

St John's Parish

Primary School



February 6, 2017 No. 1

COMING UP AT ST JOHN'S

FEBRUARY	7	Tuesday	Parent Association Meeting, 7.00pm
	8	Wednesday	No School for Preps
	9	Thursday	Prep Welcome Dinner, 6.00pm
	13	Monday	School Photos
	14	Tuesday	Parent/ Teacher/ Students "Getting to Know You" Discussions
	15	Wednesday	No School for Preps Parent/ Teacher/ Students "Getting to Know You" Discussions
	19	Sunday	Founders Day Mass/ 65th Year Parish Anniversary/ Farewell to Fr Mark, 11.15am
	20	Monday	School Assembly, 8.50am Twilight School Sports, 4.45pm

Click here to access St John's [Parish Newsletter](#)

*Lord God, you love us more than we can ever imagine.
Guide us at the beginning of this school year.
Help us to grow and be nourished in many ways as Jesus' disciples.
Renew our passion for sharing your wisdom and nurture our compassion
for those in need of greater support.*

Dear Parents,

We welcome all our families to the 2017 school year. Beginning each school year for me as principal is filled with excitement. I just love the opportunity to be on this journey with every family and watching our students grow every day both in their confidence and their learning. I feel so blessed to have such a passionate and committed staff who aspire to be the best they can be and you can see this by the wonderful vibrant learning spaces.



Our word to drive our learning and teaching this year is **GROW**.

We look forward to sharing with you how this will be developed in 2017. In the office foyer we have a special display with all students and staff hands to show how we will grow together this year.

UNIFORM SHOP

Open first Monday of each month
8.30 -9.00am Multi Purpose Room

CO-ORDINATOR

Kathleen Spicer

LUNCH ORDERS

Every Tuesday Lunchtime
To order register online:
www.flexischools.com.au

CAMP AUSTRALIA

Before & After School Care 1300 105 343

CO-ORDINATOR

Cherry Manapol

HOURS: 7.00 -8.30 am
3.20 -6.15 pm

SCHOOL OFFICE HOURS

Monday -Friday, 8.30am -4.00pm

PARISH CONTACTS:

PH: 9873 1341

PARISH PRIEST

Father Dispin John

PARISH SECRETARIES

Mrs. Elisa Kelesidis
Mrs. Martine Giles

PASTORAL ASSOCIATES

Mrs. Maree O'Keefe

We welcome our new families to St John's:

Baguley	Borloz	Bright	Clifford/Natoli	Finlay	Godfrey Hale		
Zhao	Horvat	Hualngo	Idirisinghe	Kim	Pettit	Villalon	Yang

We especially welcome our new students:

Monique, Riley, Alana, Lexie, Evie, Ellie, Luka, Samuel, Isaac, Lachlan, Ben, Milla, Gabi, Ruah, Victor, Basti, Christine, Anna, Kevin, Jeff, Lynda and Matthew(MJ)

A special welcome to our new parish priest Fr. Dispin John. Some of you may have met him at weekend masses over the past few weeks. Dispin is very keen to have an active role in school events and is looking forward to the opportunity to meet you all.

A big thank you to our Parents' Association for providing a wonderful morning tea on the first day back. It was great seeing our families enjoying one another's company. There is more included in today's newsletter about the PA so please read on!

Included in today's newsletter is the calendar for Term 1 and Year level newsletters for Prep and Year 1/2. The term newsletters for Years 3/4 and 5/6 will be available next week. We will also send out a 2017 full year calendar later this week.

Student Leadership

We congratulate all our Year 6 students on their leadership roles this year. We will have an official badge presentation ceremony on Monday 20 February and invite all parents to attend. The leadership positions are as follows:

School Captains:	Charlotte Cetoupe and Jeremy Sniegowski
School Vice Captains:	Ashley Annett and David Elliott
Sports Leaders:	Elena Ibarra, Josh Jenkins, Megan Smith, Callum Leyden, George Molnar, Annabelle Taylor
ICT Leaders:	Aidan Doherty, Nicholas Novak, Frank Guo, Ryan Werikhe
Arts Leaders:	Sally Spicer, Chloe Li, Talia Saez, Frances Wang
Environment Leaders:	Patrick Stanyer, Sareana Bastian, Emma Breden, Alex Chan
Social Justice:	Frances Taboada, Aaliyah Gencarelli, Charlotte Pearce, Jade Iacuone, Lynda Kim

Introducing our 2017 school captains

My name is Charlotte Cetoupe. I am 11 years old and my role this year at St John's is School Captain. My favourite subjects are Writing and Art and I enjoy drawing, singing, reading and creating different pieces of artwork. I am also part of the School Choir and Scottish Dancing group.

Outside of school I do scouts, piano and art classes. My goal for this year is to improve my leadership skills and make the school a great place so that everyone feels excited when coming to school.

Hi, my name is Jeremy and I am the School Captain of 2017. I love sport especially football, soccer, badminton and many other sports. I am 11 years and I was born on the 22nd of November 2005. I love animals - all animals and airplanes. This year as school captain I want to try and raise more money for Caritas Australia.

