Numeracy Week
This week we are celebrating Numeracy Week throughout the school. The children are experiencing Mathematical Playgrounds, Problem Solving, Maths Workshops with the Maths Professor, a Jellybean Guessing Competition and a Number Trail from the front gate into the COLA – there is lots of fun for everyone.

Student Led Conferences
By now your child will have brought home a note outlining the Student Led Conference process which will be taking place in Weeks 8 and 9. These conferences are a wonderful opportunity for parents to share in their child’s learning. The children are really looking forward to your visit.

Fathers Day Stall Friday September 2nd 2011
Thank you to Mrs Surace, Mrs Mey, Mrs Considine, Mrs Scott, Mrs Aouchan, Mrs Szymoniczek, Mrs Harmer, and Mrs Inns who wrapped Fathers Day gifts in preparation for our Fathers Day Stall this Friday. If you are able to assist with the sale of the gifts on Friday morning please leave your name at the office. Children are reminded to bring in their $5 to purchase their gift from the stall.

Tournament of Minds
We congratulate our Tournament of Minds team who performed admirably at the University of Western Sydney on Sunday. Look for their names in the Australian film industry in years to come! Congratulations is extended to Katrina Matias, Claudia Moffatt, Bridget Surdich, Stephanie Hadley, Max Kwok, Emily Dowd and Ryan Garay.

Annual Holy Cross Trivia Night
Saturday September 10
Organise your table or just come along and join a table on the evening! TICKETS $10.00 EACH. The evening includes games, raffles, silent auctions, auctions of sporting memorabilia including a selection of Footie Jersies and some zany but clever Trivia questions. Come along and join the fun in our MPLC. Thank you to those families who have donated prizes for the evening.

Walkathon
Thank you so much to all our families for the wonderful support of our school through the WALKATHON. As children bring in their sponsorship money they will be eligible for a raffle ticket in the draw for a Wii Bundle with every $10.00 that they raise.

Emily Rodda at Blacktown City Library
We have been invited to send a group of 40 children from Years 3-6 to meet Emily Rodda at Blacktown Library next Monday 5th September. The children are invited to write a letter to Mrs Nettleton expressing their hope to be a part of this group. All letters must be received by 3.30pm Wednesday 31st August 2011. Good luck girls and boys!
Father's Day Prayer
It was wonderful to see so many dads, granddads and families join us for our Father's Day Prayer and morning tea. We hope you have a week of celebrations culminating in a special day on Sunday.

Sacrament of Reconciliation
If there are parents of children in Years 3-6 who would like their child to make the Sacrament of Reconciliation this year, would you please contact Miss Whittle at school to receive the necessary information.

Friday Mass
Parents and friends are invited to celebrate Mass with Year 4 this Friday.

Feast Day Mass
We will celebrate our feast day, The Triumph of the Cross on Friday 16 September at 10.00. This will replace the parish Mass for that week. Please put this important date in your diary.

Parish/Sacramental
Parents of children receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation in September are reminded of the practice in the church this Thursday at 7.30.

PARISH NEWS
We thank Paul Worthington and the Faith Formation Team for leading us over the last two Thursday Evenings presenting for discussion the latest E Conference on the Holy Spirit. The next one is in October, titled Mary, Mother of God.

We thank those who were able to attend the AGM last Wednesday night. The annual budget for the coming year was tabled and on behalf of the Parish Finance Team I thank Henry Pruyn for his diligent work. We also thank Bart Sarlabus our Parish Council Chairperson who has put together parish activities from the four major groups in the parish for the coming year. You may find the budget on the notice board and copies of the parish council activities may be picked up from the tables down the back of the church. I congratulate both groups and the Parish Council Executive for their generosity of time and expertise in serving our parish. So in the months ahead let us support the activates that have been planned and help the finance team by coming up with fund raising ideas.

MORE COUNTERS ARE NEEDED TO COUNT THE WEEKEND COLLECTON: PLEASE CAN YOU HELP many hands make light work! Phone Tanya on 98520580 or email her on secretary@john23rd.org.au ...Your help is needed and would be very much appreciated. Fr Dave.

Slapped Cheek
There has been a reported case of Slapped Cheek in the community. It is very important for you to seek medical advice if your child presents with any of the symptoms of this illness - runny nose, fever, aches and pains, a rash and red cheeks. Please keep your child home from school if they are sick.

Stranger danger
You are reminded to regularly discuss with your children the importance of STRANGER DANGER. Please be particularly mindful that your children have a safety plan should they be approached by a stranger when they are on their way to or from school.