15 February 2013

Dear Parent, Carers and Friends of Holy Cross

On Wednesday evening our Parents and Friends Association met. The meeting was another example of the commitment parents have to the Holy Cross School. A calendar of events was developed and discussions about support for the school dominated. Social and fund-raising events were diarised as we begin a bright year together. P&F committed to financial support to the school to add resources to support the implementation of the Australian Curriculum, support furnishings throughout the school and support IT accessories. Funds available are the result the hard work of P&F in 2012.

Tuckshop and Uniform Shop reports were tabled at the meeting. Once again evidence of generous voluntary support.

Today find attached the 2013 price-list for Uniform shop and information regarding some stock. An exchange policy, in line with Qld Fair Trading recommendations, is also attached.

Holy Cross School Community greatly appreciates the generous support of our volunteers in P&F, School Board, Tuckshop, Uniform Shop, class room and throughout the school.

Thank you for generously volunteering to support the Holy Cross School community.

To ensure that you are aware of your responsibilities to keep our students safe and to meet legislative and Brisbane Catholic Education requirements, we ask that all volunteers (existing or new) complete the following:

1. read the Volunteer Student Protection Handbook
2. read Volunteer’s Handbook (including Code of Conduct.)
3. print and sign the Volunteer’s Registration Form,
4. return Volunteer’s Registration Form to the school office.

These documents can be located by clicking on the Volunteers tab on our school website Holy Cross Website www.hcpswooloowin.qld.edu.au. Alternately, you can pick up forms from the school office.

If you have any queries regarding this please don’t hesitate to contact the office and a member of staff will be in touch.

Fr Josekutty will be installed as our Pastor at the 6pm Mass on Saturday evening.

Information regarding the Parish Sacramental program will soon be available. A date for Confirmation in October has been submitted to the Archdiocese. The date will be confirmed in the near future. Keep an eye on newsletters for this important information.

Please note the session times for the Parent Information evening for next Wednesday evening. Teachers are eager to outline their programs for the year ahead.

Nothing is beyond our reach
If we reach out together,
If we reach out with all the confidence we have,
If we are willing to persevere even in difficult times
And if we rejoice with every small step forward.

TIMES FOR PARENT INFORMATION NIGHT
WEDNESDAY 20 FEBRUARY 2013

| Prep & Yr3   | 6.30 – 7.00pm |
| 1W, 1/2G, 2G & 7G | 7.05pm – 7.35pm |
| 4W, 4/5G & 5/6G | 7.40pm – 8.10pm |
A.P.R.E.’s Report

Lent – pray, reflect, act!

On Wednesday, the children from Years 1-7 attended the Parish Mass to celebrate Ash Wednesday and to mark the beginning of Lent. The children’s reverence and respect in the Church and their participation at the Parish Mass was commendable.

CARITAS – Project Compassion

Lent also marks the beginning of Project Compassion for our school community. Help us “Open doors into the future” by supporting our Lenten projects. Last year Holy Cross raised over $4000, this year we want to raise 10% more…. making our 2013 CARITAS aim $4400.

Remember ‘Future-tis-us’ – if we want to open doors into the future.

Meet Ditosa, 12 from Matuba, Mozambique -
Ditosa is an orphan who attends the Matuba Children’s centre. At the centre, she is learning new skills to help her plan a future. With our help and through CARITAS, the Matuba Children’s Centre helps young people find hope for the future and provides a safe place where they can grow.

Mark in your Diary - CARITAS fundraising Events:

o Lolly bags to be sold by the Social Justice Committee on Friday 1st of March for 50c
o ‘Guess the Easter Eggs in the Jar’ – tickets to be sold from 1st of March until Holy Thursday. 50c one guess or three for $1.
o K’s for Caritas will be held on Wednesday 20th March - children will be sponsored to walk/run a distance to help raise money and awareness for the many families who walk long distances daily for water, or flee from war-torn countries.
o Free dress day + Sausage Sizzle for a gold coin – Wednesday 27th March
o Craft Club begins on Friday 1st of March at 8am.

