

BRANCHES

Holy Family Primary School, Luddenham

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Term 3

30th August 2018

Issue 13, Week 6

Friday 31st August

Father's Day Breakfast
& Prayer, Book Week
Celebration

Friday 7th September

Stage 2 Touch Football
Gala Day (Boys &
Girls)

Friday 14th September

Drought Fundraiser

Friday 14th September

Stage 3 Touch Football
Gala Day (Boys &
Girls)
2.20pm - Whole School
Assembly

Dear Dads, Grandfathers, Uncles & Friends,

When we reflect on our lives we have many roles and responsibilities. I am an educator, a son, a cousin, a friend, a brother and, most importantly, a husband and father to three amazing children (Luke, Adam & Maeve). Every year I am asked what I would like as a Father's Day gift. My response is always simple, time! Time with my family. We all live hectic lives and seem to be short on this thing we call 'time'. Whilst we enjoy getting socks, handkerchiefs, coffee mugs and alike, let's give ourselves the gift of time with our loved ones this Father's Day.

A Father's Day Prayer

Let us praise those fathers who have striven to balance the demands of work, marriage and children with an honest awareness of both joy and sacrifice.

Let us praise those fathers who, lacking a good model for a father, have worked to become a good father.

Let us praise those fathers who, by their own account, were not always there for their children, but who continue to offer those children, now grown, their love and support.

Let us pray for those fathers who have been wounded by the neglect and hostility of their children.

Let us praise those fathers who, despite divorce, have remained in their children's lives.

Let us praise those fathers whose children are adopted and whose love and support has offered healing.

Let us praise those fathers who, as stepfathers, freely choose the obligation of fatherhood and earned their step-children's love and respect.

Let us praise those fathers who have lost a child to death, and continue to hold the child in their heart.

Let us praise those men who have no children, but cherish the next generation as if they were their own.

Let us praise those men who have "fathered" us in their role as mentors and guides.

Let us praise those men who are about to become fathers; may they openly delight in their children.

And let us praise those fathers who have died, but live on in our memory and whose love continues to nurture us.

At Holy Family we are:

- Safe
- Respectful
- Responsible
- Learners



Let us also keep in our prayers the children from Holy Family that have recently (last weekend) or who will soon be celebrating the Sacrament of First Eucharist. We pray that this celebration brings them into a closer relationship with our loving God.



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

Mr Anthony McElhone

Principal

Change into Summer Uniform

The students are able to transition to summer uniform after Father's Day to the beginning of Term 4. During this period the students can elect to wear either the summer or winter uniform, but not a combination of both. The transitional arrangements apply until the start of Term 4. Please ensure that your child complies with all aspects of our school uniform policy.



Save the Date! Father's Day Celebration & Book Week

To celebrate Father's Day and Book Week we are having a big community event tomorrow, Friday 31st August. Further details can be accessed on the school calendar on the website. The day will begin with a Father's Day Prayer and breakfast. There will then be our whole school assembly, 'open classrooms' to promote STEM. After morning tea, there will be a book parade where children can

dress as their favourite book characters and a teacher performance. Children are welcome to wear their dress-ups to school in the morning.

Captivate

Last week we had children in our dance group and choir participate in the CAPTIVATE 10th Anniversary Showcase performance at Homebush.

CAPTIVATE is the creative and performing arts program for Catholic schools in the Diocese of Parramatta. For ten years it has provided learning and

performance opportunities for students and connects them with Australia's leading creative arts professionals and their wealth of experience and networks. A big thank you to Mrs Mclean and Miss Van Mullekom for giving their time to support the students participation in this amazing event. Also thanks to the parents and children for their support of this event, including picking up the children after 10pm at Homebush for two nights in a row.

CAPTIVATE
the spirit of expression

2018 Letters of Offer for Early Stage 1

All letters regarding enrolment for 2018 Early Stage 1 were posted last term. Acceptance letters were due back to the school by Thursday 17th August. If you have not received a letter please contact Mrs Edwards in the school office.



2018 School Calendar

The key date of events and celebrations for 2018 can be viewed in our online school calendar. The calendar can be viewed on our school website:

<http://www.hfluddenham.catholic.edu.au/Our-Community/Events>

If you would like to sync the school calendar to the calendar on your device (e.g. iPad or iPhone) click on the [subscribe](#) link at the bottom of the calendar and follow the instructions.



Naplan Online Readiness Trial

The National Assessment program for Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) is moving to an online format in 2019. In preparation for going live with the test in the coming years, we have been asked to test our readiness capability. In week 7 (next week) the students in Years 3 and 5 will be using one of the school's devices to sit a mock test. The trial is not concerned with testing students' achievement, but more the issues around implementation of the test in an online format. By ironing out any potential issues this new approach should provide a more effective test format and provide the school and parents with important diagnostic information in a more timely fashion.



School Attendance

Every Learner, Every Day is a campaign designed to raise awareness about the importance of attendance for every student, on every school day and to promote a healthy attendance culture. As part of this initiative members of our Attendance Team, Mrs Marie Edwards, Mr Anthony McElhone and Sr Brenda Kennedy, will be regularly following up students with attendance levels that are concerning. In addition we will be promoting positive attendance patterns by acknowledging classes and individuals with excellent attendance.

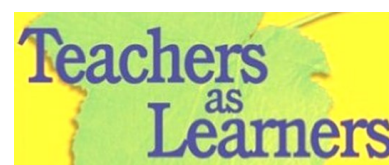


Our current attendance level is almost 85%. Our goal is 90% so the following tips will assist us in reaching our goal.

1. Send your child to school every day unless they are sick
2. Develop good sleep and morning routines
3. Schedule appointments outside of school hours
4. Avoid taking holidays during the school term

Teacher Professional Learning

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



| Date | Staff Members | Professional Learning |
|----------------|--------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 31st August | Mr McCauley | Enhancing Catholic School Identity - Lighthouse Schools visit (Melbourne) |
| 3rd September | Mr McElhone, Mrs Van As | 8am-12pm Action Plan Cluster Meeting |
| 3rd September | Mr McElhone, Mrs Van As | 3:30-5:30pm Enhancing Catholic School Identity Twilight Meeting |
| 4th September | Mr McElhone, Fr Giovanni | 1:00-4:00pm Priest/Principal Plenary 2020 Planning |
| 12th September | Mr McElhone, Mrs Miller | 2019 Schools Budget Preparation |

Connections Counselling

Building Bridges

Colleen Nicholas, Dip.Couns. MACA

Individual, Couple & Family Therapist

Counselling For:

- *Personal Issues* **Grief & Loss*
- *Relationship Problems* **Anxiety*
- *Family & Parenting* **Depression*
- *Transitional Life Changes*
- *Stress Management*

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