

St John's Parish

Primary School



February 19, 2018 No. 4

COMING UP AT ST JOHN'S

FEBRUARY

20	Tuesday	Education Board Meeting, 7.00pm
21	Wednesday	Parent Association Meeting, 7.00pm
22	Thursday	Prep Family Night with Helen Carboon, 5.00pm or 7.00pm
25	Sunday	Parish Family Mass, 9.45am
27	Tuesday	Prep Welcome Dinner, 6.00pm
28	Wednesday	Cyber Safety Parent Night, 6.00pm

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

Dear Parents,

We had another action packed week at St John's last week. It is always great to see our parents so early in the year at the "Get to know you" sessions to ensure a successful year ahead for our students. A big thank you to the social justice team for our pancakes on Tuesday morning. We have begun raising important funds for Caritas. At our Ash Wednesday mass, the children reflected on how they do more for others during the time of Lent. We have our first Parish Family Mass for the year on Sunday at 9:45am where our choir will sing and students are encouraged to participate.

Future leaders – semester 1

We congratulate the following Future Leaders who received their badges at assembly this morning. The Future Leaders program enables students' participation and voice in what happens within the school and its community. Better decisions are made within a school if everyone affected by those decisions is involved in making them in some way. We look forward to building the leadership qualities and skills of our Future Leaders in 2018.

RIGHT: St John's Future Leaders 2018

Prep	Lachlan Hanson	Sheridan Newberry
1/2BM	Evie Godfrey	Jarrold Fernandez
1/2EB	Lexie Bright	Harry Willis
3/4RF	Elisha Beh	Leah Pal
3/4KC	Aidan Puls	Zara La
5/6KR	Thomas Kelly	Jack Iacuone
5/6TJ	Isabel Wang	Gabriel Gonzalez



SECOND HAND UNIFORM

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 ASSOCIATE

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

Working Bee – Friday 2 March 2018

We have our first working bee for the year planned on Friday 2 March commencing at 4:30pm and concluding at 6pm. We will spend some time trimming back trees, topping up tanbark and sand in the adventure playground and other general maintenance. If you can help please complete the slip included in the newsletter or email me directly. This is the first of at least four working bees planned throughout the year. Parents who attend a working bee receive a \$50 rebate on the maintenance levy. Thanks for your support.

School Open Day Flyers

We have open days planned over the next few months and would appreciate any parents who could do some letterbox drops out and about in Mitcham and Nunawading. If you can help please let me know. Thank you to those who have already offered to help out.

Child Safety Volunteer application process

We have already received many of these forms back, which is great. We will process them as quickly as we can. You will receive a letter from the school confirming your volunteer work. An important reminder that all parents who wish to volunteer to help in the classrooms, on excursions or incursions, twilight sports and other school activities will need to complete this documentation. More copies are available at the office.

Parish Child Safety Meeting

The parish are in the process of finalising their Child Safety procedures. All interested families are invited to a meeting regarding this on Monday 5 March commencing at 7:30pm (cuppa at 7pm) in the church.

Year 6 Camp

Our Year 6 students will be attending a 3-night camp at Lake Nillahcootie from March 13. Various notes and consent forms will be coming home this week. Could all notes be returned by Friday 2 March to support our planning.

2018 Calendar

We will send home a hard copy of the 2018 calendar this week. We will also put it up on the school website for easy access. It is important to read the school newsletter every week as new dates will be shared as future events are planned.

Cyber Safety

Next week we will be having a focus on Cyber safety. Students in Years 3-6 will be involved in a session to learn how to be safe on the internet and we invite all parents along to hear what you can do at home on Wednesday 28 February. Bianca Martino our e-learning leader has written more about this further in the newsletter.

Student Arrival Time at School

Student safety is extremely important to us at St John's. We have noticed some students being dropped off to school in the morning before there is any supervision. Marathon Club commences at 7.45am so students intending to participate should not be arriving before this time. Students can arrive between 8.30am and 8.45am to be ready for school on time.

Before School Care is available before these times and Camp Australia can be contacted on 1300 105 343.

Have a great week

Jacqui Marshall
Principal

Keep the Sports for Schools tickets coming in!



Italian Phrase of the Week

Week 4: Seduti!!
(Say-doo-tee)
Sit down!



Education in Faith News

Our Gospel Challenge this week is to: *Keep your word!* - 5/6TJ

God of all peoples and nations, you accompany us on our Lenten journey.

