Holy Cross Community News

“Learning Together “

OPEN DAY

Prepare your child for life…

KINDERGARTEN 2013
WEDNESDAY 28TH MARCH
9.30am - 10.00am Information Session
10.00am - 11.00am Class Tours

Parish News

St Patrick’s day on the 17th March is a significant date to remember. Many Australians remember the Irish settlement and culture on St Patrick’s Day. The Irish were among the first Europeans to settle in Australia. They comprised a portion of the convict settlement population in the late 1700s. More than 300,000 other Irish settlers (not convicts) migrated to Australia between 1840 and 1914. Many Irish immigrants came to Australia to escape famine in their homeland. About 30 per cent of Australians are believed to have some Irish ancestry today.

One of the ministries that is vital to our young parish is the contact that we have with our youth. The Secondary Students from St Mark’s come to join us at mass on a Monday morning. Later that morning a Secondary class group come back to our church to pray and have the opportunity to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation. On Wednesday it a primary class that attends mass from BJXX and given later that morning the opportunity for Reconciliation. Friday mornings our parish mass is at Holy Cross school and after mass a class there has the opportunity for Reconciliation. The challenge for all of us is to make our worship part of our daily lives so that on Sunday it is a continuation of what we do as Christians.

Parents Meeting for First Eucharist 2012 – Last Reminder!
A reminder that the First Holy Communion Parent Meeting is tomorrow night, Wednesday 14th March or Thursday night 15th March, in the Parish Church (BJXXIII), at 7:30pm.

Harmony Day
Next Wednesday schools across Australia will celebrate Harmony Day. It’s a day when all Australians celebrate our cultural diversity. The continuing message for Harmony Day in 2012 is that Everyone Belongs, which means all Australians are a welcome part of our country, regardless of their background. It’s a time to reflect on where Australia has come from, recognising the traditional owners of this land. It’s also about community participation, inclusiveness and respect – celebrating the different cultures that make Australia a great place to live.

Our school will join in the celebration of our different nationalities, wearing national dress as well as sharing different national dishes for lunch. A separate, detailed flyer will be sent home later in the week to outline the day.

Maths-a-Thon ‘We All Count’

The Holy Cross Maths-a-thon was a huge success yesterday with the children participating in many challenging and fun Maths activities. The children thoroughly enjoyed making symmetrical shapes with their bodies, playing Bingo, measuring distances with trundle wheels and using technology just to name a few of the wonderful learning experiences.

Thank you to all the parents who helped out on the day and to the teachers for the organisation and planning that went into making the day such a success.

All money collected needs to be given to your child’s class teacher. The sponsor forms do not need to be returned to school until all the money has been collected. The children will receive a raffle ticket for every $5 raised. A raffle will be drawn each day during week 9. A small prize will be given to the child whose name is drawn. On Friday 30th March two lucky students one from infants and one from primary will win a major prize that will be an iPod Shuffle. Obviously the more money brought in the more chances they will have to win a prize.

If all sponsorship money could be sent to the class teacher by Monday 26th March it would be greatly appreciated.

God bless you and your family,

Jenny Bellenger
Acting Principal

Kinder 2013 Enrolments

Applications are now being accepted for Kindergarten 2013. If your child is 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.

Address: 49 Meurants Lane GLENWOOD NSW 2768
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Phone: 9629 8742 Fax: 9629 8745

www.hcglenwood.catholic.edu.au

John XXIII Mass Times
Saturday Vigil 6.00pm
Sunday Masses 8.30am, 10.30am, 6.00pm
Weekday Masses Mon, Wed, Thurs and Sat at 9.00am
Professional Learning
Each week our teachers undergo intensive professional learning sessions. These are based on current research and include practical workshop sessions. One of our school goals for this year is to continue last years focus on improving numeracy. Much time has been dedicated to examining data, including NAPLAN and the Mathematics Interview from the commencement of this year, for the purpose of identifying strengths and areas for improvement. I would like to thank the teachers for their dedication to the profession and commitment to best teaching practice.

Reading with Confidence
You may have already heard of ‘Pause, Prompt, Praise’ or the ‘Three Ps’ as the strategy is sometimes called. These three catchy words describe a simple technique that, used well, will help your child practise their reading and develop their reading confidence.

The principle of pausing, then prompting and then praising is handy to remember any time your child is reading aloud to you.

Teachers and trained tutors often use a more structured version, but the following tips can help you to try out the Three Ps when reading with your child at home.

It's best used when your child is reading and gets stuck on words that they can’t read or are new to them. When you child comes across words that are difficult for them to read, the Three Ps technique lets them have another go, self-correct and, if needed, find out (be told) what the problem word is.

