Holy Cross School
NEWSLETTER
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Dear Parent, Carers and Friends of Holy Cross

1 March 2013

Today our Year 7 students had a further opportunity to exercise their leadership skills as they buddied with Year 1 students at the 9:15am Mass. They truly “let their light shine” by supporting their buddies during Mass to attend and participate so well. I had a wonderful chance yesterday to attend the practice and was impressed by the way the Year 7 students continue to embrace their leadership role in the school. The Year 7 Leadership Program is a valuable opportunity that our parish school is able to offer our young people in their final year of primary school.

Thank you to parents who have nominated to assist the School Promotion group by distributing our school flyer and enrolment forms to Kindergartens and Child care facilities. If a younger child in your family attends such a facility please nominate by contacting the office to drop a bundle of our school brochures and enrolment forms to promote Holy Cross enrolments for Prep.

Congratulations to Daniel Egan, Brigid Mason and George Williamson who competed this week in the Met North Swimming at the Valley Pool. I know, from reports from other schools, how well these students represented Holy Cross and City Districts. Well done. Following her success in the 50m Butterfly, Brigid will now compete against other Met Associations at Chandler. Thank you to parents who have been such willing supporters of this competition.

As part of Caritas – Project Compassion Appeal we will hold a K’s for Caritas walk on March 20th. The walk will resonate closely with our school motto “With God, For Others” as we walk in solidarity with the millions of children and adults who walk for kilometres to fetch their daily supply of water.

Craft Club began this morning with approximately 70 students taking part. It is wonderful to see so many staff and parents joining Mrs Shaw to support this outreach. The money raised from this venture also supports Caritas – Project Compassion. Almost $500 has already been raised.

First Reconciliation, Confirmation and First Communion will be celebrated in the parish this year on a date to be announced. (most likely in October) Fr Josekutty is waiting for the Archdiocese to confirm dates. If your child is 7 yrs or older and you would like to prepare them to receive these sacraments of initiation please contact the parish office on 3857 5793.

I also visited our school swimming program on Thursday this week. I was grateful for the support that parents give our staff so that our students experience this important aspect of the school curriculum. Not only were swimming skills being learnt but there were opportunities to practise resilience and risk taking. I was encouraged to hear staff and volunteers congratulating young ones on their bravery. An important part of encouraging resilience in children is to know how to step back and allow them to “feel the fear and do it anyway.”

This week let’s think about communicating high expectations to children, even when they may feel a little anxious or apprehensive, so that they will succeed in “doing for themselves.” An example may be expecting our children to join their class on time at assembly at 8:40am, walk to the room with their class and pack away their own bags and books. So say a clear “Goodbye”….. and allow your children to spread their wings! Confidence in your expectations and unconditional love will see them (and you) through these important moments of learning.

Paul Drewniak
Principal
I would like to send a big thank-you to our Social Justice Committee for their efforts and leadership during lunch today. The Social Justice Committee has done a great job by selling numerous bags of lollies, raffle tickets and tickets in our Easter Egg competition – all part of our Project Compassion fundraising. This year we aim to raise $4400 as a school community during Lent. Next week, Year 7 will provide an update on how much money we have raised in relation to our goal of supporting CARITAS. Remember ‘Future-tis-us’ – if we want to open doors into the future.

Today our children will take home their sponsorship booklets for our K’s for Caritas event being held on Wednesday 20th March (9.30am – 11.30am). Please note, we want to ensure the safety of all our students, so please supervise your children in the collection of sponsorship for our walk. Close family and friends would be appropriate people to ask. Children should not be walking in the neighbourhood unsupervised, asking strangers for money. We want our children to be safe and happy. Please do not feel you have to fill the whole booklet. Holy Cross and St. Mary of the Cross School (Windsor) will walk together in recognition of those families who walk long distances daily for water and other basic human essentials, or are forced to flee from war-torn countries. This event allows the two schools to join together as one community for our students to share stories, celebrate diversity and promote harmony in our world. Harmony day will be celebrated around the world on Thursday 21st of March.

**Project Compassion Key Dates:**
- 1st of March – 20th March – Collect sponsorship for our K’s for CARITAS event;
- Wednesday 20th March – K’s for CARITAS Event;
- 20th March – 24th March – collect sponsorship money;
- Monday 25th March – all K’s for CARITAS Booklets and Money boxes to be returned to school for final count;
- Wednesday 27th March – free dress day + sausage sizzle in return for a gold coin donation;
- Thursday 28th March – Social Justice committee to announce final amount raised for CARITAS during Lent; and
- Thursday 28th March – Holy Week & Easter Celebration in the Pavilion at 1.30pm.

