

St John's Parish

Primary School



December 4, 2017 No. 33

COMING UP AT ST JOHN'S

DECEMBER	6	Wednesday	Carols Night, 6.00pm
	12	Tuesday	Education Board and Parent Association Christmas Thank You, 7.00pm
	15	Friday	School Reports Go Home
	18	Monday	Orientation Morning, Years 1-6 2018 School End of Year Picnic at Halliday Park
	19	Tuesday	Last Day of School 2017 for Students Thanksgiving Mass, 7.00pm Year 6 Graduation Supper



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

Dear parents,

It was wonderful to see our current and newly enrolled prep families at our welcome mass on Sunday. Fr. Dispin spoke about the importance of belonging to this faith community and our current preps gave each new prep the following prayer.

Dear Lord Jesus

Please watch over the new preps and keep them safe as they start St John's.

Help them make friends and be kind to others.

We welcome them into our school community and pray that they are happy and healthy.

May they learn lots of new things and grow in faith and love.

Carols Night – Wednesday 6 December

We look forward to seeing you all at our annual Christmas Carols night on Wednesday commencing at 6pm. At this stage, it will be on the basketball court however, with the unpredictable weather the hall is booked as a backup plan. We encourage children to eat beforehand and not run into the audience during the show. Children are asked to come dressed in traditional Christmas colours or in something festive. With the implementation of the child safety standards this will need to be an alcohol free event due to the presence of students. Thanks for your support with this. We will unlock the gates to the railway carpark to support parking on the night.

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

Parish Weekend Masses and Thanksgiving Mass

Due to the renovations of the church, masses on Saturday and Sunday over the next 2 weekends will be held in the MacKillop Space and adjoining 3/4 classrooms. For this reason we will not have an assembly next Monday morning.

At this stage Thanksgiving mass will also be taking place in the MacKillop space on Tuesday 19 Dec commencing at 7pm followed by supper and graduation for our Year 6 students and their families.

Thank you Drinks and Nibbles

I would once again like to invite members of the school board, parents association and other ongoing school programs to come along on Tuesday 12 December for drinks and nibbles in the staffroom. This is just a small way for the school to say thank you for all you do to support our children. This event will need to be childfree as parents enjoy a celebratory drink.

Have a great week

Jacqui Marshall
Principal

ITALIAN CONCERT

A big thank you to all the parents and grandparents who came to watch and enjoy the performances of our students in Italian. All classes participated in a variety of items from plays, songs, rap and a fashion parade. Students enjoyed participating and performing for an appreciative audience who responded very well.

Some feedback from students was:

“I liked singing in Italian”

“I liked talking in Italian”

“I thought the 3 /4s spoke loud and clear in Italian”

“I thought that the fashion parade was very funny”

“I loved the 5 /6s Rap”



Congratulations to all students on your performance!

Carols Night

Wednesday 6th December

Please note that the basketball court will be out of bounds from 12.00pm on Wednesday afternoon .
The carpark gate leading from the railway carpark at the rear of the school will be open.

Not long to go now before our annual Christmas concert. **The concert will start promptly at 6.00pm** on the basketball court and will finish at approximately 7.00pm. The students should bring something comfortable to sit on (blanket or pillow) and some water. We would appreciate it if the children could remain seated with their class for the duration of the concert.

I know the students can't wait to entertain you. We will come together as a school to sing this year's Count Us In song, 'Shine Together'....which is a perfect excuse to wear something shiny. So wear as much silver and gold as you can find! Your child's teacher will let you know if any other costume items (ears, noses, hats etc.) are required.

We look forward to celebrating our wonderful 2017 year with you.

Let the 'Silly Season' begin! - Penelope Lang

THIS IS AN ALCOHOL FREE EVENT

Education in Faith News

Our Gospel Challenge this week is to: *prepare our hearts for Christmas.....*

Advent is a four-week season of preparation for Christmas. During this time we reflect on the coming of Christ into human history as a small baby, the coming of Christ at the end of time and the coming of Christ into our own lives each day. Thus Advent has a past, present and future dimension.



You will notice an Advent wreath in Mary Mackillop Space as well as learning areas. The Advent wreath has become a significant symbol and tradition in the Catholic church. The liturgical colour for Advent is purple. The circle of the Advent wreath, without a beginning or an end, symbolises God's unending love for us and reminds us of eternity. The evergreen leaves represent growth and hope of eternal life. The four Advent candles mark the four weeks before Christmas with one more candle lit each Sunday during the season. Some traditions say the candles represent hope, peace, joy and love.

The season of Advent is the beginning of the Church's liturgical year. The Church's liturgical year follows a three year cycle and we move today into the second of those, Year B. The gospel readings for this year come predominantly from the Gospel of Mark.

Yesterday at the 11.15am Parish Mass, this year's Prep students hosted a mass to welcome 2018 prep students and their families. Each of the new 2018 prep students were given a prayer which was written and decorated by this year's prep class.



The parents of 2018 prep students participated in a commitment ceremony and received a copy of the parish prayer. They pledged to partner with school and parish to enhance their child's faith journey that commenced with their child's baptism, share the life and love of God with their child and support their child's growth in faith by sharing in our Sunday gathering of the faith community.

