Dear Parents and Caregivers,

Once again we near the end of another busy term. As I reflect back over the term calendar I am amazed at the many opportunities offered within the school over the relatively short time of the past 10 weeks. Academically, spiritually and emotionally, our students and staff have been nurtured, within a supportive community, to grow and achieve great things.

This term the children have enjoyed so many opportunities to showcase their learning - Years 3 & 4 CAPTIVATE Performance, Voice of Youth, sporting events such as the Touch Football, Athletics Carnivals, and Netball and Soccer Gala Days. The students have also benefitted from excursions outside the school to enhance their learning – Kindergarten Farm excursion, Year 2 Rouse Hill Excursion, Year One visit to Blacktown City Library, Year 4 visit to Hartley, as well as an entertaining visit from author Christopher Cheng for all our students. We now look forward to an exciting and yes busy Term 4.

On behalf of the staff I would like to take the opportunity to thank the parents for their contributions to our school community by assisting throughout the term. Some of the ways includes: Gala days, Father’s Day stalls, clothing pool, book club, kiss and drop supervision, canteens, classroom support, excursions, walkathons, and sports carnivals. We also appreciate your support in joining us for Monday morning prayer and Friday morning Mass.

I wish you and your family a safe and enjoyable school holiday break and look forward to working in partnership with you throughout Term 4.

Celebrating our school Feast Day and Walkathon

It was marvelous to see many parents, grandparents and friends join us to celebrate our school Feast Day on Friday. Our morning began with a special Mass, followed by a walkathon, fun activities and a sausage sizzle. Thank you to the volunteers who helped prepare and provide such a beautiful lunch, as well as those who were able to walk with the students and supervise the stations.

Regards

Marina Hardy
Principal
Parish News

For those wishing to be WYD pilgrims with this parish: there is a very important meeting for you to attend on Sunday 30th September after the 6.00pm mass in the church kitchen. Important information about your registration with Blessed John XXIII will be given. If you cannot make this meeting then please contact me (FrDave@john23rd.org.au).

We need more people willing to go and teach scripture for 30mins a week. We will train and help you. Are you willing to spread the Gospel to our little ones in Public Schools? If you are then please phone Tanya at the Parish office on 9852 0580. Congratulations to Krizzia Tiga (Team Leader) Rolf, Jica and Rafael Samonte for running a very successful GTK Youth Group Meeting last Sunday. About 30 young people attended and really enjoyed the experience. Our next meeting is on Sunday 23rd September. This Sunday is Youth For Christ and they meet in St Mark’s College Hall at 2.00pm – 5.00pm followed by fellowship to 6.00pm concluding with the Youth Mass. All are welcome.

Thank you and Farewell

We farewell Miss Samantha Peppin, who will be completing her teaching role in Year 1 this week as Ms Porteous will be returning from her leave at the beginning of Term 4. On behalf of the students, staff and parents of Holy Cross School I would like to sincerely thank Miss Peppin for her wonderful contributions to our school community and wish her all the very best.

SPORTS NEWS

Athletics

Congratulations to Lachlan, Nicholas, Michael and Adam who represented the Parramatta Diocese at the MacKillop trials last week. We are all extremely proud of your magnificent achievements.

A special congratulations to Michael who will now be representing the MacKillop team at the NSWPSA Championships which will be held on 17th and 18th October at Homebush for the 200 m event. This is an outstanding performance.

Touch Football

On Friday our Years 5 and 6 students will represent Holy Cross at the Diocesan Touch Football gala day. We wish you all the very best.

Upcoming Events

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
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<tr>
<td>Friday 21st September</td>
<td>Stage 3 Touch Football Gala Day</td>
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<td>Friday 21st September</td>
<td>Last Day of Term 3</td>
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<td>Monday 8th October</td>
<td>First Day of Term 4</td>
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School RE News

School Feast Day Mass

Congratulations and thank you to all students and parents who helped lead our mass last Friday. A special thanks to Miss Leanno and Miss Desira for preparing the beautiful liturgical dance led by students from across the school. For the day, a special banner was created depicting all children in the school in the image of a cross. Currently it is on display in our MPLC if you would like to have a look.

Summer Uniforms

Children are asked to wear their full school summer uniform from Monday 8th October (Week 1, Term 4). Please note: Sports shoes are to be white and are only to be worn on sport day. Prior to this date if it is cold parents may send their children in their winter uniform.

Please ensure that all items of clothing, lunch boxes and drink bottles are clearly labeled, as this assists with the item being returned to your child.