Important things to remember about the Three Ps
• The goal of reading is to understand (make sense) of what is read, so always keep this in mind when you are prompting and praising your child.
• Try to ensure that you are relaxed, interested and supportive, which will help your child feel OK when they make mistakes or just can't work out a word and need to be told what it is.
• At home this technique will work best when your child is reading something that is well-matched to their reading level, that is, where your child can easily read most of the words in the text and only stumbles on occasional words.
• Before reading, make sure both of you are comfortable and can clearly see what is being read.

Privacy Information and Photo Permission
From time to time we publish children’s results in the University Competitions, i.e. Maths, English, Science Competitions. We also publish names of students who have participated in various sporting events and those who have achieved a Great People Award. If you have any concerns about your child’s name appearing in our School Community Newsletter or on our school website, please notify the school office.

At times the school also sends photos of our children to newspapers or to the Catholic Education Office for inclusion with an article about Holy Cross. We also include photos in our school newsletter and on our school website. If you do not wish photos of your child to be used in any publications at school, Catholic Education Office or newspapers please contact the school office. Finally, if your personal details (address, telephone, etc) change please inform the school office. It is important that we have up to date information for the safety of our children.

Happy Birthday to the following students
Lia Jabson, Ella Burakowski, Joshua Capps, Lyllian McKnight, Jaden Arnold, Aden Selvan, Jacob Mulholland, Zachariah Cauchi, , Shanaaz Fredericks and Armaan Samra

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 carpark even when the gate is open because this puts the safety of all our children and the teachers exiting the carpark at risk. Please arrive at school a few minutes earlier and find a parking spot in the street and then walk to the school to collect your children.

Parents are also urged to obey the parking signs in the streets surrounding the school and to be mindful of the rights of our neighbours. Parents who are parking in the bus bay WILL BE ISSUED PARKING INFRINGEMENT TICKETS by both the police and council rangers. Parking in the bus bay before and after school is illegal and also puts our children at risk. Busways, our student bus service has right of way in the Bus Bay and will notify the Police if cars park in the bus bay. The streets around our school and bus bay should be treated in the same manner in which we treat all streets and bus bays. If you use them illegally expect that you will be issued with infringement notices. As always, thank you to all those families who look after the safety of our children by following these guidelines.

NAPLAN
• TUESDAY 15TH MAY – Language Conventions and Writing
• WEDNESDAY 16TH MAY – Reading
• THURSDAY 17TH MAY – Numeracy

The National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) is an annual assessment for students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9. It has been an annual event for schools since 2008.

NAPLAN is made up of test in the four domains of Reading, Writing, Language Conventions (spelling, grammar and punctuation) and Numeracy.

NAPLAN assesses skills in literacy and numeracy that are developed over time, through the school curriculum.

NAPLAN is not a pass or fail type test, but rather shows how individual students are progressing in Literacy and numeracy skills against national standards for all Australian students.

All students are encouraged to participate in the tests. Students with disability may qualify for special provisions that reflect the support normally provided in the classroom.

An individual student NAPLAN report will be issued by the school later this year. Parents can use this information to monitor how their child is progressing and to identify areas of concern. Parents may also wish to use their child’s results to discuss progress with teachers. More information is available at www.naplan.edu.au. A Parent Information Meeting for parents of Year 3 and 5 parents will be held in the school library on Wednesday 28th March. Further details will follow.
University of New South Wales Assessments

At Holy Cross we offer students in Years 3 – 6 the opportunity to sit the Science, Writing, English and Mathematical Assessments. These assessments take place during the day and the children sit for them at Holy Cross.

If you would like your child to participate in one or all of these assessments, please complete the form below and return it with the money to your child’s class teacher marked ‘University of New South Wales Assessments’.

The cost is $7.00 each for Science, English and Mathematics and $15.00 for Writing.

The assessments will be held on the following days: Science – 6 June, Writing -18 June, English – 31 July and Mathematics – 14 August.

Enrolments will close on 5 April (last day Term 1). If you have any queries regarding these assessments please contact Miss Whittle at school.

I would like my child___________________________ to sit the:

- English Assessment $7.00 □
- Mathematics Assessment $7.00 □
- Science Assessment $7.00 □
- Writing Assessment $15.00 □

I have enclosed $________
Parent’s name:___________________________
Signature:___________________________

Australian Mathematics Competition

We have the opportunity to participate in the 2012 Australian Mathematics Competition.

This competition is organised by The Australian Mathematics Trust.

It is open to students in Years 3-6.

The date of the competition is Thursday 2 August 2012.

The entry fee is $5.00.

If you would like your child to participate in this competition please complete the form below and return it to your child’s teacher marked Australian Mathematics Competition.

If you would like further information please contact Miss Whittle at school.

I would like my child____________________, in class _________ to participate in the AMC.
I have enclosed $________.
Parent’s name______________________ Parent’s signature_________________.