Dear Parents and Friends,

In last Sunday’s gospel we hear of Jesus healing many people. When he was finished his work he needed solitude to pray.

"Very early in the morning, while it was still dark, Jesus got up, left the house and went off to a solitary place, where he prayed. Simon and his companions went to look for him, and when they found him, they exclaimed: “Everyone is looking for you!”

When we have finished our work for the day, do we think we’re too busy to make time for God?
   To quiet ourselves and pray?
   To study Scripture?
   To journal?
   To sit in silence?
It’s hard to find time for contemplation when we live such active lives, but we must do it. The integrity and depth of our actions depends on it.
Try to find some quiet reflective time this week.

Our new school rules have our school “humming”. Children are focussed and on task following the rules of:
   • I am a learner
   • I am respectful
   • I am safe

WE ARE A TEAM, WE NEED YOU TO WORK WITH US.

Please come along this afternoon (3.30pm) or tonight (7pm) (Wednesday) and learn what is happening in your child’s class, how the teachers are working together to make sure your child has the best learning opportunity possible.

The Stage 1 Stage 2 and Stage 3 teachers will be presenting their information as a stage.

Kindergarten will be Kindergarten teachers only.

Thank you to our teachers who have taken the time to prepare these meetings for you and for staying after school to be here for you and your children.

This Friday we celebrate our Beginning of the Year Mass. Please join us for this celebration at 9.15am in the Church.

Helen Boyer
Principal
Help Needed
Next Tuesday (Shrove Tuesday) it is customary for our parents to cook pancakes for the students. If you can help on this day from 10 – 11.00am, please come along and meet some of the parents.

Ash Wednesday and Lent
Next week we celebrate Ash Wednesday, which marks the beginning of Lent. We will have a liturgy at school.

Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are days of fast and abstinence. The law of fasting, binds those who have completed their 18\textsuperscript{th} year, until the beginning of their 60\textsuperscript{th} year, the law of abstinence binds those who have completed their 14\textsuperscript{th} year.

HTG Summer Family Reading Challenge
Thank you to the following 31 families that participated in the HTG Summer Family Reading Challenge:

Bechara, Blandon, Bollina, Bou-Francis (Bakhous), Cersson, Chen, Delany, Derbas, Do, Faddoul, Filo, Fitzpatrick, Garg, Ge, Ghribian, Govender, Ibrahim (Khalil) ,Irima, Malkoun, Miranda, Moses, Moussa, Nair, Nguyen (Anne), Rajadurai, Salloum, Sewell, Sultana, Vu, Zaiter.

Congratulations to all the 41 children for successfully completing the challenge.

At morning assembly on Thursday 5th February the Red Owl Badges were presented to these children.

Congratulations to the Salloum family (Tamara and Taylor) who won the prize of the iPad which was also drawn at the assembly. Mrs Taouk, Teacher Librarian

School Uniform
The uniform shop stopped trading at Holy Trinity at the end of 2014.

All uniforms are now to be purchased from:

\begin{center}
\textbf{OZ Fashions} \hspace{2cm} Phone: 9897 3121  \\
115-127 Parramatta Road Granville \hspace{1cm} Web: www.ozfashions.com.au  \\
\textbf{Trading Hours:} \hspace{1cm} Monday – Friday 9am – 5.30pm  \\
\hspace{2cm} Saturday 9am – 4pm  \\
\end{center}

School hats, Library/Excursion Bags and Hair Accessories can be purchased from the school office.

A very limited number of some second-hand uniforms are available at school.

Enquire through the school office.

Canteen Helpers Needed
The school canteen is usually open on Tuesdays and Fridays and is run by parent / family volunteers on a roster. We need more volunteers in order to operate the canteen successfully.

If you are able to help between 10am and 2.15pm on a Tuesday or Friday please contact the school office as soon as possible.

Volunteers must complete Child Protection Training before working with children in schools. This is accessed online using the following: http://childprotection.parra.catholic.edu.au/training

Current volunteers please note that training must be completed every two years. Please contact the school office if you would like to check the date you completed your training session.

If we do not have enough volunteers to maintain the roster and allow for times when people are not available, we will have to reduce the opening to only one day per week.
ATTENDANCE

What should I do if my child has to stay away from school?

