Moments of death and resurrection
As we go through life we all experience little deaths. We get a foretaste of death when we live in bitterness, loneliness, sadness and despair. In times like these the world closes in on us, and we seem to have one foot in the grave. But we also experience little resurrections. When we know love, acceptance, and forgiveness; when we open our hearts to others and to life, the world opens up and we emerge from the tomb. Lord, may the splendour of your resurrection scatter the shadows of death, and enable us to walk in radiant hope towards the kingdom where there are no more shattered hopes or broken dreams.

ON BEHALF OF OUR PARISH STAFF, I WOULD LIKE TO WISH YOU A VERY HAPPY AND HOLY EASTER AND MAY THE BLESSINGS OF ALMIGHTY GOD BE WITH YOU AND YOUR FAMILY THIS EASTER SEASON

Holy Week Celebrations
Congratulations to all grades for preparing and leading the school in our Holy Week celebrations. Tomorrow, Years 5 and 6 will lead the school in the Stations of the Cross for Good Friday and on Thursday, Kindergarten and Year 2 will lead our school’s Easter celebration. If you are able to join us, then please come to the hall, ready to begin by 9:00am.

Project Compassion Mufti Day
This Thursday we will be having a mufti day to conclude our Project Compassion appeal. The children are asked to bring in a gold coin donation, which will go toward the work that Caritas does throughout the world. This would also be a good opportunity to celebrate the end of term and Easter. The children will need to wear sensible clothing and closed shoes. Please bring in your Project Compassion money boxes to your child’s class teacher.

KINDER 2013 ENROLMENTS
Applications are now being accepted for Kindergarten 2013. If your turns 5 on or before the 31st July, 2013 and would like them to attend Holy Cross Primary School, you are welcome to collect an expression of interest form from the school office. Please inform family or friends if they have children who are eligible to attend

John XXIII Mass Times
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Mass</th>
<th>Time</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Saturday Vigil</td>
<td>6.00pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sunday Masses</td>
<td>8.30am, 10.30am, 6.00pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weekday Masses</td>
<td>Mon, Wed, Thurs and Sat at 9.00am</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
THANK YOU
I would like to say thank you to the Holy Cross community for the privilege and opportunity of working in such a wonderful, exciting and welcoming place.

The staff at Holy Cross is to be commended on their professionalism and the fantastic work they do each day for the children in their care.

The students have been an absolute pleasure to know which I believe is a reflection of the supportive families belief that Catholic Education will make a difference in their child’s lives and the wider community.

I would also like to acknowledge the huge support that I received from the leadership team and the wonderful office Administration team. This group do an amazing job.

Finally, thanks to Father Dave and Father Joy who both provide wonderful spiritual experiences and support in the parish of Blessed John XX111 and within Holy Cross community.

ENROLMENTS
2013 enrolments are now being taken. If you have a child commencing school next year it is important that you come and collect your Expression of Interest Form. Our families are the best source of advertising for our school. If you know of any families seeking a Catholic education for their children it is time for them to come and collect the forms now.

WINTER UNIFORMS
Children are asked to wear their full school winter uniform from Monday 14th May (the day after Mothers’ Day). Prior to this date if it is cold parents may send their children in their winter uniform.

Mother’s Day Stall
The Mother’s Day Stall will be held on Tuesday 8th May. Cost of each gift will be $5.00.

Mother’s Day Wrapping
Thanks to the following mums for helping with the Mother’s Day wrapping of gifts – Mrs Burakowski, Mrs Inns, Mrs Mey, Mrs Ferguson, Mrs Bebek, Mrs Szymoniczek, Mrs Surace, Mrs Harmer, Mrs Aouchan, Mrs Scott and Mrs Harper. And thanks also to Year 6 boys Campbell, Alex and Mitchell for carrying all the boxes.

National Year of Reading
‘Few children learn to love books by themselves. Someone has to lure them into the wonderful world of the written word; someone has to show them the way.’ (S. Hill: Developing Early Literacy)

During the Easter holidays we hope you and your children will find many opportunities to share books together. During the holidays we often do many different activities. This is an ideal time to get children reading for every day events: What times are available for movie sessions, reading direction signs while travelling by car or public transport, cooking times together, reading instructions for craft activities or planning a picnic in the park or to the beach.

If you happen to go to the Easter Show the opportunities for reading are endless!

Whatever you do we hope you and your family see reading as one of the joys in life.

Happy Birthday to all students who have celebrated their Birthday
Andre Scott, Lovette Boachie, Marcus Huynh, Marc Zammit, Hannah Aouchan and Tami Mahachi.

Maths-a-thon!
A final THANK YOU to all who have supported the Maths-a-thon. It has been extremely successful with a total of $9,147.15 raised. Congratulations to Krishav Pratap KM and Rangi Ferguson Year 5 who won the iPod Nanos.

The Pizza lunch was won by Grade 1 and will be held this Wednesday.

The money raised will be very beneficial as it will be used to buy Maths resources for the children’s use.

CONGRATULATIONS –
Exciting news for Mrs Grace Pielago (Year 2 Teacher) who is expecting her first child later in August.

Our warmest congratulations to both Grace and husband Jet.

