



NEWSLETTER

HOLY SPIRIT INFANTS ABERMAIN

8 June 2017

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Dear Parents and Carers,

Pentecost is a very special Feast Day for Holy Spirit Schools because we celebrate the coming of the Holy Spirit to the disciples giving us the Gifts of the Holy Spirit. Here at Holy Spirit Infants School we present Fruits of the Spirit certificates each week for faithfulness, love, self-control, kindness, peace, joy, patience, goodness and gentleness. At our beautiful liturgy on Monday I explained to the children that we all have these gifts, much like a present, however these gifts are given to us to share with others NOT to keep them to ourselves. As adults we share our gifts each and every day with our children and our loved ones and we do this unconditionally. I witness this every day here at Abermain, you are all bringing joy to your children and loving them in so many different ways.

In keeping with the theme of Pentecost and the Gifts of the Holy Spirit, it has been ten years since the huge floods that caused devastation in this local community, Abermain and Weston. Ten years ago due to two full days of rain causing flooding and fallen trees and of course the Pasha Bulker (8th June, 2007) ran aground in Newcastle this community was also hit hard including loss of life. Mrs Seamer has found snippets of our school newsletter written by a previous Principal, Niamh Marzol, which I would like to share with you displaying the truly wonderful community in which we belong to.

“What a true gift of self to others and a fine example of living the Gospel values. We are constantly reminded of how fortunate we are by the misfortune of others and when we act and give of ourselves to these people we are living life to the full and allowing others to do the same.” The newsletter continues to acknowledge peoples’ generosity in their time and donations in a time of need. I would like to take a moment to think back ten years to now – we as a Catholic community still hold the same values and generous spirit and I would like to think in ten more years we will be able to say the same. I am certain this will be the case.

I’m sure your child has come home this week talking about a boat! Yes we do have a boat in our playground thanks to our wonderful Pat Sharkey who has again given us a piece of himself. Pat you are a very special part of Holy Spirit Infants School and we love how you look after us. The children absolutely love the play they are experiencing! We are going to name our boat “Paddy” - Pat has also spent many hours constructing our Outdoor Learning Area building giant scales, rock garden, PVC pipes, construction bench and a mud kitchen! Thank you Pat!



Thank you to the P&F Committee and your generosity during fundraising activities for supporting our Outdoor learning Area. Your generosity has bought puppets, blocks and hopefully will contribute to the cost of shade cloth for our Outdoor Learning Area.

A representative, Bronwyn, from StartSmart visited our school this week to talk about financial literacy. Bronwyn explained in a very child friendly manner about the difference between needs and wants... “We speed to our needs and wait for our wants”.... How’s that going at home? I recently interviewed a young person for Kinder 2018 who went to the shops to buy a toy but couldn’t go past a pair of warm boots he liked! He bought the boots! Clothing is a need – whereas a toy is a want! Good job!

Congratulations to all our athletes who participated in our combined Abermain/Kurri Kurri Athletics Carnival last Friday. Well done to our children who jumped, ran, threw and played many games. Thank you to our parent helpers. We were definitely blessed with wonderful weather.

We would like to have Playgroup here at Abermain fortnightly starting in Term 3. I have helpers from Family Insight for every second session but I am calling out for your help to set up playgroup on the days Family Insight are not available please. This will involve a group of parents or carers setting up some books and games in the hall for approx. one and half hours on a morning that suits you – any volunteers please? Of course if you have young children, they are most welcome to come along! Please contact Charlene Reid if you are able to help out. Thank you.

Teachers are busy writing reports and I have the pleasure of reading them and also commenting. I look forward to reading the great progress and achievements your children have made so far this year. Reports will go home Monday 19/6 – a note will be sent home with interview availability times for you to complete and return to school. I hope you will celebrate your child's successes with them.

Enjoy your long weekend!

Charlene Reid
Principal

Assistant Principal News

Reading is Important!

It is report writing time for teachers. During this time, we report and comment on many aspects of your child's development. In an infants school, one of the most important academic areas we report and comment on is your child's reading development.