Through the life and mission of your son, you give us the gift of mercy.

May we learn to walk your way of justice and compassion with all your people.

In a special way, we keep in mind the children, women and men around the world

Who are most vulnerable to extreme poverty and injustice.

In this Year of Youth, may we support

Young people as they recognise that through their efforts, their desire to change and their generosity, they too are participating in the building of a better world.

Bless our prayers, our fasting and our Lenten gifts to Project Compassion.

Through these actions, may our hearts be open to receive your grace as we work towards a just future for all your creation.

We ask this in the name of Jesus,

Amen

Project Compassion Launch

On Tuesday 13 February (Shrove Tuesday) we went to the Lecture Theatre and Cathedral room, Cardinal Knox Centre in the city where we learnt about Caritas and what it is doing to help people in need.

A man called Janak Sharma talked to us and students from other schools, about a girl named Janaki who lived in Nepal and was very poor but created a business making clothes.

After the event we had a vegetarian lunch from five different cuisines which was very nice.

By Lya and Jude

Each week throughout Lent students will be learning about a person from a different country each week which explain the issues faced in each country. The stories also highlight how Caritas Australia is working together with vulnerable people, helping them to develop their strengths and create change in their own communities.

WEEK ONE

Janaki is a young entrepreneur from Nepal, who has turned her life around. Growing up in a world of poverty and disadvantage, coupled with a forced marriage at the age of 12, she was in a very vulnerable position. Even more so when her husband died just two years into their marriage. She's now running her own successful sewing business and has become an inspirational community leader.

In 2015, Janaki joined a youth club formed by Caritas Australia partners, Caritas Nepal and the Ekata Foundation Surkhet, as part of the Children and Youth Empowerment Program (CYEP) which provides youth with job skills and income-generating projects. She took a loan from the youth club to purchase her first sewing machine.

Two years on, Janaki has 11 sewing machines and is running her own business, teaching others and is considered a community role model.



Important Dates to Remember:

February	22	Thursday	Helen Carboon, Prep Evening, "Children and God things", 5.00 or 7.00pm
	25	Sunday	Parish Family Mass, 9.45am
March	3	Saturday	Year Six Level Mass and Confirmation Enrolment Rite, 6.00pm
	4	Sunday	Year Six Level Mass and Confirmation Enrolment Rite, 9.45am
	8	Thursday	First Eucharist Parent Evening, 7.30pm
	15	Thursday	First Reconciliation Celebration, 7.30pm
	22	Thursday	First Reconciliation Celebration, 7.30pm



SHROVE TUESDAY FUNDRAISER

A snapshot of the pancake breakfast organized by year six and Social Justice Team



To view Mathletics - www.mathletics.com.au

Mathletics is a web-based learning program, which integrates home and school learning via the internet. Mathletics at St John's is an integral part of the home learning program where students from Year 3 to 6 have set tasks to complete fortnightly. Students from Prep to 2 have access to the program where they can practise skills and concepts involving fluency and mathematical understanding. Mathletics can be accessed by PC/Mac, iOS and Android devices as well as Windows tablets and Chromebooks. Students have access to Mathletics at home and at school through the use of a username and password which has been issued to your

child at school. In most cases the password and username is the same as previous years.

The benefits of Mathletics include:

- Students are engaged and motivated to learn.
- Mathletics is adaptive, it responds to your child's individual strengths and weaknesses.
- Students instantly know if they are on the right track with instant feedback.
- Live Mathletics fosters a stimulating and exciting online learning community.
- It creates the perfect link between home and school, where teachers can set tasks in conjunction with current mathematical learnings in the classroom.
- Proven improvement results
- Teachers can view student's progress and adapt their work accordingly.

The Golden rules of Mathletics

- 1) Do each activity (especially set tasks) as Practice=Improvement!
- 2) If you get an answer incorrect - from the response try and figure out your error.
- 3) If you get a question wrong again, try and get support from the mathletics program, support sheets or your family.
- 4) If you still don't understand the concept send an email or make reference and chat to your teacher. Your teacher will support you.

How to get the most out of Mathletics?

