Dear Families of Chisholm,

Our congratulations to those children who received Communion for the first time last Sunday and this Sunday coming.

Many of you may have shared in this moment where young boys and girls came forward to receive Communion for the first time. They extended their hands as they had been taught – one cupped under the other and reverently made the sign of the cross. Most then smiled and bounced a little as they returned to their seat. These young people evoked a precious sense of presence, as if Jesus was not only being received but also extended to all of us in the innocent gesture of a child.

As small hands extend outwards to receive Christ in the form of bread and wine, the entire community is drawn together in sacred memory. No wonder that the celebration of the first experience of communion takes place during the Easter season. It’s a great reason for all of us to “bounce” a little as we step forward, extend our hands, and receive the gift of Christ.

Perhaps this is an opportune time for parents to share a memory with your child about your own First Communion. Tell what it means to you to continue to take part in the Eucharist each week. I encourage you and your family to take every opportunity to be nourished through the Sacrament of Eucharist by joining the Parish each Sunday and our school community on Friday 30\textsuperscript{th} May as we celebrate Chisholm Day.

Prayer for a Child’s First Communion

Lord Jesus,

Bless the children coming forward to receive Holy Communion for the first time.

May this day be an initial step in a lifelong love of the Eucharist.

Give them a hunger for this sacred food so that they turn to you for comfort, guidance and wisdom as they grow into full discipleship.

Thank you for their innocence and goodness.

May their hands extended in anticipation of your Body and Blood, inspire us all to cherish this sacred sacrament.

God Bless

Keiran Byrnes
This term we will be joining with all the other schools and parishes in the Diocese to help support the Faith@Work appeal (also known as Diocesan Works Fund). The Appeal raises necessary funds that support ministries and outreach services to people across Western Sydney. Some of these ministries include Catholic Care, which is the social services arm of the Catholic church, making a critical difference in the lives of tens of thousands of individuals, children and families from our community, each year; for example Catherine Villa, which houses and provides guidance to young mothers, and Blacktown Neighbour Aid. The DWF also provides funds to the Ephpheta Centre which provides support to the deaf and hearing impaired.

The DWF appeal in schools will coincide with the three giving appeals in Parishes that are held in February, May and November. This is not a separate campaign for schools but part of the broader diocesan appeal. Those families, who are not giving at parish collections, are invited to consider supporting the works of the Diocese through the school appeal.

**STAFFING UPDATE**

As you may be aware Mrs Erin Turnbull and her husband are expecting the birth of their first child and Mrs Rebecca Sidorenko and her husband are expecting the birth of their second child. Mrs Turnbull will begin her leave on Friday 6th June while Mrs Sidorenko will begin her leave on Friday 30th May 2014. I would like to acknowledge the great work and contribution of Mrs Turnbull and Mrs Sidorenko to Chisholm and the education of the children in their care.

We welcome Miss Ashleigh Tabone to Chisholm who will be teaching 1 Maroon beginning Monday 2nd June for the remainder of the 2014 school year. Miss Tabone will be working closely with Mrs Sidorenko and the Stage 1 teaching team to ensure a smooth transition.

Congratulations and thank you to Mrs Maree McMahon who will take up the role of Acting Coordinator for the remainder of the school year.

We also welcome Mrs Rosemary Johnson who will be filling the role of learning support four days per week beginning 10th June 2014. Mrs Johnson will also be working closely with Mrs Turnbull and the Learning Support team to ensure a smooth transition.

I am sure you join me in wishing Mrs Sidorenko and Mrs Turnbull God’s blessings in the coming months.

**NAPLAN**

Last week, our Year 3 and Year 5 students completed their NAPLAN tests in Language Conventions, Writing, Reading and Numeracy.

The children are to be congratulated for the way they participated in the assessments and gave their best efforts. Thanks also to the teachers who supported and encouraged the children over the three days.

We look forward to receiving the results later in October.

Andrew Emanuel

**STAFFING UPDATE**

Many of our students, mostly from Year 4, received the Sacrament of First Eucharist last Sunday and the remainder will receive the Sacrament this Sunday coming. We congratulate them and hope that they will receive Jesus many more times in their lives.

