

St John's Parish

Primary School



March 5, 2018 No. 6

COMING UP AT ST JOHN'S

MARCH	5	Monday	Twilight Sports, 4.45pm
	7	Wednesday	Open Morning, 9.00-10.00am Choir Practice, 8.25am
	8	Thursday	First Eucharist Parent Information Night, 7.30am
	12	Monday	Labour Day Public Holiday –No School
	13	Tuesday	Year Six Leave for School Camp, Lake Nillahcootie
	14	Wednesday	2018 Prep Parent Information Evening, 6.00pm Parent Association Meeting, 7.00pm
	15	Thursday	First Reconciliation, 7.30pm
	16	Friday	Year Six Students Return from School Camp

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

Dear Parents,

We look forward to our annual Twilight Sports tonight at Bill Sewert Athletics track in Burwood. Could all students be at the track by 4:45pm and report to their classroom teacher. There will be a sausage sizzle and drinks to purchase on the night. I wonder which team will win this year?

Working Bee

A big thank you to the following families who supported at the Working bee on Friday night – Gilbert/Longmore, Wallis, Stutchbury, Kroezen, Carnovale, Butterworth and Carter/Dresser.

Year 6 Camp

Our Year 6 students head off on their four-day camp next Tuesday to Lake Nillahcootie. Mr. Tom Jackson, Mrs. Kristina Reid, Melinda Kerwin and I will be attending the camp.

Prep 2018 Information Night

All our current prep parents are invited to come along on Wednesday 14 March at 6pm in the prep learning space. Miss Naomi Curtis will share important information about prep life and prep routines as well as how you can help the learning at home.

Parents' Association

A big thank you to the PA for hosting our Prep Welcome dinner last week. A special thank you to Sarah Longmore, Eileen Dalton and Monica Deehan for leading this event.

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

CONT'D

The pizzas were delicious and provided by Nero's in Mitcham.

At our first meeting for the year, Rhyannon Elliott kindly offered to remain on the committee this year in a coordinating role. We would really like to fill the role of President/Chairperson before the year is out. Over the years, I have been extremely fortunate to work with great parents as part of the PA and know many of you could offer a lot to this role. If you would like to know more please contact Rhyannon or myself.

Board Meeting Summary from Our February Meeting

We welcomed three new parents along to see the Board in action.

The first item on the agenda was Wellbeing and Behaviour Management presented by Emma Buis. The wellbeing and behaviour program at St John's is centred on School Wide Positive Behaviours (SWPBS) and KidsMatter. Our core expectations at St Johns are Respect Self, Respect Others and Respect Property. The Board discussed at length what areas are working well and what needs improvement and fully supports this program.

The next item on the agenda was our school review (which happens every four years) and this was presented by Jacqui Marshall. This year we will be using the National School Improvement Tool (NSIT) to assess how we are tracking. This review will be occurring on 12 and 13 June followed by a Strategic Planning day on 14 June 2018. The Reviewers will observe a normal school day in operation and will meet with teachers, students and parents. The Board members were given a survey to fill out to help collate data for this review.

Other general business included an update on our marketing plan and the next steps with our upcoming capital building works.

Farewell

Rosemary Vastbinder who has been a member of staff at St John's for over 12 years will have her last day with us on Wednesday 14 March. Rosemary is currently on long service leave and has decided to retire from teaching. We will gather as a school community at 2:45pm on this day to say thank you and farewell. Parents are welcome to join us.

Have a great week

Jacqui Marshall
Principal



PREP WELCOME DINNER

A snapshot of the Prep Welcome Dinner last week which was provided by St John's Parent Association and enjoyed by many - Thank you!

Education in Faith News

Our Gospel Challenge this week is to: *Stand up when we see injustices.*

He loved people so much, he sometimes just lost it!

This was the situation. Faithful Jews coming to the temple for worship first had to buy animals for sacrifice and exchange their coins for those that would be acceptable for their temple tax. But some Scripture scholars say the people selling the animals and changing the money were making a huge profit because people had to deal with them. They had a monopoly.

