Dear Parents & Carers

Today is Mission Day and a great day for our Year 7 Leaders to shine! At the last two Assemblies the Year 7s have prepared us for the day. Firstly with an assembly presentation about the cause of Catholic Missions; particularly the work supporting children in the Philippines. Then, at Wednesday’s Assembly, we heard about all of the activities and stalls that have been planned for today. This is a wonderful opportunity for our Student Leaders to encourage us to live our school motto, “With God for Others” and look beyond our school community to the needs of the world. I am grateful to Mrs Tracey, Mrs Francis, Mrs Campbell and Mrs Mc Court for supporting the Yr 7 students in their preparations for today.

For the past few weeks Mrs Shaw has been busy with Christmas Craft Club each Friday morning - another opportunity for our students. Thanks to the many staff and parents who have assisted and an ENORMOUS thank you to Mrs Shaw who has prepared each of the items to make. Mrs Shaw also created the beautiful rug that is being raffled on Mission Day. Christmas Craft has raised $650 and the raffle $110 to date. Thank you for your generous efforts at Holy Cross Mrs Shaw!

On Saturday evening at 6pm our final Parish School Mass for the year will give thanks for all the blessings of another year together. Children will sit together to lead the singing as we rejoice in all that has happened in our Parish School this year. It is also an opportunity to give thanks for the gift of Mrs McCourt who retires as our APRE at the end of this year. A supper afterwards in the Piazza will give you an opportunity to thank Mrs Mc Court personally. Please bring a plate of food to share.

Final school fees accounts for the year have been sent. Most accounts are now sent by email – some still by post. If you receive a paper copy of your accounts and have an email address please contact the office to have them sent electronically to save paper and postage. Please ensure payment before December 7th.

School Christmas Carols will be held next Thursday evening 29th November at 6pm in the School Pavilion. We are looking forward to a tremendous night. Children should be at the school to meet teachers in their classrooms no later than 5:45pm

I invite you to view the wonderful Yr 7 artwork in the school hallway. Such a high standard. Well done Yr 7 & Mrs Artuso.

Paul Drewniak
Principal
A.P.R.E.’s Report
I am a hoarder of memories and I have certainly added some treasures to my cache during the past ten years at Holy Cross! So many faces and experiences I have stored safely away to call on when I will need them in the future! Just last week, I added another one. The students in 1G invited me to join them for their daily meditation time after morning tea. All week, I had been fighting and losing a battle with the ‘dear old flu’ and I was feeling miserable. I was sat in a special place in their prayer circle and then we were all invited to close our eyes and quietly recite a mantra to focus our thoughts and block out anything that was on our minds. The mantra chosen was: MARANATHA, (“God is with us”). We said that three times aloud, then silently and for the next three minutes, twenty-one students, Mrs Sullivan and I, were one with our God, with one another and with ourselves. I thought how wonderful it was, that children at this young age, were able to be still for three minutes and to go beyond that room and into the very core of who they are and to put their lives in the comfortable hands of God. I couldn’t help but think that these children were experiencing something that could be used throughout their lives.
That was indeed a special moment for me, forever stored in my heart, for which I am grateful to 1G students and Mrs Sullivan. God reached out to me through that wonderful little group.
God be with you all!
Patty McCourt

THURSDAY 29TH NOVEMBER 2012
Christmas Carols Evening
Holy Cross Pavilion
(not Church)
At 6.00pm
Every class will be participating, so please join us.

TUCKSHOP –
DUE TO PREP – YR 2
SWIMMING CARNIVAL
ON WED 28TH NOVEMBER
TUCKSHOP WILL NOT BE OPEN ON THIS DAY.

MINI VINNIES CHRISTMAS APPEAL
Thursday, 6 December, will be free dress day for the St Vincent de Paul Christmas Appeal. Instead of a gold coin, each class is asked to bring in one of the following. If you can’t manage what is on the list, bring in anything you can manage. All will be well received. Please note that this year they have asked for gifts to be unwrapped.

