Dear parents,

Welcome back to Term 3 on the coldest day of the year so far. I hope you all had a great break with your families over the holidays. We look forward to a very productive term ahead. I have provided some dot point reminders for the beginning of this term:

♦ Please slow down in and around the school as the 40kmph rules apply and I am sure none of us need a ticket. Also please drive slowly in and out of the school grounds as the safety of our children is vital.

♦ Please remember that school begins at 8.45 am and teachers are on duty to supervise from 8.15am. This morning at assembly time we were lucky to have a third of the school ready to begin school at 8.45.

♦ We have had a report of a mild case of measles in the school (despite the child being immunised). Please be on the lookout for signs in your child.

♦ The new playground has been completed and the soft fall spread so it is ready for use by the children. During the initial introduction of the new playground free time use will be limited to children in Year 3 and up.

♦ We welcome Mrs Travers back to MTS following her maternity leave and she will be working in Year 1 Orange with Mrs Blackwell. We also welcome Mrs Kate Macgregor to Mother Teresa as our newest member of staff. Kate is replacing Katie Smith for the remainder of the school year.

♦ The whole school fitness challenge for all classes will begin next week and Mr Pye will post a copy of the activities on the spots notice board so children will be able to find their group in the mornings.

♦ Some belated news of congratulations. Mrs Cherie Kelly was appointed as the Principal of St Bede’s primary School Red Hill and will begin her appointment next year. We congratulate Cherie and wish her every success in her new role. The permanent appointment of an Assistant Principal for MTS will happen in the coming weeks following advertising and interviews.

Prayers
We ask for your prayers for the families of three staff members who have lost loved ones during the holidays. Donna Betts lost her father last week, Deb Hoffman lost her father during the holidays and Mrs Bruce lost a close family friend on Monday. We ask God to keep all these families close during the coming weeks.

Trivia Night
The parish trivia night is on Saturday 17 August at the Good Shepherd Hall. Please come along and join in the great night. Please contact the parish office on 62429622 for bookings. If you are able to assist with the setting up of tables on Friday 16 August or the clean up on Monday 19 August please contact Michael on 0488 083 064.
We are looking for people or businesses to donate prizes for the night. If you are able to assist please contact Charmaine on 0417216446.

Parent Volunteers
A reminder to all parents who assist in classrooms or work with young people, to apply now for a working with vulnerable people card. If you have your card already please present it to the front office so a copy can be taken and filed. The final date for registration in November 7 2013. There is now a 10 week waiting period for volunteers to register with the office of regulatory services.
Happy birthday to everyone who is celebrating their birthday this week including:
Matthew Robinson, Rhys Chapman, Ella Santamaria, Isabella Glavinic, Nathan Griffiths, William Voudiotis, Chloe Walters, Nadia Liakos, Jesse Pumpa, Hamish Dwyer, Spence Hancock, Angela Kelley and Brooke Jeffries.

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<th>Preschool</th>
<th>Year Two</th>
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<th>Year Four/Five</th>
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<td>Izaak Librando (Yellow Seahorses)</td>
<td>Michael Paragalli (Emerald)</td>
<td>Vincent Fabrizio (Lilac)</td>
<td>Chloe Thorpe (Crimson)</td>
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<td>Rhys Webster (Blue Whales)</td>
<td>Maja Seckar (Jade)</td>
<td>Megan Hare (Violet)</td>
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<td>Abbey Watson (Purple Starfish)</td>
<td>Carolyn Sisley (Lime)</td>
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<td>Gabrielle Bishop (Green Turtles)</td>
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<td>Siena Nunes (Aqua)</td>
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<td>Alexander Marek (Sapphire)</td>
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<td>Spencer Hancock (Teal)</td>
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<td>Olivia Barber (Turquoise)</td>
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| Year One:                         |                        |                        |                             |
| Noah Milczarek (Amber)            |                        |                        |                             |
| Austin Evans (Ochre)              |                        |                        |                             |
| Adella Caruso (Orange)            |                        |                        |                             |
| Ava Hahn (Tangerine)             |                        |                        |                             |

| Year Two                          |                        |                        |                             |
| Year Three                        |                        |                        |                             |
| Year Four/Five                    |                        |                        |                             |
The Whole school focus theme for this year is ‘The Journey’ and the Bible reference that supports our theme is:

‘I am the way. The truth and the life: no man comes to the Father but by me.’