Some scholars say this infuriated Jesus. He saw a system set up to take advantage of good people coming to worship their God. The system especially hurt poor people. It was an example of how the religious and political leaders of Jesus' time abused people.

Getting angry over injustices isn't unchristian – but it doesn't have to lead to violence. Martin Luther King Jr. is a perfect example. He fought racism with righteous anger, but never used violence or threats of it against his opponents. Dorothy Day, Nelson Mandela, Mohandas Gandhi, Rosa Parks, Oskar Schindler, and Salvatore Massaro “Eddie Lang” are other fine examples.

The closer you grow to Jesus, the more we'll become angry when you see people – especially the outcasts – ignored or abused. We need to use that anger as fuel to stand up non-violently for people. Speak for young people close to us who are put down. Refuse to back away from our society's outcasts, like poor people or people with a disability (GPBS 2018)



Confirmation Enrolment Rite

Our Confirmation candidates, their parents and parishioners all participated in a ceremony at the weekend parish masses to commit to their preparation towards celebrating Confirmation, participating more in the life of our parish and to support the candidates on their faith journey.

Lenten Project Compassion Story Week Three.

Bayan from Jordan

Bayan is a 12-year-old Syrian girl, living with her family in Jordan, a keen student, who has her sights set on a career as an ophthalmologist. She struggled to overcome the trauma of growing up in a conflict zone, facing the prospect of missing out on schooling. Now, Bayan is an academic high-achiever, flourishing in a stable school environment.

Bayan grew up in Syria's capital, Damascus. The Syrian conflict turned their lives upside down and they were forced to flee. As their time in Jordan extended, Caritas Australia and our partners, Caritas Jordan and Catholic Relief Services stepped in to provide vital academic and psychosocial support. Bayan started attending one of Jordan's Caritas Schools which operates on Saturdays, providing tuition to disadvantaged students.



“The school brings them back to a normal life, as they start to dream again,” says Abeer, Caritas Education and Protection Co-ordinator.

Caritas provides a broad range of other education services, including preparing pre-school children for school, supporting students who have missed out on schooling to return to the education system, as well as counselling and nutritious meals and snacks at school.

Have fantastic week,
Monica

Important Dates to Remember:

March	5	Monday	Parish Child Safe Standards meeting 7:30pm
	8	Thursday	First Eucharist Parent Evening, 7.30pm
	15	Thursday	First Reconciliation Celebration, 7.30pm
	22	Thursday	First Reconciliation Celebration, 7.30pm



On Friday the 2nd of March, the 3/4 students participated in Clean Up Australia day as part of our RE unit, Stewardship of Creation. We have been talking about the sacredness of all of God's creation and how it is our responsibility to help take care for our land. It was wonderful to see all our students involved in this initiative and passionate about helping by making a difference.

Kellie Cumming, Rebecca Fry and the 3/4 Students.



VISIBLE LEARNING AT ST. JOHN'S

We at St. John's BELIEVE that every child has the capacity to learn and grow. We BELIEVE that every child can achieve success.

What is Visible Learning?

Visible Learning is a professional development program for teachers, school and system leaders that explores how evidence can be used to create innovation in the learning environment. Our work is focused on Professor John Hattie's research and the principles of visible learning and visible teaching. Over the past three years, teachers have undertaken professional development in a range of capacities to help bring this program alive at St. John's.

This year we have had a strong focus of instilling Visible Learning into our common practices. For the first two weeks of the year, teachers and students alike, strongly focused on the characteristics of a visible learner by exploring our 5 dispositions (Bravery, Resilience, Curiosity, Independence and Persistence) and how they are present in our everyday learning. An effective learner displays all these characteristics at various times in their learning.

These dispositions are displayed in each and every classroom as well as in the corridors. They are referred to in many aspects of our day, both in the classroom and on the playground. It would be fantastic to see this language being continued in the home environment to support this development.

Here are some explanations to assist with this:

Bravery - Having a go and getting out of our comfort zone.

Resilience - Bouncing back when things don't go the way we planned.

Curiosity - Asking why and how things work in the world around us.

