

Holy Spirit Primary School



From the Principal

Dear Parents and Carers,

A recent article in the Sun-Herald suggests that parents need to let children learn from their own mistakes and avoid jumping to their defence. The following tips were suggested to build resilience in children:

- Don't do things for them that they should be able to do for themselves (eg feed, dress, pick up after them)
- Let them mix with a diverse range of friends (from school, soccer, dancing etc)
- Encourage them to work towards a goal/reward
- Set firm boundaries (avoid using bribes)
- Don't dwell on their disappointments.

Some parents carry a massive burden of guilt because they work and are time poor. They try to compensate for this by buying things for children and being over-protective. Parents need to let go and let their children learn to take risks and develop into confident people.

Children who have everything done for them and are protected from everyday mishaps often find it difficult to cope when things don't go their own way, or the rules of the game are changed or someone calls them a name. There are usually two responses: fight or flight. Either way the child has not learnt how to deal with such everyday occurrences in the playground. It is important for the 'fighter' and the 'flighter' to learn some resilience to be able to cope with the situation and get on with the game.

Psychologists warn that failure to allow children to manage their own mishaps is helping produce a generation of anxious children who aren't resilient, have poor life skills, a strong sense of entitlement and little sense of responsibility.

Skoolbag App

Please see details of how to install the Holy Spirit App later in this newsletter. This is a free App which can be accessed on smart phones and Android tablets. The App will have alerts and newsletters and provide a fast, simple and convenient way to communicate.

Spellathon Thank You

Congratulations to all who participated in our spellathon. We have raised over \$10000!!! Well Done

Easter Eggs Please

Our last fundraiser for the term will be an 'Easter Egg' raffle. All families are asked to contribute an easter egg to the school. These are to be handed in to the school office. All eggs collected will be bundled into prizes for our raffle.

Raffle tickets are \$1 each. Books of 5 will be sent home today with the newsletter. Please send in money and raffle butts by Thursday 10th April.

Term 1, Week 10

2 April 2014

Prayer 2C

Dear God

*Thank you for
Lent because
it reminds us
to make
promises and
give things to
the poor so at
Holy Spirit we
become more
like you.*

Amen

Wishing you a
happy Easter with
many blessings from
all at Holy Spirit
Primary School



Prizes will be drawn on Friday 11th April. If you have any old baskets that you would like to donate, please leave these at the office. Thank you.

Mufti Day

There will be a mufti day on Friday 11th April. Children may wear sports team clothes/colours and the penalty will be a gold coin donation for our Mothers' Day stall.

Lego

We are hoping to offer a lego club at lunch time for interested students. If you have some 'unwanted' lego at home to donate to the school please hand this in to the school office. Thank you.

Enrolments for Kindergarten 2015

If you have a child born between July 2009 and June 2010 they are eligible for kindergarten enrolment. Please collect enrolment forms from the school office or download from the school website.

Kind regards

Anne Hines
Principal

Learning Matters

Dear Parents,

I know you are all looking forward to the upcoming holidays. It's great to have some time to take things more slowly and to build up our energy levels once more. Easter celebrations fall in the middle of our break so I wish you a happy Easter as we celebrate the glory of Christ's Resurrection.

As you are well aware the teachers at Holy Spirit are focused on improving the Reading ability of all the children. So with this in mind we will be re-launching our "**Early Bird Reading Program**" next term. This will begin in **Week 2** of Term 2.

In brief this involves readers and tutors meeting in the MPA at about 8:30am. The older children will listen to their younger buddies read. Cards will be stamped to keep a check on how many times the children attend the sessions during the term. Certificates will be issued to children who consistently attend. Teachers will be supervising the session. This is not a compulsory activity but it is another way of practicing and consolidating reading skills.

This will be a new experience for our Kindergarten children. We found last year that Kindergarten were very enthusiastic and had their readers ready for Early Bird Reading.

*The Early Bird Reading Days will be **Tuesdays and Wednesdays.***

*It takes place in our **Multi Purpose Area.***

*We begin **at 8:30am** and must **finish by 8:45** so that teachers who are helping with this extra supervision are able to get back to their classes when the bell goes.*

Parents, this is a commitment on your part as well. You will need to have your child at school in enough time to complete the reading of a book or a chapter of the book. It is very difficult to turn children away because they arrive too late.

As well as improving reading skills the children will be making friends with students from other grades and they will hopefully see that we are a learning community, here to help one another.

