



NEWSLETTER

HOLY SPIRIT INFANTS ABERMAIN

20 July 2017

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Dear Parents and Carers,

A warm welcome back to parents, carers and children to Term 3, Week 1! I would also like to welcome back our lovely Mrs Courtney Porter teaching Year 2 with Mrs Carlia Collingwood and a friendly welcome to Miss Ashleigh Grach who will be teaching year 1, one day per week.

Welcome also to our new students this term:

Olly Vadas – Year 2 (1/2); Madlin Gore Haddad – Year 2 (1/2); Amara Gore Haddad – KM and Andrué Chrysostomou – KS. We hope you will feel very welcome and happy here at Holy Spirit.

The last Friday of every month our whole school is attending our **Parish Mass at Abermain (St Francis Xavier, next door)**. You are very welcome to join us as a school community. The Mass will be at 9.15am next Friday 28th July. The children will not be included in the readings etc this time, but in future Parish masses we may. Children will take part in some discussions during class time to make the readings relevant to their lives. There is a **young people's mass** this Sunday night 6pm here at Abermain – a note went home last term with details and your child has the opportunity to be involved in this celebration.

The reading at Mass last Sunday was the Parable of the Sower. I found the explanation very insightful given by my Parish Priest. Father said that "God plants the same seed for everyone but it will depend on what type of soil you are will depend on whether you bear fruit." You can interpret this and unpack this comment for your own self. I found it very interesting to ponder!

On Monday during our Pupil Free day many of our Diocesan schools attended a staff spirituality day lead by Professor Massimo Faggioli. Massimo is an Italian born, now living in America, theologian. He shared insights about Christianity and the history, the changes that came about from Vatican II (e.g. the Priest now faces the congregation). Massimo referred to our Pope Francis being the Pope of the poor and the future looks bright

for Christianity, we may even see Deacons and women's roles in the church as a more prominent one! A very interesting day – I will hear more from Massimo today at the Priest Principals meeting at the Catholic Schools Office.

Holy Spirit's uniform is a very smart uniform if worn correctly. Please make an effort to find lost ties for both the girls and boys. The girls look lovely wearing the correct ribbons in their hair. We don't mind the boys having their shirts out during play time, however when arriving and leaving the school grounds they will be asked to tuck their shirts in – therefore, could you please show your child how to tuck his shirt in properly. Great to see most children wearing the correct black school shoes and jumpers/jackets. It's an important message to all to take pride in our appearances – this is a life long lesson that will hopefully stay with your children always.

School Photos are in Week 4. All children will need their own school tie please. Envelopes were sent home on Tuesday.

I hope you are finding the information from **Parenting ideas Schools** sent to all parents via the skoolbag app interesting. This week the information relates to developing independence in primary school. This information is there to support teachers and parents in raising healthy happy children.

Woolworths Earn & Learn stickers are back starting July 26th until 19th September. If you or your friends/neighbours and family shop at Woolworths you can collect stickers. For every \$10 spent at Woolworths you can earn stickers, then complete a sticker sheet (available from the office). These sticker sheets are dropped into a collection box at school. These are then added up and in partnership with Modern Teaching Aids the school can choose from a number of resources based on curriculum areas.

Playgroup will commence on Monday 31st July (Week 3) each fortnight if we have some interested parents to set up the activities (toys/books) in the hall! If you have 1

hour or 1.5 hours to spare on a Monday morning please let me know so I can add your name to my very small team.

Class Assemblies – please note some date changes in the Term dates for Year 2, Year 1/2 and Year 1K (please see “Dates for your Diary” at the end of this newsletter).

Year 1 swimming program starts Tuesday! Please be sure that you have returned your permission form and we are encouraging parents to help out at the pool please. We especially need a male parent to monitor and help the boys in the change rooms – Please note you must have your Working with Children Check number and registered your number at our office.

Regional Athletics Carnival was held on Tuesday at Glendale. Congratulations to Slater Kidd, Evan Barrass, Ayden Lawrence, Mia Delaney and Emily Sweetman who represented Holy Spirit at the Regional Carnival. We look forward to publishing any further information regarding Diocesan representation.

Movie/PJs Night has been cancelled due to many risk factors. Speaking with Paul O’Heir, Principal at Kurri and myself, the P&F has made a joint decision to cancel the movie night. Risk factors we spoke about included the cold evening weather, lack of lighting eating outside and other contributing factors. We look forward to future P&F events throughout this semester.

