

St John's Parish

Primary School



May 1, 2017 No. 9

COMING UP AT ST JOHN'S

MAY

2	Tuesday	Education Board Meeting, 7.00pm
3	Wednesday	Information Night for Prospective Enrolment, 7.00pm
6	Saturday	First Eucharist Presentation & Year 3 Level Mass, 6.00pm
7	Sunday	First Eucharist Presentation & Year 3 Level Mass, 9.45am
8	Monday	School Assembly, 8.50am
9	Tuesday	NAPLAN - Year 3 and 5
10	Wednesday	NAPLAN - Year 3 and 5
11	Thursday	NAPLAN - Year 3 and 5
12	Friday	Mother's Day Stall Mothers' Movie Night

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

Grandparents and Special Friends

are Invited to

Grandparent and Special Friend Day

Wednesday 17 May

at

St John's, Mitcham

Commencing with Mass at 10.00am with Archbishop Dennis Hart
Followed by morning tea and activities with the students

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

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 Web: www.sjmitcham.catholic.edu.au

School Closure Day

An important reminder that we have a school closure day on Friday 19 May. I am currently looking into the possibility of running a Camp Australia day with our sister school St James. If you think you would like to access this on the school closure day could you please email me by 4pm on Thursday 4 May principal@sjmitcham.catholic.edu.au I will advise you of the outcome in next weeks newsletter.

Year 5 Camp

Our year 5 students had a wonderful time at Sovereign Hill and overall the weather was very kind to us. As principal I was very proud of how our Year 5 students represented St John's and they slept like babies which is always a bonus. Our students are preparing a snapshot of camp to share in next weeks newsletter.

NAPLAN

The National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) is an annual assessment for students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9. NAPLAN tests the sorts of skills that are essential for every child to progress through school and life, such as reading, writing, spelling and numeracy. The assessments are undertaken nationwide, every year, in the second full week in May. The assessment program will be conducted at St John's from 9th - 11th May.

The results of the tests provide information for students, parents, teachers and principals which can be used to improve student achievement. It is very important to remember that this process is only one sample of student progress.

At St John's our assessment and reporting policy highlights the importance of providing students with on-going opportunities to know what they have achieved, specific areas they need to improve and developing future learning goals.

All year 3 and 5 students are expected to participate in the NAPLAN tests. Students may be withdrawn from NAPLAN by their parent or carer. This is a matter of consideration by parents/carers in consultation with the principal. An information brochure is going out with Year 3 and 5 students today.

Later in the year you will receive your child's personal NAPLAN report.

The report will describe your child's particular skills in Reading, Writing, Language Conventions and Numeracy. The report will also show you how your child performed in relation to national standards. If you would like to discuss this matter further, please feel free to contact myself or Beth Johnson.

Information and Enrolment Night

We have our annual information and enrolment night this coming Wednesday commencing at 7pm in Mackillop Space. Both current and prospective families are most welcome to attend this night. Enrolment packs will be available on the night and staff will showcase what makes St John's Mitcham unique linked to the pillars of Learning, Engagement and Wellbeing.

Seasons Program

As part of our Wellbeing strategy we will be offering an 8-week program called Seasons for Growth to support students who have had significant changes in their families. This could be due to the death of a family member or family separation or divorce. There is more information further in the newsletter.



Staff Profile of the Month

One exciting component on our new St John's Mitcham website is our *Staff Profile of the Month*. We feel this is a great way to share with everyone the wonderful gifts and talents of our staff. This month Bianca Martino is our staff member of the month. (Read on to find out about Bianca and her contribution to St John's)

Have a great week
Jacqui Marshall
Principal

St John's Staff Profile of the Month
Bianca Martino



Bianca began teaching at St. John's in 2014. In her first two years she worked as a Prep teacher and has since made the transition to 1/2. She has a passion for Google, ICT and Digital Technologies and enjoys sharing her learning with her colleagues. Bianca has numerous roles including eLearning, eSmart Coordinator and Learning and Teaching Leader.

She began Code Club last year working alongside the Grade 6 ICT leaders to provide rich and exciting learning experiences for students. Her most recent achievement has been becoming a Google Certified Level 1 and 2 Educator. Her expertise in the Google field has led to significant changes in the school, including all staff and students being confident and capable users of Google tools in the classroom. With Bianca's love of technology, not only has our staff knowledge grown but our IT devices have grown among the school with each learning area having access to Chromebooks, laptops, desktops and iPads. Her goal in the eLearning position is for St. John's to be renowned by the community as a 'tech-savvy' school.



