Dear Parent, Carers and Friends of Holy Cross

Today is an important National Day – Say NO to Bullying Day. As our response to this day we will re-visit the Protective Behaviour messages for our students. Firstly we will give the message that “Everyone has the right to feel safe at all times!” The next strategy is to ensure that our students can name 5 trusted people to whom they can turn if they are troubled or feeling unsafe. We will also discuss how the children might respond if they feel unsafe in their dealings with their fellow students.

This week’s School Swimming Carnival was a wonderful success. Congratulations to Ambrose Red on their win (the team named for Mother Ambrose who was the founding Principal of Holy Cross in 1890). The students are to be commended for the “best efforts” that they demonstrated, the wonderfully supportive spirit that abounded and the fun of the day. I want to make particular note of the Year 7 students who led their teams so well and the team leaders who, at the end of the carnival, demonstrated such positive leadership in acknowledging their fellow competitors and all involved in staging the carnival. This was another example of an opportunity for leadership for our Year 7’s that they whole heartedly embraced.

Fr Josekutty has announced the date for Confirmation in our Parish. Confirmation will be celebrated on Saturday October 26th at the 6pm Mass. Archbishop Coleridge will preside.

First Communion celebrations will follow at Sundays to be confirmed. First Reconciliation will be celebrated on Friday 14th June at 6:30pm. Children in Year 3 and above are eligible.

Please contact the Parish office by Friday 10th May to be involved in preparations this year. Please note the preparation information later in this newsletter

Next week our major event will be the K’s for Caritas; or opportunity to Act in solidarity with all who walk many kilometres daily to fetch their water supply.

Today it is my privilege to represent Holy Cross at the Brisbane Catholic Education Ceremony to honour long standing retirees. Mrs Patty Mc Court will be honoured at this ceremony for her more than 40yrs of service to Catholic Education in Queensland. Patty retired from Holy Cross last year after 10yrs as Assistant to the Principal: Religious Education.

Paul Drewniak
Principal

EASTER CELEBRATIONS – Lutwyche Catholic Parish
Holy Thursday Mass 28 March 7:00pm, Holy Cross Church, children’s choir
Good Friday Liturgy 29 March, 3:00pm Holy Cross Church
Holy Saturday Vigil, 30 March, 7:00pm, Holy Cross Church, children in choir
Easter Sunday Mass, 31 March 8:00am, St Anne’s Church
**A.P.R.E.’s Report**

**Lent – pray, reflect, act!**

**Vatican News**
This week we celebrate the appointment of our new leader of the Catholic Church. Pope Francis is named after one of the well known figures of our Church – St Francis of Assisi. He is known as a ‘humble, spiritual and very intelligent’ man with an instinctive feel for the poor. We pray for his good health and wise and discerning leadership in the years ahead.

**Parish School Mass – Saturday 16th March at 6pm**
This Saturday night we celebrate our first Parish School Mass for 2013. Children are asked to meet Ms Coman in the side chapel (closest to the organ) at 5:45pm. All children (Prep -Yr. 7) will be part of the school choir leading our community in song. It would be wonderful to see as many students as possible participating in our Catholic community.

Please bring a plate to share and gather for supper afterwards.

**Sacramental Program**
The Holy Cross Parish will begin their Sacramental Program for children wishing to receive the Sacraments of Reconciliation, Confirmation and First Eucharist. Please see the important dates further in the newsletter and in this week’s Parish newsletter. Enrolments are due by the 10th of May to the Parish office.

**K’s for Caritas – Walk – Wednesday 20th March**

**Checklist**
- Collect sponsorship to help open doors for the poor and marginalized in our world.
- Act – WALK on Wednesday 20th March in harmony.
- Send your money (from K’s for Caritas and your Caritas money boxes) and CARITAS sponsorship booklets to school from Thursday 21st of March until Monday 25th of March (no later than Monday).

**Students in Prep – Year 2 will walk 1km**
**Students in Year 3-4 will walk 2km**
**Students in Year 5/6 & 7 will walk 3km**

**Holy Week & Easter**
Next Thursday (28th March at 1:30pm) parents, friends and families are invited to our Easter Celebration in the Pavilion. Every student in our school will help us remember the last events of Jesus’ life – Palm Sunday and the Easter Triduum. The Easter Triduum begins on Holy Thursday evening and finishes on Easter Sunday. It is the three most important days of the liturgical year when we remember the death and resurrection of Jesus.

Our Easter Celebration will be our final school gathering for Term 1, 2013. At our celebration, we will announce the lucky winner of our Easter Egg Competition and Rug Raffle, and announce final amount raised for CARITAS during Lent. We hope to see you there!

_Holy Cross Parish Mass times for Easter are listed on the front page of this newsletter._

**National Day of Action Against Bullying and Violence**
Today schools, communities, workplaces and families celebrated ‘Bullying. No Way!’
This day provides a focus for us to say ‘No’ to bullying and strengthen the message in our community that bullying and violence are not acceptable at any time.