A reminder that tonight, May 20, there is a compulsory meeting for the parents of all those wishing to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation this year, 7:30pm at Chisholm. There will also be a second chance tomorrow night at St Matthew’s if you are unable to attend tonight.

Chisholm Day will be celebrated on Friday, 30th May. We will be honoured with the presence of Don Chisholm, Caroline Chisholm’s great, great grandson. Parents are invited to the Mass at 10am, followed by the presentation of the Chisholm Day Awards. Our students will have a fun day of colonial games with a hot dog lunch. Sports uniform is to be worn for the day.

Maree McMahon – Acting Religious Education Co-ordinator

* Parish Mass is Celebrated each Sunday morning at 9 30am in the Chisholm MPA. All families are welcome.

**WE ARE A RESPECTFUL LEARNING COMMUNITY…**

As a respectful learning community, there are procedures for you to go through when you or your children are needing help.

Michelle, Denise and Julie in the Office are the first people to see (or talk to on the phone) if you need to get a message to your child or if you need to speak to your child’s teacher. They will ask the reason for your call so that as much information can be given to the teacher so that their reply is prompt and accurate. Please assist by being honest and respectful with our Office staff so that they can help you and your child. They will let the teachers know promptly. Try not to use the office as a message service to return homework, reading or library books as this is your child’s responsibility.

Request an interview with your child’s teacher if there is a problem with your child’s learning or if there are serious friendship problems. They will make an appointment to speak with you at a time when they can give your problem the full attention it deserves. That is why our policy and the policy of all schools is not to expect one on one attention at the classroom door at the beginning or end of the day. The teacher has the responsibility of the supervision and learning of all the children in the class at this time. If there is an urgent message you need to give the teacher, let the office staff know. They will tell the teacher. Teachers will phone parents at their earliest convenience in response to messages.

If parents request to see the Stage Leader, Mr Emanuel or Miss Byrne we will always ask if you have contacted the teacher first. This is for the very practical reason that the classroom teacher is the one who makes the most difference to your child. However we are happy to help you if difficulties prove to be more complex. Our aim is always to work together with you to get a positive outcome for the children at school.

If you are contacting your child’s teacher in writing, please state the matters you would like to discuss. Please raise matters with respect and with honesty. Open, honest dialogue will always benefit the children.

Sincere thanks for your ongoing support.
The student Social Justice Team have been researching and investigating the topic of homelessness during term 2. They have registered with St Vincent De Paul as a “Mini Vinnies” group and have decided that they will lead the school in supporting the 2014 St Vincent de Paul Winter Appeal.

A whole school Mufti Day will be held on Friday 13th June and students can support the appeal with a gold coin donation that will go towards buying new blankets for local families.

Any family who would like to purchase a new blanket and make a donation to the appeal can do so at the school office. All donations will be greatly appreciated.

WINTER APPEAL SLEEPOUT – YR6

On Friday 13th June, the Social Justice Team will be supporting the 2014 Winter Appeal with a winter sleep out. Year 6 students will be invited to participate as a way of increasing their awareness of the homeless in our community and our country.

Details of the event will be sent home in coming weeks.

PARENT TEACHER INTERVIEWS

This term parent teacher interviews are scheduled for week 9.

Parents will have the opportunity to book appointments on line as we trial a new electronic school interview process.

Our aim is to streamline and simplify the appointment booking process for both parents and teachers.

In coming weeks a letter detailing the process will be sent to parents to explain the easy steps involved.

We look forward to working together to make this process a success.

UNIFORM CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations go to the parents for presenting your children so beautifully in their winter school uniforms. Your support in this area reinforces the concepts of self-respect and school pride.

Wearing the correct school uniform promotes a sense of belonging to our school community. During the colder weather, children are requested to wear the correct school jackets and sloppy joes.

Maroon or grey scarves, gloves and beanies may be worn in cold weather but parents are asked to not allow multi-coloured items. (These items are not stocked in the uniform shop.)