Self Management

- Present, centred, grounded



All over the media, social media and in our lingo is the catch phrase 'mindfulness'. But where does this fit in learning?

Effective learning cannot take place if a student's mind is roaming. We need a student's awareness to be anchored in the classroom and in the present moment. To achieve this, we can reconnect to one thing that remains ever present, even when the mind wanders off - the body.

Being centred brings a feeling of empowerment and brings a conscious awareness to the present moment by grounding ourselves at the core of our body.

In our Social and Emotional Learning this term, students will be exploring and developing strategies and skills in regulating emotions and learning how to bring themselves into the present moment. Developing this skill is a powerful life lesson, and the first step in having students assume responsibility for their learning and behaviour.

Self Reflection:

When do I feel most centred? Do I have a routine, hobby, exercise regime or practice that contributes to this?

When I feel myself anchored in the present, fully engaged? What keeps me there?

Have a wonderful week,

Beth Johnson
Student Wellbeing Leader

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



Education in Faith News

Our Gospel Challenge this week is to: *Remember that God is always with us*

Congratulations to Cameron Troup who celebrated the sacrament of Reconciliation for the first time on Saturday evening.

The Mass was critical – though it seems to have been less formal – for early Christians. They gathered on the first day of the week, told stories about Jesus, shared their hopes and fears, prayed for one another, and then shared a meal with bread and wine. Those gatherings helped them remember that Jesus was still with them. The Mass also gave them strength to live faithfully in a hostile world.



Luke tells the story in this week's Gospel in a way that shows the importance of those gatherings. The story tells about the disciples' flight from Jerusalem after the Crucifixion. They talk with a stranger about the Scriptures and life. They share a meal with him, finally discovering that the stranger is Jesus. Then they head back to Jerusalem filled with hope. That's the process the first Christians followed on the Sabbath – the Scriptures, reflection, bread and wine, heading back to the world in hope.

Our Mass follows the same flow today. It can also fill you with the hope of the Resurrection if you plug in. Listen closely to the readings. Compare the homily to your own reflections. Discuss the homily afterward with family or friends. During the intercessions, think about your troubles and the troubles of our world. When the Eucharistic prayer recalls how Jesus offered his body and blood to the world, quietly asking him for strength to offer yourself to make the world better. When the priest proclaims the end of the Mass, commit yourself to leaving as a disciple ready to stand for what's right.

The more you do all of that, the more you, like the disciples in the Gospel, will see Jesus is right there for you. (GPBS 2017)

Grandparents/Special Friends Day

Please mark Grandparents/Special Friends Day in your diary for Wednesday 17th May. We are very fortunate this year to have Archbishop Denis Hart celebrating the 10 o'clock mass for us. This is always a special day on our calendar at St John's as a way of celebrating family and acknowledging the wonderful contribution our older family members make to our lives.

Important Dates to Remember:

<u>May</u>	2	Tuesday	Year 5/6 attending Parish Mass 12:00pm
	6	Saturday	Year Three Level Mass & Lord's Prayer Presentation 6pm
	7	Sunday	Year Three Level Mass & Lord's Prayer Presentation 6pm
	9	Tuesday	Prep attending Parish Mass 12:00pm
	17	Wednesday	Grandparents/Special Friends Day- commencing with mass at 10am.
	18	Thursday	First Eucharist Parent Workshop 2. 2pm or 7:30pm
	20	Saturday	Fr Dispin John's Installation as Parish Priest followed by Supper, 6.00pm
	23	Tuesday	Year 1/2 attending Parish Mass 12:00pm
	28	Sunday	Feast of the Ascension: Parish Family Mass 9:45am
	30	Tuesday	Year 3/4 attending Parish Mass 12:00pm
	31	Wednesday	First Eucharist Breadmaking Day

ENHANCING CATHOLIC SCHOOL IDENTITY SURVEYS

As a part of our school review process we ask staff, year five and six students and parents to complete an Enhancing Catholic School Identity Survey. The information gathered assists us in understanding the current practises and catholic identity of our school community and also the preferred ways of being and teaching Religious Education.

On the first day of Term Two an email was sent home inviting families to participate. **Six** families have completed the surveys at the moment. We are hoping to have at least fifty families complete the surveys so that we can ascertain a more accurate picture of our school community.

We value the information and appreciate your time and assistance with this.



District Soccer



On Friday the 28th of April some of our year 5/6 students represented St John's Primary School at this years district soccer round robin. We entered a team each in the boys and girls competitions, with both teams playing 6 games each.

