

# BRANCHES

## Holy Family Primary School, Luddenham

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### Term 2

5th May 2016

Issue 6, Week 2

#### Friday 13th May

2.20pm - Whole School

Assembly

6pm - School Disco

#### Tuesday 17th May

Special Food Day - Year 6

Fundraiser

#### Monday 23rd May

School Photos

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

I welcome all of the students and their families back to the new school term. There are many exciting and fun-filled learning experiences that the children will get to engage in this term.

It has been a busy start to the term with a number of community and sporting events happening over the past two weeks including the Anzac Day march and commemoration service at Warragamba; John Skandalis Cup and the Diocesan Cross Country.

#### Anzac Day

We had a strong representation of families participate in the ANZAC Day commemorations that were held at Warragamba on Monday, 25 April. This is a great response from our community and I would sincerely like to thank all those who joined me to commemorate this important day of remembrance. I was very impressed with the respectful way in which all of the students participated in the ceremony. The children are a great credit to themselves, their families and our school.

At school we aim to instil in the students a prayerful respect for those who sacrificed their lives in service of this nation, and to help them understand the importance of working for peace in our world.

#### Rugby League Finals

On Wednesday, 27th April our Stage 3 Rugby League team was triumphant in the Razorback Cup Group 6 final. In the process they also won the John Skandalis Cup that is awarded to the winner of the combined Wests and Group 6 competition.

The team were undefeated on the day with three great wins against tough opposition, including a four tries to two victory in the final against Robertson Public School. Under the expert coaching from Mr Woodhead and his assistants, Mr Powderly, Mr Bruni and Mr Gauci, the team combined well to out-class the opposition. They now progress to the NSW All Schools finals later in the year.

A big vote of thanks to the above mentioned parents for assisting with coaching the side, to all the parents and grandparents who have supported the students' participation and to the students for their outstanding sportsmanship throughout the competition.

#### Diocesan Cross Country

As this newsletter is being prepared we have thirty students representing Holy Family at the Diocesan Cross Country at Eastern Creek. Details about this event will be shared in the newsletter in Week 4.

Looking ahead I am excited to join with our community to acknowledge and thank the very special women that support our children at the Mother's Day breakfast on Friday.

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

Peace and best wishes,

Mr Anthony McElhone

Principal

### At Holy Family

I Respect Myself

I Respect Others

I Respect the  
Environment

I Respect Learning



## Enrolments for 2017

Enrolments are being accepted for Kindergarten 2017. If your child turns 5 before the 31st July 2017 and you would like them to attend Holy Family School, you are invited to collect an enrolment package from the school office. Interviews for Kindergarten 2017 will begin in Term 2 with Mr. McElhone, for yourself and your child. We look forward to welcoming you and your child to Holy Family School in the near future.



## Anonymous Letters

Recently the school received an anonymous letter from a person claiming to be a parent. The letter outlined a number of concerns that have since been investigated. However, we cannot directly respond to the concerns as the author has not identified himself or herself. In the spirit of working in partnership to support all the children and families at the school we would ask that all concerns are directed to the relevant staff member in writing, via telephone or in person. If the preferred method is in written form, it is expected that the author identifies themselves so that the appropriate response can be communicated.

## PRG Meeting

The next meeting of the Parent Representative Group will be held at 2.20pm on Wednesday, 11th March in the library. Please come along and join in a conversation about how the PRG can go about providing resources and support for our school.

## School Uniform

Currently we are in transition mode to winter uniform. All students are expected to be in full winter uniform from the Monday after Mother's Day (9th May) until the Monday after Father's Day (5th September). **Note** – Students in this transition period must wear either full summer or full winter uniform – not a combination of both. We are including the uniform policy below for your information.

Girls: Check pinafore

White blouse (Peter Pan Collar)

Tab tie - matching material of pinafore

Plain, short white socks or navy blue tights

Black shoes (those which can be polished – no joggers or skate shoes)



Boys: Blue shirt (long sleeved) and school tie

Navy long trousers (cargo pants are not permitted)

Short navy socks

Black shoes (those which can be polished – no joggers or skate shoes)

### SPORT DAYS

Early Stage 1	Wednesday/Friday
Stage 1	Thursday/Friday
Stage 1/2	Wednesday/Friday
Stage 2	Thursday/Friday
Stage 3	Wednesday/Friday

Please check with the front office if you have any questions regarding the school uniform.