My name is Ashley Annett and I'm 11 years old. This year I am Vice- captain of St John's. My favourite subjects at school are Writing, Art and Performing Arts. I am a part of the school choir and Scottish dancing group. Outside of school I am a dancer, scout and netballer. I am passionate about animals, the way they are treated and their rights. My goal for this year is to make sure all the students at this school are happy.

Hi, I'm David and this year I am the Vice-captain for our school. I like playing basketball and helping people. In past years I have contributed in Scottish dancing and choir. I am 11 years' old and my birthday is 11th of October 2005. This year I hope to help the school with anything that you need or you think is best. I want to grow in my public speaking skills.



Staffing 2017

Fr. Dispin John	Parish Priest
Jacqui Marshall	Principal
Beth Johnson	Deputy Principal, Student Wellbeing & 5/6 support
Naomi Curtis	Prep Teacher
Vicky Pejic	Year 1/2 Teacher
Bianca Martino	Year 1/2 Teacher, Learning and Teaching Leader and eLearning Leader
Emma Buis	Year 3/4 Teacher
Kellie Cumming	Year 3/4 Teacher and Numeracy Leader
Rebecca Fry	Year 3/4 Teacher
Tom Jackson	Year 5/6 Teacher and PE Teacher
Monica O'Shannassy	Year 5/6 Teacher and Religious Education Coordinator and Learning and Teaching Leader
Penelope Lang	Performing Art Teacher/Leader
Anne Sciola	Italian Teacher
Ange Crowe	Literacy Leader and Reading Recovery
Rosemary Vastbinder	Classroom teacher (Tuesday 3/4KC)
Melinda Kerwin	Learning Support Officer (Prep and 1/2)
Kim Wilson-Hartrick	Learning Support Officer (Year 3/4)
Nicole Dunning	Learning Support Officer (Year 3/4)
Kate Hetherington	Learning Support Officer (Year 3/4)
Julie Carroll	Learning Support Officer (Year 3/4)
Connie Pearse	Learning Support Officer (Year 5/6)
Sue Walmsley	Library Administration
Jenny Macleod	Office Administration

Parent/Teacher/Student - "Getting to Know You" Discussions

We look forward to seeing all our families on Tuesday 14 February (3:50pm – 7pm) and Wednesday 15 February (3:50pm – 6pm) our getting to know you discussions. This is a fantastic opportunity for families and teachers to meet and for families to share a little about your child and their hopes and dreams for the year ahead. Students are welcome to attend with their parents. Research tells us that students experience greater success in their learning when there are strong, positive relationships between home and school and parents have an active role in their children's learning. Information on how to book an interview time is located further in the newsletter.

Car parking – "Kiss and Drop Area"

As we begin another school year it is an important time to remind you of the importance of using the Kiss and Drop area outside the front of the school correctly in the morning. To allow traffic to move please do not leave your vehicle. If you wish to come into the school, please park on the basketball courts. We have also noticed that some vehicles are not stopping at the stop sign outside the church. For your safety please drive cautiously around the school. Thanks for your support with this matter.

School photo's

2017 school photos will be taking place on Monday 13 February. Students are to wear their full summer uniform.

St John's Parish Feb Feast

The Parish Feb feast cultural food event will be held on **Friday February 24** here at St Johns beginning at 6:30pm. Tickets will be on sale after each mass this weekend. \$25 per adult, Children \$5 includes soft drink and icy pole.

Year 7 enrolment changes for Catholic Secondary schools

Last year changes were made to the enrolment process. If your child is currently in Year 6 applications close on 17 February 2017. If your child is currently in Year 5 applications close on 25 August 2017.

Student verification and medical forms

These forms were sent home late last week. Could you please ensure they are returned by Friday as it is vital that we have up to date contact and medical details for all students.

CSEF Information

The Camps, Sports and Excursions fund (CSEF) is provided by the Victorian Government to assist eligible families to cover costs of school trips, camps and sporting activities. If you hold a valid concession card, you may be eligible. Please see information later in the newsletter.

Camp Australia

Camp Australia have begun as the provider for our before and after school care program and I thank you all for your support during this time of change. The new co-ordinator for the program is Cherry Manapol and she is very excited to be part of our community.

You can register for an account and manage your bookings at www.campaustalia.com.au or call the Customer Service Team on 1300 105 343. Please feel free to contact Jenny in the office if you have any further queries about the program.

I hope everyone has a great week and I look forward to seeing many of you at the Prep/Year 1 Welcome Family Dinner on Thursday Night.

Jacqui Marshall
Principal

Our Lady of Sion College Enrolment Information - Year 7 2018

The closing date for Year 7 2018 applications is Friday 17 February 2017

We invite both new families and families with daughters already at the College to lodge an application by this date. Applications are available from College Reception or www.sion.catholic.edu.au

1065 Whitehorse Rd, Box Hill, 3128
Phone 03 9890 9097
Email info@sion.catholic.edu.au



UNIFORM SHOP

The Uniform Shop was open today and will be open on the first Monday of each month during school term. Families that are unable to attend at this time are able to place an order at the office for pickup and payment at a later date.

