

# St John's Parish

## Primary School



March 4, 2019 No. 5

### COMING UP AT ST JOHN'S

<b>MARCH</b>	5	Tuesday	<b>Shrove Tuesday Breakfast, 8.00am</b> Burning of the Palms, 9.15am Education Board Meeting, 7.00pm
	6	Wednesday	Ash Wednesday Mass, 10.00am
	7	Thursday	Open Morning, 9.00-10.00am First Eucharist Parent Information Night, 7.00pm
	<b>11</b>	<b>Monday</b>	<b>LABOUR DAY - No School</b>
	13	Wednesday	Prep 2019 Information Evening, 6.00pm
	16	Saturday	First Eucharist Commitment Mass, 6.00pm
	17	Sunday	First Eucharist Commitment Mass, 9.45am

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

God of times and seasons

You have brought us again to Lent.

Through our observance of Lent, help us to understand the meaning  
Of your Son's death and resurrection, and teach us to reflect it in our lives.

Let this Lenten season be a time of restoration and the means for  
renewed direction and perspective.

Grant us a Lenten blessing, and may no one miss this time of growth.

**Ash Wednesday begins the liturgical season of Lent, which lasts forty days.** The liturgical colour for the season of Lent is purple, so you will see our prayer spaces and liturgical celebrations display the colour purple. Lent is time for reflection. We are encouraged to spend time in personal prayer as well as to take opportunity to pray together as a family. On Ash Wednesday we are marked with a cross of ash as a reminder that we are followers of Jesus Christ and are called to show love to one another. As followers of Jesus, we look to live out our faith every day. I encourage you all to join us on Wednesday as we gather as a school community at mass at 10am for Ash Wednesday.

### Twilight Sports

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.

### Congratulations

We congratulate Ava B, Leah, Bartek, Liam, Aidan, Kieran and Archie for their swimming achievements last week at the District Swimming Sports and a special shout out to our boys relay team, Bartek, Kieran, Archie and Liam for coming 4<sup>th</sup> today at the Division level and Kieran who came 2nd in the backstroke. Kieran will progress to Regional finals. Good luck Kieran!



### SCHOOL OFFICE HOURS

Monday -Friday, 8.30am -4.00pm

### UNIFORM

RHSport, Ringwood PH: 9870 1377

### SECOND HAND UNIFORM

#### CO-ORDINATOR

Kathleen Spicer

Open first Tuesday of each month  
8.30 -9.00am Multi Purpose Room

### CAMP AUSTRALIA

Before & After School Care 1300 105 343

### CO-ORDINATOR

Richard

HOURS: 7.00 -8.30 am  
3.20 -6.15 pm

### LUNCH ORDERS

Every Tuesday Lunchtime  
To order register online:  
[www.flexischools.com.au](http://www.flexischools.com.au)

### PARISH CONTACTS:

PH: 9873 1341

### PARISH PRIEST

Father Dispin John

### PARISH SECRETARIES

Mrs. Elisa Kelesidis  
Mrs. Martine Giles

### PASTORAL ASSOCIATE

Mrs. Maree O'Keefe

### **Prep 2019 Information Night**

All our current prep parents are invited to come along on Wednesday 13 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.

### **Year 6 camp**

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

Mr Jackson will remain back with our Year 5 students.

### **Open Morning**

We have our first scheduled Open Morning for prospective enrolments on Thursday. Please get the message out.

Have a good week,  
Jacqui Marshall

## **Celebrating Visible Learning at St. John's**

At St. John's we want to CELEBRATE that every child has the capacity to learn and grow. We want to CELEBRATE these successes with them.



### *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 through 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. 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 of learning. 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:

1. What did you do today that made you think hard?
2. What happened today that made you keep going?
3. What can you learn from this?
4. What mistake did you make that taught you something?
5. What did you try hard at today?
6. What strategy are you going to try now?
7. What will you do to challenge yourself today?
8. What will you do to improve your work?