Holy Cross Diocesan Cross Country Team
Well done to the following children who will be representing Holy Cross at the Diocesan trials on Tuesday 1st May
Adam Mrazek, Jackson Basha, Lachlan Inns, Matthew Considine, Lachlan Inglis, Michael Constantino, Elijah Joaquin, Emily Harper, Aaina Singh, Fernanda Dedic, Isabella Valenti, Brittany Nichol, Daniel Sekulic, Michael Osei Adomako, Nicholas Reetov, Gideon Boachie, Cameron Driscoll, Riley McDougall, Maddison Pritchard, Chanel Assam, Chelsea Hartley, Karina Gatt, Chloe Christie, Priscilla Mutsonziwa, Anthony Shalala, Ben Considine, Ryan Zammit, Ben Reetov, Jaden Arnold, Tami Mahachi, Samantha Hewitson, Angela Boachie, Emma Giumenti, Jorgia Darling, Chelsea Davies, Kiara Pereira, Nicholas Taylor, Hayden Laurence, Callum Scott, Geremy Muhivich, Chan Deng, Ben Inns, Joyce Diaz, Madeleine O’Rourke, Caitlin Gallacher, Jessica Hope, Sarah Ettehad, Marie Mathew, Joyce Diaz

Story Time for pre-schoolers will continue in term 2 but with a change of day. We will recommence on Thursday, 26 May @ 3.00. Thank you to the parents and preschoolers who came along this term.
SILENT READING or READING ALOUD?

If you were asked to read to others (e.g. reading at Mass) you would probably become anxious and self-conscious, practising your reading, checking out any difficult words, getting your breathing settled and so on. Fear of failure or tripping over a word or two and worrying about how others might perceive your efforts can make it a scary experience for some.

**How about children?** We often insist that they read aloud to see how they are progressing. They may be so focused on getting the wording right and pronouncing each word correctly that they have little comprehension of what they have just read.

**How about adults?** We usually read the newspaper, books, pamphlets, magazines silently…. Much faster, little stress, breezing across words and sentences without a break. So why are children always expected to read aloud to an audience or to some teacher or parent who are judging their every word, pause, expression, pronunciation?

Children are encouraged to read silently each day, where they can enjoy the story, not stressing over difficult words and simply reading with comprehension. Given the choice, silent or aloud, what would you prefer when reading? **Volume** of reading is also important whereby **time spent practising**, is critical like in any sport or skill development area.

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**Second Hand Uniform Shop**
The shop will be open tomorrow, Wednesday 4th April. This will be the last opportunity this term to purchase pre-loved uniforms. The uniform shop will be open from 2.30pm

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**ANAPHYLAXIS**
At Holy Cross this year there are a number of children who experience anaphylaxis – in particular a severe allergic reaction when they are exposed to peanuts and nut related products. If those children are exposed to these foods a severe allergic reaction can occur within 20 minutes of exposure and can rapidly become life threatening. Accidental exposure to these foods can happen at eating times and in the case of one of our students, the allergic reaction can be triggered when another person has touched or eaten these foods and then that person touches them.

As a community we can assist these children by making our school environment safe. We ask families to

- avoid the use of peanut, nut and chocolate spreads when making and sending sandwiches to school.
- NEVER send nuts to school for your own child to eat
- remind children NOT to share their food with other children at school
- explain to your children the seriousness of food allergies for those children who are affected by them and that we can help to keep these children safe by the choices we make.

Should you wish to have more information about anaphylaxis this can be found at the Anaphylaxis Australia website [www.allergyfacts.org.au](http://www.allergyfacts.org.au).

Thank you for your assistance with all that you do to help us provide a safe environment for all the children at Holy Cross primary School.

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**Term Two Dates**
Term One ends on Thursday 5th April
Term Two commences Monday 23rd April

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**Student Medical Conditions**
Each year we update our student medical details and emergency action plans. If your child suffers a medical condition or your child’s condition has changed, please inform the office immediately. It is vital our staff are well aware to best care for the children.

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**Term One School Fees**
Term 1 school fees are now overdue unless you have arranged your flexible fee payments, which should have already started. Thank you to families who have paid Term One fees. If you have not arranged the flexible payment option and you wish to take up this option please contact Vanessa in the office to do so. If you would like to discuss the payment of your outstanding fees please contact the office to avoid a CEO generated late payment notice.
Holy Cross Primary Bingo Night

Come along for a night of family fun
Lots of games and Loads of prizes to be won for everyone
When: 11th May Where: Multipurpose Learning Centre
Sausage Sizzle 5.30pm
Games will begin at 6.30pm

We are asking for your assistance with prizes for the night.
Each grade are asked to bring the following items, that will be made into hampers by a team of parent helpers.

Kindergarten Lollies
Year 1 Chocolates
Year 2 Biscuits
Year 3 Things for Kids *For Example: playing cards, travel games, dominos, Uno cards, puzzle books etc.
Year 4 Things for Dad *For Example: car cleaning products, gardening gloves, tools etc.
Year 5 Things for Mum *For Example: candles, nail polish, hand cream, coffee cup etc.
Year 6 Tea, Coffee or Hot Chocolate

If anyone has any baskets that they could donate to be used for the hampers, it would be greatly appreciated.
Any one who would like to help with the Family Bingo Night can join us in the Multi Purpose Learning Centre after Monday Morning Prayer.