



BRANCHES



Holy Family Primary School, Luddenham

Phone: 4773 4485

Fax: 4773 4374

Web: www.Luddenham.catholic.edu.au

Web: www.hfluddenham.catholic.edu.au

Term 3

18th September 2014

Issue 14, Week 10

Friday 19th September

Last Day of Term 3

Tuesday 7th October

First Day of Term 4

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

Early last week, 7 of our Stage 3 students took up the invitation to appear on radio at WOW FM 100.7. Below is a recount of the experience from our 7 radio stars.

On Monday 8th September Jesse, Andrea, Scott, Guedy, Felicity, Maree and Ammaleah went to St. Mary's to appear on WOW FM 100.7. WOW FM is a community radio station that broadcasts to the Penrith area.

First we met Mrs. Whiteman at the Library and then our host Mr. Craig Laffan came down to meet us and let us into the radio station. We made our way up a long staircase and walked through a door into a small room.

We had to sign in before we could go on air. The first group was Ammaleah, Jesse, Guedy and Maree and the second group was Scott, Felicity and Andrea. In the studio we sat at a desk with one microphone between 2 people.

The big ON AIR sign lit up and Mr Laffan introduced himself and then we had to introduce ourselves. Mr Laffan asked us a lot of questions about Our School, Classrooms, Art, Public Speaking, High School, Sport and homework.

We were on air from 6-7 pm and the time went so quickly. It was a lot of fun and we think we were extremely lucky to go on the radio show.



At Holy Family

I Respect Myself

I Respect Others

I Respect the
Environment

A press release is available at <https://www.educationhq.com.au/news/11270/primary-school-students-hit-the-airwaves/>.

Mrs. Whiteman and I were very pleased to be able to attend with the students. As I said on the radio show I am very proud of all the students at Holy Family School. On this particular night I was most proud of these 7 students who accepted the invitation to try something new, something that required them to take a risk. My thanks to the families who supported their children in being able to experience this opportunity.

As this is the final edition of Branches for Term 3 I would like to take to opportunity to thank all families for their ongoing support of Holy Family School and the work that continues to be done to provide opportunities for the children. Term 3 has been an extremely busy one with many highlights. As you know at the beginning of Term 4 I will be on pilgrimage – following in the footstep of St Paul. During the pilgrimage I will have the opportunity, with other leaders from our Diocese to visit many of the places written about by the Apostles including Athens, Corinth, Phillippi, Thessaloniki, Ephesus and Izmir. We will also travel into Turkey visiting Gallipoli and Istanbul. We will then travel onto Rome and Assisi. The preparation for this pilgrimage is continuing and I am very much looking forward to the experience.

I wish you all a wonderfully relaxing time with family and friends. School will resume on Tuesday 7th October for all students.

In partnership let us continue to work to develop in the children strong minds and gentle hearts.

Peace and Best Wishes for a wonderful holiday ahead.

Tim Vane-Tempest
Principal

CATHOLIC CULTURE

HOLY FAMILY PRIMARY SCHOOL

Student Blessing



We have introduced a Student Blessing to our Monday morning prayer. The blessing is read by one of the teachers and is asking God to guide our students in their learning and the decisions they make in the coming week. A copy of the blessing is included below.

*God of new beginnings,
you have brought us together at Holy Family
for this school week.*

*Bless our students as we begin our
journey together and bless our
Sacred Heart parish community, as we look
forward to your guidance in all we do.*

*We make this prayer through Jesus your
Son.*

Amen.



Prayer in Stage 2

Prayer is an important part of our Catholic Culture. In Stage 2 we end our day with a set prayer. It is lead by a student and begins with an **INFORMAL** prayer of thanks or petition. We follow this with one of the familiar **FORMAL** prayers such as The Our Father, Hail Mary or Glory Be. We conclude with the **SCHOOL PRAYER** and our petition to ***St Mary of the Cross*** to pray for us - a positive and calming way to end our day.

Mufti Day

Mufti Day will be held this Friday, 19 September 2014. Children can wear their football team colours for a gold coin donation. All funds going to support the work of St. Vincent de Paul in our local community.

Ways to keep writing over the holidays...

Holiday Writing - Encourage kids to keep a daily or weekly journal of thoughts about their lives.

Have them write about what they like to do, to eat, to see, to enjoy. Put in details likely to change in coming years, including what things cost, political leaders, and popular styles of clothing.

