

Family Matters

Holy Family Primary School

11 December 2019

Issue #09



EDUCATING IN FAITH FOR TOMORROW'S POSSIBILITIES

Principals' message

Mrs Anne-Marie Marek and Mrs Leah Taylor

Dear parents,

REPORTS

All students in ACT Archdiocesan schools receive the same report format. The five scale coding is also used in all Catholic schools. We ask that you take the opportunity to read the information carefully before the reports go home tomorrow. The Semester 1 and 2 reports are valuable records of a student's progress and development over the year. They are yours now to keep.

We would like to extend our thanks to the staff for the time and effort they have given to preparing the reports. We are very fortunate to have such a committed staff whose report comments reflect their understanding and relationship with your child. The enveloped report will be sent home with your child on Thursday. **Please keep the reports in a safe place. 2019 Year 5 parents will require Year 5, Semester 2 reports next May to enrol their child into high school.**

School reports can mean anxious times for parents and students. Students of all ages take their cues from their parents so *your reaction to their school report can affect the way they see themselves as learners and as people*. When you read the school report do you look for strengths or weaknesses first? The challenge is to focus on strengths rather than focus purely on areas that need improving. Take into account your child's effort and attitude to learning. Broaden your focus away from academic performance to form a picture of how your child is progressing as an individual in a social setting. The skills of independence and co-operation are highly rated by employers these days so don't dismiss these as unimportant. It

continues to amaze us that many parents do not take the time to discuss the report with their child.

2020 Classes & Teachers

6R	Theresa Terry/Lauren Messina
6W	Louise Hall
6B	Ellena Benson/Ali Riley
5R	Anne Potter
5W	Reuban West
5B	Annie McArthur
5G	Daniel Ruiz
4R	Jessica Salcedo
4W	James Doepel
4B	Damien Hinds/Lauren Corkhill
3R	Emma Young
3W	Lewis Monahan
3B	Jessica Eddleston
2R	Sophie Burgess/ Emma Wearn
2W	Aman Kaur
2B	Emma Harris
2G	Emily O'Rourke
1R	Merinda Huntly
1W	Brittany Ward
1B	Lucy Gibson
1G	Melissa Dickinson/Terri Walker
KR	Stephanie Koster
KW	Alysha Swan
KB	Adela Sorrentino

Preschool:

Director - Michelle Dudley

Preschool Teachers

Imogen Nardi

Alex Knight

Jessica Stammers

Julie Gould

Library Louisa McIntosh/Laura Naffa

Classroom Support Lisa Gaynor

Literacy/Numeracy Coach K-2: Kelly Sturgess

Aboriginal Contact Teacher

Kate Whitehead

Music Lisa Gill

Indonesian Michelle Duffin

DATES TO REMEMBER

THURSDAY 12 DECEMBER

Year 4 Excursion—Movies

Year 6 Camp

FRIDAY 13 DECEMBER

Awards Assembly

Year 6 Return from Camp

MONDAY 16 DECEMBER

Year 4 Excursion—Swing into Life

Year 5 Excursion—Movies

TUESDAY 17 DECEMBER

Year 6 Graduation Mass and Dinner

WEDNESDAY 18 DECEMBER

Candle Ceremony

THURSDAY 19 DECEMBER

Year 6 Big Day Out

Last Day for 2019

PART-TIME Teachers:

Laura Naffa, Terri Walker, Lauren Corkhill, Damien Hinds, Ali Riley, Ellena Benson, Lauren Messina, Emma Wearn, Sophie Burgess.

Learning Support Assistants:

Anne-Maree McCrorey, Toby Keen, Carrie Boschert, Jack Nunn, Christine Mitrousis, Nick Eynaud, Lisa Brussow

ELC Educators: Georgia Nielsen, Jacqueline McDonald, Aman Chauhan, Kim Huynh, Olivia Ehlers, Kellie-Rose Hand, Antoinette McBride

COOSH/ ELC Care Leaders:

Jess Pedemont, Kim Ehlers.

Office Staff

Tessa Ferguson, Belinda Pulford, Emma Kildey

Janitor

TBA

Canteen Manager

Michael Cook

P&F Finance

Felicity McLachlan

Parent Ambassador

Antoinette McBride



2019 KINDER NATIVITY AND EARLY LEARNING CENTRE CHRISTMAS CONCERTS



SCHOOL FEES

School Fees for 2019 are now overdue. School fees can be paid at the Front Office by Cash, EFTPOS, Credit Card and BPAY. Please contact Tessa 6292 1222 if you have any questions regarding fees.

YEAR 6 FAMILIES

Please make sure your account is finalised before the end of the school year.

FINAL EVENTS

Candle Liturgy to hand over the leadership from Year 6 to Year 5 students will take place at 2:00pm on Wednesday 18th December in the Church. Staff who are leaving us will also be farewelled at this ceremony.

Year 6 Graduation Mass will take place on Tuesday 17 December at 1:30pm and will be followed by the

Year 6 Graduation Dinner at the Woden Southern Cross Club at 6:00pm for a 6:30pm start.

