

St John's Parish

Primary School



March 26, 2018 No. 8

COMING UP AT ST JOHN'S

MARCH	29	Thursday	Holy Thursday Last Day of Term One (Free Dress), 3.20 Dismissal
APRIL	16	Monday	Term Two Commences, 8.45am
	18	Wednesday	PA Meeting, 7.00pm
	19	Thursday	Open Morning for Prospective Families, 9-10.00am
	21	Saturday	First Eucharist Medal Presentation, 6.00pm
	22	Sunday	First Eucharist Medal Presentation, 9.45am
	23	Monday	School Assembly, 8.50am

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

Dear Parents,

We had a wonderful day for Harmony Day today. We thank the Browne family for leading activities and to all our families for providing delicious food to share together. At St John's we are so fortunate to celebrate our diversity and value the inclusion of all. Here is a list of who we are and where we come from:

Kuwaiti, Aboriginal, Malaysian, Filipino, Irish, Chinese, British, Indian, Polish, Spanish, Italian, Greek, Sudanese, Mauritian, Scottish, Peruvian, Hungarian, Cook Islanders, Vietnamese, Sri Lankan, Indonesian, Columbian, South African, American, Korean, Tongan, Singaporean & Australian.

School Uniform

As we move into Term 2 there will be an addition to the school uniform. A winter tunic with blue shirt can be purchased from RHSports in Ringwood. A full uniform list is included in today's newsletter and also available on our website.

Parish Child Safety meeting

Earlier this month the parish held a meeting about Building a Child Safe Environment. The purpose of the night was to learn;

- About the background to the Victorian Child Safe Standards

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

- About the Child Safe Environment at St John's (what has been done and what's still to come)
- About opportunities to get more information – tailored training for parish groups.

We thank Fr Dispin and the team in the parish leading this directive and know they have the safety of our students at the core of their work.

Thank you

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you all for a wonderful term 1. We have achieved a lot together and it is great to see all our new families settling in. We are so blessed at St John's to have parents who offer to support in so many ways. As a sign of our appreciation, we would like to shout you all a coffee. On the first day back next term – Monday 16 April there will be a coffee van in the playground from 8.15am for parents/grandparents to enjoy.

It will be there at drop off time.



Wishing you all a happy and safe Easter and holiday period,

Jacqui Marshall

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



Education in Faith News

Our Gospel Challenge this week is to: *Celebrate and spread the Easter message*

Yesterday we celebrated Palm Sunday. Passion or Palm Sunday is the beginning of what is known as Holy Week, a period of intense preparation for the ceremonies of Holy Thursday, Good Friday and the Easter Vigil. The Passion of Christ refers to his arrest, trial and death. The palms used yesterday symbolise Christ's triumph while the cross is the symbol of the death through which his triumph is achieved. Traditionally, Catholics take the palms and place them in a position of prominence in their homes as a reminder of the passion Christ endured for us. I will treasure the cross made from palms that I received from Atonio at mass yesterday. He and his mum had made a basket full and was sharing them with his friends and fellow parishioners. I read this invitation last week and it inspired me to participate fully in this special time of the year.



It all happens between Palm Sunday and Holy Saturday. One man, determined to change the world, stands with honour and integrity as others humiliate and insult him. He chooses non-violence while others beat and torture him. With his last breath, he forgives instead of curses.

Walk with this man this week. On Thursday watch him kneel and wash feet. Think about how he has served you and where you can serve others in his name. On Friday watch him stand with dignity against the forces of violence and oppression. Think about his sacrifice and ask for his strength to stand peacefully but forcefully for all those who are crucified by rejection, poverty, or oppression in our schools, cities, and world. On Saturday listen to all the readings at Mass. They tell of God's repeated attempts, since the beginning of time, to save us. Give your life anew to that God and ask how you can help save God's world.

Don't miss this week. All you need to know about your life unfolds in the life of one man who decided two thousand years ago to change the world. GPBS 2018

Please refer to the Easter Services taking place in St John's Parish.

Lenten Project Compassion Story Ditosa from Mozambique

Ditosa is a young girl from Mozambique who hopes to go to university and become a police officer. Featured in Project Compassion 2013, Ditosa faced a challenging future with food scarcity, little education and few job prospects. Cared for by her grandmother and aunt, after her parents died of AIDS-related illnesses, they also lost their home and livelihoods in severe flooding.



