Dear Parent, Boys and Girls,

A few weeks ago we held a Parent Meeting in the Staff Study to discuss two very important questions for our Community.

1. How would you like us to support you?
2. How can we engage our Holy Trinity Community

I would like to thank the twenty plus parents who were able to attend and offer their views and opinions. I would also like to thank the number of parents who sent in ideas and comments about the two questions. I have included the full list of ideas from our meeting and look forward to developing a number of these as a way of addressing the support and engagement of our parent community.

1. How would you like us to support you?

Can you suggest ways we can support you with your child’s learning?

- Mathematics/homework online
- Hands on activities
- Workshops/Parental Learning to educate parents in a specific area
- Parent support for homework
- Tutoring program for children who need assistance and parents are unable to help
- Parents volunteering in classrooms (helps parents see how their children are learning and can use the same strategies at home)
- Parent Library – resources for parents to use at home
- Area in the school for parents to access for reading/internet eg library
- Support in technology – borrowing system for laptops to go home.
- After school tutoring clubs
- Skoolbag app./Facebook/School Website?
- Provide parents with a summary of the learning benchmarks children are expected to reach by the end of the year.
- Extra curricular activities after school (run by external organisations) on school grounds, e.g. sporting activities.

2. How can we engage our HTG community?

Can you suggest ways to reach all our parents and community?

- Target people – personally invite individuals (Mr. Mills)
- Language barrier – communication
- Parents invite another parent to a HTG function
- Confidential suggestion box – general comments/question from bulletin
- After work – workshops that run in the evening
- Social hour – parents working together and socializing
- Street party – school celebration
- Parent excursions
- Translate key events/news items in other languages in the newsletter.
- Hold more than one parent session (evenings) to give working parents the opportunity to attend.
- Have translators (another parent) attend sessions, to assist those who cannot speak English – allowing more parents to attend.

There are a number of ideas that we can act on very soon, while others are beyond us at the moment. I would ask all our parents to keep a close eye on the Newsletter and Update to find out what is happening at the school. I would also encourage our parents to take the opportunity to speak to parents they might not have spoken to before. “A getting to know you task”.

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

Kevin Mills, Principal
The Vinnies Van

During the second half of this term, the Mini Vinnies group at Holy Trinity has decided to support the Vinnies Van operating in the Parramatta area to help the poor and homeless.

The volunteers who operate this van each night offer some comfort to a group of homeless people who are mostly ignored by the community. The group’s funding is minimal and they depend on your generosity to stock the van with food each week.

Each class will be asked to donate specific items to the appeal.

Below is a list of the food needed for the van and the class responsible.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CLASS</th>
<th>KINDER</th>
<th>YEAR 1</th>
<th>YEAR 2</th>
<th>YEAR 3</th>
<th>YEAR 4</th>
<th>YEAR 5</th>
<th>YEAR 6</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>FOOD</td>
<td>Biscuits</td>
<td>Muesli Bars</td>
<td>Tea</td>
<td>Milo</td>
<td>Vegemite or Jam</td>
<td>Cheese and Biscuit Snacks</td>
<td>Coffee</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Please send all donations to your child’s classroom teacher before the 30th August.

Act justly, love tenderly and walk humbly with your God,

Mrs Amy Press, Religious Education Coordinator

Feast of the Assumption
Tomorrow, Thursday 15th August is the Feast of the Assumption which is a holy day of obligation. Holy Trinity Parish will be having an evening Mass at 7.00pm.

First HTG Parent Excursion
On Tuesday 17th September we are planning the first HTG Parent Excursion to Mary MacKillop Place North Sydney. We encourage as many parents as possible to attend. We have one coach booked which seats 30 including any preschoolers. We are sorry but we are unable to take babies and toddlers due to OHS and Road Safety Rules. With this Newsletter is a tear-off slip to indicate your attendance. Please complete and return the slip to school by Friday 23rd August.

Book Fair Starts Thursday
The Book Week theme this year is ‘Read Across the Universe’, and as part of our celebrations at Holy Trinity parents and students are invited to attend the annual Scholastic Book Fair. Cash, Visa and MasterCard will be accepted and goods must be paid for on the day.

Book Fair Times:
Thursday 15th August
Parents are invited to the library to view the Book Fair from 2:30 – 3:00pm
Book Fair open 3:15 - 4:30pm

Friday 16th August
Book Fair open 8:30 – 9:00am and 3:15 – 4:15pm

Tuesday 20th August
Book Fair open 8:30 – 9:00am and 3:15 – 4:15pm

Looking forward to seeing you at the Book Fair!

