

# BRANCHES

## Holy Family Primary School, Luddenham

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Dear Parents and Caregivers,

### Term 2

9th May 2019

Issue 6, Week 2

#### Friday 10th May

Mother's Day Prayer & Breakfast

#### Monday 13th May

All students in full winter uniform

#### Tuesday 14th - Thursday

16th May

Naplan

#### Friday 17th May

1:00pm - Family Picnic Day

2:20pm - Whole School Assembly

#### Tuesday 21st May

Graffiti Education Session for Stage 3

#### Wednesday 22nd May

6:00pm - 2019 Primary School Leaders Reception

The well publicised NAPLAN assessments take place next week (details below). The usefulness of NAPLAN (and its predecessor the Basic Skills Test) has long created debate regarding its usefulness to parents and schools. Some loathe the idea, others believe it is a key assessment tool that gives an accurate picture of a child's achievement in literacy and numeracy.

At Holy Family we believe it provides the key stakeholders (students, parents and teachers) with a **snapshot** of a child's learning in two key areas. NAPLAN data is only one piece of the learning puzzle. An over-emphasis on NAPLAN places unnecessary stress and pressure on children for a small educational gain. We cannot allow ourselves to fall into the trap of believing that a test score is a measure of our children's intelligence and potential! In light of that we have a duty to ensure we set up children for success and therefore give them the opportunities to develop 'test' literacy skills, that is, how to navigate forms of assessments such as NAPLAN whilst applying their knowledge and skills.

A pre-eminent academic and author Ken Robinson espouses that children need to be given the opportunities at home and school to find their "element".

Robinson suggests that a person's element is the intersection between what they are good at and what they love. It's finding that 'thing' where you will work hard and love every minute of it. It's when you're energised rather than drained by your work (or learning).

The end goal of education is to prepare children for employment so rather than obsessing about a test score, we should be thinking about schooling in terms of helping our children discover their 'element' - and how to pursue it.

Rather than narrowing their world and their focus to a score, we should be opening them up to all the possibilities and opportunities we can.

**Learning the basics is absolutely vital. Literacy and numeracy are incredibly important and foundational to a whole range of life paths.** However, we still need to be encouraging our children to try new things, to play, to dream, to be allowed to fail and learn from that failure.

Above all, we need to resist the notion that our parenting, our teachers and our schools should be judged on a tiny part of the curriculum at a particular moment in time!

Mr Anthony McElhone  
Principal

At Holy Family we are:

- Safe
- Respectful
- Responsible
- Learners



### Baby News

Congratulations to the Polistena family (Sammy and Mia) on the arrival of a lovely baby boy, Leonardo. Also to the Willding family (Charlie) on the arrival of a beautiful baby girl, Chelsea.

Best wishes for restful nights in the coming months!



### NAPLAN

Next week the students from Years 3 and 5 will sit the National Assessment of Literacy and Numeracy. The testing will occur on:

**Tuesday 14th May Writing** (Year 3 paper test, Year 5 online)

**Wednesday 15th May - Reading and Language Conventions** (Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar)

**Thursday 16th May - Numeracy** (Number, Algebra, Function and Pattern; Chance and Data; Measurement and Space). In the Numeracy tests students do not require any measuring tools such as rulers or protractors.

**Friday 17th May** - A 'catch up' day is scheduled for students who missed a test or were absent on a particular test day.



### Mother's Day Breakfast & Prayer

On Friday, 10th May we are celebrating Mother's Day with prayer followed by a light breakfast. Prayer will commence at 8am.

### Winter Uniform

As we head into Term 2 students should make the change from Summer to Winter uniform. By the start of Week 3, Monday 13th May (after Mother's Day) it is expected that all children will be wearing the correct Winter uniform.

The uniform is:

Girls: Check pinafore

White blouse (Peter Pan Collar)

Tab tie - matching material of pinafore

Plain, short white socks or navy blue tights (socks not to be rolled down)

Black leather shoes

Boys: Blue shirt (long sleeved) and school tie

Navy long trousers (cargo pants are not permitted)

Short navy socks

Black leather shoes



Sport Uniforms will continue to be worn by every student on the same days as Term 1, with trackpants replacing shorts. Please check with the front office if you have any questions regarding the school uniform.

## Tell Them from Me

In the coming weeks we will be inviting students, teachers and parents to provide feedback on their experience of our school using an online survey. The surveys are an important part of our whole school evaluation and planning process.