If you have any concerns with uniforms, please let your class teacher know. The uniform shop is open every Monday and Friday morning as well as Friday afternoon.

Thanks for your on-going support.

Belinda Ross - Uniform Shop Coordinator

THE ENVIRONMENT TEAM ~ TRASH FREE TUESDAY

Just a reminder from the Environment Team that TRASH FREE TUESDAY will continue in term 2.

We encourage you to bring containers instead of packets, gladwrap and foil. We need to reduce our rubbish as well as recycle to help our environment.

The Environment Team

Congratulations to the following students who celebrate their birthday over the next two weeks:


Caroline Chisholm Day

Friday 30th May

Canteen MEAL DEAL...!

All orders need to be written on lunch bags clearly marked …

“Chisholm Hot Dog & Drink Day”

* with the child’s name and class

AND * the number of Hot Dogs being ordered (each hot dog requires a separate paper bag) Thanks.

All orders need to be placed at the Canteen BEFORE Wednesday 28th May, any queries please contact me at the canteen. Thank you.

CANTEEN NEWS

Canteen Co-ordinator

Sandra Goldsborough

ATHLETICS CARNIVAL

The Primary 3-6 Carnival is fast approaching. Friday 20th June week 8. Trials for field events such as Long Jump, Shot Put and Discus have begun during sports lessons. Finalists will be announced during week 8. Good luck to all involved.

BEDE POLDING COLLEGE

A reminder that completed enrolment applications for Year 7 2015 for Bede Polding College must be returned to the College no later than Friday 30 May 2014.

Enrolment forms are available at the College Office.

Lisa Casey - Bede Polding College
For some great tips in helping your children with their Maths homework, check out the School A to Z website. It has lots of great ideas that connect with much of what we’re using here at school.

Addition (+) and subtraction (-)
mental strategies (doing maths in your head)

We teach children a range of different ways to add and subtract numbers. We want them to look for patterns and use them as much as they can. We want them to have good number sense – an understanding of how and why different ways to add and subtract work well.

The goal is for them to be able to do it in their head in a way that makes sense to them.

To develop number sense, students learn:

| Counting on and counting back | 14 + 3 … start at 14, then count on to 17 ie 15, 16, 17. 12 − 3 … start at 12 then count back to 9, ie 11, 10, 9. |
| To bridge to 10 | Find the nearest 10 eg 17 + 5; 17 and 3 is 20 and add 2 more |
| To pull numbers apart | 5 = 2 + 3 so 8 + 5 = (8 + 2) + 3 = 13 24 = 20 + 4 so 66 + 24 = (66 + 4) + 20 = 90 |
| Addition facts to 10 | 0 + 10, 1 + 9, 2 + 8, 3 + 7, 4 + 6, 5 + 5 |
| Doubles | 1 + 1, 2 + 2, 3 + 3, 4 + 4 |
| Doubles + 1 | 1 + 2, 2 + 3, 3 + 4, 4 + 5 |
| Splitting numbers into 10s and ones | 62 = 6 tens and 2 ones |
| Counting up in 10s | eg 5, 15, 25, 35, 45 or 2, 12, 22, 32 etc for 58 + 30 start at 58, then think 68, 78, 88 |
| Counting down in 10s | eg 97, 87, 77, 67, 57 for 85 – 40 start at 85, then think 75, 65, 55, 45 |
| Easy combinations that add up to 10 | 5 + 4 + 9 + 1 + 6 = 5 + (4 + 6) + (9 + 1) |
| Easy combinations that add up to 50, 75 and 100 | 45 + 80 + 55 + 20 = (80 + 20) + (45 + 55) = 200 |
| You can add in any order but not subtract in any order | 36 + 45 = 45 + 36 but 76 − 32 = 32 − 76 |

These mental strategies are a great way for you children to develop a more conceptual understanding of addition and subtraction. We don’t always want our students to rely on an algorithm to solve problems, and these strategies are highly effective in everyday situations.

It’s also important to remember that we can use a range of strategies to solve problems, and that every thinker is different.

We are safe, honest, respectful learners!