Dear Parent, Boys and Girls,

The following was written by my parish priest Father Stan from Holy Spirit North Ryde in the bulletin.

Why pray? Relationships thrive on good communication. Married couples especially will attest to that. To grow in love and friendship we need to communicate, not just honestly but often! When we pray, we express our desire to grow in relationship with God. We use our human capacities to open ourselves to a profound mystery. Through prayer we can praise, thank, ask, cry, argue and express many emotions. We can speak, listen, sing, chant, dance, smile, embrace or just sit with our God. As Christians, our prayer takes on a very specified character. We approach God through the person of Jesus Christ and with a consciousness of being part of a Spirit-led community, the Church.

As mentioned above, the importance of prayer is shown by each month the Catholic Community is called upon to pray for different aspects of our world. Pope Francis's general prayer intention for August 2013 is "That parents and teachers may help the new generation to grow in upright conscience and life." On the Catholic website: [http://catholicism.about.com](http://catholicism.about.com) the following prayer was written.

O Lord, all-powerful God,

We give you thanks for having given us children. They are our joy, and we accept with serenity the worries, fears, and labours that bring us pain. Help us to love them sincerely.

Through us, you gave life to them; from eternity you knew them and loved them. Give us the wisdom to guide them, patience to teach them, vigilance to accustom them to the good through our example.

Support our love so that we may receive them back when they have strayed and make them good. It is often so difficult to understand them, to be as they would want us to be, to help them go on their way.

Grant that they may always see our home as a haven in their time of need.

Teach us and help us, O good Father, through the merits of Jesus, your Son and our Lord.

Amen

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

Kevin Mills, Principal

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**Holy Trinity Prayer**

O God my Father in Heaven
I offer you myself and all I do today.
Mary, my Mother, help me to love God.

Amen
MINI VINNIES

PLEASE DONATE YOUR SPECIFIC ITEM BY FRIDAY THE 30TH AUGUST

KINDY:  Biscuits

YEAR 1:  Muesli Bars

YEAR 2:  Tea

YEAR 3:  Milo

YEAR 4:  Vegemite or Jam

YEAR 5:  Cheese and biscuits snacks

YEAR 6:  Coffee

Many thanks!  Antonia (On behalf of the Mini Vinnies Group)

First Meeting for the International Food Fair
This year Holy Trinity and Delany College are organizing an International Food Fair as a community building and fund raising activity to be held on Friday 22nd November. To begin preparations for the International Food Fair we will be holding our first meeting tomorrow, Thursday 29th August at 2pm in the Staff Study. All parents are most welcome to attend.

My Trip to the Blue Mountains by Izabella Sultana, Year 4
On Thursday the 22nd of August 2013 Stage 2 went on an excursion to the Blue Mountains. All the students going on the excursion met at school and had their names checked against the roll before we got on board the bus for the trip the Blue Mountains. After we got on board the bus the driver headed off and the mums waved as they said goodbye.

When we were on the M4 we saw lots of building sights. We saw a new park filled with water rides; it looked like fun. It was called Wet and Wild Sydney. We travelled a bit further finally arriving at the Blue Mountains. We got off the bus and had lunch and played. Then some rangers talked to us about Aboriginal equipment, plants and then we went on a bush walk with Robby the ranger.

Mrs Tripp and the group I was in went down a lot of stairs and when we were about half way down we saw the big waterfall at Wentworth Falls. The waterfall looked amazing and powerful and because of the rain and the wind, when we were at the bottom of the stairs it was very muddy but exciting. Then we walked back up all those stairs and we had recess. After recess was finished we went back on the bus and headed back to school. It was such an amazing day.

First HTG Parent Excursion
We still have a few places available on the bus the for our first HTG Parent Excursion to Mary MacKillop Place North Sydney on Tuesday 17th September. Grand parents are most welcome to come. Please contact the school office.

Parents Welcome to HTG Library
Last Friday 3 parents, Mrs Batistic, Mrs El-Khoury, and Mrs Nemer, came to the HTG Library and generously gave their time to cover some library books. The Library is now open every Friday between 2.00 and 3.10pm for tea and coffee, chats, reading and use of computers. Everyone is most welcome to attend.

