



Corpus Christi Primary

Growing together as the body of Christ

Newsletter

27th March 2014

Term 1

Week 9

Dear Parents,

Finding the joys of parenthood - Raising children is hard work, often thankless and mind-numbing - and yet often the most rapturous experience available to adults. Most of us suppose that parents are both happier and more miserable than non-parents, that child rearing dictates a wider emotional range than people have generally known before it. Most parenting stresses its participants to their limits, no matter how much they love their children. Children upstage all the other components of their parents' lives, and good parenting involves both helicoptering and disengagement.



One parent said, "I have never quite sorted out the conundrum of how I could be distracted into thinking about something as tiresome as e-mail when I was with my beloved kids. If I lost all my e-mails, I'd manage, but if I lost my children, I'd never recover; yet still I sometimes find it hard to stay in the moment with them". There is no contradiction in this seeming paradox; tolerating our children is the cornerstone of loving them.

Children may complicate our lives but they also make them simpler. Children's needs are so overwhelming, and their dependence on us so absolute, that it's impossible to misread our moral obligation to them. We bind ourselves to those who need us most, and through caring for them, grow to love them, grow to delight in them, grow to marvel at who they are. There is a useful distinction to be made between our 'experiencing self' – living in the present moment – and our 'remembering self' – putting together our life narrative.

Our experiencing selves prefer doing the dishes – or napping, or shopping, or answering e-mails – to spending time with our kids. But our remembering selves assert that no-one – and nothing – provides us with so much joy as our children. It may not be the happiness we live day to day, but it's the happiness we think about, the happiness we summon and remember, and stuff that makes up our life-tales.

Acknowledgement: "Under Pressure" by Andrew Sullivan – a review of *All Joy and No Fun: The Paradox of Modern Parenthood* by Jennifer Senior (HarperCollins, 2013) in *The New York Times*, Feb 2, 2014

This week I would encourage you to take some time with your child / children to enjoy the moment, to share stories and to celebrate success. It will be these things that help write your 'story' together.

Peace and Best Wishes.

R. Blissenden

Richard Blissenden
Principal



RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS

Dear Parents,

Faith Formation

4th Sunday of Lent : Year A

First Reading 1 Sm 16:1, 6-7, 10-13
Samuel anoints David king.

Second Reading Eph 5:8-14
Live in the light.

Gospel Jn 9:1-41
Jesus cures a man who was blind from birth on the sabbath.

This week's gospel has been a major focus for the children in Year 4, 5 & 6. The children have been looking at this in their Lent unit : An Invitation to Believe.

A beginning point for discussion of this week's Gospel with children:

Can you remember a time when you were in the dark? What was it like?

The blind man in today's Gospel could not see until Jesus healed him.

What would it have been like for the blind man after he was healed?

What does it mean to be Spiritually blind?

What does it mean that Jesus is the 'light of the world'?

How can we be the light of the world to others?

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-
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.

RE NEWS cont:

Social Justice

Baker's Delight

Hot Cross Bun orders forms have been distributed today as part of our Project Compassion fundraising. The buns are the same price as you would buy them in the shop but they sell them for less to the school so we can use it as a fundraising venture for Project Compassion. Don't forget to send in your orders by **Friday 4th April 2014**. I would appreciate the help of any parents in our school for a number of jobs with regards to the collection and distribution of the buns on Wednesday 9th April, 2014. If you are able to help could you please contact me via the office.



This year the theme for Project Compassion 'Have life and have it to the full' . If you wish to know any other information the website is

www.caritas.org.au

Project Compassion Week 4

"Because we are all really responsible for all."

POPE JOHN PAUL II

Your support for Project Compassion allows Caritas Australia to build a just world by enabling vulnerable communities to be architects of their own future.

This week we meet Martina, a teacher in the Solomon Islands. Her favourite part of the school day is teaching the children songs from Caritas Australia's Disaster Risk Management project which was established after a string of natural disasters in the Pacific that threatened the homes and communities of people living in the Solomon Islands. Through the power of nursery rhymes and songs, children are learning how to stay safe during an emergency.