Reading has always been an important skill. In our modern world it is more important than ever. Often parents are asked by the school to listen to their child read at home and it's a good way of supporting your child's reading. Sometimes the reader may seem too easy. However, usually the reader sent home is at your child's "independent" reading level. This means that they should make minimal mistakes or no more than one mistake in every 20 words read. Sending home an easier reader gives your son or daughter an opportunity to practice his or her fluency.

Reading fluency is the ability to reading accurately, quickly and with expression. **Fluency** is important because it provides a bridge between word recognition and comprehension. When fluent readers **read** silently, they recognize words automatically. They group words quickly to help them gain meaning from what they **read**.

Hints for reading with and listening to your child read:

- Before reading, talk about the cover, the title, the pictures, and discuss what the book may be about.

- During reading, discuss what has been read up to that point, and imagine what will happen next time.
- After reading is finished, talk and ask questions about the story and the pictures.
- When reading a harder book together, take turns. Beginning readers can read the repetitive parts and more experienced readers can read a paragraph or a page.
- On finding an unknown word:

Pause to give your child time to work out the word

Prompt

- go back to the beginning of the sentence, or read past the difficult word to the end of the sentence.
- look for a clue in the picture or the words
- look at the first letter and think about what the words could be
- ask "Does this make sense?"
- try to sound out the word
- if necessary tell your child the word

Praise your child for trying even if mistakes are made.

For more information visit:
<http://www.curriculumsupport.education.nsw.gov.au/literacy/parents/index.htm>

Rebecca Kearns
Assistant Principal

Religion News

Devastating news of terror attacks have continued to be the focus of news over the past fortnight. Both Manilla and London have been the targets of these sad incidents. Please keep in your thoughts and prayers all the people who lost their lives. We also pray for their friends and family, that they may have strength during this extremely difficult time.

Young Peoples Mass

Thank you to those students and families that came and helped Holy Spirit, Kurri take part in the Young people's mass on the 28th May. It is beautiful to see our young ones participating in mass. Father James does a terrific job interacting with the children and getting them to be involved and understand the gospel.





Pentecost Feast Day



Wow! What an amazing celebration we had this week for our Schools Feast Day. The children definitely demonstrated the fruits of the spirit throughout the day. Holy Spirit celebrated with a

beautiful liturgy and special Fruit of the Spirit Awards. The children then rotated around the school and participated in fun activities that included craft, cooking, dancing and sport.



In the bible, Pentecost was when the Holy Spirit came down upon the disciples and they spoke in their native language. We are all filled with the Holy Spirit too and share this with others through the 9 Fruits of the Spirit; Love, Joy, Peace, Patience, Kindness, Goodness, Faithfulness, Gentleness and Self-Control.

At Pentecost, it is good to remember the transforming effect of the Holy Spirit. When our world looks bleak, when we walk in sadness and anxiety, when nothing seems right, the Spirit of God stirs the energy of joy within us. When restlessness or boredom or disappointment takes hold of us, the Spirit deepens in us the energy of peace. As we struggle to believe in our own gifts and blessings, the Spirit strengthens in us the energy of goodness. When a look of love is all someone needs, the Spirit creates in us the energy of kindness. When our moods are dominated by harshness and our words by disrespect, the Spirit blesses us with the energy of gentleness.

In the challenges that confront us and the choices we have to make, why not call on the Holy Spirit who 'comes to help us in our weakness'?

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 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.

**God Bless,
Bec Cook
Relieving Religious Education Coordinator.**

Lost Clothing

Please ensure you have your child's name on all items of clothing.

Book Club

Issue 4 of Book Club is due in by Thursday 15th June.

Pastoral Care News

Please return permission note for those people who wish for their child to participate in the Seasons for Growth program.

School Uniforms

I have noted that many students are not wearing the correct school uniform in particular the correct shoes, jumpers and no tie. The school uniform is recognised by everyone in the community and looks beautiful. I ask parents to ensure your child is dressed in the correct uniform.

School Fees Reminder

Term 2 school fees are now overdue. Please finalise you accounts as soon as possible. If you need to make an appointment to discuss your situation, please contact the office to make arrangements.

If you have an eligible Health Care Card, and we are not aware of this, you need to advise the school and appropriate paperwork completed.