Thanks to the support of Project Compassion, Caritas Australia and Caritas Regional Chokwe (CRC) helped Ditosa's family to build a new house and assisted with transport fees, school materials and fees, to help Ditosa to stay at school.

Ditosa attended the Matuba Children's Centre (set up by Caritas in 2007) which provides vulnerable children, like Ditosa, with lunch, study help, and computer and income-generating skills training. In 2018, Ditosa has graduated from school and is ambitious for the future

Wishing you all a wonderful and blessed Easter,
Monica

Important Dates to Remember:

April 21	Saturday	First Eucharist Medal Presentation 6pm
22	Sunday	First Eucharist Medal Presentation 9:45am
26	Thursday	Confirmation Retreat Day (all day) and Parent Information Evening 7:30pm
29	Sunday	Parish Family Mass 9:45am

Professional Learning @ St. John's

Professional Learning Meetings (PLMs)

Every Tuesday and Wednesday afternoon St. John's staff attend Professional Learning Meetings (PLMs). These PLMs relate directly to our Annual Action Plan and provide rich professional learning as we grow and develop shared understandings. PLMs are led by our leadership team members across all spheres- *Leadership and Management, Learning and Teaching, Student Wellbeing and Education in Faith.*

PLMs we have run this term have been:

- Religious Education
- CPR, Anaphylaxis and Asthma update
- Child Safety
- Mathematics
- The National School Improvement Tool
- Analysing student achievement in Literacy data
- Student Wellbeing
- Mandatory Reporting
- Assessment & Reporting in Religious Education
- Planning for our Geography inquiries in Term 2
- Visible Learning
- Design & Technologies

Professional Learning

This term a number of staff members have attended professional learning days and networks and undertaken professional courses online in their own time. We feel it is important to share an overview of what staff members have been learning this term with the school community.

Principal Network Meeting (Jacqui Marshall)

This network had a focus on the collaborative Inquiry process and how we need to capitalise on the insights of colleagues in Learning Teams to become even more precise instructional leaders – who make a difference for every learner. The importance of having data analysis at the forefront of meetings was shared.

Learning Diversity Network (Jacqui Marshall & Connie Pearse)

This network day had a focus on learning supportive intervention practices in the areas of Additional Learning Needs as well as Social/Emotional/Behavioural Needs.

Learning & Teaching Network Meeting (Jacqui Marshall & Bianca Martino)

The purpose of this meeting was leading learning for growth and progress. We listened to educators about the purpose of assessment and discussed the current ways we are assessing at St. John's and how it can be improved.

eLearning Network (Bianca Martino)

This network had a focus on how we plan and assess in the Digital Technologies curriculum. Ways that we can teach this curriculum with and without a device was shared.

Religious Education Network Meeting (Monica O'Shannassy)

This network meeting was learning about the principles of highly effective adult learning. These include:

- Evidence Informed Learning Design Research, evidence and data informs co-designed learning that aims to extend and challenge adult learners.
- Transformative Learning Approaches Learning in ways that result in deep shifts in understanding, identity and practice.
- Dynamic Learning Environments Supporting the formation of collaborative learning communities where adults take initiative and make significant decisions about their learning.

Deputy Network Meeting (Monica O'Shannassy)

This network also had a focus on adult learning. Monica learned about this through listening to stories of leading and improving innovation and change.

STEM Collective Day 1 & 2 (Bianca Martino & Kristina Reid)

Day 1 & 2 was about transforming pedagogical practice and improving learning outcomes through the implementation of STEM Education. The main focus of the days was to introduce how a project based around STEM can be implemented within the school. They provided us with an outline of how other schools approached the project and provided us with support for how we could approach it in our own schools. We will try to implement this project later in the year and reflect on the impact it had on students' learning.

Mathematics Network Meeting - CEO - Cluster (Kellie Cumming)

At the Mathematical professional learning day Kellie examined challenging mathematical tasks and explored the conditions that facilitate the effectiveness of challenging tasks. Another session was examining the Place Value learning progressions through the lens of the Victorian Curriculum and identify key ideas and learning intentions. The final session examined using the DISC model (dominance, influence, steadiness and conscientiousness) to develop and better understand working relationships by recognizing the communication needs of team members and facilitate cohesive and productive working relationships.

Respectful Relationships Meetings (Emma Buis)

In these meetings, schools within our Respectful Relationships CoP met at St Charles Borromeo primary school and reflected on how we are currently going in our implementation of Respectful Relationships. This includes elements of the Resilience, Rights, and Respectful Relationships Social Emotional curriculum and how we aim to promote gender equality and respect for all in our school community.