God Bless,

Charlene Reid
Principal

Assistant Principal News Positive Behaviour for Learning

This term the staff at Holy Spirit Infants’ school will begin focussing our reward system in the classroom and playground on Positive Behaviour for Learning, or PBL. PBL is a whole school approach to teaching children positive behaviours to assist them in becoming more successful academically and socially. After all, if a child does not know how to swim or read, we teach them. However, if a child does not know how to behave, should we first teach them or punish them?

Our PBL Framework, seen below, has four main areas:

- I am Safe!
- I am Respectful!
- I am Responsible!
- I am a Learner!

Under each of these headings are statements about positive behaviours we would like demonstrated by the children at Holy Spirit.

Holy Spirit PBL Expectations			
I am Catholic!			
I am Safe!	I am Respectful!	I am Responsible!	I am a Learner!
I walk on tar, concrete and around buildings.	I am honest. I am kind. I include and don't exclude.	I am in the right place at the right time. I care for the school environment. I care for my belongings.	I listen carefully. I participate in lessons. I follow instructions. I do my best.
I have safe hands, safe feet and safe words.	I say please and thank you.	I wear our uniform with pride.	
I use the play equipment safely.	I respond to teachers and adults positively.		
I am Sun Smart.			
I use my ABC! (avoid the situation, be assertive, call for help)			

We take one step at a time! Every 2-3 weeks the staff at Holy Spirit Infants will choose a positive behaviour to focus upon based on the needs of our children. This behaviour will be talked about with children at assemblies, in the classroom and on the playground. Questions such as “What does.... look like?”, “How do you know when you are...?” or “Why should we ...?” help children to understand what the positive behaviour looks like and its importance. Children are rewarded with a GOTCHA when they are caught demonstrating this behaviour.

Our first focus for term 3 is part of “I am Responsible”:

“I am in the right place at the right time.”

Being in the right place at the right time means:

- Responding to the bell by walking straight to assembly or sitting in two lines outside the classroom,
- Following the teacher’s instructions when he or she asks the class to sit on the floor or at their desks,

- Playing in bounds on the playground, and
- Sitting to eat our lunch.

Please talk to your children about “I am in the right place at the right time” at school, and what this looks like and means at home. Congratulate him or her when they receive a GOTCHA for demonstrating this behaviour.

Rebecca Kearns
Assistant Principal

Pre-loved School Uniforms

If anyone has any unwanted school uniforms the second hand uniform shop would love to have them.

It is very much appreciated by many families. Please phone Kerrie Phillips if you would like to purchase second hand uniforms, her phone number is 0412 264 446.

Skoolbag School App

Our school has our own Skoolbag iPhone and Android App to help us communicate more effectively with our Parent/Student community. We are asking parents/students to install our Skoolbag School App. To install it, just search for our school name Holy Spirit School Kurri Kurri and Abermain in either the Apple App Store or Google Play Store.

For Windows users search for Skoolbag in the Windows Store and install the app and then find your school. Please note it must be a Windows 8.1 or 10 device.

Awards

Term 2 2017, Weeks 9 & 10

Class Captains Isabelle Winsor Okeefe, Hugh McLennan, Thomas Connell, Isabella Crouch, Treasure Trainor, Jasper Schoupp, Taya Porter, Mason Parry, Bailey Knox, Emily Sweetman, Louis McKay, Shonoa Appelkamp, Clayne Harper, Evie Dorn, Sophie O’Brien, Regan Masterson, Emerson Power, Jayden Thomas, Slater Kidd and Maddison Curtis.

Class Awards

KM Jim Foster, Olivah Cole, Ava Bennett, Hugh McLennan, Aster Smith and Isabelle Winsor Okeefe.

KS Lucy Connell, Ava Trow, Fletcher Plessiet, Macey Brogan, Isaac Holz and Audrey O’Brien.

Year 1 Lachlan Woollard, Siena Lawrence, Sophie Willetts, Xavier Cook, Erin Haddock and Sophie O’Brien.

Year 1/2 Jayden Thomas, Holly Harper, Frankie Haider, Holly Crouch, Taylah Brewer-Cameron and Tiah Richardson.

Year 2 Maddison Curtis, Blake Haddock, Lexie Maunder, Sophia Nevin, Isaiah Sulendro and Ella Stewart.

Principal Awards

Week 9 Fruit of the Spirit – Gentleness

Ava Bennett, Olivah Cole, Dakota Denham, Evie Dorn, Rohan Freeman, Preston Zaichenko, Tiah Richardson, Monique Wilesmith, Kayla Crockett and Mila Lubinski.

