



NEWSLETTER

HOLY SPIRIT INFANTS ABERMAIN

11 May 2017

Church Street, Abermain 2326
PH: 49304361 FAX: 49304363

Email: admin@abermain.catholic.edu.au
Web: <http://www.abermain.catholic.edu.au>

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to Term 2, Week 3! Your children look wonderful in their winter uniforms, thank you for taking such pride in their appearance. However, the weather is very unpredictable at the moment. It's cool in the morning but by mid morning the temperature rises. Therefore, I will be flexible for the next few weeks as to what uniform you send your child to school in depending on the weather!

We wish all children at Holy Spirit, Kurri Kurri Primary school all the best for their NAPLAN this week - just do your best!

This morning Mrs Dot Seamer and Mrs Monica Shanahan set up our Holy Spirit Infants School tent at the Expo at the Kurri Kurri Rotary Park. The expo was shared with many other primary schools and pre-schools in our local school community. Thank you ladies for your enthusiasm and also thanks to Mrs Kearns and Mr Ozimek for helping set up. We hope to promote our school profile by attending such events.

Today our school celebrated and acknowledged the significant women in our lives in the lead up to Mother's Day this Sunday. Thank you to our staff and parents who helped cater and set up for our liturgy and lunch preparations. A special thank you to Mrs Rebecca Cook who has been working so hard preparing a beautiful liturgy and pampering stations to spoil our special women in our lives. We wish you all a lovely day on Sunday.



A very special welcome back to Carter (year 1/2) – we missed you! You are a great example of being resilient. Resilience is being able to bounce back, smile and get on with things even if the cards you have been dealt in life aren't as favourable as you would like. Lovely to have you back at Holy Spirit Carter! I would urge all parents to encourage their children to show caution when around Carter after his surgery - we don't want him to be knocked accidentally.

We look forward to KM assembly tomorrow morning at 9am in the hall. It's wonderful to witness the talents and gifts of each of our children.



Congratulations to Fletcher Plessiet (KS) who has successfully completed the first round of judging in the Write 4 Fun Competition 2017. Final results will be announced on 24th May. Fletcher wrote a short story "Dragon and Dinosaur Are Friends." Perhaps, with Fletcher's permission I could publish it in our next newsletter? His story will be published in "Spread the Word" which is a hardbound book containing many poems and short stories from students all over Australia! Wow, you are an author already Fletcher!!

Congratulations to Bella Cook (Year 5, Holy Spirit, Kurri Kurri) who entered her Harmony Day poster in the competition this year and has been awarded Highly Commended. Bella has an invitation to attend NSW Parliament House in Sydney on 30th May to receive her very special award! Bella has obviously shared her artistic and creative talents to produce such work!

Our Total Excursion is coming up - Kindergarten will attend Monday 15/5 and year 1 and 2 will attend Monday 22/5. Please be sure all notes are returned asap please.

Your children have been to the Life Education Van this week. It would be beneficial if you could talk with your children to discuss what they learnt in this program and reinforce their learning at home. The children will also complete follow up lessons in class.

NOTE: Pupil free day next Friday 19/5. Teachers will be attending a Professional Development day focusing on Making Literacy Visible.

There will be a P&F meeting on Monday 22/5, 5.30pm at Kurri Kurri.

Endurance, Determination and Belief! I spoke to the children yesterday morning about determination. The children told me that determination means that you don't give up and keep on trying! Last Sunday I participated in my first full Ironman triathlon in Port Macquarie. I enjoyed sharing my learnings from such an experience with your children. My journey has been a long one - I decided to tackle an Ironman last year, before I arrived at Holy Spirit and it has meant hard work and determination. However, I see your children displaying these qualities each and every day in their daily lives. They don't need to tackle an ironman, each individual's goal is different - it could be to build the tallest tower, or make the longest loom

band, to master a jump rope skill, to read a passage, to add two two-digit numbers, to perform a forward roll - but my message was to try and try again - it takes hard work and determination to reach your goals.

Some endeavours need endurance, like an Ironman, but all tasks need self-belief. Belief in yourself and face any fears you may hold that you may not be able to succeed. Everyone has these fears and doubts that your body or mind may not be able to do reach such a goal, these fears are real but can be overcome with self-belief! Positive talk everyday is imperative - let's pump our children with self-belief and leave the rest to them! When I was in the Ironman ticking off my 3.8km swim, 180km bike and 42.2km run on Sunday I tried to stay positive and had belief in myself that this is my goal and I will make it - small steps. If you haven't read or googled Turia Pitt, I suggest you do so - she is a true inspiration! I drew on her positive energy throughout the day. She has a new book "Unmasked" - I thoroughly recommend it... You don't have to do triathlons to appreciate her story.. set a goal, no matter what it is and go for it! My Ironman was not just a physical challenge for me but a spiritual one too. You have to really train your body and your mind to be fit and healthy!

