

# St John's Parish

## Primary School

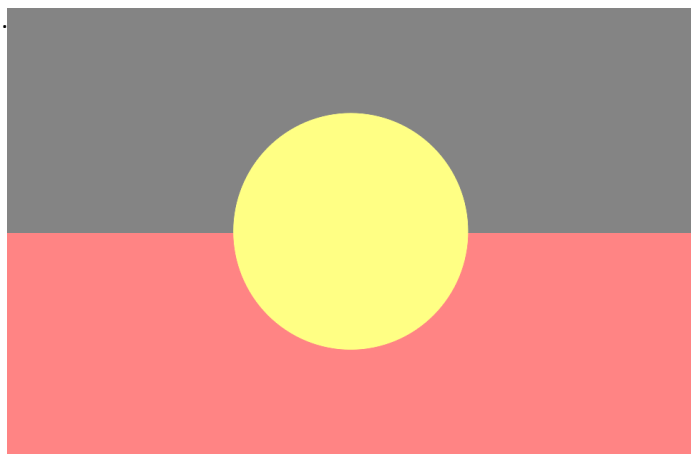


May 27, 2019 No. 13

### COMING UP AT ST JOHN'S

<b>JUNE</b>	1	Saturday	Confirmation Enrolment & Year 6 Level Mass, 9.45am
	2	Sunday	Confirmation Enrolment & Year 6 Level Mass, 9.45am
	<b>10</b>	<b>Monday</b>	<b>Queen's Birthday Holiday - No School</b>
	11	Tuesday	Bread Making Day Parent Association Meeting, 7.00pm
	17	Monday	Year 5 School Camp to Sovereign Hill
	20	Thursday	Confirmation Retreat Day Confirmation Parent Night, 7.00pm
	25	Tuesday	Education Board Meeting, 7.00pm

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



Reconciliation week is a time for everyone to learn about Aboriginal history, culture and achievements. It is a time to explore how each of us can contribute to achieving reconciliation in Australia. We can also reflect on ourselves and the people around us. We can think about the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people who have walked on and cared for this land for thousands of years. This week is Reconciliation week. Through a week of fun activities lead by the Social Justice Team and FIRE carriers we will be learning about what Reconciliation is and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

Written by our FIRE Carriers –Jessica, Maeve, Aidan & Patrick

Dear Parents,

We celebrate National Reconciliation Week at St John's this week. As we strive for Reconciliation with Aboriginal peoples, may we remember that May 27 and June 3 are important dates in Australia's history. May 27 marks the anniversary of the 1967 referendum when Australians voted to remove clauses in the Australian Constitution that discriminated against Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. June 3 marks the historic 1992 Mabo decision in which the High Court of Australia recognised native title—the recognition that Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples' rights over their lands did survive British colonisation. We acknowledge that we gather each day on the land of the Wurundjeri people and pay our respects to their elders both past and present, for they hold the memories, the culture and the wisdom upon which our nation's future will be built.

#### 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

At St John's we are committed to developing an awareness of the Aboriginal culture and seek to journey towards reconciliation. For our school community, Reconciliation with Aboriginal peoples means - spiritual awareness, cultural recognition and awareness and participating in practical Reconciliation and justice initiatives and activities. An important step in this process was to participate in the FIRE carrier program. This involved the staff writing a Reconciliation Covenant, developing an action plan and selecting four student leaders. Congratulations to Maeve, Jessica, Patrick and Aidan, who were selected to be F.I.R.E Carriers (Friends Igniting Reconciliation in Education). Many of the Year Five students wrote applications for the position and are to be commended for the respectful, compassionate and thoughtful applications they wrote. Our F.I.R.E Carriers will be fully commissioned in a smoking ceremony on Friday 19 July.

### **Parish Mission**

I encourage you to attend the Parish Mission this week. I attended last night and found Fr Ray Sanchez to be an engaging and thought provoking speaker. My weekend had been extremely busy, so I enjoyed the opportunity for some "headspace" to just sit and reflect on my family, communication, ideas and support of others in the community.

