

Holy Family Primary School, Luddenham

Phone: 4773 7100

Web: www.Luddenham.catholic.edu.au

Web: www.hfluddenham.catholic.edu.au

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

Earlier in the week the Church celebrated the Feast of All Saint's Day (1 November) and All Soul's Day (2 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 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)

Anthony McElhone
Principal

At Holy Family we are:

- Safe
- Respectful
- Responsible
- Learners

Welcome to Rasha Azar (Senior Finance Officer)

This week we welcomed Mrs Rasha Azar to the Holy Family 'family'. Rasha has replaced Mrs Miller who is currently taking long service leave and will then retire at the end of the year. I am sure you will make Rasha feel welcome!



Colour Explosion Run Fundraiser Update

Our sincere thanks to all in our community for your generous support of our Colour Explosion Fun Run. We were also fortunate enough to raise \$8567.70 which will contribute to the revitalisation of the top playground space in 2021! In a year when nearly all of our amazing community events have been significantly disrupted by the COVID-19 pandemic, this event was a great way to bring some joy and excitement for the students. If you get a chance, check out the official Holy Family Luddenham Facebook page to view some great action shots from the day.

Staff Leave

Mrs Edwards had surgery on her back this week. She will be on leave for the remainder of the term. Please keep Mrs Edwards in your thoughts and prayers for a full and speedy recovery. Mrs Azopardi will be replacing Mrs Edwards in the office for the duration of her leave.



Classes for 2021

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 2021 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 2021.

2021 Class Placements

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 will be added to Seesaw next week. 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.

- Monday, 14 December
- Tuesday, 15 December
- Wednesday, 16 December

Please note that the student's final day will be Friday, 11 December.



'Come Dressed as a Grandparent' Day - 27 November

As we have had to cancel Grandparent's Day this year, we are having a 'Come Dressed as a Grandparent' Day for students and staff. The day will also incorporate students participating in games from the past.

2020/21 School Calendar

The key date of events and celebrations for 2020/21 can be viewed in our online school calendar. The calendar can be viewed on our school website <http://www.hfluddenham.catholic.edu.au/en/Our-Community/Events>



Teacher Professional Learning

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. However at this time no staff will attend professional learning off site.

Student Banking

Last day for student banking for 2020 will be on Wednesday 2nd December. If you wish to claim any rewards they will need to be redeemed by the 25th November to ensure delivery of items before the end of the term.





Academic Achievement Awards
Congratulations Academic Achievement Awards Recipients

Rebecca Debono
Sabina Sant
Nellie Martin
Annalise McGarry
Brianna Hosking
Nash Lewtschenko
Courtney Norrie
Jeremy Camilleri

Amelia Albee
Liam Urschel
Elisa Camilleri
Salvatore Polistena
Heidi Lewtschenko
Mikayla Camilleri
Jayden Ryan
Marcus Zamprogno

Sophie Auld
Dominic Finianos
Benjamin Lepre
Elise Fenech
Adison Jones
Shiloh Brown

One Heart One Mind Awards
Congratulations One Heart One Mind Awards Recipients

Mason Micalizzi
Aria Marsh
Amelia Guedes
Victoria Borg
Jackson Wright
Levi Hall
Monica Messina
Anthony Finianos

Baylen Wandless
Christian Lapa
Sienna Cross
Lincoln Sciberras
Sophia-Rose Penna
Caitlin Woodhead
Lavinia Gullo
Rose Estphan

Satyana Guedes
Jacob Hall
Kobi Wandless
Emilia Maycock
Liliana Vella
Alexander Enman





MUSEUM OF FIRE 2020 ART COMPETITION

To pay tribute to our brave firefighters following the horrors of last summer the Museum of Fire is hosting our first art competition for primary school-aged children. We encourage all parents and schools to ask students to paint, draw, etch or use any medium they like to get creative and produce a work around the topic of bushfires.

Those selected for our short list will be displayed in the Museum over summer and a panel will then select a winner from those in our gallery. We will also have a viewer's choice award that will be voted on over the summer by visitors to the Museum and also online in our virtual exhibition!

Please see the terms and conditions below before entering your artwork.

WHO CAN ENTER? Entry into this competition is FREE and open to all Australian primary school aged residents!

Topic: Bushfires

Competition Entry Dates: Entries open 1st November

2020 and close 30th November 2020



Mix personal training

Are you wanting to challenge yourself and meet new people in a friendly environment?

Come and join my **Mix Personal Training** class on a Tuesday night at 6:30pm at the Holy Family School Hall.

The classes are designed for everyone whether you are just starting out or a bit more advanced in the fitness area.

I cater for people with injury and other illnesses.

The classes are moderate intensity however you can make it more intense as I run cardio boxing and weight training.

Ladies and gentlemen come and join the fun class on a Tuesday night.

All are welcome over the age of 18.

Michael Ireland

Mobile - 0479 079 070

mic.c.ireland@gmail.com

Modifications made
to comply with
current restrictions.



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