

St John's Parish

Primary School



February 26, 2018 No. 5

COMING UP AT ST JOHN'S

FEBRUARY

27 Tuesday Prep Welcome Dinner, 6.00pm
28 Wednesday Cyber Safety Parent Night, 6.00pm

MARCH

1 Thursday Open Morning- New Enrolments, 9.00 - 10.00am
2 Friday Working Bee, 4.30 - 6.00pm
3 Saturday Year Six Mass and Confirmation Enrolment Rite, 6.00pm
4 Sunday Year Six Mass and Confirmation Enrolment Rite, 9.45am
5 Monday School Assembly - 1/2EB, 8.50am
Twilight Sports, 4.45pm
7 Wednesday Open Morning, 9.00-10.00am

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



Twilight Sports

Our annual athletics carnival will be held next Monday 5 March at Bill Sewart Athletics Track in Burwood East commencing at 4:45pm. Thank you to Mr Tom Jackson and our Year 6 sports leaders for their preparation work for the event. The students are very excited. There will be a sausage sizzle and drinks available for purchase on the night.

Prep Welcome Dinner

We look forward to seeing our Prep and Year 1 families at our welcome dinner on Tuesday night commencing at 6pm in Mackillop Space. It will be a great opportunity to meet new families and ask questions about school life.

Cyber Safety Parent Night

On Wednesday night we are hosting a presentation for parents on how to ensure your children are safe on the internet. The presentation covers issues relating to children and young people's privacy and security online, their relationships with other users and their online reputation. I strongly encourage parents to attend so you can be more informed about the online world. It would be good to implement some preventative strategies at home now rather than wait until a problem arises.

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

Rachel Spencer

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

Prep 2019

Our Open mornings for prospective families begin this week. We love having the opportunity to showcase the wonderful teaching and learning at St John's. Could all current families who have a child starting prep next year please complete an enrolment form and return before the end of the term.

Working Bee

Thank you to the parents who have already replied that they will be attending the working bee. We still need more helpers so if can spare one and a half hours on Friday after school please complete the form included in the newsletter or email me directly – jmarshall@sjmitcham.catholic.edu.au



CSEF Eligibility

If you are currently the holder of a Centrelink Health Care Card (HCC) you are eligible for the Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund (CSEF). The CSEF is an annual payment to the school used towards camps, sports and/or excursion expenses for the eligible student.

For more information please read the document included in today's newsletter and complete the application form available at the school office.

Have a great week

Jacqui Marshall
Principal

Respect Self



At St John's, Respect Self is one of our 3 Rs. Students know we can respect ourselves by having a go, persisting, being ready to learn and making good choices. Mistakes are necessary in learning and so our students are consistently encouraged to engage in a growth mindset. A growth mindset includes knowing to persist when faced with challenges and having a "can do" attitude.

Questions to ask your child in encouraging them to respect themselves could include:

- What good choices have you made today?
- What are your strengths?
- What challenges did you face in school?
- What strategies can you try when faced with a challenge?



I can respect myself by playing safely. Madison Dalton – 1/2EB.

I can respect myself by not being too hard on myself when I make mistakes. Josh Plant – 3/4KC.

I can respect myself by learning from my mistakes and trying my best to improve. Astrid Harkin – 5/6TJ.

Emma Buis - Wellbeing

At St John's we

* *Respect Ourselves*

* *Respect Others*

* *Respect Property*

Education in Faith News

Our Gospel Challenge this week is to: *Change our heart and be more like Jesus- 3/4RF*

The transfiguration of Jesus was a sign to help the disciples understand that Jesus shared in the glory of God. Moses represented the law and Elijah represented the prophets. Their presence of Mount Sinai with Jesus symbolically showed that Jesus was about to fulfil the law and prophecy with his death and resurrection. If we get confused sometimes about what God wants, we're in good company.

This week Peter, James and John join Jesus on a mountain, where he is transfigured. That is, Jesus is transformed so they see who he really is. They hear God's voice telling them to listen to Jesus' words. Then they go down the mountain and still are confused. Later they even abandon Jesus.

