

# St John's Parish

## Primary School



March 27, 2017 No. 7

### COMING UP AT ST JOHN'S

MARCH	30	Thursday	First Reconciliation, 7.30pm
	31	Friday	Last Day of School, Term One - Free dress, 3.20 Finish.
APRIL	1	Saturday	Bunnings BBQ
	18	Tuesday	First Day of School, Term Two - 8.45am Start
	20	Thursday	First Eucharist Parent Workshop 1. 2pm & 7:30pm.
	22	Saturday	First Eucharist Medal Presentation 6pm
	23	Sunday	First Eucharist Medal Presentation 9:45am
	25	Tuesday	Anzac Day, School Closed.

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

Dear Parents,

As we enter the last week of term 1 what an action packed term it has been. We started the term with parent-teacher-student discussions which is a great way to establish goals and build relationships. We have enjoyed Founders Day Mass, Twilight sports, Parish Family masses, Feb feast, special food days, Prep/Year 1 Welcome dinner, Dad's and Mum's dinner nights, First Reconciliation, Year 6 camp and Harmony day just to name a few. Our new students and families have settled in well and our Year 6 leaders are making a difference in achieving their leadership goals.

Our key word driving our learning and teaching this year is GROW. Some of our senior school students have reflected on how they have grown this term.

*I have grown in my knowledge of decimals and can recognise when we use them in real life, such as when measuring. Sophie*

*I have grown in my knowledge and understanding of social justice issues around the world and what I can do to make the world a fairer place. Sally*

*I have grown in my knowledge of the Jewish culture and celebrations, particularly the Passover festival. Charlotte C*

*I have grown in the learning disposition of independence. Chloe M*

*I have grown in my leadership skills. I now assist Mr Jackson with the sports equipment and speak to junior students more. Josh*

*I have grown in my understanding of fairness and know that everyone is equal and should be treated with dignity. Astrid*

*I have grown in my time management skills. I now organise my home learning well in advance rather than leave it to the last minute. Ashley*

*I have grown in my reading. I am now reading more regularly. Hamish*

#### UNIFORM SHOP

Open first Tuesday 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](http://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

490 Whitehorse Road, Mitcham VIC 3132

Phone: 03 9874 1575 Fax: 03 9873 2099

Email: [principal@sjmitcham.catholic.edu.au](mailto:principal@sjmitcham.catholic.edu.au) Web: [www.sjmitcham.catholic.edu.au](http://www.sjmitcham.catholic.edu.au)

Last week I was fortunate to attend a conference for Principals and school leaders that was titled *Courage is the Key – do the things you think you cannot do!*

The presenters were very high quality some of them were leaders in education, some in the corporate world and some everyday Australians who have made a big difference by their actions. I was inspired when I listened to the 2016 Young Australian's of the Year – Lucas Patchett and Nicholas Marchesi. These young men built a free mobile laundry in their old van to help the homeless. They established a charity called Orange Sky Laundry in 2014 and it now operates in over 36 locations Australia wide with over 270 volunteers. The focus is not only restoring respect and raising health standards for the homeless but also on positively connecting the community and improving the lives of others. It shows you what is possible if you have the courage to reach out and make a difference. I look forward to sharing this experience with some of our students.

Another powerful learning experience for me was the presentation from Hugh van Cuylenburg. Hugh presented on mental health and resilience. He spoke about three very important keys to resilience - gratitude, empathy and mindfulness.

Gratitude is the ability to focus on what you've got. Empathy is having the ability to put yourself in someone else's shoes. Mindfulness is the ability to shut off disruptive thoughts and enjoy the present moment and can help manage anxiety.

He left me wanting to implement some very important things they include: a once a week random act of kindness, practicing gratitude by writing down three things that went well each day and making time for regular meditation to ensure my mental and physical health is the best it can be.

### **Reporting**

This year is the first year of reporting with our new curriculum, the Victorian Curriculum. Our reports will change to enable us to report effectively on your child's achievements and areas for improvement. We would like to enable our parents to provide some feedback on reports and what you would find useful as we consider the most effective way to report to you through our formal reports twice a year. Please click on the attached link to provide feedback. Survey closes on Friday 31 March.

