Dear Parents,

Our Parents and Friends Association held the Annual General Meeting on Wednesday evening this week. How privileged we are at Holy Cross to have such strong support for the school community from this group. Mrs Rebecca O’Brien, the 2011 President, outlined in the report the long list of initiatives that the Association has supported this year. I would like to take a further opportunity in today’s newsletter to whole-heartedly thank the association for their simply amazing energy and activity in our school this year. Thank you to each member of the 2011 Executive and role holders for a wonderfully successful year. I would like to especially thank Rebecca for her involvement at President this year and her six years involvement in the Executive. A vote of thanks must also go to Mrs Nicole Thorpe who has been closely involved in the Grants Committee for many years, Nicole and her family will end their involvement with the school this year as their children move from Holy Cross. Thank you to Mrs Toni Williamson (Secretary), Mrs Maddie Barbour (Vice President) and Mr Tony Artuso (Treasurer) for their untiring efforts this year in their roles.

A new P&F Executive was formed for 2012.

- Mr Peter Chester - President
- Mrs Maddie Barbour – Vice President
- Mrs Toni Williamson – Secretary
- Mr Tony Artuso – Treasurer
- Mrs Maree Patane - Grants Committee

All other role holders in the P&F will continue as per 2011. Thanks to all these people for generously stepping forward to continue the vital work of the P&F.

What a great success “A Night at the Casino” was last Saturday night. Congratulations and “thank-you” to the organising committee steered by Mary-Therese Brady and Nicole Thorpe for their hard work over the months leading to the event. The Pavilion was wonderfully transformed for a night of great fun. Work began on its transformation a week before the event! The evening was another wonderful community event for the school as well as being a successful fund-raiser. The school quilts were auctioned and a collaborative art piece developed on the night also found a home in the school community. Once again thank-you.

On Sunday morning (20th November) the school community will support the 9:30am Parish Mass at the Holy Cross Church. Sunday is the Feast of Christ the King – the final day of the Church year. Students from the school will be involved in the Music and Reading ministries during the Mass. We hope to see many of our families there at the final School/Parish Mass for the year. Please bring a small plate of food to share and leave it in the Gathering area next to the church. Children are invited to sit in the choir space near the organ and lead the singing. Let’s give thanks on Sunday for another great year in a blessed community.

At Tuesday’s School Board Meeting a draft policy document regarding “Expected Behaviours” was considered. The draft document is attached for feedback. Please return your feedback by next Friday. I would also like to thank Mrs Nicole Thorpe and Mrs Kim Harding, who will be leaving the school community at the end of 2011, for their outstanding contributions to the School Board over the past 6 years.

Yesterday we welcomed Mrs Glenda Sullivan and Ms Leisa Clark to Holy Cross for an Induction Day as they will both be teaching at Holy Cross in 2012. Glenda and Leisa met with me, Patty Mc Court (APRE), with Mrs Leanne Forsyth (Teacher/Librarian and Curriculum Support Teacher) and with Support Teachers as part of this induction. Both teachers visited all classrooms to meet teachers and children. Announcements regarding class teachers will be made in the final week of the term when, as per last year’s process, a note will be sent to each family informing parents of the class and teacher for 2012. The process for formalising class lists will be completed by me as Principal in consultation with the APRE and staff.

Our Holy Cross School Band entertained students, parents and staff at Assembly this week. The band performed brilliantly and it was hard to believe that they had only formed a year ago.

WELL DONE. Once again we have the P&F to thank for this opportunity offered to students from Year 3-7!!

This week we have more wonderful news about the achievements of past Holy Cross students. Alex Langguth and Mitchell Tucker (Year 7 2006) each received an award at Nudgee College for Outstanding Contribution to College Life. Well done, boys.

