



Holy Family Primary

Emerton

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Term 1 Week 7

9th March 2017

Greetings!

Last week we began the "Lenten Journey". Lent is one of those times in the church year when we are called to reflect on our life and see what we can do to follow Jesus more closely.

As Catholics, we are asked to focus on 3 things during the season of lent:

1. Fasting.

In the past we have focused on food and whilst this is still ok, there are many other things that we could go without or indeed things that we could do. Pope Francis said during the week that fasting is about going with out in order to give to the poor. Perhaps it can be the same with other things we might try to give up, perhaps the focus can shift from something we receive to something we do for others. In doing so we are going without in order to give to others.

2. Almsgiving.

This has traditionally meant that we give money to causes like Project Compassion (or if you are a little older like me you would remember it as being a focus on the Missions and the Mission Box). If money is short we may be able to give some time to someone that we wouldn't normally spend time with or perhaps spent extra time with someone we love. In doing so we are putting others first.

3. Prayer.

Daily prayer time has always been part of the Catholic way of live. During Lent we perhaps we can spend some time on a reflection site such as Sacred Space. The link is here. <http://www.sacredspace.ie/>. When we spend extra time in prayer it is like spending extra time with a good friend; in this case the special friend is Jesus. Lent then is a focus on going without to help others, putting others first and spending extra time with God. These things are not easy and when we don't manage it, we can get discouraged, however, we can always have another go tomorrow.

Thank you to the mums who helped with making Pancakes last week and with Book Club.

This week is also Catholic Schools Week. There are a number of things happening around the school this week. Please feel very welcome to be part of the activities.

John Spradbrow
Principal

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School Matters

Student Management

Last year I offered to meet with you this term and discuss the document A Safe and Supportive Environment. The staff have been doing a lot of work on Student Management over the last six months and I would like to invite you to meet with me on Monday March 27th after our Monday assembly. Please let me know if you would like to attend, but need a different time and I will set an additional meeting time.

Afternoon Dismissal

You may not be aware that in 2015 we reorganized the afternoon dismissal; children were dismissed from the hall and a small number of children were walked down to the church car park and across the surrounding roads. Since that time, the number of parents & children using the church car park has grown considerably. We also open the gates early and invite parents into the grounds (most parents think this is great).

The reason for the change was to ensure student safety. We wanted to have greater surety of who was collecting the children and there were grave concerns about children walking / running through the church car park. A number of problems have developed over the time since we introduced the changes. We are currently reviewing our afternoon dismissal procedures.

In the mean time:

- ♦ Children not using the church car park or the Weber Cres gate are to be collected from the hall. Please do not collect the children before the bell or from the line as they make their way from the classroom into the hall. This will help us to know who is collecting the children and will help with a safe and orderly dismissal. It is concerning for those people who have to look for children when no one saw who collected them.
- ♦ Please wait on the grass if you are collecting children from the church car park. There have been two near misses in the last two weeks with children walking through the car park. Please do not call them across roadways or into the car park.
- ♦ The school car park is not for drop off or collecting students unless you have made arrangements with the principal. These arrangements are only made on health grounds. The staff car park is used by after before & after school buses and other agencies that use the parish grounds. This car park is a very busy place with out additional unnecessary traffic.

Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns about the afternoon dismissal. Our overriding concerns will always be the safety of everyone at Holy Family.

Regards,
John Spradbrow
Principal



Numeracy Goal

Today, critical thinking, problem solving, reasoning ability and the ability to communicate mathematically are essential skills.



In 2017, the Holy Family Numeracy Goal is *to achieve accelerated growth in multiplication and division*. Research shows that early intervention is key to student improvement and success. As a staff we will work to gain accelerated growth in Kindergarten and Year One, with expected growth continuing across all other years.

Teachers will engage in professional learning and develop teaching strategies for multiplication and division. Students will think multiplicatively, develop their reasoning strategies and abstract thinking in multiplication and division. Each term the Emerton EMU Express Newsletter will be sent home to inform families of student learning in relation to this goal, and how you can play your part in your child's learning.

Regards,
Mrs Angela Alonzo
Maths Co-ordinator

Literacy Corner

Something for us to ponder...

Why Can't I Skip My Ten Minutes of Reading Tonight? (Source Unknown)

Let's figure it out -- mathematically!

Student A reads 10 minutes five nights of every week

Student B reads only 4 minutes a night...or not at all!

Step 1: Multiply minutes a night x 5 times each week.

Student A reads 20 min. x 5 times a week = 50 mins./week

Student B reads 4 minutes x 5 times a week = 20 minutes

Step 2: Multiply minutes a week x 4 weeks each month.

Student A reads 200 minutes a month.

Student B reads 80 minutes a month.

Step 3: Multiply minutes a month x 9 months/school year

Student A reads 1,800 min. in a school year.

Student B reads 720 min. in a school year.

Student A practices reading the equivalent of five whole school days a year.

Student B gets the equivalent of only two school days of reading practice.

By the end of 6th grade if Student A and Student B maintain these same reading habits, Student A will have read the equivalent of 30 whole school days

Student B will have read the equivalent of only 12 school days.

