



Holy Rosary Primary School

LOOK TO THE STAR

Your fortnightly newsletter



18 November 2011

FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK



“Peace on earth will come to stay, when we live Christmas every day.”

~Helen Steiner Rice~

It's hard to believe that this is the last newsletter of the year and that the year is almost over. The senior girls have settled down to write the end of year exams, the last opportunity to show how much they have learned this year, whilst the staff are putting in extra hours getting through all that still needs to be done before the close of school on 30 November.

This has been an eventful year where our girls have excelled both in the classroom as well as out. We are extremely pleased and proud of their achievements and know that they can only get better as they continue with a positive and determined attitude and are encouraged and supported by both the school and home.

I wish to thank everyone who has contributed in any way to the school's success and wish you and your families a blessed Christmas season and rich blessings for the New Year.

THE MEANING OF CHRISTMAS

Christmas is for joy, for giving and sharing, for laughter, for coming together with family and friends, for tinsel and brightly decorated packages... But mostly, Christmas is for love. It was

this love for which Jesus came to this world and sacrificed his life.

Though originated by the Roman Catholics who commemorate the December 25th as the day of the birth of the Christ Child, it has gradually come to be celebrated by the non-Catholics as well.

Thus Christmas is a celebration of love and mirth symbolized by the Nativity, the Santa, the caribou, the poinsettia and the evergreens. It is a commemoration of the birth of Christ Child. And this is the spirit that makes Christmas so popular throughout the world.

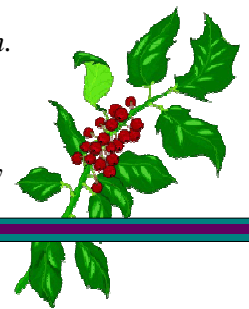
CHRISTMAS TRADITIONS



St. Nicholas was a Christian priest, who later became a bishop. He was a very kind man and always helped the poor and the needy. He loved children greatly and gave gifts to them. He became the gift giver of Myra. He was a rich person, and travelled the country helping people, giving gifts of money and other presents. His gifts were given

late at night, so that the gift giver's identity would remain a secret. St. Nicholas did not like to be seen when he gave away presents, so the children of the day were told to go to sleep quickly or he would not come! St Nicholas was eventually named the patron saint of children.

A popular Christmas plant is the Holly. The plant with its shiny green prickly leaves and red berry



has come to stand for peace and joy. People often settle arguments under a holly tree. Holly was the sacred plant of Saturn and was

used at the Roman Saturnalia festival to honour him. Romans gave one another holly wreaths and carried them about decorating images of Saturn with it. Centuries later, in December, while other Romans continued their pagan worship, Christians celebrated the birth of Jesus. To avoid persecution, they decked their homes with Saturnalia holly. As Christian numbers increased and their customs prevailed, holly lost its pagan association and became a symbol of Christmas.

The legend of the **poinsettia** comes from Mexico. It tells of a girl named Maria and her little brother Pablo. They were very poor but always looked forward to the Christmas festival. Each year a large manger scene was set up in the village church, and the days before Christmas were filled with parades and parties. The two children loved Christmas but were always saddened because they had no money to buy presents. They especially wished that they could give something to the church for the Baby Jesus. But they had nothing.



One Christmas Eve, Maria and Pablo set out for church to attend the service. On their way they picked some weeds growing along the roadside and decided to take them as their gift to the Baby Jesus in the manger scene. Of course they were teased by other children when they arrived with their gift, but they said nothing for they knew they had given what they could. Maria and Pablo began placing the green plants around the manger and miraculously, the green top leaves turned into bright red petals, and soon the manger was surrounded by beautiful star-like flowers and so we see them today.



I de Oliveira

DATES TO DIARISE:

Wed, 23 Nov:

Fri, 25 Nov: Pre-Primary
Christmas Party 09:00
JP Fun Day at
Shanahan

Mon, 28 Nov: JP Theatre Day.
Foundation Phase (Gr 1-3) Prizegiving and Nativity Service 17:30 at St Benedict's sports hall.