<https://goo.gl/K3GkYS>

### **Term 1 Extra Curricular activities**

Extra-curricular activities are a great opportunity for students to further explore and develop their personal interests and strengths. Our choir have been busy singing at lunchtimes and it has been great to have them perform at Parish Family Masses and events such as Harmony Day. We are very fortunate to again have Mary Crossan teaching Scottish dancing to our students at Thursday lunchtimes this year.

Musicians at St John's have taken up the opportunity for instrumental lessons from Anthony and Rose. If you are interested in your child learning an instrument, please ask at the school office.

Code Club is now back in action with students working together and independently on coding in technology. Our Social Justice team have been very busy this term raising funds for Caritas with a variety of interesting and interactive ways with their Friday FUNDDays throughout Lent.

Year 6 Leaders also had the opportunity earlier in the year to learn more about leadership as a catholic leader through the Caritas leadership day. Our Future Leaders have been learning about leadership and working with their peers. Our Junior Future Leaders team have decided to have a focus next term on Respect for Property around our school. This focus came from discussions with their classmates about how we can make St John's an even better place to go to school. The Junior Future Leaders identified areas of our school they would like everyone to take better care of and will work with their year 5/6 Future Leaders in promoting this and recognising students who take care of our school and its property.

It has been a busy sporting term with our Twilight Sports kicking off the year, Marathon Club twice a week and Summer Interschool Sports.

The year 6's enjoyed a great week with beautiful weather at Lake Nillachootie for their camp. They were challenged, inspired and grew in their independence throughout this week and came home with huge smiles from what they had achieved.

Thank you to the teachers, families, student leaders and students for embracing these wonderful opportunities!

### **Feedback on Camp Australia**

I would like to thank our parents again for your support and understanding in relation to the change of Before

and After School Care provider to Camp Australia. Now that we have been with this organisation for one term I would like your feedback both positive and negative to how you and your children have found the program this term. I will then collate this feedback and arrange a meeting with the regional manager with the purpose of ensuring the program is the best it can be. An important part of your feedback will be what you experience when you go online so I am completely informed. Please email your feedback to:

[principal@sjmitcham.catholic.edu.au](mailto:principal@sjmitcham.catholic.edu.au) and let me know if you have any further questions.

### **Year 6 leadership photo's**

On school photo day in February pictures were taken of each of the Year 6 leadership teams. They are currently up on display in the officer foyer and available for purchase at \$15. They were shown to the students today. If interested, please send money to school in an envelope marked with student name by Friday.

### **Parents' Association**

I would like to take this opportunity to thank our wonderful PA for all the events they have led in our school community this term and also for all the support they have provided our new families making them feel so welcomed. This team of hard working and inspiring parents enrich our school community in so many ways. Both our Dad's and Mum's dinners were great successes this term. Thanks to Roula Butterworth for organising Friday nights Mum's dinner.

They are still not finished for the term organising a Bunnings BBQ on Saturday. Thanks to all the parents who have volunteered to support at this and to Steve Gilbert for his co-ordination of the event.

### **Uniform shop**

Uniform shop will now be open on the first Tuesday on the month commencing next term. Thanks to Kathleen for all she does in managing the uniform shop at our school.

There has also been a number of requests from parents and students for a winter tunic for the girls. We are currently looking into this and will keep you informed.

### **Working bee**

Our next working bee will be early next term on Saturday 29 April commencing at 9am. A slip is attached with today's newsletter.

Our Year 3/4 students have been invited to Whitefriars College on Tuesday to watch their 'Believe in Music' concert and our Year Prep/1/2 students have attended Task works today for their first excursion of the year.

School returns next term on Tuesday 18 April and our Year 5 students head off to camp at Sovereign Hill on Wednesday 26 April.

For all new families the last day of each term is traditionally a free dress day.

