



NEWSLETTER No . 3 : 19th February, 2015

Dear Parents,

If you were ever a fan of songwriter, Johnny Mercer, you will recognise these lyrics:

“You’ve got to

Accentuate the positive

Eliminate the negative

Latch onto the affirmative

Don’t mess with Mr In-between.”

Not that he intended to do so, but Mr Mercer could be giving us some excellent advice as Ash Wednesday approaches and with it the forty days of Lent.

As we all know, Jesus retreated into the desert for forty days to prepare for His ministry. It was for Him a time of reflection and contemplation. For us, to pass time in the desert means to find occasions when we create a little emptiness and silence around us, rediscover the road to our heart, remove ourselves from the noise of external distractions, enter into contact with the deepest source of our being and faith. Thomas a Kempis offers a traditional perspective when he writes, “Happy and wise is he who endeavours to be during his life, as he wishes to be found at his death.”

On Ash Wednesday, our foreheads are marked with ashes to remind us that life passes away on earth: “Remember you are dust and unto dust you shall return”. There is an old English tombstone that bears the following inscription that is, indeed, a very solemn reminder:

“Remember friends as you pass by,

as you are now, so once was I.

As I am now, so must you be.

Prepare for death and follow me!”

Definitely, “for Adults Only”, that one!

The ashes are made from the blessed palms left over from the Palm Sunday celebration of the previous year. These ashes are “christened” with holy water and are scented by exposure to incense. Whilst the ashes symbolise penance and contrition, they are also a reminder that God is gracious and understanding to those who are of goodwill: “For generous and merciful is He, slow to anger, rich in kindness.” Prophet, Joel. 2:12.

NORTHERN PLAINS CLUSTER CONFERENCE

All staff will attend the Northern Plains Education Conference on Thursday 26th and Friday 27th March.

THERE WILL BE NO SCHOOL ON THESE DAYS.



If we are not careful, Lent can be so dreadfully boring if it focuses only on the negative, for who wants to mourn their sins and shortcomings for forty days! Father James Martin S.J., author of *My Life with the Saints*, has some good advice to offer: “When it comes to religion, joy has a lousy reputation. When you hear of someone described as “religious” what usually comes to mind is someone who is terrified that somewhere in the world somebody might be having a good time. St Teresa of Avila even prayed, ‘From sombre and solemn people, deliver us, O Lord.’ So today, on Ash Wednesday, instead of going around with a sad look on your face, have a laugh, for God’s sake!” Adapted.

Mourning our sins is about calling attention to them so that we can discard them; it is about improving our spiritual lives and seeking a closer relationship with God. We should observe Lent, because we want to accentuate the positive influence of the Holy Spirit in our lives and to eliminate the negative influence of sin. So, we have to “Accentuate the positive, Eliminate the negative, Latch onto the affirmative” and be happy about it!

God, our Father,

We ask that You accept us as we are, vulnerable, flawed and in need of Your love. May Your Spirit be powerful within us so that joy, love and peace may be expressed through the actions of our lives. Amen.

Peace & Best Wishes

Noel Dillon

Principal



CAR PARK PICK UP & DROP OFF

To ensure that all children are safe, it is important that parents collect and drop off their children from the shade area near the playground. A number of parents are waiting in the cars and calling their children across the car park. This causes a dangerous situation for the children.

Please ensure that children are collected from the pick up area.



Important dates

TERM 1 DATES FOR 2015

February

Wednesday 25th : Foundation rest day

Thursday and Friday 26th and 27th : Northern Plains Conference School Closure Day

March

Thursday 5th : Class Mass Grade 1/2 9.00am Chapel

Friday 6th : March First Friday School Mass 11.30am

Monday 9th : Labour Day Holiday

Preps Full Week

Thursday 12th : March Class Mass Grade 5/6 9.00am Chapel

Friday 13th : Grade 5/6 Leadership Day Echuca

Monday 16th : School Closure Day – David Anderson

Tuesday 17th – 20th : Grade 4/5/6 camp Queenscliff

Thursday 19th : Class mass Grade 1/2 9.00am Chapel

Thursday 26th : Class Mass Grade 2/3 9.00am Chapel

Friday 27th : Last Day Term 1 2.15pm

April

Friday 3rd : Good Friday

Sunday 5th : Easter Sunday

Monday 6th : Easter Monday

Monday 13th : **Term 2 commences 8.45am**

Tuesday 14th : Parent Teacher Interviews.

