holy Cross all came together with Father Dave to celebrate the beginning of the new school year with mass.

Included in this newsletter is a Parent/Guardian Survey, which we ask you to complete and return to school by Monday 11th February 2013. This is an opportunity for our staff to learn more about your children.

________________________________________________________

**You are invited to attend our**

**OPENING SCHOOL MASS**

**FRIDAY 8TH FEBRUARY, 2013**

**AT 9.00 AM in the MPLC**

We will welcome our Kindergarten students at our mass

I look forward to seeing you over the coming weeks and welcome you back to Holy Cross School.

Kind regards,

**Marina Hardy**

Principal

---

Applications are now being accepted for Kindergarten 2014. Parents are asked to obtain an expression of interest form from the school office or downloaded from our website. Please inform family or friends if they have children who are eligible to attend.
The Cinque Cento Club now has 19 members! We need about 250 members to operate as a fundraiser this year. If you were a member last year and want to continue this year you need to submit a new form because this is a new draw. Please sign up by either taking a form down the back of the church and contacting Mila at the parish office direct on 965220584 on next Thursday or Friday or filling out your form down the back of the church and handing it in to the sacristy after mass or taking a form home and bring it back next week. We have three weeks left to get our forms in. Please if you are not able to join try and get someone else to sign up for this year. Great prizes (Listed on the application form.) Be in it to win and good luck.

Congratulations to Paul and Paula Camilleri who celebrate their 60th Wedding anniversary. May God bless you for your presence among us and to the witness of committed and faithful love that you give each other and to your family and friends. Happy Anniversary from all of us!

Remember new mass times during the week: Now there is a 9.00am Tuesday Mass and a 7.15am Friday mass in the church on a trial basis. The Ash Wednesday Mass times for Wednesday 13th February: 7.00am, 9.00am and 7.30pm.

Live Jesus In Our Hearts, Forever Father Dave

Mathematical Assessment Interviews (MAI’s)

Thank you to those parents who brought their child/ren to school over the last few weeks for their Mathematical Assessment Interviews.

The one to one interview between teacher and student provided the teachers with a wealth of information about the children’s number knowledge, including the mental strategies that the students use when solving mathematical problems.

Throughout this year Holy Cross staff will continue their ongoing professional learning in collaboration with the Catholic Education Office, Parramatta and the Australian Catholic University in improving the numeracy skills of the students.

Thursday Professional Development Meetings 8.30am-9.00am

Each Thursday morning the staff meet from 8.30 am - 9.00 am to engage in professional learning which will assist them to meet the needs of our students. On Thursday morning’s parents are asked to bring the children to the COLA from 8.40am NOT to the classrooms. Parents may leave their children and teachers on duty will supervise them on the playground until 9.00 am when class teachers will go to the classrooms. Thank you for your cooperation.

UNIFORM SHOP

All school uniform items are sold at the uniform shop which is located near the staff car park. Please park on the street and walk into the car park and please be aware of staff vehicles entering and leaving the car park.

UNIFORM SHOP OPERATING HOURS

Location: Holy Cross Primary School
Open: During school term,
      Wednesdays 2 - 4pm
      and Saturdays 11am - 2pm

Opening School Mass

This Friday is our school’s opening mass for the year. It is the first time that we will assemble together as a whole community including our new kindergarten students. It will only be a short mass and we encourage all parents who are able to come along and join us.

Friday Masses

Every Friday, one grade from Holy Cross is given the privilege of leading our parish mass in their learning space. As our parish of Blessed John XXIII began in the learning spaces of Holy Cross, this tradition had been retained. Each week we will advertise which grade will be leading mass so that parents and friends can join us.

Mass begins at 9am and usually concludes at 9:30am. Grades prepare the mass around their religious units of work and lead the celebration in readings and prayer. It means a lot to the students when they are supported so please join us if you are able.

This week we are celebrating a significant whole school opening mass for the year. Next week, Year 5 will be leading mass followed by year 4 in Week 4.

Sacramental Program Dates

The dates for this year’s sacramental programs are available now on our parish website of Blessed John XXIII. This list is very comprehensive and includes all parent information sessions, children’s sessions as well as dates for receiving the sacraments.

First Eucharist (First Holy Communion) is the first sacrament.

Our new kindergarten students. It will only be a short mass and we
mass for the year.

As you are aware we are able to send home newsletters either by email or a printed copy. Please indicate on the attached note your preferred way of receiving the newsletter each week. You are welcome to nominate more than one email address.

Sports Days 2013

The children need to wear their sports uniform on the following days in Term 1 2013.

