From Our P&F

The P&F have started off Term 2 with our Mothers’ Day celebrations. This included the Mothers’ Day stall and the Mothers’ Day Breakfast. These fundraisers were both run by the ELC this year, and both were absolutely fantastic, so well done and thank you to all those who volunteered to make this such a special event.

There are still some classes within the school that need a parent contact. The role of parent contact, while being very important, is neither arduous nor time consuming. There is a great amount of support and an informative handbook that you will be given that provides an easy to read guide to the role.

The main responsibilities are:

- Coordinate class/year social events, such as play dates.
- Farewell any departing students.
- Welcome new families throughout the year.
- Compile a family contact list for the class group.
- Foster good communication between the class teacher and families. This can easily be done through emails.
- Build community spirit!

If you feel like this is something you would be interested in and your child is in one of the following classes, please contact Sonja saltmann@internode.on.net

2 Spencer, 3 Gaffey, 3 Nuske, 4 Camp, 4 Jackson, 6 Cambridge/MacGregor, 6 Jenkins and 6 Kennedy.

Last term we advised every one of our decision to distribute fundraisers over the whole school to even out the workload. We have had really positive feedback regarding this decision. The next fundraiser will be a Trivia Night which will be held later this term. We are calling for volunteers from Years 2 and 3 to help coordinate this event. More information will be sent out in the coming weeks.

We are always looking for new people to come and be a part of our P&F. It requires minimal effort and really is just a great group to be a part of. We meet twice a term and put forward ideas and opinions regarding our school and how we can make it better for our Children. Our meetings are fun and informative and it is an easy, enjoyable and rewarding way to be a part of the school community. So please come along to our next meeting which will be held on the 13th June at 7.00pm.
ELC News......

The Yellow class has had a very busy start to the term. We have already done so much and its only really the beginning of the term. We had a visit from Cid from Global Worming who talked to us about where all our food scraps go. He brought in some of his worms and even let us hold some of them. It was an important connection between recycling our food scraps and helping the environment. As we begin to start our Nature Walks we had Peter the reptile man come in and show us some of his ‘pets’. We enjoyed learning about Autumn, collecting leaves and painting Autumn pictures.

Representatives from the Commonwealth Bank will be at Holy Spirit School on Friday the 3rd of June between 8.30am and 9.30am. If you would like to set up a savings account for your child so that they can participate in School Banking, it is a great opportunity to do so.
Holy Spirit Day - Come and celebrate with us!

Holy Spirit Day coincides with the season of Pentecost in the Catholic Church’s calendar and is an annual event held to celebrate belonging to a faith-filled and vibrant community. We will celebrate Holy Spirit Day tomorrow.

We encourage parents to join us in our celebrations:
Our school community will gather together for Mass in the Holy Spirit School hall at 11:40am. All families are welcome!
We also invite you to bring a special Picnic lunch to share with your child or children at 12.45pm in Shakespeare’s Corner (the fake grass area behind the administration block). Families with children in the ELC are asked to gather older siblings and take them to the ELC for lunch.

Students will participate in a range of other activities throughout the day, with buddies and peers.

To make this day special we ask all students to wear as much red as possible – red t-shirts, pants, skirts, tracksuits, and ribbons in hair have all been effective in the past. Please make sure you dress your child appropriately, particularly now that the weather is cooler.

LET’S CELEBRATE BELONGING TO HOLY SPIRIT SCHOOL COMMUNITY!

Walk (or ride) Safely to School Day –
Tomorrow is National Walk Safely to School Day and here at Holy Spirit we will celebrate this day with a healthy breakfast. All students, and their families, are invited to walk or ride to school, or part of the way, to support making healthy lifestyle choices. When students arrive at school, thanks to the kind donations from Supabarn at Casey and the P&F, we will have fresh fruit and French bread to reload energy for the day. Students can arrive between 8.00 – 8.30am and pick up some fruit and bread before moving off to the concrete area. Parents are welcome to stay for a tea or coffee. Happy walking or biking!!
School Fee Reminder

School fee payments are due tomorrow Friday 20th May. Unless being payed 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!
Library News.....

