Palm Sunday and the Passion of the Lord

This Sunday begins the start of Holy Week with Palm Sunday. We begin with the entry of Jesus into Jerusalem with the crowd shouting ‘Hosanna.’ Hosanna means a cry for salvation, something that many in the crowd didn’t realise was granted to them on Good Friday. The sacrifice of Jesus brought salvation to all those who truly seek it by carrying our own cross for “Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.”

Every year we have the wonderful season of Lent to reflect on our lives and the direction in which we are headed. As we prepare for the greatest feast of the year, Easter, now is the moment to take a serious look at our lives and to get back on the path of walking beside Jesus.

Reconciliation

Last night children from Year 3 and 4 made their First Reconciliation. We would like to pass on our blessing to them as they undertake this important Sacrament that helps us retain our right relationship with God.

A reminder to parents that they can also go to the regular Parish Reconciliation times of 8.30 – 9.00 am or 4.30 – 5.30 pm on Saturday.

Station of the Cross

Next Monday morning we will be participating in the Stations of the Cross. During our stations, we will journey with Mary. We will get the chance to see the journey Jesus was making on the way to Calvary through Mary’s eyes, making applications to our own lives. We would welcome any parents who would like to join us on this journey. The classes will be commencing the Stations in the Kindergarten room at the following times:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>K &amp; Yr6</th>
<th>Yr4 &amp; Yr2</th>
<th>Yr5 &amp; Yr1</th>
<th>Yr3</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9:10</td>
<td>9:30</td>
<td>9:50</td>
<td>10:10</td>
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Easter Cards

On Friday, the Junior Joeys will be helping children make Easter cards. The cost will be 50c per card to raise money for Caritas Project Compassion.

Stephen Bawden
Religious Education Coordinator
Principal's Message

This Sunday we gather as Jesus people to celebrate Palm Sunday. This is the beginning of our journey with Jesus to the cross. A very important and sacred time in our Church Calendar. On Sunday we will hear proclaimed the Lord’s Passion. This narrative commemorates Jesus’ triumphent entry into Jerusalem, and ends with Jesus being condemned to death by the very same people who welcomed him so warmly. When we reflect on this historic account of the Passion we can make a clear connection with our own life. Just like Jesus, there are times when we experience success and appreciation and just as quickly we can encounter failure and rejection. During these challenging events, Jesus models majesty, compassion and unconditional love and trust in his Father. This unwavering love and devotion will always be an example to us all and one to be replicated.

This also can be one of our challenges as Christian Disciples. The readings on Sunday ask us to reflect on the fickleness of the human heart. God calls on us, during these Holy days to be in humble awareness that our hearts are called to be faith filled, stronger in the notion that just as God’s love for us is unconditional, our love for Him is equally as strong.

At the end of each week’s ‘Message from the Principal’, I sign off with the words, Live Jesus in your hearts. These words are very special to me as they were said by a very special man, Fr Dave Hume at the end of each Mass. Fr Dave is no longer with us on Earth, but his message lives on, when we walk with Jesus in life, Death and Resurrection.

Live Jesus in our hearts

Mrs Baird
Principal

2016 Enrolments

Kindergarten Enrolment Packages are available from the office for collection. Please notify family, friends and neighbours wishing to enrol their child at Holy Family.
Work Samples go home this week
On Friday your child will showcase the great learning they have been doing in class. This is a wonderful opportunity for your child to explain what they are learning and how they think they are going in class. I am very proud of all the children at Holy Family. Each one is striving to be the best person and work to the best of their ability. They need to be congratulated for all their hard work. Well Done !!!!

Whole School Assembly
On Friday the 27th of March we will hold our last whole school assembly for the term. I am looking forward to witnessing the grade presentations and prayer reflections with our community. I wish to thank our Year 6 school leaders for their organisation and leadership. During the assembly we will be presenting the children who have been selected to lead the Environmental and Media Teams in the school. These are new student committees that have been created for our students to lead.

School Cross Country
Last Wednesday Years 3-6 participated in our annual cross country event. Congratulations to all those children who participated to the best of their ability. A huge thank you to all the parents who assisted on the day to ensure it ran efficiently and smoothly. Medals will be presented to the champions at the whole school assembly this Friday.

Harmony Day
I am looking forward to sharing our very special Day of Harmony next Tuesday. The children will be experiencing a variety of fun activities and we invite parents to join us. Information regarding this event went out to families last week. The day will commence at 11.45am with organised activities. At 1pm we will begin our picnic class lunch until 2pm and conclude the day with organised activities. I wish to thank the organisation committee: Mrs Floyd, Miss Camillieri, Miss D'Mello and Miss Warwick, for the creative way of spreading the message of inclusivity, respect and tolerance of all people. The respect for human dignity is a Gospel value lived by all Christian disciples. This message, especially in light of the horrid acts of human destruction occurring around the world, is one that we must model and enact to all. It takes one person to change the world. Let us look deeply at what each of us can do to make God’s mission continue.

End of Term
As you are aware, next week is the last week of Term 1. Please be aware that there is a scheduled Staff Development Day on Thursday. This means that children do not attend. Holy Thursday will be the first day of their holidays. The teachers will have a full day of professional learning around the Driving Question - How does language influence learning? The staff will be working with experts in the field to unpack this complex question.

Library News  PREMIER READING CHALLENGE
I have been advised for the Premier’s Reading Challenge, that children are not to log on at the present time. There is a problem with this function and we will advise you when this is available.

Thanking you for your patience.

Lyn Gordon
Library Assistant.
Calendar

March/April

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Friday 27th March</td>
<td>Whole School assembly.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Saturday 28th March</td>
<td>NSW State Election.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sunday 29th March</td>
<td>Palm Sunday.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday 31st March</td>
<td>Harmony Day Celebration.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday 1st April</td>
<td>Last day of term for students.</td>
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Birthday Wishes!

Congratulations to the following students who celebrate their birthday this week: Andre Mamari, Isabel Rizk, Sebastian Roughley, Michel Rbeiz, Kaitlin Commodore and Sam Hannouch.

School Fees

Thankyou to everyone that has already paid the school fees. Please note, school fee payments are now overdue and reminder letters have already been sent out by the Catholic Education Office. Payments can be made by cash, cheque, EFTPOS, BPAY or at the Post Office.

As directed by our Central Office – Catholic Education Office Parramatta, there are strict guidelines for school fee payments that are not received by the due date.

To avoid further action please ensure that all overdue payments are finalised by the end of Term 1.

Any family having difficulty in paying must make an appointment with Mrs Baird to discuss this matter.

Diocesan and Community News

Good Friday Walk.

The Annual Good Friday Walk from Holy Family East Granville to St Mary’s Cathedral is on again for the 13th consecutive year. If you have been on this walk in previous years and would like to help out on the night, your support is greatly needed!

A meeting will be held this Thursday 26th March at 7:30pm at he Holy Family Church meeting room for all people interested in helping with the safe and smooth running of this event. For more info please email goodfriday@gmail.com

In Christ we Live, Love and Learn.