Dear Families,

Today at our whole school liturgy, we acknowledged the beginning of the Lenten season with Ash Wednesday. Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of Lent. Over the coming weeks we prepare ourselves for Easter. It is a time set aside for reflection on Jesus Christ – his suffering and his sacrifice.

At our school Liturgy the students, staff and parents received the ashes on their forehead, as a sign of our willingness to repent and asking our God for forgiveness. Students were reminded that during the season of Lent we are invited to recognise our failures, to seek forgiveness, to grow deeper in faith and stronger in love through prayer, fasting and good deeds to others.

Opening year school mass
We gather on Friday to celebrate the beginning of our school year with our Opening year school mass. This mass will give us the opportunity to gather together in prayer to thank God for each and every member of our community and to pray for wisdom and guidance as we work together in this partnership of educating, and growing in faith, each of the children at Holy Spirit. You are all invited to celebrate this special occasion with us at 8.30am.

Parent information evening
It was fantastic to see so many parents in attendance at our Parent information evening on Tuesday night. I know how busy family life can be so the time you have taken to attend our Parent Information Evenings and find out about what’s in store for your child this year is greatly appreciated. Your presence and participation at school events is a great indication of your commitment to working in partnership with us and I thank you in anticipation of your ongoing support.

Parent / Teacher goal setting night
A reminder that the Goal Setting Sessions with your child’s teacher are on either Tuesday 23rd February or Wednesday 24th February between 3:00pm and 6:00pm. The purpose of this meeting is to have time with your child’s teacher to discuss your hopes and dreams for your child’s achievements during 2016. Booking for these meetings are done online. Parents are asked to go to the website www.schoolinterviews.com.au and log on with the code (2Q6MZ) and make their booking. There are more details in the newsletter.

Life Education Van
Next week the Life Education Van along with Healthy Harold will be visiting Holy Spirit to run sessions with all classes. The children will be provided with the opportunity of a class visit to learn about maintaining healthy minds and bodies. The van will be open to parents on the afternoon of Tuesday 16th February afterschool to find out more or to ask questions.

Child Safety and Wellbeing
- Parents are reminded that staff supervision commences at 7:45am each morning prior to school commencing at 8:10am. Parents who require care before this time are asked to book their child into the ‘Before School Care Program’ at a cost of $45/week.
- Please note that Holy Spirit has two students that have severe allergic reaction to eggs and egg products. As a precaution a note has been sent home to the families of students in their year level to make parents aware when packing school lunches.
- Parent pick up – Parents are reminded that the Parent pick up is for a drop off in the morning and collecting in the afternoon. It is not a designated parking area.

Thank you to the parents who were able to assist with our Shrove Tuesday Pancakes. Your efforts were greatly appreciated by the students and staff.

God bless and keep you safe.

Simon Duffy
Principal

Reflection

“But when you give alms, your left hand must not know what your right is doing; your almsgiving must be secret, and your Father who sees all that is done in secret will reward you”
- Matthew 6: 3-4
**CONGRATULATIONS TO THE FOLLOWING STUDENTS:**

- T/1, Rm.8 - Matilda Tranter
- T/1, Rm. 9 - Marc Tedcastle
- Year 1/2, Rm.4 - Maddison Grace
- Year 1/2, Rm.6 - Mihaelia Bunn-Kurnoth
- Year 3/4, Rm.10 - Ronan Sullivan
- Year 3/4, Rm.12 - Kostandinos Kariotis
- Year 3/4, Rm.13 - Madison Kosic
- Year 4/5, Rm.14 - Brandon Kurnoth
- Year 5/6, Rm.10 - Niesha Casimiro
- Sport Award - Madison Kosic
- Indonesian Award - Madison Kosic

A W.E.S.T Award is presented to a person who is Welcoming, Encouraging, says Sorry and is Thankful. This week’s W.E.S.T Award goes to:

**Madison Woolley**

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**BACK TO SCHOOL VOUCHER**

Have you used your child’s “Back to school” voucher? It is worth $150 and can be used against the Book and Service Levy or uniforms. Valid till the end of Term 1. Available at the Front Office.