CDF BANKING



CDF (Catholic Development Fund) Student Banking will commence this Wednesday 8 February. Students are able to open an

account by filling in the application form available from the school office.



Please remember to like our Facebook page **St John's Parish Primary School Mitcham** to stay up to date with upcoming events

BIRTHDAYS

Welcome back!

Congratulations to the following people who celebrated their birthday on the school holidays: Gabriel Gonzalez, Abigail leyden, Atonio Tauali'I Anna Finlay, Isaac Indirisinghe, Emma Breaden, Frances Wang, Luka Horvat, Kane Crawford, Elena Ibarra, Ellie Hale, Aidan Puls, Ashley Annett and Harry Molnar-Andric.

This week we congratulate Mikayla Rodstrom, Emma Oakley and Thomas Stanyer.



FROM YOUR PARENTS' ASSOCIATION ---- Do we have news for you? Read on! Do you have news for us? Tell us on yourpa.sjm@gmail.com or like us on Facebook at "St John's Parish Primary Mitcham".

Welcome

The new school year has launched and so have the activities of the St John's Parents Association! We would like to welcome all of you to the new year, particularly prep families and others who are new to the school. The Parents Association's primary objectives are to support the principles of inclusivity and compassion in our school community as well as raising funds/applying for grants for the benefit of our kids' wellbeing and education. Regardless of whether you have a specific role on the PA committee, you – as a parent/carer – are automatically a member of the PA. You can be involved as much or as little as you choose. Feel free to approach any of the PA committee members for a chat – we are all extraordinarily nice! Keep an eye on the communication board that lives in the passive play area, just outside the office. News of events and other articles of interest are posted there, and soon there will be photos of all the committee members so that you can look out for us around the place.

Changes to the Committee in 2017

We warmly welcome Yvonne Williams (Treasurer), Elizabeth Watkin (Secretary), Fiona D'Abico and Monica Deehan (general committee members) to their new roles.

First-day-back Morning Tea

It was fantastic to see so many new (and old!) faces at the first-day-back morning tea. A big thank you to the generous families who brought along the tasty treats.

Prep/Year 1 Welcome Barbeque: Thursday 9 February 6 P.M.

There will be another opportunity for new and old families to socialize this coming Thursday at the prep/year 1 welcome barbeque. This event was a great success last year – a chance for parents, teachers and kids to get to know each other in a relaxed setting. Dinner is provided and the children will be able to watch a movie while the adults mingle and chat. We extend a very warm invitation to all prep and year 1 families.

Parents' Association meeting: Tuesday 7 February 7 P.M., Zebedee Room

Our first meeting for 2017 will be this Tuesday evening. Future meeting times will be published in a forthcoming newsletter. The meetings are monthly and alternate between Tuesday and Wednesday nights. If you would like to be involved or are just curious about the role of the PA, please feel free to come along. There will be no pressure for you to commit to anything, and we would love to see you there! The Zebedee room (for those of you who are new to the school) is located close to the carpark and faces the Mary MacKillop Space (where assemblies are held).

Instrumental Music Lessons



ROCKiSKOOL is now accepting new enrolments for instrumental music lessons at school. Tuition is available for Singing, Ukulele, Guitar, Bass Guitar, Drums, Tin Whistle, Recorder, Flute, Clarinet, Clarineo, Saxophone, Trumpet and Trombone. Lessons are in small groups or for the serious Musos, solo lessons are available as well. For more information on the program and to enroll, please visit our website at - www.rockiskool.com. Or call Anthony Merchant on 0425 738 420.



Welcome to Prep!

A big hello to our new families and congratulations to all our preps who have finished their very first week of school at St John's. Although we only had 4 half days, we had lots of fun and learnt lots of new things about our school. I hope you and your child are looking forward to an exciting year ahead! I would also like to introduce Melinda Kerwin (pictured below far right) who will be assisting us in the classroom on a regular basis (Learning Support Officer).



Our First Lunchtime

Our theme this year throughout the whole school is 'Grow'. This year we will surely grow in size, but we will also grow better at things, both in our actions and in our minds. We will grow to become Jesus people who love one another and always try their best. We will be talking lots about this concept throughout the year and I invite you to talk with your child about how they would like to grow this year.

Some Reminders:

-Please label **everything!**

-Book bags: for notices and eventually library books and readers. Please check daily and return to school each day. If you do not have one they can be purchased from Jenny in the office.

-Children must wear hats outside in terms 1 and 4. Children without a hat will need to play undercover in the passive play area.

-Preps will have Sport on Tuesdays and will need to wear their sports uniform (polo, shorts/skort, runners).



Our first day of school photos can be seen on our classroom door

Food:

-Brain food is eaten at approx. 10am each day. This can be fruit or vegetables cut into small pieces. Please also bring a drink bottle to school every day.

-Please be aware that some children in our class have nut allergies and cannot come into contact with these foods. Thank you for your understanding with this.

