

Dear Parents and Friends of Holy Rosary

*Joy does not arrive with a fanfare,
on a red carpet strewn with the flowers of a perfect life.
Joy sneaks in as you pour a cup of coffee, watching the sun hit
your favourite tree just right.
And you usher joy away cause you are not ready for it
Your house is not as it must be for such a distinguished guest,
but joy cares nothing for your messy home, or your bank balance
or your waistline.
You see, joy is supposed to slither through the cracks of your
imperfect life.
That's how joy works
You cannot invite her. You can only be ready when she appears and hug her with meaning
because in this very moment,
joy chose you.*



Donna Ashworth

Thank you Volunteers!



Fortnight at a glance

Friday 1 December	Year 6 Big Day Out
Thursday 7 December 2 - 4pm	Carols
Monday 11 December 9am	Parents Coffee Catch Up

Holy Rosary School is committed to the safety, wellbeing and protection of all children in our care.

Important Dates	
Tuesday 12 December 9am	Volunteers' Morning Tea
Tuesday 12 December	Step Up Day
Thursday 14 December 7pm	Year 6 Graduation Dinner
Friday 15 December	Last Day for Students, ends at 1 pm

For Your 2024 Calendar...

2024	
Monday 29 January	Staff return. Office opens
Tuesday 30 January 8:45 -12:00	Preps start Tuesday
Tuesday 30 January 9:00 – 11:00	Come and Meet My Teacher Session
Wednesday 31 January	P – 6 students attend
Wednesday 7 February	Prep RDO 1
Wednesday 14 February	Prep RDO 2
Wednesday 21 February	Prep RDO 3
Wednesday 28 February	Prep RDO 4
Wednesday 6 March	Prep RDO 5
Monday 11 March	Labour Day
Thursday 28 March 1 pm	Term 1 finishes
Monday 15 April	Term 2 begins
Thursday 25 April	ANZAC Day
Friday 26 April	Student Free Day
Friday 28 June 1 pm	Term 2 finishes
Monday 15 July	Term 3 begins
Sunday 11 August 2pm	Confirmation at Holy Rosary Church
Friday 20 September 1 pm	Term 3 finishes
Monday 7 October	Term 4 begins
Monday 4 November	Student Free Day
Tuesday 5 November	Melbourne Cup Day
Tuesday 17 December 1 pm	Term 4 finishes

