



Term 1

Week 10

1st April, 2015

UPCOMING EVENTS

APRIL

Thu 2nd
•Holy Thursday
•Last Day Term 1

Fri 3rd
•Good Friday

Sun
•Easter Sunday

TERM 2

Mon 20th
•Term 2 Commences

Sat 25th
•Anzac Day

MAY

Mon 25
•Staff Development Day -

Dear Parents,

... Hailed on Sunday ... Nailed on Friday ... Raised to New Life on Sunday!

Last Sunday's celebration of Palm Sunday began our Holy Week celebrations. Holy Week is the most intense liturgical celebration of the year. During this week we are celebrating the essence of our Christian faith; we are celebrating the suffering, death and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. And this essence of our faith is known as the "Paschal Mystery."

We begin Holy Week with a procession of waving palms as we celebrate Jesus' triumphant entry into Jerusalem and by listening to a reading of the whole Passion story. Jesus is at Bethany and while at dinner he is anointed with oil, which anticipates his anointing at his death and burial. Then Jesus will again be at supper, this time in Jerusalem with his disciples, and we hear of Jesus' betrayal by one of his own. At the final meal of Jesus with his disciples, we will be drawn to reflect on Jesus' radical gesture of washing his disciples feet. On Good Friday we will recall once again Jesus' hideous suffering and death on a cross out of love for us, and on Easter Sunday, symbolised in the breaking and sharing of Easter Eggs, we will rejoice in Jesus' resurrection, his entry into new life.

Throughout this week, Jesus stands as the embodiment of love, surrounded by mounting forces of darkness and evil, as revealed in manipulation, betrayal, rejection, violence, and suffering. We, too, know times of manipulation, betrayal, rejection, violence, and suffering. It is instructive to watch Jesus at this time and see how what happens to him impacts upon him. I have a favourite painting by Hieronymous Bosch, which depicts the face of Jesus as he carries his cross. Surrounding his face, are the faces of others - angry, snarling, hate-filled faces. The contrast is poignant. Jesus' face is the face of true humanity, whereas the other faces are the faces of our inhumanity.

What do we do in the face of manipulation, betrayal, rejection, violence, and suffering?



HOLY WEEK

We appear to have three courses to follow – either, we can simply ignore these (as if we are ever really able to!); or, we can let them get to us and overtake us such that our heart grows steadily bitter and resentful, and so we collaborate in perpetuating the cycle of evil; or, we can pray for the grace to understand and forgive, as Jesus did. The choice as to which path to follow, which disposition to adopt is ours. Our decisions may mean death or life for us - in our own peace with ourselves, and in our relationships with others. We know in our own lives when we choose life or death. We perhaps more readily see it in others when they choose life or death - those who in their demeanour, body language, words and actions reveal how they are caught in the darkness, and those who have a peace and a grace with others that reveals life and a passion for life. Jesus' victory over death was not easily won. We cannot expect it to be any different with us. Perhaps a better path over Holy Week is to watch Jesus closely and talk to him about how and who we are, and as he did in his own journey, allow the God of Life to free us from the bindings of those things that entomb us and diminish our true self, our true humanity, so that we, too, like him, might come to new life.

This week our children had the opportunity to reflect upon the story of Jesus' passion through our Holy Week liturgies. I encourage you to participate in the Holy Week celebrations offered by the parish this Easter Season.

May the joy of the Easter Season be with you and your family,

Maree Tonnet
Acting Principal



RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Dear Parents,

Faith Formation

John 20:1-9 □ **The empty tomb**

It's hard for us to imagine the emotional impact that the first Easter Sunday morning had on the disciples. Bent with grief, Mary Magdalene, then Peter and John, made their way to the tomb, only to find it empty.

Gradually they came to realise what had happened. Everything Jesus had foretold had come to pass. Jesus had risen from the dead. Jesus was indeed the Son of God, the Messiah!

The mystery of Jesus opened up a totally new way of life and mission to the disciples.

In fact, we are rather like the disciples. We know the story of Easter, but we still don't get the full impact of it. Every year we retrace our steps to the empty tomb in an attempt to go deeper into the mystery of Jesus, trying to more fully understand who he is calling and enabling us to be.

