

Wednesday 18th May

Term 2

Week 4

Religious Education Matters

In Year One we have been learning how to be like Jesus by being a good friend to others.

We read Jesus and the Children (Mt19: 13-15) and learnt how Jesus was a good friend by being patient and kind.

We used frieze frames to retell the story.



Student Awards

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

Kindy: Nathan Dejesus & Iverson Eru Sua

Year 1: Sonia Khawly & Alad Atak

Year 2: Amensa Angbo & Deon Kumar

Year 3: Jonny Silverwood & Michelle Pham

Year 4: Veronika Georges & Sebastian Mansour

Year 5: Rizul Wagle & Elicia Zaitouni

Year 6: Joshua Mailangi & Joshua Makdissi



Principal's Message

Parent Representative Group Meeting

The next PRG meeting is scheduled for Tuesday the 24th of May at 6pm in the Year 6 classroom. The meeting will be divided into two parts. The first session will be led by Mr Munday sharing and explaining the newly formatted Student Reports. As I shared with our community in previous newsletters, our students reports were decommissioned so we have been working on formatting new student reports. I encourage parents to attend this meeting as it is a great opportunity to ask questions and view the new look student reports. We welcome any feedback from our parents. Following this we will continue with our Term 2 PRG meeting. The meeting will conclude at 7pm. If you have any items for the agenda please contact the office. Only items on the agenda will be discussed at the meeting.

Full Winter Uniform

All students need to be in full winter uniform each day. A reminder about the school ties for both boys and girls.

A Focus on Learning

Deep Learning has been the focus here at Holy Family for many years. For deep learning to occur, many elements need to be in play. Students need to want to learn. This means that they must be curious about the world around them, think creatively and critically about what they see and hear and collaborate with others to see different perspectives. Students need to see themselves as active and empowered learners and problem solvers not just passive participants. The way teachers organise the learning pathways for our children is based on this thinking. Students are collaborators in the planning and direction of their learning- inquiry learning- What do I want to know about this topic? Who else is interested in this? How can we work together using our strengths to really understand and critically reflect on this information gathered? How can we creatively and effectively share this knowledge with others?

Just as we are developing these important learning dispositions with all our students, our teachers are also focused on learning better ways to assist the learning needs of the students in their care. We model that learning is lifelong and that teachers are also learners.

This term the focus has been on developing effective skills and strategies to target the literacy needs of the students especially in the area of spelling. Teaching spelling in the context of reading and writing. The days of spelling list on a Monday and test on Friday is long gone. This technique only really focused on short term memory and WHAT we are spelling. The focus needs to be on HOW we spell. These skills teach our students to use knowledge of words to be efficient problem solvers.

Principal's Message

The follow is information for parents to ponder regarding what do we need to be thinking about when we are spelling or understanding words. The following information is taken from Education Leader in this area, **Christine Topfer**.

Sound – focusing on sound

Students need to be made aware that they can write many words by thinking about the sounds in the word. This gives possible spellings but it must be confirmed by 'does it look right?' (visual appearance) or analysing the meaning parts of the word.

Visual – focusing on the look of words

An awareness that you can write some words by thinking about the way they look is a useful strategy to develop. For example, clusters of letters appear in predictable patterns in words, and words or word parts keep a visual relationship to other words having similar meaning such as sign, signature.

Meaning – thinking about word meanings

Thinking about the structure of words and their meaning, and developing an awareness of the meaning patterns in words will assist students write many words.

Connecting - making connections with other words

You can use what you know about one word to work out a new word. The use of the connection strategy is often referred to as spelling by analogy or developing a mental dictionary. It involves the ability to manipulate and think about words. It includes thinking about how you figure out what to do when you want to spell an unknown word, then checking to see if it worked. Making connections between words enhances students' ability to apply their word knowledge in different contexts across the curriculum.

Checking – making use of other resources: live, print and electronic

You can write some words by referring to charts or word walls created from topic words, high frequency words or words with common letter patterns. Dictionaries and other print resources provide a good source for checking spelling. People are also useful resources for supporting word attempts as are electronic spell checkers.

Effective spellers are ones who are aware of when they don't know how to spell a word and consciously **know a variety of strategies** such as sound, visual, meaning, connecting and checking in order to write a word accurately. From the earliest age **students need to learn strategies effective spellers use to write new words** as they learn about the sound, visual and meaning structures of the language.

Maths Minds

In a bag of m&m's there were three times as many blue m&m's than red m&m's.

Challenge: There were also half as many brown m&m's than blue m&m's. How many of each colour would there be?



In Christ we Live, Love and Learn.

2017 Enrolments

Kindergarten Enrolment Packages are available from the office for collection.

Please notify family, friends and neighbours wishing to enrol their child at Holy Family.

Enrolment period closes at the end of May.

Kindergarten! ... here I come!