Year 2 families are reminded that they require a fee

clearance before being accepted into Holy Spirit Kurri. A fee release is only given when fees are up to date or circumstances have been discussed with the principal.

Pupil Free Day

Don't forget the PUPIL FREE DAY 17th July, the first day back in Term 3.

Beanies for Brain Cancer – 20th June



Holy Spirit Abermain invite students to wear a beanie on Tuesday the 20th of June for a gold coin donation to support the Mark Hughes foundation. Their normal school uniform is to be worn.

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.

Awards

Term 2 2017, Weeks 5 & 6

Class Captains Eliza Kekevski, Flynn McLennan, Lucy Connell, Layton Johnstone, Sophie Willetts, Preston Zaichenko, Tiah Richardson, Zane Freeman, Axel Bailey and Marcella Daoud.

Class Awards

KM Charlie Bull, Ryder Lewis and Hugh McLennan.

KS Rylee Carter, Evie Dorn and Allie Collingwood

Year 1 Marlie Weller, Sebastian Farrell-Wettig and Treasure Trainor.

Year 1/2 Reagan Splet, Jylan O'Keefe and Zane Freeman.

Year 2 Emily Sweetman, Damon Southeron and Amity Pilgrim.

Principal Awards

Week 5 Fruit of the Spirit – Love

Shonoa Appelkamp, Mason Callaway, Thomas Connell, Ava Trow, Maddison Griffith, Aidan Shakespeare, Mia Delaney, Holly Crouch, Evan Barrass and Sophia Nevin.

Manners Jim Foster, Lewis Lodo, Lachlan Woollard, Jayden Thomas and Boston Sumner.

Gotchas Hannah Charker, Jim Foster, Louis McKay, Fletcher Plessiet, Thomas Connell, Layton Johnstone, Audrey O'Brien, Isaac Holz, Isabella Crouch, Maya Bennett, Maddison Griffith, Ricky Heard-Talbott, Hayden Hughes, Charlotte Jolliffe, Addison McKay, Jasper Schoupp, Stella Walker, Carter Kinsley-Cook, Holly Crouch, Taya Porter, Brodee Sunerton and Jylan O'Keefe.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Important Dates

Term 2

Week 8

12th June Queen's Birthday Public Holiday
15th June Kinder 2018 interviews
Book Club due.

Week 9

19th June School Reports sent home
20th June Wear a beanie to school for Brain Cancer. Normal school uniform. Gold coin donation.
20th June Gymnastics program ends today

Week 10

30th June Last Week Term 2

Term 3

Week 1

17th July Pupil Free Day (no classes)
18th July First day (Tuesday)

Week 4

9th August School Photos

Canteen News

Monday 12th June	Wednesday 14th June	Friday 16th June
NO CANTEEN PUBLIC HOLIDAY	Sandy Padilla	Jacinda Shaw Michael Shaw
Monday 19th June	Wednesday 21st June	Friday 23rd June
Amy Rowley	Hannah Foley	Bec Campton Natalie Osland


Nutrition Snippet

The simplest way

...to warm a winter night with Asian Noodle Soup.

Serves: 4 | Prep time: 10 mins | Cooking time: 5 mins

Ingredients

- 4 cups salt reduced chicken stock
- ¼ Chinese cabbage, finely sliced
- 2 tbs coriander, chopped
- 1 bunch bok choy, shredded
- 1 tsp ginger, finely chopped
- 2 tbs reduced-salt soy sauce
- 1 tbs fish sauce
- 1 small red chilli, finely sliced (optional)
- 125g Hokkien egg noodles, cooked
- 1 cup skinless chicken, cooked and shredded
- 1 cup mung bean sprouts
- 1 spring onion, sliced



Method

Bring stock and cabbage to the boil in a large pot. Simmer over gentle heat for 5 minutes or until tender. Add chilli, coriander, bok choy, ginger and sauces. Divide hot noodles and chicken between 4 deep serving bowls. Ladle soup mixture over noodles, add bean sprouts and garnish with spring onion.

For more information visit
www.eatittobeatit.com.au
or join us at facebook.com/eatittobeatit