1G chocolates, cordial
1W popcorn, soft drinks
2G gifts for children, any primary age, unwrapped
2/3 bon bons, small jars of pickled onions and pickles
3G gifts for small children, unwrapped
4/5G pretzels, chips (all flavours), nuts
4/5W small tins of salad veges, small tins of cream
6 G tinned hams (preferably 450gm)
7G jelly, tinned fruit
7W lollies, sweet or savoury biscuits

Any class may bring in gifts for teenagers and adults, unwrapped, plum puddings and Christmas cakes.

Pastoral Care Corner
Dear Parents
“Charity begins at home” was the headline of a parenting article by Fiona Baker. I’ve heard that in many different contexts, but her point was that we need to teach children to be charitable/compassionate and the teaching begins in the home. All the free dress days and Mission days in the world won’t help if children don’t see that parent’s value helping others. “It’s just as important to instil a sense of compassion as it is to instil healthy heating habits, … Children realise quite quickly that their actions can make a difference. Research shows that [this] increases our own personal happiness and sense of fulfilment.” says Kristi Mansfield, a Sydney based Community Foundation CEO. Psychologist Polly Young-Eisendrath, says that teaching children manners, showing them the thousand ways to be aware of others, eg opening a door for their elders, doing chores that help the family, are great starting points. Tim O’Connor, from UNICEF, offers several suggestions:

- make it a family decision when deciding to give to a charity – which one and why; how much and what do we do without to fund it (including free-dress days)
- tell them about Church and school promoted charities and what they do, as well as your own favourite causes
- teach them to save some of their pocket money for such occasions
- offer a ’matching grant’ – if they give $5, Mum/Dad will match it with $?
- find ways to give non-money support, eg time at the local nursing home
- let them know that every little bit counts.

As Christmas approaches and we are bombarded with appeals, the above may be a good way to decide what to give to. Don’t forget the Mini Vinnies appeal. Catherine McAuley would say: God knows I would rather be cold and hungry than the poor in [Lutwyche ] or elsewhere should be deprived of anything in our power to afford.

God bless
Sr Anne.

Patty McCourt

As November 24 at 6pm will be my last Parish/School Mass, I am hoping that it is the best attended ever! You have been powerful in supporting these Masses over the years and I ask that this will again be the case. Thank you in anticipation for your support. There will be a light supper after the Mass and we would appreciate if you could bring a small plate of food to share. Again, thank you,
Patty McCourt
**AWARDS**

Congratulations to all students who received awards during assembly.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Winners</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PG</td>
<td>Harry Moore &amp; Ella Eyndhoven</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PW</td>
<td>Rhea Multani, Bijoux Colette &amp; Riley Waters</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1G</td>
<td>Millie Finney &amp; Rory Toghill</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1W</td>
<td>Sofia Luongo, Dakota Joyce &amp; Alex Finney</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2G</td>
<td>Abby Collins, Rex Hanley &amp; Emma Whittle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2/3W</td>
<td>Bennett Boyd &amp; Aliana Coco</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3G</td>
<td>Michael Daniec, Emma Sinclair &amp; Lilly Watson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4/5G</td>
<td>Ella Lewis &amp; Brenna Murphy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4/5W</td>
<td>Brigid Mason &amp; Willow Preston</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6G</td>
<td>Will House</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7G</td>
<td>Oscar Barrett &amp; Lucy Shephard</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7W</td>
<td>Jakob Pelusi &amp; Philippa Piper</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

---

**PARISH SCHOOL MASS**

Parish School Mass: tomorrow night at 6pm. Come pray with Patty! Please join us in celebrating our final Parish School Mass for 2012 with Father Josecutty tomorrow evening. It will be made all the more special as we celebrate the wonderful work of Patty McCourt over the past ten years at our school and her tremendous contribution to Catholic Education over the past forty years! Please bring along a small plate to share for supper following the mass, in true Holy Cross style, to celebrate our special school and very importantly the gift of Patty.

We look forward to seeing everyone there!

---

**CONGRATULATIONS** to Daniel Egan who has made the 2013 Met North Aquathon Team. Dan will now qualify at the State Titles. Best of Luck Dan!!!

