**Dates to Remember:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>February</td>
<td>Welcome BBQ</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>P&amp;F Meeting – 6.30pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>Chess Club begins</td>
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<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>Parent Information Evening</td>
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<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>City Districts Swimming @ Valley Pool</td>
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<tr>
<td>March</td>
<td>Yr3 – Yr7 Swimming Carnival @ Stafford State School</td>
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<tr>
<td>26</td>
<td>Zone 6 Swimming Carnival @ Somerset State School</td>
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<td></td>
<td>5th February Date</td>
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<tr>
<td>7 May</td>
<td>Labour Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>11 June</td>
<td>Queen's Birthday</td>
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<tr>
<td>25 April</td>
<td>Anzac Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>8 October</td>
<td>Term 4: 8 October to December</td>
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<tr>
<td>15 March</td>
<td>Parent Information Evening</td>
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<tr>
<td>24 January</td>
<td>Term 1: 24 January to 30 March</td>
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<tr>
<td>16 April</td>
<td>Term 2: 16 April to 22 June</td>
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<tr>
<td>9 July</td>
<td>Term 3: 9 July to 21 September</td>
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<tr>
<td>8 October</td>
<td>Term 4: 8 October to December</td>
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<tr>
<td>8.40am</td>
<td>School Bell Times:</td>
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<tr>
<td>10.50 – 11.20am</td>
<td>1st Break: 10.50 – 11.20am</td>
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<td>1.20 – 1.50pm</td>
<td>2nd Break: 1.20 – 1.50pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>2.45pm</td>
<td>Finish: 2.45pm (Prep only)</td>
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<tr>
<td>2.55pm</td>
<td>(Yr 1 to Yr7)</td>
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**Masses:**

- Holy Cross Church
- February 18 Opening School Mass 6pm
- 22 Ash Wednesday

**Tuckshop**

- Tuckshop available on WEDNESDAY’S
  - Convenor: Mrs Sharlene Hamblin
  - Ph: 0401 665 318 or email: Dash1099@hotmail.com

**Uniform Shop**

- Uniform Shop will be open
  - Open: Every Friday morning
  - Time: 8.00 – 9.00am
  - Convenor: Tanya Smith
  - Orders can be emailed to Tanya.Smith@hcuniforms@gmail.com

**School Bell Times:**

- Start: 8.40am
- 1st Break: 10.50 – 11.20am
- 2nd Break: 1.20 – 1.50pm
- Finish: 2.45pm (Prep only)
- 2.55pm (Yr 1 to Yr7)

**Uniform Days**

- Mon & Tues: Day Uniform
- Wed, Thurs: Sports Uniform
- Friday: Day Uniform

**School Terms 2012:**

- Term 1: 24 January to 30 March
- Term 2: 16 April to 22 June
- Term 3: 9 July to 21 September
- Term 4: 8 October to December

**Public Holidays:**

- Good Friday: 6 April
- Easter Saturday: 7 April
- Easter Monday: 9 April
- Anzac Day: 25 April
- Labour Day: 7 May
- Queen’s Birthday: 11 June

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**Dear Parents**

We are looking forward to the P&F Welcome BBQ tonight on the Green from 5:30pm to 7:30pm. Thanks to the P&F for organising this annual event which is a great chance to renew friendships after our Christmas holiday break and for new families to be welcomed. I look forward to catching up with as many families as possible tonight. A disco will be provided in the Pavilion for the children from 6:15 to 7:15. It will be a great event!

At our staff meeting on Tuesday Fr Fitz-Herbert outlined how the school will celebrate Ash Wednesday. The arrangements are outlined by Father in the newsletter. On Wednesday 22nd February, Fr Fitz-Herbert will visit each classroom with Ashes from the parish Eucharistic celebration so that every child will begin their Lenten Journey marked with this ancient sacred symbol of conversion.

No doubt there were very proud parents who attended the Wednesday Assembly at which our Year 7 students presented some of their reflections about leadership. I was struck by the calm and meaningful way in which their ideas were communicated. Our Student Leadership programme for Year 7 offers every student opportunities to experience and learn about leadership in practical ways. Wednesday’s presentation was an example of the programme in action! A great start! Congratulations to past students of Holy Cross who this year hold leadership positions in their respective school communities.

* • Muirgen O’Séighin – School Captain – St Rita’s College
* • Anna Patane – Nagle House Captain – St Rita’s College
* • Danielle Palmer – Cross Country Captain – St Rita’s College
* • Robert Hickson - Vice Captain – St Joseph’s College.

Yesterday students from Year 1 – 7 enjoyed their first swimming lessons for the term. Perfect, warm weather for their initial dip! Each week the students will travel in our school bus to and from Wooloowin State School Pool for lessons with Mr Cannell.

I apologise for the confusion in last week’s newsletter regarding the date and time of the Opening School Mass. Our Opening Mass for the year will be held on Saturday 18th February at the 6pm Mass at Holy Cross Church. At that Mass our Year 7 leaders will be presented to the community.