Please donate to Project Compassion today so we can continue to educate teachers like Martina and help keep children safe during and emergency.

Have a lovely week

God Bless

Sharon Shahoud

Religious Education Coordinator



CURRICULUM NEWS

QCS Survey 2014

This survey was posted home to selected parents last week. If you have been selected to complete the survey, I would encourage your participation, as this will help our school to identify our strengths and areas in which we can focus our improvement.

Thank you to those who have completed and submitted/returned the survey already. **The final date to complete the survey is TOMORROW Friday 28th March.**

If you have any questions please contact me.

Maree Tonnet
QCS Facilitator



CAN YOU HELP ON THE MOTHER'S DAY STALL?

The Mother's Day Stall will be held on Thursday 8th May. We need some volunteers to assist in selling the items to the students. If you are willing to assist on our stall please contact the office and they will then forward your details to Georgette Apap our Mother's Day Stall Coordinator!

Maree Tonnet
Assistant Principal

CONGRATULATIONS

To Alisha Livesley who has been selected to represent Australia in the World Championships of Performing Arts in the United States.

NATIONAL DAY FOR ACTION AGAINST BULLYING AND VIOLENCE.

Friday the 21st of March was the National Day for Action Against Bullying and Violence. Close to **one million students** from more than 2,100 schools participated in 'taking a stand together' across the country and it is schools such as ours that are helping to shape how bullying is addressed amongst Australia's future generations.

As part of this national day, students coloured in anti-bullying posters, wrote their own anti-bullying message on a hand print (these are displayed in the hall), used the iPad app, with various resources for students and each student and teacher were given a wristband to wear on Friday, which reminds us of the important message central to this initiative - "Bullying. No Way!". This is a government initiative and if parents and students wish to visit the website there are lots of helpful resources for both parents and students around this issue. The website is: www.bullyingnoway.gov.au

EXTENDING MATHEMATICAL UNDERSTANDING (EMU)

During 2014 we will be implementing a school-based project called Extending Mathematical Understanding or EMU for short. The EMU Project is a research-based intervention program developed by senior lecturer in education at the Australian Catholic University, Dr Ann Gervasoni. The program draws upon learning from Dr Gervasoni's involvement in the Early Numeracy Research Project, a three-year research initiative commissioned by the Victorian Department of Education to develop a comprehensive program for improving numeracy levels in schools.

Assessment and data analysis is a key focus of the EMU program, which includes a diagnostic assessment tool for schools to use. This tool is known as the

Mathematical Assessment interview or MAI. The MAI is a 30-45 minute, one-on-one interview administered by each class teacher that features a series of numeracy-based activities. All Year 1 students have completed the interview this year and over the coming years, teachers will be conducting the interview on all students in grades K-6. The data from the MAI will help teachers identify exactly what the students know and what they need to learn next. The project will also include significant development for all teachers.

If you have any questions about EMU or the MAI your child's teacher or myself would be happy to answer them.

Mrs Monique Boyer
Leader of Learning/co-ordinator

TEACHERS ARE LEARNERS TOO

As you know our staff are committed life long learners. In the past week Miss Bonser has continued her training as a Mathematics Intervention Teacher, Miss Buttigieg has attended training as one of our Reading Recovery Teachers, Miss Ahern, Mrs Shahoud, Mrs Thompson and Mrs Peterson attended a Peer Review Compliance Day, last Saturday Mrs Anderiez and Mrs Peterson attended a full day's conference at the Consortium of Music on ePortfolios and one afternoon last week I attended a session on Sustainability. We will use our learnings from all of these sessions to constantly improve what we do in learning and teaching.