We would like to invite you to complete the Tell Them From Me (TTFM) Partners in Learning survey. As we value the role of parents and carers within our school community we would greatly appreciate your feedback. The information you provide will be used to maintain our commitment to working together in partnership to further improve student learning and wellbeing at Holy Family.

The survey is anonymous and will take approximately 20 minutes to complete. You are able to access the parent survey on your computer or mobile device. More details on how to access the survey will follow shortly.

## Staff Development Days

Following are the dates for the remaining staff development days this year. A reminder that children do not attend school on these days.

- Friday 5th July (last day of Term 2)
- Tuesday 17th December
- Wednesday 18th December



Please note that the student's final day will be Monday, 16th December.



### 2019 School Calendar

The key date of events and celebrations for 2019 can be viewed in our online school calendar. The calendar can be viewed on our school website <http://www.hfluddenham.catholic.edu.au/Our-Community/Events>

If you would like to sync the school calendar to the calendar on your device (e.g. iPad or iPhone) click on the [subscribe](#) link at the bottom of the calendar and follow the instructions.

## Enrolments for Kindergarten 2020

Application forms are available for collection from the school office. When the application form has been fully completed it should be returned to the office with the required documentation ASAP.



**School Attendance**

Every Learner, Every Day is a campaign designed to raise awareness about the importance of attendance for every student, on every school day and to promote a healthy attendance culture. As part of this initiative members of our Attendance Team, Mrs Marie Edwards, Mr Anthony McElhone and Sr Brenda Kennedy, will be regularly following up students with attendance levels that are concerning. In addition we will be promoting positive attendance patterns by acknowledging classes and individuals with excellent attendance.

Our current attendance level is 80%. Our goal is 90% so the following tips will assist us in reaching our goal.

1. Send your child to school every day unless they are sick.
2. Develop good sleep and morning routines
3. Schedule appointments outside of school hours
4. Avoid taking holidays during the school term



**Teacher Professional Learning**

At Holy Family the staff has an ongoing commitment to professional learning. The staff benefits from attending inservices, in curriculum areas, that assist them in providing quality learning opportunities for the students in their class. The following staff have or will attend professional learning:



Date	Staff Members	Professional Learning
8th May	Mr McElhone	Developing Wellbeing Course
14th May	Mrs Brennan, Mrs McLaughlan, Mrs Stein, Mrs Whitton	Positive Behaviour Support for Learning (PBS4L) Professional Learning



The NSW Premier's Reading Challenge is well underway for 2019, with students across the school delving into some wonderful new books. Congratulations to those students who have eagerly commenced the 2019 Premier's Reading Challenge.

The Challenge runs from 4th March to 23rd August 2019 so it is not too late to start.

For PRC rules and booklists please go to the NSW Premier's Reading Challenge website <https://online.det.nsw.edu.au/prc/home.html>

Students who have completed the PRC in previous years can log in using the same username and password as last year.

# Woolworths Junior Landcare Grant

## GREAT NEWS

**We've just been awarded  
a Woolworths Junior  
Landcare Grant!**



We've been successful with our application for a Woolworths Junior Landcare Grant for our gardening project (to be named soon).

Holy Family Primary School is one of 538 primary schools and early learning centres throughout Australia receiving a Woolworths Junior Landcare grant to help grow our next generation of environmental champions.

The grants are being funded with money made from the sale of the Woolworths recyclable Bag for good which was launched in 2018 when the supermarket stopped using single-use plastic bags.

The children and teachers are looking forward to working and learning from this project and we'll keep you updated on the results.

Thank you to Silverdale Sand & Soil who are donating all the soil for our garden beds - over 3 tonne!



## Term 2 ,Week 2

### PBS4L Update Safe - Respectful - Responsible - Learners

In weeks 1 and 2 Holy Family have been focusing on the school expectation **SAFE**, with particular focus to ensure we all move safely around the school grounds and also safe hands and safe feet. We have given out many Bundeluk tokens to students for:

- playing tip games on the grass areas only
- walking to and from assembly lines and to the toilets
- hands resting in your lap, legs crossed while sitting on the floor

The house that is currently in the lead is Jacaranda. An update of Bundeluk totals will be shared at Assembly in Term 2, Week 3.

