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OTHER NOTES DISTRIBUTED THIS WEEK:

Sausage Sizzle
Thursday 27th June.
NO orders accepted after Tuesday 25th June.

Dear Families of Holy Family,

This week the community celebrates Refugee Week. This is a special week set aside to bring attention to the lives of refugees, and the political, financial and religious reasons that have seen them seeking safety in new countries. This is particularly significant in our community as we have welcomed a number of refugee families throughout our school history.

Of significance for many in our community, is the current situation in Syria. The number of registered Syrian refugees in the Middle East stands at over 1.5 million. In addition, there are hundreds of thousands of refugees still to be registered. As a country with a population of just 4.3 million, Lebanon alone is hosting more than one million Syrian refugees.

As a nation, Australia too welcomes many refugees. Within our school community we have welcomed Sudanese refugees and Iraqi refugees. There is often political debate and public opinion on this matter. As a Catholic community we would say that the over riding judgement must always be “What would Jesus do?” If we are truly followers of the Gospels, we should make it our mission to welcome those in need. To become a refugee the situation in one’s own country has become so intolerable that there is no other choice than to leave everything that you have ever known in search of a better life for your children. It has become less about choice, and more about necessity.

This week, may we take the opportunity to thank God for the peace that we enjoy in Australia and may we pray that all refugees seeking safety in new countries are welcomed and embraced as members of God’s world wide family.

Yours in family,

Mrs. Sue Guilfoyle
Principal
Religious Education Matters

Sunday, 23 Jun 2013: Twelfth Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year C

Lk 9:18-24  ‘If anyone wants to be a follower of mine, let him renounce himself and take up his cross every day and follow me. For anyone who wants to save his life will lose it; but anyone who loses his life for my sake, will save it.’

In Sunday’s Gospel Jesus offers us a way to freedom. He tells us that if we can put our own ego aside and put others first then we have a life with him, free from the burden of selfishness, jealousy and conflict with others. Our daily cross is to be aware of the needs of others and to respond with love.

Let us see if this week we can ‘take up our cross’ and make sure we put others first.

St Vincent de Paul Winter Sleep Out

At this Thursday’s assembly we will be handing over our food hampers and funds raised for the Winter Sleep Out to representatives from the St Vincent de Paul Society. There will also be a short movie that the Yr6 Students have made on their experiences.

Our school has made a fantastic effort to support St Vincent de Paul through the collection of food hampers, $234.00 collected on Scarf & Beanie Day and $440.00 raised by our Year 6 Sleep Out students. A truly great effort from a great school community.

Student Awards

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

Rachael Maatouk  Mary Rose Kaloush
Annalise Salit    Sam Hannouch
Ivana Nehme      Larissa El Hayek
Sam Georges      Elias Issa
Milad Daher      Alexander Lehnen
Vernessa Yi      Mark Sleiman
Mary Anne Takchi Ashley Eldick

Mini Fete this Friday

The wait is over … the Year 6 Mini Fete is this Friday. There will be lots of different stalls:

The White Elephant Stall  Ice-cream Stall
Cake and Lolly Stall      Soccer Shoot-out
Chocolate Wheel            Hairspray and Face-painting,

And lots more!

It is a mufti day for everyone. We ask each child bring in a packet of chips or a popper and bring your pocket money!

If there are any parents who can help with providing cakes/cupcakes/lamingtons/lolly bags etc. that would be fantastic. The success of this day helps to reduce the cost of the Year 6 Canberra excursion in Term 3.

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

Zoo Safari
This term, Year Two have been learning about small animals and insects as part of our Science unit ‘Schoolyard Safari’. Earlier on in the term, we went on an excursion to Taronga Zoo to listen to a workshop on insects and small animals. We also got to see exciting animals at the zoo. Stay tuned for our Zoo Presentation coming soon to HFSTV.

‘My favourite part was touching the snake’ Shreesha.

‘We learnt about lots of small animals in our environment.’ Kreepa

‘We had a great time’ – Rizul

TEACHERS ARE LEARNERS TOO

We hope that it is great comfort for parents to know that the staff of Holy Family stay up to date with current teaching methods and syllabus documents by attending teacher professional development day courses. It has been a very busy six months with staff attending a variety of courses. These courses have included:

- K, Yr 1 & Yr 2 Literacy - improving reading and writing for our students
- K, Yr 1 & Yr 2 Numeracy - improving mathematics for our students
- Reading Recovery Training
- NSW K-10 English Syllabus
- Space & Measurement in the Mathematics Syllabus
- Physical Education Skills
- Religious Education – the Year 4 & Year 6 Religious Literacy Test
- Using educational apps on the iPads
- The Live Life Well at School Program
- Administering educational assessments

In addition to these courses, staff attend meetings on Tuesday afternoons to share additional professional learning on CPR, child protection, ICT and additional work on the areas mentioned above.