PEER REVIEW

On Tuesday we welcomed staff from Bethany Catholic Primary School and Our Lady of the Way as we undertook a process of Peer Review to ensure we are all compliant and able to be registered as a school under the Board of Studies Teacher Educational Standards (formally known as the Board of Studies). A number of our teachers presented our plans for learning and assessment as well as teaching programmes in selected grades – the feedback received was excellent and reflected the outstanding efforts of all our staff.

ADVANCE NOTICE – PRG meeting Term 2 Monday 19th May 2014

Guest Speaker Dr Kate Highfield, Teacher Educator – Institute of Early Childhood, Macquarie University. Dr Highfield's presentation will cover

- apps for learning,
- appropriate 'screen time',
- good gaming and
- how to access quality apps.

Parents are strongly encouraged to attend our PRG meeting in term 2 to be held on **Monday 19th May 2014**. More details to follow but mark the date in your diaries.

TREE MAINTENANCE / ENTRANCE WORK

As part of our regular maintenance of trees on the site we recently had some work completed in the front car park. Further tree work is expected to be completed on the EC in coming days. In addition we have plans during the holidays to complete the widening of the entrance to the school at the front gates with a wider layback – the pavers will be taken up, the kerb cut and the pavers re-laid to allow for a slope to the road. This will make the entrance easier to navigate for everyone.

INCIDENT IN CAR PARK

Yesterday there was an incident where a white car has hit another blue car in our car park. If anyone saw or has information please see the ladies in the office.

WISHING WELL CAR PARK

Wishing Well has advised us that Corpus Christi parents /grandparents are using their car park. Please do not use the limited space in our neighbour's car park when collecting children from Corpus Christi.

LEFT TURN ONLY OUT OF CAR PARK

Please note that all vehicles must turn left as they exit the car park. Turning right slows the exit and adds to the waiting time for families. This exit is sign posted as left only. The police may also fine any driver who parks illegally or fails to comply with road signs.

EXTRA CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES- TERM 2- SOCCER

F.A.S.T Football Academy will be holding an after school soccer program for grades Kindergarten to Year 4. The program will be starting on the 15th of May each Thursday afternoon for 6 weeks on the school grounds. The soccer program involves an inflatable soccer field and is a great opportunity for students to be part of this program. FAST Football will be holding a demonstration for all students during school time on Thursday 1st of May and will hand out forms for the program. If you wish to sign up you can register online www.fastfootballacademy.com.au or return the form to the office.



CROSS COUNTRY

Congratulations to the following students who have successfully made it through to the Diocesan Cross Country. This event will be held on Tuesday 6th May (Term 2, Week 2) at Eastern Creek Motor Sports Park. A note will be handed out shortly.

8 & 9 Years Boys: Corey Dunn, Jack Attard, Jack Humphreys, Beau Forrester Taylor, Charlie Klemsrud and Zac Hotchkiss.

8 & 9 Years Girls: Olivia Dixon, Zena Hanna, Katie Rose, Taleisha Muscat, Tahlia Fawcett.

10 Years Boys: Ben Attard, Bailie Rosa, Joshua Woodward, Denis Hanna, Matthew Bonnice and Nathan Pauling

10 Years Girls: Britney Ginn, Mackenzi Dunne, Catherine Kearns, Danijela Hader, Sophie Fernadez and Jessica Buzzi

11 Years Boys: Baley Borthwick, Flynn Jelacic, Braedyn Urban, Shaun O'Sullivan, Noah Kelly, Trent Whitbread and Luke Attard

11 Years Girls: Megan Cooper, Stephanie Hayes, Paris Zahra, Madeline Barglik, Sophia Biordi and Rosie Kaufusi

12 Years Boys: Blake Ginn, Harry Bain, Brody Grech, Cameron Harband, Jacob Bulluss and Liam Ferguson

12 Years Girls: Gemma Pauling, Rebecca Hocking and Hayley Crane.

EARN AND LEARN

Last year we participated in the Woolworths Earn and Learn Promotion. It was a little more challenging to collect points than in previous years however we successfully reach our goal. We decided to purchase some new mathematics equipment. Check out all the cool new items we can use to assist us in our mathematics calculations.



PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT

The Diocese of Parramatta is seeking approval from the Penrith City Council to make use of a parcel of surplus land behind Corpus Christi Primary, that is zoned as residential. A development application went before Council on Monday 24 March for twenty one homes to be built. A decision was deferred pending a site inspection by Councillors. The land was previously used by Xavier College when it was first established in 1999. See Council website for development application details

<http://www.penrithcity.nsw.gov.au/>

ENROLMENTS FOR KINDERGARTEN 2015

Enrolments are now open for **Kindergarten 2015**. If you have a child who will turn 5 before the 31st July, 2015 you are welcome 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.

ENROLMENTS FOR HIGH SCHOOL 2015

XAVIER COLLEGE

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

CAROLINE CHISHOLM COLLEGE

GLENMORE PARK –provides Catholic Education for girls in Years 7 – 12
Applications close 11th April 2014
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

UNIFORMS

Thank you to many families making a consented effort with uniforms. Please see our Uniform Policy, attached, for specific details. We have noticed some students not wearing the correct socks. Your attention to this part of the of the Uniform is appreciated.

“SALAKA” – AFRICAN DRUMMING

On Friday, 4th April, Week 10, the whole student body at Corpus Christi will have the opportunity to take part in a unique and interactive experience known as “Salaka.”

African Beat – “Salaka” presents a well-structured, informative and highly interactive drumming performance by one of West Africa's top cultural troupes The performance immerses students in the rich culture and rhythms of Africa, in an entertaining and educational way. Best of all - it's hands on!

Bringing literally hundreds of drums to the school, every student will learn and play an authentic African rhythm. Salaka will transform students into a dynamic and unified percussion ensemble. The students will learn a traditional African song to accompany the drumming rhythm, and experience African dancing.

The show introduces students to an array of traditional African instruments of all shapes and sounds, including the 'talking drum', djembe drum, kpanlogo drum, box drum, bells and shakers. Salaka covers core aspects of the music, drama and dance syllabus, although also touches on geography, history and HSIE.

BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT PROGRAM – SESSION 3

CatholicCare Solo Parent Ministry is holding its third fortnightly Bereavement Support Group Session on Tuesday 01st April, for those whose spouse or long term partner has died. The topic for this Session is “*Dealing with Intense Emotions*”. Venue: 51-59 Allawah St, Blacktown, from 10.00am – 12.00pm. This is an opportunity to gain some information about various aspects of the grieving process and to support each other during this most difficult and painful time. You are still able to attend this session if you haven't attended previous sessions. Details and Registration: soloparentministry@ccss.org.au or Ph. 99330205

What's on and When

April

Week 10	Thurs	3 rd	Kindergarten – Nursery Rhyme Day
	Fri	4 th	African Drumming Incursion, award stamping
Week 11	Fri	11 th	No School Banking, Last day of Term 1

TERM 2

Week 1	Mon	28 th	Staff and Students return Term2
	Wed	30 th	Uniform Shop 8.30am to 6pm



“Effort in Reading” Merit Awards

Mylee Heterick	Ainsley Giampietro
Nathan Galea	Hayley Flood
Jacob Galea	Emily Tempone
Tommy Crowe	Lily Ceniza-Fulgardo
Charlie Whittaker	Summer Chahoud
Danijela Hader	Curtis Hodges
Basel Hazeem	Faith Churchill
Adam Neill	Ewan Symon
Lucas Chicharro	Brody Grech
Jack Whitfield	Finlay Bellamy
Alexander Papapavlou	

PLAYGROUND AWARD

Victoria Grew 1B

CORRECTION - PRINCIPAL AWARD

Last week Nicholas Camilleri received the principals award not Anthony as stated in last week's newsletter – our apologies Nicholas