1. Parents need to encourage their child/children to use the program regularly.
2. Parents need to take an active role in their child/children's learning and support them when working on Mathletics.
3. Don't be afraid to use a workbook, paper and pencil to solve problems.
4. Come to Mathletics club on lunchtime Monday's if you need to catch up or get further support (Yr 3 to 6)
5. Some mathletics tasks may not work on a tablet device and may be best to use on a computer.

PLEASE NOTE – Students gain points by beating their personal best therefore **it is very important for you or other family members NOT to use your child's password.** It is important that Mathletics is seen as a reflection of your child's work, so that the program can adapt accordingly.

Kellie Cumming
Mathematics Leader



Greetings to all parents and friends of St John's Mitcham! For those of you who are interested or curious in the activities of our wonderful Parents' Association, please come along to the first meeting for 2018, this **Wednesday evening 21 March in the Lyon's Room (below the prep classroom) at 7 pm.** The Parent Associations' primary objectives are to support the principles of inclusivity and compassion in our school community as well as raising funds/applying for grants for the benefit of our kids' wellbeing and education. You – as a parent/carer – are automatically a member of the PA and can be involved as much or as little as you choose. Come along and see what's in store for 2018!
If you have any questions or comments, email yourpa.sjm@gmail.com.



rhsports.com.au

UNIFORM SHOP NEWS

RH Sport are now supplying St John's School Uniform.

https://www.rhsports.com.au/shop/product/clothing/school_wear/st_john's_mitcham_ps

Kathleen Spicer will continue to manage the sale of second hand uniform and will open on the first Tuesday of each month in the Multi-purpose room.

BIRTHDAYS

We congratulate Sam and Greg Galati and Lachlan Hanson who will be celebrating their birthdays this week.

We hope you all have a "Happy Day!"



CHOIR 2018

All students have started off the year with lots of choir singing during our Performing Arts classes. This has been a lot of fun and is an important part of the arts curriculum. This will continue throughout the year but in addition to this I will be running our usual dedicated choir sessions on Wednesday mornings from 8.25am to 8.55am in the Coghlan center. This will be for students from years 2 to 6 at this stage. Please remind your child to bring their choir book and to sign the morning register when they arrive.

Thank you for your flexibility and ongoing support of the arts at St John's.



St John's Parents Association warmly invites you to

Prep/One Welcome Dinner



**Tuesday 27th February
6-730pm**

Join us for pizza and delicious desserts provided by the year one families.

**Mary Mackillop Space,
St John's Primary School**

RSVP

Sarah Longmore (Jessica 3/4RF, Lucas 1/2EB)

gilmore42@bigpond.com or 0407055958

by Friday 20th February

or email yourpa.sjm@gmail.com

MARATHON CLUB

Don't forget Marathon Club is up and running. All year 3-6 students that are interested in joining the fun are welcome to attend.



Students should arrive at 7.45 and will have breakfast after their run. Parents are welcome to run with the students and the cost is \$5.00 per student per term to cover breakfast costs.

Other Important dates for 2018.

April

16 Monday Term Two Commences

May

12 Saturday Confirmation Ceremonies 1:00pm and 3:00pm
14 Monday School Closure Day – Staff Professional Learning
15 Tuesday NAPLAN Testing Year 3 & 5 – Language Conventions and Writing
16 Wednesday NAPLAN Testing Year 3 & 5 - Reading
17 Thursday NAPLAN Testing Year 3 & 5 0- Numeracy
18 Friday Grandparent's Day
21 Monday Year Five Campers leave for Sovereign Hill
23 Wednesday Year Five Campers return from Sovereign Hill

June

29 Friday Term Two Ends

July

21 Friday Term Three Ends

August

13 Monday School Closure Day – Staff Professional Learning

September

16 Monday Term Two Commences

October

8 Monday Term Four Commences

November

5 Monday School Closure Day – Staff Professional Learning

16 Friday School Closure Day – Staff Professional Learning

December

18 Tuesday Term Four Ends & Thanksgiving Mass



AUSTRALIA COMPUTATIONAL THINKING CHALLENGE 2018

This year students in years 3-6 will participate in Bebras 2018. The students will participate in this online challenge in a 45min (Years 5 & 6) or a 60min (Years 3 & 4) session at school which will be held between 13th – 23rd March and 3rd – 14th September. Students who return a signed consent form will receive a participation certificate for each challenge.

