



Holy Family Primary School Newsletter

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27th May 2015

Term 2

Week 6

Religious Education Matters

First Holy Communion

On Sunday many of our students in Year 3 will receive the Eucharist for the first time. This is the next step of their faith journey as they prepare their hearts for this important and sacred sacrament. The children have been preparing themselves for several weeks. I wish to thank the teachers Mrs Floyd, Miss D'Argent, Miss Camilleri, Mrs El Hawzi and Mr Bawden for their dedication to the children. They have given generously of their time after school so our children understand the meaning and mystery of the blessed Eucharist. Let us pray for our children and their families this week.

Congratulations to our candidates:

Bethany Agito
Amir Ayoub
Siad Ayoub
Emily Mae Burke
Johnathon Chakoush
Andrew Elias
Olenah El Katrib
John Claude El-Khoury
Rosie Faddoul
Jade Faddoul
Faith Gabriella Frangie
Veronika Georges
Sam Hannouch
Ashton James
Sarah Kahila
Rashid Kannan
Samira Khoury
George Maatouk
Natalie Maatouk
Raymond Maatouk
Rebecca Maatouk

Sebastian Mansour
Maggie Manu
Kenyon Mendoza
Tatyana Nakhoul
Charbel Nehme
Annalise Salit
Maurice Saouma
Jamella Sharma
Robert Sorojevic
David Soukhar
Jack Spina
Joseph Taouk
Auquelique Tembo-Sievers
Quiana Tembo-Sievers
Brayden Vu
Angelina Wehbe
Elie Wehbe
Marie-Jo Yaacoub
Taylor Yaccoub



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Student Awards

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

Sebastian El Khoury
Ivamere Cagiloaloe
Maryrose Kaloush
Marie-Jo Yaacoub
Janet Makdissi
Kristina Jbarah
Isabel Rizk

Roshni Jain
Rylan Roebeck
Gabriel Nakhoul
Annalise Salit
Britney Youssef
John Achi
Christian Frangie



Principal Awards:

Congratulations to the following children who received a Principal Award for exhibiting the value of Courtesy: Suleti Manu, Nicola Summut, Maria Takai, Ryan Dhungana, Tayla Kayrouz, Daniel Yaacoub, George Youssef, Rebecca Chenm, Elizabeth El Boutty, Christopher Aoun, Patrick Habib, Olivia Isaac, Bethany Agito, Jack Spina, Jade Farrah, Ashton James, Daisy Habib, Gaklia Germanos Falamoni Saulala, Mosa Lemoto, Isabella Burke, Larissa Harb, Mary Katoa, Tony Soukhar, Aushlesha Ghale, Geoffery Mok, Joey Issa and Jacinta Nakhoul.

Principal's Message

What I really enjoy about my role as Principal are the many conversations I have with parents, understanding their challenges with raising children in the 21st century and working with them to ensure each child has every opportunity to learn, experience success and develop competencies which will support them through life. One learning disposition I would like to share with you today, is perseverance. I would like you to reflect on how you would react if your child came to you and said, "Mum, this is too hard I can't do it". Would you say to your child, ok put it away you don't have to do it, or would you challenge them and ask them to think of other ways they can solve their problem. The latter is what we refer to as perseverance. Perseverance is all about ensuring children are able to cope and problem solve when they hit a block or a hurdle in life.

I encourage all parents to discuss and model this learning disposition as part of your child's normal experiences. This year we have been on a journey looking at the how and why of teaching, which we call our pedagogy, and ways we can improve and refine our practice to ensure we are providing the best education for our children. Children in today's ever changing global world will be working in fields not even created yet, the skills they need for the future will be different to those traditional skills that our generation needed for sustained employment. The learning competencies that we will be exploring with the children, beginning in Stage 3 is the start of our very exciting journey in establishing for each student healthy learning and work practices.

Perseverance is also referred to as Grit. Grit means a person is determined and conscientious and this is an important feature of learning success. Grit also means being reflective, flexible and showing initiative in order to achieve goals. This characteristic is highly valued in the workplace and thus needs to be nurtured and modeled to students as part of their learning, work ethic. Great teaching is effective pedagogy and effective pedagogy leads to student success. This is the journey we are traveling as a school community.