INFORMATION EVENING February

Thank you to the parents who attended Monday night's information evening. The evening was designed to assist parents with the home school connection and how to support your child with their learning.

It was disappointing that so few parents attended the night. Staff see this as important and gave up their time to part of the evening. It is a partnership between home and school, with evenings like this designed to assist parents in their role as being first and foremost the major educators of their children. We encourage all families to make an effort to support their child's education.

PARENT/TEACHER INTERVIEWS

Due to a short first term, we will hold our parent teacher interviews on Tuesday, 14th April (Week 1 Term 2). Students will attend school as normal on this day. Information will be sent out closer to the day with details of online booking of interview times.

Teachers are also available to meet with you this term if you would like to discuss your child's progress. It is important that you make a time to speak to the teacher rather than during class time.

Active after school Program : Term one

The Bluearth health and PE program will run for all students on a Wednesday every second week on the odd school weeks, beginning week two Wednesday, 4th February for all grades. The Foundation children will participate in the program when they resume full weeks.

Our tennis program will run in Term 2.

SCHOOL TIMES

8.45am-10.45am - Class time

10.45am-11.30am - Recess

11.30am-1.30pm - Class time

1.30pm - 2.15pm - Lunch

2.15pm - 3.15pm - Class time



The Breakfast club will start again on Thursday 12th February. This will run from 8.00am – 8.30am and will be held in the O'Dee.

No Breakfast Club in the last week of term.

SCHOOL MASSES

Opening School Mass

Our opening school mass was held last Friday, 13th February at the Church. At the mass we welcomed all students teachers and families to the new school year. We thank Bernie O'Keefe for his organisation of the mass, as well as the many families who attended the mass.

ASH WEDNESDAY

The students attended the Parish Ash Wednesday Mass yesterday.

CLASS MASSES

Each Thursday a class mass will be celebrated in the school chapel.

CAR PARK PICK UP AND DROP OFF

Please make sure that you park in the designated areas when you drop off or collect your children each day. The back car park is used for all drop offs and pick ups. Please reverse park into the designated areas to ensure that you have a good view of all students when you drive out. We all need to work together to ensure the children's safety at all times.



PLEASE, DO NOT DROP OFF / COLLECT YOUR CHILD/CHILDREN FROM THE FRONT OF THE SCHOOL.

PLAYGROUND AFTER SCHOOL

The playground is not available for children after school.

RIDING TO SCHOOL

Storage of bikes and scooters is near the sports shed. This area is not locked during the day, so you may wish to bring your own bike lock along to secure your bike. Bikes and scooters are not allowed to be ridden in the school yard.

AWARDS

School Assemblies will be held on Monday mornings at 8.45am in the O'Dee.

Each week at assembly several children will receive awards. The names of the children receiving the awards will be in the newsletter so parents are able to attend. This week's awards will be presented to:

Respect for Self

Riley Johnson Alice Stewart
Zoe Hamilton

Respect for Others

Chelsea Doherty

Making Jesus Real (for excellent manners)

Charlee Murray Dominic Stewart
Scarlett Seymour Zoe Flynn



SUN SMART – REMEMBER YOUR HATS

This Sun Smart Policy is to be read as part of our Student



Dress Code.

Children will be required to wear school hats during Terms 1 and 4 whenever they are outside.

Children without hats will be restricted to play in designated shaded areas –

'NO HAT, NO PLAY' policy to be enforced.