**SPORTS VOUCHERS**

Sport vouchers were distributed on Monday. If your child has not received one please visit [www.sportvoucher.nt.gov.au](http://www.sportvoucher.nt.gov.au) or call 1800 817 860 to request a new or replacement voucher for your child.

**BOOK CLUB**

Issue #1, closes Friday 12th of February

**PIANO 2016**

Lesson times are available for new students. Enrolment forms are available from the Front Office. Thank you

-Carolyn Gray (piano teacher)

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**OSHC—IMPORTANT NOTICE**

It is a requirement that All children attending Holy Spirit Catholic Primary School complete a 2016 enrolment form for Holy Spirit Out of School Hours Care – regardless of whether they are a current user of this service or not. Families not using Holy Spirit Out of School Hours Care will not be charged.

A casual rate of $33 per child will apply if your child/children attend Holy Spirit Out of School Hours Care without giving 24 hours’ notice. This may include but is not limited to children that have not been collected from parent pick-up by 3:00pm or bookings made on the same day.

A copy of the enrolment paperwork for Holy Spirit Out of School Hours Care was been sent home to each family last week. Forms are also available from the OSCH building, the front office and the school website:

[www.holyspiritnt.catholic.edu.au](http://www.holyspiritnt.catholic.edu.au)

Completed forms must be returned to the front office no later than Friday the 12th of February, 2016. Families will be charged the normal rate of $22 per child per day until the 12th of February, 2016 and the casual rate of $33 thereafter if forms are not completed and returned to the front office. Children who return the form by the 12th of February will receive a ticket for a free ice cup from Mrs. Baylis.

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**PARENT /TEACHER GOAL SETTING SESSIONS**

Parent/Teacher/Student interviews will be held at 3.00pm – 5:45pm on Tuesday 23rd and Wednesday 24th of February. You can now book interviews at times that suit YOUR FAMILY BEST.

Go to [www.schoolinterviews.com.au](http://www.schoolinterviews.com.au) and follow these simple instructions.

Enter THIS school event code: **2Q6MZ**

Then follow these 3 simple steps:

1. Enter your details
2. Choose teachers
3. Choose times

When you click finish, your interview timetable will be emailed to you automatically - check your junk mail folder if you do not receive your email immediately. You can return to [www.schoolinterviews.com.au](http://www.schoolinterviews.com.au) at any time, and change your interviews – until bookings close.

**BOOKINGS CLOSE MONDAY 22CND FEBRUARY AT 9AM**

For parents that don’t have access to the internet at home, at work, at a friend’s house or on their phones, Please contact the front office. Parents may send a note to school with the approximate times they require, or phone the school on 89 273 411. Interviews are strictly 10mins and spaces are limited. If you require more time, please contact your teacher directly to make alternative arrangements.

Parents can change their interview bookings, any time prior to the closing date, by re-visiting the [www.schoolinterviews.com.au](http://www.schoolinterviews.com.au) website, and using the event code. Remember to use the same name and email address, you used when you made your original booking. Parents wishing to change their interview times after the closing date, should contact the school directly on: 89 273 411
### Term 1 Calendar, 2016

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Monday</th>
<th>Tuesday</th>
<th>Wednesday</th>
<th>Thursday</th>
<th>Friday</th>
<th>Assembly</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Week 3</td>
<td>February 5th Sunday Ordinary Time</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>Homework Centre begins</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>Parent Information Night 4:30pm</td>
<td>10</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 4</td>
<td>February 1st Sunday Lent</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>Life Education Van</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>Basketball Gala day</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 5</td>
<td>February 2nd Sunday Lent</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>Parent/Teacher Goal Setting 3-6pm</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>Reward Afternoon</td>
<td>24</td>
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<td>Week 6</td>
<td>March 3rd Sunday Lent</td>
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<td></td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td>2</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 7</td>
<td>March 4th Sunday Lent</td>
<td>7</td>
<td></td>
<td>8</td>
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<td>9</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 8</td>
<td>March 5th Sunday Lent</td>
<td>14</td>
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<td>15</td>
<td>Reconciliation Ceremony</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 9</td>
<td>March Palm Sunday</td>
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<td>Holy Week</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 10</td>
<td>March/April Easter Sunday</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>Easter Monday Holiday</td>
<td>29</td>
<td></td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### HATS

Please label your child’s hat with a puff pen or white out on the brim of the hat to assist the front office and teachers with the return of missing hats to their owners.