---

Fancutts Tennis Centre are continuing the tennis program at the school court in the assembly hall on Thursdays afternoons 2.50-3.20pm (Prep & Gr1), 3.20-4.05 (Gr.2,3) & 4.05-4.50pm (Gr4-7). Coach has enrolment forms. Rackets on special $30.

**FANCUTTS ANNUAL GRADE SINGLES CHAMPIONSHIP** (for trophies) is being held at Fancutts on Saturdays 1st & 8th December from 11.30am-5.30pm. Players are representing their school. Raffle will also be held with a Xmas party sausage sizzle. McDonald’s Voucher & free Tennis Aust. Hot Shots t-shirt online card is given to every player. **Hot Shots friendly tournaments** (for trophies) is being held at Fancutts on Sat. 26th Jan. & Monday 28th Jan. (Aust.Day holiday) from 9 to 12non & beginners & players & 12.30-3.30pm. McDonald’s Voucher & free Hot Shots Tennis Aust. t-shirt online card is given to every player. **Friendly Hot Shots Tournaments** for trophies are on Sat. 1am-1pm during school term. **SUPERLEAGUE** fixtures are on Saturday afternoons and Sunday evenings for children & teenagers & Tuesday/Wednesday nights for adults. Entry closes Sat. 24th November. **Restrings** – a 24hr. service or possible emergency restrings while you wait.

All enquiries, please contact Fancutts 38572922 in office hours or email admin@fancutts.com.au

---

**PIANO FOR SALE**

Holy Rosary School has a piano for sale. It has not been played for three years and has not been tuned for even longer. It would be your responsibility to remove it from Holy Rosary. Any offer will be considered. Contact Sr Anne for further details.

---

**TUCKSHOP NEWS**

A new automated ordering system will be on-line from Term 1, 2013. More details to be released soon.

---

**Tuckshop will be CLOSED** on:

- Wednesday 28 November 2012 - Junior Swimming Carnival; and
- Wednesday 30 January 2013 - the first day back at school.

---

**XMAS LUNCH - TUCKSHOP HELPERS & HOMEBAKERS**

With the end of the year almost here, I thought it would be nice to finish off with a casual Xmas lunch. I hope you can join me!

---

**Where:** Siam Pagoda – 318 Junction Rd

**Date:** Friday 30 November

**Time:** 1130am – finished in time for Patty’s Farewell Parade at 2pm

**RSVP:** to Sharlene by Wednesday 28 November

---

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY!**

The school community wishes who celebrated birthdays this week, many happy returns!

Dakota Joyce, Ross O’Brien, Jack Bell, Tomos Edwards & Gabrielle Bonavia
Thanks!

To Mary Therese Brady and her wonderful band of volunteers:
Thank you for organising and assisting with the Pizza Day last month!!
It was an impressive effort serving pizza to our student body and raising another $1000 toward our fundraising for 2012.
Thank you also to our families for supporting this fundraiser.

We appreciate your support,
HCS P&F Association

**Week 7 Assembly**

Today our wonderful class, 2/3W, performed our assembly item. It was about why Christmas is not all about toys. It is about something very special, very very special. Bennett was very fat explaining the symbols of Christmas. I wore reindeer ears.

Bennett wore a Santa costume.

**By Isabella Gonzalez, Year 2.**

The rolls were opener, Santa and the kid. The leftover people were the angels or the holders. I was an opener. Onto the stage. Now the stage looked Christmassy and cool. It was awesome.

**By Daniel Kelly, Year 2.**

We had someone dress up as Santa (Bennett) and he talked about the symbols of Christmas to Sofia, who played a child. Then he started pulling items out of his bag and I hope it taught everyone a valuable lesson about why Christmas is not all about toys. It’s about celebrating in our church community and being with family. **By Clara Coonan. Year 3.**

**LIBRARY NEWS**

Thank you to everyone for supporting the Book Fair.

Because of your support we have received $1300 in commission to put towards resources for the library.

There will be no more borrowing this year.
Please help your child to make sure all books are returned this week.