Naomi Curtis will be on leave for the first 2 days of school next term. Mrs Marisa Box will be teaching Prep on Tuesday 18 and Wednesday 19 April.

Wishing all in our community a happy holiday and a blessed and safe Easter break.

Jacqui Marshall

Principal





# Education in Faith News

Our Gospel challenge this week is: **To believe that Jesus loves us all.**



We had a wonderful day last Tuesday as we celebrated the many cultures we have here at St John's. We are fortunate to have such diversity and everyone enjoyed learning about various aspects of a few cultures. Many thanks to Mary Crossan who led Scottish dancing, Penelope Lang who shared her experience of her trip to the Philippines, Perri Natoli who made eis from the Cook Islands, Fr Dispin who shared many images and stories from India and Jack and Hil Yang who shared traditional Korean music with us all. Your generosity was greatly appreciated. Thank you to all the families who brought in a plate of food to share with everyone. It was an amazing lunch with such a variety of such delicious dishes. Thank you to Nicole La, Jackie Harkin, Helen Borloz, Karen Rodstrom and Vicky Stutchbury who assisted with serving and setting and packing up lunch. Students then enthusiastically participated in the Walk-a-thon. Although our time was cut short by the wet weather some students were able to complete nearly 10kms. Thank you to Sarah Longmore, Peta Marriner, Rosa Godino and Jackie Harkin who assisted us at Halliday Park.

Could sponsorship forms and monies be returned to school by the end of the term (this Friday) please. Sincere thanks in anticipation of your generosity. Money donated will be given to Caritas Australia who will distribute amongst their projects both in Australia and overseas. Details on some the program, peoples and stories for the last three weeks of Lent can be found at the following link. [www.caritas.org.au](http://www.caritas.org.au)



Nguyet's story - Vietnam

Simeti's story - Fiji

Aloma's story - Philippines

People often ask, Isn't it enough to say sorry to God in my heart? The Catholic approach to Reconciliation is deeply community and family orientated: we are after all the Body of Christ. We celebrated students receiving Reconciliation for the first time last Thursday evening. A special mention to Anna Findlay, Cohen Fraser and Aidan and Kieran Puls who were not on last weeks list in the newsletter. Congratulations to the following students who will be receiving Reconciliation for the first time this Thursday. Please keep them in your prayers.

William Adams	Anria Ajith	Kane Crawford	Tristan Crawley	Patrick Elliott
Greg Anthony Galati	Salvatore Galati	Maeve Gill	Lucas Ibarra	Erin Marriner
Leah Pal	Joshua Plant	Cameron Troup	Marco Vinc trio	Christopher Wallis
Gracen Laffin				



Right: It was great to see so many families at the parish family on Sunday.

Holy Week and Easter Sunday will be celebrated during the second week of the school holidays and the last weekend before returning to school. Students are presently learning about the events of Holy Week in their Religious Education sessions. These events are pivotal to our faith and we are encouraged to participate in the traditions and rituals in our church at this time. The Easter season reminds us that life overcomes death, light overcomes darkness and the Risen Jesus Christ is ever present in the community. Parish Easter Celebrations, dates and times, are listed in the dates below.

Wishing you all every blessing for Easter,

Monica



## **IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER:**

<b>MARCH</b>	29	Wednesday	Parish Penitential Celebration, 7.30pm
	30	Thursday	Celebration of First Reconciliation, 7.30pm
<b>APRIL</b>	20	Thursday	First Eucharist Parent Workshop 1. 2pm & 7:30pm.
	22	Saturday	First Eucharist Medal Presentation 6pm
	23	Sunday	First Eucharist Medal Presentation 9:45am
	30	Sunday	Parish Family Mass 9:45am

## **SOCIAL JUSTICE**

Are you buying and eating, or giving away Easter chocolate this year? It is estimated that up to 30 million people are trapped in slavery globally. The United Nations estimates that one in every three victims of human trafficking is a child.

Much of the chocolate we consume in Australia is made with cocoa beans picked by children, many of whom have been enslaved.