Both sides were very competitive on the day, with many of our students playing organised soccer for the first time. The effort, teamwork and sportsmanship shown was outstanding by our students.

Our boys side were victorious in two of their six matches, winning games against Beverly Hills PS and St Timothy's PS. We all had fun and everybody played well. We enjoyed seeing some people from other schools that we knew.

Our girls side were able to win one of their six matches, beating St Phillips 2-0. The girls all tried their best. It was great fun playing against other schools and trying a new sport.

A big thank you Scott Taylor and Anthony Chan for helping coach and umpire games on the day. Your support is greatly appreciated and without it these days would not happen for our students.



Victorian Premiers' Reading Challenge

The students from Year 3 to 6 are participating in The 2017 Victorian Premiers' Reading Challenge. Reading plays a pivotal role in your child's learning development and this is a great incentive to promote positive reading experiences at school and at home. It is not a competition; but a personal challenge for children to read a set number of books by the 8th September 2016. **Children from Year 3 to Year 10 are challenged to read 15 books.** All children who meet the Challenge will receive a certificate of achievement signed by the Victorian Premier.



To read the Premier's letter to parents, view the booklists and for more information about the Victorian Premiers' Reading Challenge, visit: www.education.vic.gov.au/prc

Each student from Yr 3 to 6 has received their username and password and can access the site through the following link -<https://www.eduweb.vic.gov.au/Challenger/WebLogin.aspx> The teachers will be supporting the challenge in the learning areas. If you have any concerns, or have difficulties with login please contact your teacher.

Have a great week,
Ange.

ST JOHN'S CALENDAR TERM 2, 2017

MAY

2	Tuesday	Education Board Meeting, 7.00pm
3	Wednesday	Information Night for Prospective Enrolments, 7.00pm
6	Saturday	First Eucharist Presentation & Year 3 Level Mass, 6.00pm
7	Sunday	First Eucharist Presentation & Year 3 Level Mass, 9.45am
8	Monday	School Assembly, 8.50am
9	Tuesday	NAPLAN –Year 3 and 5
10	Wednesday	NAPLAN - Year 3 and 5
11	Thursday	NAPLAN - Year 3 and 5
12	Friday	Mother's Day Stall Mothers' Movie Night
14	Sunday	Mother's Day
17	Wednesday	Archbishop's Visit Grandparents' Day
19	Friday	School Closure Day (Staff Professional Development Day)
28	Sunday	Parish Family Mass and Ascension of the Lord

JUNE

3	Saturday	Confirmation Enrolment & Year 6 Level Mass, 6.00pm
4	Sunday	Confirmation Enrolment & Year 6 Level Mass, 9.45am
5	Monday	School Assembly, 8.50am
6	Tuesday	Education Board Meeting, 7.00pm
12	Monday	Queen's Birthday Holiday - No School
14	Wednesday	Parent Association Meeting, 7.00pm Confirmation Retreat Day, Year 6 Confirmation Parent Evening, 7.30pm
18	Sunday	First Eucharist Masses, 9.45am & 11.15am Year 7 (2016 Year 6) Reunion Mass, 5.00pm
18	Monday	School Assembly, 8.50am
23	Friday	Feast of the Sacred Heart Mass, 10.00am
24	Saturday	First Eucharist Mass, 6.00pm
25	Sunday	First Eucharist Mass, 9.45am & 11:15am

JULY

30	Friday	TERM 2 ENDS, 3.20pm
15	Saturday	First Eucharist Mass, 6.00pm
16	Sunday	First Eucharist Mass, 9.45 & 11:15am



HELP FIGHT BREAST CANCER

HELP BREAK A WORLD RECORD HERE!



Last year at St Johns we were extremely lucky to have Samuel Johnson come to our school and generously give so much of his time for our Think Pink Day. At the time, we collected 5c coins to give to Sam to pass onto his sister Connie for her record breaking challenge. Well, the time has now come! Connie is attempting to beat a world record for the longest line of coins, and she is making them in the shape of a heart...next week in Canberra, on May 10. Please gather all your 5c coins again, as we help her beat this record. All coins of any denomination can be donated and we will change them over to 5c at the bank. Many thanks!

Kristy Annett (on behalf of Ashley 5/6 MO)



Tournament of Minds
challenging the world®

Tournament of Minds

Tournament of Minds is coming to St John's as a part of our Extension Education opportunities.

Tournament of Minds is a problem solving program for teams of students from both primary and secondary years. They are required to solve demanding, open-ended challenges from one of the following disciplines:

- Science Technology
- Engineering Mathematics
- Social Sciences
- Language Literature

Tournament of Minds is an opportunity for students with a passion for learning and problem solving to demonstrate their skills and talents in an exciting, vibrant and public way.