### **Feedback about Student Led Conferences**

Many thanks to all families who completed the surveys about Student Led Learning Conferences. We received 23 in total. The results are as follows:

- 100% of responses received were answered either "a great deal" or "mostly" to Student Led Conferences meeting their purpose.
- 95% of responses received were answered as either "mostly" or "a great deal" for allowing student voice, 80% teacher voice and 95% parent voice
- 95% of response received were answered as either "mostly" or "a great deal" for gaining an accurate picture of their child's progress
- Some of the responses about what parents felt were positive about the conference included:
  - Very informative
  - Ownership
  - Build confidence in the student to share amongst adults their learning experience
  - Ownership of their learning journey
  - The teachers' professional and friendly manner
  - The clearly presented format of our child's presentation
  - Parents were given a chance to discuss anything further
  - To hear our child describe their learning and to see what they retained
  - My child taking ownership for learning
  - It was good to know our son understood his strengths & weaknesses & could openly speak about them
- Some of the responses about how we could improve the conference included:
  - Perhaps more time with exploring growth areas
  - A little more structure for how the child was going to articulate their learning
  - It would be good to have more of the teacher's feedback on how students can improve their learning
  - Perhaps a hand out to bring home (prepared by the students) so we can have it on the wall to remember what their learning goals were
  - Give more time for conference
  - Not all materials to use as examples were at hand
  - I know time is a factor but maybe a little more time so we could discuss how they are going a bit more
  - We would love parents to have access to the "google slide" presentation for "keepsake"

### **World Environment Day**

We value and listen to student voice here at St John's and the Future Leader Program is one important way students can suggest ideas and discuss issues. The Future Leaders are organising a "Green Day" on June 5th, **World Environment Day**. It is the United Nations day for encouraging worldwide awareness and action to protect our environment. Students also recognise that as Catholics it is our role to be stewards of creation and to look after our world. Students will be asked to dress in "green clothes" for the day and we will have a Nude Food Day, meaning there will be no wrappers or soft plastic packaging with our food.

Cont'd:

I'm sure Jacqui is enjoying her well deserved leave in Hawaii. If you have any concerns or comments, please don't hesitate to contact me over the next two weeks on [moshannassy@sjmitcham.catholic.edu.au](mailto:moshannassy@sjmitcham.catholic.edu.au) or grab me for a chat.

Enjoy your week, - Monica

## **MISSION WEEK PROGRAM**

A mission will be conducted by Fr. Ray Sanchez, a Passionist priest from Sunday 26 May – Thursday 30 May 2019. There will be morning and evening sessions (repeated) throughout the Mission. All morning sessions will be preceded by **9am Mass** this week.

### **Session 1: Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> May 7-9pm**

"The Family and how we communicate"

Our understanding of family has undergone many changes in recent years. Families are under enormous pressure, both from without and within and this affects our society and ourselves. We look at the issues our modern society confronts the family with, as well as the dynamic within it. We search for better ways to cope with change and communicate better within the family.

### **Session 2: Monday 27<sup>th</sup> May**

10am – 12 noon

Repeat 7.30pm – 9.30pm

"Grief, Loss and the Mystery of Human Suffering"

At some stage, grief and loss situations confront us all. Suffering in one form or another is part of our human condition. In this session we look at these aspects of our lives and explore ways in which our Christian faith helps us find meaning in this.

### **Session 3: Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> May**

10am -12 noon

Repeat 7.30pm – 9.30pm

"Sharing our faith with our children and grandchildren"

In the past, faith was considered a static thing – you either had it or you did not. Through the study of psychology we have learned that faith, like so many other areas of our life, undergoes constant change and development. Our Church's expression of faith has also undergone massive changes. In this session we will examine how our faith changes and matures through the stages from childhood to adult faith. We will then explore ways that faith is passed on in families.

### **Session 4: Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> May**

10 am – 12 noon

Repeat 7.30pm – 9.30pm

"Prayer, Solitude and Everyday Spirituality"

In this session we explore the rich variety of prayer styles within our Christian tradition. We look at how we can live out every day spirituality in the ordinariness that makes up most of our lives. We are provided with an experience of guided meditation as a form of Christian prayer.

