**Introduction:**
We need the season of Lent if we are to live in imitation of Christ. To be Christians. We need to work out for ourselves what it is in our lives that needs to go, to be no longer part of what we do. If we are able to sweep out the negatives then Easter will be one full of meaning.

**Comment:**
As we all know, Jesus retreated into the desert for forty days to prepare for His ministry. It was for Him a time of reflection and contemplation. For us, to pass time in the desert means to find occasions when we create a little emptiness and silence around us, rediscover the road to our heart, remove ourselves from the noise of external distractions, enter into contact with the deepest source of our being and faith. Thomas Kempis offers a traditional perspective when he writes, “Happy and wise is he who endeavours to be during his life, as he wishes to be found at his death.”

“Accentuate the positive, Eliminate the negative, Latch onto the affirmative…. and be happy about it.”

**Prayer:**

> God, our Father,  
> We ask that you accept us as we are, vulnerable, flawed and in need of Your love.  
> May Your Spirit be powerful within us so that joy, love and peace may be expressed through the action of our lives.  
> Amen

Dear Parents,

I once again congratulate staff, students and parents for the smooth and positive transition that has been made into the new school year.

Each year we highlight a scripture passage to help us focus on the values we would like our children to practice.

In 2012 it was  
> “Stand firm in faith, be people of courage; be strong.”  
> Corinthians 16:13

In 2013 our guiding theme will be  
> “Christ will make His home in our Hearts through faith.”  
> Ephesians 3:17

Through the skills and faith of the teachers the scripture passage will be translated for the children so that it can be understood by them at their various ages and stages. I ask for your assistance to reinforce the message contained in the scripture text that we will be reflecting on in 2013.

**Parent Information Meetings**

Thankyou to the parents who attended the class information sessions. These are an important way in which the home-school partnership is renewed at the beginning of the year. I ask that if you missed your child’s class meeting you make contact with the teacher to discuss the information that was presented.

The teachers in addition to outlining their programs, procedures and expectations at the meeting emphasised the role of explicit, direct instruction and the progression map of thinking skills we now have in place at Liwara. It is the combination of sharing learning intentions, sequenced learning, constant monitoring of students as they move to achieve learning goals and the teaching and application of thinking skills that is at the core of our Liwara teaching and learning program.
SCHOOL PRAYER
Parents are welcome to join us for our whole school prayer services held in the All Saints Church. Please remember prayer services are just that and are not to be applauded. I also ask that parents assist us in ensuring that there is respect and reverence when using the church by setting a good example. The Year 5’s will lead the prayer service on Monday 25th February. The whole school prayer services begin at 2.40pm.

ASSEMBLY
The first assembly for the year will be held on Friday February 22nd at 9.00am in the Ahern Centre. The Year 6 students will lead and present the assembly items. Parents are most welcome to join us for the assembly and the presentation of awards.

YEAR 6 RETREAT
On Friday 15th February both Year 6 classes will be involved in a leadership retreat. The venue for this will be the Ahern Centre. We have organised a guest speaker. Children will wear free dress on this day.

TERM DATES 2013—STUDENTS
Term 1  Mon February 4th until Friday April 19th inclusive.
Term 2  Wednesday May 8th until Friday July 5th inclusive.
Term 3  Wednesday July 24th until Friday September 27th
inclusive.
Term 4  Mon October 14th until Friday December 13th
inclusive.
Please note the finishing date for our students at the end of
the year is Friday 13th December.

STUDENT FREE DAYS
The following will be the Pupil Free Days in 2013 in addition
to public holidays and term holidays.
Monday May 6th (Pupil free day)
Tuesday May 7th (Pupil free day)
Tuesday June 4th (Pupil free day)
Monday July 22nd (Pupil free day)
Tuesday July 23rd (Pupil free day)
Monday August 19th (Pupil free day)
These days are provided for in the Catholic school term dates
to facilitate a professional development program for staff.

FAMILY INFORMATION PACKS
The family information pack including the annual fee account
and the family detail forms for updating were sent home this
week. Please return family detail forms ASAP with your up to
date email addresses. This is necessary for the newsletter
notification to be emailed to you.

PUBLICITY AND USE OF STUDENT IMAGES
A publicity and use of student images form was sent home
this week to all families. This form is giving/not giving permis-
sion for photos to be taken of your child/children for use in
school publications. Please fill out and return by Friday
March 1st. Please see page 5 of this newsletter.

RESIGNATION OF POPE BENEDICT XVI
As we absorb the historic news of Pope Benedict XVI’s
resignation due to declining health I am reminded of His
words at the closing Mass at the World Youth Day held in
Sydney.