* Student Free Days for curriculum 1 per term TBA

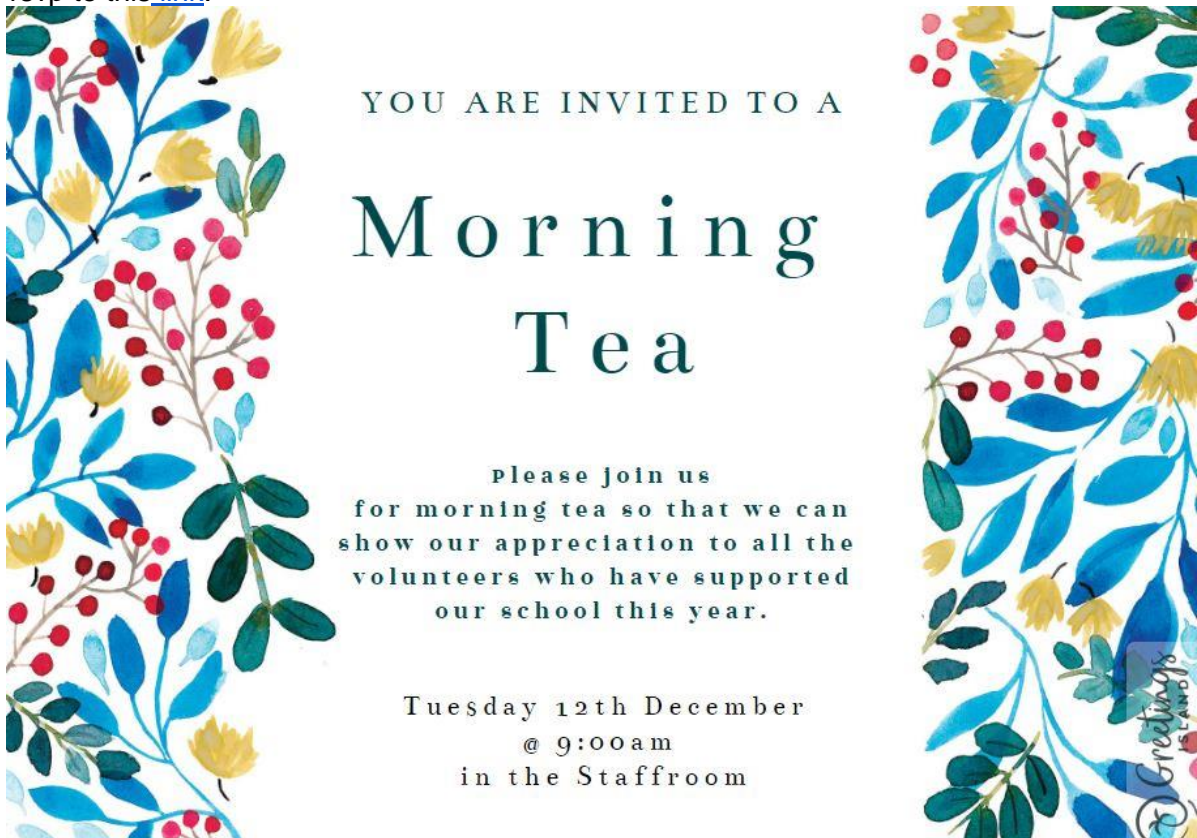
* Eucharist and Reconciliation TBA



Volunteers' Morning Tea

We are very fortunate to have many wonderful volunteers at Holy Rosary. To show our appreciation for your efforts in the many ways you support our school, we invite you to share morning tea with us on Tuesday 12 December at 9:00am. An invitation is in this newsletter and on Facebook.

Please rsvp to this [link](#).



Share the Joy

Our beautiful Holy Rosary tradition of providing Christmas Hampers is continuing again this year. You are invited to join us in supporting our parish's St Vincent de Paul group, by donating festive food to make Christmas hampers. The Kensington Vinnies group will distribute the hampers to needy families in our neighbourhood. This act of kindness will provide families, not only with some tasty food for the Christmas season, but also with a sense that someone cares. Let's shine our Holy Rosary light brightly to those in our local community!



Families, please use this opportunity to speak with your children about the spirit of giving. You could encourage them to be part of the process by giving up some of their money or treat foods, to purchase something special for our hampers. Alternatively, they could do extra jobs around home to earn money to buy food.

Prep - Year 2	Year 3/4	Year 5/6
Christmas cake Chocolates Longlife custard Fruit mince pies Shortbread Jelly crystals	Tinned ham (no SPAM) Savoury biscuits Packet of chips Cranberry or mint sauce Sachets of gravy	Christmas pudding Hand lotion Christmas decoration Confectionery stocking Packet of lollies



Here's what to do:

1. purchase the item
2. your child can deliver to their classroom (no need to wrap)
3. Year 5/6 students collect items and prepare the hampers

Hats

Please ensure your child has a school hat. It is not appropriate to be wearing caps or other hats, particularly when representing the school on excursions. Our school hat also provides optimal coverage from the sun.

Parent Teacher Interviews

In response to family feedback we will be holding our Parent Teacher Interviews at the conclusion of Term 1 in 2024. Reports will still be issued at the conclusion of Term 2 and Term 4.

Fees

We thank families who have paid their fees in full or have organised a direct debit to cover their fees. As a not for profit, these payments are critical to our operation.

Some families are yet to pay school fees for this year. If you are not able to meet this commitment, it is expected that you make contact with Christine to discuss a payment plan. We will always assist families in financial need.

Child Safe Standards

Holy Rosary School is mandated to uphold the Child Safe Standards, introduced by the Victorian Government in 2022. We strive to ensure that we follow best practice in each of the eleven Standards. The infographic below is a "plain language" summary of the Standards.



Feedback from Production

Thank you for your feedback about our school production. The big takeaways were in relation to the sound, ensuring the visibility of all children and the dismissal process. Some comments were also made in relation to children holding multiple roles. This occurred in some cases because children were absent but mostly because insufficient 5/6 children were interested in taking on a main role.

