

# BRANCHES

## Holy Family Primary School, Luddenham

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Web: [www.Luddenham.catholic.edu.au](http://www.Luddenham.catholic.edu.au)

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### Term 4

7th November 2019

Issue 17, Week 4

#### Thursday

##### 14th November

ECO Youth Summit -  
Stage 2s & 3

Kindergarten 2020  
Transition Session 3

##### Friday 15th November

9.15 - 10.00am  
Year 6 Farewell Meeting

##### Friday 22nd November

2.20pm - Whole School  
Assembly

##### Monday 25th November

Group 6 Primary  
League Tag  
Stages 2 & 3

##### Thursday 5th December

Christmas BBQ &  
Concert

##### Friday 6th December

Stage 2 Excursion - The  
Midnight Gang at the  
Joan Theatre, Penrith

##### Saturday 7th December

6.00 - 8.00pm - Parish  
Christmas Celebration

##### Wednesday

##### 11th December

School Swimming  
Carnival

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

Last week the Church celebrated the Feast of All Saints Day (1st November) and All Soul's Day (2nd November), in fact the entire month of November is devoted to remembering the Holy Souls, loyal servants of God who have gone before us to their eternal reward. Sanctity or Holiness is not a destination or an event it is a journey that starts from a point of service and self-sacrifice. Part of our school vision encourages us to make saints for the world, people of compassionate action, committed to serving others in the very small but kind gestures that are part of our everyday living. Here are a couple of resources that I found that might help you to reflect on the significance of these wonderful feast days.

#### *All Saint's Day*

Sanctity is not a competition to donate the most money to the Church, to write the most beautiful prayers, or to help the most people. It's about seeking to please the Lord. Pursuing sainthood is just that: a pursuit. Giving your best effort for God means just as much as whatever you "achieve".

The Feast of All Saints is about all the holy people who have gone before us – the hidden saints who are part of that great "cloud of witnesses" in heaven (Hebrews 12:1). It's also a good time to honour the people you have known who made serving the Lord their greatest desire. Maybe it's a religious education teacher who stayed up late working on lesson plans. It could be a parent who tried to get their child excited about special feast days like this one. Or perhaps it's a priest or religious sister who supported a new ministry at your parish. In each case, it is the person's desire and effort that sets them apart and places them on the road to sainthood. Never forget that great cloud of witnesses surrounding you. And never forget that you are part of it! There is no "us" and "them" when it comes to sanctity. By the grace of God, there is only "us".

#### *All Soul's Day*

Pope Francis speaks of feast days like All Saints and All Souls as "days of hope" and reminds us, "Hope is like leaven that expands our souls. There are difficult moments in life, but with hope the soul goes forward and looks ahead to what awaits us.....Our brothers and sisters are in the presence of God and we shall also be there.....if we walk along the way of Jesus" (Homily, 1 November 2013).

Saints and sinners alike, we place our hope in the mercy of God – the God who gave his Son for our salvation. As St Paul's tells us, "Hope does not disappoint, because the love of God has been poured out into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us" (Romans 5:5). The love of God is stronger than death. It reaches across time to bind us together. It bridges heaven and earth. It convinces us that nothing can separate us from our heavenly Father. So as we reflect today on everyone who has gone before us, let's remember that our prayers can benefit one another. Whether we are praying for someone we know here and now or someone who has already died. God hears us. Surely it pleases him to see his children caring for one another! "Father, thank you for the people you have put in my life, especially those who now sleep in faith. Together we place our hope in your promise of resurrection." (Word among us 2017)

#### *Sacramental Program*

Please remember the students of Holy Family and the young people from our Parish who are busily preparing for the Sacrament of Reconciliation. We offer our prayers of support for all involved in their sacramental preparation.

At Holy Family we are:

- Safe
- Respectful
- Responsible
- Learners

Mr Anthony McElhone  
Principal

## Classes for 2020

As a school we are required to maintain our register of students so that it is accurate for the students who are enrolled at Holy Family School. As we approach the end of the year families make decisions about schooling for the coming school year. If there are families who are not returning to Holy Family School in 2020 it is important to inform the school, in writing, about your intention. This assists with the organisation of class groupings for next year. It also assists us with enrolment enquiries, which we are receiving for 2020.

# 2020

2020 Class Placements – Just a reminder about the google form regarding special considerations. We are starting the process of allocating teachers to classes and following that we will allocate children to class groups. 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. Mr McElhone invites parents who have such a specific consideration to inform him 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. If you wish to provide feedback about your child's placement, please complete the online form that has been added to Seesaw. Please note that each Stage group has a form unique to their group.

## Staff Development Days

Following are the dates for the remaining Staff Development Days this year. A reminder that children do not attend school on these days.