Rebecca Fry

*Visible Learning Impact Coach*

# Education in Faith News

**Our Gospel Challenge this week is to:** *be honest with ourselves.*

It's hard for humans to look honestly at ourselves, especially when we are fighting with someone. It is much easier to blame or judge other people. But that's exactly what Jesus warns against in this week's Gospel. Christians need gut-wrenching honesty about themselves. The more we look at our faults - knowing God loves us despite them - the more we mature and our faults no longer control us. We can discover our full potential. We need to look at our strengths and weaknesses. We can be proud of the good things we did during the day and own up to our mistakes, asking God to help us learn from them.

***When you look honestly at yourself, what are your greatest strengths? When you look honestly at yourself, what are your greatest weaknesses? Can you turn your weaknesses over to God?***

## Lent

This Wednesday is Ash Wednesday. It marks the beginning of Lent. Lent is the season leading up to Easter. It is a time for all of us to make space in our busy lives for God and make positive changes. We all need to ask ourselves: "How will we make space for God in our lives over the next six weeks? How can I have a change of heart and improve myself?" Please join us this Wednesday at 10am for Ash Wednesday Mass. The Year Five/Six students and their teachers have planned the mass and will lead the celebration.

We will be supporting Project Compassion at St John's again this year. The theme for Project Compassion 2019 is based around hope and giving Lent 100% in the name of hope. Hope is one of the three pillars of Christian virtue. The other two being faith and charity. It is a powerful force for good and often helps to transform lives. Hope helps us to face life's challenges and sustains us as we work alongside the most marginalised and vulnerable communities to achieve better lives. Pope Francis has said that: "Jesus has given us a light that shines in the darkness; defend it, protect it. This unique light is the greatest richness entrusted to your life." This light, is the light of hope. Based on God's love for all, hope enables us to rise above our fears and helps those in great need to shape a better future for their communities. For Project Compassion 2019, we will be focusing on six stories which show the power of hope and the work of Caritas Australia in communities in Zimbabwe, Indonesia, Solomon Islands, Australia, Bangladesh and Vietnam. I am sure you will find these stories inspiring, as I do.



**The Social Justice team have planned some fund and awareness raising activities throughout Lent. The first one being held on Shrove Tuesday 5 March (tomorrow) with pancakes being served before school from 8am in the Passive Play Area. Cost will be a gold coin donation.**

**Project Compassion boxes will be sent home with students this week.**

Have an enjoyable week,  
Monica

## Important Dates to Remember

<b>March</b>	5	Tuesday	Burning of Palms Ceremony, 9:15am
	6	Wednesday	Ash Wednesday Mass, 10.00am
	7	Thursday	Eucharist Parent Evening, 7.00pm
	16	Saturday	First Eucharist Commitment Ceremony and Mass Book Presentation, 6:00pm
	17	Sunday	First Eucharist Commitment Ceremony and Mass Book Presentation, 9.45am
	21	Thursday	First Reconciliation Celebration, 6.30pm and 7.30pm



In support of our 3Rs policy (Respect Self, Respect Others and Respect Property) St John's has zero tolerance for bullying. St John's is an official NDA (National Day of Action) school and we look forward to celebrating the National Day of Action against Bullying and Violence (NDA) on Friday 15th March 2019. The below fact sheet is from the "Bullying No way!" website. <https://bullyingnoway.gov.au/WhatIsBullying>

## DEFINITIONS OF BULLYING, HARASSMENT, DISCRIMINATION AND VIOLENCE

**Bullying, harassment, discrimination and violence are all behaviours that can create or contribute to negative social environments. All school communities should have clear definition outlined in their school policies and procedures for bullying, harassment, discrimination and violence.**

The national definition of bullying for Australian schools says:

Bullying is an ongoing misuse of power in relationships through repeated verbal, physical and/or social behaviour that causes physical and/or psychological harm. It can involve an individual or a group misusing their power over one or more persons. Bullying can happen in person or online, and it can be obvious (overt) or hidden (covert).

Bullying of any form or for any reason can have long-term effects on those involved, including bystanders.

Single incidents and conflict or fights between equals, whether in person or online, are not defined as bullying.

Behaviours that do not constitute bullying include:

- mutual arguments and disagreements (where there is no power imbalance)
- not liking someone or a single act of social rejection
- one-off acts of meanness or spite
- isolated incidents of aggression, intimidation or violence.