**Curriculum News**
The National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) is an annual assessment for students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9. NAPLAN tests reading, writing, spelling and numeracy. The assessments are undertaken nationwide, every year in May.

This year the NAPLAN tests will be conducted in week 5 of Term 2 with NAPLAN results usually sent to school in late September.
- **Tuesday 14th May** – Language Conventions & Writing (Writing task will be persuasive test);
- **Wednesday 15th May** – Reading
- **Thursday 16th May** – Numeracy; and
- **Friday 17th May** – Catch up day
- **Late September** – NAPLAN results released to schools.

Teachers in Years 3, 5 and 7 will be preparing the students for these tests over the coming weeks. For more information on NAPLAN including sample tests, visit [www.nap.edu.au](http://www.nap.edu.au)

**Volunteers required for K’s for Caritas event on Wednesday 20th March from 8am to 11.30am.** Please fill in the form below and return to the school office if you are able to help. Jobs will include helping supervise children on the walk and handing out ice-blocks at the end. Your help would be appreciated.

Name: __________________________________________________________________________

Mobile No: _______________________________________________________________________

Child/Children’s Name & Class: ____________________________________________________________________________________________
Pastoral Care Corner

Dear Parents

Happiness has been the topic for the past few weeks, but what if happiness seems a distant dream because of all the stress and trauma in one’s life? What if you feel ‘nothing will ever be normal again!’ Laurence Gonzales, an American author, says, ‘don’t sit and wait to get better. Do something. He offers 12 Rules of Life.

1. Want it, need, have it – become passionate about a craft, an art, a musical instrument, study – anything that will get you thinking and involved in something outside yourself.
2. Be here now – sit quietly every day and find your gut feeling, then acknowledge it.
3. Be patient – everything takes extra time when you are feeling down.
4. Be tough – use the hard time to prepare you for the next stage of your journey of life.
5. Get the small picture - find some beauty in your day (a bird’s song, a cloud, a smile).
6. Put things in their place – put the traumatic memories where they belong – out back.
7. Stay busy – very effective (see no 1).
8. Be tough – use the hard time to prepare you for the next stage of your journey of life.
9. Be patient – everything takes extra time when you are feeling down.
10. Be grateful – whatever happened, you are still here to deal with it and you can.
11. Walk the walk – act as if you feel better; act strong, even in the smallest thing and you will soon begin to be strong.
12. Life is deep, shallow up – humour is essential.

It would be nice to think you will never need such strategies, but you will. We all have bad times. May yours be few.

Catherine McAuley would say: We are challenged to link with one another so that the broken heart … can enter more deeply into us.

God bless
Sr Anne.
School Pastoral Worker

HOLY THURSDAY, EASTER CHOIR

Members of the Senior and Junior Choir are invited to sing at Mass on Holy Thursday, 28 March at 7:00pm. Mrs Farne Sang will teach the hymns. You are also invited to join the adult choir for Mass on Holy Saturday (Easter) night. This may involve a night practice. This Mass is also at 7:00pm on Saturday, 30 March. For further information, ask Sr Anne or Miss Coman.

Next Friday, 8 March is INTERNATIONAL WOMEN’S DAY. It is a day to celebrate all that we have achieved in recognising women as strong, capable people, with dignity and worthy of respect. Men and boys, make sure each family does something to honour the women in the family – mother, grandmother, aunts, sisters – let them know you love them and value them for who they are, not what they do. Dads, perhaps you and your sons could make this a family Valentine’s Day for the ladies of the family.

TUCKSHOP
Helpers for Wednesday 6th March are:
Tuck-shop: Natalie Finney, Kate Beal, Lisa Evans, Kelly Seibold, Carmen King, Melissa Newton-Turner

Home bake: Jude Noone, Rebecca Sampson, Kate Felsman, Karen Brennan & Loretta Mammarella

Please note our NUT FREE POLICY For preparing Homebake items.

HOLY CROSS SWIMMING CARNIVAL YEARS 3-7
When: Wednesday 13th March
Where: Stafford State School (Cnr. Stafford Rd & Webster Rd)
Time: 9:30am – 2.00pm
Parking: Limited parking on school grounds. Please park near cheese cake shop, Webster Road and walk across school oval. Please follow the coloured markers to the pool gate. (No parking near the Dental Clinic)

BUSES WILL LEAVE HOLY CROSS AT 9.00AM SHARP AND WILL RETURN TO SCHOOL AT APPROXIMATELY 2.00PM.