Pope Francis said that *"every person ought to have the awareness that purchasing is always a moral - and not simply an economic - act."*

**ACTION:** Go the ACRATH website: <https://acrath.org.au/slaveryfree-easter> to find out more. Spread the word about slavery-free Easter chocolate and enjoy chocolate carries any of the following symbols on the wrapper.



<https://acrath.org.au/slaveryfree-easter>

## **EASTER CHURCH SERVICES - 2017**

### **Parish Lenten Penitential Celebration**

Wednesday 29 March at 7.30pm

### **EASTER MASS TIMES**

#### **ST JOHN'S CHURCH, MITCHAM**

### **Holy Thursday - Thursday 13 April**

7.30pm – Mass of the Lord's Supper followed by quiet prayer until 9.30pm.

### **Good Friday - Friday 14 April**

11am – March of Witness (Stations of the Cross)

3pm – Commemoration of the Passion

### **Holy Saturday - Saturday 15 April**

7.30pm Easter Vigil

(Please note NO 6.00pm Mass)

### **Easter Sunday - Sunday 16 April**

Dawn Mass 6am (followed by breakfast in Coghlan Centre) – All Welcome

Easter Masses: 8.30am, 9.45am & 11.15am

(Please note NO 5pm Mass)

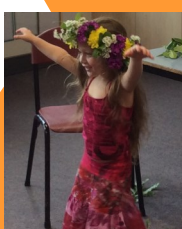
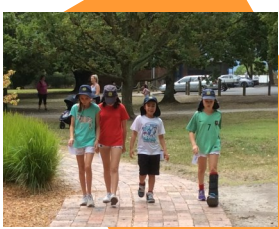
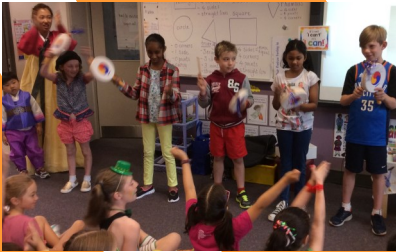


#### **ST JAMES COMMUNITY CENTRE, VERMONT**

### **Easter Sunday - Sunday 16 April**

Easter Mass: 9.30am Mass





HARMONY DAY 2017





# Professional Learning



Every Tuesday and Wednesday after school all staff attend Professional Learning Meetings (PLMs). These PLMs not only relate directly to our Annual Action Plan, but also provide rich professional learning for all staff.

PLMs we have run this term have been:

- Becoming familiar with the School Improvement Plan goals in the Wellbeing Sphere
- Analysing data from Literacy testing
- Moderating writing samples across year levels
- Becoming familiar with the Renewed Religious Education Curriculum Framework
- Reflecting on our Visible Learning journey thus far (strengths/challenges) and where to next
- Unpacking the Horizons of Hope teaching framework (this framework guides our teaching and learning at St. John's)
- Developing our understanding of HAPARA as a cloud-based tool to positively impact on students learning
- Understanding the expectations in Mathematics planning and using this to drive effective teaching and learning
- To plan for our History inquiry in term 2 and explore how we can connect this to the Religious Education Curriculum Framework

All PLMs are led by our leadership team members across all spheres- *Leadership and Management, Learning and Teaching, Student Wellbeing and Education in Faith.*

This term a number of staff members have attended professional learning days and networks and undertaken professional courses online in their own time. We feel it is important to share an overview of what staff members have been learning this term with the school community.

In February, Jacqui Marshall and Beth Johnson participated in the first day of an intensive three day program called Improvement Sprints into Action. This program focuses on a team-based method for improving student outcomes in our school. This program is facilitated by Simon Breakspear who draws on the latest research and highly effective improvement processes from both inside and outside education. This professional learning program will build on and strengthen our internal professional learning practices for our staff.

Naomi Curtis has participated in several Play is the Way professional development sessions including a full day workshop with the founder.

