Dear Parents, Staff and Students,

Thank you to all parents who attended Mass and our open morning to celebrate Catholic Schools Week. The Week is observed across ACT and NSW with all school communities celebrating Catholic Education. The Week is also about forging and strengthening relationships between everyone who has a stake in our schools – students, staff, families, priests, parishioners, and members of the wider community – by showcasing our activities and actions. During Catholic Schools Week, we take the opportunity to highlight not only the best of what we do, but also what happens in our schools every day.

Also today as part of our celebration we welcomed students from Trinity Primary School Harden Murrumburrah who spent an exciting day with Yr 3/4 classes. Each year we celebrate together and take turns of visiting each other. We have built some very strong and supportive relationships with our sister country school and we will use ICT to further build our links.

As Bernadette and I will be attending the Annual IB Conference in India in the coming weeks there will be some changes in our staff:

**Weeks 7 & 8**: Petra Cole – Acting Principal, Brigitta van Reesch- Acting Assistant Principal, Simon Bugden- Acting Primary Coordinator.

**Weeks 9 & 10**: I will be back at school, Petra Cole- Acting Assistant Principal, Brigitta van Reesch- Religious Education coordinator, Simon Bugden-Acting Coordinator.

We are very fortunate in having such wonderful teachers who have vast experience and expertise to share and take on leadership of our school. These changes will also effect classes and teachers. A note has been sent home to parents in classes which are impacted by the changes. In these situations we always try to maintain stability for the children and minimal disruption to their learning.

Our building project is becoming a reality the tender process is now in full swing. The tender process will close on Tuesday 29 March. As this process is progressing, we are negotiating with the CE and architects, a workable staging program to minimise disruption. I will keep you informed as we work together to plan for this major work. The timeline is to start work on or around 11 April.

Holy Week, 21-29 March, preparations are well underway and all parents are invited to attended the prayer liturgies. Brigitta has included a timetable in the Religious Education section of this newsletter, please claim the dates for your diaries.

With every best wish for a happy and peace-filled week ahead,

Judy Spence
judy.spence@cg.catholic.edu.au
All these important reminders are for the safety and well being of all in our school.

- Labelling all clothing and personal items. Each week we donate many items to worthy causes.
- Parents and visitors to the school must sign in/out and if working in the school wear a visitor sticker. All helpers must have their Working with Vulnerable People card registered with the school.
- WWVP CARDS - All parents should have a Working With Vulnerable People card. Volunteer cards are free and application is through Access Canberra at https://www.accesscanberra.act.gov.au/app/answers/detail/a_id/1804/~/working-with-vulnerable-people-wwvp-registration

All parents who help in the school in any way need a card. The card then must be presented to the school and copied by the front office staff for our records

NEWSLETTER CONTRIBUTIONS - If you wish to place anything in the newsletter please email it to penny.ford@cg.catholic.edu.au.

RE News

Project compassion continues to be a focus this week. Year 3/4 have been collecting donations at lunchtime and displaying the symbols outside the library.

Upcoming - The events of Holy week will be celebrated across school in 2 weeks. Each event will be a prayer and reflection on the last days of Christ, reminding all Christians the true meaning of Easter.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Palm Sunday</td>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>2.30pm</td>
<td>Hall</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Holy Thursday</td>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>9.15am</td>
<td>Hall</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Good Friday</td>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>2pm</td>
<td>Oval</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Easter Sunday</td>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>9.15am</td>
<td>Hall</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Sacrament forms were handed out last week.

Confirmation: Sunday 19th June
First Holy Communion: Sunday 11th September
Reconciliation: Wednesday 23rd November

Important dates:

PARENT INTRODUCTORY NIGHT:
Parish Centre, Curtin 7.00pm Thursday 5 May 2016

PRESENTATION TO PARISH AT WEEKEND MASSES:
Holy Trinity Church, Curtin 6.00pm Saturday 28 May, 2016
Holy Trinity Church, Curtin 5.30pm Sunday 29 May, 2016

RETREAT DAY:
Holy Trinity School, Curtin 9.15am–2.15pm Wednesday 15 June, 2016

SACRAMENTAL CELEBRATION:
Holy Trinity Church, Curtin 9.00am and 11am Sunday 19 June, 2016

Please consider being a leader for your child’s sacramental preparation. As this is a parish/home based program the groups need parent leaders.