Contued:-

Teams of 7 – 8 students (from Years 4 - 6) are required to work together on a **Long Term Challenge** for six weeks at school, without assistance from teachers, parents or peers. They are encouraged to explore possibilities and experiment with ideas as they endeavour to produce their best possible solution. They develop a creative and original way to communicate this solution to others, working within predefined parameters such as limited materials, complex challenge criteria and the deadline of Tournament Day.

Students present the product of their ideas - their challenge solution - to a panel of judges and an audience on Tournament Day. They have ten minutes in which to present and must do so within a 3 metre by 3 metre performance area.

The teams must also participate in an unseen **Spontaneous Challenge** on Tournament Day. This challenge requires rapid interchange of ideas, the ability to think creatively and well developed group cooperation skills. Tournament Day is either 19th or 20th August at Deakin University Burwood.

If you would like your child to participate please email moshannassy@sjmitcham.catholic.edu.au

For further information please check out the Tournament of Minds website: tom.edu.au

Many thanks,

Monica



Extension Education at St John's Mitcham.



At SJM we provide an Extension Education program that is student centred, where strengths are identified and passions enabled to ensure that learning is personalised. We provide flexible and fluid learning environments that allow opportunities for like-minded students to work together on creative and innovative learning experiences that extend beyond the classroom.

In the coming weeks, we will be beginning Extension education withdrawal groups in the areas of *Mathematics* and a group that focusses on working together for

The Tournament of Minds. The selection process is now underway and you will be notified if your child has been selected to participate in these groups. If you would like to nominate your child to be involved please speak to your child's teacher. The Maths group will be facilitated by Kellie. The Tournament of Minds group will be facilitated by Monica. *(Please refer to article below for more information.)*



This year, the Maths Extension group will be participating in the **Maths Talent Quest**. This is a mathematical investigations project which is organised through the Mathematical Association of Victoria (MAV). The aim of the Maths Talent Quest is to promote an interest in and increase the awareness of mathematics. As part of the Extension education program, selected students will be given an opportunity to participate in this project over Terms 2 and 3 this year.

The project will involve students working in small groups to investigate a mathematical topic of their choice. This is a great opportunity to have fun exploring mathematics in real life situations. Through this investigation students will develop research and communication skills, enhance problem solving strategies and discover practical applications of mathematics. Further information can be found at www.mav.vic.gov.au or contact Kellie kcumming@sjmitcham.catholic.edu.au



Later in the year, there will be opportunities for extension groups in **Writing** and **Digital Technologies**. Watch this space for updates of our progress...!

Have great week,
Ange.

SEASONS PROGRAM AT ST JOHN'S



Change and loss are issues that affect all of us at some stage in our lives. At St John's Primary we recognise that when changes occur in families through death, separation, divorce or related circumstances, young people may benefit from learning how to manage these changes effectively. We are therefore offering a very successful education program called Seasons for Growth.

This program is facilitated in small groups and is based on research that highlights the importance of social support and the need to practise new skills to cope effectively with change and loss. The program focuses on issues such as self-esteem, managing feelings, problem-solving, decision-making, effective communication and support networks. Seasons for Growth runs for eight weeks and each weekly session is 40-45 minutes (over terms 2 & 3). The program concludes with a 'Celebration' session. Later in the year each group will have the opportunity to meet for two further sessions to build on their earlier learning. Seasons for Growth will commence in week 5 and will be facilitated by myself who has received special training in the use of this program. If you think your son or daughter would benefit from Seasons for Growth we would encourage you to talk to him/her first about this. Should he/she decide to participate please fill in the tear-off section below and return to the school by Monday 8th of May. If you have any questions or would like further information, please don't hesitate to contact me either in person, phone (98741575) or email (bjohnson@sjmitcham.catholic.edu.au). St John's Primary is pleased to be able to offer this important program and we are confident that it will be a valuable learning experience for those who request to be involved.