Chief Minister’s Reading Challenge

Throughout this term we are focussing on the Chief Minister’s Reading Challenge. This is a great opportunity for children to immerse themselves in a great story, discover new authors, sample new genres and explore new information. The Chief Minister challenges students throughout Canberra to participate every year. This year the challenge is to read at least 15 books before 9 September, for all students from the ELC to Year 6.

Any book - comic, nonfiction, home readers, audiobooks, picture book – can be contributed to their list. For older students, any book they read to family or friends can be count. For younger students anything read to them can count also.

There are mini challenges happening in the Library to encourage students to read. We are asking for you to support this great opportunity by reading to or with your child.

Each child who participates will receive a certificate of participation and a book mark. There will also be individual prizes for those who read the most in each year level, as well as reward for the class who reads the most books.

Log sheets can be collected from the Library or downloaded from the website: http://www.det.act.gov.au/__data/assets/pdf_file/0007/815722/Student-Reading-Record.pdf

Scholastic Book Club

Now that we have four ordering and payment options for Book Club, we are unable to accept late orders for book club. Please ensure all orders are placed by the Due Date to ensure your order can be completed. We apologise for any inconvenience and appreciate your contended support with Book Club.

Lunch Time Changes

We are excited to introduce some new Lunch Time changes in the library, commencing Week 5 this term.

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<tr>
<th>Monday</th>
<th>Tuesday (Odd Week)</th>
<th>Wednesday</th>
<th>Thursday</th>
<th>Friday (Even week)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Reading Group</td>
<td>Imagination Play</td>
<td>Cards and Board Games</td>
<td>Study Time</td>
<td>Colouring In</td>
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The Library will be closed Tuesday Even week and Friday Odd week at Lunch times

Kathy Talbot and Katrina Cambridge
Defence News

On Tuesday this week I was privileged to take two Defence Students from Holy Spirit along with two more from St John Paul II College to enjoy a Morning Tea at Parliament House. The Morning Tea was the ACT Government’s way of showing their appreciation for the DSTAs and DTMs from around Canberra and surrounds and the support which they provide to Defence families.

Most importantly, it was an opportunity to recognise the children of Defence families and the role they play in supporting their serving parent. I was very pleased to take Makayla and Grace, both from 6 Jenkins, to Parliament House with me and we had a lovely morning with the Senator and other Defence students from around Canberra schools. Afterwards, we were lucky to run into a Holy Spirit Dad working at Parliament House, Mr Shane Ryan who “escorted” us to the House of Representatives and the Senate and gave us a mini tour. Afterwards, we popped up to the roof and enjoyed the beautiful view of Canberra and the sunshine.

Vicki Walsh
DSTA

Student Welfare News

KIDSMATTER PRIMARY

Component 3: Parenting support and education

You will find some links placed here which will lead you to up-to-date information on children’s mental health. These links will allow you to quickly access important knowledge and resources. This week I’ve put in a link to information about children’s Mental Health Difficulties. As this is an in-depth topic I have repeated this link to give everyone a chance to read it.

SEASONS FOR GROWTH

Loss and grief are issues that affect all of us at some stage in our lives. Learning to deal effectively with these issues is central to personal well-being and happiness. Unresolved grief can also affect a student’s learning. Holy Spirit School is proud to be offering an Australian education program called ‘Seasons for Growth’ again this year, commencing in Week 8 this term. This program is designed for children who have experienced significant change in their family because of death, separation or divorce. The change needs to have occurred at least six months prior to the child starting in the program. Information about the program is available through a note which will be distributed by the classroom teachers to children in their classes who want to attend. If you believe that your child would benefit, please ask them to collect an information/permission note from their teacher.

SAFE SCHOOLS HUB

The Safe Schools Hub for Parents provides you with information and resources that you may find useful in helping to make your child’s school experience a positive and happy one. Get ideas on how to stay cybersafe, and how to deal positively with bullying and harassment. You’ll also find out about encouraging self-respect and protective behaviours in your child. The following is a link to the Safe Schools Hub website which is funded by the Australian Government Department of Education. http://safeschoolshub.edu.au/for-parents

Always feel free to contact me if I can be of any assistance, at Sharonmarie.harrison@cg.catholic.edu.au