Blessings to you all,
Brigitta van Reesch

‘Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you.’

Luke 11:9
POSITIVE COMMUNICATION BETWEEN HOME AND SCHOOL

One of the International Baccalaureate’s Practices and Standards is that ‘the school promotes open communication based on understanding and respect’ between all stakeholders, developing a positive relationship between home and school.

There are many ways in which we endeavour to open the lines of communication so that we can work in partnership with parents -

- Phone calls
- Interviews
- Emails
- Community events
- Parent information evenings
- Website
- Skoolbag
- Notes home
- Reporting
- Masses / Supper
- Open classroom
- Assemblies

We endeavour to provide parents with our full attention when discussing a child’s progress or school experience. To achieve this, we ask that parents make an appointment with your child’s teacher so time can be put aside to be able to discuss your child’s progress. It is difficult, if not impossible, to be able to provide the required time or concentration to a conversation at the bell time, line up in the morning or when a teacher is on duty.

Emails are an excellent way to touch base to make an appointment time. Please leave time for a response, approximately 24 hours. Teachers will usually respond to emails outside of the main school hours of 8.30-3.30pm. If you have an urgent message within the main school hours, please phone the Front Office.

Holy Trinity strives to establish partnerships with parents to support student learning. We understand that strong communication is fundamental to this partnership and to building a sense of community between home and school.

Parenting Ideas… from Michael Grose

This year we will continue to provide support to parents on relevant topics. It would be great to hear from parents who have strategies or experience in particular situations or questions they would like addressed. This week I have included an article from Michael Grose addressing development of important social skills, which contribute to a child’s happiness and wellbeing.

As I head to India for the next month, I send my best wishes for the month ahead.

Bernadette Scott

Merit Certificates

K GREEN - Alex G, Avalon C, Alexia V
K RED - Joe F, Owen F
1 GREEN - Xander S, Sara P, Max H, Lachlan P
1 RED - Hollie D, Lucy M, Alessandra P-S
2 GREEN - Finn A, Logan L
2 RED - Charlotte W, Darcy H, Rose J
2 WHITE - Sam M, Karl S
3/4 GREEN - Alexander S, Tara J
3/4 RED - Amelia B, Nicholas S
3/4 WHITE - Sophie H, Hannah M, Logan C
3/4 BLUE - Chars D, Erin H
5/6 GREEN - Alani Mc, Jayden H
5/6 RED - Nelly R, Rebecca L, Freya A

Happy Birthday

Students who celebrated last week and this week are: Kate O, Noah A, Scarlett R, Sofia W, Molly V-K, Milla-Rose C, Benjamin C, Sofia D
Catholic Schools Soccer Carnival - Registrations close this Friday 11 March. Team lists and additional information will be sent home during Week 7. For more information please refer to: http://www.stbenedicts.act.edu.au/ or speak to Michael Feerick or Simon Bugden.

Cross Country Carnival - Wednesday 23/3 - An invitation and additional information will be sent home next week.

South Weston Swimming Carnival - Tuesday 29/3 - Notes and payments need to be returned ASAP. Parent helpers are still required.

Athletics Carnival - Friday 1/4 (This is not an April Fool’s joke!) - An invitation and additional information will be sent home during Week 8.

Sporting Superstars! - Congratulations to Nicholas S (3/4 Red) and Majak W (5/6 Red) who have been selected in the ACT Under 12 basketball squad. This is a wonderful achievement and we hope they enjoy the experience! Well Done!

Congratulations to Charlotte R (5/6 Red) for being selected in the ACT Swimming Team! She will be competing at the Sydney Aquatic Centre in the Speedo Sprint Series Finals this Sunday. Best wishes to Charlotte!