Healthy Family Series

Last Thursday was the third and final instalment in the **Healthy Families Series** of webinars. Our school now has access to the replay for the next 30 days:

Tackling Tricky Conversations - A Guide for Parents & Carers

Presenter: Carley McGauran (psychologist & parent)

Link: <https://youtu.be/MyW946ZsSo8>

(Available to view until 17 December)

Links

School Website

<https://www.hrkensington.catholic.edu.au/>

School Facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100046520094177>

Parish News

You can access our Parish newsletter [here](#).

Mass and Assembly Schedule

Assembly: Mondays <i>Assembly begins at 2:50 in the Hall. Bags packed and lined up in class lines area. Parents are most welcome to join us.</i>			Mass: Fridays <i>Mass begins at 9:15am. Classes should be seated by 9:10am. Parents are most welcome to join us.</i>	
Term 4 Assembly and Mass Schedule				
Date	Class		Date	Class
27 November	5/6		1 December	3/4W
4 December	Prep		8 December	3/4S
11 December	N/A		15th December Time to be advised	P-6

Maths Olympiad

Congratulations to our Year Five and Sixes on their participation in this year's Maths Olympiad. The children committed to training each week before completing a competition consisting of five challenging tasks. These competitions took place four times over the year. We are very proud of children and their commitment to this challenge. We also congratulate Ethan Schafer for placing in the Top 10 percentile of the state, Jay Nyguen for placing in the top 25 percentile of the state and Marcus Colosimo for his encouragement award.



Sarah, Mathematics Leader



Wellbeing








At Holy Rosary School all children and families are expected to be Wellbeing Warriors who look after the safety and wellbeing of themselves and others

I'm sure you don't need any reminders, but Christmas is fast approaching! As much as Christmas is a time for joy, love, peace and kindness, it isn't always this way for everyone. Unfortunately, there will always be people in our lives going through a hard time and with everything that is happening in our world right now, we need joy, peace and kindness more than ever.

During Advent we ready ourselves for the birth of Christ. There are various practices that we perform as part of this preparation, including lighting Advent candles, setting up the Nativity and opening Advent calendars.

As Catholics and being a Mercy school, we encourage our kids to think about others during the season of Advent. In classes, rather than opening chocolate Advent calendars, students might make a calendar with acts of kindness for each day. Our Mercy tradition calls us to act in service of others and Christmas provides the perfect opportunity for us all to think of others before ourselves.

Below is a Calendar of Connection. This comes from [the R U OK website](https://www.ruok.org.au/) and provides ideas of how you can reach out to others during December. The idea of this calendar is to reach out to people around us who might find Christmas time particularly hard. They may be going through something in their personal life or they might just need an ear to listen. You can click on the image to find a printable version of this calendar. As a family, you could talk about people you know who might need some support or extra love around this time and work your way through the activities to show them that they're not alone.

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
 Calendar of connection				1 Grab a cuppa and have a chat with someone you know who has had a tough year.	2	3 Ask someone who has experienced loss this year how they'd like to acknowledge it over the holidays.
4 	5 Organise a Kris Kringle featuring handmade gifts or acts of kindness.	6	7 Extend an invitation to someone who will be alone this Christmas.	8 	9 Organise a picnic to bring people together and connect.	10
11 Team up with friends to volunteer at a local organisation.	12	13 Check in with a colleague before they go on break.	14	15 Think about who in your world might be finding this time difficult and ask them, 'Are you OK?'	16	17 Have a virtual catch up with someone you can't see in person.
18	19 Drop off a meal for a friend or family member.	20 	21 Suggest a 'walk and talk' with someone you know who usually finds the holidays tough.	22	23 Remind your friends that helplines, such as Lifeline (13 11 14), are operating 24/7 over the holidays.	24 
25 Send a text to let someone know you're thinking of them.	26 	27 Check in with a friend who's been struggling to see how they're tracking.	28	29 Ask a friend who's working over the holiday period how you can support them.	30 	31 Suggest a device break and head outdoors with a friend for some fresh air.

