Dear Parents and Carers,

As we continue through this Year of Mercy the focus at school has turned to Opening the Door of Love. Love is the basis of mercy; the love we have for one another gives us the ability to show mercy.

Jesus taught us the greatest commandment: “Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another” (John 13:34-35). In giving this command, Jesus did something the world had never seen before—He created a group identified by one thing: love.

Paul, in his first letter to the Corinthians, goes on to describe what this love is: Love is patient and kind. Love is not jealous, it does not brag, and it is not proud. Love is not rude, is not selfish, and does not become angry easily. Love does not remember wrongs done against it. Love takes no pleasure in evil, but rejoices over the truth. Love patiently accepts all things. It always trusts, always hopes, and always continues strong. Love never ends.

What is striking about this passage is the emphasis on love as action, not love as an emotion; it is something seen, experienced, and demonstrated. This is contrary to our culture which often honours personal feelings above almost everything—we do what we ‘feel’ like. The love Paul speaks of is selfless and is shown to people through the way we speak and the actions we take—do our actions show love for one another?

The whole-school focus throughout this term will show children how they show love for one another through kindness and friendship.

This weekend we celebrate Pentecost, often called the birthday of the church when the gifts of the Holy Spirit poured out upon the disciples as they gathered in community. This challenge is to use these gifts for the betterment of Holy Spirit School, within Holy Spirit Parish, Pentecost is also our feast day. On Sunday (15th May) the parish presents the same Holy Spirit pours out on us; our to live as Jesus has shown us.

Holy Spirit School, within Holy Spirit day. On Sunday (15th) the parish presents the activities, food, and entertainment. It is the main fundraiser of the year; come along and support our Parish and have a great family day.

Next Friday (20th May) we celebrate Holy Spirit Day. We invite parents and community members to join us for Mass at 11:30am followed by a picnic lunch. Children are encouraged to wear red on the day: t-shirts, jumpers, pants, ribbons, hats—remembering to stay warm as the weather cools.

Working with you in faith,
Kate MacGregor
REC
Our spirit

ELC News......

What a great start to the term the Orange class has had. We have been so busy and have settled back into the term. We have enjoyed celebrating ANZAC Day with the school and looked at some medals that were brought into school for us. We celebrated Mother’s Day and made our mums a beautiful gift and some of us even came to the Mother’s Day breakfast. We have loved the change of season and the beautiful colours it brings. We collected many leaves and have used them in play and art. We have had visits from Cid from Global Worming. He talked to us about the important job worms have and how our food scraps are helping his worms. Pete the reptile man came and he talked to us about what to do if we see reptiles when we are out on our nature walks. Let’s hope we remember to be calm, still and quiet.

Enrolments for ELC and Kindergarten 2017

Enrolment period for 2017 ends next Friday 20th May. If you have children eligible for our ELC or Kindergarten in 2017, it is time to lodge your application now. Places are filling quickly!
Our spirit

Confirmation
Come, Holy Spirit

We continue to pray for the students who are preparing to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation. As we get to the end of the preparation program there are some significant dates for parents to keep in mind:

**Tuesday 17th May – Prayer Night – 7pm**
All candidates and their parents are required to attend the prayer night at the church. If your sponsor is available to come they are most welcome. Please bring your completed home program booklet to present to the Parish.

**Thursday 19th May – Spirit Day.**
This retreat for all candidates is held during the school day at the church and Good Shepherd school. Children will travel by bus – permission notes need to be returned as soon as possible. This day is a chance for students to further explore the gifts of the Holy Spirit, and to rehearse the ceremony. Students need to bring: lunch, hat, water bottle, pencils and textas, glue and scissors.

**Tuesday 24th May - Reconciliation**
Before candidates can receive the Sacrament of Confirmation they must attend Reconciliation. This will be held at school at 10am. If you know your child will be absent on that day Reconciliation will also be held at the Church on Saturday 21st May at 2:15pm.

**Tuesday 24th – Thursday 26th May – Confirmation ceremonies**
Candidates should arrive at the church at 5:45pm for a 6:15pm start. There is allocated seating so children should show their family to their place, collect their stoles, and then go up to the Parish Office to prepare for the procession. Archbishop Yllana, the Apostolic Nuncio to Australia (Ambassador for the Vatican), will be conducting the ceremonies. Children are reminded that this is a special occasion and their clothing and manner should be respectful.

If you have any questions please email Kate MacGregor (REC): katrina.macgregor@cg.catholic.edu.au

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**First Reconciliation and Eucharist**
~ advance notice ~

Children in Year 3 or above are invited to receive the Sacraments of First Reconciliation and Eucharist. The preparation program begins with an information session on 21st of June at 1pm or 7pm in the Church.

The children from Holy Spirit School will receive the Sacrament of Eucharist on Saturday 17th September at 4pm.