Thanks to the many volunteers who have stepped up to support the School Tuckshop. If you are available to lend a hand please contact Sharlene Hamblin the Tuckshop Convenor.

A Parent Information Evening will be held on Wednesday 15th February. Teachers will meet their class parent group to outline the programme and routines for the year. This is an opportunity for teachers and parents to strengthen the positive relationship that supports children. Research shows that positive teacher/parent relationships have positive outcomes for students. The roster for the evening is on page 2 of the newsletter.

Parents and Friends meet next Wednesday 8th February at 6pm in the new building on Merehaye St. I am looking forward to another successful year and once again thank the P&F for their on-going support. Please feel very welcome to attend this meeting as everyone’s support makes a difference.

Finally, the following reflection is from this week’s message from Brisbane Catholic Education Executive Director, Mr David Hutton. It is a reminder that our choices shape who we are and ultimately our world.

**Reflection**

- What we choose changes us.
- Who we love transforms us.
- How we create reshapes us.
- What we do remakes us.

Rev Eugene Callender

Have a wonderful week … See you at the BBQ this evening!

Paul Drewniak
Principal

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**Welcome BBQ tonight**

5.30 -7.30pm

Come along for a great night!
**A.P.R.E.’s Report**

Life should not be a journey to the grave with the intention of arriving safely in an attractive and well preserved body, but rather to skid in sideways, chocolate in one hand, wine in the other, body thoroughly used up, totally worn out and screaming “WOO HOO! What a life”.

Sounds like a great plan and an obvious way to live, but how do we reconcile this with the frenetic life styles - always ‘doing’ rather than ‘being’. Even our primary students comment on how busy they are and how fast life seems to be passing. Maybe, if we ‘took time for me’ for a brief moment each day to touch base with what our priorities are, then we may discover that what seems important, really isn’t and that our concerns and worries are not so bad!

Maybe we are making life a lot more difficult than it needs to be and in the process missing out on lots of the fun that our God has planned for us to enjoy in this wonderful world.

I do know that life is meant to be lived and lived with excitement, so in the balance of activity and quiet, we have the chance to smile at the successes, grin at the mistakes and dance into the next adventure with a God who just loves to watch us happily grasp the gifts that are strewn along the way.

Have a wonderful week! Patty McCourt

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**From the Parish Priest**

On Tuesday afternoon, I spoke with the school staff about the celebration of prayer and liturgy for this first term. We looked forward to the celebration of Lent within the classroom.

On Ash Wednesday 22 February, each class will celebrate the ‘Signing with the ashes’. Ash will have been blessed at the parish eucharist earlier in the day. Each child will be asked a question before the cross is traced on their forehead. The early years students will be asked: Will you be a friend of Jesus? The older student from year three upwards will be asked: Will you try and follow Jesus this Lent?

Families can support preparation for the start of Lent in practical ways over the next three weeks. Reflect with your child/ren on the question they will be asked before their class celebration. Discuss around the family table how your family follows the teaching of Jesus each day. Another possible avenue is to explore what a friend of Jesus looks like or how she/he speaks to others. Try and connect everyday choices within your family as being an expression of the good news that Jesus shares for abundant life.

One of the recommendations for Lent is choosing to adapt simplicity in our food intake. The word from the gospel is fasting. Our culture is laden with fasting messages and it is a mutli-billion dollar industry. Surprisingly both the gospel and culture are in remarkable agreement on the importance of fasting in life. Moderation in food and drink contributes to healthy bodies, healthy minds and healthy relationships. How might your household review your regular eating practices in this time before Lent? What might be possible during the five weeks of Lent, which is preparation for Easter? Which family meal could be undertaken to eat in simplicity! Imagine how it may contribute to healthy growth in our following of Jesus.

**Pastoral Care Corner**

Dear Parents

Proverbs are wonderful things and I’m sure we have all had various ones quoted at us by our own parents. I recently read an article about Japanese proverbs and I thought they were worth sharing. Even while you may reflect on their relevance in your own life, you may be able to discuss them with your children, or talk about some of our own proverbs with them. Here is the Japanese list:

- If you love your son/daughter, let him/her travel. (That could be around the world, or just around the latest encounter with life.)
- The character which a child possesses by the age of three will last until a hundred.
- Even a new tatami straw mat when beaten gives out dust. (None of us is perfect.)
- The monk from a nearby temple is never famous. (We don’t recognise the good in those closest to us.)
- Sit on a stone for three years and it gets warm. (Persevere.)
- Even a monkey can fall from a tree. (We all make mistakes.)

In the same issue of the ‘Far East’, was an article entitled, “There’s a crack in everything – that’s how the light gets in”. – We all need to be vulnerable at some point to grow.

It wasn’t hard to find a list of our proverbs, when I googled ‘list of proverbs’. Here is just a small sample.

Accidents will happen. Actions speak louder than words. Advice is cheap. Advice is least heeded when most needed.

All good things come to those who wait. All that glitters is not gold.

All is fair in love and war. All’s well that ends well.