Find more connection tips at [ruok.org.au](https://www.ruok.org.au)

'Tis the season to be asking
RUOK?™

Book of the Week



What Do You Wish For? By [Jane Godwin](#) and [Anna Walker](#), is a beautiful and simple book about a community who are preparing for Christmas. One little girl in particular, Ruby, loves the spirit of the community, how they work together and are there for each other. That's what her wish for Christmas is. This story is a lovely way to talk about what we would like at Christmas for the people in our lives or the people in our community who may need support, love, joy, peace and kindness. We have a copy of this in our library if you would like to read it.

Holy Rosary Positive Behaviour for Learning

Every child has the right to learn and every teacher has the right to teach.

Congratulations to the PBL winners from last week: Easton (Yr 1), Lea (Yr 4) and Eva (Yr 6). Well done!

Holy Rosary Positive Behaviour for Learning Lesson Plan for Positive Dispositions for Learning	
Step 1: List Learning Intentions and Success Criteria	
We are learning to: explain what dispositions help me to be a responsible learner and what I can do to develop those dispositions.	
What it looks like: It will look like students listing learning dispositions and explaining what they mean, what they look like and how we can use them in the classroom.	
Step 2: List a rationale for teaching the behaviour Why is it important?	
Holy Rosary School Values: Relationships, Respect, Resilience, Integrity, Kindness (highlight relevant values) Holy Rosary School Expectations: Safety is our right. Learning is our responsibility. Respect is our way. (highlight)	
Learning dispositions are innately in all of us, some more so than others. For example, I might be really good at bouncing back from adversity or have a positive belief in my abilities to do things well and successfully. If some of my dispositions are not as strong as others, I can practise them to make them stronger. We need to use our learning dispositions to be the best learners we can be. That includes at school, at home and in other areas of life.	
Step 3: Identify examples and non-examples of the desired behaviour	
What would the behaviour look/sound like?	What would the behaviour not look/sound like?
Examples	Non-examples
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Believing in your ability to do well as a learner• Has a growth mindset that if they can do something yet, with practise they can• Bounces back quickly from challenges (at school with friends or school work, or difficulties at home)• Being flexible and able to adapt to challenging situations• Persevering when things get hard• Trying again if you don't succeed at first• Trying new things even if they seem hard or challenging	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Believing that you can't do things or that you are not a good learner• Having a fixed mindset• Not getting over challenges or problems that you encounter with friends or with school work• Being very rigid or stubborn and not trying things in a different way or thinking creatively about problems• Giving up when tasks get too hard• Asking for help straight away rather than trying again or trying in a different way• Not trying new things when they appear even slightly challenging



Michaela, Student Wellbeing Leader/Antoinette, Learning Diversity Leader

Music News - What has been going on in Music this term...

Production

This term, students have worked hard on their year level production songs. We practised the dance choreography, singing and dance formations. Students did a superb job at learning the lyrics, melody and dance so quickly and accurately, and they performed so well on the night. Once again, well done!

Class Concert

Students had the chance to perform for classmates, teachers and parents during class concerts. We had a variety of performances including guitar, drums, piano, singing and ukulele. Class concerts are a great opportunity for students to develop stage confidence, and for students to develop a love for music.

Ukuleles

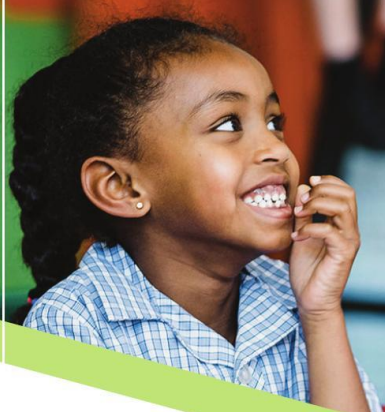
Students have been learning the ukulele during music classes recently. Ukuleles are great instruments to learn as they are light, portable and fun, and can be used to accompany many different songs. Prep students have been learning how to hold the ukulele using the correct posture, and learning how to play the C major chord. Year 1/2 students have started playing simple songs using C major and Am chords, and are working on how to transition between these two chords smoothly. Year 3/4s are learning C, Am and F major chords and using these songs to accompany short songs. Year 5/6s are working on how to not only transition between basic chords on the ukulele smoothly, but also how to add expression to their playing through dynamic and tempo changes.

