Harrison Herald Newsletter

Dear Parents

You will have noted that the proposed Wild, Wild West Night has had to be cancelled for this year due to insufficient numbers. The idea behind the social night was for parents, staff and friends to get together and have a night of fun and entertainment while raising much needed funds for the school community. We needed a minimum of 100 people to make the night work and we only received 68 bookings. Refunds will be made available to all those who bought tickets. I wish to thank Kelly Ciampa and her team for all their hard work in preparing for this night. I invite and families to let us know any ideas they may have to achieve the aims a social night (ie to meet one another and raise funds for the school).

Cyber Safety Night
Members of the AFP will be at Mother Teresa School next Tuesday evening to inform parents about how they can keep their children safe while on the internet and using social media. The evening begins at 6.30pm in the school hall and two of our staff have kindly offered to provide baby sitting in the school library. The evening should go for about 1 hour. Please let Donna know if you are able to attend and we are inviting parents from the three other parish schools. There is no charge for the night.

Reports to Parents
Teachers are finalising reports for the end of this semester and these will be posted home at the end of next week.

Staffing Information
Next week will see the return of Brendon Pye from paternity leave and we thank Mrs Howell for her work during his absence. Mrs Maher will travel to the USA to attend an important conference of educational trends and Mrs Snowden is off to Europe on her long awaited honeymoon. We wish all those who are travelling a safe return to Canberra.

School fees
Please remember to complete the payment of all term 2 school fees before the end of next week. Remember that Term 2 finishes on Friday July 5.

Parking and Pick Up
Due to wet weather we have placed some bollards at the end of the basketball court and ask parents not to park on the grass oval until it dries up. There is room to park on the southern side of the basketball court as a temporary measure. Thanks for your help.

In the morning we have pedestrians crossing our drive ways. Many of the pedestrians are young children who attend Harrison Primary School. I realise it is a hectic time but in the interests of safety, we need to give way to pedestrians who are using the footpath past our school entrance and exit.
Happy birthday to everyone who is celebrating their birthday this week including Tess Muldoon, Devlyn Colwill, Mia Condemi, Riley Bruce, Nikola Celebija and Joseph Brennan.

From L— R Tiana Hoare, Madison Briese, Owen Kelly, Emily O’Mahoney, Angus Nelson and Riley O’Grady. Last Tuesday students from the Defence families made morning tea for the staff.
**WHOLE SCHOOL FOCUS:**

**The Journey**

The value we are focussing on for the next week is: **Courage**

THANK YOU

Thank you to Mrs Blackwell and One Orange for a fabulous focus assembly on courage. They told us a beautiful story about 'Clancy the Courageous Cow' and sang a great song about courage. The lyrics to the chorus are:

'I stand up for what I believe is right
I'm not afraid what others might think
I'm so happy being who I am.

"Life is mostly froth and bubble
Two things stand like stone
Kindness in another's trouble
Courage in our own."

Most likely we are familiar with the above first line written by the Australian Poet, Adam Lindsay Gordon, but less familiar with the third and fourth in which there is true value. Gordon had first hand knowledge of their meaning for not long after sustaining a severe head injury, as a result of a fall from a horse, he suffered the loss of his young daughter.

Quite often, parents are asked to act with courage to simply fulfil their role as the most important teachers of their children. Sometimes it takes courage to say "no" to children's requests, to insist on good manners and politeness or to demand that homework be done - NOW! Parents are the most important teachers of their children, because they know their children best and love them with a love that is unique.

Perhaps the area in which courage is called upon most, is to accept God's invitation to not only give children life but to guide them to lead great lives full of faith and love. Out of their own faith and love, parents impart a feeling to their children of the goodness and importance of a living faith. The content of Religion Classes at school is significant to the degree that parents remain strong teachers of faith at home. It is with loving care that children come to an understanding of faith, for faith will never seem decisively real unless parents make it so.

To be a Christian is not simply a matter of belonging to a religion and placing a tick in the box next to "Catholic" on the census form. Christianity is not simply a religion, it is a personal relationship with Christ who will give strong faith to those who pray for it - if they are willing to take possession of their faith. In as much as children develop a sense of their own self-worth and of how you feel about them, from how you communicate with them, so they will develop their life in faith from how you communicate your faith to them.