Play is the Way is a cross-curriculum tool for social and emotional learning. It primarily uses games and hands on activities to teach behaviour education to children 'using wisdom, not force'. Children engage in regular games that build resilience, collaboration skills, honesty and bravery, as children learn to have reasons for all the things they do and say. Play is the Way uses language that connects with children because it is simple, to the point and helps them work through the clutter and see things clearly. It aims to develop students of strong character and decency with the social and emotional competencies to live and learn well.



Each term, school leaders attend Network Days run by Catholic Education Melbourne, which guide leaders and support them in building their teachers capacity in particular curriculum/school areas. Early this month, Beth Johnson attended the Eastern Region Deputy Principals' Network which had a focus on Leadership in Catholic Schools.



Robert Brennan, a specialist in training, coaching and facilitating for effective leadership and teamwork was the guest speaker for this network. Rob shared his knowledge and expertise with the Eastern region Deputy Principal network on leadership and management, teamwork and team performance and workplace communication. At Jacqui Marshall's Principal Network meeting earlier this term she explored with her colleagues the book Pope Francis - Why he leads the way he leads by Chris Lowney. Time was spent discussing leadership qualities and the importance of changing minds to achieve mission. Bianca Martino, Jacqui Marshall and Monica O'Shannassy have participated in this term's Learning and Teaching Network. The purpose of this network was to explore how leaders in a Catholic School design for deep learning and powerful teaching to animate learners. The network provided an opportunity to increase familiarisation with the concepts of growth and progress and explore how powerful teaching through assessment can enable students to progress in all areas of the curriculum. Monica O'Shannassy attended the Religious Education Network which explored developing the capacity of RE Leaders to inspire and lead change for learning and teaching in our Catholic School communities by examining Horizons of Hope (Learning and Teaching Framework) document and the Renewed RE Curriculum. Ange Crowe's Literacy Cluster Meeting explored the future directions of Literacy in Catholic Education Melbourne and Kellie Cumming's Maths Cluster Meeting examined NAPLAN data and suggested directions for schools. Ange Crowe continues to have professional learning in Reading Recovery this term.

Kellie Cumming attended a Maths Talent Quest information session run by the Mathematics Association of Victoria. At this session Kellie Cumming developed a greater understanding of this national competition and how it can be implemented into St. John's mathematics program.

Bianca Martino participated in the Google Educator Group Meetup at St. Mark's in Dingley. At this meetup the new Digital Technology curriculum was unpacked and some new features of G Suite (or more commonly known as Google Apps for Education) were explored. Google have introduced CS First (Computer Science First) 0where they provide schools with curriculum and lesson ideas to teach computer science to students. Bianca will be further investigating this and how it can be utilised at St. John's in the coming term.

Bianca is also currently in the midst of undertaking an online course by the University of Adelaide- F-6 Digital Technologies: Foundation. This course introduces the fundamental concepts of the Australian curriculum, such as algorithms, data representation and visual programming.

Emma Buis and Monica O'Shannassy attended a professional learning day titled, "Renewed RE Curriculum Framework Collectives Orientation Day. A team from St John's will join with two other schools in our local area to form a "collective" and work together to plan, implement and assess units of learning using new RE framework documents.



This Tuesday (28th) Rebecca Fry and Vicky Pejic will be attending a professional learning day on 6 + 1 Writing Traits. This model is an instruction and assessment tool designed to assist teachers to teach their students how to write quality pieces. Both Rebecca Fry and Vicky Pejic will be exploring the 6 + 1 traits (organisation, voice, word choice, sentence fluency, conventions + presentation) and learning about some great strategies to teach these to their students.



## DIGITAL PORTFOLIOS

At St. John's, each student has a portfolio which is sent home with their report in the middle and end of the year. Portfolios are a sample of your child's learning across all curriculum areas and they showcase all the wonderful learning that has taken place.

We are currently looking for ways to present portfolios digitally from years 3-6. Due to St. John's being a Google Apps for Education (GAPE) school, students have become confident and capable users of Google tools, often using a number of these tools such as Google Docs, Sheets and Slides in the classroom. As students are saving most of their work on their Google Drives (online storage), having a digital portfolio would be a seamless transition.