Fathers’ Day Stall
The Fathers’ Day Stall will be held tomorrow, Thursday 29th August and gifts will range from $3.00 to $5.00 each. Children will need to bring their money tomorrow if they would like to buy a gift for their father. A Raffle is also being held and tickets are 50 cents each. The raffle will be drawn on Friday 30th August.
Fathers’ Day BBQ Breakfast
Bacon and Egg Rolls, juice and tea and coffee will be served from 8am to 9am at our Fathers’ Day BBQ Breakfast this Friday. To help us with catering please complete and return the slip at the bottom of the yellow sheet that was sent home or come to the school office. Please send in any donated items for the BBQ by tomorrow morning. Thank you to all the parents that have already sent in their items.

2013 Federal Election
With the federal election set for 7 September, Executive Director of Schools, Greg Whitby is urging school communities to be aware of the key issues facing Catholic schools. One in every four students in western Sydney attends a Catholic school, with the Parramatta Diocese alone serving over 43,000 students. According to the latest data provided by the Australian Government’s My School website, even with parental contributions included, Catholic schools operate at only 90% of the recurrent resources of government schools, making future funding arrangements key to the future of Catholic schooling. Through the independent Gonski Review of Funding for Schooling, it was determined that existing school funding arrangements were not meeting the education needs of all Australian children, with many schools missing out on necessary resources. The new Better Schools Plan provides a base level of funding for each student with additional funding to address disadvantage e.g. students from low socio-economic backgrounds, students with disabilities, Indigenous students, students with limited English, and students from remote areas.

A Pictorial View of Book Week

Students of the Week
Week ending 23.8.13
Kindergarten      Juanita Divine
Year One            Yasmine Nguyen
Year Two           Anger Akot
Year Three         Aken Aken
Year Four           Anthea Huynh
Year Five           Aewyn Mendez
Year Six            Victoria Ajaka

Numeracy Hint
Discuss different shapes in the environment. Talk about the number of sides and corners a shape has.

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.
**Social Skill Focus**

* Greetings
  - Look at the person
  - Smile at the person
  - Say “hello”

**Term 3 School Fees**

Term 3 school fees are now overdue.
If you are having difficulties paying fees please contact the school office.
Families who have arranged to pay by Direct Debit or BPays please disregard this notice.

**Calendar Dates**

- **Thu, 29th August**
  - Fathers’ Day Stall - remember to bring your money
  - Meeting for International Food Fair
- **Fri, 30th August**
  - Fathers’ Day BBQ Breakfast - dads and grandfathers welcome
  - Assembly - Year One - 9.30am
- **Sun, 1st September**
  - Fathers’ Day
- **Fri, 6th September**
  - Stage 2 Touch Football Gala Day / Mass - Year 5 - 9.15am
- **Tue, 10th September**
  - SPARK Special Session
- **Wed, 11th September**
  - Dance Fever Challenge at Homebush - Years 3-6
- **Thu, 12th September**
  - Stage 1 Excursion to Art Gallery
- **Fri, 13th September**
  - Assembly - Year 3
- **Thu, 19th September**
  - Last Day of Term 3 for Students

**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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
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<tbody>
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<td>Fri, 30th August</td>
<td>Sophie Depares, Arvin Rubbi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tue, 3rd September</td>
<td>Joyce Irima, Lillian Ibrahim</td>
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<td>Almaza Faddoul, Sandra El-Khoury</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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**HEAD LICE (Pediculosis)**

Areas of Sydney are experiencing problems with head lice. This is not an uncommon problem in schools but it needs to be addressed.

- Check your child’s hair for evidence of lice or eggs.
- If they are present, use an effective head lice treatment (available from the local chemist) and follow the directions provided with the product. All other children in the family should be treated at the same time.
- Remove all the eggs from the hair; this process is essential because if even one is left alive, the whole cycle can begin again.
- Treat the hair **again 7-10 days** after the first treatment to kill any lice that hatched after the first treatment.
- **Wash bedding in hot water** (over 60 degrees C), or put bedding into a hot tumble dryer, or iron clothing or bedding to kill any live lice.
- Other items that cannot be washed or ironed can be placed into a plastic bag, and left in the sunshine for 2 or 3 days.

**Things to Do Checklist**

- Return permission note and money for **Dance Fever Challenge** by Friday.
- Return **Stage 2 Touch Football** permission note, money and **Code of Conduct** by Friday.
- Remember to bring money for the Fathers’ Day Stall tomorrow **Thursday 29th August**.
- **Stage 1 permission note** sent home Monday - return to school by 2nd September.

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