



Holy Family Primary School Newsletter

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25th November 2015

Term 4

Week 8

Religious Education Matters



Advent

Forgive me Father for I have sinned.

In this, the beginning of Advent and the beginning of the new church year, Jesus tells us to be ready. That our redemption is near at hand but then, also, so is our downfall. Along with Lent, Advent is the great time of preparation when we need to prepare ourselves for the coming of Christ in our lives.

It is so easy to get caught up in the commercialism of Christmas and focus on gifts and the trappings that go with the celebration. While there is, certainly, a prominent place for this we need to have done the preparation of Advent, to prepare ourselves to properly be able to receive Jesus. Advent is a time to remember that we still haven't really got the house in order.

The readings for the 1st Sunday of Advent are themed about getting our house in order in readiness for the coming of our Lord. The 1st reading from Jeremiah tells of God fulfilling His promise of the good seed. The Psalm tells us to lift our souls to the Lord and the 2nd reading from St Paul '*you are meant to live: the life that God wants.*' For, as Luke tells us in the Gospel, we do not know when our judgement day will come.

The Lord is waiting for us to come back to Him, to ready our house. During Advent we need to take the time to say the words at the top of the page in Reconciliation. For as the father says as he welcomes back the lost son, God is waiting to say:

'Come, celebrate my joy with me, my lost son has returned'

In Christ we Live, Love and Learn.

Student Awards

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

<i>Clara Maria El Kadi</i>	<i>Jordan Ghosn</i>
<i>Dylan Vu</i>	<i>Rohan Puri</i>
<i>Gladys Silverwood</i>	<i>Bechara Ghosn</i>
<i>Maggie Manu</i>	<i>Jack Spina</i>
<i>Charbel Ghattas</i>	<i>Chris Mamari</i>
<i>Mina Nohra</i>	<i>Elias Issa</i>
<i>Alex Lehnert</i>	<i>Alain Limos</i>



Principal's Message

It is with mixed feelings that I announce that Mrs Maskell had decided to retire after 31 years of working at Holy Family. Mrs Maskell has shared many memories with me and has described the many changes that has occurred over the three decades. We will farewell this beautiful lady later in the year.



I am pleased to announce that Ms Ali has been appointed Senior Finance Officer starting in 2016. This is a great achievement as this is a very significant role in the life of a school. I am looking forward to working closely with Mrs Ali in the future. Congratulations !!

End of Swimming Program

Today is the last day off our swimming program for 2015. We have been very blessed as the sun has shined down on us over the eight day program. I thank Mrs Peachey and the administrative officers for the organisation of this program.

Christmas Family Disco

Two more sleeps before we dust off our dancing shoes and enjoy an afternoon of socialisation and energetic dancing. There is still time to pre order your tickets or you can pay at the gate. Just a few reminders: smoking and alcohol are not permitted during the family disco, parents are responsible for their child/ children during the event

Band Concert

On Friday we will be entertained by the children in Stage 3 demonstrating their talents after one/two years learning their instrument. The concert begins at 2.30pm in the school hall.

Kindergarten Transition Program 2016

On Thursday our newest members of our school community will join us for a transition program. The children will experience what life will be like as a Kindergarten student.

Late Arrivals

I ask parents to please arrive at school before the morning bell. Many children each morning arrive very late to school. It is important that all children are present for prayer in the morning as this prepares the children both body and mind to enter the classroom for learning time.

Calendar



November

Friday 27th November

5:30pm—7:30pm Christmas Disco



Birthday Wishes!

Congratulations to the following students who celebrate their birthday this week : Kreepa Joshi, Ashton James, Andre Rbeiz, Kayleen Davis, Najweh Katrib, Brayden Vu, Montell Kumar, Shantel Owusu, Duong Mawien, Ivana Nehme, Charbel Nehme and Angelina El Katrib.



Swimming Program

All Swimming Program payments are now overdue! A reminder letter was sent home for those families that have not finalised their account. Parents are asked to make payment. Thank you for your cooperation.

Experience the magic of Christmas in Parramatta – a FREE family event

Thursday 26 November 4.30pm–8.30pm Centenary Square

FEATURING:

- Special guest MC Tim Maddren, formerly from Hi5
- Entertainment and meet and greet by The Christmas Minions!
- Performances from Sydney Eisteddfod and local school choirs
- 9D Cinema!
- Dedicated kids area with activities and workshops
- Meet a baby reindeer at the animals petting zoo
- Santa's arrival and meet and greet – have you been naughty or nice?
- Lighting of the brightest tree Parramatta has ever seen and a spectacular fireworks display!



LORD MAYOR'S CHRISTMAS GIFT APPEAL

Donate a gift in support of the Salvation Army and The Children's Hospital at Westmead, and leave it under the giant Parramatta Christmas tree. Gifts for children of all ages, including teenagers, are appreciated. Please ensure donated gifts are brand new and not gift wrapped.

LORD MAYOR'S CHRISTMAS GIFT APPEAL BENEFICIARIES



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Trans Tasman Athletics Tour

Charlotte Edwards in Year 5 has been a member of a local Little Athletics club for some years, competing in a variety of events, from 100m to shot put.

Charlotte is very passionate about here athletics, always striving to continually improve her skills and times.

Charlotte has been selected for the NSW Little Athletics Trans Tasman team to tour New Zealand in January 2016. The events she will participate in are 800m and shot put. She will be joined by eighty eight other athletes and is training hard to give it her best effort.

We wish Charlotte all the very best as she strives to achieve her personal best results. She will also be celebrating her 11th birthday in New Zealand.

Good luck Charlotte!!



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