School Banking

A school banking service is available to students who hold Commonwealth Dollarmites or Youth Saver accounts. Encouraging children to make small regular deposits to a bank account helps them to develop good savings habits and awareness of the value of money. Students who wish to deposit money should bring bank books (with the deposit slip filled in) and money to school on Tuesday morning. The deposits are processed on Thursday during the morning and the bank books returned to students by their class teacher. Please note that we are unable to process cheques. For every deposit you make, you will receive a token. When you receive 10 tokens you can redeem them for a prize.

Any parent wishing to open a Commonwealth account for their child may collect an information package from the school office



School Fees

By now you would have received term 2 school fees.

Payments can be made by cash, cheque, EFTPOS, BPAY or at the Post Office.

Please contact Ms Ali in the office if you are having difficulty in paying your school fees.

Thank you

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Calendar



May

Thursday 26th May	Year 4 Excursion to Cumberland State Forest
Friday 27th May	CAPTIVATE Primary Choir rehearsal at St Patricks Guildford
Friday 27th May	Kindergarten Excursion to Calmsley Hill City farm
Friday 27th may	Assembly Yr 1, 3 & 5 presenting

Birthday Wishes!
Congratulations to the following students who celebrate their birthday this week
Ritisha Shrestha, Mikaylla Chakoush,
Cadi Jones & Anthony Dib



Parents, we ask you to please not use the children's toilets . If you need to use the facilities please come to the office and ask the staff.

Thank you

Diocesan and Community News

Seminar - Dealing With The Legal System

Each year CCSS Solo Parent Services offers an Information night for anyone interested in gaining a greater understanding on how to choose the best lawyer for your situation, how best to deal with Lawyers so as to minimize your legal fees and how to protect your rights regarding family assets. This night is being held on Tuesday 7th June from 7.30pm - 9.30pm at CCSS, 38 Prince St, Blacktown. Guest Speaker: Mr Richard Brading, (Solicitor at Wesley Legal Service, Castlereagh St.)

Cost: \$7. Registration Essential: Rita Ph. 8822 2222 soloparentservices@ccss.org.au

YOUNGER WIDOWED SUPPORT GROUP

Next Gathering for Solo Parent Services' Younger Widowed Support Group is on Tuesday 17th May. **Please note change of Venue:** Institute for Mission, 1-5 Marion St, Blacktown.

Time: 7pm – 9pm **Cost:** \$5.00. **Registration:** Rita Ph. 8822 2222 or Email: soloparentservices@ccss.org.au

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CERDON COLLEGE MERRYLANDS

Aspire to Great Heights

Enrolments for Year 7 2017
CLOSING SOON

*Cerdon College is currently receiving applications
for Year 7 2017.*

*An Enrolment Package may be obtained from the College
Office or downloaded from our Website at
www.cerdon.nsw.edu.au*

*Priority of enrolment is given to Catholic students from local
schools and parishes.*

*All applications should be received at the College Office by
Tuesday 31 May.*

Applications received after this date may not be successful.

Diocesan and Community News



The Parent Representative Council – Diocese of Parramatta welcome all parents/carers, teachers and school leaders to join us for our 2nd General Meeting of 2016.

This is a great opportunity to find out what the other schools in the Diocese are doing in teaching and learning, social events, parent and friends committees and to keep up to date on what's happening! We encourage you to come with questions and provide feedback so that we can provide you with the support you need!

Date: Monday, 30 May 2016 at 7:00pm

Located at: Diocesan Assembly Centre (DAC), Cnr Flushcombe Rd & Marion St (Ground Floor), Blacktown NSW 2148 ([View Map](#))

Topic: Special Needs Classes in our schools including ASPECT Western Sydney School Satellite classes

Presented by: ASPECT Western Sydney School

A little about our presenters this week...

Autism Spectrum Australia (Aspect) is Australia's leading service provider for people on the autism spectrum. Our specialised, evidence informed schools program is the largest in the world, with additional services that include information and advice, diagnostic assessments, behaviour support, parent and family support, and adult programs.

Autism is a lifelong condition that affects about one in 100 Australians, or 240,000 people. The word spectrum reflects the diversity of experience of people on the spectrum.

Our services provide people on the autism spectrum with the opportunity to realise their unique potential, as well as providing much needed support to their families, carers, friends and colleagues. Aspect's vision is to provide the best possible opportunities for people on the spectrum. We believe that people on the autism spectrum are *different brilliant*.

PENRITH OBSERVATORY

SCHOOL OF COMPUTING, ENGINEERING AND MATHEMATICS

Astronomy Night – Saturday 28 May 2016 (7.00 pm – 9.00 pm)

MARS OPPOSITION

Mars has fascinated us and stirred our imagination for a very long time. Come along during May to view the red planet during opposition. The evening will include a presentation, a 3D astronomy movie, a tour of the dome area and an opportunity to view the night sky through the observatory's telescopes.

Cost: \$18 adult, \$12 child/concession and \$50 family

Bookings are essential: To book and pay for tickets visit westernsydney.edu.au/observatory

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