However, these conflicts still need to be addressed and resolved.

Likewise not all online issues are bullying. (Online bullying is sometimes referred to as cyberbullying and refers to bullying that is carried out through information and communication technologies.)

## Chinese at St John's - Parent Invitation

Ni hao! Next week while the Grade 6 students are on camp, the Grade 5s will continue with their Chinese lessons...but with less students we will have extra space... and time with our Chinese teacher; Regina.

So, we thought it would be great fun if **parents would like to join us for a special lesson and see first-hand what and how our students are learning Chinese at St John's.**

The lesson will be held in the Languages/Art room (upstairs next to the Prep room) on **Tuesday 12th March at 1pm.** If you are able and interested, please come and see me, or email me at

[acrowe@sjmitcham.catholic.edu.au](mailto:acrowe@sjmitcham.catholic.edu.au)

All are welcome...we'd love to see you there!

**Ni hao** - Hello!

**Ni jiao shen me ming zi?** - What is your name?

**Wo jiao** \_\_\_\_\_ - My name is \_\_\_\_\_

**Ni hao ma?** - How are you?

**Wo hen hao** - I am very good.

**Xie xie** - Thank you.

**Bu ke qi** - You are welcome

**Za jian** - Goodbye.



Here is the link for the Happy Birthday song that we learned last week:

**Zhu mi sheng ri kuai le**

Have a look! [Happy Birthday](#)

Please ask your 5 /6 student to practise the above conversations with you...they are getting better and better with the tricky pronunciations...and the more we practise the easier it will get! (This is my hope! )



**Xie xie,**

**Za jian, Ange.**

## ST JOHN'S SCOTTISH DANCING GROUP

Welcome back to 2019. Scottish dancing will resume this week on Thursdays at lunchtime in the multi purpose room.

Lessons are open to all children in grades 3-6. There is no cost involved for those who wish to take part but the students are asked to make a commitment to continue for the year after an initial trial period to see if they like it and wish to remain a part of the group.

In the past the children have had the opportunity to perform at various times. Eg. Grandparents days, Oxfam concerts, St. John's Parish fete, retirement homes and the Christmas concert. They have brought much joy to the community over the years.

Those children performing are supplied with kilts and white polo shirts at no cost and are asked only to bring a pair of white socks to dance in. Mostly the children take part in Scottish Country dancing although some of the senior students will tackle the more complex Highland dances. Looking forward to seeing our current dancers on Thursday and meeting those children who would like to come and watch and try out some Scottish moves!



Warm regards,  
Mary



To view Mathletics - [www.mathletics.com.au](http://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 every Monday 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





## BIRTHDAYS

Congratulations to Kimberly, Isla, Declan, Lila and Anabelle who will be celebrating their birthdays over the next two weeks.

*We hope you all have a very.....  
"HAPPY BIRTHDAY"*



**YOU'LL MISS THE BEST THINGS IF YOU KEEP YOUR EYES SHUT.**

~ DR. SEUSS



**A GREAT SCHOOL WELCOMES YOU!**  
We are proud to showcase our College and look forward to your company at Open Day. There will be opportunities to meet and chat with staff and students and to take either a guided tour or self-guided tour.  
No bookings required.

**SUNDAY 17<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 2019**

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

**AQUINAS COLLEGE**  
CRICOS No. 00272G



**WELCOMES PARENTS TO OPEN DAY ACTIVITIES**

**SUNDAY 17<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 2019**  
AQUINAS COLLEGE 12-3PM  
46 Great Pyrie Street, Ringwood

For more information contact  
Mini Saundry 0427 908 344  
msaundry@smdeaf.vic.edu.au

smdeaf.vic.edu.au

Please note that there is no school banking next week due to the Labour Day public holiday on Monday. Banking will resume on Monday 18 March.

**CommonwealthBank**



## College Open Day

**Tuesday 19 March 2019, 2.30–6.30 pm**



Our Lady of Sion College warmly invites you to come and see how **your** daughter will embrace life at Sion.

We look forward to welcoming you to our College.

**1065 Whitehorse Road, Box Hill**  
**03 9890 9097 | www.sion.catholic.edu.au**