

Keeping in Touch

A quarterly newsletter for Catholic homeschooling families



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TERM THREE 1999

PUBLICATION

KEEPING IN TOUCH is published about the end of the fifth week of each of the four school terms.

Volunteer families take it in turns as editor, typesetting and publisher. Printer, distributor and accountant is the Cardinal Newman Catechist Centre.

CONTRIBUTIONS

Contributions are invited from Catholic homeschooling families and from priests, Religious and laity supporting them. Especially welcome are:

Children's contributions: stories, articles, reports, reviews, poems, pictures, puzzles etc.

Teaching articles with ideas and encouragement for other homeschooling parents.

Particularly helpful are **parental reviews of available resources** and where to get them.

Please send contributions on A4 pages and, where possible, the same text on computer diskette (in 'text file' format)

MATERIAL DEADLINE

Please note that the deadline for contributions from readers is the **end of the second week of each term.**

SUBSCRIPTIONS

Subscriptions to Keeping in Touch are \$10 per calendar year for four copies. Any late payees will be sent the earlier copies for that calendar year.

Please mail subscriptions (and any changes to the mailing list) to the Cardinal Newman Catechist Centre and make it clear that the subscription is for Keeping in Touch; otherwise it will be mistaken for a donation for the Cardinal Newman Catechist Centre's own Newsletter.

Payment may be made by cheque or money order, or postage stamps, e.g. perhaps 10 x \$1 stamps to:

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The editors would like to thank all contributors without whom this edition of Keeping in Touch would not have been possible

Studying Your CGE and HSC at Home Through OTEN!

For many homeschooling families the option of continuing their students' study into the senior years of high school, remaining at home has not always seemed viable, that is, if recognised qualifications within the Australian Qualifications Framework, such as the Higher School Certificate needed to be reached.

For those who currently have intentions of placing your children back into the education system once he/she has reached year 10 or have reluctantly settled with the idea of using your own curriculum, or are just simply confused and uncertain about the future of your children's senior education....**fear not!**

“OTEN has been very rewarding and I have enjoyed the flexible study.”

The Open Training and Education Network (OTEN) run by TAFE NSW offers the Certificate in General Education (CGE) and the Certificate in Matriculation (HSC) for students by distance learning. With OTEN you study in your own home at your own pace.

There are no set dates that assignments are due, the student simply studies a certain section of the materials sent to them and then completes the assignment when instructed and sends it to OTEN.

Students are allocated one teacher for every subject and correspond by mail and also by phone if any difficulties are

experienced. Assistance from professional teaching and educational support staff is efficient and of a high standard. Although OTEN is designed for mature students, you need only be fifteen to be accepted into a TAFE course.

OTEN students studying the CGE are not required to sit any supervised exams, except for vocational electives. Subjects are not diverse, but the basic Maths, English, Science and Geography are offered in various levels, as well as electives including hospitality, computers and a few languages to choose from. Unfortunately History, Music and Art are not options.

To advance to the HSC course you must have a school certificate, CGE or equivalent. There is a broad range of subjects offered in the HSC. In fact the list is endless. You must complete eleven (11) units to be eligible for the certificate and will receive an assessment mark, an examination mark and a UAI (University Admission Index); a ranking against all other students sitting the exam, used by Universities to select their students.

Either course costs \$190 each year of study and all you need to do to begin studying with OTEN is to complete an application form and send it with your payment and wait patiently for approval.

If accepted you will receive a confirmation of enrolment and all the learning materials you will need for the course. Previously my experience with OTEN has been very rewarding and I have enjoyed the flexible study through TAFE correspondence very much. I was honoured to be awarded top student in the CGE

just recently, which I completed in May 1998. I have continued my study and having completed my preliminary year progressed to the HSC year and will sit my supervised assessment events and the actual HSC exam at a local TAFE next year.

Melanie Irwin

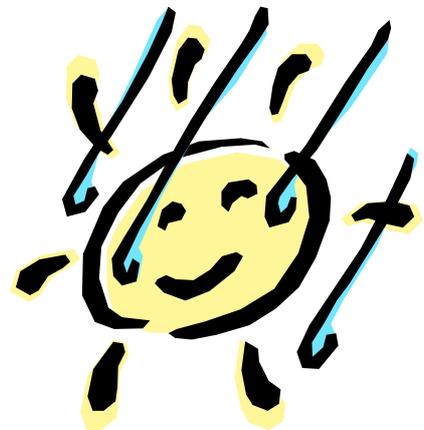
THE FACE OF GOD

Imogen: Do you like my drawing mummy?

Mum: Yes it's beautiful. You do realize that the sun doesn't really have a face, don't you?

Imogen: I know ... It only has a face when God's looking through it.

Imogen Elvis (4)



Jesus, who in Thy Passion didst become "the reproach of men and The Man of Sorrows", I venerate Thy Holy Face on which shone the beauty and gentleness of Divinity. In those disfigured features I recognize Thine infinite love, and I long to love Thee and to make Thee loved ... May I behold Thy Glorious Face in Heaven!

Amen

St. Therese of Lisieux

Armata Bianca

Armata Bianca means "The White Army". It is an international movement that was started in 1974 in Italy by Fr. Andrew D'Ascanio at the urging of two very holy priests, the stigmatist Blessed Padre Pio of Pietralcina and Padre Pio Delle Piane, who are at this time being considered for canonisation.

The work of the Armata Bianca is to reach out to children, to consecrate them to God, to teach them to pray and do penance, and to help them realise how truly powerful their prayers are before God the Father.

The spirit of the Armata Bianca places itself with the children of Fatima uniting with them the obedience of Our Lady and doing today what she asked Lucia, Jacinta, and Francisco almost 80 years ago. In her message at Fatima, Our Lady pointed out the mission of the children and the powerful spiritual dimension they possess. The Armata Bianca

with them in imitating Our Lady's life of obedience to God. Only then will we see peace and the many miracles of conversion in our families and our world.

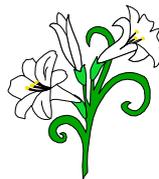
Armata Bianca prayer books are available for \$5.00 plus postage and handling from:

Chestnut Hill Marian Lodge
St. James Avenue
Kallista VIC 3791

Tel. (03) 9755 2600
Fax. (03) 9755 1003

For more information contact:

Laure Kelly
Tel.(02) 4357 2357



Prayer for Union with the Holy Spirit

O Holy Spirit of Light and Love, to You I consecrate my heart, mind, and will for time and eternity. May I be ever docile to Your divine inspirations and to the teachings of the holy Catholic Church whose infallible guide You are. May my heart be ever inflamed with the love of God and love of neighbour. May my will be ever in harmony with your divine Will. May my life faithfully imitate the life and virtues of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. To Him, with The Father, and You, divine Spirit, be honour and glory forever.
Amen

St. Pius X

We Didn't Mean to Start a School

Written by JULIA BLYTHE
Reviewed by Mary Rose Fanning

"The prayer of the children can change this world."

sees the many dangers that the children of the world face daily. Children must be taught about and protected against adverse effects and dangers hidden in much that is seen on television and in films. Instead, they must be encouraged to pray as a part of their daily routine with family and friends for peace in this world and for the conversion of sinners. The prayer of the children can change this world. As we strive to rescue the children from the deception of the world, we join

The book is about four things: girls, relations, a hotel, and teachers. When it turns out to be a school it isn't an ordinary school, it is too homelike. Happy girls, no pushing out or excluding ... everything is too homelike to be a school.