Communication:

Communication is vital between home and school and an important way to develop our partnership. As mentioned above, the book bags are used for notices. The weekly school newsletter should keep you informed of all upcoming events and reminders are also sent out on the school app. I am available most afternoons after school and can always be contacted via email. Please don't hesitate to ask questions or clarify anything you may be unsure of.

ncurtis@sjmitcham.catholic.edu.au

Bucket Filling at St John's:

Last week the preps learnt that everyone has an invisible bucket. When you say and do nice things your bucket fills up, but when you are mean or you feel sad your bucket is empty. This concept of 'filling a bucket' runs through the whole school and encourages positive behaviour. Below is a photo of our class bucket that we will try to fill each day. You might like to speak with your child further about this. Here are some ways we said we could fill up a bucket:

- | | |
|--------------------------|---------------------------|
| -Use manners | -Smile |
| -Share my toys | -Say nice words to people |
| -Let people play with me | -Be helpful |
| -Clean my room | |
| -Give hugs | |

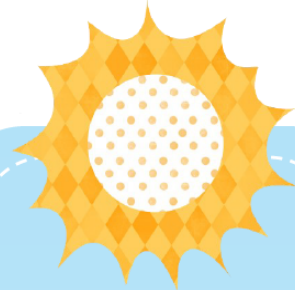


Please note that the next three Wednesdays are a rest day for preps (Feb 8th, 15th and 22nd). I look forward to seeing you and your family (including your prep child) at the Prep Family Welcome dinner this Thursday at 6pm. Dinner will be provided.



I will share more information with you about prep life, routines and curriculum at the Prep Information Night on Tuesday 28th February at 7pm.

Naomi Curtis
Prep Teacher



1/2 Newsletter

Welcome to 2017! We are so excited for a fantastic year of learning. We have already settled beautifully into our learning areas and are enjoying the opportunity to work with some new faces. We are so lucky to have two classes, which means we can work in an open space with flexibility. Students will experience working in their learning areas, as well as in different small groups and with the other class.

The big word of the year is GROW and we have already had the opportunity to explore this word. These are some of our ideas...

- ◇ Our heart grows when we fill each other's buckets
- ◇ When we eat food, our brain and body grows.
- ◇ Our relationship with God grows over time.
- ◇ When we learn new things, we grow.

We can't wait to see all the 1/2 students GROW in confidence and happiness this year.

Last week we named our two classes. We now have the Boomerangs and the Vilijes. The students had lots of fun looking up different names and deciding as a class what we would be called. We will be referring to these names a lot throughout the year. The middle of our learning space is called Canberra (Aboriginal word for meeting place). We look forward to gathering in this space for different purposes. We also welcome Ange Crowe to the Boomerang classroom. She will be working in this space on Wednesday and Thursday afternoons. Melinda will also be supporting both learning areas.

Reminders

Can we please ask that students please start bringing their art smocks to school. We will begin Visual Arts this week. Visual Arts will take place on a Friday. Sport will be on Tuesday and on Fridays we will be taking the students outside to play a variety of games. Please wear sports uniform on both of these days. If you have any questions, issues or concerns throughout the year please do not hesitate to contact us. You are more than welcome to come and talk to us before or after school or please email us on bmartino@sjmitcham.catholic.edu.au or vpejic@sjmitcham.catholic.edu.au.

We require your email addresses so we can send you weekly emails about our learning, reminders and details of upcoming events and activities. Please click on the link next to your child's class and fill in your details. 1/2 BM <https://goo.gl/CINuAi> 1/2 VP <https://goo.gl/HLCYdO> !

Classroom support

Starting from next week we will begin Reading Groups. We will have a timetable up for you to sign on the door under the Breezeway if you wish to help support us in our literacy sessions. We would love to see lots of parents helping, however it is a school requirement that you complete the "Parent Helpers Course" and have a current working with children's check. Please speak to Ange Crowe (acrowe@sjmitcham.catholic.edu.au), our literacy leader, if you need to sign up for this course which usually runs at the end of February.

Social and Emotional Learning

In Social and Emotional Learning students will develop an awareness of their personal strengths and how they can use them in their everyday life. They will explore ways of making and keeping friends and how these skills are needed in the playground and classroom. We will also look at emotions in ourselves and others and learn how to bounce back from difficult situations. We will be using the resources “The Berry Street Educational Model” and “Bounce Back to support our teaching and learning in the classroom. Circle Time will be held regularly and will be an opportunity where the students can express themselves verbally through discussions, role plays and games.

Mathematics

This term we will be exploring four core topics: Counting and Place Value, Pattern, Length & Area and 2D Shape. Through tuning in activities and small and whole class focus teaching groups the students will explore many key concepts in these topics. We encourage the use of Mathletics for home learning. It would be great if the students could use Mathletics two to three times per week.

English

This term the students will be consolidating a number of reading strategies such as stretching out words, chunking and looking for small words in big words. We will discuss the characters and settings of different texts and learn about different reading strategies such as predicting, sequencing, questioning and making connections to help us comprehend the text. We will be having a spelling focus once a week and we will be exploring how the combination of letters can make different sounds. In writing we will have a focus on the 6 + 1 traits of writing, learning how to make our writing more interesting to the reader. We understand that developing a child’s oral language is important and we will be having ‘Talk Time’ which will be held every Tuesday. All students are encouraged to bring something from home to share with the class.

