

St John's Parish

Primary School



July 29, 2019 No. 18

COMING UP AT ST JOHN'S

AUGUST	5	Monday	School Assembly, 8.50am
	6	Tuesday	Education Board Meeting, 7.00pm
	7	Wednesday	Parent Association Meeting, 7.00pm
			Confirmation Practice Day, Year 6
	8	Thursday	Feast of St Mary of the Cross
	10	Saturday	Confirmation, 1.00pm & 3.00pm
	15	Thursday	Feast of the Assumption Mass, 10.00am
	19	Monday	School Assembly, 8.50am

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

Dear Parents,

It is with a heavy heart that we advise all in our community of the death of Ashley Annett. Ashley was at student at St John's beginning her prep year in 2001 and finishing up in 2017 in Year 6 as our school vice-captain. She loved Performing Arts and being part of the school choir and Scottish dancing. Ashley contributed to the school in so many ways with a passion for social justice and especially animal rights. She initiated many projects to raise money for those in need including her slime-making club. We will always remember her beautiful smile, her creative mind and her generous nature. Our thoughts are with Kristy, Mark and Will at this terribly sad time.



Staffing

Nicole Dunning (Learning Support Officer) has decided to resign from her position at St John's due to personal reasons. We thank Nicole for her commitment to our school for eight years and wish her all the best. Nicole has always shown belief in the children she has worked with and will be missed.

Prep 100 days

Our Preps are so excited to be celebrating 100 days at school on Thursday. They have learnt so much and continue to impress us every day. The school looks forward to celebrating this day with them.

Parents Association Winter Extravaganza

We had a wonderful night on Saturday at our special PA event. A huge thank you goes out to Eileen Dalton and Courtney Laffin for their vision and leadership of the event. They were also supported by many parents who gave so generosity of their time. The hall looked amazing with such attention to detail.

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

PARISH CONTACTS:

PH: 9873 1341

PARISH PRIEST

Father Dispin John

PARISH SECRETARIES

Mrs. Elisa Kelesidis

Mrs. Martine Giles

PASTORAL ASSOCIATE

Mrs. Maree O'Keefe

Board Meeting

The next board meeting will be held on Tuesday 6 August at 7pm.

Catholic Education Melbourne School Improvement Surveys (CEMSIS): 2-20 September 2019

Throughout each year, we pause to listen to our students, families and staff to gauge how our learning community is travelling. This feedback is invaluable to our progress as an effective school community when combined with evidence-based research and best practices.

One of the more important formal ways we engage and gather data is through CEMSIS, the Catholic Education Melbourne School Improvement Surveys.

CEMSIS is a set of surveys that have been built specifically for Catholic Schools in Melbourne by Learning Services teams at Catholic Education Melbourne in partnership with researchers at Learning First and in wide consultation with Principals in our schools.

In 2019, students, families and staff are invited to participate in CEMSIS using our brand new, secure and purpose-built online platform. The online platform is where our school leaders will access the summary reports that visualise the results of the student, family and staff surveys.

The CEMSIS survey platform is operated by an independent supplier, ORIMA Research Pty Ltd. The platform meets with the very high security and privacy standards for handling student and school data. Participating schools are in the process of updating their privacy policy to ensure school communities are fully informed and protected.

Students at our school will be provided with supervised sessions where teachers will be on hand to help and answer any questions. Families and staff can complete the survey anytime over the three week window via an emailed link and password. Feedback from last year's pilot trials indicate many surveys were done across a range of mobile devices and different web browsers. Schools will be providing more information about CEMSIS throughout Term 2 and 3 via newsletters and social media.

Our community's opinions are critical to understanding how our school is performing – CEMSIS is a key data source for guiding the ongoing work to improve our school.

All participation is invited, welcomed and 100% voluntary. The surveys are not a test; they are an inclusive way of providing feedback and supplement the work we are already doing to improve our school. Everyone has the right to refuse to participate, or withdraw from the survey at any point before, during, or after completion of the survey. Please notify the school if your child does not wish to participate.