Christine Figuero
Assistant Principal

***Congratulations to the following students who have received
Principal Awards***

- Kinderg:** Charlię, Lucas, Tagah, Samuel
- Year 1:** Kieralę, Marko, Jorgiah, Ashton
- Year 2:** Chloę, Cahill, Madison, Daniel
- Year 3:** James, Sebastian, Jake, Harley
- Year 4:** Brendan, Elizabeth, Holly, Stefan, Rosina
- Year 5:** Alana, Atem, Kyla, Isabella
- Year 6:** Kris, Amanda, Joshua, Eliza



Skoolbag
Smartphone school to parent communication

Skoolbag is a mobile App for your school to communicate directly to both parents and students. It works through both smart phones and smart devices (such as iPads and Android Tablets). Ideal for:

- > School, free push notification alerts
- > School events
- > School newsletters
- > School documents
- > School RSS feeds
- > School social media (Facebook, Twitter)

Skoolbag delivers school notices directly to parents and students

How To Install Skoolbag On Your Smartphone

iPhone & iPad Users

1. Click the "App Store" icon on your Apple device.
2. Type your school name in the search, using suburb name will help.
3. If iPhone, you will see your school appear, click "Free" then "Install".
4. If iPad, change the drop list to "iPhone Apps", your school will then be visible, click "Free" then "Install".
5. When installed click "Open"
6. Select "OK" to receive push notifications, when asked.
7. Click the "More" button on the bottom right of the App, then "Setup".
8. Toggle on the Push Categories that are applicable for you.

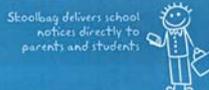


Android Users

- You must first have signed up with a Google Account before installing the app.
1. Click the "Play Store" button on your Android Device
 2. Click the magnifying glass icon at the top and type in your school name, using suburb name will help.
 3. Click the school name when it appears in the search.
 4. Click the "Install" button.
 5. Click "Accept" for various permissions (please note, we do not modify any of your personal data on your device).
 6. Click "Open" when installed.
 7. Click the "More" button on the bottom right of the App, then "Setup".
 8. Toggle on the Push Categories that are applicable for you.



Don't forget to like us on Facebook! [Find out more at www.skoolbag.com.au](http://www.skoolbag.com.au)



Just a reminder School Banking is every fortnight Wednesday.

If your child would like to open an account with St George please see our St George Bank representative or collect an application form from the school office.



**Cross Country—Years 3 -6
Wednesday 9 April 2014**

Please ensure you have returned your child's permission slip to their class teacher.



Winter uniform to be worn next term unless unseasonably warm.

Boys' long pants and girls' tights are available from the uniform shop

Community News



Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend (a marriage enrichment experience for married couples)

13-15 June at Mt Carmel Retreat Centre,
Varroville, NSW

Bookings: 02 4283 3435
or wsharpe@bigpond.net.au



UNIVERSITY OF WESTERN SYDNEY SCHOOL OF COMPUTING,
ENGINEERING AND MATHEMATICS
UWS PENRITH OBSERVATORY
SCHOOL HOLIDAY KIDS PROGRAMS

Wednesday 16 April (10 am - 12 noon) - Rockets
Make and launch your own paper rockets and watch water rockets being launched

Wednesday 23 April (10 am - 12 noon) - Star Stuff
A short multimedia presentation followed by hands-on science activities

KIDS ASTRONOMY NIGHTS

Saturday 19 April (7pm - 9 pm) - Mars Rovers
Come along and find out, why we are sending rovers to Mars

Saturday 26 April (7pm - 9pm) - The Lives of Stars
Where do stars come from and where do they go?

In addition to the multimedia presentation all programs will include a 3D astronomy movie and either safe viewing of the sun (day program) or viewing of the night sky through the University's telescopes. Our programs run regardless of the weather.

Cost: \$15 adult, \$10 child/concession and \$40 family.
Bookings are essential: Book and pay online: www.uws.edu.au/observatory
What's On

Term Dates

- Term 2 Monday 28 April to Friday 27 June
- Term 3 Monday 14 July to Friday 19 September
- Term 4 Tuesday 7 October to Friday 19 December

Staff Development Days will be advised separately.

Upcoming dates...

Wednesday 2 April
School Banking

Thursday 3 April
Holy Week Reflection
Part 2—2.00pm MPA

Friday 4 April
Whole School Assembly
2.30pm

Thursday 10 April
Holy Week Reflection
Part 3—2.00pm MPA

Friday 11 April
Augustinian Prayer 3pm

Last Day of Term 1

School resumes Monday 28 April



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