Live Jesus in your heart

Mrs Baird

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Presenting at the Mission: one heart many voices Conference

Last week I was lucky to present at the **Mission: one heart many voices** conference. The conference was “a multi-sector dialogue on living the joy of the Gospel and leading mission”.

My presentation was about:

- some joyful and life-giving aspects of school leadership in Granville East
- my dream for how our community could grow to include early childhood teachers, speech pathologists, occupational therapists, early childhood community nurses, family and relationship counsellors etc.
- my even bigger dream that through our universities the Catholic Church could train tens of thousands of primary teachers from Majority World countries, like Cuba has done with training doctors for the world's poorest communities

At the conference I learned so much from very interesting people who have dedicated their lives to mission, including:

- Fr Stephen Bevans SVD, a world leading missiologist, saying that the Church is ‘a mission with a community’ rather than ‘a community with a mission’. That is, God’s mission came before the Church, our community only exists because of our commitment to God’s mission.
- Sr Veronica Lawson RSM, a renowned scripture scholar, talking about her excitement for the future of the Sisters of Mercy even though there are few religious vocations these days – she believes it is the Spirit’s way of empowering lay people with the charism of the Mercies.
- Graeme Mundine asking important questions about the place of Aboriginal people and women in the future leadership of the Church.
- A special video message from Pope Francis apologising for his English and asking permission to speak ‘the language of the heart’.

I left the conference with a renewed sense of purpose in living and leading our great Catholic community at Granville East. The mission of Catholic education is an important part of God’s mission here on earth!

NEW Student Information System to be installed in the coming weeks

The Catholic Education Office Parramatta have spent the last few years installing a new student information system in all our schools called FACES. It is our turn for this system to be installed. Over the next few weeks our staff will be trained and all our school data will be migrated onto the new system. This means that certain procedures will need to be changed. I will inform our school community of the changes once we go live at the end of the term. It is vital that all data contained in the office is accurate. If you have changed your contact details please inform the office ASAP. We are still experiencing difficulty in this area with parents not able to be contacted during times of emergency due to disconnected phone numbers. I can not express how important it is that we are able to contact parents at these times.



Calendar



May

Friday 29th May	Kinder excursion– Calmsley Hill City Farm.
Sunday 31st May	11:00am First Communion.



Birthday Wishes!

Congratulations to the following students who celebrate their birthday this week: Brandon Faddoul, Jack Spina, Nicholas Elias, Bechara Ghosn, Lauren Kahila, Setareh Salmani Gandomabad, Josie Afram, Deon Kumar, Jordan Ghosn, Benjamin Kizana and Arya Ghimire.

Athletics Carnival

Our Athletics Carnival will be held on Friday the 5th of June at Barton Park. A letter containing information was sent home last week. Included in this note was a request for parent helpers. I sincerely thank you in advance for your assistance at these whole school events. I also wish to thank Miss Peachey for coordinating all our sporting events. Just a reminder that the permission note needs to be handed to your child's class teacher before the event. Also a gentle reminder that it is important that the class teacher is informed whether your child will travel back to school by bus or if you have made other arrangements for your child to leave the park at the conclusion of the carnival.

I do ask that the children not leave the carnival early. This is a school day and it is important that they remain until the end. The children have an opportunity to display school spirit by cheering for their colour house and support their colour house captains. I am sure it will be a wonderful day.

As the weather can be unpredictable, the school will send out an alert by 8.30am informing the community if the Carnival is postponed. **No alert means the carnival will go ahead as planned.**

I am looking forward to sharing this day with our community.



Enrolments 2016

Kindergarten 2016 enrolments will be drawing to a close in the next couple of weeks. Please ensure your family and friends have submitted their forms. If you know of anyone wishing to enrol please tell them **now is the time!**



School Fees

Thankyou to everyone that has already paid their school fees. Please note, school fee payments are due shortly. Payments can be made by cash, cheque, EFTPOS, BPAY or at the Post Office.

Any family having difficulty in paying must make an appointment with Mrs Baird to discuss this matter. Thank you.

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