Digital portfolios contain the same content hard copy portfolios include but students learning is presented in a digital format. We are currently in the process of making a decision as to whether we stay with a hard copy portfolio or move to digital. We are seeking the school community's thoughts to make a decision. If you would like to contribute your thoughts, please complete this short Google Form. <https://goo.gl/rya2Xm>

# Self Awareness



## Why do emotions matter?

### *Why have we been focusing on Self Awareness and in particular, emotions?*

Children grow and change in many ways during their primary school years. As well as growing physically, children develop socially, emotionally and cognitively.

Children's responses to the different feelings they experience every day have a major impact on their choices, their behaviour, and on how well they cope and enjoy life.



Emotional development involves learning what feelings and emotions are, understanding how and why they happen, recognising one's own feelings and those of others, and developing effective ways of managing them.

As children grow and are exposed to different situations their emotional lives also become more complex. Developing skills for managing a range of emotions is therefore very important for their emotional wellbeing. Parents and carers have an important role to play in supporting children's emotional development. They do this through responding effectively to children's emotions, through providing examples of how they manage feelings, and through talking with children about feelings and how to manage them. In similar ways, school staff provide explicit learning and important support for children's emotional development.

As we end Term 1 and our focus on Self Awareness, please remember to talk with your child about -

*Times when they have been successful with their emotions this term*

*Have a wonderful week,  
Beth Johnson  
Student Wellbeing Leader*

*At St John's we Respect Ourselves, Respect Others and Respect Property*

## FUNDay Friday

Every Friday during Lent the Social Justice Team are going to have a FUNDay Friday, to raise money for Caritas Australia.

**This week:** Bring your \$1.00 to buy an icy pole at recess

The theme for this year's Project Compassion is "Love Your Neighbour."

We hope everyone can participate and have a fun day this FUNDay Friday.



**ST JOHN'S**  
PRIMARY SCHOOL MITCHAM

## Open Days



Tours from 9:00am to 10:30am

- Thu 2nd March
- Wed 8th March
- Tue 28th March
- Thu 20th April
- Fri 28th April
- Mon 1st May

Parking available on the basketball court (enter via Elizabeth St) or out the front of the school/church.

### Information Evening

- Wed 3rd May @ 7:00pm

Please come and see our great school in action.

490 Whitehorse Road, Mitcham VIC 3132 | Phone: 03 9874 1575

Email: [principal@sjmitcham.catholic.edu.au](mailto:principal@sjmitcham.catholic.edu.au) | Website: [www.sjmitcham.catholic.edu.au](http://www.sjmitcham.catholic.edu.au)

# The Summer Sports Carnival

On Friday the 24th of March the 5/6 students went to the summer sports carnival at Ballyshannassy Park Burwood.



## Newcombe

In Newcombe we had two teams (open and girls.) The girls won 4 games and lost 2 games. The open team won the last game and lost 5 games. Everyone was really good at supporting each other and all helping each other. In our first match sadly we lost but then we improved a lot, also in our second last game the team was on 11 and we were on 4 and we caught up and won (15 to 14.)

By Elena.

## Milo T20 Cricket

St Johns entered one team into the open cricket section. Our team included year 5 and 6 boys and girls. On the day we played 4 matches against St James, St Phillips, Mt Pleasant PS and Beverley Hills PS. Unfortunately we only won one game but we improved a lot as a team and individually over the day. Each player supported and encouraged each member of the cricket team. We had great fun we look forward to it all again next year!

By Klem

## Rounders

In rounders there were two teams (open team and a girls team) The open team won five, lost one and drew one as well and the girls won 5 and lost 2 it was an amazing day all of us had fun. the open team came second and the girls came third.

By Callum

We are all very proud of all of those who participated in all of the events and how much effort they put into them.

A big thank you to our parents who came along to support us on the day.

A special thanks to Scott Taylor, Rhyannon Elliott, Jo Novak, Jackie Harkin, Peta Mariner and Anthony Chan for assisting with the scoring and management of our games on the day. Your help is greatly appreciated!