### AFTER SCHOOL CARE SEEK DONATIONS

Dear parents, as we start the new school year we are looking to add a few new things to our afterschool care program. We are seeking donations to add to our current resources for the students to use, read and play with. We are looking for donations of board games in good condition, dress up clothing, sandpit toys and reading books for students. Any of these items that you would like to donate from home would be greatly appreciated by the students and staff. Thanks in advance.

- Cherry Valenzuela

### UNIFORM NEWS...

There will be a 5 - 6 week wait for the new polo shirt in sizes 6, 8, 10 and 14. The office will send out notification of their arrival through the school app and the newsletter. Size 6, 8 and 10 dresses are now available for purchase. Limited stock available.

### LATE COLLECTION OF STUDENTS

Students who have not been collected by 2:45pm will be sent to After School Care to ensure supervision. Children collected before 3:00pm will not be charged a fee.

### ABSENCES AND LATE STUDENTS

**Holiday?**
If your child/ren are going to be away during the school term please notify the front office by e-mail, phone, the school app, or come in and pick up a ‘Notification of Absence’ form.

**Leaving?**
If your child is leaving the school please notify the office by completing a ‘Termination of Enrolment’ form which can be found at the front office.

**Late?**
If your child arrives to school after the first bell (8:10am), please send them to the front office to be signed in. If they are not signed in they might be recorded as an unexplained absence.

**Sick?**
If your child is sick please notify the front office by e-mail, phone or the school app. Your child’s absence will only be recorded as a notified absence if you advise the school on the day.

### CHANGE OF ADDRESS

Has your family recently changed your place of residence? Have you changed your phone number, place of work or postal address? Please contact the front office with your updated contact details.
PARENT INVOLVEMENT REPLY NOTE

Holy Spirit Primary school has a number of very dedicated parents who contribute in many ways to the life of our school community. We are always seeking new parents to contribute in some way and to be actively involved in the education of children. Children take great delight in seeing their parents help out and having them take an interest in their learning.

You may like to consider contributing in some of the following areas: (Please tick)

- Classroom support
- Membership of our Parents and Friends committee,
- School Board Committee
- Physical Education program
- Occupational Health and Safety Committee
- Grounds and Maintenance committee
- Other?_________________________________________________

Name:______________________________________   Contact No.________________________________

Please return this form to the front office.
Dear Parents/Guardians

All students in Transition to Year 1 who like to sing are invited to participate in the Junior Choir. Miss Bronwyn Tranter will provide training between 2:30-3:15pm in the School Library every Thursday afternoon.

As Music is held for all classes in the daily timetable, we have decided to have Choir Training mainly outside of class teaching to prevent interruption to the learning program. It also recognized that Choir is an extra-curricular activity and we are encouraging all students to participate in extra-curricular activities.

I encourage all students to consider this invitation. During the year there will be special public invitations to attend performance events around Darwin. All members are encouraged at attend these events. A special vest is provided for performances. Students need only provide a white shirt and black pants.

The first performance will happen at the school Harmony Day Dinner on Friday 18th March.

Rehearsals will commence on Thursday 11th February at 2:30pm.

Siblings of students not involved in the Junior Choir are required to be collected by parents before 2:55pm from the Parent Pick up area or are able to enrol in After School Care. Siblings are not permitted to wait unsupervised outside the Music Room or Library.

Please sign the Permission note below if you allow your child to attend Choir each Thursday afternoon.

Yours Truly

[Signature]
Mr Simon Duffy
Principal

My Child/ren would like to attend the Junior Choir training each Thursday afternoon. The arrangements after practices are that: (Please circle correct option.)

- Walk or ride their bike home
- Attend After School Care
- Will be collected by specified adult.