We encourage the use of Reading Eggs for home learning as well. We recommend 15 minutes at least three times a week, along with reading their reader nightly. It is important that you sign their reading record after you have read with your child, so we know they have read their reader to an adult.

Inquiry

Our inquiry unit this term has a big focus on ‘identity’. We will be exploring this question as a class- “How do I belong to my family, school and the wider community”. We will discuss how we contribute to the world in which we live and how others contribute to our world. Students will also identify what is similar and what is different in culturally diverse families. This also links with our RE unit “We Are One Family” as we will learn how we belong to the Church. We will reflect on the importance of belonging and explain ways people can belong in God’s family.

Religious Education





Our other unit is Journey to the Cross. In this unit, the students will understand that:

- ◇ Ash Wednesday is the beginning of Lent.
- ◇ Lent is a time for prayer, fasting and service.
- ◇ Lent and Holy Week are important times in the Church year and are celebrated through liturgy, story, symbols and actions.
- ◇ Lent and Holy Week recall the life, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ.
- ◇ Jesus’ actions during the Last Supper demonstrate how Christians are called to be people of service.

St John's Twilight School Sports

The St. John's Twilight Sports athletics carnival will be held on Monday the 20th February from 4:45 to 7:00 pm weather permitting at the Bill Sewart Athletics Track in Burwood East (behind Nunawading Basketball stadium). We encourage all families to come along to support and cheer on our wonderful students.

Students will have the chance to prepare and train for the event during sport and PE lessons prior to our Twilight sports night. Relay practice lead by the Year 6 sports captains will be held on the tennis courts during first half of lunchtime on the following days;

-  Dillon (blue) Friday 10th Feb
-  Lyon (green) – Tuesday 14th Feb
-  Durkin (red) Thursday 16th Feb
-  Coghlan (gold) Friday 17th Feb



Students are encouraged to wear their sports uniform and coloured t- shirt on their practice day.

A separate notice regarding the Twilight sports will be sent home today with students with relevant information to be returned to school by Wednesday 15th of February.

Tom Jackson

Marathon Club

Come and join us for fun, fitness and food!!!

Every Tuesday and Thursday, students from years 3-6 are invited to join us for a brisk walk, a jog or a no-nonsense run!

We meet at 7.45 in the school foyer, leave the school premises for a short time and return to the multi-purpose room for breakfast. Students are supervised at all times.

Students are asked to bring \$5.00 per term to cover food costs.

Begins tomorrowTuesday, 7 February.

It would be wonderful to see some new facesWe look forward to seeing you there!



St John's Term 1, 2017 Calendar

FEBRUARY

Mon 6 th	Assembly 8:50am Preps Full Days – Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays, Fridays
Tue 7 th	PA meeting 7pm
Wed 8 th	No Preps
Thu 9 th	Prep Welcome Dinner 6pm
Mon 13 th	School Photos
Tue 14 th	Parent/ Teacher/ Students “Getting to Know You” Discussions
Wed 15 th	No Preps Parent/ Teacher/ Students “Getting to Know You” Discussions
Sun 19 th	Opening of the School Year Mass/ Founder's Day Mass (65 years Parish) / Farewell to Fr Mark 11.15am SJM
Mon 20 th	Assembly 8:50am Twilight Sports 4:45pm
Wed 22 nd	No Preps
Thu 23 rd	Helen Carboon (Prep families) @ SVJ 7:30pm
Fri 24 th	Early Finish 1pm Feb Feast (Twilight event)
Sun 26 th	Parish Family Mass 9:45am
Mon 27 th	Camp meeting - Yr 5/6 parents at SVJ Community Centre 7:30pm
Tue 28 th	Burning of the Palms 9:15am Prep 2017 Information night 7pm

MARCH

Wed 1 st	Ash Wednesday Mass 10am
Mon 6 th	Assembly 8:50am
Tue 7 th	Education Board meeting 7pm
Wed 8 th	PA Meeting 7pm
Thu 9 th	1 st Eucharist Parent Info 7:30pm
Fri 10 th	Ride to School Day
Mon 13 th	LABOUR DAY – No School
14 th -17 th	Year 6 camp @ Lake Nillahcootie
Sat 18 th	1 st Eucharist Commitment 6pm
Sun 19 th	1 st Eucharist Commitment 9:45am
Mon 20 th	Assembly 8:50am
Tue 21 st	Harmony Day
Thu 23 rd	First Reconciliation 7:30pm
Sun 26 th	Parish Family Mass 9:45am PA Amazing Race
Thu 30 th	First Reconciliation 7:30pm
Fri 31 st	TERM 1 ENDS
Sat 1 st	PA Bunnings BBQ

EASTER

Sun 9 th	April	Palm Sunday
Thu 13 th	April	Holy Thursday
Fri 14 th	April	Good Friday
Sat 15 th	April	Holy Saturday
Sun 16 th	April	Easter Sunday