If you have any questions about the program please contact your child’s teacher or email Kate MacGregor (REC): katrina.macgregor@cg.catholic.edu.au

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**Walk Safely to School Day Friday 20th May.**

We will be having fruit from 8am - 8.30am for students and families that walk or ride to school safely that day.
School Fee Reminder

School fee payments are due by next Friday 20th May. Unless being paid by direct debit. Thank you.

Knitting Club

Calling all students in Years 2-6 that are interested in learning how to knit. Holy Spirit will be starting a Knitting Club that will meet each Tuesday lunch time (after eating time) in 2 Kaptein starting in Week 3.

If you are interested in joining, please come and see Miss Kaptein.

Any parents or grandparents that can knit and would like to help with our Knitting Club, please let Miss Kaptein know. You just need to have a WWVP card and to bring your knitting needles.

You can apply for a WWVP by going to https://www.accesscanberra.act.gov.au/app/answers/detail/a_id/1804. It is free for volunteers.

Donations

If anyone has any wool or knitting needles that they could donate to the school, it would be greatly appreciated. All donations can be given to the Front Office or to Miss Kaptein.

Thank you in advance!

To our ELC families for organising the Mothers’ Day stall and Mothers’ Day Breakfast. The gifts were greatly appreciated and breakfast was yummy!
Dear Parents / Carers,

Our annual school athletics carnival will be held on **Friday 27th May** on the school oval. This will be a fantastic day for all our students as they participate and do their best. Below is the program of events that gives an idea of the timings for the day. All parents are warmly invited to join us on the day to watch the students compete. Please be aware that the times below are only a guide and that parents should allow time either side to come and see their children run. All students will participate on the day, earning points for their house team and joining in with the novelty events.

More information will come home next week regarding the carnival.

Yours on the track,

The Athletics Team

**PROGRAM OF EVENTS**

**9:20 AM ELC / Kinder / Year1 / Year 2 Sprint races**

(participation certificates for each child)

Rest of school gathers in age groups to cheer

**10:00 AM**

Kinder/Year1/Year 2 students return to classes

8 YEARS  LONG JUMP
9 YEARS  SHOT PUT
10 YEARS  NOVELTY RELAYS
11 YEARS  800M
12 YEARS  SPRINTS

**10:30 AM**

8 YEARS  SHOT PUT
9 YEARS  NOVELTY RELAYS
10 YEARS  800M
11 YEARS  SPRINTS

**12 YEARS**  LONG JUMP

**11:00 AM**  RECESS BREAK

**11:30 AM**

8 YEARS  NOVELTY RELAYS
9 YEARS  800M
10 YEARS  SPRINTS
11 YEARS  LONG JUMP
12 YEARS  SHOT PUT

**12:00 PM**

8 YEARS  800M
9 YEARS  SPRINTS
10 YEARS  LONG JUMP
11 YEARS  SHOT PUT
12 YEARS  NOVELTY RELAYS

**12:30 PM**

8 YEARS  SPRINTS
9 YEARS  LONG JUMP
10 YEARS  SHOT PUT
11 YEARS  NOVELTY RELAYS
12 YEARS  800M
Join Michael Grose for a 3-week online parenting course

**Raising Well-behaved Kids**
*Teaching kids to be safe, savvy and social*

The **Raising Well-behaved Kids** course will teach you real-life strategies to help you safely raise sociable kids so that they can fulfil their potential.

You’ll learn how to:

- Move beyond ‘time out’ and ‘time in’ to develop a broad range of responses to children’s poor or unsociable behaviour.
- Recognise the purpose of behaviour and importantly, how to **respond** so you put an end to annoying, frustrating behaviours.
- Get more cooperation from your child without always raising your voice, repeating yourself or offering endless bribes and rewards.
- Plan your approach to children’s behaviours so that you can achieve lasting **change**.
- **Better manage** tough nuts, teens and sensitive types that don’t fit into usual discipline techniques.

**How will it work?**

- You receive a short video with a follow-up activity each weekday – 15 sessions across 3 weeks.
- Each session (including the follow-up) should only take 15 **minutes** of your time. Alternatively, you can complete all your sessions on the weekend if you are busy mid-week.
- Participate in a live Facebook Q&A each week where you can **ask Michael Grose questions**.

Join now for only $67. When you enrol you’ll start your learning straight away through the online resources in Parentingideas Club, including articles, e-Guides, posters and videos.

Or contact the Parentingideas team 03 59831798  office@parentingideas.com.au
Holy Spirit Parish Feast Day

Pentecost Sunday,
15 May after 9:30am Mass.
Holy Spirit Parish, Amaroo.

BBQ, Fr Mark’s Famous Relishes,
Asian Fusion Food, Cake Stall,
Wine Tasting and more.

Plus Family Games, Music,
Face Painting, Tattoos,
and a Fashion Parade
for the whole family to enjoy.