If you would like more information, please contact the school.

Future Leaders – Semester 2

We congratulate the following students who have been selected by their peers to be our Future Leaders for this semester. They will receive their badges at assembly on Monday 5 August.

Prep	Scarlett and Allegra	3/4KC	Estelle and Monica
1/2SK	Frances and Riley	5/6KR	Gemma and Will
1/2EB	Ivy and Kiralee	5/6AB	Cohen and Maeve
3/4RF	Zarah and Elizabeth	5/6TJ	Erin and Xavier

Have a good week,
Jacqui Marshall
Principal

Fire Carriers Commissioning Service

On Friday we celebrated the commissioning of our FIRE Carriers and unveiling of our collaborative artwork titled: One Fire – With Faith and Love.

We welcomed Sherry Balcombe from Aboriginal Catholic Ministry, Councillor Prue Cutts from Whitehorse Council and our Aboriginal artist Heather Kennedy.

Maeve, Jessica, Patrick and Aidan were given a special blessing as FIRE Carriers. They are now the 'Living Flames' that will ignite the fire of the new dreaming of true justice, love, compassion and hope for the world today.

Their reflections of the day follow on the next page.



Patrick - Before the ceremony Sherry told us about the history of the Aboriginal people. She talked about how the Aborigines had lived through three ice ages. Sherry also told us that they had lived with megafauna, the megafauna hunted them and the aboriginals hunted the megafauna with rocks, hammers & spears.

Maeve- During the ceremony all of the FIRE Carriers got a chance to read an Aboriginal script. Aidan read what the Aboriginal Father and the Son was. We all read in front of the fire which Sherry created.

Jess- Sherry placed her hands over the fire and then put them on our ears, eyes, head, heart and hands. Sherry commissioned us, Mrs Marshall and Monica. We are looking forward to commissioning next year's FIRE carriers.

Aidan - After we were commissioned, we unveiled the art piece that many students at St John's had participated in with the artist Heather. My part of the artwork was the school symbol with fruits in the wings of the eagle and the Latin word 'Viribus' which means strength because St John's is strong in faith and strength is important because a weak community can break apart.

To Monica, Mrs Marshall, Aunty Sherry, Aunty Heather and Counsellor Prue Cutts,
We can't thank you enough for all the help and generosity you have shown, to us and the school!
Your kindness and thoughtfulness is greatly appreciated.

From the **FIRE Carriers**

Education in Faith News

Our Gospel Challenge this week is to: *pray the Our Father each day!*

In this week's Gospel, Jesus says God doesn't always answer our prayers by giving us what we want. First, Jesus compares God to a person who gives his friend what he needs. Then he says God will answer our prayers by giving us the Holy Spirit.

What do we expect from prayer? Most of us pray for things we want, but God often gives us something we need – the courage and commitment to do God's will in tough times. We might want a good test result, but what we need are better study habits. So the answer to our prayer might be a teacher challenging us to work harder. We might pray for God to spare a loved one from an illness. God might answer by strengthening us with the Spirit so we can comfort our sick loved one. We might want a better life for the poor. And God might answer our prayer by calling our attention to an opportunity to serve those on the margins in our community.

Sure, our prayers might work miracles for others. But more often our prayers work miracles in us.

Can you remember a time you were inspired to help someone after praying for him or her?

Congratulations to Harrison, Daniela, Harry and Riley on receiving the Eucharist for the first time yesterday. We hope you find the Eucharist a source of nourishment throughout your life.



Have an enjoyable week,
Monica

Important Dates to Remember

August	3	Saturday	First Eucharist Celebration, 6.00pm: Estelle, Mia, Florence and Monica
	7	Wednesday	Confirmation Practice
	8	Thursday	St Mary of the Cross Feast Day
	10	Saturday	Confirmation Ceremonies, 1.00pm & 3.00pm
	15	Thursday	Feast of the Assumption Mass, 10.00am
	17	Saturday	Presentation of Confirmation Certificates, 6.00pm
	18	Sunday	Presentation of Confirmation Certificates, 9.45am

BELOW: Student year level Artwork that was auctioned on Saturday night at the Winter Extravaganza



St John's Staff Profile

Louise Devoy



Lou Devoy has been teaching for 21 years in both primary and secondary education. She has worked at many schools including St James Secondary College, St Kevin's College and Tintern Grammar. 2019 is her first year working at St John's.