In places it is exciting, like when the twins (the first pupils) save some soldiers by interpreting a coded television message. Here are the basic points. Aunt Win has some pupils in Switzerland whom she has to teach English. She and her husband (Uncle Harry to the twins) inherit a big hotel that has been closed down and they decide to bring the pupils from Switzerland to teach at the hotel. The twins' parents are going to Japan so their Aunt Win and Uncle Harry (Mr. and Mrs. Battle) take them, and their friend

Amanda and her cousin Alison (who becomes headgirl).

I like this book because of the homeliness of the place and the happy girls. I like the bit when they have a snowball fight best. I can't think of anything that needs improvement.

It isn't like any old school. The pupils work willingly and happily. It's different from other stories because of its happiness: no bullying or anything.

I think girls around 8-12 would like it. I would like the author to hurry with a sequel. I think it makes people welcome.

Mary Rose Fanning

The Holy Sacrifice of the Mass

SACRIFICE IS THE GREATEST ACT OF RELIGION.

A sacrifice is an offering of a gift to God by a priest on behalf of worshippers for God's adoration and their reconciliation. **(CFC 137)**

The Mass is the greatest sacrifice ever. It is exactly the same sacrifice as the one the Lord Jesus made on the Cross of Calvary, the one which His Father showed was acceptable by raising Him from the dead. In the Mass, it is only the manner of offering which is different, and it has been given to us by Christ in a fashion such as human nature needs.

"For by Christ's Will there is in this Sacrament a continual renewing of the mystery of the Sacrifice of Himself that Christ offered to the Father on the altar of the Cross, a Sacrifice that the Father accepted, giving, in return for this total self-giving by His Son, Who 'became obedient unto death' [Philip-pians 2:8].

His own paternal gift, that is to say the grant of new immortal life in the resurrection..."
Pope John Paul II,
Redeemer of Man § 20.

Because the Resurrection shows the completion and acceptance of Christ's Sacrifice, it is Sunday which is the holyday of obligation for Mass, and it is Sunday which is pre-eminently our weekly 'sacrifice day'.

Why not Friday? In fact, why is there no Mass on Good Friday? The Easter Preface gives us a hint: "We praise You with greater joy than ever on this Easter day when Christ became our pascal sacrifice."

The triumph of the Cross was not recognized nor shared until the Resurrection. "The Eucharist is also the memorial of Christ's Passover, the making present and the sacramental offering of His unique sacrifice, in the liturgy of the Church which is His Body. In all the Eucharistic Prayers we find after the words of institution a prayer called the anamnesis or memorial; (CCC § 1362).

It is a mistake to reduce our understanding of sacrifice to our personal acts of penance and self-denial. It ignores the primary link between sacrifice and adoration. True, our penance for past sins and our self-denial to strengthen us against future temptations are an essential part of our service of the Lord, and we bring them to Him to become part of our personal offering to His great offering. We also bring our good deeds and virtues and our whole selves both as creatures and as sanctified sons of God.

The four ends of the sacrifice of the Mass are adoration, thanksgiving, asking and reparation, and these merge into each other in a seamless robe in the Eucharistic Prayers:

Sanctus: "Holy, holy, holy Lord God of angel hosts..."

Doxology: "All glory and honour is Yours, Almighty Father"

Prefaces: "always and everywhere to give You thanks"

Consecrations: "He gave You thanks..."

Hanc igitur: "grant us Your peace in this life, save us from final damnation..."

Memento: "remember, Lord, those who have died..."

Consecration of chalice: "so that sins may be forgiven."

Nobis quoque peccatoribus: "though we are sinners we trust in Your mercy and love..."

Every Catholic over ten should have his own Missal to study the prayers and readings. He who reads them at Mass as well as listening prays twice; (cf. singing).

Father James Tierney

REFERENCE BOOKS

Catholic Education Homeward Bound, by Kimberly Hahn and Mary Hasson on homeschooling: 399pp

Catholic Homeschooling, A handbook for Parents by Mary Kay Clark on homeschooling: 448pp

Designing your own classical curriculum by Laura M. Berquist: Her plan is the ancient 'trivium' of the 'grammar' or basics of the 4 Rs, then the 'dialectic' of understanding by rational argument, completed by the 'rhetoric' of persuasive presentation in speech and writing. "An immense help to me as a home educator" wrote Kimberley Hahn: 151pp

School-Proof by Mary Pride, a Christian of our Separated Brethren, a mother of a large, homeschooled family which will resonate with her Catholic counterparts. School-Proof helps your family beat the system and learn to love learning the easy, natural way: 204pp

All the Way Home, Power for your family to be at its best by Mary Pride: 284pp

Catholic homeschooling books available from the Cardinal Newman Catechist Centre, 1 Chetwynd Road, Merrylands NSW 2160

Tel. (02) 9637 9406
Tel/Fax. (02) 9637 3351

Competition Prize Winners

CONGRATULATIONS to the prize winners and hearty thanks to all who prepared entries for competitions. Please note that due allowance was made for the age of the younger entrants.

1. **Why Offer the Sacrifice of the Mass?**
 First Prize: Benedict Fanning (15) and Francis Vieira (11) \$15 each
 Second Prize: Elizabeth Vieira (9) and Felicity Vieira (7) \$10 each
2. **The Global View**
 First Prize: Benedict Fanning (15) \$15
 Second Prize: Mary Rose Fanning (9) \$10
 Third Prize: *not awarded*
3. **Mathematics Competition**
 First and Second Prize: *not awarded*
 Third Prize: Peter Slee (15) and Michael Fanning (12) \$5 each

Some entrants unfortunately did not address the problem as set - despite very creditable work in other directions. Their reward will be in Heaven. But competitions, unlike exams, take no cognizance of answers which do not tackle the exact problem which was set.

The best entry overall was Benedict Fanning's essay on "The Global View". Significantly it was handwritten in real 'running writing' - which seems to be a vanishing art. As submitted it took three pages of A4 (see next page.)

