



Saint Helena's Catholic Primary School

55 Fortescue Place Ellenbrook

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Something Beautiful for God

Important Dates

Tuesday	15 Sept	Edu-Dance Concert Yr2 - 7 1.45pm
Thursday	17 Sept	Inter-school Sports Day
Friday	18 Sept	St Helena's Feast Day Celebrations
Sunday	20 Sept	St Helena's Parish 10 Anniversary Celebrations
Friday	25 Sept	End Term 3
Wednesday	13 Oct	School commences Term 4

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

- † **Sacrament of Confirmation.** Congratulations to the Year 6/7 and parish children who were confirmed last weekend. Thanks especially to Father Francis for the very special celebration. Thanks also to Vanja Basell, Olivia Stanley and Deacon Ivan for preparing the children, to Andrea Millar for co-ordinating the program, to Jamie and Helen, from the parish, for the music and to all those who contributed towards making the liturgy so reverent and special. Finally thank you to the parents who have ensured that through their support of the school and parish their children have been able to experience this special moment in their lives and be touched by the Holy Spirit.
- † **School Choir.** The children of the choir who attended on Sunday really helped make the liturgy special for those receiving Confirmation. Their support was recognised by being allowed to come to school yesterday in free dress. My thanks to Jessica Healy and Amy Tome for the work they do with the choir.
- † **St Helena's Day.** This Friday we will be celebrating St Helena's Day. A program of the day is published in this newsletter.
- † **Numeracy and Literacy Teaching.** A recent article in the West Australian made reference to some research which indicated that schools spent as little as 15% of the total time on the teaching of literacy and numeracy skills. At St Helena's time dedicated to the teaching of these essential and foundational skills is between 35%-40% of the school timetable.
- † **Booklists 2010.** With the endorsement of the School Board, P & F and school staff it has been decided that the school will adopt the widely accepted practice of having booklists for each year level. It is anticipated that the cost of the booklists will be range from \$50-\$70 depending on the year level. Parents are reminded that they are able to claim through their tax return, for 50% of such costs. More information on the booklists will be made available to you shortly.
- † **School Boundary Fence.** The school is experiencing some delay with the construction of the boundary fence at the front of the school because of the requirement to meet certain conditions set by the City of Swan. It was originally intended that this work would be carried out over the coming school holidays but this is now not possible.

ST HELENA'S CATHOLIC PARISH, ELLENBROOK

Parish Priest - Father Francis Huy Nguyen

25 Alderley Ave Ellenbrook

Ph. 9296 7088—Mob. 0401 797 313

Pastoral Assistant – Rev. Ivan Sands (0439 919 585)
masses


MASS TIMES

Sat 8am & 6.00pm, Sun 8am & 9.30am

Weekdays Mon-Fri 7.30am

Reconciliation prior to all weekend

- † **Early Learning Centre.** The school architect has advised that the tenders for this building have closed and DBM Contractors were successful. It is hoped to have a building licence issued in 2-3 weeks which would permit work to commence.
- † **Alert.** The school has been advised of an incident where a student was approached at a bus shelter in Dunbar Road in Wanneroo at 3.20 p.m. on Friday 11 September. A man in a white Tarago van pulled up outside at the bus shelter and asked the student if he could give the child a lift. As always this information is not intended to create panic but to raise the awareness of parents of the need to ensure safe travel for children between home and school.
- † **Interschool Sports Carnival.** This will take place this Thursday and will commence at 9.30 a.m. with the Senior Girls 800m and finish at 2.15 p.m. with the relays. At this time we are assuming that the carnival will go ahead even though the weather is causing us a little concern.
- † **Student Free Days.** The first two days of Term 4 (Monday 12 October and Tuesday 13 October) will be student free days. **Children will commence Term 4 on Wednesday 14 October.**
- † **Australian Council of Educational Leaders Conference.** I will be attending this conference from Thursday 24 September to Monday 28 September. Andrea Millar will be responsible for the school in my absence.
- † **Term 3 School Fees are now due.** It would be appreciated if all outstanding school fees could be finalised immediately. If you are experiencing financial difficulties please do not hesitate to call the office for assistance.


 Roger Saulsman
 Principal

Reminder – NO After School Sport tomorrow the program has finished for this term

Bandicoot and Emu Confirmation Reflections



On Saturday and Sunday the Year 6 and 7 classes had their Confirmation. It was a wonderful Mass because everyone participated and it was very peaceful. I liked the way everyone took it seriously. It was really good because students from other schools came to celebrate with the Saint Helena's Parish.

By Hannah Stone

On the weekend there were a lot of kids making their Confirmation, and one of them was me. When you get Confirmed you feel overwhelmed and excited at the same time. To me, being Confirmed means you choose to be Catholic and you choose to go to Mass and to receive the body and blood of God. I am proud to be Confirmed. **By Alex Harley**

On the 12th of September 2009 I made my Confirmation. We got blessed by Father Francis and he put the holy oil on our forehead. Everyone looked nice in their dresses and suits. After, my family and I went to Oscars for dinner. We had a great night out. **By Annie Milburn**

Confirmation is when you receive the Holy Spirit. The Emus and Bandicoots had researched a saint and read about the miracles and their lives. I think choosing a saint who reflects you has something to do with who you become in the future. I am not Catholic but I do want to be a good and loving person.