Paul Drewniak

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**Dates to Remember:**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>November</th>
<th>21</th>
<th>Prep to Yr 2 - Excursion</th>
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<td></td>
<td>24</td>
<td>Christmas Carols – 6pm</td>
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<td></td>
<td>28</td>
<td>Early Years Swimming Carnival</td>
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<td>December</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>Yr 7 Graduation Mass</td>
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<td></td>
<td>30</td>
<td>Yr 6 &amp; Yr 7</td>
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<td></td>
<td>30</td>
<td>Prep Nativity</td>
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**Masses:**

**Starting at 9.15am in the Church**

- **November 20** Parish School Mass

**Liturgy of the Word:**

- **December 2** End of Year Liturgy at 10.30am

**School Assemblies:**

- **Wednesday** Foster Pavilion - 8.50am
- **November 23** Yr 4A
- **November 30** Yr 1/2H & Yr 1D

**Tuckshop**

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

**Uniform Shop**

- Uniform Shop will be open on the Pupil Free Day from 9am to 12pm.
- Open: Every Friday 8am-9am
- Orders can be emailed to Tanya.smith.hcuniforms@gmail.com

**Uniform Days**

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

**School Terms 2011:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Term</th>
<th>Dates</th>
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<td>Term 4</td>
<td>3 Oct – 2 Dec</td>
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A.P.R.E.’s Report
On Sunday at the 9.30 Mass, we will join with the community at Holy Cross for their celebration of a Family Mass. The Parishioners always warmly welcome the presence of the school community and appreciate the contribution made by the students.
The gospel for Sunday is from Matthew where we are reminded that as long as we do anything to another person, we do it to Jesus.
“I was hungry and you gave me something to eat.
I was sick and you visited me.
As long as you do it to one of my people, you do it to me!”
When visit the sick or someone in jail, when we clothe the naked, or feed the poor, we do it to Jesus. This really brings home the reality of the concept of the Body of Christ – that we are all part of one another and we are all made in the image of God.
You are rather an amazing group of people at Holy Cross in your outreach to the needy and the marginalized, evident in the many ways that you have supported most generously, each fund-raising day this year. And your big-heartedness is not only financial. It is also in the community’s awareness of those who need assistance in particular times.
It is also evident in the people who keep the tuck shop going each week, to those who work behind the scene for the Casino Night, P&F ventures, the Festival, Mother’s/Father’s Day stalls, to mention but a few.
We look forward to being with you for the celebration of the Eucharist on Sunday.
God is with you!
                Patty McCourt

On November 20, at 9.30 in Holy Cross Church, will be the Holy Cross School Family Mass. We would love to have a large group of our families attend this Mass to celebrate with the members of the Parish on the feast of Christ the King. After Mass, there will be morning tea and we ask that you bring a small plate of food to share.

TUCKSHOP
Helpers for Wednesday 23rd November are:
Tuck-shop: Deb Birthisel, Melissa Newton-Turner, Maddie Barbour, Dee Chester & Gayle Yap

Home bake: Sharon van der Wal, Laura Hendey, Simone Ross, Natalie MacDonald, Tricia Stickley, Bridger Piper, Michele Cree & Trish Slater

Please note our NUT FREE POLICY
When preparing Homebake items.

Pastoral Care Corner
Dear Parents
How to bring about a change in behaviour is a common parenting challenge. Here are four tips, from Michael Grose, that will help bring about a behavioural change, if you are persistent and patient.
These ideas also work gang-busters on adults so if your partner has an annoying habit or behaviour that you’d like to alter then you can practice on them – and don’t forget to try it on yourself!!
Tip 1: Change your initial response. Think how you normally respond to children’s annoying behaviours, and then do something different. Rather than remind children to pick up toys, remove them. Move away from whining rather than reminding them stop. Repetitive behaviours happen because of the pay-off they get – your attention – so change the pay-off to change the behavior.
Tip 2: Practise new or better behaviours. There are times when it’s useful to practise, role play or rehearse better behaviours. Want a child to stay in bed when they wake in the middle of the night rather than visit you? You’ll increase the chance of success dramatically if you role play with your child during the day waking up, turning on the light and reading a book. Do it a number of times and s/he’s more likely to do it at night.
Tip 3: Minimise the attention you give to behaviours you don’t want. That means when children ignore your brilliant suggestions and continue with an old behaviour then, ignore it, sidestep it or implement a consequence but don’t nag or harp on it. It takes time to change ingrained behaviours.
Tip 4: Spotlight the appropriate behaviour. Show your sincere appreciation when children behave in the desired way. We often take children for granted, or rather we are hard-wired to give children NO recognition for doing the right thing, but we give them plenty of B-grade attention when they misbehave. The behaviours you focus on EXPAND, so set your antennae to pick up the good rather than the annoying behaviours.
Like any process it will work if you stick to it and follow through. Star charts are one option, but I think they are for parents’ benefit more than the children as they act as good reminders for us to focus on their good behaviours.
Expect children’s annoying behaviours to get worse before they improve as they are just trying to work out if you really mean it when you change! That’s why persistence and patience are your greatest allies in this process. If you start now, you may have a more peaceful holiday season with your children – unless, of course, they are already perfect!

