Dear parents,

Tomorrow we celebrate the “Feast of the Assumption” and hear how God chose Mary to be the Mother of His Son, Jesus. Mary was so special she was taken up body and soul together to be with Him in heaven.

Like all mothers, Mary had her happy and sad moments in her life.

- The birth of her son, Jesus
- Losing Jesus in the temple
- The wonderful miracles Jesus performed
- The crucifixion and death of Jesus
- Jesus’ resurrection form the dead

Mary said “yes” to God’s plan and so Jesus was made man, died on the cross and was raised from the dead to save us from our sins. Just as she helped Jesus when he was young, she stayed on earth after Jesus ascended in to heaven to help strengthen the apostles.

There are many outstanding qualities of Mary we can apply to our own lives –

- To praise God for the gifts of our lives
- To care for other as our gift to God

As parents, we need to ask ourselves how do we apply these qualities to our own lives and our children’s lives.

Lord,

We thank you for the gift of Mary.
May we be inspired by her strong faith
And great love for God and others.
Help us to become more like her and
To care more for those in need around us.
Amen

It was lovely for the children in Year 4 who have recently celebrated their First Eucharist to join with Years 5, 6 and the Parish at Mass this morning for the Feast of the Assumption. Families are also welcome to join with the Parish this evening for Mass in the Church at 7.30pm

Commencing this afternoon and continuing tomorrow I will be joining with Principals from the Diocese at our Annual Master Class continuing my commitment to ongoing learning. I look forward to sharing this with the community on my return.

Have a wonderful week.

Richard Blissenden
Principal
RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS

Dear Parents,

Faith Formation and Reflection
20th Sunday in Ordinary Time – Year C
Lk 12:49-53

Today is the Feast of the Assumption (Holy day of Obligation)
The children from Years 4-6 attended this morning’s mass in the Parish. Mass will also be at 7.30pm this evening.

The Magnificat
My soul magnifies the Lord
And my spirit rejoices in God my Savior;
Because he has regarded the lowliness of his handmaid;
For behold, henceforth all generations shall call me blessed;
Because he who is mighty has done great things for me,
and holy is his name;
And his mercy is from generation to generation on those who fear him.
He has shown might with his arm,
He has scattered the proud in the conceit of their heart.
He has put down the mighty from their thrones,
and has exalted the lowly.
He has filled the hungry with good things,
and the rich he has sent away empty.
He has given help to Israel, his servant, mindful of his mercy
Even as he spoke to our fathers, to Abraham and to his posterity forever.

Parents have recently received a copy of God is with us, a prayer book for families, a book of prayers for use in the family home. Along with traditional and daily prayers, there are prayers for special occasions. Special reference is made to the devotion of The Angelus, which is prayed daily in every Catholic school in the diocese.

Catholic Culture
Congratulations to all the children who have Celebrated their First Holy Communion over the past few weeks. May God Bless them and their families as they continue on their Sacramental Journey.

For those parents and children interested in beginning the Sacramental journey. The next parent meeting will be on the 23rd October. This would generally be for the parents of children in Year 3. I would encourage all parents to discuss this with their children as it is advised that the children complete this process before they enter secondary school. At Corpus Christi we generally have the children complete their Reconciliation in Year 3, their First Communion in Year 4 and their Confirmation in Year 5. In the past a number of parents have expressed to me that they were going to allow their children to make the decision themselves. If that is the case in your family please take these thoughts into consideration.

Year 4 Religious Literacy Assessment
This week the children in Year 4 have completed their part B work samples for their Religious Literacy Assessment. We are displaying their work for any parents to view on Thursday 15th August 2.30-3.30pm, Friday 16th August 8.00 - 8.55am, Tuesday 20th August 3.30-4.30pm. There has been a great deal of time and effort invested from both the students and teachers in completing these assessments. Well done to everyone involved on such a great effort.

Upcoming dates:
30/8 Kindergarten Liturgy 12pm
(This change needed to take place due to the Infant’s Tabloid Carnival)
13/9 Year 1 Liturgy 12.45pm

Social Justice
PENRITH COMMUNITY KITCHEN
As we have supported Penrith Community Kitchen in previous years, they have requested our help and generosity again. In preparation for their Christmas collection, they have asked for donations of toiletries for both men and women who are in need. We would appreciate donations of new items such as deodorants, toothbrushes, tooth paste, shampoo, soap, wipes, hairbrushes etc. The children in the Liturgy Team will help to promote and collect these items, so your support in sending in these items with your children to their class would be fantastic. There are many people in our local area that would benefit greatly from these donations.

Have a lovely week
Sharon Shahoud
Religious Education Coordinator
CURRICULUM NEWS

CAN YOU HELP ON THE FATHER’S DAY STALL?

The Father’s Day Stall will be held on Tuesday 27th August. We need some volunteers to assist in selling the items to the students. If you are willing to assist our stall coordinators please contact the office and they will then forward your details to our friendly Father’s Day Stall Coordinators!

Thank you for your support,

Maree Tonnet
Assistant Principal

SCHOOL FEE PAYMENTS

It would be greatly appreciated if families could finalise payments by 19th August so that the school may meet its financial commitments.