All other children leaving Holy Family at the end of the year will be farewelled at the **final morning Assembly – Monday 16th December at 8.50am in the courtyard.**

READERS/LIBRARY BOOKS

Teachers and Learning Support have been collecting all home readers and any missing library books. We would appreciate all families taking an extra close look to find any school readers, Learning Support Room readers or library books in their homes. Please ensure they are all returned to school tomorrow.

PRESCHOOL CHRISTMAS CONCERT

It was wonderful to see so many parents, grandparents and visitors in the hall this morning for the Preschool Christmas Concert. Thank you to our wonderful preschool staff. It's always a big ask of any teacher at this time of the year!

JANUARY HOLIDAY PROGRAMME AND BEFORE AND AFTER SCHOOL CARE 2020

Bookings are being taken now for the January holiday programme (13th Jan– 30th January) and Before and After School Care in Term 1. Spaces are limited for January so please book in now. Once again forms can be obtained from both centres or our website. Pre-school, Kinder and Year 1 (2019) students will be cared for in the ELC building. Years 2 and 6 in A Block. Holiday programmes are also located on our website.

DEPARTING FAMILIES

If your children will not be returning to Holy Family next year (and you haven't already done so), please contact the Front Office as a matter of urgency as Belinda needs accurate information prior to the Administration Student Data rollover. We also have several families on a wait-list and it would be great to inform them positions have become available.

BUILDING SELF ESTEEM

Recent research into child development suggests that many issues children face and how they cope with the challenges depend importantly on their self-esteem. Healthy self-esteem is feeling good about yourself and feeling that you are a worthwhile person. Children are not born with this, they must learn it through what they can do and what their parents think of them. Children develop self-esteem when:

They feel they have a place in the world where they belong

They are part of a family where they matter

They are encouraged to do things and succeed.

All this helps people feel they can develop their own skills, have confidence in their own ability and contribute to society. Giving time, hugs and smiles are very important in building self-esteem. Laugh with your children and try not to put them down especially in front of others. In saying this, it is also vitally important that parents take time to grow their own self-esteem and have time put aside in their busy lives for themselves.

CANDY CANES

The custom of giving Candy Canes with Christmas Cards is a lovely gesture. However, we have asked that the students keep the Candy Canes at home and eat them at home. We are working hard to become a "healthy school".

CLASS LISTS

Students and families appear to be very happy with their new classes for 2020. We thank the teachers for the wonderful job taking into account each class' gender balance, academic and social needs, etc. This has not been an easy process.

We wait in joyful hope...

"This is the season of watchful waiting". But waiting isn't just a spiritual discipline that we practice during certain liturgical seasons. It's an inescapable part of life. Traffic is slow. Dinner is late. A work project drags on. There are whole periods that incur a wait— pregnancy, engagement, unemployment, illness. What would it mean to adopt an Advent attitude in these waiting times in family life? What if we learned to wait with joyful hope, certain that the Lord is in them to work out his loving plan for us and those we love? What if we invited him into our waiting, gave it to him and then kept watch for signs of his activity?

It's true that waiting is not made easier by the fact that we crave speed. We like fast foods, overnight delivery, instant messaging. And yet, we know from experience that it takes slow maturing to produce anything of value, whether it's a baby, a friendship, a work of art, a beautiful garden and scrumptious dinner.

As we journey through Advent, mindful of the preparations required to welcome Baby Jesus into our lives, a continued focus on the Advent wreath helps us to pray with open hearts. Below is a prayer, I love the simplicity of the message.



Dear God,
Our Advent wreath reminds us that Christmas is coming.
The circle tells us that you have no beginning and no end.
The green leaves are a symbol of your gift of life and love.
The candles remind us that we are waiting for Jesus to come.
Help us to prepare well and be ready for his birth. Amen

Prayers and Blessings,

Anne-Marie Marek and Leah Taylor

YEAR 6 CAMP 2019



Year 6 have spent their first night in Jindabyne and are having a wonderful time. Some of the activities so far have been canoeing, archery, slider trikes, rock climbing and high ropes. Tomorrow will be the highlight of camp when walk up Mount Kosciuszko. The weather is meant to be slightly cooler too which will be perfect for a leisurely stroll up the mountain.

Camp is such an important part of Primary School and the experiences shared create so many wonderful memories that will last a lifetime.

All of this would not be possible without the dedication of our Year 6 teachers, Mr Martyn and Mr McCarroll. We thank you for giving our students the opportunity to experience camp this year.



Jane Hart
Assistant Principal

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS

Be Patient

The second reading this weekend comes from a letter from Paul to James. He writes, "Be patient until the Lord's coming. Think of a farmer – he waits and waits for the fruit and for the rains. Do not lose heart – the Lord's coming will be soon."

Waiting, waiting ... In our culture of instant gratification, St Paul's message of patience is challenging.



Reconciliation Presentation

Last Wednesday at Morning Assembly, Fr James and Mark, the seminarian in our parish until Christmas, came to present the First Reconciliation Candidates with their certificates. We would again like to congratulate all our students for the beautiful way they presented themselves during the ceremony.



Next Week

Graduation Mass - Tuesday 1.30pm Holy Family Church

Candle Ceremony - Wednesday 2.00pm Holy Family Church



This week's value is Service