Tue, 29 Nov: SP Fun Day at Shanahan
SP Prizegiving (Gr 4-7) and Carol Service 17:30 at St Benedict's sports hall.

Wed, 30 Nov: End of Year Mass 07:45 (Whole School)
Grade 7 Final Assembly
School closes:
Gr R-3: 11:00
Gr 4-7: 11:30

2012

Tue, 10 Jan: Registration Day between 07:30 and 08:30

Wed, 11 Jan: First day of school 07:40

PRAYERS FOR:

- Daniella Rudolph (Gr 6L), Dominique Webb (Gr 1M) and Kelly Webb (Gr 6B) whose Grandfather is ill.
- Gabriella de Stefano (Gr 5D) whose Gran is not well.
- Mrs Fitzpatrick whose sister-in-law has cancer.
- Courtney MacIntosh (Gr 5D) and Shannon (MacIntosh Gr 1M) whose Great Granny is not well.
- Ms Noreen Ngwenya (Zulu teacher) whose nephew in Zimbabwe is seriously ill.

Grade 7 Farewell Mass & Tea 07:45

CONDOLENCES

- Lara Esteves (Gr 1M) and Kiana da Silva (Gr 0H) whose Granny passed away.

- Amy Law (Gr 5J) whose Great Aunt died from cancer.
- Savannah de Abreu (Gr 4S) whose Uncle died in Ballito.
- Insha (Gr 3P) and Iman (Gr 5V) Rai whose Grandfather passed away.
- Kelly (Gr 5J) and Tayla (Gr 7C) Marcel whose Uncle passed away.

Please remember all those in our Holy Rosary family who are in need or suffering in any way.

SCHOOL TERM AND SCHOOL TIMES

Term 1, 2012:

Tue, 10 Jan Registration Day between 07:30 and 08:30

Open: Wednesday, 11 January

Closes: Wednesday, 4 April

Mid-term: Close Thursday, 23 February (early closing times)
Open Tuesday, 28 February

Public Holiday: Wednesday, 21 March (Human Rights Day)

School opening times: 7:40

School closing times:

Gr R: Mon – Fri: 13:00

Gr 1 - 2: Mon-Thurs: 13:30
Fri: 13:00

Gr 3: Mon-Thurs: 14:05
Fri: 13:00

Gr 4 – 7: Mon – Thurs: 14:05
Fri: 13:35

Early closing times:

Gr R – 3: 11:00

Gr 4 - 7: 11:30

RECEPTION YEAR NEWS

We are so proud of our girls that swam like stars at our Gala on 7th November. It

was lovely to see so much support from their parents.



We had a wonderful New Children's Party on Saturday, 12th November. The parents were treated to a feast. Thanks for all of the delicious eats.

Here are a few reminders for the remaining weeks of the year:

- We will be going on an outing to the Mighty Jungle on **Wednesday, 23rd November**. Please send a picnic lunch and one Barbie or Bratz doll.
- We are looking forward to our Christmas Party on **Friday, 25th November**. The girls may wear civvies and Santa is coming at 9am. All parents are welcome to join us. The girls may leave with you at the end of the day but **Group One** pottery will still take place from 12:00 to 12:30.
- We will be playing in the mud on **Monday, 28th November**. Please send mud cloths to school.
- Please send an empty beer box for all of your daughters art work.

- Thank you for all the donations for our assistant teachers. We would like to give them their hampers at the Christmas Party.
- School closes at **11:00** on **Wednesday, 30th November.** Reports will be issued on this day.

CHRISTMAS

Advent, the period during which we prepare to welcome the infant Jesus at Christmas, commences on Sunday, 27 November. Please share this poem with your girls as it comprehensively describes the events of the Annunciation and Nativity and it epitomises the true meaning of Christmas Day.