### **Session 5: Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> May**

10am – 12 noon

Repeat 7.30pm – 9.30pm

"Reconciliation and Eucharist"

A Parish Mission is a time of renewal of faith. We focus on the Eucharist, the source and summit of our faith as Catholics. We look at its history and explore its meaning as meal in the context of Jesus' life and ministry. We conclude the mission with a celebration of the Reconciliation.

**PARISHIONERS ARE WELCOME TO BRING A BYO SUPPER TO SHARE AFTER THIS LAST SESSION.**

# Education in Faith News

**Our Gospel Challenge this week is to:** *resolve our conflicts by talking*

Peace. As it was defined by Jesus of Nazareth, peace was a dangerous goal for the early Christians who lived in the Roman Empire. The Roman Empire also brought "peace". But Roman leaders believed they could bring peace by conquering nations, crucifying rebels, and worshipping Roman gods. That means early Christians were radically different from their culture and their government. They followed a man who said peace comes from healing, forgiving, and serving others. They chose to worship the God who stood for sacrifice and nonviolence instead of the Roman gods, who called for war and domination.

How about us today? Our nation has resorted quickly to military solutions for global problems. Many people seek peace by ignoring their conflicts with others or by shouting down people who disagree with them. Easter is a good time to ask difficult questions about our notion of peace. Do we work for peace by forgiving others or settling conflicts without violent words or actions? Do our national policies reflect Jesus' style of peacemaking or Rome's? Are we courageous enough to create peace by being Jesus people?

Congratulations to Florence who celebrated the sacrament of Reconciliation for the first time on Saturday evening.

Have a wonderful week,

Monica

## Important Dates to Remember

<b>May</b>	26	Sunday	<b>Parish Family Mission Commences (Sunday26 - Thursday 30, May)</b>
	30	Thursday	Parish Family Mission Ends.
<b>June</b>	1	Saturday	Year 6 Level Mass and Confirmation Enrolment, 6.00pm
	2	Sunday	Year 6 Level Mass and Confirmation Enrolment, 9.45am
	11	Tuesday	Home Mass: Florence, Estelle, Mia and Monica
	12	Wednesday	Bread Making Day (First Eucharist Students)
	20	Thursday	Confirmation Retreat Day
			Confirmation Parent Night, 7.00pm at St James
	22	Saturday	First Eucharist: Arnold, Connor and Jasmine
	28	Friday	Feast of Sacred Heart Mass, 10.00am



## **MESSAGE: RHSports**

Our uniform supplier RHSports, will be **closing their retail shop on Friday 21 June** for the day to undertake their yearly stock take.

This means the following for that day:-

- No orders will be shipped
- No orders via the web will be downloaded and packed
- Shop will be closed for walk-in parents

All going well they should be operational again on Monday 24<sup>th</sup> June.



Tournament of Minds  
challenging the world®

# Tournament of Minds

Tournament of Minds is coming to St John's as a part of our Extension Education opportunities.

Tournament of Minds is a problem solving program for teams of students from both primary and secondary years. They are required to solve demanding, open-ended challenges from one of the following disciplines:

- Science Technology
- Engineering Mathematics
- Social Sciences
- Language Literature

Tournament of Minds is an opportunity for students with a passion for learning and problem solving to demonstrate their skills and talents in an exciting, vibrant and public way.

Teams of 7 – 8 students (from Years 5 - 6) are required to work together on a **Long Term Challenge** for six weeks at school, without assistance from teachers, parents or peers. They are encouraged to explore possibilities and experiment with ideas as they endeavour to produce their best possible solution. They develop a creative and original way to communicate this solution to others, working within predefined parameters such as limited materials, complex challenge criteria and the deadline of Tournament Day.

Students present the product of their ideas - their challenge solution - to a panel of judges and an audience on Tournament Day. They have ten minutes in which to present and must do so within a 3 metre by 3 metre performance area.