If your child has to be absent from school, it is important to tell the school and provide a reason for your child’s absence. To explain an absence parents and carers may:

- send a note or email to the school
- telephone the school, or
- visit the school.

All absences must be explained to the school.

Principals are legally responsible for keeping accurate records of student attendance.

The Principal of the school has the right to question parents’ or carers’ requests for their child to be absent from school. Principals are also responsible for deciding if the reason given for an absence is justified. For this reason, Principals may request medical certificates or other documentation for long or frequent absences explained by parents as being due to illness. If Principals don’t consider an explanation to be satisfactory, they will record the absence as unjustified.

Holidays

As part of the implementation of the National Standards, holidays taken by students outside of school vacation periods will now be included as absences. A Certificate of Exemption can no longer be granted for this purpose.

Families are encouraged to holiday or travel during school vacations. If travel during school term is necessary the following considerations apply:

- If the Principal accepts the reason for the absence as justified, the absence will be marked as “L”
- If the Principal does not believe the absence is in the student’s best interests and does not accept the reason, the absence is unjustified and will be recorded as “A”
- If the period of absence is in excess of 50 days, the student may be eligible to enrol in Distance Education.

* For that period the student’s enrolment transfers to the distance education school.

**Please Note:** A student cannot be enrolled in more than one school concurrently (including Distance Education).

Students of the Week
Week ending 6.2.15

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Kindergarten</th>
<th>Matilda Baldwin</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Year One</td>
<td>Brandon Taouk</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year Two</td>
<td>Stella Fitzpatrick</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year Three</td>
<td>Chirag Garg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year Four</td>
<td>Reese Blandon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year Five</td>
<td>Michelle Thorne</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year Six</td>
<td>Indiana Cortes</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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Birthday Celebrations

Congratulations to the following students who celebrate their birthday in February:

Social Skill Focus

Good Listening

* Look at the person  
* Sit still  
* Say 'Yes' or nod your head  
* Think about what is being said  
* Ask a question to find out more

Parent Links:

When giving instructions, have your child look at you and give only one or two short instructions at a time. If they forget, ask "Is there something else to do? What's next?"

You may ask your child to recount an experience, while you model good listening to their story. Play some listening games, sing songs together, read stories to them, get them to relay messages from one family member to another or retell what they watched on TV that night.

Canteen Roster

Volunteers must complete Child Protection Training before working with children in schools. Access this online using the following link:  
http://childprotection.parra.catholic.edu.au/training

If you are able to help on the roster between 10am and 2.15pm on a Tuesday or Friday please contact the school office.

Paulette Zaiter, Canteen Co-ordinator

Fri, 13th February  -  Maram Salloum, Annie Ghribian
Tue, 17th February  -  Lillian Ibrahimm, Mabel Chen
Fri, 20th February  -  Rosette Bou-Francis, Sue Bou-Francis
Tue, 24th February  -  Paulette Zaiter, Seini Taliauli
Fri, 27th February  -  Sandra El Khoury, Almaza Faddoul
Tue, 3rd March  -  Volunteers Needed
Fri, 6th March  -  Lisa El-Hajj, Joanne Batistic
Tue, 10th March  -  Joyce Irima, Camilla Liutai
Fri, 13th March  -  Sandra El Khoury, Almaza Faddoul
Tue, 17th March  -  Paulette Zaiter, Rosette Bou-Francis

If you are unable to make your rostered day please contact the school office as soon as possible.

Calendar Dates

Wednesday 11th February  -  Parent Teacher Meetings – 3.30-4.30pm or 7.00-8.00pm
Friday 13th February  -  Opening School Mass - 9.15am
-  School Census Day
Tuesday 17th February  -  Shrove Tuesday
Wednesday 18th February  -  Ash Wednesday - 9.15am
Wednesday 25th February  -  Kindergarten Welcome BBQ and disco - 5.30-7.30pm
8th -16th March  -  Catholic Schools Week

Taekwondo

Taekwondo for health and happiness.

Children from 7+ years up - 5–6.00pm  
Adults - 6.30–8.00pm

At Mary MacKillop Hall.
Every Tuesday during school terms.

Contact Master Nguyen - 0434 198 551 kntaekwondo@yahoo.com