By Emily Macdonald

On Sunday it was my Confirmation. It turned out to be a good day. I got money and some jewellery. I woke up at 6am to straighten my hair. At 8.15am we went to the library and at 9.30 the Mass started. The Mass finished at 11am. For my after party we went to Oscars. I had a headache but it went away after a while. We had fun and then went to the park to play and run around. I think that overall the day was pretty good. Everyone had a good time and so did I. **By Danica Vallelonga.**

To me Confirmation means to cleanse yourself of sins and to keep out the Devil. For Confirmation we had to choose a saint which was our saint name. During Confirmation our Baptismal promises were recited. Confirmation was an exciting time for both the classes. **By Steryn Woodroffe**

Prayer for this week...

DON'T QUIT

*When things go wrong as they sometimes will,
 When the road you're trudging seems all up hill.
 When the funds are low and the debts are high
 and you want to smile, but you have to sigh.
 When care is pressing you down a bit.
 Rest, if you must, **but don't you quit.**
 Life is queer with its twists and turns,
 as everyone of us sometimes learns,
 And many a failure turns about
 when we might have won had we stuck it out;
 Don't give up though the pace seems slow –
 you may succeed with another blow.
 Success is failure turned inside out –
 the silver tint of the clouds of doubt.
 And you never can tell how close you are
 it may be near when it seems so far;
 So stick to the fight when you're hardest hit –
 It's when things seem worst that you must not quit.*

SAINT OF THE DAY - St Gregory

feast day 3 September.

Gregory the Great was born in Rome in 540 AD. He used his own money to establish monasteries in Rome and Sicily, and eventually became a monk himself at the age of 35. In 590 AD, he became the first monk to be elected Pope and the first Pope to take the name Gregory. He was known as a great statesman and is accounted the fourth of the great Latin doctors of the church. His influence on church music gave rise to plainsong becoming known as Gregorian chant. Gregory the Great was the father of the medieval papacy, and he was instrumental in helping Western Europe rise from the ashes of the fallen Roman Empire. He referred to himself as "the servant of the servants of God", a term which the Popes have used ever since.



Catholic saints are holy people and human people who lived extraordinary lives. Each saint the Church honours responded to God's invitation to use his or her unique gifts. God calls each one of us to be a saint.

St Helena's Feast Day and Mission Fundraising Appeal

This Friday 18 September, you are invited to join in the celebrations by attending Mass followed by a special Parents Morning Tea, provided by the P & F and then join in the fundraising activities with the children.

8.45 am	Whole School Mass in the Undercover Mass Centre
Following the Mass	Meet St Helena (the play)
Parent Morning Tea provided by the P&F	Undercover Area (Sports shed side)
RECESS	
11.00am - 12.15	Mission Fundraising
LUNCH	
1.00pm - 2.30	St Helena's fun classroom activities

**ST HELENA'S PARISH
CELEBRATING 10 ANNIVERSARY**

**Invites all to share in this special celebration
By attending 9.30am Mass this Sunday 20 September
And joining the parish community for morning tea after Mass.**

Graduation Dinner

The \$20.00 payment for the grade 6 & 7 graduation dinner is NOW DUE. A large number of graduating students are yet to pay. Please send payment into the office in a sealed envelope noted "Attention – Andrea Milburn" before the end of term. This is so we can finalise the number of students attending. Unfortunately **NO payment** means **NO attendance**.

Congratulations

To Bridget Fitzmaurice who won third overall place for her age group in the Gymnastics State Championships on the weekend. Bridget came first on the beam, third on Parallel Bars and fourth on both floor and the vault. What a fantastic effort Bridget well done.

Uniform Shop

Open every morning from 8.20am to 8.45am or orders can be taken.

Interschool Sports Day

On Thursday, 17 September we will be hosting the inter-school sports day. We would love to see as many parents and friends at the oval to support our children. Thank you to all who have returned their Sausage Sizzle orders the cooks are going to be very busy.

The coffee van will be there as well and we will be selling cupcakes.

School Canteen

The canteen will be open Monday, Wednesday and Friday. Please remember to put separate money into each order bag or see Mrs Gregory at the canteen.

Fete News

Thank you to the parents who have already sent in their specified donations for the fete. If you can't find what is recommended on the list, then please bring in something else. All donations accepted. Don't forget to put your name down on the list for your class stall. The list is in the classroom so if you can't find it, please ask the teacher.

Canteen Roster	
Wed 16 Sept	Carol Weir
Fri 18 Sept	Kylie Beaman Sharon D'Evelynes
Mon 21 Sept	Cheryl Smith
Wed 23 Sept	Adelle Alberts
Fri 25 Sept	Andrea Milburn Donna Tedesco

Community News

Help Needed

Can you help Patrist Sisters in Midland are looking for new or used backpacks to send to the Philippines. They also require old spectacles. Please place in the box in the office.

Readers & Special Ministers

A meeting of all Readers and Special Ministers is to be held on Saturday, 10 October to discuss the formation and roles of these ministries. Times are 2.00pm for Readers and 3.00pm for Special Ministers. It is essential that all attend these important meetings. If you cannot attend, please contact Liz Lambert on 0412 929 794. Any parishioner who is considering becoming one of these ministers is most welcome. Formal education will be given.

Tiny Tots Tennis & Mega Tennis – Weekly classes - Holiday Program.

- Birthday Parties
- Tennis Leagues
- Training Lessons for 3 – 4, 5 – 6, 7 – 9, 10 – 12 years
- Meg Day tournaments for 7 – 9 and 10 – 12 Years
- Mega Singles 7 Doubles Pennant Leagues for 7 – 9 & 10 – 12 years
- Also New Ladies Tennis Mornings - Visit our Website: tinytotstennis.com.au or phone 9377 0225