



# Holy Family Primary School Newsletter

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11th March 2015

Term 1

Week 7

## Religious Education Matters

### 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Lent

For me this week's Gospel from John (3:14-21) holds some key phrases that sum up the essence of faith.



Firstly, *'God loved the world so much.'* That as I look around all I see is an act of God's love and if I think this way about everyone I meet how can I not treat them with love.

Secondly, *'that through Him the world might be saved.'* The choice is there for us, to gain salvation we have the model to follow: to live *'by the truth and come into the light.'*

As you read this week's Gospel reflect on how the word speaks to your faith.

Lenten tip: Make a list of relationships in your life that 'need some attention'. What actions can be taken during this Lenten season to get things back on track?

### Catholic Schools Week Mass

A reminder that to finish off Catholic Schools Week, we will be celebrating Mass with our Holy Family Parish community on **Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> March at 9.30am**. We are hoping to have many of our students playing a role in this special Mass showcasing some of the great work they do at Holy Family. This is an ideal opportunity to support the community of Holy Family and learn more about the great things that take place in Catholic schools every day.

Mr Steve Bawden  
Religious Education Coordinator.



## Student Awards

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

Josaia Visie  
George Youssef  
Elizabeth El Boutty  
Tatyana Nakhoul  
Mykah Sammut  
Yousif Azeez  
Vanessa El Hayek

Charbel Nakhoul  
Ashwin Kumar  
Erica Tamang  
Erica Chen  
Mikhail Amelsom  
Tatiana Arida  
Lauren Kahila



*In Christ we Live, Love and Learn.*

# Catholic Schools Week

I used to work with a wonderful old Sister of St Joseph who loved a celebration, and she justified this by constantly reminding everybody who would listen, “**Jesus was a party person!**”

Sometimes religions can take themselves very seriously – this is definitely true of the Catholic Church. It feels like a breath of fresh air that Pope Francis has reminded us all, through his teachings and more importantly through the way he approaches the world, that **JOY is a key part of the Christian message.**

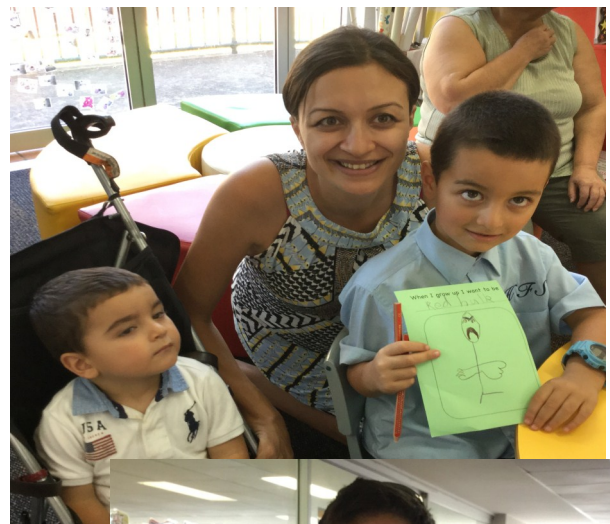
Joy and celebration are deep in our religious DNA, even if sometimes we forget that. Pope Francis and Sister Helen know it – they’re party people just like Jesus! Ask yourself: in John’s Gospel, **where did Jesus kick off his public ministry?** A party! He introduced himself to the world at a wedding by making sure there was enough wine to go around.

During Catholic Schools Week, we connect to this long tradition of celebration (minus the wine). We remind ourselves that **we are a Catholic celebrating community.** Through small things like welcoming parents into open classrooms, sharing afternoon tea with the Principal, and ensuring HFS has a big presence at parish Mass on Sunday, we bring a little more joy into Catholic Schools Week.

Thanks for joining joyfully in with the celebrations for Catholic Schools Week, in whatever way you can. We love being part of this great place, and we love having you and your children as part of this wonderful community.

Happy Catholic Schools Week,

*Benjamin Munday*





## **Educating students 'Today and Tomorrow'**

There is nothing better than seeing a child's face when their parents or loved ones walk into their classroom to see their great learning in action. Excitement, pride and enthusiasm were bubbling over as I walked from class to class to greet the many parents that joined us for this very special afternoon. When you really think about it, Catholic Schools Week is so much more than an opportunity to showcase the great learning that is happening in the classrooms. It is a time for all of us to think about what it means to be part of our Catholic Church. To be part of this community, where love, tolerance, respect and forgiveness are values that are shared unconditionally. This is something that we need to reflect on and celebrate daily.

Our afternoon tea mirrored these values. I was overwhelmed by the number of parents who attended our afternoon tea and I was truly encouraged by the conversations, the laughter and the community engagement that I witnessed. I have had an opportunity to read through your ideas about what kind of parent involvement you wish to see alive and happening at Holy Family. I look forward to discussing the many suggestions with our staff and the community in the very near future.

I wish to sincerely thank the staff for the exceptional work they do each day in providing a caring and engaging learning environment. Working together, we can achieve so much.



## Calendar



### March

Thursday 12th March	4:30-5:30pm Reconciliation Group
Sunday 15th March	4th Sunday of Lent
	9:30-10:30am Catholic Schools Week Parish Mass
Tuesday 17th March	St Patrick's Day



***Birthday Wishes!***  
***Congratulations to the following students who celebrate their birthday this week: Elizabeth El Boutty, Jeffrey El Kady, Geoffrey Mok and Tayla Kayrouz.***

### School Fees

Thank you to everyone that has already paid their school fees.

Please note, school fee payments are now **overdue**. Payments can be made by cash, cheque, EFTPOS, BPAY or at the Post Office.



***Any family having difficulty in paying please contact the office to discuss this matter. Thank you.***

### A DATE FOR YOUR DIARY

#### Staff Development Day

A staff development day has been scheduled for **Thursday, 2nd of April**, Holy Thursday. The children will not be required to attend school on this day.

#### Last Day of the term

The last day of school for the children will be on **Wednesday, 1st of April**. The children will return back to school on Monday 20th April in winter uniform.

*Parents, if you feel the weather is still too warm for children to return in winter uniform, they can return to school in their summer uniform.*



## Diocesan and Community News

### Position Vacant: Executive Assistant to the Chief of Operations & Finance

The Catholic Diocese of Parramatta is seeking applications for the position of **Executive Assistant to the Chief of Operations & Finance**. For a confidential discussion please contact Anthony Spata, REACH Human Resources, on 0402 210 055. A copy of the position description is available at [www.catholicjobsonline.com.au](http://www.catholicjobsonline.com.au) **Applications close Monday 23 March 20**

### Reunion of OLMC Parramatta Class of 1961-65 on 15 August

Seeking ex-students and teachers of the 61-65 class (IC 1963, LC 1965) for a reunion. We've found more than half but we'd love to contact everyone. Please pass on this message to family members or friends if they attended Our Lady of Mercy College Parramatta. For information, email Jan Smith at [jansmith.mountgrace@gmail.com](mailto:jansmith.mountgrace@gmail.com)

***In Christ we Live, Love and Learn.***