God Bless,

Charlene Reid
Principal

Assistant Principal News

Emergency Procedures

On Monday 1st May we had our first Emergency Drill for 2017. We practice these drills throughout the year in different situations so that we are prepared in the unlikely event of an emergency. On this occasion, we had an evacuation drill in class time. This drill might be used in the case of fire. Upon hearing five short bell rings our staff and students calmly left their classrooms and walked to the Emergency Evacuation Area (EEA). Our EEA is located in the middle of the fence along Abermain St. When we were all assembled, we marked our class rolls to ensure all children were present. In a real emergency, we would then take the advice of Emergency Services as to whether we could return to our classrooms or should evacuate the school grounds. If we had to evacuate the school grounds, we would begin walking to Abermain Bowling and Recreation Club Cnr Goulbourn St and Armidale St, Abermain and parents would be informed. At all times during in an emergency, the safety and well-being of our children is our first priority. We also ask that if you are ever in our school and hear the five short bell rings, you also walk to our EEA.

Rebecca Kearns
Assistant Principal

Religion News

RE News Term 2 Week 3

As the cooler weather is starting to set in there are lots of children and family members that have been or are becoming sick and unwell. We pray for all these people and hope they get well soon and stay healthy throughout the winter season.



As Mother's Day is upon us once again I would like to take this opportunity to thank all our mums, step mum's, grandma's and mum figures in families, for all that they do for us. Motherhood is a very high calling. It is essential for women to realise that the love, strength, guidance and influence they provide to their children are distinct and invaluable. Let us pray together this prayer for our Mum's on Mother's Day:

*God,
You have gifted mothers with many wonderful attributes that deserve our praise and thanks. Today we honour all Mothers and ask your continued blessing upon them.
For the gift of motherhood. For all mothers, we thank you O God.
For mothers who bring to birth new life. For tireless days and sleepless nights. For nurturing and gentle care. For every thought and every prayer, we ask your blessing O God.
For the lessons given over many a year. For time, attention and a listening ear. For picking us up when we're feeling low. For guiding our actions, for showing us 'how', we thank our Mothers Lord.
For all their patience, generosity and love. For strength and courage when times are tough. For being there always in sickness or health. For being concerned for our spiritual wealth. We admire our Mothers O God.
Today we remember and pray for our Mothers. Let us never take them for granted. Lord bless them, reward them and give them joy in the children they've carefully tended.
Help us give back some of the love and care given over and over. Make us generous in our love for them, the person each one of us calls "Mother!"
We thank you for our Mother's Lord, for their comforting words and deed. Be with them this day in a special way as we pray for their every need.
Amen*

Events coming up...

Later on in the term in week 7, the school will be celebrating its feast day, **Pentecost**. This will be a big celebration for Holy Spirit, so please set aside Monday 5th June to help us celebrate. We will begin the day with a Liturgy and fun celebratory activities will follow.

Weekend Mass locations and times

Please come and join in celebrating mass over the weekend. It is great to become active in our local church community. The times and Mass locations for the normal weekend masses and for Easter are below:

Weekend Mass times

Saturday- St Joseph's Church, Cessnock	Saturday, 6pm Sunday, 8am
Holy Spirit Church, Kurri Kurri	Sunday, 9:30 am
St Francis Xavier Church, Abermain	Sunday, 6pm

Be gentle on your loved ones and yourselves and don't forget to spoil the special women in your life!

God Bless,

Bec Cook

Relieving Religious Education Coordinator.

Pre-loved School Uniforms

If you would like to enquire about second hand uniforms available please call Kerri on 0412 264446.

P & F News

Entertainment Books are available for purchase from the office of both schools. They are \$65.00
Go digital visit www.entbook.com.au/344h96



Freddo Money

Needs to be returned as soon as possible.

Mother's Day Stall will be held on Friday (tomorrow) in the hall with gifts ranging from \$2 - \$8

Head Lice

We have had cases of head lice at the school. Head lice are extremely contagious and we strongly urge all parents to check their children's hair immediately.

Please check your child's hair for the following:

- Nits (lice eggs): cream or coffee coloured, tear shaped eggs attached to the hair shaft,
- Lice: small white or greyish parasites the approximate size of a pinhead.

If you find any evidence of head lice, it is essential that children and their families be fully treated. Products are readily available from the chemist.

Children are not permitted back at school unless treated fully.

We ask all parents to attend to this immediately as undetected cases of head lice can spread very quickly.

School Website

Don't forget to check out our school website for up-to date photos and information. You will find updated information on the following:

Parent Information Book, Complaints and Concerns, Newsletters, transition to kindergarten. Find us at <http://www.abermain.catholic.edu.au/>

Library News



Every student in our school visits our library regularly on a Friday to have library lessons and to borrow books. It is the hub of the school, stocked with a wonderful collection of books that you can read with or to your beautiful children.

Reading and sharing stories is a great way to spend time with your children, it can help develop their literacy skills, increase their knowledge, spark their imagination, develop their curiosity, learn the difference between 'real' and 'make believe' as well as developing a love of books. The special time you spend reading together promotes bonding and helps to build relationships, such a treasured part of being a child.