God’s love can only unleash its power when it is allowed to
change us from within. We have to let it break through the
hard crust of our indifference. Our spiritual weariness, our
blind conformity to the spirit of this age. Only then can we
let it ignite our imagination and shape our deepest desires.
That is why prayer is important.

Empowered by the Spirit, and drawing upon faith’s rich
vision, a new generation of Christians is being called to
help build a world in which god’s gift of life is welcomed,
respected and cherished—not rejected, feared as a threat
and destroyed. A new age in which love is not greedy or
self seeking, but pure, faithful and genuinely free, open to
others, respectful of their dignity, seeking their good,
radiating joy and beauty. A new age in which hope
liberates us from the shallowness, apathy and
self-absorption which deaden our souls and poison our
relationships.

The world needs this renewal! In so many of our societies,
side by side with material prosperity, a spiritual desert is
spreading: an interior emptiness, an unnamed fear, a quiet
sense of despair.

ASH WEDNESDAY MASS
Our celebration of the mass on Ash Wednesday
commenced our Lenten Journey. It is a time for us to focus
intentionally on what helps or hinders our commitment to
Christ. Ashes on our foreheads marks us as Christians, as
the people who carry Christ’s message in the actions of our
lives. Actions hopefully that give those who we make
contact with an insight into Christian behaviour. My thanks
to Gemma Ballantine, Neil Hamilton-Browne and Marie
Ormond and the year 5 students for the roles they played
in organising and leading the Ash Wednesday Mass.
A special thank you to Amanda McCabe and Beth Bryce
and the students who formed the choir for leading the
song and praise so capably.

NEW PARENT NIGHT
On Friday evening 22nd February at 7:00pm the P and F are
hosting a night for the new parents who joined our school
community this year. Invitations will be sent out to parents
who have their first child starting Kindy or have children
enrolled in one of the other year levels. I encourage these
families to take the opportunity to meet other families and
allow us to welcome you to Liwara.
I thank the P and F Committee members who are catering
for this event and who will be present to share fellowship
with the new members of the Liwara community. It is the
start of what we hope will be a rewarding journey.
**COMMISSIONING MASS**
The staff of Liwara will join the staff of other Catholic Schools in the region at a Commissioning Mass on Thursday evening 21st of February at St Mary’s Cathedral. It is a time when staff rededicate themselves to their work in Catholic schools and pledge to foster the school mission in their roles by ensuring the character of the school community reflects the Gospel of Christ.

**SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION**
Parent/Student Workshops
Reconciliation is all about having the right relationship with God and it is important that parents journey with their children to help nurture this relationship.
The parents of those children who are receiving the Sacrament of Penance (Reconciliation) this year are asked to attend the workshops on **Tuesday 5th March** or **Thursday 7th March** at 6.00pm in the Ahern Centre concluding at 7:30pm. These sessions will provide an opportunity for discussion, prayer and reflection. They are essential components of the Sacramental Programme at Liwara.

**REACH TESTING**
An independent consultant will be at the school on Monday 18th February to undertake general testing of the children in years 3-4 as well as any children from years 5-6 who have missed previous testing. The result of the testing will be used to help identify children for the GATE and Matrix programs.

Testing will commence at 9am sharp so it is important that, if your child is in the test classes that, they arrive at school on time. There is no requirement for practice or study for these tests.
Clare Magee REACH Coordinator

**KINDY 2014—SIBLINGS**
Please check that you have your child’s name on the list for Kindy for 2014. Parents and siblings will be asked to attend a meeting later in 2nd Term. Please come to the office and get an Expression of Interest form if you haven’t already enrolled your sibling child for 2014.

**PARKING ARRANGEMENTS**
I take this opportunity to also remind parents to consider the arrangements that they have with their children for pick-up to ensure children wait in designated supervised areas.
The church car park adjacent to the church on the northern side is not one of these supervised areas nor is the turnaround area on Tuart Road.
All children must be picked up **only from the designated supervised areas below**:

1. Lower car park
2. Oval
3. Upper car park

Children still awaiting pick up after supervision finishes at 3:20pm can be collected from the Office.

**CHESS**
If we have any chess players interested in playing community chess competitions these are the Draft Chess dates for Novice Tournaments 2013.  

