Dear Parents, Boys and Girls,

In his 2003 ASCD Educational Leadership article, *Creating a School Community*, author and educator Eric Schaps states, “a growing body of research confirms the benefits of building a sense of community in a school. Students in schools with a strong sense of community are more likely:

- to be academically motivated;
- to act justly and unselfishly develop social and emotional skills
- to avoid a number of problem behaviours

We, as a group of individuals, have worked very hard at building a sense of community at HTG over the past few years, and we have done this in a number of ways:

We have encouraged a *welcoming atmosphere* in all areas of our school. We have ensured parents, students and staff have always felt comfortable while working, or visiting HTG. All staff, parents and students do this. HTG has developed a strong *sense of pride* in all areas of school life. We work hard at keeping our school beautiful inside and out and wearing our uniform with great pride.

**Working hard** is an accepted part of our life here at HTG. This aspect of our life stretches across parents, students and staff and is seen in all the wonderful work and activities that are done at school. The expectation of **doing your best** is at the front of our minds when we work in the Learning Spaces at HTG. Staff and parents are expecting the best from each child as they move through life’s educational journey.

It is wonderful to be part of a group that has at its centre the image of Christ and the wellbeing of its children.

May the blessing of the Holy Spirit be on all our community,

Kevin Mills, Principal

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**Please Note:** From Wednesday 20th November the school Update will be available online on the HTG website. 20 printed copies will be available in the school office.

The fortnightly Newsletter will still be printed and sent home with the children.

**Pre-Buying of Money Tokens**

Money Tokens to the value of $1 and $5 will be pre-sold at the office starting on Monday 11th November to purchase food from the stalls at the Food Fair.

Food prices will range from $1 to $5. Families can purchase tokens for food, drinks and sweets. This is to avoid queuing up at 5pm at the Token Booths.

Tokens will also be available to purchase on the night.

**PLEASE NOTE:**

If you are pre-buying your tokens they must be kept safe as we will not be replacing any lost tokens.

Please consider the tokens as cash. If you lose the tokens you are losing cash.

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**Gift Baskets:**

Please remember to bring in your items by this week to make up the gift baskets which will be used as Prizes on the Chocolate Wheel.  

- **Kinder, Years 1, 2**  - Chocolates / Sweets / Lollies  
- **Years 3, 4, 5, 6**  - Toiletries for men and women

**Mufti Day for Grocery Items:**

The children will be able to wear mufti on Friday 8th November with the cost being a donation of two or three grocery items. These will be packed into baskets to be used as Prizes on the Chocolate Wheel.

Suggested non-perishable items include jam, tea bags, coffee, tinned fruit, pasta, Nutella, Cordial, Juice, etc.
Thank You
A special thank you to all the parents who helped cover the many new books at school on Friday last week, Monday this week and to those who also took books home to cover. We appreciate the generosity of your time and effort.

Parents Welcome to HTG Library
The HTG Library is open on Fridays at 2pm for parents to come along, have a tea or coffee, chat, look at books and use the computers.

Literacy Hint
Reading is for enjoyment and to gain meaning. It should not be a competition about reading levels. Children often enjoy reading books that are easy for them. This is a good strategy to improve their reading fluency and confidence.

Birthday Celebrations
Congratulations to the following students who will be celebrating their birthday in the month of November:


Students of the Week
Week ending 1.11.13

Kindergarten  William Ton
Year One  Azekial Teunon
Year Two  Reese Blandon
Year Three  Samuel Kidane
Year Four  Khalil Ibrahim
Year Five  William Mata
Year Six  Sarkis Nemer

Things to Do Checklist
☐ Mufti on Friday 8th November cost being
   Grocery Items for the Chocolate Wheel.
☐ Swimming Carnival Note sent home Tuesday 5th
   November for Years 3-6.
☐ Return Swimming Carnival note by Friday 15th
   November.

Canteen Roster
If you are able to help on the roster between 10am and 2.15pm on a Tuesday or Friday please contact the school office. Volunteers must complete Child Protection Training which is accessed online at www.parra.catholic.edu.au/childprotection.

Fri, 8th November - Sophie Depares, Amnie Zreika, Joey Maroun
Tue, 12th November - Lillian Ibrahim, Achol Atem
Fri, 15th November - Sue Bou-Francis, Maram Salloum, Joey Maroun
Tue, 19th November - Joyce Irima, Camilla Liutai
Fri, 22nd November - NO CANTEEN - International Food Fair

Thank you to all our wonderful volunteers without whom we could not run the canteen or the uniform shop.

Calendar Dates

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fri, 8th November</td>
<td>Mufti Day for Grocery Items for the Chocolate Wheel</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fri, 12th November</td>
<td>Assembly - Year 5 - 9.30am – all welcome to attend</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fri, 15th November</td>
<td>Kinder 2014 Orientation 1/2 day</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fri, 19th November</td>
<td>Mass - Year 1 and Year 2</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fri, 22nd November</td>
<td>Kinder 2014 Orientation 1/2 day</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thu, 28th November</td>
<td>Assembly - Year 3 – all welcome to attend</td>
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<td>International Food Fair - 5 to 9pm</td>
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