The first aspect of the call of Jesus is that we are surrounded by love, and invited into the life-stream of the Trinity. The second feature of this new life is the role we have been given – to carry on the mission of Jesus, making known to others that love, compassion and respect are central to life.

That is why Project Compassion is so important. Over the past few weeks we have seen how Project Compassion has been able to bring food for life to people in remote Australia, in Fiji, Niger, Nepal, Peru and Indonesia. Project Compassion allows us to participate in the mission of Jesus.

Easter is a time for celebrating not only the rising of Jesus from the dead but also our opportunity to live full and peaceful lives, bringing life to one another.

© Creative Ministry Resources Pty Ltd

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION - Continued

Catholic Culture

Congratulations once again to all the children who presented themselves for the Sacraments of Reconciliation, Eucharist and Confirmation last year. It has been noted that the number of children making their sacraments does not match with the number of students on the grade. For whatever reason your child has not participated in the programme it is important to note that through Baptism they already started on the journey. By participating in the programme they are continuing the journey that you as parents already chose for them. They are then able to fully participate in the sacramental life of the Church and the celebrations we have as a school. We nurture, plan and prepare our children for many things and their spiritual life should be part of this as well. Please watch for dates and times when these will be available again this year.



Confirmation Parent Meeting – 6th May, 2015 7.30pm/school hall
First Eucharist Parent Meeting – 22nd July, 2015. 7.30pm/school hall

Looking forward to sharing this special time with you all.

Social Justice

Thank you once again to everyone who has made donations over the past six weeks for Project Compassion. Our Hot Cross Bun drive is our final fundraiser and all collections were made on either Wednesday or Thursday of this week. Our final tally for donations will be posted in next term's newsletter.

Finally as I head off to Jordan, Israel and Rome on a pilgrimage for Religious Education Coordinators I would ask that you keep myself and my fellow pilgrims in your prayers.

Prayer for Pilgrims

Heavenly Father, you have given us your Son Jesus to be our master and guide, and the Holy Spirit to lead us into the freedom of God's children. Be with us, sanctify us, and bless us. Spread the mantle of your kindness over every stage of our pilgrimage that we may become ardent disciples, wise teachers and humble leaders. Deepen within us the awareness of our Catholic identity, that as true disciples, we may follow you wherever you may lead and bear witness to your Good News in our families, parishes and schools. Bless, Lord Most Holy, this pilgrimage for Religious Education Coordinators, through the intercession of the Blessed Virgin Mary our Mother, and the patron saints of the Diocese of Parramatta and of our schools. Jesus Christ, Son of the Living God Have mercy on us Holy Mary, Mother of God Pray for us St Peter and St Paul Pray for us St Agnes and St Clement Pray for us St Francis and St Clare Pray for us St Mary of the Cross MacKillop Pray for us
 Amen

Have a Happy and Holy Easter
 God Bless
 Sharon Shahoud
 Religious Education Coordinator



PRG EASTER RAFFLE RESULTS

1st Prize: Family Pass of 4 to The Sydney Royal Easter Show- Hayley Tempone KB

2nd Prize: \$80 Hoyts Voucher- Max Evans 1B

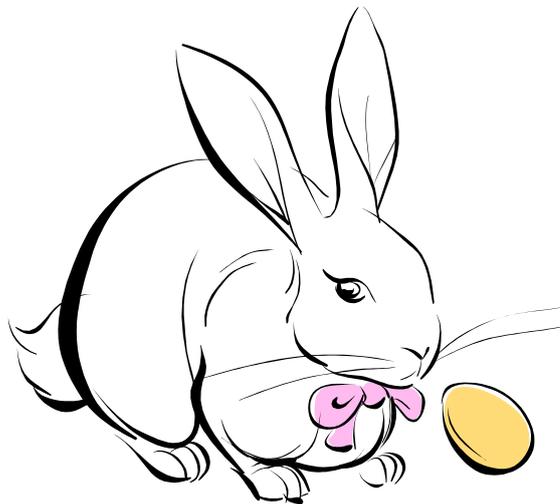
3rd Prize: Easter Egg Basket to the Value of \$35- Bec Bellingham-3G