Thank you to all those parents who have already paid their fees or who have set up an arrangement.

PRINCIPAL’S AWARD

At this week’s assembly we presented our first, of what we know will be many, Principals Awards. Congratulations to Christine Muscat (Year 4) who was presented with her Gold Principal’s Award this week. Christine’s commitment to learning and consistent effort has been rewarded with this Principals Award. Christine’s parents were invited to the assembly and later in the term Christine will attend a special Principal’s Lunch to recognise her achievement.

DANCE FEVER CHALLENGE

Dance Fever challenge is for students in Years 3-6 and their parents. A separate note was sent home this week. The $5 entry per person is to be paid on the night (don’t send this to school, please) 11/9/13 at Homebush. We are considering providing a bus for families from Corpus Christi to Homebush and back again for parents and their children, if there is sufficient interest. Cost TBA. Please return this slip if you would like to explore this option for you.

Please return to school office.

Re: DanceFever

Name: ____________________________ (Family) would travel to/from Homebush.

No. of passengers ___________ Contact phone: ___________________
MATHETHON 2013 Fundraiser

**What?**
Corpus Christi Mathethon

**When?**
Week 7
Monday 26th August - Friday 30th August

**Where?**
Corpus Christi learning spaces

**What will the raised funds purchase?**
Mac Book Pro’s and iPads

**What do we need?**
We need parents who are willing to assist with the Athon BBQ on Wednesday 28th August. If you can help please send in the slip below with your details for the attention of Mrs Tonnet. She will pass on this information to Mrs Sue Follan our BBQ coordinator!

**What do you need to do?**
- Collect sponsorship from family and friends. Bring your sponsorship card to school on Monday 26th August.
  Each grade has been given a colour level to practise their mathematical skills.
  - Kindergarten: White
  - Years 1 & 2: Yellow and Red
  - Years 3 & 4: Orange and Blue
  - Years 5 & 6: Green and Brown

**Please note that Sausage Sandwich orders will be finalized on Monday 26th August. No late orders will be processed.**

Thank you for your support,
A-Thon Committee

SAUSAGE SIZZLE – 28TH AUGUST - PARENT HELPERS NEEDED
Sausage Sizzle – Parent Helper Slip
Attn. Mrs Tonnet

I am willing to assist with the sausage sizzle on Wednesday 28th August.

Parent’s Name: __________________ Phone No: __________________
Parent’s Signature: ________________________________
Child’s Name: __________________________________ Class: ________
NEPEAN ZONE ATHLETICS CARNIVAL

Last Friday 9th August 2013 Mrs Mazeruk and myself took 42 children to the Nepean Zone Athletics carnival at Blacktown International Sports Park. These children represented the school with pride and displayed great sportsmanship. For some children this was their first opportunity to display their skills outside of our Corpus Christi community.

A huge thank you must go to Rhonda Mallows who spent a majority of her day as a place judge. Without our parent volunteers these days struggle to run successfully.

Congratulations to ALL the children who represented Corpus Christi at the carnival. The following children have qualified for the Diocesan Athletics Carnival: Megan Cooper, Hayley Crane, Ben Tucker, Flynn Jelacic, Baley Borthwick, Nicholas Pace, Noble Laryea, Trent Whitbread, Alannah Hader and Hayden Adams.

We wish all of these children the best in their events at this carnival.

Sport Coordinator
Mrs Emilia Ahern

PRG BUSH DANCE

Please join families from CC at our Annual Bush Dance - mark the date in your diary and come along for a fun filled night. Details included with this Newsletter.

6th September 2013...In our Hall...With Live Music...Bring your whole family...Just $20 per family...Lots of fun...BBQ Dinner Available...and Bush Dancing for everyone.

VOICE OF YOUTH 2013

This term, the Year Six students have been focusing on developing their writing and public speaking skills. The Voice of Youth competition gives the students in Year Six the opportunity to compete against other schools within the Parramatta Diocese, presenting speeches on a wide range of topics. We had three students represent Corpus Christi at the cluster final on Wednesday 14th August. Our representatives included Jade Parkes (Birthday Wishes), Elissa Simmonds (Tsunamis) and Tatijana Perri (Bungee Jumping). Mikhaili Apap (World Peace) was our reserve speaker for this event.

We would like to congratulate each of these students for their effort and confidence that they displayed in front of an audience of over 350, including students, parents, teachers, principals and judges. The overall winner for the Penrith Cluster was announced and our very own Tatijana Perri with her speech about bungee jumping was selected as the overall winner and will now head to the semi-finals on Wednesday 11th September. Congratulations to all four of our speakers and we look forward to watching Tatijana in the semi-final!

The Year Six Team.

Congratulations to ALL the children who represented Corpus Christi at the carnival. The following children have qualified for the Diocesan Athletics Carnival: Megan Cooper, Hayley Crane, Ben Tucker, Flynn Jelacic, Baley Borthwick, Nicholas Pace, Noble Laryea, Trent Whitbread, Alannah Hader and Hayden Adams.