Lou currently works as our Performing Arts teacher for Prep to Year 6. She loves working with the choir and loved working with students in the school production. In her words, "...it is special to see those students who may not have much confidence in their own ability, take risks, get involved and then watch as their confidence flourishes. I believe in this day and age it is important that children learn to communicate and express themselves clearly in all situations & Performing Arts provides this opportunity".

Lou has loved working at St John's so far because of the small community and overall spirit of the school. She believes everyone pitches in to help each other and take care of one another.

Outside of school, Lou enjoys swimming, walking and doing weights classes. She enjoys the theatre, and in particular musicals where she can sing along! Lou is also a very good cook and enjoys entertaining friends and family. She is married with three lovely children and as a family they love travelling and spending time together.

Although it has only been a short time, Lou has already made a big impact at St John's. Her enthusiasm, creativity and passion for teaching is evident in all she does. We are extremely lucky to have her as part of our St John's community.

Wellbeing Term 2 Dojo Winners

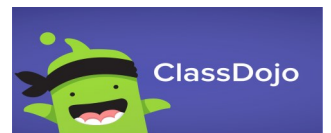
For Term 2, the house with the highest number of dojos was... **Lyons - Green Team!** Great effort!

Any student in **Green Team** can wear **free dress** this **Friday 2nd of August**.

Further congratulations to the following students who received a certificate for achieving the highest number of dojos in their class last term:

Margaux - Prep
Ellie - 1/2EB
Evie W - 1/2SK
Jasmine - 3/4RF

Isla - 3/4KC
Jack I - 5/6KR
Erin - 5/6TJ
Chris - 5/6AB



Keep up the great work!



OXFAM CONCERT

On Thursday 15th August the St. John's School Choir will be performing at the Oxfam Concert at the Box Hill Town Hall. We have been rehearsing a few songs to perform on the night and can't wait to show them to you. The concert begins at 7pm and students are expected to make their own travel arrangements. It is hoped that parents will come along and support this event. Permission notes went home on Friday and need to be returned ASAP please.

Ticket prices are Adults \$17 and Concession \$12 and they can be purchased at:

<https://www.trybooking.com/BDQIB>

Please book early to avoid disappointment. **(Performers do not require a ticket.)**

In the week of the performance, please note that we will change our rehearsal day to Thursday 15th August at 8.20am instead of on Friday 16th, just to ensure we are ready to go!

Look forward to seeing you all there,

Ms Lou Devoy



Our Lady of Sion College

SPEAKING THE TRUTH IN LOVE

Ephs 4:15

**Applications for Year 7, 2021,
are closing on 23 August 2019**

If your daughter is currently in Year 5 and you do not submit an application for her prior to 23 August 2019, she will not be offered enrolment for Year 7, 2021.

Waiting list placements have been rare in recent years, so please don't miss out because you've forgotten to apply!

**Talk and Tour mornings
prior to close of enrolments:**

**Friday 26 July, 9.30 am
Monday 5 August, 9.30 am**

Application forms are available on our website for download or you can contact our Registrar:

Ms Robyn McCann
9890 9097 or registrar@sion.catholic.edu.au

We look forward to welcoming
your family to the College.