A CHRISTMAS STORY

*A long time ago in Israel
Began the story that we now tell.
Mary, a maiden young and fair
Was talking to God one day in prayer
When He sent His angel to that place
And the angel said "Hail Mary, full of grace
The Lord is with thee, I'm sent to ask
If you will please fulfil the task
Of being mother to God's own son."
Said Mary, who loved God – "Your will be done."
She began to prepare for the coming event
To welcome the baby whom God would send.*

*A few months later the emperor of Rome
Said every family was to go home
To the town where they came from and
Write down their name.
Joseph and Mary from Bethlehem came,
So they set out to make the long journey there
And Joseph helped with most tender care.*

*They came to Bethlehem late in the day
And stopped to enquire at each inn on the way
For a place to eat and a place to rest
But all were full up from the worst to the best.
Eventually when they were near to despair
They found an old stable, cold and bare.*

Mary lay down on a bed of hay

*And the night seemed suddenly as bright as day
For angels were everywhere praising and singing
And it seemed as if thousands of bells were ringing.
For God's own Son was born that night
To bring peace to earth and make all things right.*

*A star shone above in the midnight sky
And shepherds awoke and wondered why
Till angels appeared and called out to them
To come and adore the babe of Bethlehem.
Three eastern wise men also came from afar
And travelled to Bethlehem led by the star*

*They brought with them gifts to offer the King.
Now we too our offerings to Him want to bring.
We give you ourselves,
Please take us, please do,
For in making You happy, we'll be happy too.*

*To everyone, in every place
Of every colour and every race
The Christmas message of love and joy
Is a sign of hope to each girl and boy.*

Wishing you all a blessed and joyous Christmas.

Mrs M Fitzpatrick
HOD: Religious Education

SPORTS NEWS

Tennis Results from Thursday, 3 Nov v APPS

The A tennis team won 43-38
The B tennis team lost 28-35

The overall result HRS lost 71-73

Swimming Results from Friday, 4 Nov 2011

The A team swam at Home and finished 5th.

The B and C team participated in a Gala at St David's. The B team finished 3rd and the C team 7th

Swimming Results from Wednesday, 9 Nov 2011

We swam at APPS in the Foundation Phase Annual gala. Our little ones participated with great enthusiasm and finished a commendable 4th.

In the evening our Senior Primary girls participated in the St Stithian's Annual Night Gala and we were placed 6th.

Swimming Results from 11 November:

We hosted a Gala on Friday, 11th Nov at Holy Rosary School and the results were as follows:

- 1st HRS 93 points
- 2nd St Andrews 90.5 points
- 3rd St Katherine's 80.5 points
- 4th St Mary's 68 points
- 5th Assumption Convent 28 points

The A team swam at St Stithian's and the results were as follows;

- 1st St Stithian's Girls 146 points
- 2nd St Mary's 118 points
- 3rd Brescia 100 points
- 4th St Andrew's 94 points
- 5th APPS 90 points
- 6th Kingsmead 71 points
- 7th HRS 53 points

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FORMS

Please note these forms are available from the Finance Office.

HRS CARRY BAGS

A number of enquiries have been made about the HRS carry bags for grades 4-7. Please note that the cost of these bags is included in next year's levy. Our girls will receive them in the first week of the new year.

PA RAFFLE

The class that collected the most money is Mrs O'Leary's class and they had a delicious pizza lunch on Tuesday.

Guguletho Mayisela and Erin Curtis (both from Gr 1L) are the children that collected the most money and they received R300.00.

The Wings meat hamper was won by Mr or Mrs vd Westhuizen who bought a ticket from Gia Dearlove in 3R.

The Cremelat hamper was won by Sarah Batchelder in 3L.

The Prawns voucher was won by Karen Hunt.

We collected approximately R28 000.00 in total. Thank you to our very generous sponsors.

TUCKSHOP NEWS

It is with great sadness that I must say goodbye after 7 wonderful years at Holy Rosary. I would like to thank all the teachers, parents and girls for their help and support. A special thanks to the wonderful team of mothers who helped so faithfully in the Tuckshop. I would also like to wish you all a very Blessed Christmas and everything of the best for 2012.

Regards
Jennifer Weitz

ADVERTS

HOLY ROSARY AFTERCARE CENTRE DECEMBER HOLIDAY PROGRAMME

We will be running a Christmas Holiday Programme from the 1st – 9th December from 7:30 to 17:00 daily (half day fetching between 12:30 and 13:00). A variety of fun Christmas crafts and activities will be on offer. Children are to bring costumes, caps and towels as well as bikes and scooters. Limited space is available and preference is given to aftercare girls, so book early to avoid disappointment. Phone 011 453 -0071 to book your child in and get details.

