

St John's Parish

Primary School



May 22, 2017 No. 12

COMING UP AT ST JOHN'S

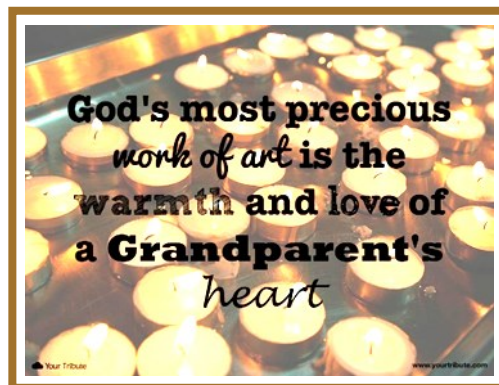
MAY	23	Tuesday	Italian Dance Incursion
	28	Sunday	Parish Family Mass and Ascension of the Lord, 9.45am
JUNE	3	Saturday	Confirmation Enrolment & Year 6 Level Mass, 6.00pm
	4	Sunday	Confirmation Enrolment & Year 6 Level Mass, 6.00pm
	5	Monday	School Assembly, 8.50am
	6	Tuesday	Education Board Meeting, 7.00pm
	12	Monday	Queen's Birthday Holiday - No School

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

Dear parents,

What an amazing day we had last Wednesday celebrating Grandparents and Special Friends day. It is always one of my favourite days of the school year. Some of our junior school students have shared their highlights of the day:

- I got to show my grandpa where I play. He saw my classroom too! - Alana*
- We played old games outside. I played a hopping game with my Nannie - Milla*
- I got to sit with my grandparents at the special mass. Lexie was with her grandparents behind me! - Lucas*
- I played hopscotch with my pop and then he showed me how to throw the rings on the cone. - Evie*
- My Grandma did bring an old box with Lego and building blocks. The box was very old. We played games it was fun. The Lego was not like Lego of today. It was very different. The colours of Lego were only red and white. We played tiggy and took a photo. I liked spending time with my grandma. - Harry*
- My grandma came from Daylesford. She was walking on the bucket stilts and playing games with my sister and me. We ate scones with jam and cream. We had lots of fun with her. - Hayden*
- On Grandparents day, Jacob and I played an instrument. I played the piano and Jacob played the guitar. At lunchtime we played games. I played elastics with my grandma then Jacob, grandpa, grandma and I played with a ball. We had to throw the ball in the hoop and only Jacob got it in the hoop. It was fantastic! - Abbey*
- We played old-fashioned games like our grandparents played when they were kids. We had mass with Fr Dispin and Archbishop Dennis Hart. It was the best grandparent's day ever! - Zarah*
- On Monday, we baked some scones with milk, flour, cream and lemonade for grandparent's day. I did skipping and played quoits. - Daniela*



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

We had a great day of learning last Friday at our first school closure day for the year.

We began by exploring our Vision Statement with the purpose of renewing it. Our school vision was last renewed 6 years ago and a lot has changed at St John's since then. The goal in our School Improvement Plan is to *collaboratively renew the vision to ensure that it is known and reflected in all policies, programs and practices of the school.*

We will include all stakeholders in this process: students, parents and staff as it is about the shared aspirations of our community that underpin and enliven all activities and interactions.

We then worked through the next module in Kids Matter – Working with parents and carers with our focus on the following questions:

How well do we know the families in our school?

Is every relationship with every family as good as it could be?

How do we build stronger relationships?

What are some of the ways we can support parents and carers?

Our final session was the introduction to staff of a team-based method for improving learner outcomes called Improvement Sprints. Some members of the leadership team have been attending professional learning in this area with Simon Breakspear from Agile Schools with the goal of sharing this knowledge with our staff. We already have great practices in this area so our objective was to align this process with what we are already doing well.

Reporting update

This semester we have been re-designing our formal written reports. This year we have a new curriculum which guides our learning and teaching called the Victorian Curriculum. This curriculum is grounded in the nation-wide curriculum, Australian Curriculum. This change of curriculum, and an updated version of our reporting program, enables us to slightly change the style of our reports based on feedback from our staff and parent community, to effectively and clearly communicate your child's learning to you.

An important part in this process is to share some of these changes with you. We will be offering two sessions to do this and I encourage parents to attend if you would like more information.

These sessions will run on Monday 5 June at 2:40pm and 7pm for approximately 30 minutes. Hopefully, this process will support our families in understanding these 'new' reports to celebrate your child's achievements and set specific learning goals as we move into the second half of the year.

Thank you to the families who have provided feedback on our previous reports to help with this process and our Parish Education Board who provided advice and suggestions in moving forward in this change.

If you are able to join us, please RSVP Beth Johnson – bjohnson@sjmitcham.catholic.edu.au by Wednesday 31 May naming which session you will attend. We look forward to seeing you at these information sessions.

Prep 2018

We are currently scheduling interviews for our new enrolments for 2018 both current and new families. Interviews will be taking place on Wednesday 21 June throughout the day with Fr Dispin John, Maree O'Keefe and myself. Letters have been sent home to families once enrolment forms have been received.