## AQUINAS JUNIOR FOOTBALL CLUB GIRLS FOOTBALL

### GIRLS WANTED TO PLAY FOOTY - UNDER 13s

Grade 6 Girls wanted

Playing in the YJFL and Training at Aquinas College Ovals

Aquinas Junior Football Club has some vacancies for Girls looking to play Under 13s football in the Yarra Junior Football League, the largest junior football league in Australia, which is dedicated solely to Junior Football.

As with other Junior Leagues, games are played on Sundays. The YJFL has Girls competitions at Under 13, 14, 15, 16 and 18 so by joining at Under 13s, you can progress through the levels. In 2017, there have been 89 Girls teams entered in the YJFL.

The Club is not a "College" club, ALL ARE WELCOME, wherever they attend school.

Matches are played on Sundays, with our home ground at Aquinas College, and using the Old Collegians Clubrooms.

AJFC will use the Aquinas College facilities and ovals as its home ground, and will have the use of the AOCFC clubrooms. Training will be at Aquinas ovals after school.

As the season starts on 23 April, we are looking to complete our team as soon as possible.

For further information contact: Gavan Harkin 0419 117652 (Vice Pres, AJFC) or

BY EMAIL : [juniors@aquinas.com.au](mailto:juniors@aquinas.com.au)





## BIRTHDAYS

This week we congratulate Natasha Novak and over the holidays we congratulate Angus Tham, Tahlia Crawford, Xavier Datoy, Anria Ajith, Ava broaden, Chloe Li, Patrick Stanyer and George Molnar as they celebrate their birthday.

*We hope you all have a "Happy Day!"*



### SPECIAL TREAT FUNDay

#### Friday 31<sup>st</sup> March is Icy Pole Day!

St John's Social Justice Team in conjunction with the Parent Association will be selling icy poles at recess for **\$1.00**.

All money raised will be donated to Caritas.  
Please remember to bring your gold coin.  
We look forward to seeing you then.

Just another **FUNDay Friday** at St John's

### Italian Phrase of the Week

Week 4: **Come ti chiami?**  
(koh-may tee kee-ah-mee?)  
**What is your name?**



### ST JOHN'S PA BULB FUNDRAISER

#### Bulb Order forms were sent out last week

Order forms are due back on the last day of Term I, - Friday 31 March  
Orders of five items or more will receive a \$6 bulb pack FREE  
All bulbs will be delivered early May  
..... just in time for **Mother's Day!**



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



# Skoolbag



### ST JOHN'S SCHOOL APP.

Just a reminder that the new school app (Skoolbag) is available for parents to download. We have been adding the most up to date information to this app, so it is encouraged to download this ASAP.

Please refer to download instructions at the rear of this newsletter.

SEARCH OUR  
SCHOOL NAME IN:

Available on the iPhone  
**App Store**

Available on Android  
**Google play**



**Saturday 1 April**

Sign Up Here

<https://www.volunteersignup.org/8BPH3>

Or contact **Steve Gilbert** on 0417 119 078  
(Jess 3/4RF & Lucas PrepNC)

See you tomorrow morning for

## Marathon Club

Tuesday and Thursday Mornings

Years 3-6 students

7.45am

Breakfast supplied afterwards  
\$5.00 each per term

Please check the St John's School App for cancelations due to poor weather conditions



## Year 7 @ Whitefriars

The Community of Whitefriars College would like to acknowledge the strong preparation you have given your students for their secondary schooling.

They are enthusiastic students who have started the year full of energy and interest. We thank you for the way in which you have assisted us with the important process of transition and see that partnership as being a key to the boys having a successful secondary school experience. Your school should be proud of their efforts.

Mr John Finn  
Principal

Whitefriars College Inc  
156 Park Road Donvale Victoria 3111 Australia  
E enrolments@whitefriars.vic.edu.au www.whitefriars.vic.edu.au  
ABN 35 808 045 134 | REG A0029974Y | CRICOS 01680G

*Belong. Believe. Become.*



## EASTER RAFFLE

Don't forget to return your tickets and money to the office by this Thursday!