UNIFORM SHOP - Wednesday

8.30am – 9.30am
&
2.30pm – 3.30pm

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Please note: The uniform shop was previously advertised to be open all day April 9th from 8.30am to 6pm. This has now been changed to (Week 1 Term 2) Wednesday 30th April 8.30am to 6pm.
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* **Pre-paid orders** – 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******

NOTES SENT HOME RECENTLY:

- Yr 6 fundraiser - Disco
- Letter to 3E
- Easter Bun order form



Term 1 Week 10 - Reminders

- IP Meetings commence this week
- Tuesday – Assembly 2.20pm
- Wednesday – Uniform Shop
- Thursday – Kindergarten Nursery Rhyme Day
- Friday – School Banking Drumming Incursion

UNIFORM POLICY

PURPOSE

The wearing of our school uniform plays an important role in instilling pride in the children and maintaining our school identity and spirit. This Uniform Policy clearly states our school expectations for parents and encourages students to consistently wear the correct uniform.

BROAD GUIDELINES

1. UNIFORM

Children are to wear the correct school uniform neatly and with pride and are not to deviate from items on the School Uniform list in the Parent Information booklet.

All items of clothing must be clearly marked with the child's full name. Shoes and sport shoes can be marked on the inside with a waterproof texta. The school cannot accept the responsibility for items that are lost.

No Lost Property Strategy – we do not have a lost property box – all items of clothing with names will be returned to their owner immediately and un-named items donated to the uniform shop.

The uniform is designed to be added to, and removed, in layers – eg children are required to wear the school jumper before wearing a school bomber jacket.

2. JEWELLERY

Girls with pierced ears are to wear a single sleeper or stud only.

Boys are not permitted to wear ear rings to school.

Coloured nail polish is not to be worn.

Only signet rings are to be worn to school.

Bangles, bracelets or anklets are not to be worn. Only medical bracelets are permitted.

A single necklace of a religious nature may be worn but because of safety issues and the potential to lose valuable items, this should be worn under the child's shirt.

3. HAIR

Hairstyles are to be neat and simple and devoid of any type of cosmetic colouring.

Students with shoulder-length hair are to have it tied back away from the face to allow clear vision and for hygiene reasons.

Ribbons and 'scrunchies' worn by girls are to be in the school colours of emerald, gold and white. Hair accessories such as multi-coloured clips are not to be worn.

Boys' haircuts are not to be radically cut or multilayered (such as pronounced, shaved undercuts) or so long that it is below the collar or impairs vision.

4. SHOES and SOCKS

Children are to wear black school shoes.

On sports days predominately white sandshoes are to be worn. Sport shoes are to be devoid of brightly coloured patterns.

Ankle-high boots, desert shoes, loafers and thongs are not to be worn.

High-tops (eg Converse) and mid-cut shoes (eg Rabens) are not to be worn.

Low-cut socks are not to be worn at any time – only socks sold in the Uniform Shop are to be worn.

5. SCHOOL HATS

Students are to wear the correct school hat every day, regardless of the weather. If children do not have a hat they will be directed to stay in a shaded area.

Hats are to be worn to and from school, daily.

Generic brand-name hats or caps are not to be worn to school unless as a substitute for a lost hat. This must be accompanied by a note from the parent.

BASIS OF DISCRETION

Only the school sells the school uniform. Operating times of the shop are published in the School Newsletter.

If uniform items are temporarily out of stock, children may wear substitute clothing (shirts, socks, hats) as close to the school colours as possible. Availability of items should be checked with the school office.

Children involved in specialist sports activities such as Cross Country, Athletics, Swimming, CPSSA, Gymnastics, Touch Football, or Rugby League training may deviate from the above guidelines in regard to bringing sports clothes (especially shorts and footwear) to school on training days.

Year 6 children, in consultation with parents and the school principal, may purchase a graduation sports shirt. These may be worn by the children on sports days.

Parents are requested to provide a letter if the correct uniform is not been worn. Classroom teachers are responsible for maintaining and checking that the correct uniform is being worn.