MELBOURNE researchers have proven what parents have intuitively known all along - the more often you read to your children from an early age, the greater the positive effect on their reading and thinking skills. The frequency of reading to children at a young age has a direct causal effect on their schooling outcomes regardless of their family background and home environment.

- Reading to children at age 4-5 every day has a significant positive effect on their reading skills

and cognitive skills (i.e., language and literacy, numeracy and cognition) later in life.

- Reading to children 3-5 days per week (compared to 2 or less) has the same effect on the child's reading skills at age 4-5 as being six months older.
- Reading to them 6-7 days per week has the same effect as being almost 12 months older.

<http://www.education.vic.gov.au/documents/about/research/readtoyoungchild.pdf>



At school, the library provides the classroom teacher with quality literature to expose the students to a variety of different types of books and to take part in the Premier's Reading Challenge. The Premier Reading Challenge is an initiative of the NSW State government and is available for all NSW students in Kindergarten–Year 9. The Challenge aims to encourage in students a love of reading for leisure and pleasure and to enable students to experience



quality literature. It is not a competition



but a challenge to each student to read and to read more widely.

So, let's celebrate all that literature has to offer and bring words, images and stories alive in our own way for both young and old,

<http://www.leapfrog.com/en-us/learning-path/articles/make-reading-fun>

Thank you,
Lyn Jones and Carlia Collingwood

Awards

Term 2 2017, Weeks 1 & 2

Class Captains Mason Callaway, Peta Foster, Kinjal Mavji, Pippa-Lea Sinclair, Treasure Trainor, Jasper Schoupp, Eli Ozimek, Taylah Brewer-Cameron, Blake Haddock, Sophia Nevin, Olivah Cole, Myah Palmer, Audrey O'Brien, Fletcher Plessiet, Regan Masterson, Siena Lawrence, Emerson Power, Ayden Lawrence, Ella Stewart and Lexie Maunder.

Class Awards

KM Flynn McLennan, Nylah Davey, Mason Callaway, Shonoa Appelkamp, Mason Callaway and Peta Foster.

KS Macey Brogan, Rhylee Carter, Thomas Connell, Ava Trow, Clayne Harper and Isabelle Allen.

Year 1 Rory Kelly, Jasper Schoupp, Preston Zaichenko, Rohan Freeman, Hayden Hughes and Maya Bennett.

Year 1/2 Taya Porter, Abby Harmey, Eli Ozimek, Jarrod Charker, Ayden Lawrence and Emerson Power.

Year 2 Damon Southeron, Kayla Crockett, Amity Pilgrim, Kye Donnan, Maddison Curtis and Darcy Campton.

Principal Awards

Week 1 Fruit of the Spirit – Kindness

Keenan Mazzitelli-Franks, Olivah Cole, Will Firth, Allie Collingwood, Erin Haddock, Treasure Trainor, Tiah Richardson, Monique Wilesmith, Maddison Curtis and Ella Stewart.

Week 2 Fruit of the Spirit – Peace

Ryder Lewis, Louis McKay, Lewis Lodo, Dakota Denham, Sophie Willetts, Addison McKay, Jarrod Charker, Holly Harper, Isaiah Sulendro and Darcy Campton.

Manners Ava Bennett, Ava Walker, Stella Walker, William Bull, Axel Bailey, Hannah Charker, Isaac Holz, Charlotte Jolliffe, Brodee Sunerton and Annabelle Bright.

Gotchas Myah Palmer, Charlie Bull, Ava Walker, Sophie Willetts, Preston Zaichenko, Lachlan Woollard, Hayden Hughes, Ethan Clough, Zane Freeman, William Bull, Tiah Richardson, Ayden Lawrence, Shonoa Appelkamp, Mason Callaway, Peta Foster, Keenan Mazzitelli-Franks, Ainsley McDonald, Flynn McLennan, Allie Collingwood, Ava Trow, Clayne Harper, Lewis Lodo, Sebastian Farrell-Wettig, Sophie O'Brien, Marlie Weller, Abby Harmey, Jarrod Charker, Mia Delaney, Frankie Haider and Thayn Johnstone.

2nd June Athletics Carnival K-6
Week 7
5th June Pentecost Liturgy
Week 8
12th June Queen's Birthday Public Holiday
Week 9
19th June School Reports sent home
20th June Gymnastics program ends today
Week 10
Last Week Term 2
Term 3
Week 1
18th July First day (Tuesday)
Week 4
9th August School Photos

Canteen News

Meal Deal notices

Meal deal notes will be sent home this week – please have a look in your child's bag!

Monday 15th May	Wednesday 17th May	Friday 19th May
Anne McLennan	Hannah Foley	NO CANTEEN PUPIL FREE DAY
Monday 22ND May	Wednesday 24th May	Friday 26th May
Emily Griffith	Christine Hughes	Deb Kelly Ash Kelly

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Important Dates

Term 2

Week 4

15th May Total Excursion Kinder
19th May Pupil Free Day. Staff attending Making Literacy Visible, Sydney

Week 5

22nd May Total Excursion Years 1 & 2

Week 6

31st May Kindergarten 2018 Interviews start
1st June Playgroup