



Holy Family Primary School Newsletter

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6th May 2015

Term 2

Week 3

Religious Education Matters

Pilgrim News

The last leg of our pilgrimage took us from the Holy Land to Rome and Assisi. We joined thousands of other pilgrims in St Peter's Square to listen to Pope Francis and pray with him. Pope Francis told us that:

The Apostles, who saw with their own eyes the Risen Christ, could not keep silent about their extraordinary experience. He had revealed himself to them so that the truth of his resurrection could reach everyone through their witness. And the Church has the duty to prolong this mission, every baptized person is called to give witness, with their words and with their lives, that Jesus is risen, that He is alive and present among us. We all are called to give witness that Jesus is alive!



We were fortunate to be able to visit St Peter's Basilica early in the morning before the crowds and celebrate a private mass at the Altar of the tomb of St Peter. We then had a tour of the Vatican Museum and magnificent Sistine Chapel.

Then for the final leg, our pilgrimage took us to Assisi where St Francis tended to the poor and sick and founded the Franciscan Order. In this place of great peace and calm, we had time to reflect on our journey and how we can return home and be *witnesses that Jesus is Alive!*

Thank you for all your thoughts and prayers while I was away and the kind words since my return. I look forward to sharing my many experiences further.

Mr Bawden



In Christ we Live, Love and Learn.

Student Awards

*We congratulate this week's
Student of the Week Award
recipients:*

Makayla Isaac	Rita El Ghoubaïra
Elias Helou	Ryan Lu
Paul Laoulach	Peter Tabach
Faith Frangie	Andrew Elias
Nicholas Elias	Rizul Wagle
Diana Jbarah	Mikayla Chakoush
Raymond Anjoul	Geoffrey Mok



Principal's Message

Next week the students in Year 3 and 5 will sit the NAPLAN tests in Reading, Writing, Language Conventions and Numeracy. The tests will be administered over three days, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday.

The NAPLAN tests are designed to assess the skills of Australian students in Literacy and Numeracy. The tests provide data on the achievements of students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 for reporting to parents/carers and schools and for systematic reporting.

Although there always seems to be a great deal of controversy about the purpose of NAPLAN, the results of the tests will provide important information to schools about what each student can do, and will be used to support teaching and learning programs. The analysis of trend data also guides our schools implementation plan each year so that areas of improvement are addressed in a timely manner and tracked to ensure improvement in these targeted areas occurs.

Parents will receive a report indicating their child's level of achievement. Each student's level of achievement will be reported against the national minimum standard. The detailed report also provides parents with an overview of strengths and challenges for their child in the test domains.

Parents can view school NAPLAN results for previous years on the Government 'myschools' website.

It is important that we encourage our children to do their best, however, we do not place added stress of unrealistic expectations on our children. It is after all, one test on one day and as teachers, we administer a variety of diagnostic and teacher made test to track student learning.

If you have any questions regarding the NAPLAN test please make an appointment to discuss this with your child's teacher.

Live Jesus in your hearts,

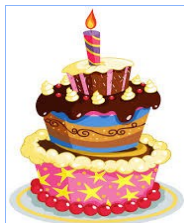
Mrs Baird
Principal

Calendar



May

Thursday 7th May	3:30pm First Communion Lesson 1 in hall.
Friday 8th May	Mother's Day Stall. 2:15pm Mother's Day Liturgy.
Monday 11th May	School Photo envelopes sent home.
Tuesday 12th May — Thursday 14th May	NAPLAN.



Birthday Wishes!
Congratulations to the following
students who celebrate their birthday this week: Isabella Burke, Georgia
Hannouch and Gabriel Rahme.

Mothers' Day Liturgy

We invite our very special mums and grandmothers to our Mothers' Day Liturgy on Friday at 2.15pm in the school hall. I wish to thank the teachers and students who coordinated and organised this very beautiful liturgy.



Mothers' Day stall

On Friday, the students will have an opportunity to buy a special gift for their mum or grandmothers at our Mothers' Day stall. The gifts will range in price from \$2.00 to \$5.00. I wish to specially thank the many mothers who volunteered their time so generously to wrap the hundreds of gifts.

To all our families at Holy Family the staff sincerely wish you a happy Mothers' Day.

Congratulation to our Cross Country Squad

On Tuesday our cross country squad competed at the Diocesan Cross Country at Eastern Creek Raceway. Our children showed sportsmanship and endurance when competing in such a long and challenging race. I sincerely wish to thank Miss Peachey, Miss d'Argent and Mrs Celik for supervising and supporting our children at the event. I wish to thank our competitors and their families for their continued support of our extra curricular activities.

School Photos

Our school photos will take place on Monday the 25th of May. Photo envelopes will be sent home on Monday the 11th of May. **Just a reminder that students will need to be in their full winter uniform for our school photos.**



Welcome back Mr Bawden (Pilgrim)

It was wonderful to see Mr Bawden on Monday refreshed after experiencing a once in a lifetime journey to the Holy Land. I wish to thank Mr Bawden for sharing his journey with us while he was overseas as part of our newsletter over the last two weeks. His story and photos captured the beauty and sacredness as he walked in the footsteps of Jesus. I am looking forward to hearing more about the pilgrimage to the Holy Land.

2016 Enrolments

Kindergarten enrolments for 2016 are now being accepted. Enrolment packages are available from the school office for collection. Please inform your family, friends and neighbours.

In Christ we Live, Love and Learn.

School Fees

Term 2 School Fees have now been issued and are due by Monday 25th May.

Thankyou to everyone who has already paid the school fees.

Please note, payments can be made by cash, cheque, EFTPOS, BPAY or at the Post Office.



Diocesan and Community News

Biennial Catholic Schools Parent Conference

The Biennial Catholic Schools Parent Conference will be held from 16 to 17 May, co-hosted by Lismore Diocese. This is an important opportunity for Catholic schools parents from across NSW to acknowledge, support and celebrate parent involvement in education, bearing out the conference focus that it 'takes a village to raise a child'.

We are all aware of the importance of building strong and genuine relationships with parents in support of children's education. I would like to take this opportunity to encourage every school to 'sponsor' the conference registration cost for one or two school parents.

The full cost of conference registration is \$250, and by sponsoring a parent from each school, we would be demonstrating our ongoing commitment to involving parents in a meaningful way in the education of their child. Accommodation costs, travel to and from Coffs Harbour and incidental and personal purchases would remain the responsibility of each attendee, schools would only be covering the cost of conference registration.

Parents who have attended would then be able to report back to the parents of their school communities about their learning.

Regards
Greg

Gregory B Whitby
Executive Director of Schools
Catholic Education Diocese of Parramatta

A mother's work is never done,
She works from morning
until dawn,
She spreads her love
And keeps you warm,
But only once a year we say
Mother we wish you
"Happy Mothers Day!"

In Christ we Live, Love and Learn.