**- 2nd Annual -
Catholic Homeschoolers' Expo & Picnic**

Sunday, 7 November 1999

**The Brothers of St. Francis
119 Rausch Street, Toongabbie**

**BYO everything, BBQ facilities available
Starting with Holy Mass at 10.00 am.**

**Children's All Saints Parade 3.00 pm. with prizes
Curricula & book displays**

**Finishing at 5.00 pm. with Holy Hour: Exposition,
Vespers & Benediction**

A picnic day for homeschoolers and those interested in homeschooling

For more information contact: Ric and Ellen Small on (02) 9636 4762

Prayer for Friends

Lord Jesus Christ, while on earth You had close and devoted friends, such as John, Lazarus, Martha and Mary. You showed in this way that friendship is one of life's greatest blessings. Thank You for the friends that You have

given me to love me in spite of my failures and weaknesses, and to enrich my life after Your example. Let me ever behave toward them as You behaved toward Your friends. Bind us close together in You and enable us to help one another on our earthly journey
Amen

CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to:

Michele and Daniel Vieira on the birth of their son **Joseph Patrick**

Helen and Michael Brearley on the birth of their daughter **Elizabeth May.**

WELCOME

Welcome to the Evans family who have recently moved from Hamilton (New Zealand) to Sydney

FAMILY

Recently a friend attended the Eucharistic Convention in Auckland (NZ). One of the speakers gave them a beautiful interpretation of the word 'family'. It goes like this;

F - forget

A - about

M - me

I - I

L - love

Y- you

Margaret Evans

Board of Studies Resource Material

Helen Brearley has discovered that our local library has Board of Studies resource material. So, if you'd like to know what the children are learning at school in each year and for each key learning area, try your local library. Our library (Bowral) is only a small town library, so the chances are that your local library also has this material.

Sue Elvis

“The Global View”

Every schoolroom needs various pieces of equipment - from bookcases, desks, and chairs, to pens, pencils, and rulers. But perhaps two of the most important things are a globe and a crucifix.

Each of these objects is useful, and, in some things, vital, in many ways. The crucifix is a most important part **[Examiner's suggestion: symbol?]** of the Catholic Faith - you might call it the crux **[Examiner: Is the pun intentional? Crux is Latin for a cross.]** and without a belief in the crucifix it is impossible to be a Catholic. A crucifix, hanging on the wall, is a constant reminder of God's presence and Our Lord's sacrifice, and is also an aid to prayers, such as the Angelus, which are said in the schoolroom. And when you have a crucifix hanging over a globe it is a reminder of God's protection of the world He created and of His watching every one of us, taking care of us and guarding us from all harm.

A globe is also a symbol of God's almighty power over all; it would take a 'bit of might' to create a universe like ours - but perhaps it is of more use, by itself, in teaching things connected with practical education (that is, worldly education): it is useful to a person's understanding of the way climate affects the different countries, and how they are situated in relation to each other - also of the ocean currents and prevailing winds; and for teaching geography it is [the] all-important tool - how can you teach someone the shape of America when you cannot even show him where it is? - and it is necessary to have at least a rough idea of the size and shape of the main

countries in the world, and also if possible of the lesser countries, not only for the appreciation of books (in particular, history books) and also the Bible, but just for everyday life: what would you do if someone asked you for information on the ferry that sank just off Ostende, and you didn't even know where Belgium was? Also, how can you hope to explain the conquests of the ancient Romans or Alexander the Great; or the campaigns of Napoleon, to someone if they are under the impression that Egypt is about 15 miles in that sort of direction? How can anyone learn of Columbus, or the discovery and colonisation of Australia if, for all they know, the Pacific Ocean is just to the left of Darwin?

If anyone wants to learn about navigation, then the first and most basic study-guide of all is ... the globe. Maps show latitude and longitude, true, but how is it possible to appreciate them fully if one does not appreciate the huge ball to which they belong?

Latitude and longitude are also important for some of the other things which a globe can teach about - the three different kinds of climatic zones, for instance (tropical, temperate, and polar) - you can only teach about these if you have something to separate them - lines of latitude. You can, once you have divided them, teach your pupil of the way the zones are affected by the elements and the tilt of the Earth (itself giving Winter/Summer effects) - but only once you have divided them. It would also be difficult to work out distances and such like on a globe without lines of latitude and longitude - and ever tried taking a bearing on a small globe without lines of longitude to help you?

[Examiner: to measure distances on a globe use string or dividers, then mark off this distance along the equator and allow 60 nautical miles per degree of longitude; for direction, use a Mercator map to plot a rhumb line course; remember, the Great Circle on a globe is the shortest route but has a different compass bearing at each new line of longitude.]

A globe is also very important in our understanding of the principles of day and night, and the seasons; these are very difficult to explain to anyone who doesn't understand the globe, especially if you don't have a globe to explain it with (try explaining to a kindergarten child without the use of a globe); however, with the use of a globe, it becomes relatively simple to show how the world spins around the sun in its orbit, and also [spins] about its own axis. This also includes an explanation of the longer daylight in Summer and shorter in Winter caused by the earth's elliptical orbit of the sun.

[Examiner: NOT SO! The elliptical orbit has nothing to do with it: it is the earth's tilt to the plane of its orbit - which is why the globe is built tilted at 23½° - which makes the sun's rays come more directly from overhead in summer, and reach further round its curvature to more distant longitudes, and vice-versa in winter, and, both summer and winter, more so at higher latitudes.]

(Continued overleaf)

So, for many reasons, religious and spiritual as well as practical, these two objects, a globe and a crucifix, are all-important for a good Catholic education. It is up to each person to decide whether they are more important for one reason or the other - a good Catholic education is the result of both, so perhaps they are both linked together ... perhaps, indeed, they are both part of the same purpose.

And now we come to what is perhaps the most important purpose of the two objects altogether: the globe and the crucifix can go a long way towards teaching the Mass - they cannot do it by themselves but they can help enormously; for one thing, a Catholic education which they go a long way towards providing is essential to an understanding, appreciation and deep sense of respect for the Mass.

Another thing is the symbolism of the globe: it symbolises the world which God created, and if you could put a dot on every country in the world where the Catholic faith has been preached, it is unlikely that you would at the end find any country without a dot - the word 'catholic' means 'universal', and the Catholic faith is certainly universal; if you could conduct a survey you would find that there is never a moment in the day or year when someone, somewhere, isn't offering Mass - nor will there be until the end of the world, when Our Lord comes again in glory.

The globe can teach the story of creation, and show the place where Our Lord was born, and where He made His perfect sacrifice, which is forever honoured and renewed in the sacrifice of the Mass. The crucifix can teach us about this

sacrifice. The two things are [a] fundamental part of a clear understanding of the mystery of the Mass.

So the crucifix and the globe are essential parts of the schoolroom equipment and the Catholic education.

Benedict Fanning



The Night the Knights

Long, long, long ago in the **CASTLE of HEARTS**, the king was very worried about his daughter. He had invited her to dinner. She was supposed to be there a long time ago but she was not there. He said, "if anybody wants to marry my daughter they have to find her". As he said this a little man stepped forwards. "I, will lord," he said. "As you wish," said the king. So the little man set out to look for the princess. A week went by and the man (it's about time you ought to know this, his name was Dopey and he was a dwarf).