Carols

Each year level has chosen their carols/song, and we have started practising them during Music. We worked together as a team during our lessons to come up with creative dance moves, and spent time learning the lyrics and melody.



Zoe, Music teacher



ENROLMENT 2024

Holy Rosary School
Phone 9376 9455
To book a Tour

GIVE YOUR CHILD THE BEST START

We are an inclusive Catholic school where students are celebrated for the gifts they bring, and their strengths are applauded. Holy Rosary students are warm, friendly and welcoming. They make the most of learning opportunities and demonstrate an ever increasing range of interests and passions.

- Founded by the Mercy Sisters
- Specialist classes in Science, Music, Japanese, Art and Physical Education
- Student Leadership
- Instrumental Tuition
- Camps Yr 3 -6

- Speech, Drama and Chess Tuition
- Science Fair - Awarded Peter Craig Science Award (2019, 2020)
- Musical Production
- Positive Behaviour for Learning
- Prep Induction Program
- Sacramental Preparation

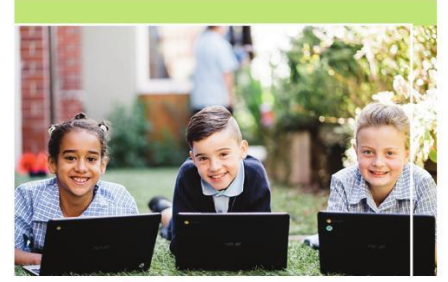
- Art Show
- Library
- Outside School Hours Program
- Excursions and Incursions
- Reduced Fees for Health Care Card Holders
- One to one Laptops Yr 3-6

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Our School Vision

We are a dynamic and inclusive Catholic learning community called to service through our Mercy tradition. We nurture students to be engaged, passionate and successful learners who grow and feel connected in a contemporary world.

Our School Values

Living Our Values The Holy Rosary Way

Inspired by Jesus...

- We foster quality *Relationships*
- We are people of *Integrity*
- We show *Resilience* in times of adversity
- We *Respect* ourselves, others and our environment
- We respond with *Kindness* through our words and actions.



Shining with Mercy Spirit

For more information please visit our website:

www.hrkensington.catholic.edu.au

Connect with us via



Many hands make light work!



HOLY ROSARY SOCIAL & FUNDRAISING GROUP

RUN BY PARENT AND CARER VOLUNTEERS

Without new volunteers each year, the Holy Rosary Social & Fundraising Group would not be able to continue to create opportunities for engagement within our school community.



EVERYONE IS WELCOME

Whether you're a seasoned committee member, or have never organised an event in your life, you can bring new skills and ideas to the group. We meet formally once per term.

WE ORGANISE AND RUN A WIDE RANGE OF EVENTS

An annual Mother's Day Stall and Disco, a biennial Family Fun Day and Trivia Night, plus BBQs, raffles, social events and more!



OPPORTUNITIES FOR DIFFERENT ROLES

Don't want to lead a project? No problem! Be a part of the project subcommittee, use your networking skills, design marketing material, or volunteer some time at the event.

NOMINATED POSITIONS

The Holy Rosary Social & Fundraising Group has a Chair +/- Co-Chair, and Secretary, plus general members. Treasurer duties are undertaken by the school's Bursar.



SUPPORTED & INTEGRATED

The Holy Rosary Social & Fundraising Group is supported by the School Advisory Council (SAC). The Chair of the group also sits on the SAC.

**IF YOU'D LIKE TO GET INVOLVED,
OR TO FIND OUT MORE,
PLEASE EMAIL:**

holyrosaryfundraising@gmail.com



**JOIN OUR
YOUTH
PROGRAM**

**A'Beckett St,
Melbourne**

**New Intake
Each Term**

**Ages 8+
No prior skills!**

**LEARN
BAGPIPES
OR
DRUMS!**



**THURS
NIGHTS
@
6:30PM**

**THE CITY OF
MELBOURNE
HIGHLAND
PIPE BAND**



VISIT MELBOURNEPIPEBAND.COM.AU/YOUTH-PROGRAM