Dear Parents and Carers,

**Alive with the Spirit, we celebrate faith, learning and life.**

Over the past week, our school’s vision has been realised in the many events that have taken place in our magnificent school.

**Alive with the Spirit we celebrate faith...**

**Confirmation** – On Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, during this very significant and life changing Sacrament, our Year 6 students received the gifts of the Holy Spirit in order to fulfil the mission that they have been called for. As confirmed Catholics and as faith-filled disciples, these young people will enter into their future as witnesses of the living Christ through word and action.

**Staff Spirituality** – on Saturday, as part of our faith formation, 51 staff members gathered to reflect on the Eucharist and to understand the theology of the Mass. As well as empowering us to prepare liturgies and masses for our students and families, it was also a special time for us all to connect as a group of people that inspire faith in our students.

**Alive with the Spirit we celebrate learning...**

**Thinkfest** – Today all students in Kinder to Year 6 participated in a thinking carnival. It was an outstanding opportunity to learn with others, problem solve, create, innovate and think. The learning was celebrated by all as teams presented their final product to their peers. See next week’s newsletter for a full recount of an inspiring day of learning.

**Alive with the Spirit we celebrate life...**

**Walk to School Day** – a great turn out of people chose live a healthy life by walking or riding to school safely. All participants then celebrated the event with a breakfast which was donated by IGA Casey and the P&F.

**Holy Spirit Day** – a day celebrating the life of our school, who we are, the spirit alive in each of us, and the community of people that make our school what it is. True community spirit was felt on Friday as we gathered together for activities, Mass and then for a shared lunch to celebrate our school’s feast day. We are grateful that we belong to such a wonderful school, with staff that works tirelessly, parents that constantly support, and students that make each day fulfilling and joyful.

Thank you to all of our outstanding staff members who organised these special events in our school.
Our spirit

School Board

Parent voice and support is very important in our school. One way to understand the school at a deeper level and to participate in the running of the school, is to be on the School Board. We meet twice a term in Weeks 4 and 8 for one hour. We currently have the positions of Parent Representative and P&F Representative vacant. The roles are not arduous. They simply require your presence at the meetings and to be the spokesperson for the parent community and the P&F. If you would consider one of these roles or you would like to nominate someone, please contact me (anna.damico@cg.catholic.edu.au). This is our school and it is important that we collaboratively work together in order for it to be a strong in its Catholicity and a place of educational excellence. The members of our School Board at present are:

Jarrod Howard – Board Chair
Catherine Morris – Treasurer and Deputy Chair
Nicole Baker – Secretary
Parent Representative – VACANT
P&F Representative – VACANT

I would also encourage all parents to attend the P&F Meetings which follow the Board Meeting (7pm – 8pm Monday Weeks 4 & 8) as it is a great group of people that share in the life of our school.

Hats off!

Because we are a Sun Smart school, during June and July, due to the lower UV levels and in order to produce a good store of Vitamin D, we encourage our students to take their sun hat off during outdoor playtimes. Students may wear a navy beanie outside if they are cold.

Athletics Carnival

Tomorrow the whole school will participate in the Holy Spirit Athletics Carnival. A note has been sent home reminding all families of the outline of the day. In case of bad weather, we will send out a message on the Skoolbag App. If you do not have the app, please keep an eye on our website as the app is there as well (in the communication area), and can be accessed by everyone.

God bless.

Anna D’Amico

Principal
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.

In year 6 we have been learning about World War 1 and its impact on our indigenous brothers who served. Mia’s poem reflects the thoughts and emotions of a young indigenous serviceman who misses Country. Well done Mia!

Country

Away from country
From family too
The love, the life
And away he flew

The day starts
After the first bird flies
Skies of orange
And the sun will rise
The morning of his country

A man's first love
A land full of trees
The red dirt wonders
He loves all these

Away from country
Away from home
Away from all
He has ever known

To serve, to fight
A gun in his hand
Holding on tight
For his country, his land

He lay on the ground
Looking up at the sky
So blue, so wide
As the clouds collide

Back to country
Survived the war
Breathe the warm air
Loving it more
Home - it’s home

Mia S. 6 Cambridge/MacGregor

CANTEEN NEWS......

The canteen has a new menu after the refurbishment. A copy was sent home earlier in the week. When placing a lunch order can you please make sure that your child’s name and class are written clearly on the bag

eg. Sally Wyers—3 Nuske

Thank you!

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.
ELC News – Red group

We began our nature walks last week and have been exploring the local area around our school. We had a risk assessment discussion with the class about what is safe and what we can do if we see something dangerous. The class came up with the idea about freezing and shouting STOP to gain everyone’s attention. We have a place we go to (which was named on Wednesday) the nature preschool. In this space we have an ‘invisible fence’ we need to stay in. We are able to explore up, down and all around this area. The children used sticks to build a gate/fence (a visual) around parts or the area as well as a tree house. Sadly there were no puddles for use to jump in but with the rain on Thursday we had some in our yard to jump in!

PLEASE REMEMBER

Nature Walk day for the RED group is WEDNESDAY.

Please bring in gumboots and a rain coat too. They are more than welcome to be left at preschool if this is easier for you.

Miss Schroder, Mrs Nascimento, Mrs Amon and Mrs Scandura.
On Tuesday and Wednesday night some of our Year 6 students received the Sacrament of Confirmation. Archbishop Yllana (Apostolic Nuncio) spoke to the children about being anointed, or consecrated to God, and the significance of this sacrament. The children, and the entire congregation, were very prayerful throughout, and there was a true sense of the Holy Spirit among those gathered. Thank you to all who kept our candidates in your prayers—these young adults have completed a significant journey, with the support of their families, teachers and peers. More students will receive the sacrament tonight—photos to follow next week!
Child Players ACT proudly presents

DR DOLITTLE’S CIRCUS

Adapted by BJ Anyos from the books by Hugh Lofting

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Performances at 10.30am and 2pm on

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For information about Child Players ACT’s programs and productions contact