But I'll tell you something also you might want to know: where is the princess? I'll bet you'll want to know. Well it's nowhere really exciting. It's just a **castle, the CASTLE OF TERROR**. In the **Castle of Terror**, one of knights had decided to destroy the **CASTLE OF HEARTS**.

As he spoke he heard a clatter of armour. He whizzed round only to see all of his men in armour, they had all agreed and were ready to charge. He quickly pulled on his

armour. All the knights whizzed out in a hurry and all of the knights forgot to close the drawbridge.

Someone was coming round the bend(I bet you can guess, yes you recognise him, Dopey!) He said "It looks as though someone had been expecting me". He also said " anyway lets go in". And do you know what ,the knights had left **THE KEYS TO THE**

CASTLE OF TERROR!

Suddenly Dopey heard the princess screaming "**Let me out!**"! Dopey said. "Don't worry, Princess Ruby, I will get you down from the tower". When he had rescued the princess, no one knew that the Castle of Hearts was going to be attacked by the knights that owned the **CASTLE OF TERROR**, all except the princess and she told Dopey.

They hurried along a short cut that the princess had been through with the knights. Dopey said, "it was lucky that you went through this short cut when you were caught, Ruby". When they got to the end, Dopey saw the knights fighting. He gasped in horror when he saw them. He said to the princess, "wait here, Ruby, I must join the battle". He picked up a spear (all the swords were too heavy for him), and charged on to the battlefield. He threw the spear at the chief of the knights from the Castle of Terror and killed him. All his followers fled for their lives. The King was stunned. He said: "Thankyou, Dopey, you may marry my daughter if you wish". "Thank you, lord," said Dopey. "But I will only marry her if she wants me to." "Do you?" the king asked his daughter. "Yes," she replied.

Dopey and Ruby got married soon after and Dopey became the worlds smallest king.

Callum Elvis (7)

Motherhood - Teaching with Love

After stumbling my way through our first year of home educating our 6 year old and our 4½ year old, I came across some articles written about a way of teaching children which were similar to my discoveries made by trial and error as I continue to learn how to be a mother to my children.

“A parent’s attitude is everything and is quite contagious!”

I wish I had had these hints when I was just starting out with very small children because being a product of the conventional school, I thought all teaching had to be done in a particular way, and had no confidence in my own instinctive knowledge of my children.

The method is that of Dr. Shinichi Suzuki, founder of the Suzuki method of playing a musical instrument, which teaches children as young as 3 years old, and is the same method as that used to teach a baby to talk.

He says in his ‘Speeches and Essays’, “The natural method of teaching a child its mother tongue is a marvellous educational process.” He describes the process as having:

1. A favourable environment with encouragement, interest, praise and models of sights and sounds
2. A very slow rate of progress at the beginning with a greater number of repetitions
3. Building confidence with extremely easy material to start with

4. Catering for the child’s own rate of learning
5. Leading to a joy of learning

Happy environment

Suzuki has said that the word patience should never be applied to the learning experience ... “Patience has the connotation of controlled frustration, yet the parent should enjoy the learning process. He must be helped to understand that the learning process of a small child is often very slow, that every effort, every step, no matter how small, should be a pleasure to watch ... **praise should be plentiful** ... no matter how bad a performance may be, there is always some aspect of it that can be praised.”

A parent’s attitude is everything and is quite contagious! Being a product of the conventional teaching school, I had to change my mind set from being a serious and disciplined teacher, to a mum who enjoys being with her children, and one who is privileged to share in their adventure of learning about the world and their natural awe of creation.

Young children love games, so I used lots of them - often times led by their sense of fun. Games such as: laying phonogram cards on a table and asking them to pick up the card that makes the sound “b” etc; hopping on one leg repeating a multiple phonogram that they had trouble remembering etc; and a competition of who could be first to name the number that turns up after throwing a die. I also used the “no negatives” approach suggested to me by a school teacher, which replaces the word “no” with “almost” or “try it this way”. If one’s attitude is right then ideas - by the grace of God - will come eventually.

Constant repetition

Suzuki, in his book ‘Nurtured by Love’ tells about teaching a parrot named Peeko Miyazawa to say his name. Peeko had to hear 3000 repetitions of the word ‘Peeko’ before he was able to say it, but only 2000 repetitions of ‘Miyazawa’.

Suppose the owner had taken Peeko back to the shop after only 2700 repetitions of ‘Peeko’. What would have happened to that bird’s development? What actually did happen was that, after learning his name, Peeko began to imitate everything he heard, after only one hearing!”

I admit that it drives me nutty to hear a story or a song over and over again, but children love it and seem to blossom through repetition. According to the child development ‘experts’ repetition is a very necessary part of a child’s cognitive development, linking up and comparing patterns and symbols until they become internalised and are able to reproduce them.

After the first thousand times of repeating one thing, the second thing takes less repetitions and so on. It is only the start that must, necessarily, be repetitive and slow. Suzuki in his ‘Speeches and Essays’ tells of an experimental class using this same method of teaching which had very favourable results.

He chose a group of children in first grade and determined that “no one should be failed and no drop-outs allowed.”

(Continued overleaf)

The initial lessons of the first graders were recognised as of vast importance ... the start was kept very slow. Extremely easy material was chosen at the start, and all the children accomplished what was set with no mistakes and full marks. This was a start in building confidence and enthusiasm. He made sure that every child understood the material and made no mistakes.

Further, he realised that small children have a short attention span. Some children became bored or inattentive after five or six minutes. When this happened, say in a maths lesson, he would immediately switch to language, and when the attention of a child appeared on the wane in this subject, still another was chosen. At the end of the year these children had developed the ability to concentrate on any subject for some forty five minutes.

In language he would repeat the training five times a day for periods of five to ten minutes. He would first give them eight words to learn (with no mistakes), and when each child had learned them and made them his own, he would add two more. Thus they would practice the original eight along with two new ones.

We teach how easy it is to get full marks. This is the **“mother tongue method.”**

Building a child’s confidence by giving them easy work is an important step when teaching your child, as is the consideration of their short attention span at an early age.

Catering for the child’s own rate of learning, I call **‘leap of faith’**, which any person who has potty-trained a youngster knows about. One can provide

the environment and the encouragement but it is up to the child, at their own rate of learning, for the ability to suddenly ‘click’ with them.

Another example of this ‘click’ stage is the transition from sounding out each letter of a word to actually reading the word as a whole. This is perhaps the most potentially frustrating stage, but



seen in the light of experience, is the most awesome, and always reminds me that my children are complete individuals in their own right, and have only been loaned to me, on trust, by GOD.