What to wear: Togs, sunshirts, sunscreen, sports uniform or shirt in your house colour. (NO Coloured Zinc/Streamers Please)

What to bring: Bathing cap, towel, water bottle, extra sunscreen, underwear, morning tea and lunch.

Canteen: Children will have the opportunity to pre-order a “Pool Pack”, consisting of a Sausage Sizzle, and drink. All orders need to have the correct money in a tuckshop bag with the child’s name, class and house colour clearly displayed. More details to follow.

THIS CARNIVAL IS A SELECTION CRITERIA FOR THE ZONE 6 SWIMMING MEET HELD ON THE 19TH MARCH 2013. CHILDREN WISHING TO COMPETE IN THE ZONE 6, MUST TAKE PART IN OUR SCHOOL CARNIVAL.

Please ensure all of your children’s belongings are clearly marked with their name.

We look forward to seeing you there.
Duane Cannell(HPE Teacher) and Nick Devereaux(yr 5/6 Teacher)

The Zone 6 Swimming Carnival will be on Tuesday 19 March at Somerset State School
HAPPY BIRTHDAY
The school community wishes the students who celebrated their birthdays this week, many happy returns.
Angelina Daly, Angus Johnson, Sarah Melville & Lydia Syron

AWARDS
Congratulations to all students who received awards during assembly.

- PG Maya Love & Lachlan Chayter
- PW Madisyn Webb & Harrison Tews
- 1W Gus Watson & Laura Brennan
- 1/2G Kevin Alzate & Ewan Doring
- 2G Jade Mercer & Lauren Stewart
- 3G Abby Grant Lili Vincent
- 3W Sasha Macaulay & William Siddle
- 4W Lauren Birthistle & Zac Byrne-Henderson
- 4/5G Bianca Celere & Sophie Iles
- 5/6G Isabelle Davies & Georgia Fenton
- 7G Will House & Trent Andrews

Get your copy of the 2013|2014 Entertainment Book & help our school’s 2013 fundraiser!
This year we are fundraising with the new 2013 | 2014 Entertainment Book! We wouldn’t be able to help the school grow without community support. You can help us reach our 2013 fundraising goal by purchasing a copy of the 2013 | 2014 Entertainment Book for our fundraiser!
To get your copy and support our fundraiser, go to: www.entertainmentbook.com.au/orderbooks/2225d30
Purchase your Entertainment Book before March 18th and receive 6 bonus offers worth over $180 that you can use straight away – available only while stocks last!
This year there are over 140 new Brisbane offers for restaurants and businesses, including The Coffee Club, Palace Cinemas, Iceworks, Wheel & Barrow, Bacchus, The Euro, Full Moon Hotel, Arrivederci Pizzeria, Ginga Japanese Restaurants, and many, many more!
From every book sold, $13 will go toward building a better school not only for our children, but the next generation of Holy Cross students.

THE 2012/2013 ENTERTAINMENT BOOK ORDER FORM IS HEADING OUR WAY IN MARCH!!
Holy Cross families, as in previous years, our P&F Committee will sell the popular “Brisbane, Sunshine Coast and Surrounds Entertainment Book” during March and April. This local guide provides hundreds of 25% to 50% off and 2-for-1 offers from restaurants, cafés, attractions, theatres and accommodation.
Please consider purchasing one for your own family or perhaps ask your friends, neighbours or workmates if they may be interested in buying one through Holy Cross School. Each book will cost $65, with $13 from each book sold going directly to our school. Books will be available from Holy Cross School from March 20.
Please note that in March order forms, not the actual Entertainment Book, will be distributed to each family at our school but you may view an Entertainment Book at our school Office or online before ordering. You may alternatively choose to order and pay securely online via www.entertainmentbook.com.au/orderbooks/2225d30
Thanks for your consideration! If you have any questions, please contact Maddie Barbour (mbarbour@fincom.com.au)

GOTCHA CARDS – Week 5

GOTCHA CARDS have been designed to encourage and reward good behaviour in an effort to boost each child’s self esteem and improve the general standard of behaviour at our school.

Well done to all the ‘Gotcha Card’ recipients who have done a brilliant job of demonstrating our school-wide positive behaviour expectations (Safety, Learning & Respect).
The following children won seats in our assembly Corporate Box:

Audrey Gallagher
Henry Cunningham
Harriet Boyd
Ross O’Brien
Kelly McKenzie
Carl Alzate
Hilary Piper
Shiloh Lee
Feodor Hernandez

Also, keep an eye out for our Gotcha Card display in the hallway near the office.