Dear Parents and Carers,

**CELEBRATING OUR SCHOOL FEAST DAY**

**FRIDAY 14TH SEPTEMBER**

Parents and families are invited to join the students to celebrate our school Feast Day. We will begin the day with a **Mass** commencing at 9.30 am. Following this families are invited to have a picnic with their children in the school grounds. A **walkathon** and **game activities** have been planned for the children to enjoy on this special occasion. Children and parents will have the opportunity to purchase a sausage sizzle and a drink @ $3.00 each for their lunch.

If you would like to order a sausage sizzle please send in the cut off slip at the bottom of the next page and return it to the class teacher by this Friday 7th September 2012.

**SCHOOL WEBSITE – EMU LEARNING VIDEO AND TWITTER**

Have you seen our new EMU learning videos or followed our school on Twitter?

Have you seen our new EMU learning videos?

At our EMU Parent workshop we explained to the parents how to play a number of math’s games at home with your children to assist them in their numeracy skills. We have recently added two new videos of the student demonstrating how to play two of these games: “Round and Round the Garden” and the “Target” game.

To find these videos please visit our school website and on the right hand side you will see this photo: click on the photo to view the videos.

Regards,
Marina Hardy
Principal
Sacramental Program
If you would like your child to be a part of the next Sacramental Program, Reconciliation, then it is important that you attend the parent information evening on either **this Wednesday 5th or Thursday 6th September at 7:30pm** in the church. If your child is at least 7 years of age and already Baptised as a Catholic then they are eligible to participate in the program.

If your child is not Baptised though you are interested, please come along and see me or talk to Fr. Dave about what is needed for your child to receive the Sacraments.

Receiving Reconciliation is necessary before First Holy Communion can be received as well as Confirmation. Please contact me at school if you have a question.

**Class Masses on Fridays – Please Come Along**
Our school is truly blessed to be able to host our parish mass within one of our classrooms each Friday. Before our parish church was built, masses originally were celebrated on site. In keeping with this tradition and in maintaining the importance of Holy Cross in the parish, mass continues to be celebrated on each Friday morning at school. Each grade works to prepare a mass, based on their current work in Religion. The children help lead the mass through reading as well as in song.

All parents are welcome each Friday morning and we always have “welcomers” at the school gate to direct parishioners as to which grade is hosting. If possible, please consider if you are able to stay for what is only a short time, being a weekly mass. It is important for the children to see us as adults prioritise mass as well as feel supported.

**Kindergarten will be leading this Friday’s mass.**

Walkathon Sponsorship Money
Proceeds from our walkathon will be used to purchase IPADS for our classrooms. Sponsorship money will be collected after the 14th September 2012.

**TWITTER**
You are welcome to follow Holy Cross on Twitter: @holycrossglen or click on the following icon on our school website page.

Second hand Uniform Shop
The second hand uniform shop will be open tomorrow Wednesday 5th September at 2.30pm.

**SAUSAGE SIZZLE**
Yes, I would like to order _______ Sausage Sizzle & Drink Deal @ a cost of $3.00.

Child’s Name:__________________________________________ Class:__________________________

Parent’s Name:________________________________________

**GTK** (Getting to Know God Ourselves and each other) **YOUTH GROUP** begins next Sunday from 4.30pm. Thankyou to those **gardeners** who have volonteered their services by looking after the **church gardens**. I have never seen them look so good. Your efforts are appreciated. If you would like to look after a garden then please contact Tanya at the Parish Office. I have begun the process of planning to put **Air Conditioning** into our church. Our 500 club would have paid for it if we had 500 in the club. But we had half that amount and half the amount of funds. However, it looks like the cost of air conditioning our church could be close to $350,000. **The Cinque Cento Club** by the end of this year would have raised about half that amount. Two years ago, after consulting you, the desire or wish was to complete the church and install the unit to run the air-conditioning. I am proceeding with this expectation and will keep you informed.

Live Jesus in Our Hearts, Forever Father Dave

**Father’s Day prayer**
Thank you to our Kindergarten students and teachers for preparing such a beautiful prayer yesterday to celebrate and give thanks for our dads. It was wonderful to have so many dads and granddads join us for our prayer.

**Father’s Day Stall**
Thank you very much to all our wonderful parents who assisted with the Father’s Day stall on Friday. The students were extremely excited about having the opportunity to participate in a real shopping experience where they selected a special gift for dad. A reminder to please send in $5.00 for your gift if you have not already done so.

**Student Led Conferences**
This week we welcome parents into our classrooms to share in the children’s learning through their Student Led Conference. The children are really looking forward to your visit.

**Happy Birthday to all students who have celebrated their Birthday**
Juliana Maher, Aaron Torres, Jazmyn Acosta, Carina Sastrillo, Nik Valdimas, Dylan Faint, Chelsea Davies and Jordan Lim

**Upcoming Events**
- **Thursday 6th September**: Captivate Performance
- **Friday 7th September**: Stage 2 Touch Football Gala Day
- **Friday 14th September**: School Feast Day
- **Friday 21st September**: Stage 3 Touch Football Gala Day
- **Friday 21st September**: Last Day of Term 3
- **Monday 8th October**: First Day of Term 4
Year 4 Excursion to Hartley

Last Thursday 30th August Year 4 travelled to Hartley to learn more about colonial life as settlement extended over the Blue Mountains. The following is a recount of the day.

In the morning we were so excited because we were going to Hartley. When we arrived at the Blue Mountains we stopped at Echo Point. We gathered around to have a photo in front of the Three Sisters, then went to a nearby park to have lunch. We got back on the bus and had a 20 minute drive to Hartley Village.

After a short snack break we divided into two groups for our tour. One group went to the Court House while the other went to the church.

At the Court House we learnt that there were two types of settlers in the area - free settlers and convicts. Life was hard and the free settlers would have troublesome convicts charged for many things like being disrespectful to refusing to work. We went into the men’s gaol cell and learnt that men used to scrape their handcuffs on the floor to make a sharp point to make carvings in the wall. We also learnt that punishment for convicts was harsh. Most offences involved lashings with the cat of nine tails. It is called this because it looks like tails and cats have nine lives. Then we went into the court room and did a role play of what an actual court would be like based on real cases that were held at the time. We dressed as the judge, clerks, witnesses, ladies of the time and of course convicts.

After this we went to the church and learnt that today it is only used on special occasions such as weddings, funerals and Christenings. All the windows had plain glass as it was too expensive to bring in coloured glass from Sydney. We found out there was a small bell outside which we were able to ring. One of our classmates also played the organ which had to be pumped to make it work.

Finally we boarded the bus for the trip home. It was the best excursion yet!

INFANTS SPORTS CARNIVAL

The weather was spectacular and the children had so much fun at our Infants Sports Carnival. Thank you to all those parents who came to help out and to Miss Robertson and the teachers for their organisational skills.