To all you unconfident, first time homeschoolers, I encourage you to continue to ask for the grace of motherhood which is the secret of teaching young (and possibly older) children. I end with a quote by Suzuki who’s love for the very young and belief in their potential was great. “In cultivation, the most important thing is the seedling. The whole future of the plant depends mostly on the seedling - how big the tree will grow, how much fruit it will bear ... where there is love, much can be accomplished.”

Gabriella De Battista

(Special thanks to Michael De Battista whose consideration in sleeping through the night made the writing of this article possible)

The Five Chests

Five little chests, all in a row
Cars, bears, and a bow
Filled with things that children
used to know,
Five little chests, all in a row.

“Felicity”, made of logs,
Reminding you of horses and dogs.
A clarinet, a saints book, worn,
An old chess set, missing a pawn.

“Duncan” is next, set in brass,
Wishing stones, made of glass
Adventure stories, a blue bear,
Sheets of music, filled with care.

“Callum”, battered and worn,
Filled with toys, smashed and torn,
A matchbox car, gloves too small,
Soft toys and a soccer ball.

“Imogen”, in silver and gold,
Shining out, quaint and old
Barbie dolls, a ribbon for hair,
A tiny little rocking chair.

“Charlotte” is carved prettily,
In wood of oak and pine-cone tree,
A knitted doll, a teddy bear,
A sheepskin rug, losing its hair.

Each chest holding memories,
Showing each owner’s personalities,
Five little chests, all in a row,
Filled with things that the children
used to know.

Felicity Elvis

**Homeschoolers Mass & Picnic
Day
3rd Sunday of the month
“Penrose Park”
Pauline Fathers Monastery
Berrima, Southern Highlands**

**contact:
Helen Brearley (02) 4884 4326
or
Michelle Vieira (02) 4829 0113**

**before setting out
for the time of Mass etc.**

Blessed are the Pure

by Antonio Del Gaudio

The impure heart is a heart that is lifeless, cold, weak and self-centred.

“The devil cannot refrain from his efforts to make me lose my peace of soul ... He tries to do this chiefly by means of continual temptations against holy purity” (Letters I).

For Padre Pio “holy purity” was not an effortless possession but the fruits of a struggle against the temptations of the evil one through the powerful weapons of prayer and mortification. Nevertheless he had such trust in the Lord that he could haughtily affirm:

“I laugh at all this (these temptations) as being of no account” (Letters I).

But one worry always remained of not having, perhaps rejected quickly enough and immediately the diabolical temptations:

“I am sometimes worried and not quite sure if I have been ready to put up a fight at the enemies first attack. Undoubtedly when I now examine my conscience I would prefer to die rather than deliberately offend my dear Jesus by a single sin however small” (Letters I).

What powerful purity of heart!
What delicacy of conscience!
What moral sensibility!
Blessed are the pure of heart for they shall see God!

The pure of heart and purity.

The pure of heart are those who have “fire” in their hearts. The Greek root of the term “pure” is “pur” which in fact means “fire”.

And fire is:

- Light; the pure shine with light that radiates around them,

- illuminating their own and their neighbour’s path;
- warmth; that is life, enthusiasm, generosity, optimism, dynamism, a will to live and be joyful. The pure know how to sing, to give themselves, to hope, to make plans with that dash of boldness and utopia, that Christian utopia full of possibility and realism.
- an instrument of purification (again the root “pur”!). The pure consider themselves always in a state of purification;
- and a symbol of love; the pure are those who are able to love, truly and totally, because they are prepared to offer their lives, which is what love essentially consists of.

And purity? It is not easy to define, as it is not easy to define all that is sublime and the difficulty increases if we wish, as we do here, to speak of purity in a broad sense so as to avoid reducing it simply to an argument of the sixth and ninth commandments.

However, we will try, Purity is:

- moral excellence that raises and prepares us for the ultimate heights of the mystical life;
- a firm foundation to our life of faith, to abandonment to God, with a humble and boundless hope;
- a potential for great sacrifice and heroism;
- a source of joy and also aesthetical joy, before the wonder of beauty. As a result only the pure are comfortable and at peace with themselves;
- a strength and power that includes prudence, justice, fortitude, temperance;
- a candour and clarity of our mind, emotions, and instincts;
- a just detachment from the passing things of the world and an anticipation of the realities of the Kingdom of Heaven so that we only touch lightly with our eyes and heart all that we

encounter on our path. Purity teaches us to live every day the Gospel. It is consciousness of being temples of God;

- a generosity and liberality that is not self-seeking;
- a capacity to be in communion with our neighbour, as part of the Church, participating above all in the evangelical action of the community of believers;
- and a pure conscience and absolute honesty in every human activity: work, commerce, politics.

The Impure Heart

The impure heart is a heart that is lifeless, cold, weak, self-centred.

Impurity is to have clipped wings, to be no longer able to fly. A butterfly is beautiful so long as it is able to move freely in the air, but it is enough that somebody touch it and it is no longer able to rise from the ground so that it dies.

Impurity is disordered conscience. Our conscience is the judgement of our reason with regard to the morality, the goodness or badness of an act. An immoral act is something that goes against the order of reason, an act not ordered to its proper end.

Impurity is a vile compromise with the principles of our conscience. It is a shameful deceit and a serious wrong especially towards our selves, a self hatred and an abandonment of our high dignity as free and rational beings, made in the image of God, redeemed by Jesus Christ and sanctified by the Holy Spirit. It is a profanation of theological man!

Impurity is a source of unhappiness, sadness (sadness is to lack something) and anxiety: the demon of anxiety is essentially a demon of impurity!

Impurity is loneliness, extreme destitution. It is to be shut up within ourselves in an empty narcissism. It is an intolerance and low esteem of ourselves, and no-one is happy without self-esteem!

The impure, in moments of truth even loathe themselves. Impurity is abject slavery, dependence on immediate pleasure, that pleasure at first so alluring and seductive (like the forbidden fruit) and finally so bitter and deluding. It is to be aware of our nakedness and our vulnerability. It is to feel ourselves betrayed by the illusion of evil. The forever repeated tragedy of sin!

Impurity is diabolical pride, the betrayal of our faith, the frustration of every hope and the weakening of the will. In short falsity!

The Pure Shall See God

Only the pure can see God, infinite purity and love!

Only the pure can see the face of God without being blinded and annihilated. "In your light we shall see the light!" recites the Psalm.

The pure shall see Jesus, the perennial nostalgia and ultimate desire of every virginal affection.

The pure shall see the Immaculate Virgin Mary, who drew to herself by her lily white candour the Holy Spirit, the God of Love.

The religious in their purity will see God, the incarnation of a vocation of unlimited love in an everlasting betrothal with the Spouse. The religious pervade time and the ordinary things of everyday life with the eternal through the zeal of their chaste hearts.

The priest in his purity will see God. He sees Him and makes

Him present in the reality of Jesus Christ in the Eucharist.