## Whooping Cough

There has been confirmed cases of Whooping Cough at Holy Family School. Please see attached details from NSW Health.



## Teachers As Learners

At Holy Family the staff have an ongoing commitment to professional learning. The staff benefits from attending inservices, in curriculum areas, that assists them in providing quality learning opportunities for the students in their class. The following staff have or will attend professional learning:



4 & 5 May	Stage 3 Reading Development	Mr McElhone Mrs Ryan Ms Steele Mrs Mayer Mr Bullock
11 May	Beginning Teacher Professional Learning (Day 2)	Miss Van Mullekom
17 May	Safeguarding & Professional Standards in CEDP	Mr McElhone Mrs Van As
23 May	Stage 3 Reading Development	Mrs Ryan Ms Steele Mrs Mayer Mr Bullock
25 May	EMU Middle Years Specialist Teacher Course	Mrs Brennan
26 May	Principal's Network Meeting	Mr McElhone

## Staff Development Days

Following are the staff development days for Terms 2 & 3. Please note there is not a staff development day in Term 4.

Term 2 - Friday, 1st July (last day of Term 2)

Term 3 - Monday, 15th August



## Premier's Reading Challenge

Passwords for this years Premier's Reading Challenge are the same as 2015. If you can't find your username/ password, please contact Mrs Edwards in the office. All students from K - 2 will read their books in class and their records will be updated at school. Children can also read extra books at home. All book lists can be found on the website: <https://online.det.nsw.edu.au/prc/home.html>

## Parish News

The parish has engaged contractors to re-bed the paved area along the corridor leading to the Holy Family Church and the area directly in from the doors. The area will be clearly cordoned off to indicate working area. The work will commence on Saturday 7th May at 6.30am and will be completed approximately Wednesday 11th May.

St Vincent de Paul Society

Parramatta Diocesan Central Council

Family Assistance

1800 606 724

Monday to Friday, 9am - 4pm

(Excluding Public Holidays)





## National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy 2016

### LETTER TO PARENTS

In May 2016 the National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) will be completed by students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9. NAPLAN has the support of all State and Territory Education Ministers and will assess the literacy and numeracy skills of students across Australian schools.

The results of the tests will provide important information to schools about what each student can do, and will be used to support teaching and learning programs. Parents will receive a report indicating their child's level of achievement. Each student's level of achievement will be reported against the national minimum standard.

Student background information (student name, gender, date of birth, language background and Aboriginality) will be collected as part of the National Assessment Program. This information is treated confidentially and held securely to ensure that every student's right to privacy is maintained.

The NAPLAN tests will be conducted from 10-12 May 2016.

TUESDAY 10 MAY	WEDNESDAY 11 MAY	THURSDAY 12 MAY
<b>Language Conventions</b> (Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar)  <b>Writing</b>	<b>Reading</b>	<b>Numeracy</b>

In the Numeracy tests students do not require any measuring tools such as rulers or protractors. In Years 7 and 9 there will be two Numeracy tests: one where a calculator is allowed and one where calculators are not to be used. For the calculator test, the student should use the calculator that they currently use at school.

**Friday 13 May** – A 'catch-up' day is scheduled for students who missed a test or were absent on a test day.

Students may be considered for exemption from the tests if they:

- are newly arrived in Australia (less than one year before the test) and with a language background other than English, or
- have significant intellectual disability and/or significant co-existing conditions which severely limit their capacity to participate in the tests.

All other students are expected to participate in the tests. Disability adjustments which reflect the student's normal level of support in the classroom may be provided. Large print, Braille, coloured paper versions and electronic tests are available to meet the needs of individual students.

Access to disability adjustments or exemption from the tests must be discussed with the school principal and a parent or carer consent form must be signed.

Students may be withdrawn from NAPLAN by their parent or carer. This is a matter for consideration by parents in consultation with the school principal. If you wish to withdraw your child from the tests, a parent or carer consent form must be signed.

Please make an appointment with the principal of the school your child attends if you would like to discuss your child's participation in NAPLAN.

