Welcome back to another school term. I hope that you all had a wonderful break and were able to spend some quality family time with your children. The holidays are always a wonderful opportunity to perhaps do some things that you are too busy to do during the school term. Everyone at some stage becomes ‘time poor’ but we really need to make sure that we make time to do the things that are important to us.

Prayer should be an important thing in your life. We often ask God for help, strength and courage but sometimes we forget to say ‘thanks’ for what we have. Prayer can be a private time for you when you speak to our Lord or it can be a time when you share your love and faith with your family and friends.

This term each week a different family will have the opportunity to set the prayer table in our School Office Foyer. When your family is rostered on you will be required to set the prayer table, with items that are significant to your family, on the Friday afternoon ready for the following week. We would also like you to write a couple of lines for the newsletter explaining why the items on the prayer table are important to your family or a special intention you would like us to pray for.

If you are interested in this wonderful chance to bring your family prayer life to our school community please fill in the form below, cut it off and return to school.

Staff Changes: As we commence the second half of our school year we welcome three new staff members:

- Miss Bainy commences as teacher of KG following Mrs Sacco’s resignation.
- Miss d’Argent joins the Yr 2 staff as an additional teacher while Miss Doherty assists literacy skill development across Kinder-Year 2
- Miss Warwick will join our Learning Support Team in Week 4 after she relocates from interstate. She will be replacing Ms McCarthy following her retirement.

We welcome each of these staff members to Holy Family, excited that they will each bring new skills to our school.

Prayer Table

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Mr Steve Bawden
REC

Office Prayer Table

The ________________ family would like to be on the prayer table roster.

Name and class of children ________________________________

__________________________________________________________________________
**Afternoon Dismissal Procedures**

During the coming weeks we will be trialling a new afternoon dismissal. The new procedure is:

1. **When the bell rings at 3:10pm,** parents may move from the playground seats to their child’s classroom to collect them from the teacher/s. No child will be dismissed before 3:10pm.

2. **Parents are asked not to wait on stairs and verandas for the children as this will cause congestion. Parents must remain in the playground area.**

Why have we done this? Despite playground rumours on Monday afternoon, there was no emergency or near miss that led us to this. Rather, it was concern about crowding in the playground when there are 320 students and approximately 200 adults arriving to pick them up. We are trialling this classroom dismissal so that staff and parents can be certain of student safety at this busy time of the day.

*Thank you for working with us to ensure the safety of our students—your beautiful children.*

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**Library News**

**CONGRATULATIONS to Year 4**

The winners of the coveted “Best Class in the Library” Trophy for term 2.

Year 4 won the trophy for working well in the library, listening to each other, completing tasks on time, focussing on their learning and helping to look after the equipment and books in the library.

Year 4 get to keep and display the trophy for Term 3 and have exclusive access to the library during lunchtime in the even weeks of that term (eg Weeks 2, 4…) *Well done Year 4!* 

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**Happy Birthday!**

We congratulate Rosemary Issa, Jocelyn Saba, Milad Daher, Elias Daher, Ellie Wehbe, Ashlesa Ghale, Samira Khoury, Mykah Sammut, Dylan Lu, Shreeshya Wagele, Chanel Kaloche, Ryan Nakhoul, Joanne Malkounian, Roni Korkmaz, Antonia Aoun, Joshua Mailangi, Marc Sleiman, Aiden Gore and Harrison Edwards who celebrated their birthday in the holidays and this week!

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**Community News**

**Phil Fit**

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**The National Solar Schools Program** provided funding to primary and secondary schools to install solar and other renewable power systems, rainwater tanks and a range of energy efficiency measures.

Holy Family received $55,000 to install Solar Panels.

Through this funding, we have received a range of benefits including: improving our energy efficiency, educating students about renewable energy through using real data from our solar power system and reducing our electricity costs.

Videos that showcase environmental activities being undertaken in solar schools across Australia are available online at: [http://bit.ly/14y1aFF](http://bit.ly/14y1aFF).

The Australian Government’s Living Greener website also provides some great tips for households to reduce their energy consumption. For further information go to: [www.livinggreener.gov.au/energy](http://www.livinggreener.gov.au/energy).

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**2013 - Celebrating 75 Years of Catholic Education at Holy Family School**