Many of our Year 6 students will receive the Sacrament of Confirmation at the 6pm Mass on Saturday night. Bishop Eugene Hurley will celebrate this mass. We invite you to come along to this special celebration and support the students from our school and parish who will receive this sacrament.

Holy Spirit of God, ten days after Jesus had gone back to heaven, you came down from heaven and into the locked room, where Mary and the apostles were waiting and praying. They were very afraid, but you gave them your Spirit, and made them strong and brave. When we receive the sacrament of Confirmation, you give your Spirit, helping us to be strong and brave. We become grown-up Christians. Thank you, Holy Spirit.

From Prayers I Pray, An Australian Prayer Book for primary school age Children St Pauls Publications, 2004

Our Lady Help of Christians Parish Mass Times
Saturday 6pm & Sunday 8.30am, 6pm
Dear Parents and Carers,

Week five and already we are halfway through the term. There is no doubt that it has been a hectic five weeks already and no chance that the pace will slow in the next five. It is important though that children are focused and well prepared as they move into the assessment and reporting phase of the Semester.

Last Friday we celebrated the Feast of All Saints with Fr Tom in the church. The idea of being a saint is sometimes confused with being perfect. Many of the Saints of our church led very chequered lives before making a decision to use their gifts and talents to follow God's call to them. While in the church miracles are attributed to the intercession of a saint, saints aren't magic people roaming around performing out of this world deeds to the delight of adoring fans. Mary MacKillop is recognised as our first Australian saint because she answered God's call by never walking past a need but rather doing something about it. It might be simple but hardly easy to live. The challenge of last Friday's feast is for us all to use our gifts and talents to be who we are called to be. We are in fact “saints” whether recognised by the church or not.

Pleasingly, there continues to be strong demand for places at Sacred Heart currently we have positions for only a small number of new enrolments in the school and waiting lists in both the Early Learning Centre and Outside School Hours Care. Strong enrolments are a show that there is a feeling of confidence in our school from the wider community.

It is pleasing to hear that our current families are enjoying their time with us and encouraging others to join us as well. Word of Mouth is our best marketing tool. It is also testament to many hours our staff put in to ensure that our school offers quality programs and facilities.

We are more than a little concerned at the moment by an increase in the numbers of children who are consuming soft drinks and high caffeine energy drinks before classes each day. In many cases the contents of these drinks exceeds the daily recommended intake levels for adults much less children. One popular brand of energy drinks displays a warning label that states insulation of more than 500ml of the drink maybe harmful yet comes in a 660ml can. It is impossible for children to fiction at their best after consuming a soft drink or caffeine based drink in the morning. The spikes and subsequent drops in blood sugar and attention can leave children exhausted and irritable and lead to problems in their interactions with teachers and peers.

Our Investing in Focus Schools project is beginning to wind down now. This program has allowed us the opportunity to undertake a number of initiatives including THRASS and professional development for staff in literacy and visible learning. One of the last things to do is to formulate a position statement on indigenous education for our school. To collate the thoughts of our community we have included a brief survey in this newsletter. It would be appreciated if you could take a couple of minutes to complete it and return it to us. With so many of our families coming from an indigenous background it is important that we have a cogent approach to indigenous education.

Let us all live by the example of the saints this week,

Gez, Lyn, Cate and Lindsay

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We have an unidentified deposit in our bank account in the amount of $1650. If you have recently made a deposit and think this may be yours, please either call the office on 8932 2888 or email our Finance Officer, Mrs Widya Lieminda finance.shps@nt.catholic.edu.au
Welcome to our School Community …

Connor Johnston, Yr 3/4, Rm 11
Tanisha Dhurrkay, Yr 3/4, Rm 11
Peter Garawirrtja, Yr 4/5, Rm 9
Hamish Tillack Smith, Tr, Rm 3

We pray you will settle in quickly, make new friends and enjoy your time here.

Students of the Week—Week 4

Transition Room 1
Hayden Fitt
Ethan Mayfield

Transition Room 3
Tarah Sanchez
Dimitri Antognoni

Year 1 / 2 Room 6
Mikayla Hutchings
Eymard Gandia

Year 1 / 2 Room 7
Thanasi McGowan
Jordi Mitchell

Year 2 / 3 Room 5
Joshua Mansfield

Year 2 / 3 Room 12
Carl Spooner
Presley Vusani

Year 3 / 4 Room 11
Alex Barry
Elizabeth Salter

Year 4 / 5 Room 10
Danisha Plues

Year 5 / 6 Room 14
Ericka Tan Salandanan

Year 5 / 6 Room 15
Zac Howe, Rosie Lee
Emily DeLongte

“Good On Ya” Recipients Week 4
Khalehla Cartwright, Zade Koops,
Nikita Ryan, Alan Salas
and Mikaylee Winch

New Baby Congratulations
Eirini Robards is excited this week because she was blessed with a new baby sister! Congratulations and best wishes to Maria, John, Eirini and their extended family on the safe arrival of baby Mahalia.