The teams must also participate in an unseen **Spontaneous Challenge** on Tournament Day. This challenge requires rapid interchange of ideas, the ability to think creatively and well developed group cooperation skills. Tournament Day is either 17<sup>th</sup> or 18<sup>th</sup> August, 2019 at Deakin University Burwood.

If you would like your child to participate please email [moshannassy@sjmitcham.catholic.edu.au](mailto:moshannassy@sjmitcham.catholic.edu.au)

For further information please check out the Tournament of Minds website: [tom.edu.au](http://tom.edu.au)

Many thanks, - Monica and Tom



Tournament of Minds  
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## AUSTRALIAN MATHEMATICS COMPETITION 2019

The Australian Mathematics Competition is an optional activity available to students in middle (Yr 3/4) and upper primary (Yr 5/6). It is a one hour math test involving 25 multiple choice and 5 questions involving a number answer, with an emphasis on problem solving strategies. Students wishing to enter the competition, need to place \$6.50 (competition entry fee) in an envelope with your name, and the title – Math Competition, on the front of the envelope and return it to school office by 20th June.

The competition will be held during school hours in early August.





## LA BOCCA DELLA

I would like to congratulate Oliver Stutchbury on his magnificent LEGO creation of "The Mouth Of Truth". The students in Italian, have been learning about Myths and Legends. - Bravissimo Oliver!



La Bocca Della is found in Rome at the entrance of a church. It is a sculptured face which legends says, ...the mouth will bite the hand of a person who tells a lie.

By Oliver Stutchbury



## District Cross Country 2019

A big **'well done'** to all our St John students who competed in the District Cross Country competition last Wednesday the 22nd of May.

In total St John's had 19 students compete across three different age groups. Everyone gave their best effort, supported each other and showed outstanding sportsmanship.

Of our 19 students who participated, we had 10 students qualify for the next stage of competition. These students will compete on Thursday the 30th of May in the Division Cross Country competition. We had a number of our other students just miss the top 10. It was overall a very successful day that everyone should feel very proud of.



Those students who qualified for Division Cross Country and will be competing on Thursday are:

*Abbey , Zara , Xavier, Will, Jack, Erin, Maevae, Amity, Natasha & Sienna*

We wish them all the best!

Thank you to all those parents and family members who came along to support our students on the day! A special thanks to Peta Marriner for volunteering as a checkpoint marshall as a representative of St John's.

# NIGHT <sup>IN</sup> THE LIBRARY

## PRODUCTION UPDATE

Only four weeks and three days to our St. John's Production of 'A Night in the Library' which is to be held on Thursday 27th June, the last Thursday of term. It is a school expectation that every student attends the production, however, if by chance you already know in advance that your child cannot attend due to overseas or interstate travel, for example, you will need to send a note to the classroom teacher as soon as possible.

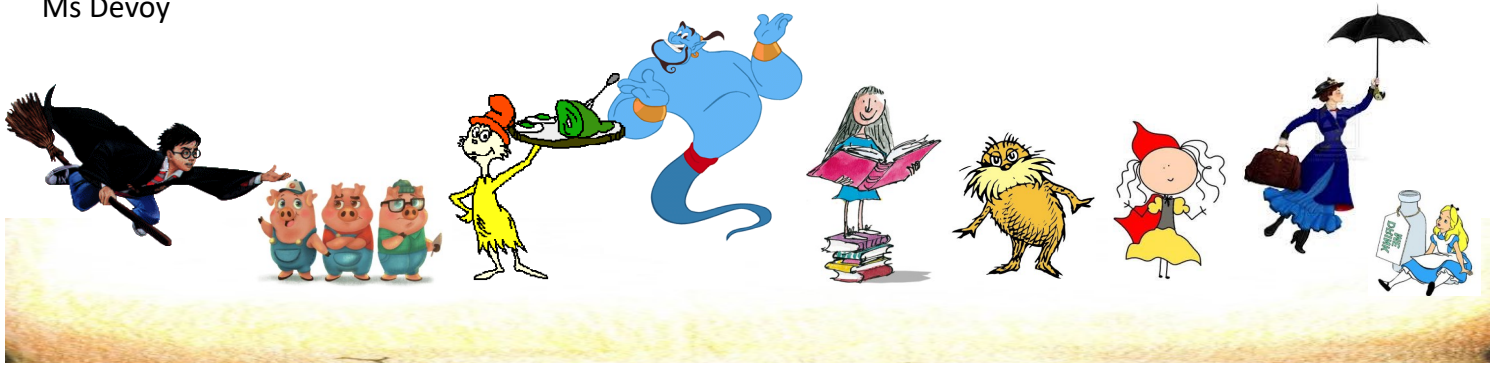
Keep your eyes open for the costume list which will come home shortly.