- Tuesday, 17th December
- Wednesday, 18th December

Please note that the student's final day will be Monday, 16th December.



## 2019/20 School Calendar

The key date of events and celebrations for 2019 and 2020 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.

## 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.

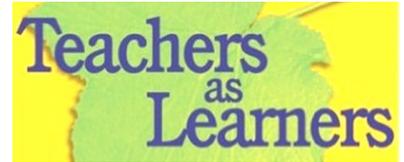
Our current attendance level is 81%. Our goal is 90% so the following tips will assist us in reaching our goal.

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
12th November	Mrs Brennan, Mrs Stein, Mrs Whitton, Mr McElhone, Mrs Van As, Mr McCauley	External Peer Review - Compliance Process
13th November	Mr McElhone	Safeguarding Workshop (12:30-4:00pm)

### Thank You

Thank you to the Rotary Club of Wallacia-Mulgoa Valley Inc. for their donation of \$150.

This will be used for our end of year celebrations.



### Academic Achievement Awards Congratulations Academic Achievement Awards Recipients

Winter Abric Leona Bilotta Catia-Rose Camilleri Leo Falzon Baylen Wandless Grace Lopreiato Gwenevere Sparagis Shiloh Wiggins	Jayden Ryan Eleanor Gauci Alexander Agius Aduang Athum Alexander Enman Xavier Eades Peter Medwin Veronica Tadros	Jessica Gattellari Joshua Moore Emily Woodhead Ben Sheil Sarah Gleeson Braden Ford
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### One Heart One Mind Awards Congratulations One Heart One Mind Awards Recipients

Baxter Ristau Amellia Keating Byron Andrews James Noro Rylee Abric Marcus Zamprogno Nash Lewtschenko Xavier Zammit	Lucas Ojeda Grace Jenkins Talia Evans Adriano Lau Sophie Auld Justin Buttigieg Deanna Agius Evette Haddad	Antonio Papalia Ciara Awad-Duncombe Jacob Digorgio Matthew Azzopardi Claudia Maycock Jacob Finianos
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### Year 6 Signature Bear and Balls

Order forms were sent home with your child last week offering you the opportunity to purchase a signature Bear, Soccer Ball or Football. The children will be given the opportunity later on in the term to obtain signatures and messages from their friends and teachers as a keepsake of their last year of Primary school. If you wish to make a purchase, the completed order form and money must be returned to school by Wednesday 13th November. Money raised will go towards their end of year celebrations. Please be advised that no late orders will be accepted.



Library borrowing will cease from Week Six. Please ensure all borrowed books are returned to the Library.

Thanking you kindly!

Mrs Liepa

### Parish News

Children who wish to take part in our Parish Christmas Family Mass (Christmas Vigil Mass at 6pm on Christmas Eve) are invited to come to practices at Holy Family Church on Fridays after school. Costumes are limited. First in first served. First session is Friday 8th November.

### Change of Name McCarthy Catholic College to Penola Catholic College as of 2020

#### 75 Mackellar Street, Emu Plains

From the beginning of the 2020 new school year, McCarthy Catholic College will be known as Penola Catholic College Emu Plains. This transition is due to, McCarthy Catholic Trade Training Centre becoming part of the CathWest Innovation College from 2020, which will have a campus at McCarthy Emu Plains and Loyola, Mt Druitt. The College community welcomes this news as a significant step celebrating Australia's first saint starting a school in Penola to enable education to be accessed by children and adults.

Penola Catholic College will continue to serve students from Year 7 to Year 12. Penola Catholic College name recognises the strength that this proud learning community draws from values and example of St Mary of the Cross MacKillop.

The history of the College and the McCarthy name will continue to be recognised and acknowledged in a variety of ways at Penola Catholic College, as well as at the McCarthy campus of CathWest Innovation College.

We are looking forward to walking in the footsteps of St Mary of the Cross MacKillop as we continue this exciting journey as Penola Catholic College in 2020.

Ms T Cairns

Principal Leader



Shop & save for Christmas

EXCLUSIVE TO ZERO & REWARDS  
CARD HOLDERS



**20% OFF**  
**SCHOOLWEAR**  
AND EVERYTHING ELSE!



**INSTORE & ONLINE THURSDAY 14TH NOVEMBER.**

\* Excludes gift cards, all suit packages & Schoolwear layby's. Cannot be combined with other offers or discounts. Floor stock only.  
Styles and colours may vary from store to store.

No rain checks. Please choose carefully, exchanges and refunds only with docket. Includes existing 5% discount.

**Offer ends midnight (AEST) 14/11/19. Must use Zero or Rewards card to receive discount.**

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