

# Holy Family Primary School Newsletter

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Wednesday 24th February 2016 Term 1

Week 5

# **Religious Education Matters**



Project Compassion What a difference it makes in our world.

# Dominic's story - Papua New Guinea

# Creating a harmonious future

Participating in the Caritas Australia supported Community Conversations program has empowered Dominic and the people of his village to create a new way of life, far from the violence and gender inequality of the past.

### "find much happiness when I see my community in peace, and my children safe."

Dominic (36) lives with his wife and four children in the Jiwaka Province of Papua New Guinea (PNG), where generational poverty has led to many challenges, including inequality, alcohol abuse and violence.

Dominic admits that he too faced some of these challenges. But when Caritas Australia and local partner, the Sisters of Notre Dame, established the Community Conversations program, he saw an opportunity to create change.

"I was inspired to hear of the different issues highlighted and processes used to come up with solutions," Dominic explains.

Through regular Community Conversations training sessions, Dominic learnt communication and problem-solving skills that helped him lead open, respectful community discussions in his village. By empowering everyone to voice concerns and play a role in community decisions, Dominic's village has achieved greater peace and increased respect, as well as reduced violence and alcohol abuse. Now, Dominic's community has a chance to thrive and create a better future for themselves.

"When we start to realise we have power to stand independently to change ourselves, help ourselves, we feel liberated," says Dominic. "I am most proud of the positive changes I am witnessing. I pass my big thanks and pray God will bless our supporters in Australia."

Now everyone, women and young people, have a voice and peace is maintained that way." - Dominic

http://www.caritas.org.au/projectcompassion/weekly-stories/week-3-dominic

## In Christ we Live, Love and Learn.



We congratulate this week's Student of the Week Award recipients: Kindy Serena Obili & Diwas KC Year 1 Alvin Khanal & Lachlan Feher-Hegarty Year 2 Josie Afram & Ivamere Cagiloaloa Year 3 Erica Tamang & Kaitlin Commodore Year 4 Olenah El Katrib & Antonia Aoun Year 5 Samuel De Jesus & Britney Youssef Year 6 Tony Soukkar & Bachir Kayrouz



# Principal's Message

### Year 6 Commissioning Ceremony

Last Friday we inducted our student leaders for 2016. The Year 6 students stood proud as they received their badges and recited their pledge. I wish to thank the many parents who attended the ceremony as their presence added to the excitement and importance of this event. I also wish to thank Fr Andrew for attending and the class teachers for their organisation of the event. I am looking forward to witnessing the growth and maturity of all our Year 6 leaders this year. Congratulations Year 6 Leaders!

### Whole School Assembly

On Friday 26th of February we will be celebrating our faith and the learning evident so far this year at our first whole school assembly for this year. Our assembly will begin at 2.20pm in the parish hall. Students from Year 2,4 and 6 will celebrate their learning with us. I invite parents and friends to join us.

#### Student Attendance

As you are aware, every school day is filled with exciting new learning and experiences that the children need to have acquired in order to move along the learning continuum. When children are away for reasons other than sickness, the learning begins to be disjointed and some children find it difficult to catch up. School attendance is mandatory. Our system has clear guidelines and processes to assist families who struggle with getting their child to school each day. This is also valid for families that attend school late most mornings. I can not express enough the importance of children attending school each day on time. Children are confident learners when they know what is happening in the classroom. Constant lateness will cause your child to miss out on community building and learning time. I encourage parents to attend to this growing concern in our community.

Students with a high level of unexplained absences will have a letter sent home to parents next week. I thank you in advance for your support in this matter.

#### **School Photos**

Our annual school photo day is on Tuesday the 8th of March. Photo purchasing envelopes will be sent home to parents this week. Please follow the instructions on the envelope regarding package selection and when to hand in the envelops to the office. I ask all students to be in the <u>correct summer uniform</u> by this date, NOT the older style uniforms.

#### Delany College Open Day

On Friday the 4th of March our Year 6 students will be attending an Open Day at Delany College. This is an opportunity for parents and students to experience a snapshot of what Delany College has to offer in terms of great learning opportunities, resources and faith building. I look forward to joining our students as they experience their first view of high school life.

In Christ we Live, Love and Learn.