One would expect the gap of information retained will have widened considerably and so, undoubtedly, will school performance. How do you think Student B will feel about him/herself as a student?

Some questions to ponder:

Which student would you expect to read better?

Which student would you expect to know more?

Which student would you expect to write better?

Which student would you expect to have a better vocabulary?

Which student would you expect to be more successful in school....and in life?

Regards,
Mrs Alex Ali
Literacy Co-ordinator





Class Leaders 2017

Congratulations to the following students who have been elected as class leaders for 2017:

Year 1	Taylah Farani Jasper Paluch
Year 2	Kyle Eastwood Tatanoa Tapaitau-Hunt
Year 3	Sienna Niumata Harrison Laupola-Burnett
Year 4	Pulu Nimmo Jessica Hook
Year 5	Hannah Nicholls Jeremy Cheowiry

School Photo Day

Our school photo day will be held on **Friday March 31st**. You will receive your information package next week.



School Cross Country

On **Friday March 17th**, we will be holding our annual School Fun Run. This year, however we have decided not to fundraise this event, but will still run competitive and non-competitive age groups. Children are encouraged to wear their house colour t-shirt if they have one. We will also be needing parent volunteers to help out on the day. Please contact the office if you are available to assist.



Library News

Thank you to all of those parents who have helped their children look at home for library books borrowed last year. We are trying to have every child start their 2017 borrowing with a clean slate. If you received a letter last week re your child's overdue books please come and see me if you cannot find them.

A number of children have told us that their books were thrown out by their parents! Please do not do this. Even if the book has become damaged, all books need to be returned to us, so that we can amend the library catalogue.

Please keep reminding your child to keep their library books separate from their other books and of their borrowing day. Maybe you could decide on a safe space for any borrowed book?

It is worth knowing, that ultimately, you are responsible for any books your child has borrowed. This means that books that are damaged or lost should be paid for if they have been borrowed in your child's name!

Library Borrowing Days:

Kindergarten—Thursday	Year 1—Tuesday
Year 2 Friday	Year 3—Friday
Year 4 Wednesday	Year 5—Thursday
Year 6 Monday	

Thank you for your assistance in this matter.

Janet A. Marie
Teacher Librarian
(Tues-Fri)



Easter Raffle

Our Easter fundraiser for 2017 will be our raffle which will be held on **Thursday 6th April**. We kindly ask for donations of eggs and/ or baskets to help the committee make up some Easter egg baskets.

Raffle tickets will be sent home shortly.



World's Greatest Shave Fundraiser

A group of Year 6 girls have decided to do something about this and are promoting 'The World's Greatest Shave' to raise money and awareness for the Leukaemia Foundation. This will be held on the **17th March, during both lunch breaks**.

Students can pay a gold coin to have their hair spray-painted, stencilled or can wear a crazy wig for the day (who knows, there may even be a few teachers with shorter hair that afternoon).

The hair spray colors donated by the Leukaemia Foundation will be: **Blue, Pink, Yellow or Orange**.

All money raised on the day will go to the World's Greatest Shave.

The Yr 6 team: Lili, Juliana, Tayla, Jumikah, Vonzelle, Nataih'a and Mrs Cathy Vogt



Dates for your Diary

- March**
- 17 School Cross Country
World's Greatest Shave Fundraiser
 - 22 Dental Assessments for Kindy, Year 2, 4 & 6
 - 30 Year 1 History Day
 - 31 School Photo Day



LAST DAY OF TERM 1—April 7th 2017

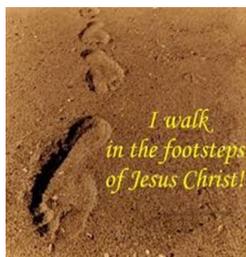


ST CLARE'S CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL are now taking enrolments for Year 7, 2018. Please contact the school office on 9830 2400 for any inquiries. Enrolment packages are available from the school office. School office hours are 7.30am - 3.30pm, 175 Buckwell Drive, Hassall Grove. Enrolment forms can be downloaded from the school website <http://www.clarehassallgrove.catholic.edu.au>

Catholic Schools Week

RE News

Lent is a season of penance, reflection and fasting traditionally observed by Catholics and some Protestant denominations to prepare us for Christ's Resurrection. Lent begins with Ash Wednesday and ends with Easter Sunday. The length of the Lenten fast was established in the 4th century as 46 days (40 days, not counting Sundays). Lent began as a way for Catholics to remind themselves of the value of repentance.



Lent began last week when we celebrated Ash Wednesday. The students have been discussing in class ways that they can fast, (which doesn't necessarily mean give up food but can be an action), the importance of prayer and self-reflection and doing penance for the times we have failed to follow in Jesus' footsteps. Spend some time this Lent talking with your child about ways that we can all follow in the footsteps of Jesus Christ and try to be more like Him.

CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK

Thank you to all the students and their families who were able to attend the 10.30am parish mass on Sunday to celebrate the beginning of Catholic Schools Week. Your presence added to the celebration.

Regards,
Mrs Cathy Vogt
Religious Education Co-ordinator