Scrap Book – Create a scrap book of photos of places that you visit and things that you do over the holidays. Include any interesting bits and pieces that you collect... ticket stubs, lolly wrappers, brochures etc. Write about each place that you visited and what you did.

Sport Update

On Monday of this week Cameron Gill, Mia Gleeson, Ashleigh Gill, Harrison Tyler and Nicholas Vella competed at the MacKillop Athletics Championships. The results were Cameron 1st in the 800m and Mia 1st in High Jump, 2nd in Discus and 3rd in Shot Putt. These two students will compete at the NSWPSA Championships in October at Homebush. Ashleigh, Harrison and Nicholas all competed with great energy and commitment. Congratulations to you all on your results and how you represented Holy Family School.

A brief look at Term 4

The Stage 2 Touch Football Gala day that was postponed this term is set for Friday **17th October** (Week 2). We have entered only one Boys team into this Gala Day and this will remain the case for the new date.

The Stage 3 Touch Football Gala day also postponed this term is still to be decided. We have entered 3 teams and all players will be notified early next term once the date is confirmed.

Stage 3 are participating in the Parramatta Diocesan Basketball Gala day on **Tuesday 21st October** (Week 3). Trials have been run this week and all teams decided soon.

There is also the NRL Activity Day to be held at school on **Thursday 23rd October**. The NRL will be conducting sessions to all the children throughout the day.

Finally, our whole school swimming carnival is set for **Monday 1st December** (Week 9). This carnival is for competitive swimmers only.

Mini Olympics Update

Our Mini Olympics was held last Thursday 11 September and was a great success. As at 15 September 2014, our school has collectively raised \$7588.58 which will go towards the upgrade of our playground area where the equipment has been removed. We ask that all money be sent in by **Friday 19 September**. Prizes will be distributed to students in the first few weeks of term 4.

Summer Uniform

At the beginning of next term children should be in their summer uniform from next week. The Uniform is available through Lowes at Penrith. It is as follows:

Summer

- | | |
|---------------|--|
| Girls: | Check dress with navy tab tie
Plain, short white socks
Black shoes (those which can be polished, no joggers or skate shoes)
Hair ribbons may be red or navy blue
Navy school hat (available at school office) |
| Boys: | Blue shirt (short sleeved)
Navy shorts (cargo shorts are not permitted)
Short navy socks
Black shoes (those which can be polished – no joggers or skate shoes)
Navy school hat (available at School Office) |

Snake Warning

As the weather has warmed up over the past 2 weeks we have seen an increase in the number of snakes that have been sighted along the boundary of the school. Whilst no snakes have, as yet, entered into the playground or classroom areas it is timely to remind the children of safety around snakes. This is especially important as we return to school at a prime time for snakes to become more active. Included is the procedure that we have in place to manage this eventuality.

In the event of a snake being sighted in or near School buildings or the playground the school Office should be notified and if safe to do, children who would be at risk, will be moved to a safe area. With one adult watching the snake's movements another adult should close (but not lock) doors and windows to contain the snake to a defined area.

At no time is any person from the school (students, staff, parent or visitor) to attempt to handle the snake.

WIREs will be contacted immediately.

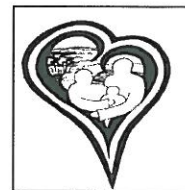
Staffing Update

Mrs Smith has informed me that she is leaving her position as the PE teacher at HFS. Mrs Smith has chosen to take up an opportunity with the University of Western Sydney. We thank Mrs. Smith for her work at HFS and wish her well in her future endeavours. We welcome our new PE teacher Miss Monica Dann to Holy Family School at the beginning of term 4. Miss Dann is an experienced PE teacher having worked in a variety of roles in a wide range of primary and secondary schools.

We wish Mrs. Dyer our best as she takes leave in preparation for the birth of her first child. Mrs. Dyer will return later in 2015. As announced in the last Branches Miss Gabrielle Whitney has been appointed to fill this position for Term 4. Miss Whitney is well acquainted with the staff, students and routines at Holy Family School having worked regularly as a casual teacher across all stages. We welcome Miss Whitney to our community for Term 4.