Additional information about NAPLAN can be found at [www.nap.edu.au/NAPLAN/Parent\\_Carer\\_support/index.html](http://www.nap.edu.au/NAPLAN/Parent_Carer_support/index.html).

*Whooping cough affects people of all ages. It can be especially serious for babies. Vaccination reduces the risk of infection.*

# Whooping Cough (Pertussis)

Last updated: 30 March 2015

## What is whooping cough?

Whooping cough can be a life threatening infection in babies. Whooping cough in babies can lead to apnoea (pauses in normal breathing), pneumonia, feeding problems and weight loss, seizures, brain damage and, in some cases, death. Older children and adults can get whooping cough too and pass it on to babies.

## What are the symptoms?

- Whooping cough usually begins like a cold with a blocked or runny nose, tiredness, mild fever and a cough.
- The cough gets worse and severe bouts of uncontrollable coughing can develop. Coughing bouts can be followed by vomiting, choking or taking a big gasping breath which causes a "whooping" sound. The cough can last for many weeks and can be worse at night.
- Some newborns may not cough at all but they can stop breathing and turn blue. Some babies have difficulties feeding and can choke or gag.
- Older children and adults may just have a cough that lasts for many weeks. They may not have the whoop.

## How is it spread?

- Whooping cough is spread when an infectious person coughs bacteria into the air which can be inhaled by people nearby. If they are not treated early, people with whooping cough are infectious in the first three weeks of their illness.
- Whooping cough spreads easily through families, childcare centres and at school.

## Who is at risk?

- Anyone can get whooping cough. People living in the same household as someone with whooping cough are especially at risk.
- Immunisation reduces the risk of infection but immunity fades over time. You can still get whooping cough even if you've been immunised.

## How is it prevented?

Whooping cough vaccines provide good protection from infection but immunity fades which means that boosters are needed.

## Immunisation for babies

- Babies need to be immunised at 2 months, 4 months and 6 months. The first dose can be given as early as 6 weeks of age.
- Getting your baby vaccinated on time gives them some protection when they are most at risk of severe illness.
- If your baby's vaccines are overdue, see your GP now to catch up.



## Immunisation for older children

- A whooping cough booster is needed at 4 years of age.
- Check if your child has been vaccinated. Look at their Blue Book, speak to your GP or ring the Australian Childhood Immunisation Register on 1800 653 809.
- A second whooping cough booster is given in high school through the NSW School –based Vaccination Program.

## Immunisation for adults

A booster for adults is recommended for:

- Women who are in the third trimester of pregnancy, preferably at 28 weeks. Free vaccine is provided in NSW through Gps and hospital antenatal clinics.
- Other adult household members, grandparents and carers of infants under 12 months of age.
- Adults working with young children, especially health care and child care workers.

## If you are a close contact of someone with whooping cough:

- If you have been exposed to someone with whooping cough early in their illness while they are infectious, watch out for symptoms and see your doctor if you get a new cough.
- Some babies and some pregnant women need antibiotics to prevent whooping cough infection if they have had significant contact with an infectious person.

## How is it diagnosed?

Your doctor may ask about your symptoms and whether there you've had any contact with whooping cough. If your doctor thinks you have whooping cough, a swab from the back of the nose or throat can confirm the diagnosis.

## How is it treated?

- Some babies may need treatment in hospital or in intensive care.
- Antibiotics are used to treat whooping cough in the early stages and can help prevent spreading whooping cough to others. People who are not treated early with the right antibiotics can spread the infection in the first 3 weeks of their illness. After 5 days of antibiotics, you are normally no longer infectious.
- The cough often continues for many weeks, despite antibiotics.

## What is the public health response?

Doctors and laboratories must confidentially notify cases of pertussis to the local Public Health Unit. Public Health Unit staff can advise on the best way to stop further spread.

Infectious children are restricted from going to pre-school and school. Unimmunised contacts may be excluded from child care unless they take the special antibiotics.