### \*\*\*BREAKING NEWS\*\*\*

### Bonus Prize Draw – Family Day Out (x 2)

#### Tickets

\$1 each or 15 for \$10

#### Prizes

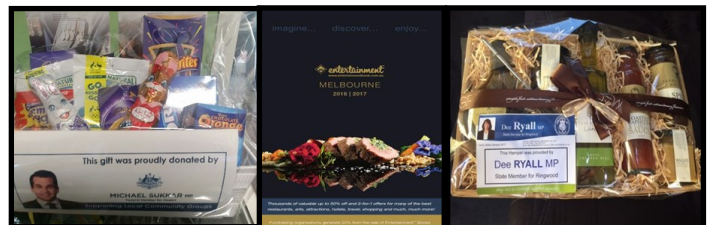
First: Chocolate hamper valued at \$150.00

Second: Gourmet hamper valued at \$120.00

Third: 2017 Entertainment Book + bonus chocs valued at \$90.00

#### Drawn

Friday 31 March (last day of term)



## Children's Liturgy – Urgent Need of Volunteers

Have you noticed – there's been no Children's liturgy in Term 1 at St Johns 9:45 Mass?

For many years Children's liturgy has been running on the back of a small number of very supportive and willing volunteers – some of these fabulous people have had to step down from this service.

### **We need new volunteers!**

You do not need teaching skills, just a love for kids, their learning and the Word of God. Support and all materials are provided. You'll never be on your own – we always roster on at least 2 people to share the experience, and where possible at least one is experienced in children's liturgy, or has teaching experience.

With sufficient volunteers the roster is 3 to 4 times per year and is not in school holidays or long weekends.

This is a great opportunity for responsible high school aged youth to play an active part of the church community and the kids love Dad's to get in and give a hand here as well.

*School families, did you know we have this - have you been holding off heading to mass as the kids get distracted? The 9:45am Sunday mass is perfect for you – the kids have a focused liturgical time that is targeted to their age – it is the same message you will hear but targeted to them.*

If you are interested in going onto the roster for 2017 or want to find out more, please contact: -

Ben Boyd (Josh 3/4 RF \ Sarah 1/2 VP)

Children's Liturgy Coordinator

M) 0412 221 062 or Email: Ben.A.Boyd@bigpond.com

Maree at the Parish Office on 98731341.





# Skoolbag

Smartphone school to parent communication

Skoolbag is a mobile app that communicates directly to parent smartphones. It provides access to key school information via one single Communication Centre for both parents and students. Ideal for:

- > School, free push notification alerts
- > School events
- > School newsletters
- > School documents
- > School RSS feeds
- > School social media (Facebook, Twitter)

Skoolbag delivers school notices directly to parent smartphones



## How To Install Skoolbag On Your Smartphone

### iPhone Users

Simply search for your school name in the App Store on your phone, PC or MAC and install. If you need help, go to the following link for instructions:

<http://www.skoolbag.com.au/parentinstructions.pdf>



### Android Users

Simply search for your school name in the Google Play Store on your phone, PC or MAC and install. If you need help go to the following link for instruc-



## WORKING BEE

Dear Parents,

Our first school working bee for the year will be on Saturday 29 April, 2017 from 9.00 - 11.00am.

Helpers are needed to assist with weeding, cleaning drains and mulching garden beds. Please bring any gardening tools that might be useful.

Don't forget that attendance at one working bee during the year entitles each family to a once yearly, \$50.00 rebate on your maintenance levy as well as benefitting the school community.

If you are able to attend please return the reply slip below to the school office by Thursday 27 April.

I look forward to seeing you there,

Jacqui Marshall  
Principal



## WORKING BEE RETURN SLIP

Return this slip to the school office by Thursday 27 April, 2017

The \_\_\_\_\_ family will be attending the St John's working bee on  
Saturday 29 April, 2017