The visit by Melbourne author, Jen Storer, was thoroughly enjoyed by Years 4 -7. If you are looking for a great book for this age group for a Christmas present I can recommend her book “Truly Tan”. Some children were lucky enough to borrow one of our copies but with the end of borrowing for the year many have missed out.

**Happy reading,**
Leanne Forsyth and Rhonda Wood.

---

**THANK YOU - Mindilga Open Garden**

A huge weekend was had at the 25th Anniversary of Open Gardens Australia on November 3 & 4 with over 400 people coming through over the two days at the Chalk Street garden, called “Mindilga”. Sharon Kellett and Adam Wilson (Jack, Prep W) were absolutely thrilled and enjoyed talking to everyone that attended and seeing their garden through visitors’ eyes.

The winners of the Lucky Door prizes were:

Cathy (Samford) Buddha Bust Statue
Leonie (Lutwyche) Sitting Buddha Statue
Ron (Stafford) Garden Voucher

Open Gardens Australia confirmed that Holy Cross P & F would receive $854 as their share of the gate. Adam, Sharon & Jack would like to donate $116.00 from their plant sales, to make it a nice neat $1000.00.

Adam, Sharon & Jack have asked we thank Holy Cross staff & families, extended families, friends and community for their support. Sharon and Adam would also like to thank Shane, our groundsman, for organising the School Gazebo and kindly helping Adam set it up in preparation for the event. The P&F would like to pass on their thanks to Adam, Sharon & Jack for kindly nominating our HCS P&F as the beneficiaries. **We look forward to the next one!**

---

**Welcome BBQ – Date Claimer – Friday, February 8th**

Please mark Friday 8th February 2013 (5.30pm – 7.30pm) in your diary for the Holy Cross Welcome BBQ.

Please join us on the “green” for a social BBQ. Free sausages for the Family!! Free cordial and ice blocks for the kids!! One free beer/wine for the adults!! Raffles!!

Catch up with old friends and welcome the new families to our school community.

No need to cook dinner – See you there.
Holy Cross P&F Association.

---

**Holy Cross School Fees**

Please do not reply to your fee notification received by email, as the fees are computer generated. Please notify the office directly. Thank you

---

**ATTENTION ALL PARENTS**

2013 BOOKLISTS WERE SENT HOME THIS WEEK.
After School Care – Friday 7th December.

We are running After School Care on Friday December 7th beginning at 12 noon when school finishes. We will be having Pizza for lunch and having a fun & games afternoon to celebrate the end of school. If you need care for your child on this day please let me know as soon as possible, as I need to organise correct staff:child ratios.

**PLEASE NOTE THAT THIS IS ONLY FOR YEARS 1 UPWARDS, AS PREP CHILDREN FINISH THURSDAY 6TH DEC.**

The cost of the afternoon will be:
- 12noon – 3 pm  - $18.00
- After 3 pm pickup  - $34.00

Please make sure you indicate what time your child will be picked up.

Thank you.
Rhonda Wood – OSHC Coordinator.

---

**GOTCHA CARDS – Week 7**

**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:

- Oscar Barrett
- Caitlin Hodda
- Matilda Barbour
- Marni Braine
- Ella Eyndhoven
- Bennett Boyd
- Zoe Eyndhoven
- Daniel Egan
- Gus Wood

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

---

**VACATION CARE.**

Vacation Care forms were due in today to receive the booked price. Anyone still needing care is urged to return the booking form as soon as possible. This enables us to organise correct staff to child ratios for each day. Bookings forms received late are charged at $3 extra per child per day.

If you have not received a program and booking form please ask for one by contacting the school office or Rhonda on 0418 719903.

Rhonda Wood
OSHC Co-ordinator

---

Mount Alvernia College is currently accepting Applications for Enrolment for Year 7, 2016.

Applications close on 8 February 2013 with interviews being conducted in Term 1, 2013. Application for Enrolment Forms are available via email request from the Mount Alvernia College website www.mta.qld.edu.au or can be collected from the School Office. Please contact Jodi Walsh, Enrolments Officer, (Ph: 3632 8508) for any further information.

We also have limited vacancies for Years 7 & 8 in 2015.