Other important dates for 2017

<u>TUESDAY</u> 18th April	Term 2 begins
26/27th April	Year 5 Camp
9-11th May	NAPLAN Testing Year 3 & 5
30th June	Term 2 ends
17th July	Term 3 begins
28/29th July	Confirmation
22nd September	Term 3 ends
9th October	Term 4 begins
Tuesday 19th December	Last day for students & Thanksgiving Mass

School Closure dates for 2017

Friday 24th February	1pm Finish for students
Friday 19th May	Staff Professional Development
Monday 21st August	Staff Professional Development
Monday 6th November	Report writing
Friday 17th November	Staff Professional Development
Friday 8th December	Staff Professional Development

“When we learn together, we GROW together”

Our word for 2017 is GROW. As a school we will be looking for ways to ensure we grow in all aspects of our being.

In the display in the foyer, students have written goals and aspirations for the year, ways in which they would like to grow.



**We are each unique and beautiful
but together
we are a masterpiece**

Here are a sample of some of our goals:

I want to grow into a healthy and kind person- Alana (Prep)

I'm going to grow by learning from my mistakes- Harrison (1/2)

I will grow by focusing in SEL to help me learn to be the best person I can be- Tristan (3/4)

This year I will grow bravery and I will keep persisting in my work

At St. John's, we value quality learning and teaching and it is our core business as a school. Our goal in Learning and Teaching from our School Improvement Plan is to “further develop a high quality contemporary learning environment in which all students are challenged and supported to experience ongoing success and which leads to higher levels of student engagement and improved student outcomes”.

This year we aim to focus on engaging students and parents more in the learning process. Staff will continue to receive professional learning on how we can enhance quality learning and teaching at St. John's. We hope to keep you regularly informed on the professional learning staff are receiving and how this is impacting students learning.

We look forward to leading and learning with you this year.

Many thanks,
Monica and Bianca.



FEB FEAST **Parish community event on** **FRIDAY 24th February 2017** **at St. John's**

Enjoy foods from Italy, Vietnam, Poland,
Cook Islands, Malta, Sri Lanka UK,
Australia

Time: 6.30 pm start...until the food
runs out!!

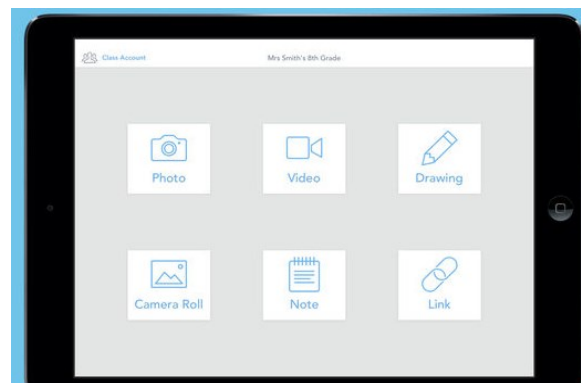
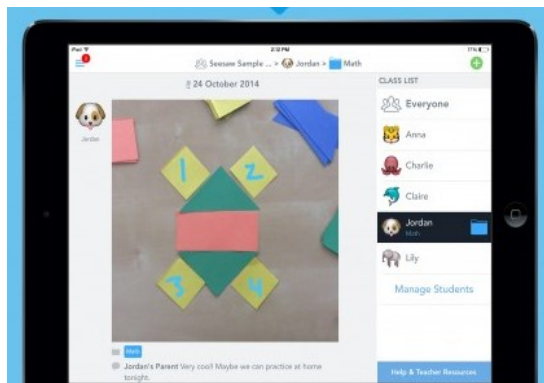
Tickets: \$25
on sale after Masses on 4th /5th Feb
Kids \$5 - sausages/drink/icypole





The Learning Journal

This semester the 5/6 learning area will be trialling electronic learning journals, using the program 'Seesaw'. Seesaw is a student driven portfolio and provides the opportunity for students to independently document what they are learning in the classroom. They can show evidence of their learning using photos, videos, drawings, text, PDFs and links.



Seesaw not only shows the child's end result, but the learning process as they can reflect on their learning using their many built in tools such as audio recording, drawing and captions. Once their work is uploaded, it is immediately accessible to not only teachers but also parents. Teachers must always approve of any work before it is uploaded and parents get notified via app notifications or email when their child has uploaded a new piece of work. Your child's learning journal is private and secure and only you as the parent and the teacher have access to it.



The benefits are that it provides students with an authentic audience as they can receive real, timely feedback. It also allows parents to support their child's learning at home.

For parents to have access to their child's work they must download the Seesaw app. Seesaw is supported by iOS devices, android devices, chromebooks and kindle fire. You will also receive a signup code from either Monica or Tom, so you can access your child's learning journal.

At the conclusion of the semester we will be requesting feedback from the year 5/6 families about their likes/dislikes about the app. Depending on the feedback, we will inform you whether other year levels will be using this program in the second half of the year.

