



Holy Family Primary School Newsletter

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19th March 2014

Term 2

Week 8

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OTHER NOTES DISTRIBUTED THIS WEEK:

HARMONY DAY

Friday 21st March

Wear your national
costume.

1pm Picnic Lunch
2pm Community
Prayer



Dear Families & Friends,

This week we have all been saddened by the death of Mrs Barbara Maatouk, mother of George, Natalie, Rachael, Raymond and Rebecca. As a community of faith we have been called to think about the fragility of human life, the gift of eternal life and the power of supporting one another through life's journey.

Such experiences raise in us many questions and challenges. We often find ourselves asking why such things happen - 'How can bad things happen to good people?' As parents, we can find it hard to answer our children's questions about life and death.

As a school community, we have been using the image of a dragonfly's life cycle with the children to help them understand that through death, we are given a new life. This new life is one that can not be seen by those we leave behind, but it is a new life filled with light. I share with you this story...

At the bottom of the pond little grubs were crawling around. They wonder what happens to their members who climb up the stem of the lily and never come back. "I wonder what it's like up there." They agree among themselves that the next one who is called to the surface will come back.

The next little grub that finds itself drawn to the surface by nature crawls up the stem and out on the surface on the lily pad. It was really bright up there. It had been so dark and murky down below. They won't believe this. Suddenly something begins to happen. The grub begins to open out. The grub spreads out two huge beautiful colored wings and becomes a beautiful dragonfly. It never imagines that this could have happened. It thought it would remain a grub forever.

It flew back and forth across the pond. It could see the other grubs in the pond below but they couldn't see it. It realized there was no way it could get back and that they could not recognize such a beautiful creature as ever having been one of them.

And the dragonfly winged off happily into its wonderful new world of sun and air.

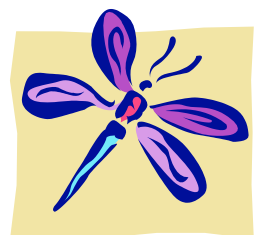
Thank you God for the story of the water bugs and the dragonflies.

Please remember those who leave the pond we live in...

Loving God, we ask you to keep the Maatouk family in your loving care, and as a school community, may you strengthen us to support them in their times of need.

Yours in family,

Mrs Sue Guilfoyle
Principal



In Christ we Live, Love and Learn.

Student Awards

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

Ashwin Kumar	Rohan Puri
Tanya Kumar	Daniela Sinozic
Bashir Boulous	Michael Grace
Aweit Majak	Ivana Nehme
Andre Youssef	Aisha Seasay
Michelle Lin	Geoffrey Mok
Aaliyah James	Brandon Zemblewski



Religious Education Matters

Love Is Stronger Than Death

Love is stronger than death.
 So, I must be content to know that
 love is not affected by death-
 it doesn't end, it doesn't diminish,
 it doesn't change.
 Instead, love is immortalised
 and eternalised through death.
 And the possibility of that love ever
 being damaged or broken
 is eliminated forever.
 I'll put my trust in love.
 --c 2002 Mary Hollingsworth, "Little
 Taps on the Shoulder From God"



God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit.

Rom 5:5

Quality Catholic Schools Survey

As in previous years, all Catholic schools in the Parramatta Diocese will participate in the Quality Catholic Schools Survey in 2014. This survey provides data from staff, parents and students about each school's cultural behaviour, relationships and learning community and assists to focus efforts for improvement by building on successes to date. From 18 March all staff, 60 randomly-selected parents, and all Year 5 & 6 students will be asked to complete the on-line survey. Parents will have the choice of a paper or on-line survey. The survey will take about 20 minutes to complete.

A survey consultant, Insight SRC, manages the data collection. All survey data is kept strictly confidential and no individual can be identified by the school or the Catholic Education Office. Each school receives an information report at the end of May and uses the report to inform their future planning.

If you are selected to complete the survey, I would encourage your participation, as this will help our school to identify our strengths and areas in which we can focus our improvement. If you have any questions, please contact Mr Munday.

In Christ we Live, Love and Learn.

Learning Matters from the Assistant Principal

A word to the Dads – your boys need you!

My Dad was a giant of a man. Really. He was tall, and broad, and round. He filled any room he was in, with his big personality as much as his enormous size. But his hugeness is not the reason my Dad was a giant to me. He was a giant because of the kind of man he was.

My Dad was a good man.

I know that sometimes I could drive him mad, even make him angry. You can probably imagine that an enormous angry man was not that nice to be around. But I can tell you this about my Dad – even when he was angry, he never punched me in the face. He never punched me at all. In fact, he never punched anyone at all!

I hope that the man I've become would make my Dad proud. So Dads, let me ask you this – **what messages are you sending your boys about what makes a real man?**

In the last two weeks, I have had several boys in my office for fighting. Too many of them use the same excuse: **“He made me angry so I punched him in the face. It's not my fault, he's the one who made me angry”.**

Let me be frank. **Dads, if that's the message you're sending your boys, you're letting them down.** If that's the message your boys are getting from someone else, sit them down and set them straight. Here's the message they get at school:

Good men solve their problems without punching each other in the face
Good men don't talk disrespectfully to women (like their mums and teachers)
Good men watch their language
Good men never hit or push around girls and women



Dads, your boys need you. Together, **we need to teach these guys how to be the kind of men we want them to grow into.** It won't happen by accident, and it won't happen automatically. We need to make it happen. We owe our boys that.

School Photos 2014

School photos will take place on Monday 24th March.

Envelopes must be returned by Friday 21st March with payment in the envelope.

Every student must return their individual envelope.

Family group envelopes are available from the school office. They require separate payment.



School Fees

Thankyou 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 must make an appointment with Mrs Guilfoyle to discuss this matter. Thank you.

Calendar



March

Friday 21st March	Harmony Day– wear your national costume.
Monday 24th March	School Photos– full summer uniform to be worn.



Birthday Celebrations!

Congratulations to the following students who celebrate their birthday this week: Milad Issa, Aisha Seasay, David Soukhar, Rita Dib, Dut Atak, Laura Awad, Edwina Tu, Edward Tu, Steven Estephen, Andre Mamari and Isabel Rizk.

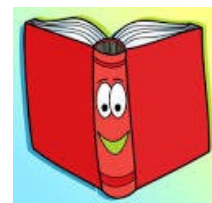
LIBRARY NEWS!

Premier's Reading Challenge

Each year the children can complete in the challenge. After they have complete the required number of books, depending on their year, they will receive a Certificate from the Premier. This is handed out at the end of year Presentation Day. If you would like you child to participate in the challenge, the information and forms can be collected from Mrs Gordon in the Library.

Scholastic Book Club orders close on Monday 24th March.

Yours in reading,
Mrs Gordon
Library Assistant



TUCKSHOP REMINDER

When placing lunch orders please remember to provide an extra 10c to cover the cost of the paper bag. Thank you.

Community News

DELANY COLLEGE

Grimwood St, Granville 9637 7788

delanygranville.catholic.edu.au



OPEN DAY

7 May 2014

3.30pm - 6pm



catholic
co-education
connected

Accepting enrolments for Year 7 2015

In Christ we Live, Love and Learn.