1065 Whitehorse Road, Box Hill
9890 9097 | info@sion.catholic.edu.au

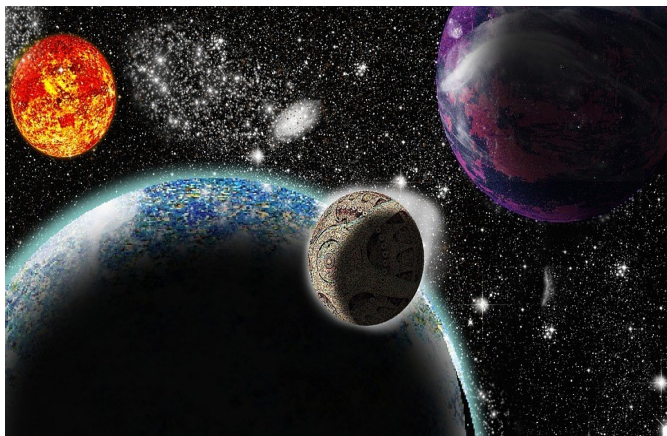


It is fantastic to see so many of our students walking and riding to school. Parents, please speak to your children about being aware of strangers and perhaps discuss some possible scenarios on how you expect your child to respond.



National Science Week

National Science Week 10- 18 August will be celebrated at St John's with some activities for the whole school to get involved in. The theme for this year is "Destination Moon: more missions, more science".



To begin the week, on Monday 12th August, the whole school will be involved in an incursion provided by the Science discovery dome.

On Wednesday 14th August we will have a scientist parade, where all students are invited to dress up as their favourite type of scientist from 9am. Parents are most welcome to come along and join in the fun.

Finally, on Friday 16th August, we will have a special assembly at the end of the day to showcase all the scientific learning that students have been involved in during the week.

ON THE MOVE

Years P -2 will be going on a Nature Walk to Halliday Park tomorrow, Tuesday 30 July to support their Science Inquiry Learning.



BIRTHDAYS

Congratulations to Jessica and Sophie who will be celebrating their birthday during the week ahead.

We hope you both have a very.....

"HAPPY BIRTHDAY"

St. John's Primary School Major Fundraiser 2019

WINTER EXTRAVAGANZA



A huge thank you to our wonderful school community for their time, help and support in ensuring this years' major fundraiser, Winter Extravaganza, was a success.

To our parish, the many businesses and people who so generously donated the venue, items/vouchers, sponsorship and their time – thank you.

We hope everyone had an opportunity to meet new friends and catch up with old ones, and enjoy some cheese, tagine or a tasty dessert.

We are delighted to report that together we raised an amazing \$7,200 for our children. This money will be put towards new furniture for their classrooms.

Well done!

SCHOLASTIC BOOKCLUB

If you would like to order any books from the recent Scholastic Bookclub brochure, issue 5, please do so by this **Wednesday 31 July**.

No late orders can be processed.

All reward points earned from the sale of orders go towards the purchase of classroom resources for each year level at school.

Any queries can be directed to Jo Novak on 0402 816 685 (Tasha 5/6KR).





~*~16 weeks until Fete Day~*~

"SAVE THE DATES"

Hi...and welcome to the first issue of FETE NEWS for 2019.

The Fete Committee have been working hard behind the scenes all year. We will soon be ready to start communicating some new and exciting initiatives to this year's Fete. Keep a look out for FETE NEWS in the next coming weeks at school and around the Parish. In the meantime here's a few dates to save and add into your diary early so you can avoid a clash of commitments!!

Remember, our annual fete continues to be a wonderful opportunity to come together and celebrate with our great community.

It's better to donate than to accumulate

If you have good quality things in your home that *"no longer spark joy"* you can drop them off for Bric-a-Brac, Pre-Loved Clothes and Pre-Loved Toys. We have earlier and more drop off times this year, with the first one being this Sunday – **28th July!** Drop off at the Parish Garage between 9am and 12pm

Save these Dates

- 25th August
- 20th October
- 3rd November
- 22nd September
- 27th October
- 10th November

TIDBIT!

Did you know that pre-loved clothes receive just under 8,000 bits of clothing each year.....thank you for your generosity.....but did you know that in 2018 only 3,361 items were suitable for selling?

Please donate clothes in good condition – cleaned, ironed and preferably on a hanger.