For further information please go to [www.cawa.org.au](http://www.cawa.org.au)
Clare Magee

**SCIENCE IQ TEAM 2013**
The following children will be representing Liwara in the Science Teachers’ Association of Western Australia Science IQ Online science competition for 2013.
These competitions will be held in Term 1 and in term 3.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Team Marshall</th>
<th>Team Warren</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>John-Paul Acres</td>
<td>Erin Waddingham</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Joshua Wilson</td>
<td>Maddi Thompson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Callum Wood</td>
<td>Laura McAdam</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jay Covich</td>
<td>Lily Boss-Bailey</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**INSTRUMENTAL TUITION**
Those students who have applied to do private lessons in piano, guitar, flute, violin or drums will commence lessons in weeks 2 & 3.

**VOLUNTEERS IN THE CLASSROOM**
Tuesday 5 March, in the Ahern Centre from 9 to 11a.m.
This workshop is for parents of children from Year 1 onwards who would to volunteer in their child’s classroom. This workshop covers how parents can help in the classroom, school expectations and children’s developmental learning. The Volunteer workshop must be completed by any parent who wishes to help in the classroom. If you have done this workshop previously you don’t need to repeat it.

**SUPPORT A READER TRAINING**
Wednesday 27 March, in the Ahern Centre from 9-11a.m.
The SAR program is an individual reading program for students from Years 1 to 3. Students read with a parent tutor for a short time each day to improve their reading and comprehension skills. We would love as many volunteers as possible to continue to make this a successful and effective program. We would love to have anyone who has completed the program previously back on board. More information to come through your child’s class teacher (Year 1-3) or contact Mrs Liebeck if you are interested.

**PARENT EDUCATION WORKSHOPS**
The Junior Primary staff are pleased to be able to offer workshops of interest to parents regarding their child’s learning again this year. More details about topics and dates will be provided shortly, so keep an eye on this space.
The calendar is now on the Liwara Website please see below for the web address.


Uniform Shop Hours
8.30am to 9.30am
TUESDAY MORNINGS
NB: The Uniform Shop will be closed on Tuesday Dec 4th.

If you are interested in finding out more information about the service or expressing an interest in enrolling your child contact the school office or the centre supervisor Deborah Salame or Jesse Walls on 0488 083 657.

Please call in and put your name on the new 2013 Roster, or call 9447 5133 Thanks Helen

Friday February 15th—Jodie Scholte
Monday February 18th—Dianna Albonico
Tuesday February 19th—Tania Jack
Thursday February 21st—Mandy Ambrose
Friday February 22nd—Michelle Firth
Monday February 25th—Jenny Bennett & Nathan Lamb
Tuesday February 26th—Tanya Jack
Thursday February 28th—Helen Romeo
Friday March 1st—Sharon Lund

Please start using the new canteen menu sent home this week.

7 Liwara Place, Greenwood, 6024 - Tel: 9447 6225
Fax: 9246 2692 - Mob: 0422 422 773
Website: www.allsaintsgreenwoodwa.org.au
Email: greenwood@perthcatholic.org.au

Parish Priest – Fr Vinh Dong / Assistant Priest – Fr Quynh Do
Resident Priest – Fr Tam Lai / Fr Tai Trinh
Weekday Masses: Monday to Friday - 9.00am. Wednesday evening at 6.45pm
Weekend Masses: Saturday - 9.00am (anointing every 2nd Saturday of the month) & Vigil at 6.00pm
Sunday - 7.30am, 9.00am, 10.30am & 5.30pm
The Church is open from 8.30am - 3.30pm weekdays (except school holidays)
Reconciliation: Saturday - 9.30am to 10.00am & 5.00pm to 5.30pm or by request.
Publicity and the Use of Student Images

Dear Parent/Guardian

As part of the school’s publicity activities there may, on occasion, arise the situation whereby the school, Catholic Education Office Of WA (CEOWA) or local media will need to take photographs and/or video footage of your child/ren for publication in newspapers, school documents, CEOWA and Catholic agency documents (e.g. Caritas, CDF, LifeLink, etc), training videos and/or the school/CEOWA website.

Please complete the notice below and return it to the school office by FRIDAY, March 1st 2012 AT THE LATEST.

I___________________________________________________________________

Parent/guardian of: (please list child/ren and class)

Name: _____________________________________________ Class__________

Name: _____________________________________________ Class__________

Name: _____________________________________________ Class__________

Name: _____________________________________________ Class__________

Name: _____________________________________________ Class__________

Name: _____________________________________________ Class__________

(Please tick)

☐ Give Permission to the use of my son’s/daughter’s photo/video image in school publicity activities undertaken by the school, CEOWA or local media.

☐ Do not give permission for the use of my son’s/daughter’s photo/video image in school publicity activities undertaken by the school, CEOWA or local media.

Signed: ______________________________________________ Date:

PLEASE RETURN THIS FORM TO THE OFFICE BY FRIDAY, MARCH 1st.