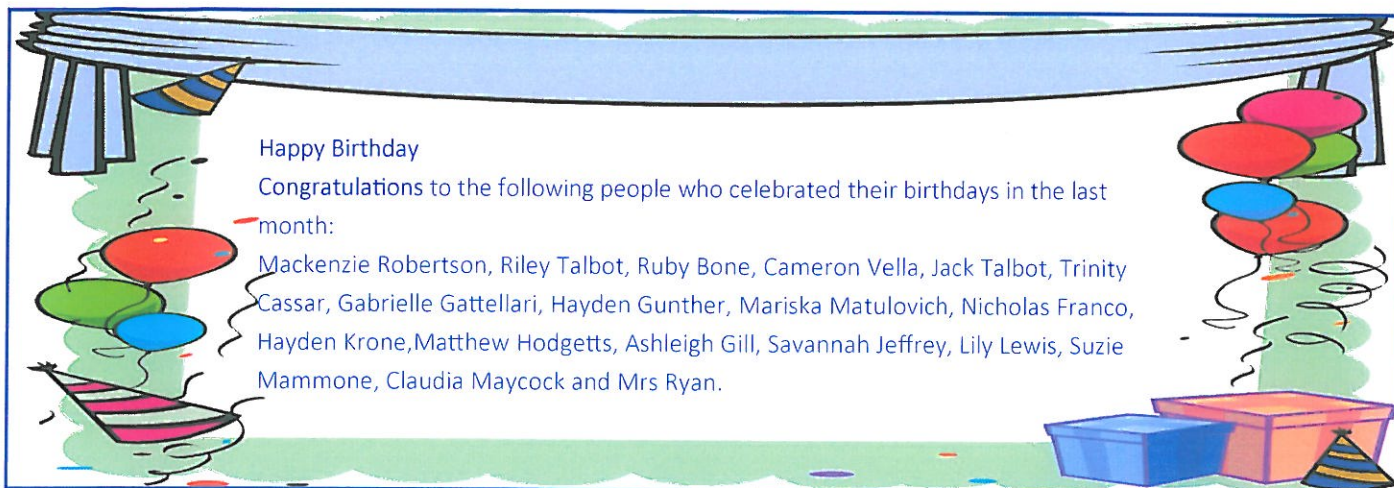
## Identify - Protect – Prevent

NSW Health whooping cough

campaign <http://www.health.nsw.gov.au/PublicHealth/Infectious/whoopingcough/index.asp>

For further information please call your local Public Health Unit on 1300 066 055 or visit the New South Wales Health website [www.health.nsw.gov.au](http://www.health.nsw.gov.au)






# ASKME 4

Commercial &  
Residential  
General Maintenance

- Lawn & Garden Care
- Gutter Cleaning
- Rubbish Removal
- Pressure Cleaning (Driveways & Paths)
- Fertilising
- Hedges
- Yard Clean Ups

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PENRITH OBSERVATORY  
SCHOOL OF COMPUTING, ENGINEERING AND MATHEMATICS

Astronomy Night – Dr Jill Rathborne: Saturday 14 May 2016 (7.00 pm – 9.00 pm)

The evening will include a presentation from our guest speaker Dr Jill Rathborne, a 3D astronomy movie, a tour of the dome area and an opportunity to view the night sky through the observatory's telescopes. Dr Jill Rathborne is a research scientist with the CSIRO, and is part of the international group that is setting up the Australian part of the most powerful telescope in history in outback Western Australia, the Square Kilometre Array (SKA).

Cost: \$18 adult, \$12 child/concession and \$50 family  
Bookings are essential:

To book and pay for tickets visit [westernsydney.edu.au/observatory](http://westernsydney.edu.au/observatory)





## What Makes Dive In Different

- Qualified Teachers who hold current Working With Children Licence and CPR
- Additional Qualifications include Competitive Strokes and Infant and Preschool Aquatics
- Accredited Swim Australia Centre and Family owned business
- All staff attend Professional Development throughout the year
- Experienced teachers for ADD, ADHD, ASD and ODD along with other special needs
- We recognise and understand the family dynamic and support parents



## Services

- LEARN TO SWIM
- SQUAD TRAINING
- SCHOOL CARNIVAL PREPARATION
  - BABY LESSONS FROM 4MTHS
- POOL PARTY HIRE/ POOL INFLATABLE HIRE

**Located at 122 Blaikie Road, Jamisontown**  
**(Close to Glenmore Park, M4, Mulgoa)**

