

BRANCHES

Holy Family Primary School, Luddenham

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Term 4

12th November 2015

Issue 17, Week 6

Friday 13th November

2:20pm - Whole School
Assembly

Wednesday 18th November

Year 6 Munch & Crunch Fund-
raiser

Thursday 19th November

3:30pm - AFL Clinic

Tuesday 24th November

Special Food Day

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

Yesterday we gathered as a school to observe with respect Remembrance Day. Remembrance Day marks the anniversary of the armistice, which ended the First World War (1914–18). During the prayer, I had a moment of reflection about my time in Gallipoli during my pilgrimage experience in 2014. The quiet respectful reverence that the students display during our prayer and liturgy celebrations and this prayer celebration reminded me of the quiet, reverent stillness I experienced on the Gallipoli Peninsula. The sense of reverence was heightened during the minute silence and then the singing of the national anthem. This was a truly reflective prayer celebration with the students leading through their participation.

Continuing the theme of sacrifice, Sunday's Gospel recalled the sacrifice and generosity of the widow who gave all she had. At one level this is a story of generosity and giving to support others. However on another level it is also a reflection about our devotion to our faith. The woman gave all she had such was the level of her trust and belief in the providence of God.

At this time of year we call on the abundant generosity of our community to support St Vincent de Paul and their work at Christmas. In the next week each child will bring home a suggestion for an item to contribute to class hampers. These hampers will be donated to our local St Vincent de Paul to be distributed to those in our local community who are in need. We thank all families in advance for your generosity.

God of peace and love,

*We remember that in Jesus of Nazareth you have called us to be people of peace saying,
"Blessed are the peacemakers" and reminding us that we are to love our neighbour and our
enemy as we love ourselves.*

*But we also acknowledge that there are times when we as a global community fail to live out
those words.*

*We give thanks for all who have chosen to serve their country. We give thanks for their bravery,
their commitment, and their love.*

*We pause in the memory of those who went and did not return to mothers and wives and
children left behind.*

At Holy Family

I Respect Myself

I Respect Others

I Respect the
Environment

I Respect
Learning

Peace and Best Wishes for a wonderful fortnight ahead.

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

Tim Vane-Tempest
Principal

Kinder Orientation

Over the past 2 weeks we have welcomed our new Kindergarten students to Holy Family School during the Kinder Orientation visits. These visits are a special time for families but can also be a nervous time for others. It was great to see the joy and happiness on the faces of the new Kinders as they took their first tentative steps into Kindergarten. My thanks to the parents who assisted with morning tea and in welcoming the new families to Holy Family. Your presence and efforts are very much appreciated.



End of Year Opportunities for Families

Over the coming weeks there are a number of extra curricula activities and whole school events planned. These include our school's Christmas celebration evening on Thursday 10th December and the End of Year mass which focuses on the whole school farewell to our Yr. 6 students on Tuesday 15th December. I encourage all families to support these events through your attendance and participation.



Reports

Teachers are currently in the process of writing the end of year report for all children. A great deal of time and effort goes into constructing the reports for each student, with teachers working to give you the most accurate assessment of your child's progress and achievement as is possible. Reports will be sent home in Week 10 of this term.



Class Placements

Teachers use a very thorough and thoughtful process of discernment when forming new class groups for the following year. They use a range of information gathered throughout the year to place each student into the best possible environment for their learning. Whilst most parents are very happy to entrust teachers with the placement of children there are instances where specific educational or pastoral needs should be considered during this process. I invite parents who have such a specific consideration to inform me of your particular needs so that they can be included in discussions when classes are formed. All positive and constructive requests will be carefully considered but **no absolute guarantees can be given**. I would ask that all considerations be forwarded to me by Friday 20th November. Parents who have already raised and discussed matters related to student progress, learning needs and placement for 2016 with staff during this year can be assured that this information will be considered during the placement process.



Children not returning in 2016

Thank you to the two families who indicated that they will be moving away from HFS at the end of this. If there are families who are not returning to Holy Family School in 2016, it is important to inform the school, in writing, about your intention. To be compliant, we are required to notify which school the children will be attending in 2016. Your notification to us assists with the organisation of class and homeroom groupings for next year. It also assists us with enrolment enquiries that we are receiving for 2016.

Mathematics Assessment Interviews (MAIs) Day 1 & 2 of 2016

Earlier this week a letter was sent home regarding the beginning of the 2016 school year. The first two days, 27th/28th January 2016, staff will be conducting assessments in support of our EMU mathematics work. This arrangement will allow staff to gather essential data as early in the year as possible. This data will be used by teachers to develop targeted teaching programs to support the individual learning needs of the students. The assessments will be for all students from Kinder to Year 6. We are in the process of setting up the online booking service to arrange these interviews. Information will be coming out very soon which will assist parents to book times for interviews on these days. The first day for all students will be Friday 28th January.

Staffing

Mrs Bray and Miss Bunting have informed me that they will not be returning to teach at Holy Family School in 2016. After 7 years Mrs Bray will be leaving Holy Family School to take up a position as a lead teacher at St Nicholas of Myra, Penrith. After two and half years Miss Bunting has informed me that she is looking to explore other options for her teaching beyond HFS. We thank Mrs Bray and Miss Bunting for their work at HFS and wish them well in pursuing new opportunities. There will be an opportunity to farewell both Mrs Bray and Miss Bunting at the end of year mass. The process of finding replacements for Mrs. Bray and Miss Bunting has begun and will be finalised in the near future.