Bizzy Bodeez

Date	Morning activity	Afternoon activity
1.12	Christmas Centerpieces	Christmas Pop Idols
2.12	Creative Father Christmas	Music and games
5.12	Father Christmas serviette rings	Christmas tree angel
6.12	All I want for Christmas is...	Christmas big screen movie
7.12	Rudolph paper bag puppet	Willow wreaths
8.12	Baking – Christmas trees	Christmas puzzle
9.12	Christmas colouring in competition	Swimming Christmas Party

Cost: Aftercare girls

R65 half day; R 90 full day

Other HRS girls

R 75 half day; R 100 full day
(space permitting)

LINCOLN BROS – 011 448 1497/8/9 or 071 896 1320

We do Piano Hire: Private & Functions, New & Used Sales, Repairs, Re-polish / Re-spraying, Servicing, Tuning, Concert Tuning, Castor Cups, Castors, Piano Covers, Piano Trolleys, Transport & Crating of Pianos.

TUTOR

I am a qualified Teacher who has been teaching for 10 years, with remedial experience. I am doing extra lessons every afternoon from 2 till 8pm.
I also do group sessions focusing on study skills, comprehension skills. I also do one on one tutoring at an hourly rate of R150.

Please contact Shireen on 082 926 9002

“Christmas Gift” Craft Workshops for Primary School Children

Run by Mrs. Moura & Mrs. Pullen

- ❖ R100 per day or R450 per week (paid in advance)
- ❖ 9:00-12.30
- ❖ D & T Classroom

Bring a packed lunch and painting T-shirt

5 December: Photo Frames (we will be taking photos)

6 December: Candle & matchbox holder

7 December: Photo Mobilz- Bring 6 photos

8 December: Christmas tree

9 December: You can choose a gift to make

SMS to book: 074 700 7452

Please enter through Viner Road gate only.

CREATIVE ARTS

The gift is in our hands



*“Christmas and Holiday” Arts
workshop for Primary School Children. Run by
Liesl Collard*

* R100.00 per day paid in advance

* 9:00-12:30

*At my home – Contact 0832122158 –
SMS to book.

Bring a packed lunch and painting T Shirt –
aprons are provided. Juice provided.

12 December – Serviette Art – Christmas Glass
Snack Bowl

13 December - Decoupage – Christmas Box
Wooden

14 December – Fabric Painting – Christmas
Overlay

15 December – Christmas Cards visiting Scrapppers
Village

Christmas baking course 5-9dec from 9-12am
incl lunch.R150per day. Contact Stef on
dilembo@iburst.co.za

JUKEBOXES

- Attractive wood cabinet
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E-mail: sales@laxtongroup.com
Website: www.laxtongroup.com

TENNIS COACHING AND ROUND ROBIN

Des Ward will be holding a Mini-Tennis Coaching Clinic on 5&6 December and again on 12&13 December from 09:00 – 10:00. This will take place at the Italian Club for children 4-8 years old and will cost R250 per child.

He will hold a Junior Tennis Round Robin from 5-8 December and again from 12-15 December from 08:30 – 11:00. This will take place at the Italian Club in the following age groups: Under 8/10/12/14. The cost is R300 per week.

Contact Des Ward on 082 748 0641 to book.



***** NEW accessory to your sports kit! 1st time at Holy Rosary!*****

How many times have you sat on cold/wet stands at sports functions and wished that you had something softer to sit on? Now you can! These cushions are light and easy to carry! Only R50 each! Order yours now!

Holy Rosary Sports Cushion Order Form

Childs Name: _____

Grade/Class: _____

No. of cushions at R50 each: _____

Total: _____

Contact number: _____

Please attach exact amount to your order.

Please contact 083 332 0642 / 072 088 8088 for any queries

Thank you for your support!
HRS PA Fund Raising Committee

**Please note: This newsletter may also be viewed on our website:
www.holyrosaryschool.za**