John 14:6

At Mother Teresa we will journey and follow in God’s way by living our life in a true and authentic way. The values we will be focusing on this term are:

- Reconciliation
- Peace
- Justice
- Inclusion
- Courtesy

FOCUS ASSEMBLY

Thank you to Mrs Watt and 3 Lilac for presenting the Focus Assembly on Reconciliation. The students heard a great little story about the hurt, which explained the importance of not carrying our hurts around with us and letting them engulf our lives, but be able to say sorry and let them go. They also sang a lovely song called ‘Do to others’ which reinforced this whole concept of reconciliation. Thank to the family and friends who came along to support the students.

Each year there are words that gain entry to dictionaries for the first time. These words have been in circulation already, have become part of daily usage and so have earned the right to take their position amongst other officially recognised words. Some of the more unusual candidates for listing were:

- Muffin top: Roll of fat that overflows from tight jeans.
- Schmiddy: Beer glass with a capacity less than a pint but more than a half pint.
- Queuecumbered: To be trapped in a queue which slowed down the instant you joined it.

At the other end of the dictionary, are words that have fallen into disuse but need to be listed still, so that we can refer to their meaning if we come upon them by accident. It has been suggested that one such word might be “respect”; a once commonly held word whose practice could be seen and experienced in the daily lives of ordinary people. However, an increase in disrespect has grown to almost crisis point in our society and is evidenced in the increased violence and anti-social behaviours that are reported daily through the various forms of the media.

Individually, we can’t change society but we can make a big difference in our little corner of it. It’s up to us to make sure that we’re doing our part to be respectful adults and to teach our children to be respectful emerging adults. We parents can quickly lose credibility, if we are rude to our children while teaching them to be polite. The following piece of writing is a young person’s response to the invitation to put into writing their feelings about respect – there is a moral to this piece of writing:

“Everyone expects respect no matter who they are. The only way to gain it is to treat everyone as a friend, as an equal person, as part of our extended family no matter their colour or creed. Only then, will you start to get The respect you so dearly need.” David Harris.

And the moral: Respect has to be earned not demanded.

It is for sure that children learn their standards of respect from what they see around them and parents are in a powerful position to teach by their own example as well as by instruction. Because our children take their cues from us, we need to be sure that we are setting the best possible standards. Schools teach children about respect but parents have the most influence on how respectful children become.

Respect is not the same as obedience. Children might obey because they are afraid but, if they respect their parents, they will obey because they know that parents want what is best for them. Respect is an attitude and being respectful helps children succeed in life. If children don’t have respect for parents, peers, authority or themselves, it’s almost impossible for them to succeed. The best way to teach respect is to show respect. When children experience respect, they know what it feels like and begin to understand how important it is.

If we reinforce our children’s positive and respectful behaviour, and eliminate disrespect by immediately calling attention to it so as to discourage it, we are helping to develop the moral intelligence of our children. This will improve their ability to be able to apply critical analysis to television, films and music whose content is increasing in the portrayal of disrespectful behaviour. It is true that we can’t change society, but it’s also true that we can be a powerful influence in our little corner of it.

God, our Father, we ask that the love You have for us, be evident in the love we have for our children. Amen.

IMPORTANT DATES

First Eucharist-Precious Memories Mass-3rd /4th August

Peace and Best Wishes.

Anne Leet (Religious Education Co-ordinator)
Welcome back everybody, I hope you have enjoyed your break and family time. From what I’ve heard, Term 3 is looking to be a busy and fun filled term. Here is a snippet of what we have been doing this first week back.

The Blue Whales have settled back beautifully and shared their holiday news on Monday, including Mrs Haydon’s photographs from England. There will be some photos on our inspirational wall soon. We have started a project about melting. The children shared what they knew about melting which is displayed in the floorbook. A small group helped to fill containers with water and put them in the freezer, later in the week we will explore the ice. Our portfolio's are filled with lots of amazing work. They will be out if you would like to look through them with your child, either before or after school during week 3.

In the Red Jellyfish the children have tried their hand at dot painting after discussing Aboriginal art in recognition of NAIDOC week. We decided to change the home corner in the room and make it a toy store. The children set up shelves, a register and have started making toys to sell in the store. In week 10 of last term the Yellow Seahorses showed an interest in fairies and where they live. This term the interest is still there and we have been researching many facts about fairies. Children have been searching for them in our playground using binoculars and maps they made to locate the fairies. They found several fairies located in a bush near the sandpit. During group time a question was raised about the kinds of food they eat for breakfast. After much thought about how we could contact the fairies, it was decided to write them a letter and leave it in the bush. To our surprise the next morning a letter appeared. We will continue on with this exploration of fairies and letter writing and see where it takes us.