Week 10 Fruit of the Spirit

Aster Smith, Bonnie Sumner, Layton Johnstone, Kinjal Mavji, Monique Wilesmith, Frankie Haider, Mav Gibson and Brandi Shaw.

Manners Isabelle Winsor Okeefe, Will Firth, Rory Kelly, Rain Dela Gente, Boston Sumner, Myah Palmer, Parthip Gopakumar, Zane Freeman and Bailey Knox.

Gotchas Hugh McLennan, Allie Collingwood, Zane Freeman, Eli Ozimek, Kayla Crockett, Isabelle Winsor Okeefe, Lucy Connell, Clayne Harper and Ethan Clough.

Class News – KS

In KS we have been incorporating play based learning across our Key Learning Areas. Learning through play engages the students in new experiences and allows them to make sense of the world around them. Play based learning also encourages creativity and enhances social, emotional and cognitive skills. With lots of class discussions and student input, we have designed play spaces in our classroom. Students enjoyed the planning process, especially with the puppet theatre that they designed, made and painted themselves. KS students love exploring these spaces and these are some of these thoughts:

Will: I really like the building table because I like to build things.

Ava T: I love free play because I get to draw and play in the office with my friends.
Isaac: I like playing schools on the white board.
Macey: I like to play with the dolls and horses in the dollhouse.
Lewis: I think the building table is fun; I like to build cars and bears.

Kinjal: I like playing in the puppet theatre because there are lots of good puppets and make people laugh.

Regards

Erin Saxby



School Photos 9th August



Full winter school uniform is expected for school photos. We ask that you use school colour hair accessories only on this day as per the uniform policy. All envelopes need to be returned on the day and handed directly to the photographer. If you require a **family photo**, special envelopes are available at the office. Please don't seal envelopes inside each other. You can pay for all children in one envelope however each child needs to have their own envelope on photo day. Please enclose correct money as no change is given. Cash and money orders only (sorry no credit cards accepted). MSP photography will be taking the photos. Thank you for your support of this event.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Important Dates

Term 3

Week 1

- 21st July NAIDOC day (wear red, black, yellow)
23rd July Young People's Mass

Week 2

- 25th July Year 1 swimming commences
28th July Parish Mass 9.15am

Week 3

- 1st August Year 1 swimming
4th August Diocesan Athletics Carnival, Glendale

Week 4

- 7th August Feast of Mary MacKillop
8th August Year 1 swimming
9th August School Photos

Week 5

- TBC Abermain Eisteddfod
15th August Year 1 Swimming
18th August Year 2 Assembly

Week 6

Book Week: Escape to Everywhere!

- 22nd August Year 1 swimming
25th August Grandparents' Day & Book Fair at Abermain
27th August Blessing of the Land

Week 7 (literacy and numeracy week)

- 29th August Year 1 swimming
31st August Father's Day Breakfast: liturgy & stage performances (Kurri Kurri)
1st September 1K Assembly
Spelling Bee
Maths Groups

Week 8

- 4th September Dress up as Super Hero for Muscular Dystrophy Week
6th September Meet Your Buddy Day!

Week 9

- 15th Sept 1/2 Assembly

Week 10

- 22nd Sept Last Day of Term 3.

Canteen News

Monday 24th July	Wednesday 26th July	Friday 28th July
Kiona Sunerton Naomi Davey	Emily Castles	Bec Campton Lynda Gibson
Monday 31st July	Wednesday 2nd August	Friday 4th August
Jodie Connell	Amy Rowley	Liz Johnstone Mel Mazzitelli

HOW TO SURVIVE THE HSC!



Christine Chapple is an Education Officer (Secondary Curriculum) and experienced teacher who specialises in the process of the HSC.

Christine will provide tips for parents to assist them in supporting their child as they prepare, experience and recover from the HSC.

WHEN: Wednesday, 26th July, 2017
TIME: 6.00pm
WHERE: St Mary's ASC
16 Grant Street, MAITLAND
(enter through the gates in Bent St opposite the basketball stadium)

RSVP: Cath Garrett-Jones (for catering purposes) – Friday, 21 July.
E: cath.garrett-jones@mn.catholic.edu.au
P: 4979 1303



Have you got your ticket to ASPIRE's upcoming show, **The Hoarders Next Door**?

The evening shows are selling fast so don't miss out!

Friday, August 4 & 5 – 7pm

Get your tickets through Ticketek today.