Dear Parents of Holy Family,

With the celebration of Ash Wednesday today, we have begun this season of Lent. Next week we celebrate Catholic Schools Week. The theme of Catholic Schools Week this year is ‘More than a great education.’ To me, it is indeed significant that this event happens within the period of Lent when we are all trying to ‘be more, rather than having more.’ Catholic Education is more than knowledge and skills—it is the formation of the whole person in faith, relationships and self identity. Lent is about becoming a better person through our relationship with Christ.

A key way to become closer to others and closer to God is to find acts that celebrate these relationships. I offer the following reflection as one way of growing in our relationships this Lenten season:

- Fast from bitterness; feast on forgiveness.
- Fast from self-concern; feast on compassion for others.
- Fast from discouragement; feast on hope.
- Fast from suspicion; feast on truth.
- Fast from gossip; feast on purposeful silence.
- Fast from problems that overwhelm; feast on prayer that sustains.

May Catholic Schools Week, and the season of Lent, allow each of us opportunity to celebrate what sets us apart as people of Christ. We are each called to be the face of Jesus in our world today.

Yours in family,

Mrs S. Guilfoyle
Principal

In Christ we Live, Love and Learn.
Scripture Reflection
Mt 4:1-11 Jesus fasted for forty days and nights.
In Matthew’s Gospel this week we hear about Jesus fasting out in the wilderness and being tempted by the devil. Lent is a season of invitation. It is an invitation to be in the wilderness with Jesus, to confront our temptations and to renew our trust in what God wants for us. If we can try to do this then Lent becomes so much more than fasting from meat and giving up ice cream or chocolate for a few weeks. The idea of fasting and sacrificing is an attempt to make our lives simpler. Through simplifying our lives and removing some of the daily distractions (or temptations), we can share in the wilderness experience of Jesus and then truly celebrate the hope reborn in the Resurrection at Easter.

Project Compassion
This week each family will receive a Project Compassion Box. The theme for Caritas Australia’s Project Compassion campaign is “Have life and have it to the full,” John 10:10. Caritas Australia continues to try to achieve its aim of ending poverty, promoting Justice and upholding dignity through effective partnerships in humanitarian relief and development and by transforming hearts and minds in the community.
We try to teach the children that it is not just about asking mum or dad for money to put in the Project Compassion box. It is about them sacrificing something they want and instead of buying that thing putting that money in the box. Once boxes are filled they can returned to school or to the Church.

Mr Stephen Bawden
Religious Education Co-ordinator

CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK 2014
Please join us to celebrate the ‘More than A Great Education’ that the children of Holy Family enjoy everyday.
- Monday 10th  Open Classrooms 9:00-10:00
- Tuesday 11th  Primary Cross Country at Colquhoun Park 9:30am
- Wednesday 12th  World Maths Day - classroom activities
- Thursday 13th  Teachers ‘School Days’ talk 2:00-2:30pm
- Friday 14th  Catholic Schools Week Prayer 2:00pm in Hall
Harmony Day at Holy Family

Harmony Day is celebrated each year around Australia where all Australians celebrate our cultural diversity. It is a day that gives people the opportunity to celebrate what makes each Australian unique and share what we have in common.

At Holy Family, we are celebrating Harmony Day on Friday 21st March. The theme for this year is “Together We Can.”

The children can wear cultural costumes on the day, something that represents their cultural heritage. Please make sure that the children wear appropriate footwear that is safe.

This year we are celebrating Harmony Day with a group of African-Brazilian dancers performing for the children during the day. This group focuses on dance, martial arts, acrobatics, music and song. The students will love keeping the beat as the Capoeiristas display their energy and athleticism.

To encourage the children to understand and enjoy our multi cultural community, we would like to extend an invitation to parents and grandparents to come and share a PICNIC LUNCH with their children. It is a good opportunity to bring along a blanket and some traditional food to share with your family in the playground or on our grass area.

After lunch, a prayer to celebrate Harmony Day will take place in the hall, giving our community the opportunity to recognise what makes us Australian and how we all belong. Parents are invited to share this prayer with us. We are looking forward to sharing this day with you.

Mrs Lynn Coleman & Mr Steve Bawden

Learning Matters from the Assistant Principal

Next week is Catholic Schools Week and that makes me wonder – what is it that we do every day that makes us a Catholic community?

Every school values learning. Every school wants their students to improve. Maybe the thing that makes us special is the reason WHY we value those things.

On the first day of school, I explained this to our wonderful teachers: we are here because

JESUS TOLD US HE CAME SO THAT WE CAN HAVE LIFE TO THE FULL. John 10:10

We teach your children to read, write, count, think, play, share, add, take away, run, jump, help, care – to live, love and learn – so that they will have FULLNESS OF LIFE.

We talk about lots of fancy things here at school. Reading Recovery, Drama Literacy, Numeracy Blocks, Guided Reading and all those fancy words basically mean different ways of helping your beautiful young people be the best ‘them’ they can be.

And you know what? By helping them be the best ‘them’ they can be, we become the best ‘us’ we can be.

Mr Benjamin Munday
Assistant Principal

In Christ we Live, Love and Learn.
**Calendar**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Friday 7th March</td>
<td>Staff Development Day on Student Well-being</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>NO SCHOOL FOR STUDENTS</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday 10th March</td>
<td>9:00-10:00 am Open Classrooms – please come and visit</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday 11th March</td>
<td>9:30-11:00 Primary Cross Country (Colquhoun Park)</td>
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<td>Friday 14th March</td>
<td>2pm Catholic Schools Week Prayer in Hall</td>
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**Catholic Schools Week**

This week we wish a very happy birthday to:
Brandon Zemblewski, Amy Vu, Erica Chen, Rizul Wagle, Elizabeth El Bouty

Our GIANT Easter Basket Raffle is Back!
Over the past five years our annual Easter basket raffle has become a special highlight of our school year. Last year we raised $1504 with 138 baskets given as prizes. Can we do better this year?
Today all students will each receive a book of raffle tickets. Tickets remain at 20 cents each or $2 for the book of ten tickets.

Students will soon be invited to donate Easter eggs to make up the class baskets that are then raffled. The class with the best decorated baskets will also win a prize.

And more great news...there will again be a BIG BUNNY for raffle, thanks to the Mitchell family (Anbarasan Yr 3).

**Community News**

**Learn Music on Keyboard at Holy Family Primary School**
- 45 minute lesson weekly. Small group.
- Music material provided.
- Instrument not required initially.
- Keyboard purchase available.
- Beginners & children of all levels welcome.

VIP Music 9 am 5 pm (Mon-Fri) during school term - Call to Enrol 9411 3122

In Christ we Live, Love and Learn.