Kindergarten: Wednesday & Friday
Year One: Thursday & Friday
Year Two: Wednesday & Friday
Year Three: Tuesday & Thursday
Year Four: Tuesday & Thursday
Year Five: Wednesday & Friday
Year Six: Wednesday & Friday

Happy Birthday to the following students who celebrated their Birthday in the holidays and past week

Patil Balassian,Liam Wearing,Eric Burakowski,Mark Gonzales,
Mathew Koncurat,Sarah d’Cruz,Brendon Brock,Ashton Hoare,Kobie
Searles,Krishav Pratap,Bethany Menin,Malena Searles,Joshua De
Bruin,Christina Kiceec,Arshia Parajuli,Braeden Cauchi,Jamal
El Bied,Xavier Villanueva,Benedict Alpha,Julian Lockyer,Nicholas
Bivona,Lily Trofa,Jessica O’Meara,Roberto Sanchez,Rosanna
McAlary,Tyler Portelli,Charlotte Jenner,Jaidon Jabson,Sevi
De Castro,Abraham De Castro,Joaquim Schaub Robles,Leticia
Zec,Vhalery Sivakumar,Henrietta Boateng,Callum Scott,Benjamin
Webster,Althalia Huang,Joscebeth Singson,jaydylan Manaid,Josua
Toa,Parth Khanna,Cassandra Muir,Joyce Diaz,William
O’Rourke,Giuliana D’Aptitle,Alexandra Dobrecovic,Madeline Surdich,
Isabella Curran,Briana Clements & Ayanfe Kayode
This year the teachers will be holding a parent information evening. This is an opportunity for the teachers to introduce themselves and share with you information in relation to the grade.

The dates and times are as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Grade</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday 18th February</td>
<td>Year 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday 18th February</td>
<td>Year 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday 19th February</td>
<td>Year 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday 19th February</td>
<td>Year 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday 20th February</td>
<td>Year 5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday 20th February</td>
<td>Year 6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

At Holy Cross we always welcome parent helpers in our school.

As in previous years we are required to provide information about Child Protection information and procedures at our school for all Parent and Volunteer helpers. Your involvement in our school is greatly appreciated as the service you offer assists us to provide quality education for our students. It is essential that appropriate care and protection structures exist in our school to enable us to provide the safest possible environment for our students. Principals are responsible to ensure that all persons performing child related tasks in, or for the school, complete the training module (every two years) before they undertake a task on behalf of the school. This includes volunteers for excursion, school functions, reading groups etc. After successfully completing the module, an email notification will be sent automatically to the volunteer's email address and to the school email address. This email is a confirmation that the training has been successfully completed.

The training module can now be completed online from the Catholic Education Office website which is accessed via the following address:


Using Child Protection for Volunteers

1. Open the module by clicking the Start link
2. Read through the presentation
3. Complete and submit quiz questions – this will take approximately 45 minutes
4. After successful completion of the module, fill out the form by typing name, email address, contact number, contact address and the school.
5. A notification of successful completion of the module will be sent via email to the school and also the volunteer’s email address.
Thank you Year 6 Leaders

Congratulations to our Year 6 leaders who welcomed our Kindergarten students and their families at the Family Night last week. The families had a sausage sizzle and then joined in dancing with our instructors from Dance Fever.

Thank you to the following Year 6 students who helped:

CANTEEN INVOLVEMENT 2013

CAN YOU SPARE 2 HOURS BETWEEN 9 – 11am? Then why not come and have a cuppa and help the school provide a canteen service for your children.

We are always looking for new volunteers to join us. It’s a great way to meet other parents and the children always get a thrill when they see their mum or dad on canteen. The canteen can only operate with the help of volunteers. A HUGE THANK YOU to our existing volunteers I look forward to seeing you again this year.

The profit earned goes back into resources for your children.

If you would like to volunteer could you please fill in the form and I will contact you. If you would like to see how the canteen operates please come in and have a look. If you have any queries please do not hesitate to contact the school and I will call you back. I look forward to meeting you.

Maureen

Please nominate your preferred day/s:  WEDNESDAY  FRIDAY

Frequency:  WEEKLY  FORTNIGHTLY  MONTHLY
OTHER: eg 3 times a term

EMERGENCY LIST: Yes/No  Wed  Fri

Name:______________________________________

Contact Numbers: (H)_______________  (W)_______________  (MB)_______________

Childs Name:_______________________  Class:_________________________

Do you want to be rostered on with any particular person? ____________________________________

Thank You – ‘A little help goes a long way’
We welcome Kindergarten 2013