Book Club Orders due Tuesday, 19th November
We have been working very hard in Room 6 to improve our writing skills. We have been learning more about narrative writing recently. We have looked at samples of really good writing from other children in Australia and even managed to suggest ways to improve the samples!

Here is Ava’s highly imaginative story about a pirate who changes his horrid ways...

Outside School Hours Care—Qualified Staff needed

OSHC are looking for a qualified worker for 20 hours/week (Cert 3 in Children Services or experienced). Applicants also need a Senior First Aid Certificate and Ochre Card. For further details and duty statement call Desleigh on 8932 8036 or 8932 2888. Alternatively please email sacredhearthoshc@gmail.com or admin.shps@nt.catholic.edu.au. Please submit application, CV and the names and contact details of three referees to:

The Principal/Director, Sacred Heart Catholic Primary School
PO Box 271, PALMERSTON NT 0831 OR via email to above email address OR via fax to 8932 2388

The spirit of giving … this Christmas

It’s that time of year again to ask our school community for donations of unwrapped gifts for children to the age of 14 years. Donations can be dropped into the school office. Many thanks.
Placements for Holiday Care are open for the Christmas break.
Fees are $210 per week per child or $65 per day per child.
There is a $50 cash booking fee which comes off your fees.
Vacation Care is open from 16 to 20 December then closed for 2 weeks.
Re-opening on 6 January until school commences on Thursday 30 January 2014 (excluding public holidays). Spaces are limited.

For an enrolment form or more information please see Desleigh at OSHC or phone OSHC on 8932 9586 or contact them via the school office on 8932 2888.

Sacred Heart Holiday Care December / January

P & F Christmas Raffle

Raffle tickets have gone home with students this week.
There are several hampers to be won.
Tickets are 50 cents each or 5 for $2
Drawn Friday 6th December.

Thank you to those families who have already donated items for the Christmas raffle. The P & F would greatly appreciate donations of Christmas crafts, gifts, decorations etc to be included in the Christmas raffle hampers.

All donations can be given to the front office staff.
Thank you for supporting your P & F!

Come 'n' Bake it! Shake it! & Make it! MacKillop Day!

Saturday 19th November 2013
3pm - 7pm Jubilee Hall

St John's Catholic College
and
ST Vincent de Paul

Christmas Markets

Mark this date in your diary

Parent/Guardian Information Night
Tuesday 19th November 2013
6:30pm - 8:00pm
In the Library
All Welcome
Fast Five with .....  
Ericka Tan Salandanana (Year 5/6, Room 14)

What is your favourite colour?  
Yellow, because it is the colour of Spongebob.

What is your favourite letter in the alphabet?  
E.

What is your favourite food?  
Kikiam – a traditional Filipino meal.

What do you do in your spare time?  
Draw.

Why is Sacred Heart the best school ever?  
Because my friend are here.

CHRISTMAS CRAFT FAIR EXTRAVAGANZA
SATURDAY 30 NOVEMBER AND SUNDAY 1 DECEMBER 2013
9.00 AM – 4.00 PM AT MARRARA INDOOR STADIUM
ABALA ROAD – NEAR DARWIN AIRPORT
Over 90 stalls of local, handmade arts & crafts
Entry Adults $2, Children free
Door Prize each day

CHRISTMAS CRAFT CLUB 2013

Primary School Children
Monday 16 to Friday 20 December
8.30am to 12 noon
36 Batten Road, Marrara
(YFC Building)
$25.00 for full week or $6.00 per day
Pre registration on-line essential
sunt.org.au
Click on ‘Coming events – Children’s Craft Club’
Numbers strictly limited
Preference will be given to prepaid attendees
Enquiries: Annette Bailey 0417 840 611

DOUBLE HELIX KIDS SCIENCE CLUB
CRIME SCENE INVESTIGATION (CSI)
26th Oct.

SANTA SCIENCE
Saturday 14th Dec

Book online
www.cairc.org/NTHelix

Community Notices