Mrs Caroline Taouk, Teacher Librarian

Year 2 Assembly
Please note the Year 2 Assembly will be taking place this Friday 16th August at 9.30am in Mary MacKillop Hall.
Thank You
Thank you to Mrs Sandra El-Khoury for preparing our sacred space last week in the front foyer in honour of St Mary MacKillop. Also a special thanks to Mrs Rosette Bou-Francis, Nguyen family (Anne Year 4), Mrs Niroshi Wijesinghe and Mrs Paulette Zaiter for their support and donations of flowers and cake.

God is with us Prayer Book
Last Thursday each family received a copy of a prayer book, *God is with us, a prayer book for families*, which aims to assist parents to lead family prayer. Along with traditional and daily prayers, this booklet has prayers for special occasions. Also included in the envelope was a copy of The Angelus which is prayed at midday in every Catholic school in the Diocese.

Parents Welcome to HTG Library
Starting from Friday 23rd August the HTG Library will be open every Friday from 2.00 - 3.10pm for tea and coffee, chats, reading and computer use. Everyone is most welcome to attend.

Students of the Week
Week ending 9.8.13
- Kindergarten: Chanel Taouk
- Year One: Laaveniya Rajadurai
- Year Two: Aiden Ton
- Year Three: Emma George-Coker
- Year Four: Fiona Nguyen
- Year Five: Cheyenne Thorne
- Year Six: Antonia Ljubicic

Numeracy Hint
Keeping a growth chart is a good way of helping your child understand measurement units. Use simple language such "Sam is taller than Jim" to compare the heights of people.

Birthday Celebrations
Congratulations to the following students who celebrate their birthday in August:
- Jonathan Daher,
- Edmon Al Sarraf,
- Marcus El-Khoury, Marcia Echeandia,
- Adut Aken, Lucy Sultana,
- Noah Batistic, Nicholas Bani Ayoub,
- Bradin Le, Alethia Sewell.

New Baby
Congratulations and best wishes to the Latu family (Elise Year 2 and Filipo Year 3) on the arrival, a little early, of a new baby boy, Selui Ivan on 2nd August weighting 2.2kgs.

Sincere Sympathy
Sincere sympathy is extended to Mrs Thi My Chi Nguyen (Timmy K) on the recent death of her father. The thoughts and prayers of our school community are with you and your family at this difficult time.
Social Skill Focus

Joining In
♦ Decide if you want to join in.
♦ Decide what to say.
♦ Choose a good time.
♦ Say “May I play?” in a friendly way.

Things to Do Checklist
☐ Permission note for Stage 2 Excursion to Blue Mountains should have been returned.
☐ Permission note for Kinder Excursion to Calmsley Hill Farm should be returned by this Friday 19th August.
☐ Years 3, 4, 5 & 6 permission note for Dance Fever Interschool Challenge sent home today.
☐ Return permission note for Dance Fever Challenge and money by 26th August.
☐ Stage 2 Touch Football note going home Friday 16th August.

Term 3 School Fees
Term 3 school fees are payable by 19th August.
If you are having difficulties paying fees please contact the school office.
Families who have arranged to pay by Direct Debit or BPAY please disregard this notice.

Thoughts To Live By
More things are accomplished by prayer than the world realizes.

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.
Paulette Zaiter, Canteen Coordinator
Fri, 16th August  -  Sue Bou-Francis, Paulette Zaiter
Tue, 20th August  -  Camilla Liutai, Cheryl Sultana
Fri, 23rd August  -  Maram Salloum, Annie Ghribian
Tue, 27th August  -  Joanne Batistic, Natalie Nader
Fri, 30th August   - Sophie Depares, Arvin Rubbi
Tue, 3rd September - Joyce Irima, Lillian Irima

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

Calendar Dates
Thu, 15th August  -  Feast of the Assumption - Stage 3 Liturgy - 9.15am
Fri, 16th August  -  Assembly - Year 2 - 9.30am (new date)
15,16 & 20th August - Scholastic Book Fair at HTG
Tue, 20th August  -  Book Character Parade - 2.00pm
Wed, 21st August  -  First Eucharist Parent Information Evening - 7pm
Thu, 22nd August  -  Stage 2 Excursion to Blue Mountains
Wed, 28th August  -  Kinder Excursion to Calmsley Hill Farm
Thu, 29th August  -  Fathers’ Day Stall
Fri, 30th August  -  Fathers’ Day BBQ Breakfast
Sun, 1st September -  Fathers’ Day
Fri, 6th September -  Stage 2 Touch Football Gala Day