St John's Gospel tells us when we place our belief in God, "You become a child of God", 1: 12. St Paul goes on to say "Christ comes to dwell within you" Col 1:27 and "You enter into a loving relationship with God" Col 1: 19 and within this relationship "I can do all things in Christ who strengthens me" Phil 4:13. These words indicate to us that to develop a living faith within us, we need Christ to be our teacher. In like manner, our children need the assistance of their parents by their instruction and example for a living faith to be developed within them.

At first, developing a living faith within our children might seem to be too big a task. Probably, helping them to walk, to eat solid food, to talk, to read also seemed to be big tasks. However, Christ gives us encouragement to make a start with the Parable of the Mustard Tree:

"A man takes a Mustard seed and plants it in his field. It is the smallest of all seeds, but when it grows up, it is the biggest of all plants."


So hang in there, have courage and "hand on the faith" to your children.

"Lord, Help me to act with courage and conviction so that my faith will be contagious to my children. May they learn of You through the love, care and forgiveness I show to myself and share with them. I ask this in Your name. Amen."

**RECONCILIATION / FIRST EUCHARIST**

Thank you to all those parents who attended the Parent Information Session on Tuesday. If you were unable to attend and you still wish for your child to receive the sacraments please contact myself (Anne Leet) as soon as possible so I can explain the process. Please note your next requirement will be to:

**Attend a Commitment & Enrolment Mass**

Enrolments will only be accepted through the parish at Mass.

- 6.00pm Saturday 29 June
- 9.30am Sunday 30 June or 5.30pm

Held at Holy Spirit Parish Church, Burdekin Ave, Amaroo

As part of your child’s commitment they will bring their enrolment form forward during the Mass. Enrolment forms were made available at the Information Sessions. Please staple a copy of your child’s baptism certificate to the enrolment form.

Peace and Best Wishes

Anne Leet REC
Week 8 is running to it’s conclusion with the winter weather seeming to feel even colder than usual. However the children don’t seem to mind the cold, and all are eager to play outside and watch the latest development in our garden makeover. On that note, all is progressing well, some new trees have been ordered to replace the gum trees that were removed, and there is much discussion on what the wooden structure that is currently being built will be made in too. We shall have to wait and see!

Back to the classrooms, what has been happening this week? In the Red Jellyfish they have been investigating animals of interest. They looked at the features of unicorns and made a decision whether they are real or not. They learned how to tally these results. They have also looked at big cats, discussing their features and the locations of their habitats around the world. The children have finally received their 'Super Hero ' Certificates and are looking forward to presenting their project at assembly next week.

The Blue Whales have started talking about space after Mrs Bruce read them 'Aliens In Underpants Save The World'. They did a survey to see who believes there are aliens. They drew their own aliens and made some to display in the library. They have also borrowed books from the library about space which they have been reading. The children have been exploring cornflour gloop, making balls and strings with it. They also coloured it blue on Wednesday, sorry about the hands!! They have also been investigating the marble run using different sized marbles.

The Green Turtles have had lots of fun with their reflections project and following on from their stained glass window biscuits they are making melted bead sun catchers. They have also been learning about the life cycle of butterflies and have made beaded caterpillars and stitched leaves. This week they are making beautiful butterflies.

The Purple Starfish received a letter from Mrs Bruce this week and she asked them to make a space ship that she could display in library during Book Week next term. The children started sharing their thoughts and ideas and looked at a variety of different rocket ships to help with their planning. On Wednesday they explored making movies. They created their own movie about their outside play so keep an eye out for it on LIFE.

And finally in the Yellow Seahorses the children are busy making their own drivers’ licences ready for their bike day next week. They have also been playing with the matchbox cars and incorporating all the different road signs in their play. In preparation for their 'Footy Day' the children have been venturing out on to the oval to practise their skills and drills. They are showing some real talent in their practices. Ms Sadler has captured some of the best moments in photos and made a short movie using them. Look out for it on LIFE.

Thank you for your continued support,
Clare Addinell and ELC team.
We are into our third week of 'Peacefully Resolving Disagreements'.

Each class has discussed the ways in which we can resolve a disagreement peacefully in the classroom, on the playground and around the school.

What does it look like, feel like and sound like to resolve a disagreement in a peaceful way?

Here are the responses to last week’s challenge.