We wish all of these children the best in their events at this carnival.

Sport Coordinator
Mrs Emilia Ahern
## August

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<th>Yr. 1 Excursion</th>
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<td>Week 7</td>
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<td>30th Friday</td>
<td>Yr. 5 Bathurst Excursion, Last day to submit recipes for cook book, Any remaining father’s day gifts will be for sale</td>
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## September

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### “Excellence in Religion” Merit Awards

- Emilia Kovacs
- Natalie Vella
- Lily Ceniza-Fulgado
- Amelia Panetta
- Daniel Richardson
- Natalie Sprycha
- Joshua Morgan
- Monique Fisher
- Lewis Looschelder
- Emily Mizzi
- Daniel McNaught
- Piper Smith
- Nate Galea
- Katiya Knoester
- Nicholas Papapavlou
- Jack Shannon
- Abby Boere
- Hannah Fitzpatrick
- Ella Muscat
- Montana Turnbull
- Jade Parkes
- Isabelle Vassallo

### POSITIVE PLAYGROUND BEHAVIOUR

- Emma Gosbell 3G
- Leni Harb KB

### ASSISTANT PRINCIPALS AWARDS

- Sophie Vella KE
- Nicholas Kuschert 6G
- Jacob Bulluss 5E
- Anna Pallister 5B
- Olivia Camilleri 4B
- Grace Clarke 2E

### UNIFORM SHOP

- Wednesdays
- 8.30am – 9.30am & 2.30pm – 3.30pm

To ensure all items are returned to their owners - PLEASE mark clearly all items with your child’s name.

### EXCHANGES OR REFUND

Although exchanges and refunds are accepted. All items must be in original condition with all packaging including tags attached. A receipt IS REQUIRED for any faulty item or refunds. A receipt is issued for all purchases including pre-paid orders.

****PLEASE KEEP YOUR RECEIPTS****

### NOTES SENT HOME RECENTLY:

- PRG Information
- Dance Fever Challenge Yr. 3-6
CATHOLIC EDUCATION OFFICE - FEDERAL ELECTION 2013

With the federal election set for 7 September, it is important to be aware of the key issues facing Catholic schools. The ABC’s Federal Election website Australia Votes has comprehensive information on each of the major political parties and their policies - visit http://www.abc.net.au/news/federal-election-2013/policy/education/

Executive Director of Schools, Greg Whitby, is meeting with our local Federal Members and Candidates and has outlined for the following key concerns for Catholic school communities:

**PROTECTING CHOICE**
Ensuring parents have a right to choose the type of schooling they want for their children by providing equitable government funding across all schools to allow those from lower socio-economic backgrounds to have the same access to, and choice of, schooling.

**ENSURING CATHOLIC SCHOOLS ARE ‘CATHOLIC’**
In order for Catholic schools to authentically maintain their identity and mission, the Catholic school sector must continue to be able to employ staff who are committed to the values and teachings of the Catholic Church, particularly for those staff who hold leadership positions, teach Religious Education or are responsible for the formation of students.

**MAINTAINING DIOCESAN (SYSTEM) AUTONOMY**
The ultimate responsibility for the administration of Catholic systemic schools rests with the Bishop in each diocese as the pastoral leader of the church in the region. Maintaining local authority at the diocesan or system level is crucial, not only for the exercise of this responsibility, but also to ensure our system can respond adequately to local system and school needs. This relies on the recognition by government of local church autonomy in delivering quality Catholic schooling and the continuation of ‘block funding’ to the Catholic sector.

**MEASURING REFORM**
The practice of teaching cannot be reduced to the following of externally-set rules and the meeting of targets. Teachers must be allowed to exercise professional judgement about curriculum content and the means of instruction.
We need comprehensive evidence and data of quality learning and teaching, not just simple testing measures (e.g. NAPLAN, OECD data, etc).

**COLLABORATION IN SETTING THE EDUCATIONAL AGENDA**
Schooling is a collective responsibility and one that requires cooperation and collaboration across levels of government and school sectors, and with the involvement of the teaching profession and families, to ensure the best possible schooling opportunities for Australian children.
Education policy must respond, over the long term, to the changing nature of schooling in a rapidly changing world. It must value diversity and innovation while promoting excellence and equity.

**CATERING FOR GROWTH**
While the new school funding agreement makes provisions for the recurrent costs of education, an appropriate funding model needs to be developed for the significant investment needed for the ongoing capital works, maintenance and the building of new schools to ensure Catholic schools can adequately sustain growth.

**FUTURE OF WESTERN SYDNEY**
As the third largest economy and one of the most diverse regions in Australia, western Sydney provides a unique opportunity to become a centre of learning and innovation through:
greater partnerships between schools and other education providers e.g. Universities, TAFE, private providers.
collaboration with business, government and education sectors to develop enterprise solutions for learning and embed schools within the broader community.
investment in educational research and technological development in western Sydney

I encourage you to consider these issues for our school communities and the education sector in the lead up to the election.

More information about school funding and education policy can be found at www.parra.catholic.edu.au/schoolfunding

Bishops Office