	Calendar	1220
February-March		
Thursday 25th February	9:15am Year 6 & Year 2 Parish Mass	
Tuesday 8th March	School Photos	

Birthday Wishes! Congratulations to the following students who celebrate their birthday this week Nathan Habib, Britney Youssef, Augeligue Tembo-Sievers, Quiana Tembo-Sievers, Angelina El Boutty Anthony Mansour, Palesete Manu, Nabil Nassar & Sophia Taouk



# **Diocesan and Community News**

# **CERDON COLLEGE MERRYLANDS**

Aspire to Great Heights

OPEN DAY Tuesday 8 March 2016 Come along anytime between 4:00 pm to 7:00 pm Sherwood Road Merrylands Telephone: 8724 7300 cerdon.nsw.edu.au



# Enrolments for Year 7 2017

Cerdon College is currently receiving applications for Year 7 2017. An Enrolment Package may be obtained from the College. Packages will also be available at our Open Day on Tuesday 8 March.

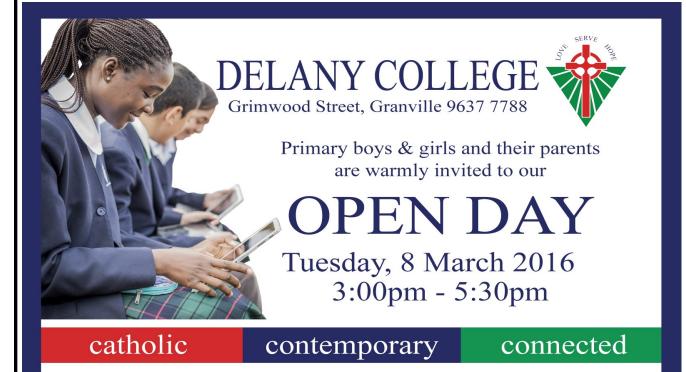
Priority of enrolment is given to Catholic students from local schools and parishes.

All applications should be received at the College Office by **<u>Friday 20 May</u>**. Applications received after this date may not be successful.



In Christ we Live, Love and Learn.

## **Diocesan and Community News**



ENROLLING NOW FOR 2017 C



Catherine McAuley is a Catholic girls' secondary school, located at Westmead. Our broad curriculum encourages young women to pursue independent lifelong learning.



OPEN NIGH Tuesday 15 March 2016 4.00pm - 7.00pm

This school open event will give visitors the opportunity to tour the school and view facilities as well as meet our School Principal and School Leadership Team

CONTACT OUR SCHOOL ON 9849 9100 FOR AN ENROLMENT PACK. APPLICATIONS CLOSE 1ST APRIL 2016 Catherine McAuley, 2 Diarcy Road, Westmead www.mcauley.nsw.edu.au

### **Diocesan and Community News**

#### YOUNGER WIDOWED SUPPORT GROUP

CCSS Solo Parent Services' Younger Widowed Support Group is held on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of each month. The Support Group is for men and women widowed at a younger age whether you are a parent or not. **Next gathering:** 16<sup>th</sup> March. **Please note change of Venue:** Our Lady of Lourdes Parish Centre, 1 Canyon Rd, Baulkham Hills. **Time:** 7pm – 9pm Cost: \$5.00. **Registration:** Rita Ph. 8822 2222 or Email: <u>soloparentservices@ccss.org.au</u>

#### STEPPING BEYOND: SUPPORT FOR THOSE SEPARATED OR DIVORCED

CCSS Solo Parent Services "Stepping Beyond" Support Group, is held on the last Tuesday of each month for those struggling through a separation or divorce. **Next Gathering:** 23<sup>rd</sup> February **Venue:** CCSS Centre, 38 Prince St, Blacktown. **Time:** 7.30 – 9.30. Cost: \$5.00. **Registration:** Rita Ph. 8822 2222 or <u>soloparentservices@ccss.org.au</u>



# **PLAY GROUP**

Every Tuesday Between 9-11:30am play group is run at Holy Family Primary

All welcome !

please bring your toddlers & preschool children along for some great fun play & learning .





### **Diocesan and Community News**

# School Fees

Please note that ALL statements have now been mailed. Any school fee payment arrangement made in 2015 does not automatically continue.

This also includes those families that have automatic payments deducted from Centrelink. Please contact the office to make an appointment as soon as possible. If you have difficulty in paying school fees an appointment will need to be made.

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

### 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.





#### **Maths Minds**

Grab Guess and Count

An extension of Grab, Guess, Count is to ask your child what is 1, 10, 100 more or less than their counted collection. If you feel this is too easy for your child, you can set a challenge by changing the value of the object to represent 2 or 3. To explore the number further ask your child to plot it on an empty number line. Decide on the starting and ending numbers together. Encourage your child to explain how they worked out where they position their number.