Beth Johnson Season for Growth Site Coordinator and Companion

SEASONS PROGRAM AT ST JOHN'S

I _____ give consent for my son/daughter

_____ to attend the Seasons for Growth program. I have discussed with

this with him/her. _____

Parent/Guardian Signature

Child's Signature



MOTHER'S DAY STALL

On Friday 12th May we will be holding our annual Mother's Day stall. The children can purchase items with a cost ranging from \$1 to \$5. Based on your feedback from the recent fundraising survey, the Mother's Day stall this year will not be raising any funds and all items will be sold at cost price (extremely reasonable pricing). The children will shop together as a class. Please send separate money (no more than \$10) with each child (if applicable). At the start of lunch time, siblings are encouraged to discuss together what they bought their Mum, and if there is a double up, they can return to the Coghlan Centre to change it over. Some extra Dads and Mums are required to assist selling at the stall from approx. 8.45am – 11am. If you can help, please let us know at yourpa.sjm@gmail.com

No donations of rum balls or raffle prizes are required this year. I hope that the gifts your children choose bring a delight to Mother's Day.

Melanie Moran
Chloe (Y5) & Mia (Y1).
Mobile 0403872314



BIRTHDAYS

This week we congratulate Patrick Elliott, Sophie Kroezen and Erin Marriner.

We hope you have a "Happy Day!"



2018 SECONDARY SCHOOL APPLICATIONS

Applications to attend State Government Secondary School in 2018 went home last week with each year 6 student.

Please fill in the details and return the form to the school office as soon as possible, no later than Friday 12 May.

If you have already accepted a position for 2018 at a private school you are still required to complete the form appropriately and return it by the due date.

ENTERTAINMENT BOOKS

Did you know that the Entertainment Books are full of more than just fine dining offers? They are full of thousands of amazing offers from local family restaurants like the Mitcham Hotel, Pancake Parlour and Coach & Horses, family activities including movie tickets, ten pin bowling vouchers and mini golf, shopping vouchers from Woolworths and many more, discounted hotel and flight offers, and all for only \$70. The Entertainment Books will come home this week and you can purchase the book, order more for family and friends and even purchase a digital version so you don't have lug the book of vouchers around with you.



To find out more go to www.entbook.com.au/184925h or contact Suzie Leyden (Callum 5/6MO/Abbey 5/6TJ) on 0448 223 966 or yourpa.sjm@gmail.com

Marathon Club

Tuesday and Thursday Mornings

Check the St John's Skoolbag App for updates.

Italian Phrase of the Week

Week 1: **Oggi fa freddo**
(Ohgee-fah-fray-doh)
Today is cold!



Open Day
Sunday 21 May

WHITEFRIARS
CATHOLIC COLLEGE FOR BOYS

Presentations begin at:

- 10am
- 12pm

Followed by Tours

Registration is essential visit
www.whitefriars.vic.edu.au

156 Park Road Donvale Vic 3111

Belong. Believe. Become.

Our Lady of Sion College

Register now for 2019

Information Evening
Tuesday 23 May 2017 | 7:00pm to 8:00pm

Prospective families are invited to register their attendance.
Please contact the College on 9890 9097 or info@sion.catholic.edu.au

1065 Whitehorse Road, Box Hill | www.sion.catholic.edu.au



Entertainment Books are coming soon to St Johns Primary School - Mitcham.

Help us raise funds for our fundraising by buying an Entertainment Membership from us. Books will be coming home at the start of Term 2 ready for you to use immediately. Order now for your family and friends and use them till June 2018. Digital memberships as well as books for other states are also available. Visit

<https://www.entertainmentbook.com.au/orderbooks/184925h>

for more details. You'll receive hundreds of valuable offers for everything you love to do, and help our fundraising at the same time!



Use just a few of these offers and you'll more than cover the cost of your Membership!

UP TO \$45 Value 	UP TO \$35 Value 	UP TO \$50 Value 	UP TO \$45 Value 	2-FOR-1
UP TO \$50 Value 	UP TO \$35 Value 	UP TO \$35 Value 	25% OFF 	Various
5% OFF 	UP TO 10% OFF 	5% OFF 	2-FOR-1 	Various

St John's Parents Association warmly invites
the ladies of our community to our very own

Ladies Movie Night

Friday 12th May at 7:30pm

Plaza Cinema at St John's

Join together with friends for a glass of something sparkling,
some dainty desserts and escape into the silver screen.

Tickets are \$10 and seats are limited
so please book your ticket at the office by Friday 5th May.

For more information contact

yourpa.sjm@gmail.com



1st Heatherdale Scout Group

The family Group



34-36 Purches St Mitcham

"a part of the community since 1957"

**JOEY
SCOUTS
(6-8)**



**CUB
SCOUTS
(7.5-11)**

*Joey Scouts Mondays from 5:30pm till 6:30pm

*Cub Scouts Mondays from 6:45pm till 8:15pm

Come down and check it out!

Contact Dean Spicer for more
information on 0427508 813 or

iacala@1st-heatherdale.asn.au

www.1st-heatherdale.asn.au

