

Family Matters

Holy Family Primary School

Wednesday, 12th February, 2020

Issue # 2



EDUCATING IN FAITH FOR TOMORROW'S POSSIBILITIES

Principals' message

Mrs Anne-Marie Marek

Dear parents,

What a wonderful start to the year! Our Kinders were so well prepared for school, they have taken to their new learning environments and it seems like they have been here for longer than a week-and-a-half. Our Year Six students have stepped into their leadership role, leading morning assembly, assisting new students, setting up and packing up assemblies and most importantly, leading by their example. Students from Years One to Five have also started the year well and most seem excited to come to school each day and are ready to learn. So I would like to thank you for supporting the school and your child/ren's learning by making sure your child/ren are getting enough sleep, have the correct uniform, have three nutritious meals and are for speaking positively about school. The partnership between home and school is essential for successful learning.

THEME LAUNCH

Thank you Theresa Terry, Lauren Messina and 6 Red for presenting our first Prayer Assembly and launching our 2020 School Theme "Love Your Neighbour as Yourself". I publicly thank Emma Harris for creating our new banner and to Bev Stone for writing the new theme song.

MEET THE TEACHER

The meetings this week should allow teachers and parents to set learning goals early on and give you a chance provide your child/ren's teacher with any information you think they need to know to help your child/ren have a successful year. Developing a strong partnership early in the year will enable teachers and parents to support each other.

P&F AGM WEDNESDAY 19TH FEBRUARY

We encourage all parents to come along to our first P&F meeting for the year. At the end of the newsletter you can find a general invitation and an outline of the roles that need to be filled. If you feel you could offer Holy Family some of your skill/enthusiasm/talent then we would be very eager to hear from you. If you know someone who would be able to fill any role could you please nominate them? We are fortunate to already have a President so this position is already filled. PLEASE take a look at the various roles and seriously consider putting your hand up to support this amazing community- you will always have lots of willing helpers to assist you!

**P&F AGM....WEDNESDAY 19TH FEBRUARY
@ 7.30PM IN THE STAFFROOM**

CONGRATULATIONS

We congratulate Riona in 5R who received her Australian citizenship on Monday. Great news!

DATES TO REMEMBER

Wednesday 12 Feb
Kinder Rest Day
Kinder Picnic at Fadden
Pines

**Meet the Teacher
Meetings**

Thursday 13 Feb
Meet the teacher
Meetings

Friday 14 Feb
**P&F NOMINATIONS
DUE**

Tuesday 18 Feb
Whole school Opening
Mass @ 9.15am

Wednesday 19 Feb
Kinder Rest Day
P&F AGM @ 7.30pm

Friday 21 Feb
3 White Assembly
@ 2.20pm
**BOARD NOMINATIONS
DUE**

WET WEATHER PROCEDURES

We were fortunate to have lots of rain on Monday morning but this caused confusion for some parents. No parent should access parking on the netball courts after 8.30am (rain, hail or shine). When raining in the mornings, children move to their classrooms after 8.30am where their teacher will greet them.

In the afternoons, all drive-through children will meet teachers in the Hall. Parents are asked to park on the netball courts and come to the Hall to collect their children. Children can still meet parents at Gowrie oval or Fadden Pines, but I would suggest you arrange with your child to meet them at the Hall if it is raining.

OPENING SCHOOL MASS

All families are invited to attend our Opening School Mass on Tuesday 18 February at 9.15am. It would be terrific to see parents and grandparents join our school community to pray for a successful school year.

YEAR 6 LEADERSHIP

A letter was sent home last week to all Year 6 families outlining the student leadership program. We look forward to their leadership commissioning liturgy on Monday 2 March. Year 6 enjoyed their day at MacKillop College yesterday. They participated in a Retreat day focusing on Youth Ministry and leadership.

SCHOOL BOARD 2020 NOMINATIONS

If you, or anyone you know, would like to stand for election on the 2020 School Board, please complete the form below and return it to the school by 4pm on Friday 21 February. We are able to elect another 3 parent members to the Board. We will also be seeking a P & F rep. I would encourage parents to think seriously of this opportunity to play a significant role in the future development of our school. The Board is a major part of the infrastructure/governance of this school, and Board members contribute in a very real way to the smooth operation of the school.

Meetings are held one Wednesday evening a month during school terms. The only thing you need to have is a sense of humour and a passion for this school and its directions. The first meeting will be held on Wednesday 26th February.

If you nominate someone else, please obtain their approval. Nominations close **Friday 21 February at 4pm.**

2020 SCHOOL BOARD NOMINATION

I nominate for a position on the School Board for 2020. This person is aware that I have made the nomination.

Signed

Name (Please print).....Child & Class.....