THANK YOU to the many people who collected toiletries, stamps and tea/coffee/sugar during the holidays. It was great to come back to a room full of little parcels. My contact at the Women’s Prison has retired, but is now volunteering at the ‘Ryan Centre’ at Salisbury, a drop-in centre for recently released prisoners, so she will still gratefully receive our offerings.

God bless,
Sr Anne Cannon
School Pastoral Worker

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**TIMES FOR PARENT INFORMATION NIGHT**

**WEDNESDAY 15 FEBRUARY 2012**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Events</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6.30 – 7.00pm</td>
<td>Prep, Yr 6 &amp; Yr 7</td>
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<tr>
<td>7.05pm – 7.35pm</td>
<td>Yr 2, Yr 2/3 &amp; Yr 3</td>
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<tr>
<td>7.40pm – 8.10pm</td>
<td>Yr 1 &amp; Yr 4/5</td>
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Fr John Francis Fitz-Herbert
Parish Priest
GOTCHA CARDS – Week 2

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:

Matilda Barbour
   Ella Lewis
   Josie Wruck
   Meka Morrison
   Alisha Pereira
   Samuel Ryan
   Gus Watson
   Sarah Ryder
   Neil Tiru

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

TUCKSHOP

Helpers for Wednesday 8th February are:

**Tuck-shop:** Kelly Seibold, Carmen Cameron, Navpreet Kaur, Mary-Therese O’Sullivan & Maddie Barbour

**Home bake:** Jude Noone, Maddie Barbour, Deanne Chester Loretta Mammarella, Maria Celere, Leah Edwards, Trish Slater & Suzanne Colette

Please note our NUT FREE POLICY
When preparing Homebake items.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

The school community wishes the students who celebrate their birthday this week many happy returns:

Zac Byrne-Henderson, Breanna Murphy, Liyan Philip, Luke Slater, Lilly Watson, Jaimie Durston & Lily Grant

CONGRATULATIONS

To the FANCUTT FAMILY who welcomed a new baby girl to their family on January 5th.

Emily is another little sister for Daniel & Sebastian. We welcome Emily to the Holy Cross Community.

St Rita’s is currently accepting enrolments for Year 7 and 8, 2015 (students currently in Year 4 and 5) and Year 7, 2016 (students currently in Year 3). Applications for 2015 will close on 30th April, 2012. Families are invited to place an enrolment application from January of the year their daughter commences Year 3. Please feel free to visit the College website www.stritas.qld.edu.au for further information.

YOU ARE INVITED TO THE GRAND OPENING on Sunday February 5th at 10am when Team Taekwondo will unveil its new GEEBUNG martial arts centre to the public.

Unit 17, 388 Newman Rd, Geebung
Bring the family along and join in the fun. Great prizes and giveaways on the day plus a sausage sizzle. Contact www.teamtkd.com.au or ph: 0418 318 833 for more information

HERITAGE HALL CAR PARK

Could we please ask that Parents & Carers DO NOT park cars in the Heritage Hall car park next to Holy Cross School. The car parks must remain vacant for their visitors only. Thank you
**BOOK CLUB**
This week your child will bring home a Book Club brochure.
Should you wish to order from these brochures please complete the order forms and return with payment to your child’s teacher by Friday 10th of February.

You may pay by cash, cheque (payable to Holy Cross School) or credit card. Credit card is the preferred method and the process for doing this is outlined in the brochure. You must return the slip with the receipt number with your order.

The school receives free resources as commission from Book Club.
Please direct any enquiries to Leanne Forsyth.

**LIBRARY NEWS**
Welcome Back! We hope you found the time to lose yourself in a book over the Christmas break.

Borrowing has started this week. Please ensure your child has a library bag each week. Prep children are to provide their own waterproof bag which is large enough to fit a large picture book. All other children have a dark green school library bag (Gr 1 will receive a bag next week).

The library is also open for the second lunch break on Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday for quiet activities (reading, drawing and board games).

Happy reading,
Leanne and Rhonda

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**Welcome BBQ –**
**Friday 3rd February**

Please come to the Welcome BBQ on Friday 3rd February (5.30pm – 7.30pm) - Next Friday!!

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.

Ladies mark this date in your diary today:
Saturday 24th March
Why? A fantastic and exclusive shopping opportunity awaits!
Estee Lauder Companies Corporate Store Fundraiser (Estee Lauder, Clinique, MAC, Bobbi Brown Essentials, Aramis, Donna Karen, Tommy Hilfiger, Aveda, Jo Malone) products at 40% off retail prices!
Admission $10 per person, relatives and friends most welcome (this money goes directly to Holy Cross P&F fundraising).
More information and tickets available from Deanne Chester
dandpchester@optusnet.com.au
Tickets must be purchased prior to the event - no tickets at the door.
This store is not open to the public.
So come along and get your favourite cosmetics at bargain prices!

**SCHOOL OFFICE REQUEST**
**Change**
When paying school accounts please have correct money when paying cash as the School Office does not keep change on the premises.

**ATTENTION:**
2012 School Fees Account will now show BPAY for your convenience.

Parents who have been paying into the school account on line, could you now please pay by BPAY.