4th Prize: Easter Egg Basket to the Value of \$25- Alison Clark- Mrs West's daughter

Staff Prize: Easter Egg Basket- Mrs Donna Paton-Office

Class Entry Prizes:Chocolate Bunny

KB- Leonie Woods
KE- Baylyn Steltenpool
KG- Christian Micallef
1B- Alexander Reid
1E- Dominick Livesley
1G- Zachary Parkes
2B- Austin Tunaley
2E- Emily Matthews
2G- Callum Donald
3B- Owen Pickering
3E- Lucy Klemesrud
3G- Luke Fenech
4B- Brendan Avery
4E- Jade Limpic
4G- Kyle Urban
5B- Natalie Sprycha
5E- Elise Xiberras
5G- Lachlan Caffrey
6B- Christine Muscat
6E- Maddison Sullivan
6G- Lleyton Sullivan

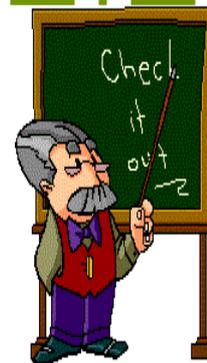


Thank you to everyone in our community for your efforts in selling tickets for the raffle. A BIG THANK YOU to our wonderful PRG fundraising committee for coordinating the raffle. We have raised over \$2000.00 through the raffle!!!! The final tally will be published in the next newsletter.

TEACHERS ARE LEARNERS TOO

Mrs Lauren Hamilton (nee Dane) and Mrs Shahoud attended training in
Administering Running Records.

Mrs Ahern and Mrs Bosworth attended a course "Embedding Catholic
Values in PDHPE"



DEALING WITH ISSUES

Please go through the right channels when an issue arises concerning your child. Let matters relating to children attending Corpus Christi be dealt with at school by our staff. Do not approach children or other parents directly when an issue occurs.

Approaching someone else's child translates into a **Child Protection issue** that can be avoided if the issue is brought to the attention of the child's teacher or a member of the School Leadership Team.

If there are changes in routine, home life etc that could affect the children, please inform us so we can provide the care needed for the children at school to support you.



STUDENT ATTENDANCE

As you know we have moved to a new Student Management system. Stage 1 was implemented in the background over the past week. We have moved from paper based student attendance records (class rolls) to an electronic version, linked to the Student Management System. This form of attendance record keeping will streamline reporting processes. As part of this system all partial and full absences will also be able to be recorded on student's Semester reports. Parents will still be required to send in notes for absences and also record and sign, in or out, any student arriving late or leaving early. **Please ensure you have your child arrive at school BEFORE 8.55am** and thereby avoid the necessary signing in process.

ENROLMENTS FOR KINDERGARTEN 2016

Enrolments are now open for **Kindergarten 2016**. If you have a child who will turn 5 before the 31st July, 2016 you are invited to collect an enrolment package from the school office and apply for enrolment. If you know of families in the area looking for a quality Catholic Education for their child – please let them know that we are currently accepting enrolments.



NOTES DISTRIBUTED THIS WEEK

- Peer Support 2015 - Year 5 Selected Students
- Peer Support 2015 - Year 6
- Mary MacKillop Place—Year 6 Excursion

UNIFORM SHOP - WEDNESDAY

8.30am – 9.30am & 2.30pm – 3.30pm

- * **Pre-paid orders** – These orders can be handed in at the school office at any time but will be processed on Wednesdays ONLY.
- * **Label all items** -To ensure all items are returned to their owners - PLEASE clearly mark all items with your child's name.
- * **Exchanges/Refunds** – All items must be in original condition with all packaging including tags attached. A Receipt is required for any faulty item or refund.

****PLEASE KEEP YOUR RECEIPTS****

Term 2 Week 1 Reminders

20/04/2015	Monday	Term 2 Commences
21/04/2015	Tuesday	Assembly 2:20pm
22/04/2015	Wednesday	Uniform shop opened - 8:30am-9:30am & 2:30pm-3:30pm
23/04/2015	Thursday	
24/04/2015	Friday	School Banking Gymnastics Years 1 & 2
25/04/2015	Saturday	Anzac Day