These guys were human like us. It would be nice if we always saw God and heard God's voice so clearly. But it just doesn't happen that way. God at times can seem close, and at other times distant. The Scriptures can seem clear at times, but then confusing at other times when you try to live them in daily life. Some of us have had "*transfiguration*" experiences, like powerful retreats where everything seems so clear or moments of prayer when God seems so close. But even our greatest saints have talked about how hard it is to hold on to that clarity.

What did the Apostles do when they were confused? The Scriptures tell us they kept trying. They prayed and read Scripture together. They prayed before decisions. Then they did their best and trusted that the Holy Spirit would work through them. And in the end, they changed the world. (GPBS 2018)

LENTEN PROJECT COMPASSION STORY WEEK TWO.

Rattanak is a skilled young barber, living an independent life in rural Cambodia. But it wasn't always that way. As a child he contracted polio and also became deaf. Like many people who are deaf or hard of hearing, Rattanak faced isolation at home, with a lack of opportunity to escape poverty.

His sister discovered the Deaf Development Program (DDP), run by Caritas Australia partner, Maryknoll Cambodia. It provides sign language, job training and interpreting services to people aged 16 and over who are deaf or hard of hearing and aims to raise awareness about deafness in the hearing community. So far, it's helped over 430 deaf or hard of hearing people with their education and more than 200 people to find jobs. It has also trained more than 300 people without deafness as sign language interpreters.

Rattanak graduated from its education program in 2010, returning the following year to train as a barber. The DDP then helped him to set up his shop in his parent's house in the village.



Have fantastic week,
Monica

Important Dates to Remember:

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



At St John's we are using ABC Reading Eggs as an important part of our literacy program. Your child has 24 hour access to Reading Eggs/Eggspress through a unique username and password. This means that students can work at their own pace and explore the Reading Eggs Library of eBooks and activities anywhere, anytime. There are hundreds of fun lessons, comprehensive activities and almost 2000 eBooks.

Reading Eggs/Eggspress is a web-based learning program that integrates home and school learning via the internet. It is one of the world's leading educational websites and can be accessed on any computer or tablet device. To access Reading Eggs/Eggspress from home, all your child needs to do is visit www.readingeggs.com.au and click the login button, they can then login using their own user details.

Reading Eggs/Eggspress is being used in our learning areas on a daily basis and your child would greatly benefit from accessing this program at home as part of their home learning. Please speak to your child's teacher if you have any questions about the assigned tasks.

Ange Crowe and Naomi Curtis
Literacy Leaders

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE INFORMATION FOR PARENTS

Every Victorian child should have access to the world of learning opportunities that exist beyond the classroom. The Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund helps ensure that no student will miss out on the opportunity to join their classmates for important, educational and fun activities. It is part of making Victoria the Education State and the Government's commitment to breaking the link between a student's background and their outcomes.

CAMPS, SPORTS & EXCURSIONS FUND (CSEF)

School camps provide children with inspiring experiences in the great outdoors, excursions encourage a deeper understanding of how the world works and sports teach teamwork, discipline and leadership. All are part of a healthy curriculum.

CSEF is provided by the Victorian Government to assist eligible families to cover the costs of school trips, camps and sporting activities.

If you hold a valid means-tested concession card or are a temporary foster parent, you may be eligible for CSEF. A special consideration category also exists for asylum seeker and refugee families. The allowance is paid to the school to use towards expenses relating to camps, excursions or sporting activities for the benefit of your child.

The annual CSEF amount per student is:

- \$125 for primary school students
- \$225 for secondary school students

MORE INFORMATION

For more information about the CSEF visit
www.education.vic.gov.au/csef

HOW TO APPLY

Contact the school office to obtain a CSEF application form or download from www.education.vic.gov.au/csef

NEW FOR 2018!

If you applied for the CSEF at your child's school in 2017, you do not need to complete an application form in 2018 unless there has been a change in your family circumstances.

You only need to complete an application form if any of the following changes have occurred:

- new student enrolments; your child has started or changed schools in 2018 or you did not apply in 2017.
- changed family circumstances; such as a change of custody, change of name, concession card number, or new siblings commencing at the school in 2018.

Check with the school office if you are unsure.



*** Forms are available from the school office for parents that qualify for the CSEF funding**



rhsports.com.au

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

St John's School uniform is available from RHSport

BIRTHDAYS

This week we congratulate Amity Carter, Anthony and Thomas Kelly and Marco Vincitorio.