- Shaking hands
- Smiles
- Eye contact
- "I'm sorry"
- Calm
- Amazing faces
- Happy
- Relief
- Calm voices
- Respectful voices
- Satisfied
- Being friends again
- "Let's be friends"
- Laughter
- Taking turns

This Week’s Challenge!

Sit down with your child and ask them the following questions about peacefully resolving a disagreement. Either email the responses to lauren.maher@cg.catholic.edu.au or give them to Mrs Maher in person.

Interview Questions:
1. Why is it important to resolve a disagreement in a peaceful way?
2. What might you say when you are resolving a disagreement in a peaceful way?
3. How does it feel once you have resolved a disagreement in a peaceful way?
Here is the next Maths Cheeky Challenge...

Go for it Mathematicians!!

Can you use one of these poly plug frames to create a symmetrical pattern? You will need to print a copy of these frames. (They are on the next page).

For an extra cheeky challenge you could create symmetrical patterns with a partner. For each challenge you will need to print off the poly plug frames from the next page. You take one and your partner takes one. You make a pattern/artwork by colouring in a few of the circles (you partner is not allowed to watch you do this). When you are done flash it to your partner. They need to try to recreate it from memory! Put your two frames side by side – are they reflecting a mirror image? Are they symmetrical?

For a super cheeky challenge try to create some rotational symmetrical masterpieces.

**Reflection Symmetry**
Reflection symmetry is when an image has one line of symmetry cutting the image in half where one half of the image is the mirror reflection of the other.

**Rotational Symmetry**
With Rotational Symmetry the image is rotated (around a central point) so that it appears 2 or more times. How many times it appears is called the **Order**.

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.
CONSIDER and REMEMBER:

◊ How many colours will you use?
◊ Will your image demonstrate reflection symmetry or rotational symmetry?
◊ Can your family or friends create a mirror image of your masterpiece?
◊ CREATE YOUR SYMMETRICAL MASTERPIECE.
◊ OR CREATE AN IMAGE AND HAVE YOU’RE A FRIEND OR FAMILY MEMBER CREATE THE MIRROR IMAGE.
◊ SCAN (as a PDF) OR PHOTOGRAPH YOUR SYMMETRICAL MASTERPIECE.
◊ LABEL ITS PARTS/FRACTIONS.
◊ MAIL YOUR ANSWERS AND IMAGES IN TO MISS JEFFRIES FOR PUBLICATION.
◊ LOOK FOR YOUR MASTERPIECES IN NEXT WEEK’S NEWSLETTER.
◊ BRING IN YOUR MASTERPIECES SO THEY CAN BE DISPLAYED ON THE MATHS CHEEKY CHALLENGE WALL.

PARENTS:
◊ This challenge helps children:
◊ Visualise and conceptualise symmetry (reflection symmetry and rotational symmetry),
◊ Develop memory recall,
◊ Problem solve to create symmetrical images.
Congratulations and thank you to those children who have completed the Cheeky Challenge for the last few weeks. Check out their masterful ideas!!

This is Andre’s creative and organised work with fractions.

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**Symmetry Challenge**

Claire has done an excellent job with her creating and explaining.
Congratulations and thank you to those children who have completed the Cheeky Challenge for weeks three and four. Check out their masterful ideas!!

**Symmetry Challenge**

Ellie and Sophie worked together to produce this fantastic response to our symmetry challenge.

The Mugridge family worked together to produce some very creative responses to the symmetry challenge.
Give your child a head start
GKR Karate classes for all the family

- Build confidence
- Improve fitness
- Gain self discipline
- Learn self defence

At Mother Teresa gym:
Wed 6:30 – 7:40 pm
Sun 10:30 – noon

other classes all around Canberra
contact Wendy 0406 375 091

MARYMEAD FOSTER CARE INFORMATION SEMINAR
Over 600 children are currently in out of home care in Canberra and many more need a home

can you help just one?

Come along and learn more about becoming a Foster Carer with Marymead

GUEST SPEAKERS Alasdair Roy, Children & Young People Commissioner

together with many other guest speakers

WHEN: Saturday 29 June 2013 – 11.00am–4.00pm
WHERE: Marymead 255 Goyder Street, Narrabundah
RSVP BY: Monday 24 June 2013 to Amy Tulloh on 6162 5800
or email amy.tulloh@marymead.org.au
To download the programme go to marymead.org.au/events
A light lunch will be provided and children are more than welcome