This week in the Purple Starfish we have been celebrating NAIDOC week as it fell in our holidays. To begin we explored the colours red, black and yellow. We found out that colours can represent different things to different people. To the Australian Aboriginal people they use these colours to symbolise things important to them. We then explored and commented on some Australian Aboriginal artwork. We looked at the symbols used within this artwork and explored their meanings. We went for a little walk around the school to gather rocks and sticks upon which we could make our own artwork. On Wednesday we made our own ochre paint. We crushed the ochre rock with other stronger rocks and added water. We used this to decorate our objects we had collected. These are all on display if you wish to come and have a look and maybe even leave a little positive note next to some of their work?

The Green Turtles have only just returned and look ready to begin term 3 with lots of exciting experiences coming up.

Thank you for your continued support,
Janene Sadler and the ELC Team
This term we begin with the social skills “Negotiating”. The staff have introduced the new skill and have been discussing what it means to negotiate and different ways to negotiate. The slogan for our new social skill is:

**PLAY IT STRAIGHT, NEGOTIATE!**

**Do’s**

- Decide what we need (What would you like… I would like…).
- Think about what the other person might want too.
- Pick a good time to talk.
- Make your request, pointing out how the other person will get something that they want too.
- Compromise: getting partly what you want is better than not getting anything.
- Use kind words and a friendly tone of voice.
- If the other person won’t agree to what you want, accept that.
- You won’t always get what you want.
- Keep your side of the bargain.
- Follow these simple steps:
  - What would you like…
  - I would like…
  - What is your idea… listen to what they say.
  - My idea is… The person listens to what you say.
  - Agree on a win-win solution.

**Don'ts**

- Don’t ask at an inconvenient time (e.g. when the other person is busy or talking to someone else).
- Don’t use grizzly, whingeing, or demanding voice.
- Don’t threaten, sulk, insult or get angry if you don’t get what you want.
- Don’t take it out on others (eg. don’t yell, don’t put your hands on your hips and don’t pull faces)

**Here are some other ways we can negotiate:**

- Split the item
- Split the time you have with the item
- Trade items
- Play with or use the item together
- Take turns with the item
- Let the other person have or use the item on their own, **If you can’t negotiate with the other person then no one can use the item.**

**Weekly Challenge:** As a family make individual selections on a meal for the weekend. Take turns with the item, Let the other person have or use the item on their own, **If you can’t negotiate with the other person then no one can use the item.**

Send me an email explaining how you negotiated/compromised on your weekend meal. I will put your response in next weeks newsletter.

brendon.pye@cg.catholic.edu.au

Click on the link below for negotiating tips/ideas for parents:


Many Thanks-Brendon Pye
MATHS – CHEEKY CHALLENGE

NUMBER SHAPES

Here is the next Maths Cheeky Challenge... Go for it Mathematicians!!

Your Challenge:
- Your next mathematical challenge is to create some fantastic number shapes. These are shapes that have a number in the middle and the numbers in the corners, that when added together, will equal the middle number.
- The numbers in the corners can be different numbers as long as they add up to the middle number.

Cheeky Challenge:
- Instead of putting different numbers in the corners try to find one number that can be added multiple times.

PROCEDURE:
1. Draw a shape.
2. Write a number in the centre.
3. Write one number in each of the corners (either the same number or different numbers).
4. Check that the numbers in the corners add up to the number in the centre.

OTHER EXAMPLES

PARENTS:
This challenge focuses on:
- problem solving
- operations + - x ÷
- trial and error
- number patterns
- place value

Mr Lowe and I would love to see and share your hard work!!!
We will publish your Maths Cheeky Challenge answers in next week’s newsletter!!

Remember to keep sending in those challenge solutions.
Email Miss Jeffries: brooke.jeffries@cg.catholic.edu.au
Week 5, Term 3 (19th-23rd of Aug) is Book Week all across Australia! A time when we Celebrate the wonderful shortlisted books, and of course dress up. This year’s theme is ‘Read across the universe’. We would love the children to dress up and would also like to give you plenty of notice. Be creative and come dressed as your favourite space related character or simply come dressed as a character from a book. Enjoy planning your costume.

We have lots of things planned during this week including craft activities, parades, 2 special performances, and a book fair! More detailed information will come soon……..
Do you own a business or know someone who does?

We are after donations of fantastic prizes for our upcoming Parish Trivia Night.

Wine

Hampers

Gift vouchers

New Goods

All prize donations are gratefully accepted and can be delivered to the school or Parish Office.

For more details email office@holyspiritgungahlin.org.au

Treat Day for the winning team

Wimmera (red)_

Uniform Free &

Hot Chocolate

Wednesday