Religious Education Matters

Mr Bawden walks in the footsteps of Jesus

Our journey took us to Shepherd's Field in Bethlehem where Angels announced the Birth of Jesus to the shepherds. From here we went to the Church of the Nativity built over the birthplace of our Lord and to the Church of the Visitation where Mary visited her cousin Elizabeth.

Following in the footsteps of Jesus we entered the Holy City of Jerusalem. We followed the path of Jesus’ entry into Jerusalem on Palm Sunday and had mass overlooking the Old City. At the Mount of Olives we visited the area where Jesus taught the apostles to pray the Our Father.

We were very fortunate to be able to spend time in reflection in the Garden of Gethsemane. The following morning after a 6 hour thunder and hail storm the weather cleared just before we began tracing the Stations of the Cross ending at the Church of the Holy Sepulchre. We were able to touch the bedrock of Golgotha where Jesus was crucified and His tomb where he rose from the dead on Easter Sunday.
Reflecting on the meaning of ANZAC at our Liturgy. Remembering those men and women of courage who risk their lives so we can know peace.

We congratulate this week’s Student of the Week Award recipients:

- George Babi
- Deon Kumar
- Violet Makdissi
- Aweng Aguer
- Chris Mamari
- Charlotte Edwards
- Brayde Roebeck

Elias El Kadi
Lucas Kanaan
Adau Mawien
Angelina Wehbe
Harry Edwards
Justina Boudolh
Milad Issa

Change to Winter Uniform

ALL children will change to Winter uniform on Monday 4th May.

When shopping for Winter uniforms please remember:
- Sport shoes must be predominantly white
- Sport uniform is school sport shorts or navy tracksuit pants (no stripes or brand labels)
- Navy dance pants / leggings are not school uniform.
- Ties are to be worn by girls and boys.

In Christ we Live, Love and Learn.
It is heartbreaking to see the reports of destruction and human devastation emerging from Nepal this week.

We think of, pray for and cry with the many families in our community who have been affected by this tragedy.

Some Year 1 parents have approached me to urge our community to action. One of the best ways we can make a real difference at this critical stage in the emergency response is by sharing money through an organisation that will ensure the money goes exactly where it needs to be.

**This Friday we invite all students to wear mufti and bring a gold coin donation.** Money raised will be shared with our sisters and brothers in Nepal through Caritas Australia’s Nepal Earthquake Appeal. Your family might consider making an additional donation to the appeal too.


Mr Benjamin Munday
Assistant Principal

**First Holy Communion Parent Meeting**

Our first Holy Communion parent meeting will be held on Thursday at 3.30pm in the school hall. Fr Jerson will lead the meeting along-side the Parish Sacramental Coordinator. The meeting begins at 3.30pm. A letter went home last week with additional information. I am looking forward sharing this very special event with you and your families.

**Fr Clifford’s Last day**

Tomorrow is Fr Clifford’s last day as Parish Priest of Holy Family. We are in the process of organising a farewell for Fr Clifford and we will set a date as soon as Mr Bawden returns from Rome. We have been very blessed to have had Fr Clifford as our spiritual leader and friend. I wish Fr Clifford peace and happiness and he begins his new ministry with his new community.

Fr Andrew Bass will begin his appointment as Parish Administrator on Friday. I will invite Fr Andrew to our morning assembly early next week.
**Calendar**

**April/May**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday 30th April</td>
<td>First Communion Parent Meeting in hall 3:30pm.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday 1st May</td>
<td>Mufti Day—Gold coin donation to support Nepal Earthquake.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday 5th May</td>
<td>Diocesan Cross Country</td>
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**Birthday Wishes!**

Congratulations to the following students who celebrate their birthday this week: Diana Jbarah, Kristina Jbarah, Joelle Taouk, Peter Tabach, Sebastian El Katrib, Peace Coker-Macfory and Makayla Isaac.

**Diocesan Cross Country**

Next Tuesday is the Diocesan Cross Country. Our Cross Country squad will be competing against children from our Dioceses. We wish them the best of luck and I sincerely hope they enjoy the experience of competing at such a great venue. I wish to thank Mrs Peachey for her support in coordinating our team and this event.

**Mothers’ Day Gift Wrapping**

I wish to thank the many mums who have generously volunteered to wrap our Mothers’ Day presents next Tuesday morning. Our Mothers’ Day stall and Liturgy will be on Friday the 8th of May. I wish to extend an invitation to our community to join us for this very special liturgy to be held at 2.15pm in our school hall. A note will be sent home next week with further information.

**Scholastic Bookclub**

Orders for Issue 3 are due on Monday 4th May. Please make sure all orders are in by that date.

**2016 Enrolments**

Kindergarten enrolments for 2016 are now being accepted. Enrolment packages are available from the school office for collection. Please inform your family, friends and neighbours.

**Diocesan and Community News**

**POST SEPARATION RECOVERY PROGRAM- SPRINGWOOD**

CCSS Solo Parent Services is offering its seven week Post Separation Recovery Program for the first time at Springwood, commencing on **Wednesday 6th May. Time**: 7.30pm – 9.45pm. **Venue**: Presbyterian Church Hall, 150 Macquarie Rd, Springwood. **Registration essential**. For further details contact Eileen or Rita on 9933 0205 or email soloparentservices@ccss.org.au

**MARRIAGE ANNULMENT INFORMATION NIGHT**

Each year CCSS Solo Parent Services present an Information Session to help people understand the process of Marriage Annulments in the Catholic Church. The evening is open to anyone who is interested. **Venue**: Mamre House, 181 Mamre Rd Orchard Hills **Date**: Tues 5th May **Time**: 7.30pm – 9.30pm. **Cost**: $7.00. **Registration**: Rita or Eileen. PH: 9933 0205 or Email: soloparentservices@ccss.org.au

*In Christ we Live, Love and Learn.*