Bebras is an international student challenge run by CSIRO Education and Outreach through the Digital Careers program. The goal is to promote Computational Thinking to students (Primary and Secondary) in a way that highlights student ability beyond Science or Mathematical skills. Using Computational Thinking skills doesn't mean thinking like a computer – it is a way of thinking that promotes problem-solving and it can be used in every aspect of our lives. It uses a number of skills that help us to do this, these skills include: Pattern Recognition, Algorithms and Logic. Bebras Australia is designed to be accessible and easy to use and is linked to the Australian Curriculum.

We use problem-solving in everything that we do – and future jobs will require this even more. Teaching Computational Thinking is not about how to use technology to solve the problem but rather how to understand the problems and identify the tools needed to solve them. Bebras is a challenge, not a competition. The aim is for students to develop a positive impression of Digital Technologies.

For more information go to www.bebbras.edu.au

**Please return consent forms to your classroom teacher
by: Friday 23rd February 2018**



ST JOHN'S TWILIGHT SCHOOL SPORTS 2018

The St. John's Twilight Sports athletics carnival will be held, weather permitting, on Monday 5 March from 4:45 to 7:00 pm at the Bill Sewart Athletics Track in Burwood East (behind Nunawading Basketball stadium). We encourage all families to come along to support and cheer for the students.

Students will have the chance to prepare and train for the event during sport and PE lessons prior to our Twilight Sports night. Relay and event practice, lead by the Year 6 Sports Captains, will be held on the grass area during the first half of lunchtime on the following days; each house will have two lunchtime practice sessions before our Twilight Sports day. One in week 4 and another in week 5.

Dillon (blue) – Monday 19th & Monday 26th Feb
Lyons (green) – Tuesday 20th & Tuesday 27th Feb
Durkin (red) – Thursday 22nd Feb & Thursday 1st March
Coghlan (gold) – Friday 23rd Feb & Friday 2nd March

Students are encouraged to wear their sports uniform and their house coloured T- shirt on their practice days. A separate notice regarding the Twilight Sports Day will be sent home this week.

Thank you -Tom Jackson



St. John's will be hosting a ThinkUKnow presentation on the 28th February at 6pm and all parents, carers and teachers are encouraged to attend.

ThinkUKnow Australia is a cyber safety education program that educates parents, carers and teachers of how people are using technology, the challenges they may face online, and how to help them overcome these in a safe and ethical way.

ThinkUKnow Australia is a partnership between the Australian Federal Police, Microsoft Australia, Datacom and the Commonwealth Bank. The program is delivered in collaboration with policing partners New South Wales Police Force, Northern Territory Police, Queensland Police, South Australia Police, Tasmania Police, Western Australia Police, as well as Neighbourhood Watch Australasia.

The presentation will be delivered by a local law enforcement member and an industry volunteer. The presentation covers issues relating to children and young people's privacy and security online, their relationships with other users and their online reputation. It provides insight into the devices young people are using, as well as the popular websites, apps and social networking sites they're accessing.

This is a fantastic opportunity for you to learn more about young people and the online environment, and how you can help them to be safe and responsible users of technology.

For more information, you can visit www.thinkuknow.org.au

Please let me know if you have any questions about this session.

Kind regards, - Bianca Martino (eLearning Leader).

Reunion

1968, 1978, 1988, 1998, 2008



SUNDAY
18.03.18
12 - 3PM

ALL WELCOME
INCLUDING STAFF WHO
TAUGHT DURING THESE YEARS
RSVP
ILLUMINARE@AQUINAS.VIC.EDU.AU

AQUINAS COLLEGE
46 GREAT RYRIE ST RINGWOOD
IN THE O'DRISCOLL ROOM

SUNDAY 18TH MARCH 2018

12-3PM | 46 Great Ryrie Street Ringwood VIC 3134 | 03 9259 3000 | aquinas.vic.edu.au

AQUINAS
COLLEGE

CRICOS No. 00127G

WORKING BEE

Dear Parents,

Our first school working bee for the year will be on this Friday 2 March, 2018 from 4.30 to 6.00pm.

Helpers are needed to assist with trimming back trees, topping up tanbark and sand in the adventure playground as well as other general maintenance .

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 Wednesday 28 February.

I look forward to seeing you there,

Jacqui Marshall
Principal



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WORKING BEE RETURN SLIP

Return this slip to the school office by Wednesday 28 February, 2018

The _____ family

will be attending the St John's working bee on Friday 2 March, 2018.