AWARDS

Congratulations to the following students who received:



Academic Achievement awards

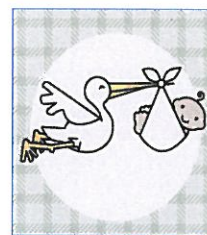
Ciara Awad-Duncombe, Elise Fenech, Hayden Gill, Jacob Hall, Adison Jones, Alexandria Pelle, Anthony Giugovaz, Lachlan Price, Luke Lambert, Nicholas Cosic, Mariska Matulovich, Blake Shadlow, Jade Mifsud, Cameron Vella, Amy Sant, Sienna Gatt, Angela Baric, Selina Dura, Destiny Demirjian, Liana Corbo, Chistopher Cosic, Jake Matheson, Alex Hanson, Savannah Jeffrey, Emily Vella, Emily Fagan, Anthony Miliambro, Noah Cutajar, Antonino Furfaro, Riley Agius, Clara Davies, Ava Buhach and Luke Velcich.

One Heart One Mind

Madison Park, Claudio Mandarano, Ethan Price, Dominic Finianos, Harry Gauci, Amelia Hearne, Heath Morgan, Domonique Sidoruk, Christian Miliambro, Matthew Azzopardi, Jack O'Hara, Luke Cassar, John Finianos, Nicholas Vella, Concetta Coletta, Gypsy-Rose Lewis, Christian Hanson, Isabella Caceres, Elayna Ford, Jacqui Sheil, Kaitlyn Vella, Melissa Giugovaz, Nicholas Dura, Olivia Nand, Brandon Sharp, Maree Barillaro, Scott Roots, Jesse Penza, Andrea Tassone, Felicity Favotto, Noah Klaser, Ammaleah Astruc and Guedy Athum.

Congratulations to the Lau-Caceres family (Isabella Stage 1/2) on the arrival of a beautiful baby boy, Alessandro.

Best wishes their family and the hope of restful nights in the future.



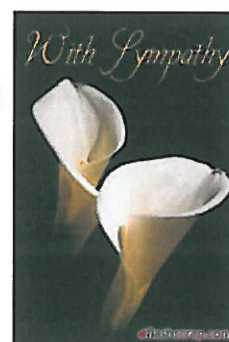
Date Claimer

Friday 24th October for our school disco. A note was sent home last Thursday; if you did not receive one, please contact the school office.



Sympathy

As a community we express our sympathy to Marie Edwards and Family on the passing of her father, who passed away on Monday. Our thoughts and prayers are with you.



School fees are now overdue.

Thank you to the families that have paid and to the families continuing their commitment to their payment plan. If you need to discuss any issues regarding the school fees, please contact me by phone on 4773 4485 or by email mmiller@parra.catholic.edu.au.

The Catholic Education Office is committed to supporting families experiencing genuine financial hardship. If you are having difficulties with the payment of your school fees, you are encouraged to contact the school office to arrange an appointment with either myself or Mr Vane-Tempest to discuss payment options. Your situation will be treated with care and confidentiality and an appropriate payment arrangement will be made for you. Please note that as part of this process you may be required to complete a Statement of Financial Position so that the school is aware of your current financial situation.

Please be assured of complete confidentiality with regards to any information you are asked to provide.

Please be advised that unless alternative arrangements have been made regarding the payment of your account it will be assumed that full payment will be made on or before the due date. Fees are payable in accordance with the Diocesan School Fees Policy which states "all fees are due and payable within 30 days of the date the school account statement is issued". Outstanding accounts will be forwarded to the Catholic Education Office for actioning.

School fees can be paid by Bpay, Postbillpay, cash, EFTPOS, credit card or cheque.

Monica Miller

SACRAMENTAL PROCESS - RECONCILIATION

Sacred Heart Parish

Luddenham/ Warragamba

The preparation process for the **Sacrament of Reconciliation**

will commence on **Wednesday 8th October,**

with an Enquiry (Information) Session to be

attended by **parents only** of children who are eligible
to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

To be eligible your child must be in Year 3 or above.