Christmas Celebration

This year we will hold our annual Christmas celebration on Thursday 10th December. We will, weather permitting, stage the celebration on the oval area and utilise the outdoor area for the performance items. In the event that weather does not permit the use of the outdoor venue we will use the Church. All students will be involved in the preparation and performance of the items for this celebration. We encourage all families to support this whole school event by your presence and participation in this whole school celebration. Further details will be shared very shortly.



School Uniforms

Just a reminder that in addition to having convenient 7 day access to uniforms at Lowes, Penrith, parents can now order all their uniforms ON-LINE with *Click & Collect* for in-store pickup, or home delivery. Please go to their website www.lowesschoolwear.com.au for more details.



SPORTS NEWS

Stage 2 and 3 League Tag

On Tuesday, 30 children represented Holy Family at the NRL League Tag Gala Day. It was an excellent day with the children showing a great deal of skill and athleticism. More importantly, all the children behaved in the true spirit of a gala day by encouraging each other and playing as a team. A special thanks to Mr Woodhead and Mr Pantazacos who stepped in and managed the Stage 2 boys teams. I really appreciated your time and effort. Thank you also to all the parents and grandparents who came along to cheer the boys on.



Twilight Swimming Carnival

Our Twilight Swimming Carnival is being held on Monday 30th November at Ripples Pool in Penrith at 7pm. If your child is interested in competing please send in the note to school as soon as possible. There are spare notes in the office, if needed. Looking forward to seeing our keen swimmers on the night.

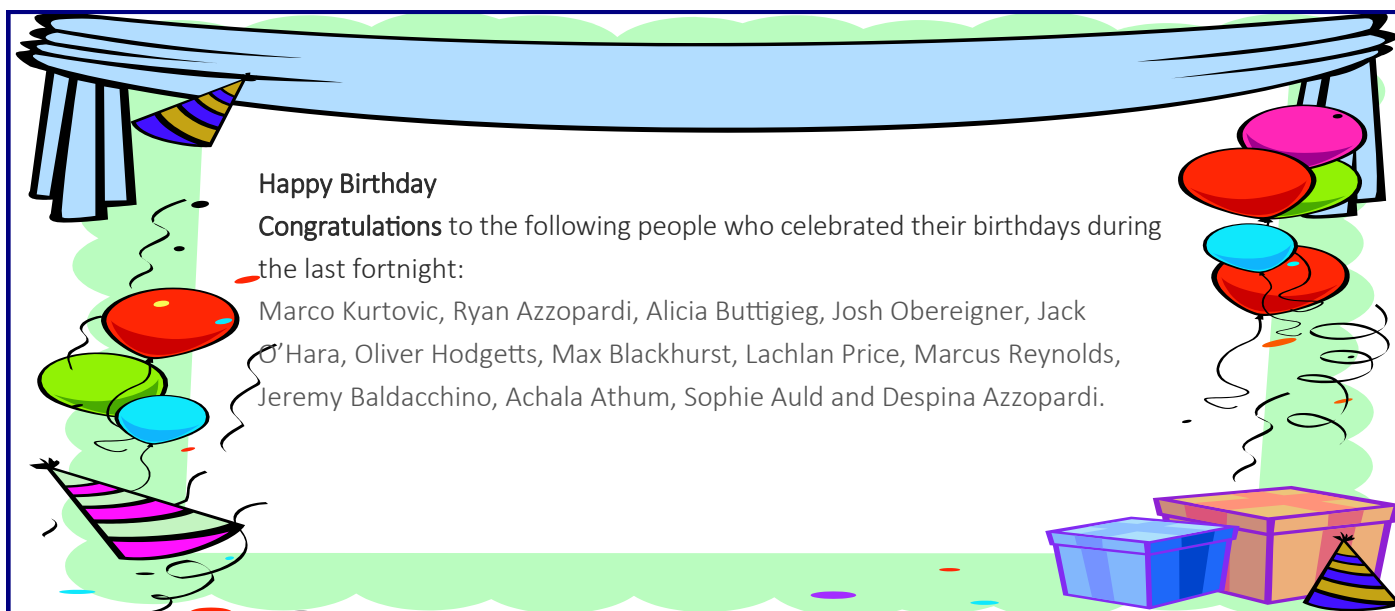


AFL Auskick Clinic

AFL representatives will be visiting our school in this week's Assembly. They will be hosting after school clinics on Thursday afternoons for 4 weeks, starting 19th November (Week 7). The cost is \$40.



Nicole Bray
Sports Coordinator



Jumping Castle

Visit from Santa

Glow Sticks

Food available

Dress in your favourite xmas outfit

Christmas Stories

WARRAGAMBA CAROLS

IN THE PARK

Saturday 5th December

Join us from 6pm for a fun family night in Memorial Park. Carols start at 7pm.

(Civic Circle—Fourth St Warragamba)

WSNC

Warragamba Siverdale Neighbourhood Centre

Warragamba Baptist Church



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Join Our Team

NAB AFL AUSKICK AFTER-SCHOOL PROGRAM COMING TO YOUR SCHOOL



NAB AFL Auskick is a great way to have fun,
meet new friends and get active.



Holy Family Primary AFL Auskick Centre After School

Venue; (SchoolOval)

Each Thursday starting 19th November until 10th December from 3:30pm to 4:30pm.

Your child will enjoy a safe, fun, action-packed 4 week program of games and skill development, ideal for boys and girls aged 4-12 for only **\$40**.

To register visit www.AFLAUSKICK.com.au

or register in person at the first session. Payment via cash or cheque is also accepted.

For more information contact:

Sophie McKibben on 8867 7403

or sophie.mckibben@aflnswact.com.au