Wellbeing Network Meeting (Emma Buis)

This Network Meeting had a focus on upcoming Professional Development opportunities in Wellbeing, child safety and how Student Wellbeing leaders have progressed so far this term.

Literacy Leaders Network (Naomi Curtis)

Naomi attended a Literacy Leaders Network. The day was about building teacher capacity, providing support and using data to inform planning and teaching. This was also a day to meet and network with other literacy leaders in our area and have purposeful discussions about what is going on in our schools in terms of literacy.

English as an Additional Language or Dialect (EAL-D) in Catholic Schools: Scaffolding Language Learning Day 1 (Ange Crowe and Melinda Kerwin)

At this day Ange explored EAL- D learners as culturally diverse learners in our school who are to be valued as proficient users of *language not deficient English learners*. *It was discussed how we need to value the students' first language skills, explore them, understand them and build on them. She developed an understanding of the importance of explicit EAL- D teaching approaches in particular providing opportunities for constructive classroom talk in their first language.*

Reading Recovery Network and Cluster (Ange Crowe)

Ange explored the 5 elements of Reading Instruction as identified by the National Reading Council

- Phonemic Awareness
- Phonics
- Fluency
- Comprehension
- Vocabulary

and discussed how we can ensure that we are covering all aspects across the school.

Impact Coach Workshop (Rebecca Fry)

Rebecca attended an Impact Coach Workshop for teachers and leaders on the Visible Learning journey. The purpose of the day was to create a presentation and resource kit that can assist Impact Coaches to induct new staff to Visible Learning as well as be accessible to all staff. A major focus was on compiling and analysing resources that schools have used and are beneficial or recommended. As I am new to this position, it really consolidated what is expected in this role and how I can better lead staff to ensure that Visible Learning is embedded and lived out daily at St. John's. It was a great opportunity to network and collaborate with Impact Coaches from other schools about possible directions.

New Library Software Package: Smart Suite (Sue Walmsley)

St John's School has bought a new library software package, Smart Suite. This package will improve student and staff access to current library catalogue from classroom, library & offsite, allow access to a huge new variety of resources from Free to Air TV (i.e. documentaries, ABC educational programs for children), Youtube and Foxtel, and enable faster & more secure use as it is Cloud based. Sue Walmsley has been working with Functional Solutions to install the new software, tailor it to our needs at St. John's and become familiar with the new system via in house and online tutorials. This knowledge will be shared with staff and students at St. John's shortly.

RESPECT PROPERTY

The last of our three R's is: Respect Property. Students know we can respect property by keeping our learning spaces clean, returning property, putting rubbish in the bins and respecting our furniture and sports equipment.

We encourage you to use the same language of respect self, others and property at home and challenge your child – how have they been respectful today?



I can respect property by using it for the purpose it's made for.

Estelle Gill– 1/2BM.

I can respect property by making sure I push in my chair.

Patrick Elliot – 3/4RF.

I can respect property by putting the sports equipment back in the sports baskets.

LeBron Gencarelli– 5/6KR.

At St John's we . . .
Respect Ourselves Respect Others Respect Property

Extension Education

at

St John's, Mitcham

A SJM we provide an Extension Education program that is student centred, where strengths are identified and passions enabled to ensure that learning is personalised. We provide flexible and fluid learning environments that allow opportunities for like-minded students to work together on creative and innovative learning experiences that extend beyond the classroom.

This term, we have begun Extension education withdrawal groups in *Mathematics* in the area of Computational Arithmetic Thinking (CATs). Next term a *Writing* extension group will begin. Term 3 will provide the opportunity for a *Tournament of Minds* group and the possibility of a focussed *Visual Arts* extension group.

(Watch this space!!!)

The selection process will begin shortly and you will be notified if your child has been selected to participate in these groups. If you would like to nominate your child to be involved, please speak to your child's teacher.



More details will follow in next term's newsletters.
We look forward to sharing our progress with you!

Have a safe and happy holiday,

Ange.

Summer Sports Day 2018

Last Thursday, the 22nd of March our year 5/6 students participated in a summer sports carnival playing against other schools from our district. Students played either cricket, newcomb or softball on the day. We were very lucky to have terrific weather and beautiful sunshine.

Our teams all did well on the day, competing and working together. A special mention to our Girls Newcomb Team for coming runners up in their competition.