PARENT NETWORK PARENT CLASS REPS

Please note the Parent Network meeting for those who have volunteered to be a parent representative will be on Wednesday 4th March at 6pm in the staffroom, antoINETTE.mcbride@cq.catholic.edu.au

If you are interested in taking on the role as your child's class rep, please see last week's newsletter, complete the slip and return to your class by Friday 14 February.

SCHOOL COUNSELLING

Kate Dean, our school counsellor has written a letter at the end of the newsletter. She is at the school every Monday then alternate Tuesdays and occasional Wednesdays.

LUNCHTIME CLUBS

Some children enjoy a break from the oval or their friends at lunchtime and might like to consider coming along to one of the following clubs. A great way to make new friends who have a common interest:

Monday	Choir and Gardening Clubs
Tuesday	Drawing Club
Wednesday	Pokemon and Yu-gi-Oh Clubs
Thursday	Chess Club
Friday	Lego Club K-2

GENERAL PARKING

We are so fortunate to have over-flow parking at Fadden Pines and Gowrie oval. I am always thrilled that we can welcome or farewell 660 children within a 20 minute period. After the new classrooms are built we will remove the final demountable building and create a new carpark for staff. This will free up space in front of the school later in the year. Thank you to everyone who has patiently waited for a parent/grandparent who has not done the 'right' thing, followed routine, cut you off in carline, etc. You model a wonderful value for your children.

Parking inspectors were in force last week. As I state on numerous occasions, it is illegal to park on the verge area across from the parish centre and church. It is also illegal to park in bus bays and on the street/church grounds near the carline exit. We have ensured the side gate near the demountable is locked. It means parents cannot park on school grounds near the new building site.

2020 PARENTS AND FRIENDS ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING AGENDA



- | | |
|-----------------------------|---|
| 1.0 Prayer | 6.0 Election of Office Bearers |
| 2.0 Apologies | 6.1 Executive vacancies |
| 3.0 Minutes of 2019 P&F AGM | 6.2 Clothing Pool |
| 4.0 Correspondence | 6.3 Disco |
| 5.0 2019 Annual Reports: | 6.4 P&F Newsletter |
| 5.1 President | 6.5 School Banking |
| 5.2 Principal | 6.6 Netball |
| 5.3 Treasurer | 6.7 Book club |
| 5.4 Parent Ambassador | 6.8 Social events |
| 5.5 Canteen | 6.9 Fundraising |
| 5.6 Fete | 7.0 Fundraising ideas/ school wish list |
| | 8.0 Swimming Carnival support |
| | 9.0 Other business |

We pray for God's blessing on you and your homes

Anne-Marie Marek

Principal

annemarie.marek@cg.catholic.edu.au

Assistant Principal's News

What's Happening in Year 3?

Yesterday 3 Red and 3 Blue spent time exploring the local environment as part of their outdoor education focus. The children were engrossed in discussions surrounding the Gowrie Rain Garden as well as Fadden Pines. The teachers were pleasantly surprised at the complexity of the questions raised by their students today;

- How much water is in the Murray Darling Basin?
- How can we stop pollution in the water ways?
- Does tree sap move around the tree like blood or does it stay still?
- Do all living things have blood?
- How do animal bones become clean?

We look forward to seeing where the Year 3s take their learning this term!



Think You Know Year 5

Yesterday our Year 5 students participated in a Think U Know session with members of the Australian Federal Police. The session focused on teaching students how to be responsible digital citizens and helped to raise awareness around the positive and negative aspects of living in a digital world.

Calendar

The Term 1 Calendar is now available on our Holy Family website. Please refer to this calendar for up to date information on school events.

<https://holyfamily.act.edu.au/>

Wishing you a wonderful week,
Jane Hart

Religious Education News

Welcome to the 2020 School Year.

This year our theme is “Love your neighbour as yourself.” As part of staff prayer last week, this theme was explored in terms of what this statement means and who we refer to when we say ‘neighbour’. Loving your neighbour is found eight times in the Bible and is coupled with the greatest command of all, to love God with all your heart, soul, mind and strength. So, what does it mean to love your neighbour as yourself. These will be presented to our students in the classroom throughout the year by their teachers. Mrs Harris created our beautiful theme banner this year which can be seen hanging in our school foyer and is used in prayer liturgies and Masses. Mrs Stone has again written the theme song for us and has taught a choir of devoted students which was presented at our first prayer liturgy last Monday. Thank you ladies for the time you have spent preparing this theme for the start of the school year.



CSYMA (Catholic Schools Youth Ministry Australia)

Junior Program

We welcome Tommy Seselja, our new Youth Minister into our school as part of the CSYMA team. He will be working closely with Year 6 this year to empower our young people to encounter Christ, live a life in the spirit and participate in the mission of the church. This started with a retreat at St Mary MacKillop College for our Year 6 students yesterday. The day was well received by the students and they participated enthusiastically in all the organised activities.