Download the free iphone app ‘Take a Stand’ to help your child learn more about bullying or scan the QR code above for more information. Excellent learning tools for everyone!

**God Bless,**
Helen Coman
Assistant Principal Religious Education
**EASTER CHOIR**

We hope to see many children at Mass on Holy Thursday, 28 March, at 7:00pm at Holy Cross Church. They have been working hard to learn the hymns. There will be practice in the church on March 18 at 7:00pm. If transport is a problem, please contact Sr Anne. God bless

Sr Anne.
School Pastoral Worker

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**THE SACRAMENTS OF FIRST CONFESION, CONFIRMATION & FIRST HOLY COMMUNION**

- In May the parish will be beginning this year’s Sacramental program for children wishing to receive the Sacraments of Reconciliation, Confirmation and First Eucharist. Children in Grade 3 and above are welcome to take part in the program. If you have not already enrolled your child and wish to do so please contact the Parish Office. No enrolments will be accepted after 10th May. Any received after that will be invited to take part in the 2014 program. Please note the proposed activity dates for your calendar.

**Enrolment Closing Date:** Friday 10th May 2013

**RECONCILIATION Preparations**

Activity 1: Fri 31st May 3.30pm – 5.30pm
(including the Parent Information Session)

Activity 2: Fri 7th June 3.30pm – 5.30pm

**RECONCILIATION Celebration:** Friday 14th June 6.30pm, Holy Cross Church

**CONFIRMATION Preparations**

Activity 1: Fri 9th August 3.30pm – 5.30pm

Activity 2: Fri 23rd August 3.30pm – 5.30pm

**FIRST COMMUNION Preparations**

Activity 1: Fri 6th September 3.30pm – 5.30pm

Activity 2: Fri 11th October 3.30pm – 5.30pm

**REHEARSAL** (Confirmation/Communion)

Fri 18th October, 3.30pm – 5.30pm

**CONFIRMATION Celebrations:**

Saturday 26th October 6.00pm, Holy Cross Church

First Holy Communion Celebration: To be Confirmed

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**TUCKSHOP – Dad’s Day!**

Helpers for Wednesday 20th March are:

**Tuck-shop:** Paul Tsangari, Nick Vincent, Scott Johnson, Hugh Barbour, Darren Hanley & Ben Kirkegaard

**Home bake:** Karen Hind, Kym Hodda, Deanne Jebreen, Toni Williamson, Jane Vincent & Kelly Seibold

Please note our NUT FREE POLICY
When preparing Homebake items.

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**P&F News**

The minutes from the P&F Meeting held on Wednesday 13th March are now available online

[www.hcpswooloowin.qld.edu.au](http://www.hcpswooloowin.qld.edu.au)

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**THE 2013/2014 ENTERTAINMENT BOOK ORDER FORM IS HEADING OUR WAY!!**

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. So, please spread the word wherever and to whomever you can. The book should sell itself but we can help by letting our local community know they will be available from Holy Cross School.

Please note that 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](http://www.ENTERTAINMENTBOOK.COM.AU/orderbooks/2225d30). Please note: choose ‘pick up’ delivery option when ordering online as no postage payment is necessary; books will be distributed when they are delivered to school. Thanks for your consideration!

If you have any questions, please contact Maddie Barbour (mbarbour@fincom.com.au)

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**Happy Birthday**

The school community wishes the Students who celebrated their Birthdays this week, many happy returns.

_Kiara Mammarella_
_Olivia Mills_
_Audrey Gallagher_
_Mekela Morrison_
_Georgia McKay_
HOLY CROSS SWIMMING CARNIVAL YEARS 3-7

Congratulations to ALL students who participated in this week’s carnival.
It was wonderful to see great sportsmanship shown throughout the day and we would like to thank you for your excellent behaviour in the stands and marshalling areas.
Thank you to all staff and parents. Your assistance helped the day to run smoothly and a special thank you to Sharlene Hamblin for organising catering and keeping us well fed!
Well done to members of the winning House Ambrose Red and to all students who broke school records.
Duane Cannell PE Teacher
Nick Devereaux Yr 5/6 Teacher

ZONE 6 SWIMMING CARNIVAL – This Tuesday 19th March

Hi Everyone,
I’m colouring my hair for the World’s Greatest Shave this Friday for the Leukaemia Foundation.
The reason for this is that Leukaemia is a blood cancer and 31 people are diagnosed with it every day and raising this money will hopefully help find a cure.

My goal is to raise $250.00 so if anyone would like to sponsor me go to www.worldgreatestshave and search for Sarah Ryder and it will come up with my webpage.
I really hope you can help.
Thank you.

Are there any parents out there that own a sewing machine they no longer use or want? Please consider donating it to the craft club. It would be very very very much appreciated.

The Red Cross Blood Service needs your help!! Blood stocks are low and there are plenty of appointments still available. It’s a great way to help the community with every donation saving three people’s lives. The donormobile will be visiting Racecourse Road, Ascot (in front of Coles) on Monday 18 March (9-4). To make an appointment and help save lives, please call 13 14 95!!!