It was an honour on Saturday night to be part of the installation ceremony for Fr. Dispin John and great to see some of our families there. Please take the time to read all about this in the Education in Faith section of the newsletter. Thanks to 1/2 VP for sharing their learning so confidently at assembly this morning and it was also wonderful to see so many parents and grandparents there supporting our students. We have our next Parish Family mass on Sunday at 9:45am so looking forward to seeing you all there.



Wishing you all a great week.

Jacqui Marshall
Principal

Education in Faith News

Our Gospel Challenge this week is to: *Be Jesus people and respect everyone!*



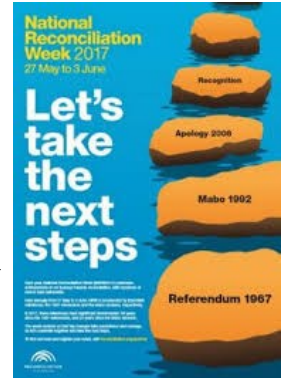
Archbishop Denis Hart celebrated 6pm parish mass on Saturday evening. During the mass Fr Dispin was formally installed as our parish priest. The ceremony included the letters of appointment and acceptance being read to the congregation and Fr Dispin renewed his vows taken at his ordination. Fr Dispin then lead the congregation in the Nicene Creed and Archbishop Hart and Fr Dispin moved to symbols around the church that represented different aspects of his ministry. Fr Dispin pledged his commitment to the Parish Leadership Team and the community of St John's.

Reconciliation Week

Each year National Reconciliation Week (NRW) celebrates and builds on the respectful relationships shared by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and other Australians. All Australians are invited to participate in our nation's reconciliation journey.

National Reconciliation Week (NRW) runs annually from 27 May – 3 June. These dates mark two milestones in Australia's reconciliation journey: The 1967 referendum and the historic Mabo decision, respectively.

In 2017, we reflect on two significant anniversaries in Australia's reconciliation journey – 50 years since the 1967 referendum, and 25 years since the historic Mabo decision. As we commemorate these significant milestones, we ask all Australians to be a part of the next big steps in our nation's reconciliation journey. The theme of this year's week is, "Let's take the next steps".



Several students will be representing St John's in activities this week such as "The Long Walk" at Aquinas on Tuesday morning and a flag raising ceremony at the City of Whitehorse on Friday. All students will contribute their footprint to an Aboriginal Flag which we will display.

Reconciliation must live in the hearts, minds and actions of us all as we move forward, creating a nation strengthened by respectful relationships between Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and non-Indigenous peoples.

Enhancing Catholic School's Identity Surveys

Thank you, thank you, thank you, to the thirty families who completed the surveys this year. Your time and effort is greatly appreciated. I will share the results and what they reveal to us later in the year.

Grandparent/Special Friend Day

It is always a pleasure to celebrate and give thanks for our families, grandparents and special friends who love and share their stories and wisdom with us.



Thank you to the Parents' Association - Suzie Leyden and her band of helpers - who assisted with the morning tea and setting up and packing up of the Coghlan Centre. Thank you also to the senior students for leading us in the outdoor activities.

Have an enjoyable week,
Monica

Important Dates to Remember:

May	23	Tuesday	Year 1/2 attending Parish Mass 12:00pm Home Mass for Patrick, Joshua, Cohen and Will.
	28	Sunday	Feast of the Ascension: Parish Family Mass 9:45am
	31	Wednesday	First Eucharist Breadmaking Day



What is mindfulness?

Mindfulness is a state of being fully awake to life – being aware and undistracted in the present moment and observing life as it unfolds without analysis and judgment. It is about focusing attention on the present, rather than thinking about the past or worrying about the future. Mindfulness Meditation is a clinically proven tool to support wellbeing and mental health. It involves setting aside time in a quiet space to focus on the present moment and what's happening internally and externally. Practising Mindfulness Meditation helps to develop the state of mindfulness that allows us to reduce stress, manage yourself and experience life more fully.

How can Mindfulness Meditation benefit student wellbeing and learning?

International literature and clinical trials reveal that mindfulness can help reduce and prevent depression in adolescents. What's more, mindfulness has the two-fold effect of supporting academic pursuits and is demonstrated to aid learning, memory processing and emotion regulation.

In addition, Mindfulness Meditation has been shown to:

- Reduce stress
- Increase resilience
- Increase positive emotions
- Boost self esteem
- Improve attention and focus

Suggested resource the whole family can use: KidsMatter and Smiling Mind share the goal of promoting children's mental health and wellbeing in schools. Smiling Mind is a free program that provides resources to support the development of mindfulness and meditation skills. These skills help to manage stress, increase awareness of emotions, improve attention and focus, and can prevent difficulties from getting worse. The [Smiling Mind website](#) and smartphone App provide information about mindfulness and action-based tools to guide children (starting from seven years) and adults through Mindfulness Meditation practices.

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

Have a wonderful week,
Beth Johnson
Student Wellbeing Leader

BIRTHDAYS

Congratulations this week to Benjamin Oakley, Liam Doherty and Gracen Laffin as they celebrate their birthday.

We hope you have a "Happy Day!"



