Dear Parents and Caregivers,

Catholic Schools Week - “Every Child Counts!”

From Sunday 10th to Friday 15th March, Schools across NSW will celebrate Catholic Schools Week.

At Holy Cross we believe that every child counts. We are all uniquely made in the image of God, and in this way we all learn in different ways. At Holy Cross we strive to meet this need by making sure that all different learning styles and intelligences are catered for.

During Catholic Schools Week we will celebrate a different intelligence for each day of the week. We encourage all parents to join us in prayer, visit our learning spaces, support us in our fund raising as well as take part in some of our activities.

SUNDAY – Fr. Dave will be celebrating a special mass at Blessed John XXIII at 10:30am for the students of Holy Cross as well as the students of John XXIII to commence this special week. We encourage all families to attend. Following this is our school’s Open Day from 11:30am – 1pm for those seeking enrolment in 2014 as advertised in the attached flyer.

MONDAY – Join us as we begin the week with a special Catholic Schools Week Prayer led by our students at 9am. During this prayer, our Year 6 students will be presented with their school badges. After prayer, mums and dads are welcome to stay for a coffee and some morning tea.

Intrapersonal/Interpersonal Intelligence – being aware of, sensitive to and understanding the needs of others and yourself.

TUESDAY – LEARNING IN ACTION! Learning spaces will be open for all parents and friends to come, visit and stay with us for a while. Classes will be involved in literacy activities such as role plays, reading stories as well as writing. Learning spaces will be open from 9:30 – 10:30am. After this, children will go outside for morning tea. Please feel welcome to stay and share morning tea with your child.

Verbal-Linguistic Intelligence – an understanding of words and languages.

WEDNESDAY – All students across the school will participate in a range of art activities responding to the theme of “Every Child Counts”. Students will also go on an “art gallery” tour of each other’s learning spaces as they admire each other’s work as well as view our Catholic Schools Week self-portraits.

Student portraits will be on sale to parents as one of our schools’ fundraisers.

Specific information about this will be sent home soon.

Visual-Spatial Intelligence – the ability to visualize and perceive


Bodily - Kinesthetic Intelligence – an understanding and ability centered on body movement.

FRIDAY – Multiplying for Missions! – In promoting the logical-mathematical intelligence, as well as in support of Project Compassion, we will attempt to make the “world’s biggest array!” from loose change and 5c coins brought in by the students. In another spin on “Every Child Counts” the students will be counting out small denominations of coins, as we believe that children all across the world count, and we should help those who live in poverty. Each grade will contribute to a giant array (rows and columns of coins) in our hall, giving students a great opportunity for mathematical prediction, discussion and problem solving. We also hope to raise a substantial amount of money for Project Compassion during this Lenten season.

Logical-Mathematical Intelligence – an understanding of logic, reasoning and numbers.

PLEASE JOIN US AS WE CELEBRATE OUR SPECIAL CATHOLIC SCHOOL OPEN DAY

Along with this newsletter you will receive an OPEN DAY flyer. This will be held on Sunday March 10th 2013 at 11.30 - 1 pm for families interested in enrolling their child/ren into Holy Cross School.

Regards,

Marina Hardy
Principal

KINDER 2014 ENROLMENTS

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.
YE 3 CLASS MASS
This week, Year 3 have been looking at how they can reach out to others during Lent. On Monday morning they presented ideas such as helping out with chores at home, helping friends at school who are hurt or remembering to be charitable for Project Compassion. Year 3 will lead our parish mass in their learning space this Friday at 9am. Please join us if possible.

Clarification on Sacraments
As this is a year of change in the parish for when children receive the Sacraments, there can be some confusion around when children are eligible.
Students who are in Year 3 or higher and have already received Reconciliation in Year 2 are able to receive First Communion (Eucharist) this year. The parent information evenings for this are on Wednesday March 6 at 7.30pm or Thursday March 7 at 7.30pm. This will be the only time that Enrolment forms will be handed out.
Children who are in Year 3 and have not as yet received Reconciliation will be eligible to enroll for the Reconciliation program later in the year and to then go on to receive First Communion in Year 4.
Children who are in Year 5 and have already received First Communion will be able to enroll in the Confirmation program later in the year.
Please visit the parish website for sacramental program dates or please see Mr Simon Stennett if you have a question.

Project Compassion
Please remember your family’s Project Compassion money-box over these few weeks. Your loose change and occasional notes are much needed and appreciated.

PARISH NEWS
The Cinque Cento Club now has 42 members! We need about 250 members to operate as a fundraiser this year. One week to go! 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.

Live Jesus in Our Hearts, Forever Father Dave

School Fees – Flexible Payment options
Catholic Education Office in Parramatta sent out the School Fees Statements for 2013 last week. If you have not received your statement as yet please contact the school office.

Included with the statement you will find Information regarding “Flexible Payment” options that are offered to all families at the start of the year. This provides families with the opportunity to select a payment plan that best suits their circumstances. Payments can be made via direct debit or BPay on a weekly, fortnightly or monthly basis at no additional charge.

If you have any queries at all in relation to the above, please do not hesitate to contact Mrs Vanessa Burke or make an appointment with Miss Marina Hardy.

SCHOOL CROSS COUNTRY
The students have started training for our annual school Cross Country that will be held on Thursday 14th March, 2013. This carnival will be for students in Years 3 to 6 and students who will be turning 8 this year in Year 2. An information note was sent home on Monday 25th February, 2013. Please return all permission notes to school by Monday 4th March 2013. Notes can also be downloaded from our school website.

Zone Swimming Carnival

We wish Chanel, Elizabeth and Talijah all the best as they progress to the next level of competition and represent the Blacktown Zone at the Diocesan Carnival on 1st March.

We are extremely proud of you all!
I would like to extend my appreciation to Miss Ashleigh Sarasola and Mrs Sarah O’Rourke who organised the students and assisted at the carnival on the day. I would also like to thank Mrs O’Keeffe for timekeeping on the day.

Happy Birthday to the following students who celebrated their Birthday this past week
Ethan Caruana, Cameron Logan, Kendall Watkins, Daniel Arakelian, Marc Tepes, Jacinda Caruana, Nathan Catabas, Russell Muchabaiwa, Oliver Velmonte McInroy & Cooper Swadling