Our PBS4L winners are:

#### Term 1, Week 11

Carla Dura  
Lily Muscat  
Sophie Auld  
Bruno Lopreiato

#### Term 2, Week 1

Amelia Hearne  
Cruz Hooton  
Marlie McCullan (absent)  
Giovanna Tabone



## Sport Update

### **Diocesan Cross Country**

On Tuesday 7th May the following students represented Holy Family at the Diocesan Cross Country Carnival at Eastern Creek. It was a fantastic day with so many of our students achieving their personal best. Our students are to be commended on being exemplary ambassadors for our school and demonstrating positive sportsmanship both on and off the course. A huge thank you goes to the following parents that assisted as checkpoint marshals on the course: Mrs Gunther, Mrs Franco, Mrs Finianos, Mrs Massih and Mrs Falzon.

<i>Liliana V</i>	<i>Lachlan M</i>	<i>Amelia H</i>	<i>Hayden G</i>	<i>Hayden G</i>	<i>Saide M</i>
<i>Sarah P</i>	<i>Sammy P</i>	<i>Braden F</i>	<i>Jackson Z</i>	<i>Joshua M</i>	<i>Emily W</i>
<i>Sophia- Rose P</i>	<i>Marcus F</i>	<i>Elise F</i>	<i>Jacob H</i>	<i>Liam P</i>	
<i>Mikayla C</i>	<i>Hayden M</i>	<i>Tahlee L</i>	<i>Justin B</i>	<i>Oscar Z</i>	
<i>Ella G</i>	<i>Nicholas F</i>	<i>Ameila P</i>	<i>Connor W</i>	<i>Dominic F</i>	
<i>Caitlin W</i>	<i>Alex P</i>	<i>Max A</i>	<i>Jack O'M</i>	<i>Harrison H</i>	

For being a small school we once again came away with some exceptional results. To move onto the next level, students needed to place in the top 8 of their age group. Congratulations to the following students who will be progressing through to the NSW Catholic Primary Schools Championships in June:

- *Hayden G who finished 1st in the 11 year boys*
- *Josh M who finished 3rd in the 11 year boys*
- *Saide M who finished 1st in the 12 year girls*
- *Amelia H who finished 6th in the 10 year girls*

### Celebrating Success of our Students

#### ***Touch Football***

Well Done to Hayden Gi, Liam P and Skye B from Stage 3 who were all selected to represent the Parramatta Diocesan in Touch Football. They will now participate at the MacKillop Touch Trials that are to be held at St Marys on Friday 31st May 2019. We wish Hayden, Liam and Skye the best of luck.

#### ***Good Luck to our Parramatta Diocesan Representatives***







## Invitation to Chatterbox Live Q&A Event

27 April 2019

Dear Parents and Carers

CEDP has always valued parent feedback and with the use of new technologies, we now have the opportunity to become more connected with families in real-time. As part of our commitment to promoting student and parent voice in our schools, we have launched a new initiative called *Chatterbox Live*.

We have had success using social media platforms to host Chatterbox Live in a number of primary and secondary schools already. I was impressed with the range of questions students asked me on issues related to schooling in today's world.

I am extending the invitation to our parent community to join us for the first Chatterbox Live event for parents and carers. This will be held on Thursday, 13 June at St Andrews College Marayong from 7.00pm. I'm looking forward to hearing your views and responding to your questions related to Catholic schooling in the Parramatta Diocese.

Registrations to attend the event in person will open on May 20 at 9am. If you would like to attend in person, please register your interest as soon as possible by visiting [chatterbox.parra.catholic.edu.au](http://chatterbox.parra.catholic.edu.au).

If you're unable to attend in person, you are welcome to tune in live by 'liking' the CEDP Facebook page to be reminded when the event begins. You can do this at [www.facebook.com/CatholicEdParra/](http://www.facebook.com/CatholicEdParra/).

If you have any questions or would like further information in regard to this event, please contact Lachlan Andrews via [landrews8@parra.catholic.edu.au](mailto:landrews8@parra.catholic.edu.au) or on 9840 5790.

I look forward to strengthening our engagement with parents.

Regards

**Gregory B Whitby AM KSG**  
Executive Director



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**For more information or to register (numbers limited), visit [go4fun.com.au](http://go4fun.com.au) or call 1800 780 900**

**LOCATION:**



### Happy Birthday

Congratulations to the following people who celebrated their birthdays in the months of February and April:

Lucas Denny, Sofia Cross, Thomas Wiblin, Grace Lopreiato, Byron Andrews, Christian Lentini, Hayden Gunther, Isabella Cocksedge, Brianna Hosking, Tyler Martin, Nicholas Franco, Hayden Krone, Mia Polistena, Matthew Hodgetts, Addison Moore, Marcus Zamprogno, Lacey Andrews and Mrs Ryan.

### *Connections Counselling*

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