

BRANCHES

Holy Family Primary School, Luddenham

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Dear Parents and Caregivers,

Term 1

2nd April 2020

Issue 5, Week 10

Thursday 9th April

Last Day of Term 1

Friday 19th April

Good Friday

Monday 27th April

First Day of Term 2

9:15am - Easter Hat

Parade & Raffle TBC

Friday 8th May

Mother's Day Prayer

and Breakfast TBC

In light of events in the last month in regards to the COVID-19 pandemic, we could not be blamed for asking why tragedy is never far from our consciousness. The daily news is also often filled with instances of fear and distrust. When added to the personal tragedies in our own lives, who would blame us for asking "Where is God in this?"

In the Parable of the Fig Tree the message is that of not really knowing what is happening but trusting in God. We never know exactly what is happening for the fig tree underground or why it is not bearing fruit at that moment in time. Perhaps the tree has some type of fungus or disease in the soil. Then again, maybe there was growth occurring underground in the root system and this could not be seen. What we need to remember is that although it was not bearing fruit or flourishing at that moment in time, it was still alive.

Often our lives can feel like this, we feel flat or question why things are happening in our lives, we also are not flourishing. At these times we need to be like the worker in the vineyard, in spite of the fact that we are flat out trying to get through every day, we need to find time to see the potential in every situation. Sr Hilda Scott (OSB) articulates this so well:

"God is the Gardener who trusts the process of growing; trusts us, grasps what others do not, sees potential, and gives us another chance - and there is no limit with God. He sees what is lacking and is keen to provide it. All he, and we, need is an openness in us to see it through". (Source: Trust Lenten Program: Catholic Diocese of Wollongong)

Thank you for your continued understanding in relation to the ongoing management of the COVID-19 virus. Coronavirus presents an extraordinary challenge for education institutions globally. At Holy Family, we are responding in ways that prioritise both the health and safety of students, staff and families, and to protect the learning for our students.

The current circumstances have added pressure on all members of our community. We need to remember that our staff, students and their families will be operating in the same challenging and unusual conditions. There will be significant challenges with technology – our own and that of our students. In many circumstances, things may not always go to plan, but it is always our intention that our teachers and students are cared for and are able to continue their work as much as possible. The staff appreciate the support expressed by many families via email, SeeSaw posts and personal comments. If you have any questions or feedback in relation to our *Continuation of Learning Plan* I encourage parents and carers to contact the school or their child's class teacher via email or phone. The contact details for all our teachers were provided last week. By following these communication guidelines we can ensure that issues are addressed in a timely and appropriate manner. By using social media, such as Facebook, to express frustrations about school processes or seek clarity from non-school staff, is not appropriate.

At the time of writing the newsletter we still do not have clarity around what school will 'look like' in Term 2. As this becomes clearer we will provide an updated Continuation of Learning Plan and advise the status of planned school events (e.g. Easter Hat Parade, Mother's Day Prayer & Breakfast, Whole School Assemblies, Wests Tigers Varying Ability Clinic).

At Holy Family we are:

- Safe
- Respectful
- Responsible
- Learners

Mr Anthony McElhone
Principal

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.

- Monday, 14th December
- Tuesday, 15th December
- Wednesday, 16th December



Please note that the student's final day will be Friday, 11th December. These dates may be reviewed later in the year should we need to continue the remote learning approach due to the COVID-19 pandemic.



Easter Hat Parade

At this point in time the Easter Hat Parade and raffle will be held on the first day back for Term 2, Monday 27th April at 9.15am. We are asking that you take time with your children over the school holidays to make a hat with them to wear in the Hat Parade. There are some really amazing ideas online. Everyone is welcome to come along to our Easter Hat Parade and see our 'eggciting' and 'eggtraordinary' hats that have been designed by some very crafty bunnies!



School Uniform

From the beginning of next term we will be in transition mode to winter uniform. All students are expected to be in full winter uniform from Monday 11th May after Mother's Day until the Monday after Father's Day (7th September).

Note – Students in this transition period must wear either **full** summer or **full** winter uniform – **not** a combination of both. Our uniform policy can be accessed on our website.



2020 School Calendar

The key date of events and celebrations for 2020 can be viewed in our online school calendar. The calendar can be viewed on our school website <http://www.hfluddenham.catholic.edu.au/en/Our-Community/Events>

Enrolments for Kindergarten 2021

Application forms are available for collection from the school office from 2nd March. When the application form has been fully completed it should be returned to the office with the required documentation by **the end of Term 1**.



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. However at this time no staff will attend professional learning off site.

Academic Achievement Awards
Congratulations Academic Achievement Awards Recipients

Marco Marusic
 Aurelia Tabone
 Leo Lapa
 Mia Norrie
 Levi Hall
 Skylah Steele
 Alys Challicombe
 Mario Crafa

Leo Falzon
 Elise Massih
 Sienna Cross
 Lily Muscat
 Eleanor Gauci
 Lucas Ojeda
 Jessie Mahe
 Georgia Tyrrell

Alexandria Pelle
 Tahlee Lewin
 Kobi Wandless
 Jackson Zammit
 Liliana Vella
 Bruno Lopreiato

One Heart One Mind Awards
Congratulations One Heart One Mind Awards Recipients

Isla Agius
 Sophie Garousse
 Natalie Gauci
 Marco Gullo
 Winter Abric
 Gemma Gauci
 Jemma Muscat
 Charlie Willding

Amelia Albee
 Grace Lopreiato
 Jacob Xerri
 Elisa Camilleri
 Hayleigh Garousse
 Helena Grima
 Jayden Ryan
 Sharlay Pantazakos

Diana Baric
 Sophie Auld
 Charlene Camilleri
 Elise Fenech
 Joshua Moore
 Ciara Awad

Happy Birthday

Congratulations to the following people who celebrated their birthdays in the month of March:

- Monica Messina, Skye Bruni, Mia Norrie, Elias Gligorevic, Jeremy Camilleri, Amelia Hearne, Brax Dudley, Potter Wanthawong, Carla Dura, Elisa Camilleri, Nellie Martin, Liam Urschel, Aailyah Guedes, Baylen Wandless, Lucas Andrews, Elise Fenech, Charlene Camilleri, Sophie Garousse, Skylah Steele, Jemma Muscat, Julianna Gauci, Matilda Stewart, Amellia Keating, Sarah Powderly, Dean Vella, Zac Finianos, Ashlee Jones, Adison Jones, Luca Libro, Xavier Zammit, Mrs Green & Miss McLaughlan.



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