Independence - Taking responsibility for our learning and our actions.

Persistence - Not giving up when things are challenging, keep trying.

At our school we also speak about our learning intentions and our success criteria, and having a growth mindset. This is a way of ensuring students know what they are learning, and how they will know when they have been successful in our lessons or units. It allows for students to take ownership of their learning journey and try their best.

Instead of asking your child how their day was in general terms, try asking:

- What did you do today that made you think hard?
- What happened today that make you keep going?
- What can you learn from this?
- What mistake did you make that taught you something?
- What did you try hard at today?
- What strategy are you going to try now?
- What will you do to challenge yourself today?
- What will you do to improve your work?



Rebecca Fry
Visible Learning Impact Coach

CYBER SAFETY TALK

On Wednesday, Sophie, a child safety Police Officer from Forest Hill, came and spoke to the 3/4 students about Cyber Safety. Sophie showed us some videos about what could happen if we are not safe online. She shared some great tips with us about how to prevent bad things from happening.



Here are three handy hints we learnt:

- Change your passwords regularly
- Do not share personal information online such as full name, address or phone numbers.
- Do not 'friend' anyone online who you have not met face to face or are unsure about.



We were given the challenge to go away and Google search ourselves and our family members to ensure we are protected and our information is private. If we found ourselves we were to go and change our privacy settings.

We learnt lots from Sophie and it really helped us to learn about how to be safe online.

-Erin and Anria (3/4KC)

MELBOURNE VICTORY SOCCER COACHING

In the coming weeks students will be participating in a soccer coaching program led by the Melbourne Victory Soccer Club. As part of this program photos and videos may be taken of St John's students. These photos and videos may then be used for promotional purposes. Each student has been given a participation consent form today which must be returned to school by Friday 16 March.



As an incentive to return the form, every participant who returns the form will be given a Melbourne Victory scarf. If a participant does not return the form, we will not be able to include them in media taken during the program, and they will not receive a scarf.

If you have any further questions please feel free to speak to Mrs Marshall or Mr Jackson. Thank you!

SUMMER SPORTS DAY **AMMENDMENT** (Years 5/6) - Thursday 22nd March

Please be advised that the District Summer Sports Carnival coming up on Thursday 22 March has changed venue from Terrara Park to Heatherdale Reserve, Mitcham. All the other details for the day are the same as the information provided on the permission form sent home to 5/6 students recently. Thank you!

Marathon Club

No Marathon Club this Tuesday due to School Twilight Sports on Monday Night

See you on **Thursday**

7.45am

(Weather permitting)



The Conga Coin raised \$147.55 for Caritas Australia



CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to Phoebe Cetupe who competed in her first gymnastics competition at ALP 7 level at Eastern Gymnastics Club last weekend.

Phoebe was placed 3rd in Vault and her team was awarded second place overall. Well done Phoebe and congratulations to the team.



BIRTHDAYS

This week we congratulate Kimberly Milicevich as she celebrates her birthday.

We hope you have a "Happy Day!"



Italian Phrase of the Week

Week 6: Ascolta!
(Ah-skohl-tah)
Listen!



EASTER CHURCH SERVICES - 2018

Parish Lenten Penitential Celebration
Tuesday 20 March at 7.30pm

EASTER MASS TIMES
St John's Church

Holy Thursday -Thursday 29 March
7.30pm – Mass of the Lord's Supper followed by quiet prayer until 9.30pm.

Good Friday -Friday 30 March
11am – March of Witness (Stations of the Cross)
3pm – Commemoration of the Passion

Holy Saturday -Saturday 31 March
7.30pm Easter Vigil

(Please note there is **NO 6.00pm Mass**)

Easter Sunday -Sunday 1 April
St John's Church

Dawn Mass 6am (followed by light refreshments in the Church Narthex) – All Welcome
Easter Masses: 8.30am & 10.30am

(Please note 10.30am Mass replaces: 9.45am & 11.15am Masses & there is **NO 5pm Mass Easter Sunday**)

St James Community Centre, Vermont
Easter Mass: 9.30am Mass



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