We acknowledge the great work done by our teachers in committing themselves to these extra learning opportunities.
**Crunch and Sip Program – from Week 1 Term 3**

Did you know that eating fruit and vegetables everyday helps children grow and develop, boosts their vitality and can reduce the risk of many chronic diseases? Therefore, from the start of Term 3, Holy Family School is introducing a Crunch and Sip break in all classes, each day at 10am. Every child is required to bring in a piece of fruit or pre-prepared vegetables that they can have as a quick snack in class during this time. Incentives and rewards will be given to children who consistently bring in fruit or vegetables to eat.

Please bring in fruit or vegetables that do not need any preparation and that are easy and quick to eat.

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**Enrolments 2014**

Kindergarten 2013 enrolments will be finalised next week. Please ensure your family and friends have submitted their forms. If you know of anyone wishing to enrol please tell them now is the time!

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**Half Yearly Reports**

To ensure that our Half Yearly Reports really represent as much learning time as possible, staff are currently preparing your child's Half Yearly Report.

This means that all reports will be proofread, finalised and copied over the upcoming holiday break. Reports will be distributed on Wednesday 17th July and parent/teacher meetings will held in Week 2 of school. During these meetings we will look back on the first six months and set learning goals for the final six months of the year.

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**Slice Fundraising Drive**

Thank you to those families that supported this recent fundraising event. Through your collective efforts we raised a total of $380. This is an encouraging effort, and we know that when others see these yummy treats they will wish that they had placed an order!

Slices will be delivered and distributed next Monday. Family orders will be placed in bags and given to your child to bring home. If you know that you have a large number of slices to be collected, then please ensure you collect your child from school.

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**Family Holidays**

All families are asked to be mindful of the disruption caused to student learning when they are removed from school for extended family holidays. Where possible, extended trips should be limited to the school holiday periods.

The NSW Government, and Catholic Education Office, require families to complete an Exemption from School Form and submit this for the principal’s approval at least two weeks before the scheduled absence. If the absence is for overseas travel, or for a period longer than 20 days, copies of travel tickets must be attached. This form is available from the Office and the school website.
**Calendar**

**June**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Thursday 20th June</td>
<td>2.00pm Whole School Assembly—Led by Kinder, Yr 2 &amp; 4.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday 21st June</td>
<td>9.10am Parish Mass—Year 3 attending.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday 25th June</td>
<td>Stage 2 Boy’s Soccer Gala Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday 27th June</td>
<td>11.00am Principal’s Award Morning Tea — Sausage Sizzle Lunch—No canteen lunch orders.</td>
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**Birthday Wisher!**

We congratulate Kuach Mathiang who celebrates his birthday this week!

**School Fees**

Thankyou to everyone that has already paid the school fees.

Please note, school fee payments are now overdue for Term 2, school fees must be finalised. Payments can be made by cash, cheque, EFTPOS, BPAY or at the Post Office.

**What do we want our school to be known for?**

It was very sad to recently to hear that many new parents thought that they had to ‘just get use to’ the way that other parents spoke in the playground. This is a very sad reflection upon our community.

All parents are again reminded of community expectations to speak appropriately whatever native language is being used. You may be speaking in your language but there are others that can also understand what you are saying!!

**Community News**

**School Holiday Kids Astronomy Programs**

**JULY 2013**

**Family Astronomy Nights - Saturday 6 & 13 July (7pm – 9 pm)**

**Hitchhikers Guide to the Universe**

These nights will include a visual presentation, a 3D astronomy movie and viewing of the night sky through the University’s 0.6m and 0.25m telescopes. Our programs run regardless of the weather.

**Kids Fun Day - Wednesday 10 July (10 am – 12 noon)**

**Fun with the Sun**

The sun makes life possible — come along and find out about our nearest star. In addition to a short presentation you will be able to watch a 3D astronomy movie, water rockets being launched or safely do some sun spotting through the University’s computerised telescopes.

**Cost:** $15 adult, $10 child/concession and $40 family.

**Bookings are essential:** Book online: [www.uws.edu.au/observatory](http://www.uws.edu.au/observatory), What’s On

**Enquiries:** Phone (02)4736 0135 or email r.mccourt@uws.edu.au

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Office Hours: Mon, Wed and Thurs 8.30 am - 3.00 pm

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