The believer in his purity will see God, if he lives coherently the duties of his baptism, and purifies himself in the sacrament of confession, and thus always giving a precise purpose to his days, in short to see God!

Spreading Impurity

It seems that the characteristic and origin of so much evil in our society is impurity.

Why do we see so many sad, unhappy and weary people? Because there is no purity of heart. Why do we find so much dishonesty and stealing? Because there is no sense of justice, that derives from purity of heart.

Why does there exist so much violence on children, on the weak and on women? Because we are incapable of dominating our instincts and our body has lost its sacredness. Why so much egoism? Because egoism is the fruit of impurity, of an embittered hedonism.

Our very young are violated, innocent souls raped and killed. There is no longer any love that is sincere, true and pure, because there remains little to give after the gratification of the senses. A giving without love which is a prostitution!

What limits will a person not go to, to attain success? The obscenity and evil of television, literature and the cinema show us.

There is too much liberty and too little autonomy with the young. It is the lack of purity which is the true cause of sexual aberrations, drug addiction and the crisis of AIDS. Impurity encourages every sort of infamy against self and others. The mad rush for pleasure makes us forget that man is responsible for his actions, that he is gifted with freedom.

Sexual freedom certainly did not bring in an era of happiness!

Padre Pio? He was pure, he was blessed, he saw God and forever sees Him! May he lead us out of this quagmire to that love and possession of purity that will enable us to see God.

Thanks to Elizabeth Brew

St. Maria Goretti

In 1950, at Rome, a girl who had died at the age of 12 was declared a saint. She had been stabbed to death because she refused to commit an act of impurity. Her name is Maria Goretti.

Maria was born in Ancona, Italy, in 1890. Her father was a tenant farmer; his family moved a lot as he looked for work. He died when Maria was 10.

Maria never had the chance to go to school; she never learned to read or write. But she was carefully instructed in the Catholic faith by her mother, Assunta. She received her First Holy Communion when she was 12.

Assunta had advised her daughter Maria as she had all her children: "Never, at any cost, never must you sin!" Maria never forgot.

Shortly after her First Communion, a 19 year old boy who worked with Maria's family wanted her to be unchaste and threatened her with a knife. When she would not give in, he stabbed her to death.

Many years later, the man who had killed her repented, and turned to a life of devotion. He joined those who sought her canonisation.

Maria is the great saint of purity for our difficult age.

**Extract taken from:
"Following Christ"
Faith and Life Series 6**

Our Lady's Union of Catholic Mothers

Calling all Catholic mothers to join together with their efforts of prayer, works, joys and sufferings. Our Lady's Union of Catholic Mothers is hopefully the answer to the request at Fatima.

Do you wish to offer your life in a spirit of prayer and reparation for the salvation of all sinners, especially those who have most need of Divine Mercy? In the past religious orders were plentiful and the contemplative prayer life within these religious orders stormed heaven, bringing down Grace to the Church and holding back the forces of evil.

It is understood by Our Lady's Union of Catholic Mothers that there is not so much a shortage of priests, as a shortage of **GRACE**. Also loved and appreciated by its members is the value and power within the Sacrament of Marriage, and the real sense of motherhood. Every Catholic mother has the responsibility to bring her child/children to know, love and serve God. She must be open to the gift of life, which must be desired, protected and defended. She has a duty to God to lead the souls of her children to Heaven, by teaching them and nourishing them in the Catholic Faith, handed down by the Apostles, especially by her example. Many Catholic mothers are lamenting and suffering over the cruel loss of their children to the Catholic faith. We know the devil has a well calculated plan to destroy souls, and uses many means to do so. These mothers continue to implore God to send Grace to save them. Our Lady's Union of Catholic Mothers will assist them.

Every mother who genuinely

wishes to bring down Grace from God, through the Immaculate Heart of Mary to prevent error from becoming more widespread and to redirect souls home to God will join Our Lady's Union of Catholic Mothers.

“Do you wish to offer your life in a spirit of prayer and reparation for the salvation of all sinners”

Joined together by means of this title, the offerings of prayers, joys, sufferings and daily duties of each Catholic mother will be strengthened and should remind us that we are in union with the first Catholic mother, namely Our Blessed Lady, who wishes all souls to be saved.

It is the intention of Our Lady's Union of Catholic Mothers to introduce into the married state of life a more contemplative prayer life. We have a plan, which through love, and in union with our Lady, will be carried out by its members without disagreement or complaints because of urgency and our love for Jesus, Mary, and Joseph.

The above is taken from my original piece in Our Lady's Union of Catholic Mothers' brochure. In addition, I should like to qualify that each Catholic mother will contribute at her own pace. Remember we don't all cook the same, clean the same, and act the same. Can you see how each of us is extremely important when we are working together? As individuals, no matter how hard we try, we never reach perfection. This way the best of each is offered to the Father through the Immaculate Heart of Mary, and since she too is part of the Catholic mothers - it is made into a perfect offering by her. Some may offer everything well, whilst others may forget from time to

time (for whatever reason) this is not important because the intention is the greatest act, (trying to please God is more important) as the success of our act is consequently up to Him not us. No matter what, it is His Church and He is still in charge.

A lovely priest put it this way:

“Every Catholic Mother is a champion, a champion team is good, but a team of champions is stronger and greater”.

Every effort in our lives, no matter what we are involved in, joined together with all other efforts will please God and console Him.

Please note that no meetings are necessary, all that is required is our “Yes” and the outward sign is wearing the brooch or the medal designed for Our Lady's Union of Catholic Mothers. This draws other Catholic mothers to strengthen the work, ultimately we will be assisting Our Lady to save souls and deflect Satan. We all look forward to the Triumph of her Immaculate Heart.

A manual is provided in its simplicity to assist each member. Brochures are available, and each member helps to provide a medal for the flood of Third World Catholic mothers who wish to be part of this effort. When all is said and done, “Who is my Mother?” said Jesus. Yes we are our brothers keeper.

(Continued overleaf)

God bless every Mother and keep her safe through Jesus, Mary, and Joseph. God blesses every father with a good wife who keeps order in her family.

Mary McAndrew

Membership forms may be obtained from:

Mrs. Mary McAndrew
2 Bothwell Street
Pascoe Vale
Melbourne VIC 3044
Tel. (03) 9306 7762

I Kissed Dating Goodbye

Written by **JOSHUA HARRIS**
Reviewed by **Margaret Evans**

Are you looking for some guidance in moral action, attitudes and values for your teenagers and young adults? Then try this book. As a mother of six children (ranging from 6 to 20 years of age) I have been both blessed and challenged by this book which is written by a young American Christian.

Joshua Harris was homeschooled. His book comes straight to the point, discussing how if you are interested in living with God's plan for your life then the modern dating scene does not really fit. He examines this concept from several angles such as purity, Scripture, Christian witness, character building, attitudes and values, and how to cope with the people who will think "you are nuts".