A big thank you to Sue Shaw! Mrs Shaw gives up her own time to help others. Sue’s craft club will start on Friday 1st of March for students in Years 1-7 (see attached note). Our Social Justice Committee will be working with the craft club to raise money for CARITAS through their crafty creations. It is wonderful to see our community living our motto, ‘With God, for others’.

Fr. Josekutty Vadakkel’s Installation Mass will be held on Saturday night at 6pm. Archbishop Mark Coleridge will be the main celebrant for this celebration. It would be wonderful to see your family at this significant event for Fr. Josekutty and the Holy Cross Catholic Parish.

Curriculum News

At Holy Cross, there are many opportunities throughout the year for the curriculum to be communicated to parent/caregivers:

• Information Evenings – these are held at the beginning of each year. Teachers explain class routines and provide general information about the year’s program. (Wednesday 20th February)
• Interviews – Parent/Teacher interviews are offered twice a year to report and discuss student achievement.
• Written – A summative report is sent home at the end of first and second semesters.
• Class Newsletters - Teachers send home class newsletters communicating information regarding their class.

Already, I see students actively investigating, confidently creating and experiencing successful learning in their classrooms. A wonderful start to the academic year!

God Bless,
Helen Coman
Assistant Principal Religious Education
Pastoral Care Corner

Dear Parents

We may think that a new year will bring happiness and our popular press often gives us many ways to happiness, from the latest diet to the latest money making scheme. Perhaps we are aiming for the wrong thing. We may really need contentment rather than happiness. We can’t be permanently happy. There are highs and lows in every life and we can’t control the weather or other people or nature.

Contentment is about being satisfied, grateful for what we have and recognising what is enough. Look to how much love is in your family, how much good health (as well as the poor health, or even life-threatening issues), how much food is in the cupboard (not necessarily what you feel like right now!). Count your friends. Look at how much money you really have (not how many bills are piled up).

Help your children to understand that there is a point of ‘enough’, even if we could cope with ‘more’. Mary MacKillop would say, “Learn to brave the opinion of the world … don’t be troubled about the future”.

God bless
Sr Anne

COLLECTORS ALL

Thank you to those who collected stamps and toiletries over the holidays. To all our new parents, I invite you to collect the toiletries that we are offered in motels, holiday destinations, etc. They go in the bin if you don’t use them. I can pass them on to the Prison Chaplains who care for prisoners, especially those without family. They often come into the prison with nothing and cannot get a supply until the allocated day.

I also collect used stamps. They must have a millimetre of paper around the edge. These are sold to stamp collectors and the money is sent to the Josephite Mission in Peru.

If you can help with either of these collections, just drop them into the Office at any time. You will be helping two worthy causes.

Anne Cannon
School Pastoral Worker

ZONE 6 SELECTION CRITERIA

HOLY CROSS WILL BE HOLDING THREE MAIN CARNIVALS THROUGHOUT THE YEAR.

1. SWIMMING- TERM 1 (YRS 3-7)
2. CROSS COUNTRY- TERM 2 (PREP-7)
3. TRACK AND FIELD – TERM 3 (PREP-7)

THESE CARNIVALS WILL BE USED AS A SELECTION PROCESS FOR ZONE 6 CARNIVALS. SCHOOL CARNIVALS ARE REGARDED AS ANOTHER SCHOOL DAY AND ALL STUDENTS ARE REQUIRED TO ATTEND AND PARTICIPATE IN EVENTS. IF CHILDREN DO NOT PARTICIPATE ON THE DAY, THEY FORFEIT THE CHANCE OF MAKING THE ZONE 6 TEAM. THE PREP STUDENTS WILL NOT BE ABLE TO QUALIFY AS THE ZONE 6 STARTS FROM YEAR 1 ONLY.

CITY DISTRICTS SELECTION CRITERIA
CHILDREN 10-13YRS OLD MAY BE ELIGIBLE TO REPRESENT THE SCHOOL AT A STATE LEVEL. THIS TYPE OF FORMAT IS MORE COMPETITIVE THAN THE ZONE 6 CARNIVALS. CHILDREN MUST BE TRAINING UNDER A COACH OR TRAIN AND COMPETE FREQUENTLY AT CLUB LEVEL. ONLY A SMALL NUMBER OF CHILDREN WILL BE SELECTED TO COMPETE AT CITY DISTRICT EVENTS. PARENTS ARE RESPONSIBLE TO MANAGE TEAMS AND SUPPLY TRANSPORT TO AND FROM THESE EVENTS.