Name of Child/ren: ____________________________ Room: ____________________________

Signed: ____________________________ Room: ____________________________

Parent Name: ____________________________ Date: ____________________________
Dear Parents/Guardians

All students in Years 2-6 who like to sing are invited to participate in the School Choir. Mrs Lourdes Valles will provide the training between 2:30 – 3:15 pm in Room 2 every Thursday afternoon.

As Music is held for all classes in the daily timetable, we have decided to have Choir training mainly outside of class teaching to prevent interruptions to the learning program. It also recognized that Choir is an extra-curricular activity and we are encouraging all students to participate in extra-curricular activities.

It is especially important that our 5/6 students participate in an extra-curricular activity as an important part of their learning in Middle and Senior School will be through extra-curricular timetabled events.

The Holy Spirit School Choir has been most successful in the past and has received numerous awards and accolades. Mrs Lourdes Valles is recognised for her talent in developing young voices.

I encourage all students to consider this invitation. During the year there will be special public invitations to attend performance events around Darwin. All members are encouraged to attend these events. A special vest is provided for performances. Students need only to provide a white shirt and black pants.

Rehearsals will commence on Thursday 11th February at 2:30 pm.

Siblings of students not involved in the school choir are required to be collected by parents before 2.55pm from the Parent pick up area or are able to enrol in After School Care. Siblings are not permitted to wait unsupervised outside the Music Room.

Please sign the permission note below if you allow your child to attend Choir practice each Thursday afternoon.

Yours truly

Mr Simon Duffy – Principal

My child/ren would like to attend School Choir training each Thursday afternoon. The arrangements after practice are that they: (Please circle correct option.)

- Walk or ride their bike home
- Attend After School Care
- Will be collected by specified adult

Signed: __________________________  Date: __________________________

Name of child/ren: __________________________
2 February 2016

Dear Parents/Guardians

The Boys' Choir at Holy Spirit Catholic Primary School is in its fourth year with numbers growing. It is hoped that this year senior students would take part as well. Any boy from Year 2 – Year 6 who likes to sing is welcome to join and no experience is required. Mrs Lourdes Valles will continue to provide the training in Room 2 at 1:00 – 1:45 pm on Tuesdays.

The Choir is a supportive environment with an emphasis on developing a love for singing and gaining confidence through performance. The choristers engage in some vocal warm ups, including the development of aural skills. They then rehearse a series of different songs each term mostly by rote.

The choir will engage in several school and community performances throughout the year.

Rehearsals this term will commence on Tuesday, 9th February at 1:00 pm.

Please sign the permission note below if your child is able to attend choir practice each Tuesday afternoon.

Yours truly,

Mr Simon Duffy
Principal

I give permission for my child/ren to attend Boys' Choir practice each Tuesday afternoon.

Signed: ___________________________ Date: ___________________________

Name of child/ren: ___________________________
2 February 2016

Dear Parents/Guardians

This year the Liturgical Dance Group will be meeting on Wednesdays from 2:30 – 3:15 pm in Room 2 under the direction of Mrs Lourdes Valles. Students from Years 3 – 6 are invited to participate.

Liturgical dance is a dance that is incorporated into liturgies or worship services. It is an expression of worship. Such dances can be accompanied by different types of music. The dancers will respond with an appropriate dance which flows out of the music and is thought to enhance the prayer or worship experience.

Please sign the permission note below if your child is able to attend Liturgical Dance practice each Wednesday afternoon. Students from ASC and Homework Centre can attend these Centres following practice.

Siblings of students not involved in Liturgical Dance Groups are required to be collected by parents before 2.55pm from the Parent pick up area or are able to enrol in After School Care. Siblings are not permitted to wait unsupervised outside the Music Room.

Yours truly,

Mr Simon Duffy
Principal

I give permission for my child/ren to attend the Liturgical Dance practice each Wednesday afternoon.

The arrangements after practice are that they:
(Please circle correct option.)

- Walk or ride their bike home
- Attend After School Care
- Will be collected by a specified adult

Signed: ___________________________ Date: ___________________________

Name of Children: ___________________________