Throughout the book the reader is encouraged to think beyond themselves and their immediate situation to what God really is asking of them. "I Kissed Dating Goodbye" speaks to the young Christian because it is written by a young Christian who has struggled with this himself but is

endeavouring to live his life this way because he knows God has asked him to. It is a very encouraging book.

It is not a Catholic book but in spite of this it deals wonderfully with the need for purity in our lives today. Any of the good Scripture bookshops should be able to supply you with a copy. However I suggest that you read it before giving it to your children to read.

Margaret Evans

Thank You

Our unborn baby due early November has been diagnosed with a diaphragmatic hernia. Because the lungs will have difficulty developing due to lack of space (the stomach and other organs are occupying the lung cavity) the doctors are not very optimistic about our baby's chances of survival after birth.

We would like to thank all the people who are praying for us and our baby. We have been overwhelmed by the love and support shown to us by family, friends, friends of friends and many people we don't even know.

May God bless you all

Sue Elvis

Lumeah

A few weeks ago Mr. Elvis and Mr. Fanning bravely took a group of 'mature' homeschoolers away to Lumeah, a small holiday camp in the Jervis Bay National Park, on Sussex Inlet, a few hundred metres from the ocean. It was arranged and designed for children above the age of twelve. The weekend was, in spite of cool temperatures and a bit of rain a huge success. There were no formal activities organised and it was left to the children to amuse themselves (and their supervisors) and this they did. The weekend included Rosary and Mass on Saturday evening at Vincentia.

The children in question were Stephen, Catherine and Brigid Vieira, Melanie, Amber and Simon Irwin, Daniel and Michael Hill, Felicity Elvis and Ben and Michael Fanning. Boys and girls were divided up into two cabins for accommodation, the state of the cabins speaking volumes about the relative standards of hygiene and tidiness of the two groups! The boys were fastidious in maintaining a constant level of litter, washing up and sand on the floor. The chaos was apparent about ten minutes after the boys had taken up residence. Untidier-in-chief was Stephen Vieira, who had brought several sackfuls of toffee wrappers with him from Goulburn so that he might scatter them about the floor when there was a lull in activities. Michael Fanning was the expert sand importer, but these two masters of the craft of messing up rooms had able assistance from Daniel Hill (when awake) and Simon and Michael.

The girls, as you would expect, under the expert stewardship of Melanie, managed to keep their room wonderfully tidy. Meals were prepared by willing mums in advance, and then served by the children on the camp. We ate outside in the outdoor barbecue area, sharing this with the wonderful variety of local fauna at Lumeah - wallabies, parrots and possums etc. The children were always helpful in their catering duties.

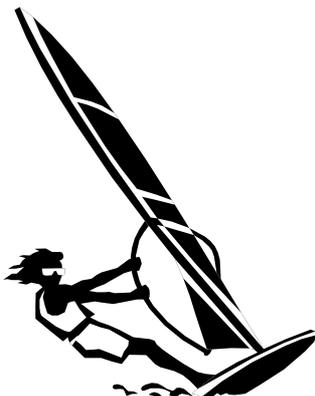
The activities 'indulged' in were mostly old favourites of homeschooling families - spotlight in the dunes, bush walks, the traditional defeat administered by girls to boys on the soccer pitch (beach in this case), though Daniel Hill's gentlemanly conduct towards the girls' team attackers was a large factor, rugby on the beach and swimming and canoeing in the inlet. This latter activity, in what can best be

(Continued overleaf)

described as 'coolish' water temperatures, saw the beach boys (Hills and Irwin) come fully prepared with centrally heated wet suits. This contrasted somewhat with Goulburn boys (M. Fanning and S. Vieira) insulated with nothing more than a pair of board shorts each. Michael and Stephen vied with each other as to who could achieve the deepest shade of blue. Common sense prevailed however and the boys limited themselves to only three hours in the water. Michael managed to import large quantities of the inlet's sand into their cabin during this activity. Needless to say, the girls did not venture into the water. They, like all passing locals, simply shook their heads and smiled knowingly at the antics of the boys.

And so Sunday lunch was over, the washing up completed and the excess food piled back into the cars for the trip back up the track and then on home. The children appeared pretty tired but all agreed that the exercise should be repeated early next year when the weather should be a little warmer.

Any parents of children interested in a repeat of this camp should contact **Shaun Fanning (02) 4822 3973**



The Bushdance

The weather was kind to us that Sunday, despite dismal prophecies, and gave us a beautiful sunny day, just right for dancing. The would-be dancers all gathered at the Brearley's house and had lunch in the barbecue area whilst waiting for the caller to arrive. When he did arrive, he set up his equipment and we all gathered in the tennis-court for the first dance.

Before the first dance, the caller introduced himself and showed us a few things. An interesting fact, he told us, was that Mr. Fanning was the reigning Australian Bushdancing Champion! Of course, Mr Fanning was too modest to tell us this himself! It was a great honour to dance with a champion. I hope he didn't mind me stepping on his toes. The first dance was called "Heel and Toe" and gave me (I don't know about the others) plenty of scope for messing up. There were two more dances after that, and then we had a break.

During the break, there were little kids dances. After the break, we had a Queensland dance, I think, which was rather tiring and a rather stupid line dance called "The Cockroach". Then we had another break.

The third period of dances was more interesting. There was a dance called the "Drongo" a sort of "Musical Chairs" dance which needed boy and girl partners and a "Drongo" in the middle. The Drongo had to, in part of the dance, join hands with the people of their own sex and dance round until the music stopped. Then they had to find a partner. In our case the Drongo was a girl. I have never seen girls run so fast towards boys.

There was then a dancing competition for the title of Bushdancing Champions for 1999. I partnered Catherine Small since she was too shy to get a boy and many other strange partnerships occurred, such as Stephen Vieira and Christopher Brealey and Mary Rose

Fanning with Elizabeth Vieira.

We had to dance "Heel and Toe" as well as watch out for commands from the caller. From time to time, the caller would stop the music and call out one of three commands; either "Bushranger", "Settler", or "Shearer". If he called out "Bushranger" you had to link your elbows into your partner's. If he called out "Settler" you had to sit your partner on your knee. Finally, if he called out "Shearer" you had to make a bridge with your own and your partner's hands. The last pair to complete the correct command was eliminated.

It was extremely nerve-racking to keep dancing, listening all the while for the commands of the caller, I had my back to the caller so I had to ask Catherine if he looked like stopping the music. By some great miracle, Catherine and I got through most of it. We now were in the final elimination round with Marianne and Peter Stevens.

We were judged inferior to the Stevens (mostly because we kept getting our feet mixed) and thankfully left the field. I wondered afterwards what Mr Fanning must have felt like, having to give up his crown to two mere youngsters!

A few more dances, and it was time for the caller to go. We were only quietened by the fact that he might come to Fitzroy Falls Camp next year. The rest of us (excepting the Vieiras) stayed for dinner and then we went home, tired but happy.