Important Dates

Tuesday 18th February 9.30am – Whole School Opening Mass HFC

Wednesday 26th February – Ash Wednesday (liturgies will be held at school)

Theresa Terry

Religious Education Coordinator

Counsellor's Information

Dear Parents and Carers,

My name is Kate Dean and I am a Student and Family Counsellor with CatholicCare Canberra and Goulburn and I am excited to be working at Holy family once again in 2020. I will be at the school every Monday and every second Tuesday on odd weeks and some half days on a Wednesday.

My role is to support the emotional and social wellbeing of students and their families. As a member of the Australian Association of Social Workers I offer a professional service and I provide safe space to talk about any issues your child is experiencing. Please feel free to contact me through the school office if you have any concerns for your child, or you can speak with your child's teacher and they can refer you to me. You will need to fill out a referral form and I will make contact with you when I am next at Holy family.

It has been a tough summer break this year with bush fires, smoke and high temperatures. I have included a few links to support you with helping your child through this time.

<https://www.psychology.org.au/getmedia/9cd44a11-cdcd-41e6-bd13-70a704716b54/Helping-children-affected-bushfires.pdf>

<https://www.psychology.org.au/getmedia/5c0d043b-11b4-467e-be7c-f56743b366b0/Preparing-children-for-the-threat-of-bushfires.pdf>

http://earlytraumagrief.anu.edu.au/files/Preparing_children_for_the_threat_of_bushfire_ACATLGN_APS.pdf

<https://emergingminds.com.au/resources/10-ways-to-support-your-child-during-the-bushfire-season/>

It's also really important to look after yourselves as well. These resources may be useful if you are needing further support.

<https://www.beyondblue.org.au/get-support/online-forums/ptsd-trauma/coping-with-bushfires>

<https://www.96three.com.au/bushfire-trauma-12-expert-tips-for-helping-someone-whos-struggling-to-cope/>

If you find you are still struggling or concerned about your child then I'd be happy to have a chat with you.

Kind regards,

Kate Dean

Student and Family Counsellor

CatholicCare Canberra and Goulburn

Music News

There are some exciting new programs starting at the school this year. Along with our school choir, Kids on Keyboards and Guitar (paid tutor programs) we will be offering students the opportunity to join a Pipe and Drumming Band and are hoping to start our own Jarvanese Orchestra. Keep an eye on this space for further information.

Kids on Keyboards - Learn to play keyboard at school with your friends!

Lessons will start Friday 14th 8.00am for the senior class (Yrs 3 - 6) and 8.45am for the Year 2 class. The term fee covers all teaching resources, a weekly lesson and the use of a keyboard during class lessons. If you are interested in joining please email Lisa at gillie5@hotmail.com

Kids on Guitar - Frets, Strings, Notes and Strumming!

Lessons will start Thursday 13th 8.00am

Spaces are limited so if you need to re enrol please do so ASAP as I have now opened my books for new enrolments. The class is open to students from Yr2 - 6. The term fee covers all teaching resources and a weekly lesson. Students will need to provide their own instrument for the lesson. For further information please email Lisa at gillie5@hotmail.com

Holy Family School Choir

Will be starting in Week 3 and is open to all grades. Students will learn vocal techniques, singing in an ensemble and performance skills. The choir will be involved in a variety of school activities as well as performing in community events. Lessons are held each Monday from 11.00 - 12.00.

Holy Family Pipe and Drumming Band

We are very excited to be able to offer the students the opportunity to join a Scottish Pipe and Drumming Band. Students will learn to play either the snare and bass drums or have the very unique opportunity to learn to play the bagpipes! The program is being run by the Canberra Pipe and Drumming College and is being sponsored by the Canberra Burns Club. The only cost to families will be a bond to cover the instruments being used, which will be returned when the instruments are returned to the College. Lessons will be held each Wed or Thurs between 11.00 and 12.00 for students in grades 4 - 6. There will be a meeting next Wed for the students to find out more about the program and notes will be sent home on the day.





Swimming Carnival

Save the date: Holy Family Swimming Carnival will be held @ Queanbeyan Aquatic Centre on **THURSDAY 12th March 2020**. The carnival is for students in Years 3-6.

Students will be bused to the Centre. Information note, nomination form and parent helper note will be sent home via your child next week.

Please ensure you fill these in **CAREFULLY, FULLY and ACCURATELY**,

return these to your class teacher by Thursday 21st February.

If you are willing to help and have a current bronze medallion certificate, Miss Eddleston would love to hear from you (jessica.eddleston@cg.catholic.edu.au).

More information to come.