Children will be actively encouraged to wear a broad-spectrum water resistant sunscreen (SPF30+). Sunscreen will be provided in each classroom, and on excursions. Sunscreen will be applied by students according to the manufacturer's directions, under the supervision of teachers.

Sun smart activities and sun protection will form part of the Health and Physical Education curriculum at all year levels.

Parents will be encouraged to model Sunsmart behaviour when participating in school functions that are held outdoors.



CAMP : GRS. 4/5/6
Camp will be held at the
Cottage by the Sea
in Queenscliff

Tuesday ,17th to Friday, 20th March.

Cost is \$150.00 per child and should be paid before departure.

SHROVE TUESDAY PANCAKE

Thank you to the parents who assisted with the pancakes on Tuesday. The children also appreciated your assistance and the delicious pancakes.

SCHOOL UNIFORM

The uniform shop will now be open on a
Monday after assembly until 10.00am

It is important that all children are in correct uniform.
Sports gear may only be worn on selected sports days.
All items are available from the uniform shop.

Please ensure that uniform items are purchased and children have the correct uniform. This includes school hats.
Holy Rosary has a **NO HAT NO PLAY** policy in force. It is important that all students are correctly protected during the hot weather.

BOYS

Summer

School polo shirt
School windcheater
Grey shorts (**NO CARGO**)

Black shoes or sandals
Grey ankle socks
School hat

Winter

School windcheater
School polo shirt
Long grey trousers (**NO CARGO**)

Black shoes
Grey socks

GIRLS

Summer

School windcheater
Blue and white check dress
Black shoes or sandals

White ankle socks
School hat

Winter

School windcheater
School polo shirt
Grey pinafore/trousers (**NO CARGO**)

Black shoes
Grey ankle socks or
grey tights

GRADE 6 T-SHIRTS

These have arrived and can be collected from the front office. Payment of \$26.50ea on collection.

STUDENT ABSENCES

Please contact the school by 10.00am if your child is not attending school for the day. On returning to school, students must bring a signed, written note explaining their absence and give it to their classroom teacher.

CHILDREN'S CHATTER MATTERS

When reading, ask your child if they would like to be a certain character. Encourage your child to justify their opinions / statements e.g. "I would not like to be the wolf because at the end of the story he burns his tail". Be aware that "Just because" is not an acceptable answer.



PLAYGROUP

You are invited to come along and join the Parent-Child Playgroup at Holy Rosary School, Heathcote.

Who: For parents and their children 0-5 years
When: Each Thursday during Term 4
Time: 10.00am - 11.00am
Where: The O'Dee Centre at Holy Rosary Heathcote

For more information, please phone Jess on
0409 967 997 or Email:

jdawson@hrheathcote.catholic.edu.au

WANTED WANTED WANTED

We have an abundance of tomatoes in our garden at the moment and will be making tomato sauce.

If anyone has some small clean jars that we could use, we would appreciate if you could bring them to school.



MAKING JESUS REAL

MJR ALIVE AT HOME AND SCHOOL



Every day at home and school there are 20 or so *God*

Moments that go unnoticed- *get switched onto them!*

Ask your children to *dob on someone doing something good*. It gets the kids to see positives around them.

Around the dinner table once a week, *listen to the children's God Moments*.

Get the children conscious of *saying thank you about 6 times a day and at least 3 times at home*.

Encourage your children to use the person's name when thanking them.

MJR is 24/7, it is happening all the time! Every time we *GREET, TREAT and SPEAK to people*.

REFLECTION is the key to see where Jesus is during your day. It only takes 60 seconds to do. Train your children to go to their 'heart room'.

MJR is not a programme but a way of life!

There can be a perception from kids (and adults) that Jesus lived 2,000 years ago and he hasn't much relevance in our lives today.

MJR is about THE NOW!

CANTEEN MONDAY, 23rd FEBRUARY

NAME:

.....