St Vincent de Paul are once again asking parishioners to contribute Christmas gifts for people in need in our local community. Gift card labels are available at the parish or school office. Please take a label and purchase a suitable gift based on the gender and age group written on the label/gift card. It would be appreciated if gifts could be left at the parish or school office until 10 December as St Vincent de Paul will start to pack the hampers during the following week.



Have an enjoyable week, - Monica

Important Dates to Remember:

December	5	Tuesday	Parish Mass at Zebedee
	19	Tuesday	Thanksgiving Mass, 7.00pm

Christmas Mass Timetable 2017



Parish Advent Penitential Celebration
Thursday 21 December at 7.30pm

Christmas Eve Masses

Sunday 24 December

6.00pm
(5.30pm Carols)

St James Family Mass
51 Centre Rd, Vermont

PLEASE NOTE:

No 9.30am Mass on Christmas Day at St James

8.30pm
(7.45pm Carols)

St John's Family Mass
St John's Church

11.00pm
(10.30 Carols)

Evening Mass
St John's Church

PLEASE NOTE:

11.00pm Mass is in place of Midnight Mass

Christmas Day Masses

Monday 25 December

8.30am
10.30am

St John's Church
St John's Church

PLEASE NOTE:

No 5.00pm Mass on Christmas Day at St John's

MARATHON CLUB NEWS

On Thursday the 14th of December we will be having a special breakfast at the park to celebrate the wonderful year we have had in Marathon Club. Anyone who has participated Marathon Club this year is welcome to come along. We will be meeting at school and leaving at the normal time, 7:45am, to go to Halliday Park where we will be having a special breakfast and then coming back to school for the rest of the day.



Thank you, **Anabelle, Molly and Tahlia.**

ST JOHN'S SCOTTISH DANCE GROUP

Another year approaches its end and time has come to celebrate our progress and learning this year in Scottish dancing. As you may already be aware, Scottish Dancers and the St John's School Choir are going to the Aged Care Centre in Vermont on Wednesday 13 December. They will entertain the elderly there, in the afternoon. We will be returning to school around 3pm.



As our dancers are already in their kilts, we thought this would be a good opportunity to have our final Scottish dance class and presentation of certificates.

We invite parents, grandparents and friends to attend this open class. We would like to share with you some of the new dances that we have learned this year which we have not performed in public. We would also like to invite any children who will be in grade three next year who may be interested in joining the group to come along with their parents.

The presentation will take place in the Mary MacKillop Space and will begin at approximately 3:30 and should finish about 4:15pm.

Please join us in celebrating all our achievements this year.



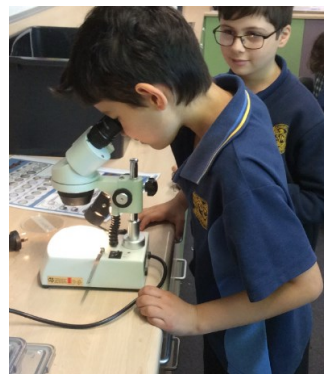
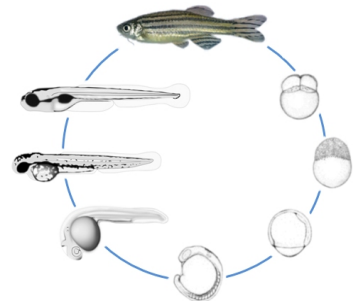
BIOEYES INCURSION

School of Biomedical Science, Monash University

To support this terms Biology inquiry unit, the 3/4 students were involved in a week long program called 'BioEYES'.

BioEYES is an innovative, hands-on approach to teaching where students perform collaborate experiments and use critical thinking skills to make hypotheses, observe development and draw conclusions. This program looks at biomedical science, particularly zebrafish and their genetic similarities to humans. Scientists from the outreach education centre at Monash University led this week long program.

The Students had the opportunity to observe zebrafish throughout their life cycle from eggs to young fish (fry) or juvenile development. On day one the zebrafish mated and we collected the transparent fertilised eggs. The students discussed the genetic relationships of offspring and parents in zebrafish and humans. Discussions were held regarding the pigmentation (colour) of the zebrafish. Using microscopes, the students observed the embryonic development of the zebrafish over the week. Following their observations, the 3/4 students wrote and created labelled diagrams including all they've noticed such as the eyes, heart and circulation. To conclude the program students collected information regarding the percentage of male and female offspring from examining pigmentation of the fry.



Congratulations to Amari and Daiah on receiving their 5 year achievement award for Dancing, Drama & Singing.

Italian Phrase of the Week



Week 33: Uffa, che caldo oggi
(Ooh-fah, kay kahl-doh oh-gee)
Goodness me, it's hot today!

Uffa, fa freddo oggi!
(Ooh-fah, fa fred-doh oh-gee)
Goodness me, it's cold today!

That's Melbourne weather for you!

MANGO FUNDRAISER

Mangoes can be picked up on Tuesday 5 December from Zebedee, opposite the 3/4 classrooms (below the hall).



Please contact Rhyannon on (H) 9874 1053 or (M) 0423 151 848 if you have any questions.