Italian Phrase of the Week

Week 6:

Cresciamo nello spirit
Kray-sharmo-nella-men-tay)
We are growing spiritually



PIZZA SPECIAL FOOD DAY

Friday 2nd June

Order forms will be sent home this week.
All orders need to be completed and returned with correct money by **Monday 29th May**.



Computational and Algorithmic Thinking Competition (CAT) - Maths Extension Education

In Term 1, nine students were selected from Yr 5 and 6 (Upper Primary) to compete in the Computational and Algorithmic Thinking (CAT) competition organised through the Australian Mathematics Trust.

It is a one-hour problem-solving competition which seeks to identify computer programming potential. Some questions test the ability to accurately perform procedures, others require logical thought, while the more challenging problems require the identification and application of algorithms. The results for St John's were commendable where two students were awarded a distinction and four students awarded a credit certificate. Congratulations to all participants who worked diligently on the challenging problems. - Kellie Cumming



A note from your PA

It's time for the annual Cadbury Chocolate Drive. Each family will receive a box of Cadbury Chocolates this week.

Each box contains 50 bars which are \$1 each. (Total box value \$50)

We encourage you to support this fundraising activity and return your envelope to school in the coming weeks. Please ensure you complete your child's family name and class group as well as the amount enclosed on this envelope.

Any unsold chocolates need to be returned as soon as possible so they can be reallocated to another family.

With thanks in advance,
St Johns PA

ST JOHN'S SCHOOL UNIFORM

WINTER UNIFORM



BOYS

Polo shirt with logo-short or long sleeve

Navy school pants

School windcheater

Navy socks

Black school shoes

School fleece vest with logo (Optional)**



GIRLS

Polo shirt with logo-short or long sleeved

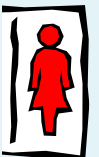
Navy bootleg school pants

School windcheater

Navy socks

Black school shoes

School fleece vest with logo (Optional)**



SPORT UNIFORM - BOYS & GIRLS

Polo shirt-short sleeved (As above)

Navy sport shorts

School windcheater

Navy sport trackpants

White socks

Runners



Children should wear sport uniform for Physical Education and on nominated sport days. These days vary between classes and will be advised by the classroom teacher.

UNIFORM SHOP

Time: 8.45 -9.15am

The Uniform Shop is open in the Multi Purpose Room on the first Tuesday of each month during school term.

For your convenience all items on the uniform list are able to be ordered and collected from the school office.

CO-ORDINATOR

Kathleen Spicer

The next scheduled Uniform Shop day will be on Tuesday 6 June.

Transition from Summer to Winter uniform has been over the first weeks of term 2 and students should be wearing their winter uniform consistently now. Please note the correct uniform as listed above. - Thank you!



ENTERTAINMENT BOOKS

Have you paid for your Entertainment Book?

All payments were due back last Friday so if you haven't paid for your book please go to www.entbook.com.au/184925h to pay online or send the envelope back with payment to the school office. There are plenty still available so don't forget to offer them to family, friends and work colleagues. If you would like to order more, complete the form that came with the book and return it to the office or contact Suzie Leyden (Callum 5/6MO/Abbey 5/6TJ) on 0448 223 966 or yourpa.sjm@gmail.com. Please return any unwanted books to the office this week.



THURSDAY 8 JUNE, 5–7.30 PM

BILLY TEA BUSH BAND

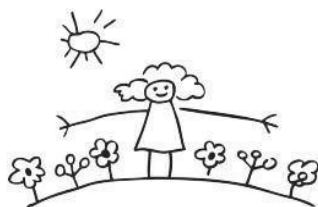
St John's Parents' Association invites you to ...

join us for our family event of 2017, beginning with a concert and workshop for the children during the day*, followed by a BBQ dinner and concert for the whole family from 5pm–7.30pm.

Where: St John's hall

When: Thursday 8 June, 5–6pm BBQ dinner (\$2 for a sausage; \$1 for a can of soft drink); 6–7.30pm family concert

***Children to be collected from school at standard time, 3.20pm.**



Dr Stanley Cochrane
Memorial Kindergarten Inc.

OPEN DAY 2017

SAT 27 MAY 11AM - 1PM

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257 Mitcham Road, Mitcham

Director / 4.YO teacher – Desiree Kinnes

3.YO teacher - Kerry Cardwell

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Ph. 9874 2132

www.drstanleycochranekinder.org.au



School Production Helpers

“A Grimm Night for Hans”

Preparations are well under way for our whole school production of “A Grimm Night for Hans”. I am, however, now looking for a few helpers to assist with a variety of jobs. These include costumes (anyone with creative design ideas?), some basic sewing, prop making, tie-dying experience (3/4s). I would also love to hear from anyone who would be interested in doing our dress-rehearsal photography and managing the ordering process for this, as well as someone with graphic design experience who would like to design a glossy program for the students to keep as a production memento. Please fill in the form below and return to Jenny in the office as soon as possible. I thank you in advance for your community spirit and your generosity in finding time to help.

Penelope Lang

Performing Arts Teacher

“A Grimm Night for Hans”

Production Helper

Name:

Email:

Phone:

Child's name and class:

How would you like to help?