CLASSROOM:I wish to orderserve/s

Chicken & Veg. Rice Paper Rolls ☐

Fried Rice ☐

\$3.00 per serve Money enclosed \$

Please return order & money in an envelope to your classroom tomorrow, Friday, 20th February

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TUCKSHOP

Helpers are needed. Please contact Michelle Scoble if you can assist.

CONVEYANCE ALLOWANCE : Closing date for first term is Monday, 2nd March

To be eligible for this allowance a student must be attending their nearest non-government school. Distance must be 4.8km or more by the shortest practicable route (measured from the front gate) from the school or contract school bus. Application forms are available at the school office.

Come together for the Heathcote Community Games this weekend!

As most of you will know by now, a very exciting weekend awaits Heathcote as our first ever Heathcote Community Games will be run.

One of our student's, Jesse Bruce, is the Junior Ambassador of the Heathcote Community Games and he will be carrying the Fazzi Perpetual Cup on the final leg of its 70 km relay journey (which originates in Too-boolac on Friday morning) into Fazzi Central in Barrack St, to officially mark the opening of the Games. A Welcome to Country by a member of the Taungurung Clan, followed by a smoking ceremony and Aboriginal dance routines, will be included.

Games organisers are inviting families and friends to join Jesse at 9.45am on Saturday in the Heathcote Primary School Car Park Area, to await the arrival of the Fazzi Cup to walk with him to the opening ceremony. This will include a walk down to the corner of Herriot and High St, where they will be met by a bagpiper to take the procession further down High St, meeting Rita Traynor, the Senior Games Ambassador, on the way to join Jesse, to carry the Cup together into the Opening Ceremony in Fazzi Central.



Please note that all participating in the Games should register at one of the three registration points in town: RSL Hall, Visitor Information Centre or Fazzi Central (the pop up park in Barrack St), before attending their first activity on Saturday or Sunday. This is important as the event needs to capture attendance numbers and obtain the appropriate agreements for participation.

Upon registration you will be given a little 'passport' pouch containing activities schedule and a map of where the activities will be. Your passport will be stamped as you attend activities. When you hand in your passport at the end of your Game's experience, you can allocate your attendance score to a local community group – the group with the most number of points will win the perpetual Fazzi Cup!

Attached to this newsletter is the timetable of events during the Games. You will see that some activities overlap with others, so a little bit of forward planning is needed to get to all the events you want to attend! You do not have to attend for the entire time of a planned activity, so there is the opportunity to dip in and dip out of the activities.

Activities have been purposely chosen or designed to suit people of all ages and capabilities, starting with Tumble Tots for the 1-5year olds on Saturday morning between 10am and 12 noon, and ending with a game of Hover Strike (similar to ten pin bowling) for the elderly hostel residents on Sunday afternoon.

Holy Rosary is contributing to the games by organising a Blue Earth session between 10 a.m and 12 noon on Sunday in the Barrack Reserve Hall, so we encourage you all to attend for at least part of that activity. Heathcote Primary School has fun activities for all the family at that time too at their school, so do consider attending an hour at one activity and one at the other, to support both schools.

This is the first time these events are being run by the Games activities' organisers, who are doing so in a voluntary capacity, so please do come along with a willingness to give things a go and to contribute to the fun and collaborative spirit of the Games.

Local business operators are also participating through a "Where is Fazzi?" activity. Many of the local business operators will hide a 'Fazzi Card,' in the window of their business. The object of the game is to identify which businesses have Fazzi on display, whilst at the same time learning a little more about the local Heathcote businesses.

Help and information will be provided to participants by Games officials wearing sunshine-yellow shirts and volunteers from various community groups wearing white caps. There will be a water station and sunscreen stations and rest areas throughout the area, with bales of hay scattered in shady areas under the trees where people chill out.