If you have any questions or wonderings about this trial or the program, please do not hesitate to speak to us.

Bianca, Monica and Tom.

Class Act 50 Task Challenge Building a Better Online World

This term the 3-6s will be participating in the Class Act 50 Task Challenge, which is supported by the Office of the Children's eSafety Commissioner. As students are signing chromebook contracts and agreeing to acceptable user policies, this challenge has been designed to support schools to consider and act on the issues the digital world can present. The challenge involves 50 quick tasks which prompt students to take control of their online safety and develop a culture of respect both online and offline. The tasks encourage self-reflection, group discussion and class action and will be completed as a tuning in activity during their ICT lessons.

I will also include some of the tasks in the newsletter and I encourage you to discuss them with your child/ren.

An example of a task:

True or false. The online world is safer than the real world. Discuss.

If you have any questions about this, please do not hesitate to come and talk to me.

Kind regards,

Bianca.

Education in Faith News

Our goal in our School Improvement Framework for the Education in Faith Sphere is:

To partner with all in the community to deepen our understanding of the Catholic faith, its liturgical rituals and scripture in order to live out the faith in both word and action.

Our intended outcome is:

That all in the school community will grow in their valuing and understanding of the importance of Catholic faith and traditions in the living out of their daily lives.

With a renewed Religious Education Curriculum Framework released last year, staff professional learning will be centred around this document. We will be focusing on planning and assessing the teaching and learning of Religious Education, with discussion and learning around student work samples. Prayer will also be another important focus.

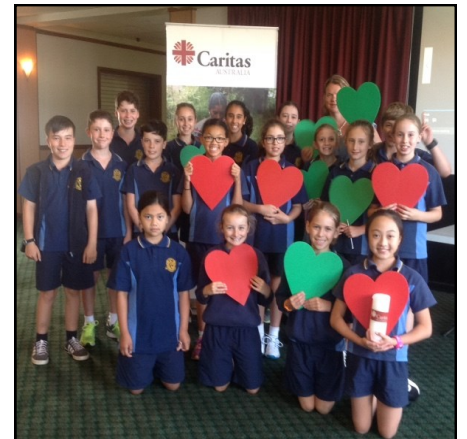
Social Justice

We hosted a Just Leadership Day last Friday. Students learned what justice is and how to contribute to making a more just world.

Last Friday 3 February we met with Megan, Patty and Vivian from Caritas Australia. We invited students from St. James and St Joseph's to talk about what it means to be a Just Leader. We heard stories about people from all over the world whose lives changed with the help of Caritas Australia like Dinia who cared for her community by sharing her new knowledge about growing crops and food to eat and have a healthier life.

We also thought of different ways we could help bring about awareness and raise money, here at St John's, for the people who need it the most. Some of our ideas were to sell sorbet outside of school, raise money for medical equipment and education and to help the poor and needy get the necessary resources that they need to live a good and healthy life.

Written by Charlotte, David and Chloe



Founders Day Mass

Please mark February 19th in your diaries as we celebrate Founder's Day, the 65th Parish Anniversary and say good bye and thank you to Fr Mark Reynolds at the 11:15 am parish mass.

A parish BBQ will follow mass.

Congratulations

Congratulations to Will Adams and Conor and Tristan Crawley who participated in a welcoming ceremony at a Sunday parish mass late last year.



Have a wonderful week,

Monica

IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER:

FEBRUARY	19	Sunday	Founders Day Mass/ 65th Parish Anniversary/ Farwell to Fr Mark,
	11.15am	23	Thursday Children and God Evening with Helen Carboon
			- Prep Parents and Child, 7.30pm
	24	Friday	Feb Feast
	26	Sunday	Parish Family Mass, 9.45am

CAMPS, SPORTS AND EXCURSIONS FUND (CSEF) APPLICATION FORM

School Name

School REF ID

Parent/legal guardian details

Surname _____

First name _____

Address _____

Town/suburb _____ State _____ Postcode _____

Contact number _____

Centrelink pensioner concession **OR** Health care card number (CRN)

- - - **OR**

☐ Foster parent* **OR** ☐ Veterans affairs pensioner

*Foster Parents must provide a copy of the temporary care order letter from the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS).

Student details

Child's surname	Child's first name	Student ID	Date of birth (dd/mm/yyyy)	Year level

I authorise the Department of Education and Training (DET) to use Centrelink Confirmation eServices to perform an enquiry of my Centrelink customer details and concession card status in order to enable the business to determine if I qualify for a concession, rebate or service. I also authorise the Australian Government Department of Human Services (DHS) to provide the results of that enquiry to DET.

I understand that:

- DHS will use information I have provided to DET to confirm my eligibility for the Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund and will disclose to DET personal information including my name, address, payment and concession card type and status.
- this consent, once signed, remains valid while my child is enrolled at a registered Victorian school unless I withdraw it by contacting the school.
- I can obtain proof of my circumstances/details from DHS and provide it to DET so that my eligibility for the Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund can be determined.
- if I withdraw my consent or do not alternatively provide proof of my circumstances/details, I may not be eligible for the Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund provided by DET.
- information regarding my eligibility for the Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund may be disclosed to the Victorian Department of Health and Human Services and /or State Schools Relief for the purpose of evaluating concession card services or confirming eligibility for assistance.