HOLY CROSS SWIMMING CARNIVAL YEARS 3-7

When: Wednesday 13th March
Where: Stafford State School
Time: 9:30am – 2.00pm

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.

Oliver Bradley-Moore, Sophie Fahey & Teeny Cairney

TUCKSHOP

Helpers for Wednesday 20th February are:

Tuck-shop: Misia Caulton, Rebecca O’Brien, Jillian Dimock, Tonia Hanley & Loretta Mammarella

Home bake: Janice Cutajar, Kelly Seibold & Tina Heath & Kate Denning

Please note our NUT FREE POLICY
When preparing Homebake items.

Holy Cross Mothers Drinks and “Catch Up” (Prep - 7)
Albion Hotel - Friday 15 February From 6.30

Calling all Holy Cross Mums. If you are free please join us at the Albion Hotel on Friday 15th February from 6:30 onwards for an informal gathering.

Looking forward to sharing a drink and catching up for the 2013 year. No Bookings or RSVP necessary -- See you there.

PLEASE MEET IN THE WINE ROOM FROM 6.30PM
Free assessment and treatment of fears and anxiety in children

Parents, is your child fearful of certain situations or do they seem to experience ongoing feelings of anxiety? Griffith University is conducting a large-scale study for children (7 to 13 years of age) with anxiety that includes a thorough assessment and a novel, home-based treatment using computers and telephone contact from a trained clinician.

We are providing this service at no cost to families. To find out more about this study, please contact our team on 07 3735 3418 or cadrp@griffith.edu.au. See Sarah Bull, Support Teacher-Inclusive Education, for more details.

HELEN O’GRADY DRAMA ACADAMY
KIDS LOVE DRAMA
PARENTS LOVE THE RESULTS
Our unique drama system develops confidence and communication skills in children and teenagers.
Our acclaimed drama programme is implemented by dynamic teachers who work enthusiastically to bring out the very best in your child.
Affordable Fees! No Hidden Costs!
Lower Primary (5-8), Upper Primary (9-12)
Helen O’Grady Drama Academy
Please phone the Principal Margaret Treuel
B.A., Dip.Ed.
3353 0555
Email: brisbanenorth@helenogrady.com.au

FOUND:
Childs silver bracelet with silver and black beads.
Please contact Mrs Mckee in the office.

EASTER CRAFTS
Forms to join the Holy Cross Craft Club have been sent home this week. Craft Club will start on Friday 1st March at 8 o’clock outside the staff room.
Please return form with money as soon as possible. There are spare forms in the office.

Thank you
Mrs Shaw

CLASS COORDINATORS
In the past we have had 1 or 2 parents from each class to act as Class Coordinators. The role of a Parent Coordinator is to organise parent morning teas or dinners, to assist with the school festival, to prepare a class contact list and help/support the class teacher.
Some classes already have their Parent Coordinators in place:
PG  Lauren Milner
PW
IG  ..............................
1/2 ................................
2G  ..............................
3G  ..............................
3W ................................
4W  ..............................
4/5G  ............................
5/6G  ............................
7G  ..............................

If you would like to volunteer for those classes who do not yet have a Parent Coordinator. Please contact Billie in the school office on 3857 2443 or the Class Teacher.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION
School Fees were emailed or posted to parents this week. If you have not received your fees account by early next week, it is very important that you contact the office as we are checking for system errors.

Thank you

IMPORTANT CHESS CLUB NEWS
There will be NO Chess Club after school this term. However, Mr Devereaux will be holding Chess & Hobby activities in the library during lunch break on Wednesdays. This group will be limited to 15 children.
The first 15 children to submit the below slip to Mr D will be the children accepted.

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PLEASE RETURN SLIP TO MR DEVEREAUX
I would like to attend Mr Devereaux’s lunch time activities in the library on Wednesdays.

NAME:

CLASS: