



Dear Parents,

During his presidency, Bill Clinton once remarked that running a country was a lot like running a cemetery: you have a lot of people under you and nobody is listening. His remark seems to suggest that being a leader is a little more difficult than it might appear to be. The leadership role of parents in their family situation is likewise more difficult than it appears to be. The degree of difficulty depends somewhat on the style of leadership we choose to use and our reason for choosing that particular style.

If we choose to use an autocratic style, where we totally dominate and use the benefit of our adulthood to impose our will on our children, then, we will be in for a power struggle and will have to use threats, fear and punishment to achieve what we want. Unfortunately, our children will probably feel unsafe, unloved and untrusting of us. Our very strict rules and suffocating structures will cause our children to yearn for freedom, to be rid of us and our heavy-handed style of parenting.

If we choose the opposite extreme and choose to use a permissive style and choose to be physically or emotionally absent, don't set limits, be afraid to say "no" and never hold our children accountable, then, we will reign over chaos. Our children will think they have the right to do anything they like and, because they don't respect us, they won't respect other forms of authority. Unfortunately, our children will probably be perplexed by life, lack motivation to achieve because they have never known structure in their lives, and will find themselves easy prey for people who do not have their best interests at heart; they too, will live in fear and feel unloved.

If we choose to be in the middle of these two styles, we will be choosing an authoritative-democratic style. This style is based on respect, love and trust, where positive communication and cooperation are enjoyed on a daily basis. Our children will probably feel safe, loved and accepted yet free to be who they are. If we are pro-active and foresee problems before they can fully emerge, if we can welcome opinions and offer choices while not guaranteeing that our children will always get what they want, then, our children will be confident, able to think for themselves and able to make decisions that have a positive outcome. If our leadership has a confidence about it, it will inspire our children to take up the leadership role in their own lives.

Our leadership style is of vital importance to our children because, for better or worse, parenting styles tend to repeat from one generation to the next. The good news is that everyone has the capacity to develop good parenting skills and to be aware not to repeat patterns that expose children to negative and destructive experiences. Our children will feel loved and secure, if the way we go about living our lives and engaging with our children is in a positive, friendly yet firm manner.

Our children will sense a comfortable and uplifting atmosphere and environment that allows them to be relaxed and optimistic about life. Our children might even agree with the comment, "Your actions speak so loudly, I can't even hear what you are saying." Author unknown.

"Jesus, our leader, with the guidance of the Spirit within us, may we bring a spirit of joy, generosity and enthusiasm to the leadership role we have as parents.

May our children learn about you by the way we lead our lives. Amen."

Peace and Best Wishes.

R. Blissenden

Richard Blissenden
Principal



RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS

Dear Parents,

Welcome to 2014

Faith Formation

7th Sunday in Ordinary Time : Year A

First Reading

Lv 19:1-2. 17-18

Love your neighbour as yourself.

Second Reading

1 Cor 3:16-23

What is wise with the world, is absurd with God.

Gospel

Mt 5:38-48

Turn the other cheek.

Complete the Text Maze:

"Forgive others and God will forgive you."

START

F	E	P	I	T	Y	H	A
Q	E	N	E	M	I	E	S
R	B	I	S	E	M	K	P
S	E	V	P	I	L	B	R
R	O	V	R	S	A	N	A
E	T	H	E	U	G	D	I
W	Q	R	Y	D	O	B	S
A	I	E	I	W	C	I	E
R	O	R	L	O	T	L	Y
D	G	T	L	F	B	I	N
S	R	L	O	O	R	V	I
R	M	F	O	J	I	E	T
L	A	S	X	V	K	Y	O
J	U	D	G	E	E	Z	U

CAN YOU FIND THE SIX HIDDEN WORDS FROM THIS WEEK'S GOSPEL READING? 

Catholic Culture

We will also be celebrating St Patrick's Day on the 17th March and St. Joseph's Day on the 19th March. We celebrated this last year and will celebrate again with a 'RED DAY' (Children come dressed in anything RED).

St. Joseph's Day is a Roman Catholic feast day commemorating the life of St. Joseph, the step-father of Jesus and husband of the Blessed Virgin Mary. This day has strong ties with the Italian community who prayed to St. Joseph to save them from famine.

Religious Educations News cont:

Their prayers were answered and so on this day they celebrate with a table filled with food in honour of St. Joseph. St. Joseph's bread is a must. This bread is very similar to our donuts so we will have donuts on sale for \$1. The donuts will be pre-ordered and will be restricted to a maximum of 2 per student. Details will follow closer to the date.

All classes participate in prayer with the rest of the school at assembly. Last year we used the Values we were learning about as our theme for each assembly. This year we will be doing the same and for weeks 4 & 5 our theme will be "Doing Your Best".

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 baptised students in a grade. For whatever reason that your child has not participated in the programme it is important to note that through Baptism they already started their sacramental 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- 14th May, 2014.

7.30pm/school hall

First Eucharist Parent Meeting – 30th July, 2014.

7.30pm/school hall

First Reconciliation Parent Meeting – 22nd October, 2014.

7.30pm/school hall

Looking forward to sharing this special time with you all.

Social Justice

This year the theme for Project Compassion is 'Have life and have it to the full'. Project Compassion will commence in Week 6 with our Shrove Tuesday pancake breakfast and Ash Wednesday celebrations on the 4th & 5th March. This will start our fundraising efforts for Caritas/Project Compassion 2014. If there is anyone who would like to donate pancake mix, we will be keeping in line with our Anaphylaxis Policy and will only be serving the "Coles Brand" plain shake 'n' bake.

Any donations can be sent straight to the office. Last year was such a great community event and we hope that many of you can join us this year. If you wish to know any other information the website is

www.caritas.org.au

Have a lovely week

God Bless

Sharon Shahoud

Religious Education Coordinator



CURRICULUM NEWS

NAPLAN TESTING 2014

The NAPLAN tests will be conducted from 13 -15 May 2014 for all students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 across Australia. These national tests will provide information on how Australian students are performing in the areas of numeracy, reading, writing, spelling, grammar and punctuation and will assist teachers in identifying student strengths and weaknesses. By analysing results along with information from teacher judgements and work samples, teachers can adjust teaching strategies to provide appropriate support.

The aggregation of student results from the NAPLAN provides schools with an overview of current achievements for groups of students and contributes to a more comprehensive understanding of their performance. The analysis of aggregated results assists school planning and can be used to monitor literacy and numeracy development over time.

Timetable for National Assessment Program- Literacy and Numeracy 2014			
	Tues 13 th May	Wed 14 th May	Thurs 15 th May
Yr 3	Language Conventions 40mins	Reading 45 mins	Numeracy 45 mins
	Writing 40 mins		
Yr 5	Language Conventions 40 mins	Reading 50 mins	Numeracy 50 mins
	Writing 40 mins		

For more information visit the website:

<http://www.naplan.edu.au>

KEEPING ME SAFE PROGRAM K-YR 2

Our school will be participating in the 'Keeping Me Safe' program. This program is facilitated by NSW Police Force to teach students in Years K-2 simple strategies for their own personal safety. Senior Constable Tracey Gallen will visit our school on Thursday 27th February to present the program.

This program aims to help children identify the safe adults in their community, as well as safe places to go when they are lost, feeling unsafe or frightened or in danger. Other goals include enabling children to develop their own personal safety strategies and to feel empowered to say NO and seek help when they feel unsafe or unsure and to have the confidence to tell a trusted adult they are being harmed in any way.

Please follow-up by talking to your child/children about the presentation. For more information:

www.police.nsw.gov.au

2014 FEE STATEMENTS

A once off Flexible Payment Plan (FPP) has been offered with the first term's fees, which each family can participate in. Should you not take this offer, then full payment is required each term by the due date shown on the school account statement.

The FPP is an alternative to our current payment term of 30 days and offers families the choice to pay their annual fees either weekly, fortnightly or monthly over a nine month period from March to November. Our preferred payment method for FPP is Direct Debit, however BPay is also available. Information in regard to the Flexible Payment Plan (FPP) was included with your fee statement. The form which you will receive with your Term 1 statement will need to be completed and lodged with the Catholic Education Office before the **21st February 2014**.

PLEASE NOTE:

If you wish to participate in the Flexible payment plan for payment of School fees, the completed form (Direct debit/Bpay) must be sent/posted in the Reply Paid envelope that has been provided. The address is Catholic Education Office (Finance) Locked Bag 4, North Parramatta 1750

Please do not send your completed forms back to the school office

Please inform the office staff if you have not received your fee statement.

SCHOOL FEE PAYMENT ARRANGEMENTS

As all previous payment arrangements for 2013 fees were cancelled at the end of 2013 (**except for Direct Debits and Centrelink**), it is a requirement that those families concerned set up a **NEW** payment arrangement for 2014. This can be by either taking up the Catholic Education Office offer of a Flexible Payment Plan (FPP), which will have your school fees finalised by 7th November, or by contacting Paula Currie (Tuesdays) for all other payment arrangements.

Please be aware that all fees are due 30 days from date of invoice. If you can foresee difficulty in finalising your account by the due date, **you need to contact Corpus Christi School, before the due date**, so that an alternative payment arrangement can be put in place. If you happen to have difficulty in finalising your account anytime during the year, please contact Paula Currie (Tuesdays) or Richard Blissenden, so that alternative arrangements can be made.

Thank you for your co-operation in this matter.

RITCHIES IGA

Thankyou once again to all members of the community who support Corpus Christi by shopping at Ritchies IGA. Another \$68.20 was directly deposited into our school account. The money will continue to be put towards resources for our children.

NEWSPAPER REPORTS

Recent Newspaper Reports have featured two of our families and their successes outside of school. Congratulations to the Hader family who featured in an article about Irish dancing and to the Cooper girls, Meagan and Jennifer, who featured in an article about the Sydney Open Water Swim. Both articles are on display in the office.

PARENT REPRESENTATIVE COUNCIL – PRC

The PRC will be holding their Annual General Meeting Monday 3rd March – 7pm.
Diocesan Assembly Centre (DAC)
Cnr Flushcombe Rd and Marion St Blacktown

FORGOTTEN ITEMS

The number of forgotten items from home (ie hats, homework, library books, lunch, News, jackets, footy gear etc) being brought to the school office during class time is increasing and as you can understand consist messages to the class room is very disruptive to the teacher and students. We want to minimise interruptions as much as possible. Please encourage your child to take responsibility for all their school items.

We appreciate your understanding.

CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK 2014 - 'MORE THAN A GREAT EDUCATION'

Catholic Schools Week 2014 will be held from 9 to 15 March 2014 and will involve the communities of all 615 Catholic primary and secondary schools across NSW and the ACT.

In greater western Sydney, Catholic schools enrol over a quarter of school-aged children which Executive Director of Schools, Greg Whitby, attributes to the desire for families to want 'more than a great education' for their children.

'Catholic schools are first and foremost here to offer families a faith-based education for their children,' said Greg. 'This is why we exist and it means we must ensure our students develop their full human potential and are well placed to contribute in a meaningful way back to society.'

'Secondly, we must provide quality learning and teaching by recognising that each child can and will learn and ensuring their individual needs are met and their gifts are developed to the best of our ability,' he said. 'And our teachers must continue to learn themselves so they can deepen their expertise.'

'Finally we must ensure schooling is relevant to today's world, so our students will be well prepared to face the challenges and opportunities of a rapidly changing society in the future.'

Throughout the week, Catholic school communities across NSW and the ACT will host a range of liturgies, educational initiatives and events to showcase the theme, 'more than a great education'.

Catholic Schools Week is offering students a chance to win \$5000 worth of prizes when they create a 30 second video on '*what makes your Catholic school great?*' Competition closes 15 March so to enter go to www.catholicschools.nsw.edu.au

'I invite all parents and carers to join us to celebrate Catholic Schools Week, meet other local parents and enjoy all that our schools have to offer,' says Greg.

VISITS FROM LOCAL HIGH SCHOOL PRINCIPALS

Our school will welcome Principals from our local Catholic High Schools in the coming days to speak with Year 5 and 6 students about their schools. Mrs Maidens from Xavier College will visit on Tuesday 25th February and Mrs Leask from Caroline Chisholm College will visit on Friday 28th February. Mr Ronchetti from St Dominic's College will visit on Monday 17th March.

ENROLMENTS FOR HIGH SCHOOL 2015

XAVIER COLLEGE

Open Night -
Monday 10th March, 2014
5.00pm - 7.30pm
Information Session 7.00pm

Applications close Friday 11th April, 2014
www.xavierlandilo.catholic.edu.au

CAROLINE CHISHOLM

Open Night –
Monday 3rd March, 2014
6.00pm – 8.30pm
Includes information sessions, displays, performances and tours.

For further information : 4737 5506

ST DOMINICS COLLEGE

College Open Day –
Sunday 30th March, 2014 10am – 3pm

Year 7 2015 Information Evening –
Wednesday 2nd April 7.30pm

For more information phone 47311933

EXTRA CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES



AFL AFTER SCHOOL CLINIC

Ph: Matt 0400881575

IN2CRICKET AFTER SCHOOL CLINIC

Ph: Jonathan 0418749185.

DANCEFEVER AFTER SCHOOL

Ph: Gabrielle 0424628119



SMARTLOVING WORKSHOP

Enhancing Marriage Relations
Sunday 23rd March 2-5pm
Holy Family School Hall
32 Willowdene Ave, Luffenham
Donation at the door – afternoon tea provided
Booking essential – Call Jess: 02 9319 6280
info@smartloving.org
spouses can attend on their own or as a couple

TINS OF BAKED BEANS

Some students have been bringing tins of baked beans for Recess (Lunch 1) or Lunch. These tins have a ring pull lid and often result in a sharp edge on the tin or lid. This poses a serious safety issue for our students and we would encourage packaging that is both easy to open and doesn't create sharp edges. In looking for a solution we found these tubs in the supermarket – they open like a yoghurt tub, have no sharp edges and require no adult intervention to open. Please do not send tins of beans, fruit etc that have those sharp edges that could pose a safety risk. Tubs like these are acceptable. Thank you for your support and understanding.



SCHOOL UNIFORMS

Some further reminders. We would ask that students leave at home the bangles / bracelets that are currently being made from small rubber bands. These are not part of the uniform (even if they are white and green!). Our policy also states that runners / joggers with the sports uniform are to be predominantly white. While these can be hard to find it isn't impossible. Fluro or multi coloured shoes are to be avoided. Finally boys are asked to leave ear rings at home and not wear them to school. Thank you once again for the extra effort being made with the uniform.



HELPERS NEEDED TO COVER BOOKS FOR THE LIBRARY

If you are able cover some books with contact paper for the Library (at home), please complete the slip below. All contact paper will be supplied. We will phone you and ask you to collect the books from the school.

Thank you for your help, it is greatly appreciated.

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Att: Library

Yes I can help contact books at home, when needed.

Name _____

Contact Number _____

Child's name _____

Class _____

BUSH DANCE

Food orders close tomorrow. If you would like to come and 'bring your own' food and join in the Bush Dance – then please do so. We really want to make this a big welcome to Corpus night so new and existing families are warmly invited to come along. There will be great company, live music, a 'caller' and lots and lots of fun. Don't forget the goal I have set the school community – "Have a Go" – so I hope we will see you all on the 28th February.

PRG UPDATE

Last night 29 parents attended our Cybersafe presentation as part of our PRG meeting. Lesley Harrison, our presenter from ACMA presented some very valuable information on how to stay safe on the internet. Excellent resources can be found at <http://www.cybersmart.gov.au/> and over the coming weeks we will share some information that was covered in the presentation. Following Lesley's presentation the parents discussed some fund raising and community building events, some of the directions planned by the school for learning and teaching, professional development of staff and events and activities planned for the students this year. A general Q&A session completed the night. Thankyou to those parents who attended last night.

MEET/GREET/GOAL SETTING MEETINGS

My thanks to all families who found time in their busy schedules to visit the school and meet with their child's teacher. These meetings are invaluable for establishing a relationship for the year ahead, for the exchange of information and for the setting of valuable learning goals. My thanks also to the teachers for their willingness to engage in this process. If you were not able to meet with your child's teacher please feel free to phone the office and leave a message to indicate that you would like to meet with your child's teacher. Your child's teacher will then contact you to set up a meeting at a time that suits you both.

What's on and When

February

Week 4	Fri	21 st	Award Stamping
	Thurs	27 th	Keeping Me Safe (K-2)
Week 5	Fri	28 th	PRG Welcome BBQ and Bush Dance

March

Week 6	Fri	7 th	Award Stamping 2014 Kindergarten Parent – Coffee n Chat with principal
Week 7	Tues	11 th	Twilight Tour – new families interested in enrolling 2014/2015
	Wed	12 th	School Cross Country – 8,9,10 yr olds (details to follow)
	Thurs	13 th	Catholic Schools Week Mass 9.30am
	Fri	14 th	School Cross Country – 11+ yr olds (details to follow)



“Doing Your Best” Merit Awards

Joshua Whitton	Benjamin Camilleri	Jake Xiberras
Kayla Buhagiar	Kaitlyn Grima	Corby Ryan
Ofa Kaufusi	Jack Attard	Anita Garland
Jaylen Moore	Tristan Churchill	Samantha Attard
Elise Xiberras	Liam Looschelder	Ella Rodelas
Bailey Mount	Lachlan Fleming	Ashleigh Baker
Anna Pallister	Hunter Dunne	Daniel Hall

PLAYGROUND AWARD

Victoria Grew 1B

WELCOME TO CORPUS CHRISTI

Sonny Lawford 3B Myles Lawford 5B

UNIFORM SHOP

Wednesdays
8.30am – 9.30am
&
2.30pm – 3.30pm

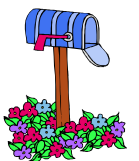
- * **Pre-paid orders** – are for parents who are unable to attend or do not need to come to the uniform shop personally. These orders can be handed to the school office anytime but will be processed on Wednesdays.
- * **Label all items** -To ensure all items are returned to their owners - PLEASE mark clearly 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****

Spare Clothing due to Accidents.

If any item of clothing is required due to an accident ONLY the older style uniform will be supplied.

NOTES SENT HOME RECENTLY:

- Letter to 2B
- Yr 5 Bathurst Excursion
- Yr 4 Skyworks
- PRG Meeting /Bush dance



Term 1 Week 5 - Reminders

- Tuesday – Assembly 2.20pm
- Wednesday – Uniform Shop
- Thursday – Kindergarten – Yr 2 “Keep me Safe”
- Friday – School Banking, Clean Up Australia School Day, PRG Bush Dance Welcome BBQ