Simon Bugden
Sport Coordinator

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School Holiday Program - The ELC will be running a school holiday program for students up to 8 years of age. Each day will have a different theme. The aim is to provide a relaxed atmosphere where the children can play, participate in a range of fun activities and interact with their peers in a safe and supportive environment. Booking forms are available at the ELC, numbers are limited.

Before School Care and After School Care - casual and permanent places are available for both programs for children up to 8 years, please email or call the ELC to check availability.

Stay and Play - is a playgroup for babies and toddlers and their carers, hosted at the ELC playground each Wednesday from 9-10am. We welcome all Holy Trinity families to join us. (See flyer at the end of the Newsletter).

Congratulations to Olive (Rock Wallaby) and her family who welcomed a baby girl into their family this week.

Ground Parrots and Rock Wallabies - Visited the National Zoo and Aquarium to observe animals and their habitats.

Milka (Luka’s grandmother) came to make pizza with the children, it was delicious!
Caritas’ annual fundraising appeal “Project Compassion” commenced this week at Holy Trinity, and the wonderful students in Year 3/4 wanted to thank everyone for their donations. We have been selling seed packets and three varieties of brick, all of which have been incorporated into our display outside our school library. A friendly reminder that our foil bricks are $5, brown bricks $3, smallest bricks $1, and our seed packets are 50 cents. Year 3/4 students will continue to sell the items in Week 7, however this will be the last week of donation collection, so please dig deep and donate to this wonderful cause. We have also set up an account on the QKR app for Project Compassion if you would prefer to make a donation that way. Thank you to everyone for your continued support, and we look forward to raising even more money next week.

Making life easier for school staff and volunteers with Qkr!

Qkr™ by MasterCard takes the hard work out of processing school payments, leaving staff and volunteers free to concentrate on more important tasks.

1. Reduces the time school staff and volunteers spend on administrative tasks e.g.
   - Processing school payments
   - Cash Handling
   - Paperwork
   - Sorting bags for food orders

2. Increases efficiency of school operations:
   - Speeds up kitchen logistics so staff and volunteers can spend more time preparing and serving nutritious food

3. Reduces the need for cash on school premises and the associated cost and security issues

Qkr™ also saves you (busy parents) time by letting you place all your school orders directly from your mobile device, at a time convenient for you.
### Holy Trinity Drama Day Dates Term 1

#### Kindergarten and Grade 1 - Wednesday March 30th - Jungle Jaunt

For children in this age group, acting, speaking skills, creative play and active listening activities are themed around different speech sounds. All material will be provided.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Session 1</th>
<th>Jungle Jaunt</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9.30 — 11am</td>
<td>All aboard the Jungle Bus! The Jungle Bus will take us into the deepest parts of the wilderness. We will hike and explore all the areas using movement, music we might even meet some cheeky monkeys!</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Session 2</th>
<th>Tigers Who Roar And More...</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>11.40 — 1.40pm</td>
<td>Our intrepid explorers will study the types of animals they see on their adventures. They will create some animal masks for camouflage and use sound and voices to coax their animal friends out of hiding. Through movement and poetry our explorers will discover and create poems and rhymes to help them know more about these wonderful jungle creatures.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Session 3</th>
<th>Monkey Tales</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2.10 — 3.00pm</td>
<td>The safari fun continues... The adventurers listen to and act out the secret tales of the jungle as found in literature. Their tour guide will lead them to recount their day creating a documentary which will reveal the discoveries that have been made through drama.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Grades 2 - 4 - Group One Tuesday March 1st and Group Two Tuesday March 15th - Story Lab

In this age group, children's communication skills and confidence develop rapidly through participation in drama. Children explore storytelling through performance-based activities.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Session 1</th>
<th>Tell Me A Story</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9.30 — 11am</td>
<td>Students will engage in drama activities that develop expressive voices and clear speech. They will discover the elements of telling a great story and have an opportunity to tell their own—from real life, or their imaginations.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Session 2</th>
<th>Magic Movement</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>11.40 — 1.40pm</td>
<td>Students will discover that they can tell stories without using their voices or any sound at all. They will work on non-verbal communication and develop mime and movement skills.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Session 3</th>
<th>Creating Characters</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2.10 — 3.00pm</td>
<td>Students will use voice and movement to express emotion and a range of characters. They will have the opportunity to perform in role the stories developed in session one.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Grades 5 and 6 - Tuesday March 8th - Sense It, Shape It