To any budding artists, we are looking for assistance and your painting prowess for a workshop to paint the sets. More details coming soon.

Year 5/6 students with main roles need to have learnt their parts off by heart by the end of next week.

I encourage you to ask your child to show you the dance steps they have learnt or ask to listen to their speaking roles. We are all getting excited to show you what we have been working on.

Thanks,  
Ms Devoy



### PREP NC ..... IS ON THE MOVE!

Prep NC will be going on a neighbourhood walk this Wednesday 29 May. The outing will link in with our learning on Road Safety.

**BULLYING. NO WAY!**  
TAKE A STAND  
TOGETHER

[www.bullyingnoway.gov.au](http://www.bullyingnoway.gov.au)

Being Kind

Being Kind

Thank you to the following students who received an award at today's assembly for demonstrating acts of kindness. Keep up the great work and don't forget to spread the kindness!

Scarlett and Sierra (Prep) - for applying SEL language in their interactions with others

Sophie (3/4KC) - for being willing to compromise when sharing items in the classroom

Patrick (5/6KR) - for being considerate and inclusive of others

in a world  
where you can  
be anything.  
**BE KIND.**

**Wellbeing**





# Make way for 2019 | 2020 Entertainment Memberships!



## St John's Primary School - Mitcham are fundraising! Buy your new Entertainment Membership today.

The 2018 | 2019 Entertainment Memberships are about to expire so now is the perfect time to buy the new 2019 | 2020 Entertainment Membership! You can enjoy thousands of valuable offers for everything you love to do, all while supporting a great cause.

All you have to do is use your Membership twice to cover the cost of it. After that every use means extra dollars in your pocket!



Buy the 19|20 Membership  
and you could win  
Woolworths WISH eGift  
Cards to the value of \$1,000

Woolworths

Competition ends 11:59pm AEST June 1

\*Terms and conditions apply

entertainment

### INTERSCHOOL SPORTS - Change of Date


A note to all year 5/6 parents and families that our Round 4 matchup against St Peter and Paul's Primary School has been moved from Friday 31 May to Friday 14 June. The match will still be played as a home game for us but has been changed due to the students at St Peter and Paul's being away on camp on the original date. Thank you for your support!

### BIRTHDAYS

Congratulations this week to Ava, Gracen, Tristan, Elliott, Jesse, Sierra, Ethan, Jack, Keira and Ivy who will be celebrating their birthday.

*We hope you all have a very.....*

**"HAPPY BIRTHDAY"**



REACH NEW HEIGHTS

### Victorian Premiers' Reading Challenge

Don't forget that the Victorian Premiers' Reading Challenge is now open and St John's Mitcham is excited to be participating.

All children are encouraged to read and students from Year 3-6 are challenged to read 15 books by 6 September 2019.



St. John's Primary School  
Major Fundraiser 2019

# WINTER EXTRAVAGANZA



STALLS - LIVE MUSIC - FOOD - RAFFLES -  
SILENT AUCTION - LIVE AUCTION

Saturday 27th July 7-11pm  
St. John's Primary School Hall  
Tickets on sale now!

\$15 pp - tickets available from the office or via  
Trybooking: <http://www.trybooking.com/BBRPW>  
MUST be over 18 years old to attend (BYO)

With thanks to our major sponsor  
Our Lady of Sion College