A big thank you to the teachers who were involved for your help on the day. Also a big thank you to Scott Taylor and Dave Marriner for helping out with the cricket.

Well done everyone, we look forward to another great day next year!

Here are a few comments from our 5/6 students.

"It was great to see some of our St James friends" Lya T.

"We had so much playing cricket against the other schools" Atonio T.

"We tried our best and played well, even though we didn't win all our games it was still fun!" Sienna L.

"We had lots of fun and played well as a team" Tahlia C

"Our team worked together really well and gave each person an opportunity" Astrid.

"It was exciting and thrilling we scored runs and got people out!" Klem A.



CONSIDER YOUR EASTER EGG PURCHASES

Pope Francis said that "every person ought to have the awareness that purchasing is always a moral – and not simply an economic – act."

Thinking of buying Easter eggs? Use your money justly – please.

What Easter eggs will you enjoy this Easter? There is now a wide range of slavery-free chocolate and Easter eggs available, including a budget-priced range of UTZ certified products in ALDI, in Coles and a wide selection at Haighs and OXFAM shops; Chocolatier also produces FairTrade Easter chocolate.

ACTION: If there is slavery-free chocolate in your supermarket buy it and commend the shop manager. Remember it must have one of these three symbols on the wrapper:



EASTER RAFFLE

St John's PA Easter Raffle tickets went home the week before last with the eldest child in your family.

It's not too early to return tickets with payment to the office. Good luck!

Tickets

\$1 each or 15 for \$10

Prizes

First: Gourmet hamper (valued at \$95.00)

Second: 2018 Entertainment Book + bonus choice (valued at \$90.00)

Third: Chocolate hamper (valued at \$50.00)

Fourth: Hygge Coffeehouse food/drink voucher (valued at \$30.00)



Drawn

Thursday 29th March
(last day of term)



BIRTHDAYS

Congratulations to the following people who will be celebrating their birthday over the coming weeks:

Monique Anthony, Wal Deiwal, Alice Wall, Natasha Novak, Angus Tham, Tahlia Crawley, Xavier Datoy, Anria Ajith and Ava Breden.

We hope you have a "Happy Birthday!"



Another step towards
a world where no-one
on the autism spectrum
is left behind

8-15 April 2018

MOLLY'S WALK FOR AUTISM

<https://walk-for-autism-2018.everydayhero.com/au/my-noisy-brother>



Harmony Day 2018



Harmony Day 2018



HARMONY DAY 2018



School Uniform



RETJM-PS01
Short Sleeve Panel Polo
Navy/Cornflower Blue/Gold
C4-C16 \$39.00
A14-A18 \$41.00



RETJM-PL01
Long Sleeve Panel Polo
Navy/Cornflower Blue/Gold
C4-C16 \$41.00
A14-A18 \$43.00



SRLW01
Long Sleeve Shirt with Peter Pan Collar
Sky
C4-C16
\$32.00



RETJM-DR03
Summer Dress
Navy/Royal/Gold/White
C4-C16, A12-A16
\$48.00-\$36.00



TU-RH09
Winter Tunic
Navy/Royal/Gold/White
C4-C16, A12-A16
\$32.00-\$38.00



SK-AG03
Cotton Lycra Skort
Navy
C4-C16
\$30.00



SH-RH06
Microfibre Sport Shorts
Navy
C4-C14, XS-M
\$23.00



SH-RH03
Geberdine Shorts
Navy
C4-C16 \$22.00
A14-A18 \$24.00



PA-SP02
Leisure Pant
Navy
C4-C14, S, M
\$30.00



PA-AG04
Fleecy Trackpant
Navy
C4-C16
\$26.00



PA-SC01
Elastic waist Pant
Navy
C4-C16
\$42.00



RETJM-WI01
Windchester V-Neck
Navy
C4-C16 \$31.00
A14-A18 \$33.00



SM-RH01
Art Smock
Royal or Red
S, M, L
\$19.00



RETJM-HA01
Slouch Hat
Navy
XS, S, M, L, XL
\$14.00



RETJM-HA03
Bucket Hat
Navy/Gold
S/M, L/XL
\$13.00



RETJM-HA04
Legionnaire Hat
Navy
One Size
\$12.00



RETJM-BA04
Library Bag
Navy
One Size
\$12.00



RETJM-BA02
Omnipak School bag
Navy
One Size
\$43.00