'HEATHCOTE THROUGH YOUNG EYES' - a photo doc and installation project by Gabriel Bradshaw, Miguel Tongco and Grace Bradshaw

This project is a Heathcote Community House initiative co-ordinated by artist Mari B-Li Donni and funded by the CoGB

'Heathcote Through Young Eyes' Is a photo-documentary of the day to day life, events and likes of three children (Gabriel, Miguel and Grace) all of primary school age living in the Heathcote area. The photos they have taken represents what is familiar to them and what they hold important to their life. Their images are supported by an installation piece created by each child to represent the home connection depicting their environment and personal story.

The children along side their parent met with Mari to discuss their images and the story behind why they had taken them. They further looked at other photographers such as Vivian Maier and attempted their own manipulations and experimental way of taking photos. Basically it is a learning exercise for the children to develop different perspective of viewing their environment, on how to take pictures from different angles and what makes an interesting photo. Most important is that the children have fun in the process and enjoy the experience of being part of and activity that will be displayed for public viewing at Dudley House from the 6th of March - 15th March 2015 and later at the Heathcote Art Space from the 23rd of March to the 7th of April 2015

The Dudley House exhibition will be opened by Cr Rod Fyffe on Friday 6th of March at 7pm

Exhibition dates from Friday 6th to Sunday 15th of March : Open daily from 10am - 4pm

SCHEDULE FOR HEATHLETICS CARNIVAL, FEBRUARY, 22ND

The games will begin at 9.00am and finish at 1.00pm

Register for events, collect program, certificate, etc., at the Red Marquee, any time during the morning

As the events in this carnival are against the clock, you and your team can go in any number of events, or have several goes at the same event during the morning, simply by reporting to the officials at the appointed starting place.

Children's events and the Family Decathlon will be run during the first half of every hour. Music will be played during this time. Just report to the Club people in charge of particular items and listen to the announcements over the public address system.

Open age events will be run during the second half of each hour. Simply report to the Club people at the starting point of the event you wish to complete. Most events will start and finish at the Northern end goal square, or at the nearby swimming pool (no music in this time zone to distinguish it from the kids time and to avoid collisions).

Young children should be in responsible care, especially during the second half of each hour. Good food, including vegan option, and coffee for sale. The nearby swimming pool is open and free for the day.

This event is part of the Heathcote Community Sports Weekend auspiced by Heathcote Health Inc.

Enquiries and RSVP's most welcome

Bill Featherstone

HFNC Inc Committee : 0419 385 200



Heathcote Football Netball Club's Heathletics Carnival

Combining Athletics with AFL Football & Netball

Sunday 22nd February, 2015

9am—1pm

Free Entry
Including Swim
Relays
Family Games
Jumping Castle



First Ever Carnival
Come & Hold the Record
Gourmet BBQ
(Vegan Option)
Games & Fun for the Kids

Where: Barrack Reserve
High Street, Heathcote



HEATHLETICS CARNIVAL EVENTS ... Oval ball

1. 400m relay (1 lap total distance covered)...team time trial

Team size arbitrary Open age, mixed , mens or womens ,

Begin with kick-in from goalsquare..keep within running track..carry and pass oval ball according

to afl rules for one lap ,finish with a goal . Players who have already carried the ball may cross the

ground to receive and/or carry again.

2. 800m relay..team time trial 2 laps total , rules as for event 1.

3. Fastest coast to coast, round the post and back goal.. Team composition arbitrary

4. Fastest Coast to Coast round the post and back Soccer goal with oval ball Team mix arbitrary

5. Goal kicking from 30m boundary zone..team average

HEATHLETICS CARNIVAL EVENTS... round ball...team size arbitrary

6. 200m (length of oval) team relay ,passing and moving the ball according to netball rules, Goal.

7. Other team routines involving goal-shooting

HEATHCOTE TRIATHLON. (Entry fee , prizes tba)

8. Open age triathlon, team of 1,2 or 3 people

A) Run.. One player runs 400 m with oval ball, start the clock with a kickin , stop the clock with a goal