You are able to request access to the personal information that we hold about you, and to request that any errors be corrected, by contacting your child's school.

Signature of applicant _____

Date ____ / ____ / ____

CSEF ELIGIBILITY

Below is the criteria used to determine a student's eligibility for the Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund (CSEF).

Criteria 1 – Eligibility

To be eligible* for the fund, a parent or legal guardian of a student attending a registered Government or non-government Victorian primary or secondary school must:

- on the first day of Term one, or;
- on the first day of Term two;
 - a) Be an eligible beneficiary within the meaning of the *State Concessions Act 2004*, that is, be a holder of Veterans Affairs Gold Card or be an eligible Centrelink Health Care Card (HCC) or Pensioner Concession Card (PCC) holder, OR
 - b) Be a temporary foster parent, and;
 - c) Submit an application to the school by the due date.

* A special consideration eligibility category also exists. For more information, see: www.education.vic.gov.au/csef

Parents who receive a Carer Allowance on behalf of a child, or any other benefit or allowance not income tested by Centrelink, are not eligible for the CSEF unless they also comply with one of (a) or (b) above.

Criteria 2 - Be of school age and attend school in Victoria

School is compulsory for all Victorian children aged between six and 17 years of age inclusive.

For the purposes of CSEF, students may be eligible for assistance if they attend a Victorian registered primary or secondary school. Typically, these students are aged between five and 18 years inclusive.

CSEF is not payable to students attending pre-school, kindergarten, home schooled, or TAFE.

Eligibility Date

For concession card holders CSEF eligibility will be subject to the parent/legal guardian's concession card being successfully validated with Centrelink on the first day of either term one (27 January 2016) or term two (11 April 2016).

Closing Date

Parents are encouraged to lodge the application form by 29 February 2016, so that payments can be made from March 2016. However schools can accept parent applications up until 03 June 2016.

PAYMENT AMOUNTS

CSEF payment amount

The CSEF is an annual payment to the school to be used towards camps, sports and/or excursion expenses for the benefit of the eligible student.

- Primary school student rate: \$125 per year.
- Secondary school student rate: \$225 per year.

The CSEF is paid directly to your child's school and will be allocated by the school towards camps, sports and/or excursion costs for your child. .

For ungraded students, the rate payable is determined by the student's date of birth. For more information, see: www.education.vic.gov.au/csef

Year 7 government school students who are CSEF recipients are also eligible for a uniform voucher. Secondary schools are required to make applications on behalf of parents so please register your interest at the school.

HOW TO COMPLETE THE APPLICATION FORM

1. Complete the PARENT/LEGAL GUARDIAN DETAILS section.

Make sure that the Surname, First Name, and Customer Reference Number (CRN) details match those on your concession card. You will also need to provide your concession card to the school.

If you are claiming as a Foster Parent or a Veteran Affairs Pensioner, you will need to provide a copy of documentation confirming your status as a temporary Foster Parent or provide your Veterans Affairs Pensioner Gold card to the school.

2. Complete the STUDENT/S DETAILS section for students at this school.
3. Sign and date the form and return it to the school office.

CSEF payments cannot be claimed retrospectively for prior years.

Queries relating to CSEF eligibility and payments should be directed to the school.



Book School Interviews Online

Dear Parents

Parent/Teacher/Student "Getting to Know You" Discussion will be held between 3.50 and 7.00pm on Tuesday 14 February and 3.50 and 6.00pm on Wednesday 15 February, 2017.

You can book interviews at times that suit ***YOUR FAMILY BEST***.

Go to www.schoolinterviews.com.au and follow these simple instructions.
(Bookings open on Tuesday 7 February at 9.30am)

BOOKINGS CLOSE on Tuesday 14 February at 9.30am

School
event
code

3xysz

Go

Go to

www.schoolinterviews.com.au

Enter THIS school event code.
Then follow the 3 simple steps.

1



Enter your details

2



Choose teachers

3



Choose times



When you click ***finish***, your interview timetable will be emailed to you automatically - **check your junk mail folder** if you do not receive your email immediately. You can return to www.schoolinterviews.com.au at any time, and change your interviews - until bookings close.

BOOKINGS OPEN ON **Tuesday 7 February at 9.30am**

For parents that don't have access to the internet at home, at work, at a friend's house or on their phones please see Jenny at the office or phone the school on 9874 1575.

Interviews are strictly 10mins and spaces are limited. If you require more time, please contact your teacher directly to make alternative arrangements.

Parents can change their interview bookings, any time prior to the closing date, by re-visiting the www.shoolinterviews.com.au website, and using the event code. Parents wishing to change their interview times after the closing date, should contact the school directly on: 9874 1575.

We would love to hear what you think about online booking. If you get time, click on the "contact us" button on the www.schoolinterviews.com.au website, and leave some feedback - anonymously if you wish, but please include the school's name and suburb.