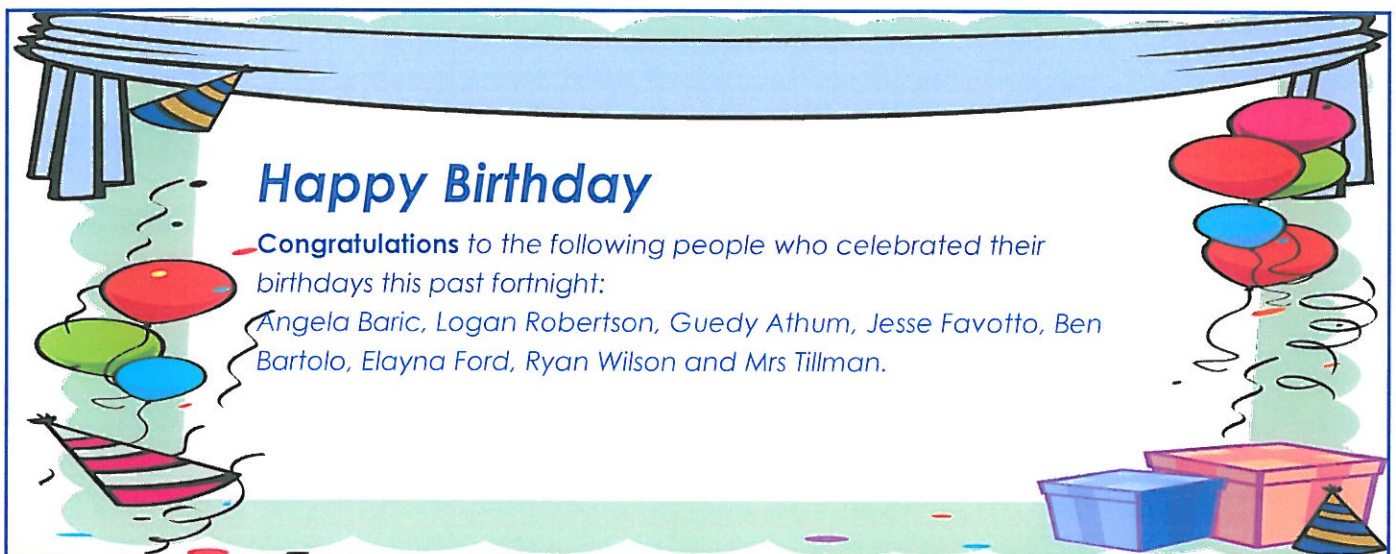
The Enquiry session will be at the

'Holy Family Parish Centre,'

Willowdene Avenue, Luddenham,

at 7.00pm.

Your attendance is required for your child to be enrolled in the process.





Rollercoasters

Letter to Parents

Dear Parents,

Working with children holds both rewards and challenges. For many children, one of their challenges will be to cope with family change. They need support and information to navigate these uncharted seas successfully. When parents and counsellors work together, sending similar messages of encouragement and hope, children's anxieties diminish.

For this reason, a group for children of changing families, called ***Rollercoasters***, is being formed for primary aged children. This group is designed for children who have recently experienced parental separation, divorce, or other changes in family composition. Whether your children reacted strongly or mildly to changes in their family, they often benefit from working with other children who have had similar feelings and experiences.

Rollercoasters uses discussions, games, role-plays, art and craft to help children cope with feelings and loss, manage anger and improve self esteem. Groups will meet once a week for 6 weeks from 3.30pm - 4.45pm. There is a small weekly cost of \$5 for the programme. Concessions can be negotiated.

There is a '*Tip Sheet for Parents*' available on request and a flyer with the dates and venue for the next group. I look forward to having your child in our group. Together we can support your child to adjust to these changes.

If you have any questions or if you are interested in having your child participate in this group please contact me.

Kind regards

Allan Mackey

Education and Group Coordinator

CatholicCare Social Services Parramatta
Ground Floor | 2A Villiers Street | Parramatta NSW 2150 |
PO Box 2023 North Parramatta NSW 1750 |
Phone (02) 9933 0222 | Fax (02) 9933 0299 | allan.mackey@ccss.org.au |



CATHOLIC CARE
Social Services

RollercoastersSM

A Curriculum for Children of Change

FOR KIDS WHOSE FAMILIES ARE CHANGING

**Group activities for children age 6-11 who are experiencing & struggling with
Family separation | Parents' divorce | Family changes**

Six Tuesdays: 21st October to the 25th of November 2014

Time: 3.30 – 4.45 pm. After school

Venue: 51-59 Allawah St Blacktown

Bookings: Phone 99330222 to reserve a place

Cost: \$5per child per session (includes snack)

Concessions can be negotiated

Topics Covered:

Week 1: Everything is different

Week 2: Is it my fault?

Week 3: I wish everything was back to normal

Week 4: I am so mad!

Week 5: How can I manage?

Week 6: What I have learned?