Students in this age group expand performance skills via drama games, using scripts and creating their own performance texts. Effective communication of self and character will be developed through improvisation, voice work and the physical aspects of performance.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Session 1</th>
<th>Can you hear me?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9.30 — 11am</td>
<td>Students will explore script snippets, poetry and prose with a focus on expressive, clear and well-projected voices.</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Session 2</th>
<th>Can you see me?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>11.40 — 1.40pm</td>
<td>Students will explore creative movement with a focus on learning the areas of the stage and sight lines. Through drama games and activities they will become familiar with the language of theatre.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Session 3</th>
<th>Who Am I?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2.10 — 3.00pm</td>
<td>Drama activities will allow students to apply the work from earlier in the day when creating characters. They will devise scenes to share with the group based on the characters they develop.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Enrol Now: [http://www.cada.net.au/in-school-programs.html](http://www.cada.net.au/in-school-programs.html) or Phone: 1300 908 905
Building parent-school partnerships

WORDS Michael Grose

Social skills for children

School brings different types of learning, including social interactions and how to make friends. Parents can lay the foundations at home by teaching their kids these 7 important social skills.

Children who are able to form friendships when they start school are happier at school and also learn better.

More significantly, positive friendships have long-term implications for social and indirectly academic success.

Friendships skills are generally developmental, but they don’t develop in isolation. Kids acquire these skills when they play with their siblings and interact with children and adults outside their family.

Today’s children grow up with fewer siblings, fewer opportunities for unstructured play and less freedom to explore friendships than children of even ten years ago.

Parents can help kids develop important social competencies by teaching them sociable behaviours at home, being good role models and providing opportunities for kids to play with each other in a variety of situations.

Here are 7 Important social skills to help children to develop:

1. Ask for what you want
   Help children ask for what they want. It means they don’t throw tantrums, whinge, and sulk or expect parents to guess what’s on their minds. While we need to be patient with toddlers, we need also to give older children the chance and opportunity to ask for what they want. Sometimes we need to ignore shrugs and grunts and expect them to articulate their wishes. This is the basis of civil behaviour, as well as a basic human skill.

2. Good manners
   Teach kids good manners, in particular the three ‘power words’. These words are very persuasive because they have a way of breaking down barriers and people’s defences. These three words are: your name; please; thanks. These terms are the basis of good manners, and, when used, will increase the likelihood of getting what you want.

3. Sharing
   Sharing is a basic social skill. Developmentally, very young children like to keep their possessions themselves. As they get older and move into Pre School and beyond the notion of sharing becomes a pre-requisite for playing with and forming relationships with others. Other children like to play and be with those who share their time, possessions and space with them. Sharing is the start of empathy as it shows sensitivity to other people’s feelings.

4. Holding a conversation
   Holding conversations with others is a lifetime friendship skill. Conversations require self-disclosure, which can be challenging for some children. Good conversationalists give of themselves, but also take an interest in the person they are talking to. Many children forget that good conversations are two-way events, and tend to focus solely on themselves.

   Children within conversations need to learn to ask good or interesting questions; to take turns when speaking and to show you are listening by making eye contact and not interrupting.

5. Winning and losing well
   Kids need to learn to win without rubbing others noses in it, and lose gracefully without throwing tantrums and making excuses.

more on page 2

Parenting ideas

Want more ideas to help you raise confident kids and resilient young people? Subscribe to Happy Kids newsletter, my FREE weekly email parenting guide at parentingideas.com.au. You’ll be so glad you did.
Stay & Play

Play group for PRE-preschoolers and their carers.

* Wednesday 9am-10am

Holy Trinity Early Learning Centre Playground, Theodore Street, Curtin

More information contact:

Cushla Sheehan
Director, Holy Trinity Early Learning Centre

6281 7428 or
cushla.sheehan@cg.catholic.edu.au