We hope you all have a "Happy Day!"



Italian Phrase of the Week

Week 5: ContaContiamo!
(Kon-tahKon-tee-ahm-oh)
CountLet's Count!



CHOIR 2018

Choir continues on Wednesday morning from 8.25am to 8.55am in the Coghlan center for students in year 2 -6. 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



WHITEFRIARS
CATHOLIC COLLEGE FOR BOYS
Discover
Whitefriars

Tuesday 20 March, 6pm
Twilight Evening and Tours

Register for a tour at www.whitefriars.vic.edu.au
156 Park Road Donvale Vic 3111
enrolments@whitefriars.vic.edu.au



Belong. Believe. Become.

COIN CONGA

On the Friday 2 March the Social Justice leaders will be organising a Coin Conga line to raise awareness of and funds for Caritas Australia, an international aid agency. We will be holding the event on the tennis courts during recess. Can you please bring in any coins from home and we will make a big line of coins for your class.

Social Justice Team



SUBWAY SPECIAL FOOD DAY!

Friday 9th March is Subway Special Food Day!

Order forms will be sent home this week.

All orders need to be completed and returned with correct money by *Monday 5th March*.



SCHOOLS CLEAN UP DAY

St John's Year 3/4 have registered and will be participating in the schools Clean Up Australia Day on Friday 2nd March from 12:00 pm. Whilst engaging in this activity we will be promoting the Catholic Social Teachings of caring for the environment as well as discussing ways of reducing, reusing and recycling rubbish. We are promoting a healthier environment and learning about ways to conserve our beautiful country. The promotional slogan for Clean Up Australia Day is "Because when rubbish is gone, nature can carry on".

2018 Schools



Supporter



AUSTRALIA COMPUTATIONAL THINKING CHALLENGE 2018

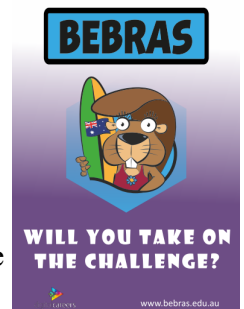
This year students in years 3-6 will participate in Bebras 2018. The students will participate in this online challenge in a 45min (Years 5 & 6) or a 60min (Years 3 & 4) session at school which will be held between 13th – 23rd March and 3rd – 14th September. Students who return a signed consent form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

We are looking forward to the Twilight School Sports, weather permitting, next 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).

Marathon Club

There will be Marathon Club this week on
Tuesday and Thursday
7.45am
(Weather permitting)
Please check the St John's app.

2018 TERM DATES

Term 1	January 31 - March 29
Term 2	April 16 - June 29
Term 3	July 16 - September 21
Term 4	October 8 - December 18



GREAT FUN

- ★ Outdoor games and sports
- ★ Arts & Crafts
- ★ Playing with friends
- ★ Great Educators
- ★ Food and Cooking
- ★ Indoor Activities



Dear St John's Primary School Families,

Camp Australia in its partnership with St John's Primary School is pleased to introduce Rachel Spencer as the new Before and After School Care Coordinator.

Rachel holds a Diploma of Education Studies and has lots of experience working as a Coordinator in various OSHC services. Rachel is passionate about working with children and has plenty of exciting ideas to bring to the program.

The St John's Primary School Before and After School Care program will continue to operate as usual; between 7.00am and 8.45am for Before School Care and 3.20pm and 6.15pm for After School Care each school day.

To help get your family back into the OSHC routine, here are some tips that you might find handy:

1. Give your child as much advance warning as you can that they'll be coming to Camp Australia.
2. Pop into the program with your child so they can meet the Camp Australia team and find out what kind of activities they can look forward to.
3. If there is something in particular your child would like to play when they're in our care, encourage them to let us know or you can give us a call.

We're here to make after school care visits the best experience possible for you and your child.

Program Details

For more information on the St John's Primary School Before and After School Care program or specific requirements please contact Rachel on 0418 327 709. For all other inquiries please contact Camp Australia's friendly Customer Service Team on 1300 105 34 or to find out more about our program, view fees and to register visit www.campastralia.com.au.

Yours sincerely,

Kimberley Trahar – Regional Coordinator

Camp Australia

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.