Second hand Uniform Shop

The second hand uniform shop will be open tomorrow Wednesday 19th September at 2.30pm.

There are plenty of summer uniforms available

Dance Fever

The Dance Fever Program will commence in Term 4 and be held every Tuesday. Therefore the students will need to wear their full sports uniform, including a hat every Tuesday as well as their normal sport day with Miss Morgan.

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

Aidan Scott, Mikaela Sanchez and Jacob Beshai

Student Data Validation Forms

During the holidays Student Data Validation Forms will be sent to parents and carers from the 27th September 2012. Could you please check the details closely and mark any changes in red pen. The form will need to be returned even if the details are correct. Forms will be required to be returned by parents/carers to the school for processing prior to the 18th October 2012

Walkathon money

A big thank you to the families who have sent in their walkathon money so far. Just a reminder when sending in money to the school please place it in an envelope with your child’s name on the front, what it is for and your child’s class details.
NSW HEALTH – OUTBREAK OF MEASLES

Sydney is currently experiencing an outbreak of measles which began in April 2012 and is centred in the South Western Sydney and Western Sydney regions. Many of the cases have been high school students, with a smaller number in primary school. There is potential for the measles outbreak to spread further given young people have large social networks both within and outside of school.

NSW Health advises that measles is a serious viral illness that mainly affects unvaccinated children, teenagers, young adults, and babies too young to be vaccinated. Measles is highly infectious and can easily spread through the air.

Immunisation is effective in preventing the disease. In Australia, infants and young children are vaccinated with measles-mumps-rubella vaccine at 12 months and 4 years of age. People who are at risk of measles include:

- Infants <12 months who are too young to have been routinely vaccinated
- Older children who have not received 2 doses of measles-containing vaccine
- Adults born during or after 1966 who have not received 2 doses of measles-containing vaccine and haven’t had measles infection in the past. Immunising older siblings and non-immune adults will help prevent the spread of infection to infants who are too young to be vaccinated and who are at risk of severe disease. The first sign of measles is a high fever which usually begins about 10 to 12 days after exposure to a person with measles (range 7-18 days). A runny nose, cough, red and watery eyes (conjunctivitis), and small white spots inside the cheeks can develop in the initial stage. The rash appears around 14 days after exposure, usually starting on the face and upper neck and spreading over the body, hands and feet. The rash lasts for 4-7 days. People with measles are usually infectious from just before the symptoms begin until four days after the rash appears. If you have had contact with another case of measles and develop a fever, runny nose, cough, red and watery eyes, think measles and seek medical advice even before the rash appears. If you suspect measles, see your doctor, clinic or hospital. It is important to ring before your consultation so you can be seen as soon as possible and arrangements can be made to avoid contact with other patients in the waiting room who may be susceptible to measles. A person with measles should remain at home until four days after the rash appears to reduce the possibility of spreading it to other people. Further information about measles can be found on the NSW Ministry of Health website at: http://www.health.nsw.gov.au/factsheets/infectious/measles.html

PARKING

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.

**Kiss and Drop in the Bus Bay Area - Safety Rules for Drivers**

- Please do not park or leave your vehicle in the Bus Bay area. **This is a No Parking Zone.**
- Always drop-off your child from the designated area.
- Make sure children use the footpath-side door when getting in and out of a car.
- Make sure the hand brake is applied when the vehicle is stationary.
- Never double park
- Never undertake a U-turn in close proximity to the school

**Safety tips for students**

- Stay buckled up until the vehicle has stopped in the “Drop-off” area.
- Make sure your school bag and other items are in a safe position in the vehicle e.g. on the floor.
- Be ready to get out of the car with your belongings when the car has stopped and you have unbuckled your seatbelt.
- Always get in and out of the backseat of the vehicle through the safety door – the rear footpath-side door.
## TERM 4 PARENT OVERVIEW – 2012

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<th>WEEK</th>
<th>MONDAY</th>
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<td>Special Canteen Day</td>
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<td>1st Dec First Sunday of Advent</td>
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<td>10 DEC</td>
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<td>13th Swimming Carnival Years 2 – 5 at Nirimba Year 6 Graduation Mass 7.30pm</td>
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<td>11 DEC</td>
<td>17th Dance Fever Concert Homebush</td>
<td>18th</td>
<td>19th Children’s last day</td>
<td>20th STAFF DEVELOPMENT DAY</td>
<td>21st STAFF DEVELOPMENT DAY</td>
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