God bless
Sr Anne Cannon
School Pastoral Worker

HAPPY BIRTHDAY
The school community wishes the students who celebrated their birthday this week many happy returns:
Isabelle Davies, Shom Philip & Jakob Pelusi
**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:

William Zuill  
Stephanie Celere  
Zac Seeto  
Zac Byrne-Henderson  
Daniel Kelly  
Harry O’Donoghue  
Charles Williamson  
Ashlynn Haywood-North  
Dom Chester

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

**MINI VINNIES CHRISTMAS APPEAL**

We are having free dress on Friday, 25 November. Instead of a gold coin, please bring in what you can to make Christmas more enjoyable for those who have much less than we do. Please leave the gifts unwrapped, as that is what the Vincent de Paul group have asked.

*Lulu and Domi, for all Mini Vinnies*

- Prep S  gifts for children younger than 4  
- Prep E  gifts for children aged 4-6  
- 1/2H  non-perishable food that children would like  
- 1D  drinks that children would like  
- 2M  gifts for Dads  
- 3S  gifts for children aged 7-9  
- 3L  gifts for Mums  
- 4A  food that Mums and Dads would like, preferably larger tins, suitable for a family, eg 450gm ham  
- 5E  gifts for children aged 10-12  
- 6F  gifts for teenagers, eg vouchers, cds, beach towels  
- 6D  food that teenagers would like  
- 7M/T  decorations, tableware, eg Christmas plates, cups, tablecloths

**OR ANYTHING YOU CARE TO BRING**

**PREP – YR2 Swimming Carnival**

Please remember to bring in Swimming Carnival Lunch Pack orders.

Forms with correct money are due NOW

**THANK YOU**

**LOST**

AFL BAG – swimming gear inside belonging to James Mason PE. Bag was left behind after AusKick last Thursday afternoon.

Please return to Prep E or to the office.
LIBRARY NEWS
Thank you to everyone who supported our Book Fair. Collectively you spent $5955 and the commission from this has made it possible to add to some great new books to our library collection. We are also able to add some new shelving and accessories to make the library a more comfortable place where the books are easily accessible to everyone.

We are already making plans for next year’s Book Fair including some titles for the grownups and an evening event.

The end of the year is a very busy time in the library and we require all books to be returned or paid for. If your child is given an overdue notice please encourage them to find the lost book. They hide in the strangest places – including under beds, on book shelves and in piles of magazines and newspapers.

Happy reading (and hunting!)

Leanne and Rhonda

CHESS NEWS
Chess Club has now finished for the year. Sixteen of our members will take part in a friendly competition with students from OLHC Hendra on Friday November 25. This will take place at school during school hours.

We would like to thank all the children who have been a part of Chess Club this year.

Leanne Forsyth and Nick Devereaux

AWARDS
Congratulations to all students who received awards during assembly.

PE  Hayden Carey, Olivia Turner, Rory Toghill & Kyle Brady
PS  Dom Chester, Morgan McKay, Harry Monaghan & Teeny Cairney
1D  Daniel Kelly & Abby Tudor
1/2H  Sienna Artuso & Sasha McCaulay
2M  Angelina Daly, Emma Brennan & Charlie Barbour
3L  Janica Morrison-Cos & Harrison O’Donoghue
3S  Sophie North, Sophie Iles & Isabelle Davies
4A  Marcus Birthisel, Sophie Fahey, Mackenzie O’Sullivan
5E  Lachlan Woods & Izzy Grellman
6D  Julia Nicotra & Paris Urban
6F  Lucy Shephard & Jaime Durston
7M/T  William Zuill, Ben Morris, Lily Nichols & Mary Stickley

THURSDAY 24TH NOVEMBER 2011
Christmas Carols Evening
Holy Cross Church At 6.00pm
Every class will be participating, so please join us.

BOOK LISTS for ALL GRADES were sent home this week. Please complete and return to the School Office by FRIDAY 25 NOVEMBER, (If you don’t get the ORDER FORM in by this date, your order may be delayed)

CHEQUES OR MONEY ORDERS to be made payable to “EDSCO Pty Ltd”

NO CASH WILL BE ACCEPTED.