Felicity Elvis

Canberra Christian Education Seminar and Show

PROGRAMME

Sess	Time	Topic	Speaker
1	10.00 - 10.30	Home Education Today	Peter Frogley
MORNING BREAK			
2	10.45 - 11.30	ELECTIVES for remainder of day	
		1. Keeping Records 2. Grammar - 8 parts of speech 3. Teaching Multiple Ages	Merrin Larsen Terry Harding John Angelico
3	11.45 - 12.45	1. Experiments in Science 2. Getting into TAFE and University 3. LEM Phonics	John Angelico Terry Harding Evelyn Garrard
LUNCH			
4	2.00 - 2.45	1. Getting Started in Home Education 2. Why Teach Phonics? 3. Teaching Art	John Angelico Terry Harding Peter Frogley
5	3.00 - 3.45	1. Avoiding Pitfalls in Home Education 2. Teaching Science from a Christian Perspective 3. Importance of Music in Christian Education	Peter Frogley Andrew Snowden Malcolm Gibb
	4.00 - 7.30	Curriculum Show	
6	7.30 - 8.00	The Family as Chief Educator	John Angelico

Venue Details:

Tuesday 31 August 1999
Hughes Baptist Church
Groom Street
Hughes ACT

Minor adjustments may be made to the programme on the day

Enquiries and registrations:
Annie Thackway Tel. (02) 6288062

Cheques to:
Canberra CHESS 1999
Combined Seminar and Show:
Single \$20, Family \$30

Early Bird Registration:
Single \$15, Family \$25
(one week before seminar date)

Curriculum Show only:
\$5 (at the door)

Children welcome, must be quiet and accountable to parents at all times

Jointly sponsored by Light Educational Ministries, Kingsley Educational, Southern Cross

The Rock Dodge!

We set off on a rough bush trail in the Bungonia Gorge, but it was not much of a walk. You see, the track was covered with dust and sizeable stones, the type that makes you slip when you step on large heaps of it, so it was more of a slide. It was very fun for me, but Felicity (my sister), Dad, Mr Fanning, Mick and Ben Fanning, and Christopher Brearley were more cautious.

At last we came to the bottom of the gorge. I felt quite relieved because we were off the slope. After a rest we set off along a creek on rocks and boulders. There were large hunks of slate, very good for steps. I was excited. But about half way through the rocks got so big we had to really climb them. Imagine climbing car-sized, very smooth, very slippery, white rocks, well it's not easy, especially because of

the rain. But at last we got out of the rocks, and had a long rest because we were so tired. After a rest we started to climb up again. It was so steep that we got tired again at once. After a long time we finished the walk, it had been a very tiring but exciting day. And I don't know how but as we got to the end I ran all the way back.

Duncan Elvis

The Lost Prince

Written by FRANCES HODGESON BURNETT.

Reviewed by Felicity Elvis

On the back of my copy of "The Lost Prince", it called the book "(a) stirring, deeply romantic adventure story." Upon reading it, I thought, "this is wrong, there are no marriages or anything in it". But, thinking about it some more, the words were quite right - it is a romantic story about a boy named

Marco and a lost prince. Marco and his father travelled all over Europe, posing as a poor writer and his son. (They were nobility really, but Marco didn't know that.) At the age of seven, Marco swore, with sword in hand, to be loyal to Samavia, his father's country, which was swamped by civil war.

Then, at twelve, Marco made friends with a cripple called The Rat, and from that friendship arose "The Game", an activity that was to save Samavia.

Felicity Elvis



New Competition

Entrants should state their name, age and address

Prizes: 1st \$15
 2nd \$10
 3rd \$5

Send entries to:

Fr Tierney
 Laureleigh
 1585 Taralga Road
 Tarlo NSW 2580

Tel/Fax. (02) 4829 0297
 Submissions to be received by:
Monday, 11 October 1999



1. **TRANSUBSTANTIATION:** In the blessed Eucharist, Christ is *contained, offered and received* (Canon 897, quoting Trent). Thus the Mass is a presence-sacrament, a sacrifice-sacrament, and a communion-sacrament. Write the equivalent of one typed A4 page on **the Eucharist as a 'presence-sacrament'**.
2. **GOOD HYMNS** have poetic qualities. Find them in the five Eucharistic hymns of St. Thomas Aquinas.
3. **GOLDEN NUMBER:** The ancients decided that the ideal picture frame, whether portrait or landscape should be proportioned with its short side to its long side about 3:5 or 5:8. Now find the secret of the numbers 0, 1, 1, 2, 3, 5, 8, 13, 21 etc. Using a calculator find the decimal value of each number divided by the next, ie. 0/1, 1/1, 1/2, 2/3, 3/5, 5/8 etc. Put these decimals turn by turn in two columns (calculate at least 5 in each). What is the trend in the first column? What in the second? Do they approximate to the Golden Proportion whose exact value is $(\sqrt{5}-1)/2$?

Use a ruler and compass to make a rectangle whose sides have this proportion. (hint: root 5 is the long side of a right-angled triangle with other sides 1 & 2) For further information look up 'Fibonacci'.

Sydney Christian Education Seminar and Show

PROGRAMME

Ses	Time	Topic	Speaker
1	10.00 - 10.30	Home Education Today	Peter Frogley
		MORNING BREAK	
2	10.45 - 11.30	ELECTIVES for remainder of day	
		1. Keeping Records 2. Grammar - 8 parts of speech 3. Teaching Multiple Ages	Bruce McNeice Terry Harding John Angelico
3	11.45 - 12.45	1. Experiments in Science 2. Getting into TAFE and University 3. LEM Phonics	John Angelico Terry Harding Peter Frogley
		LUNCH	
4	2.00 - 2.45	1. Getting Started in Home Education 2. Why Teach Phonics? 3. Teaching Art	John Angelico Terry Harding Peter Frogley
5	3.00 - 3.45	1. Avoiding Pitfalls in Home Education 2. Teaching Science from a Christian Perspective 3. Importance of Music in Christian Education	Peter Frogley Answers in Genesis Malcolm Gibb
	4.00 - 7.30	Curriculum Show	
6	7.30 - 8.00	The Family as Chief Educator	John Angelico

Venue Details:

Saturday 4 September 1999
 Condell Park Christian School
 29 Lancelot Street
 Condell Park NSW

Minor adjustments may be made to the programme on the day

Enquiries and registrations:
 Peter Frogley Tel. (02) 6241 9202

Cheques to:

Sydney CHESS 1999

Combined Seminar and Show:

Single \$20, Family \$30

Early Bird Registration:

Single \$15, Family \$25
 (one week before seminar date)

Curriculum Show only:

\$5 (at the door)

Children welcome, must be quiet and accountable to parents at all times

Jointly sponsored by Light Educational
 Ministeries, Kingsley Educational,
 Southern Cross Educational