Calling for volunteers – Save the Dates

Volunteer links will be finalised with our stall holder coordinators in the next couple of weeks. These will then be publicised for volunteering your time on a stall or to help during set-up and pack-up. The Fete wouldn't be what it is without the generosity of volunteers. Please consider offering to assist either in the week leading up, on fete day, or during pack up. In recent years the volunteer numbers have sadly been reducing. Just a couple of hours will help us to spread what is a huge load. More to come a little later on specific dates and tasks but *please consider offering a couple of hours to assist.*



Email



FaceBook



Instagram



SAVE THESE DATES



- 28th July: Pre-Loved Drop Off
- 25th August: Pre-Loved Drop Off
- 22nd September: Pre-Loved Drop Off
- 7th October: Raffle tickets sent home
- 20th October: Pre-Loved Drop Off
- **22nd October: Stall Holders Meeting**
- 27th October: Pre-Loved Drop Off
- 2nd November: Raffle tickets due back
- 3rd November: Pre-Loved Drop Off
- 10th November: Pre-Loved Drop Off
- **15th November: CAKE DROP OFF at Cake Stall (1pm – 3pm)**
- **16th November: FETE DAY**
- **16th November: Bump Out; 5pm – 7.30pm.**
- **17th November: Working Bee; 9am – 1pm. BBQ lunch provided**
- **27th November: Post Fete Review; 7.30pm**



Email



FaceBook



Instagram

What is the #1 thing to help keep your family cyber safe?



There are internet filters, settings on apps, age restrictions, websites to avoid and social media to be wary of...but above all of these, the key to keeping your children safe online is **COMMUNICATION**.

We asked cyber safety educator, psychologist and mother of three, Carley McGauran to share her insights into how communication can help keep your family safe online:

I often get asked by parents what they can do to keep their children safe online. Above all else I continually highlight the importance of communication. Here are 4 tips that evidence suggests will best keep your children safe:

Share their tech interest

Discuss and ask questions about their online activities, just as you would embrace their interest in sport, music or any other extracurricular activity.

Help kids access other support

For lots of reasons children won't always want to talk to parents. Let them know it's okay to talk with other trusted adults, for example teachers, aunts/uncles or [Kids Helpline](#).

Don't overreact

Be "curious not furious" (Lisa Smith from [The Peaceful Parent](#) has lots of other great ideas). If children think you'll overreact, this will be a big barrier to them sharing anything with you.

Validate their feelings

Kids need to feel heard (well we all do actually) so comments like "don't be such a drama queen" or "it's not a big deal, don't be ridiculous" will discourage them from talking to you as they feel like you have "dismissed" their feelings. You need to give your children a safe space to explore their feelings. Say things like "Tell me more about what happened" & "How did that make you feel?"

Effective communication also means having the 'tricky' conversations with your children, including cyberbullying, pornography, sending nudes & sexting and unwanted contact (grooming). As challenging as these conversations can feel, you as a parent **NEED** to open up the dialogue in order to best keep your children safe. To get some expert help with "**when to say what**" and more, visit:



St John's Term 3, 2019 Calendar

July

15	Monday	School Closure Day
16	Tuesday	Term Three begins for students
17	Wednesday	PA Meeting, 7:00pm
22	Monday	School Assembly, 8:50am
27	Saturday	Winter Extravaganza, PA Fundraiser
28	Sunday	Parish Family Mass, 9:45am

August

1	Thursday	Prep 100 Days at School
5	Monday	School Assembly, 8.50am
6	Tuesday	Education Board Meeting, 7.00pm
7	Wednesday	Confirmation Practice Day
8	Thursday	Feast of St Mary of the Cross
10	Saturday	Confirmation, 1.00pm and 3.00pm
12	Monday	Science Week (Tuesday 12—Friday 16 August)
15	Thursday	Feast of Assumption Mass, 10:00am
19	Monday	Assembly, 8:50am
27	Tuesday	Swimming Program, Prep - Year 2 (Tuesday 27 - Friday 30 August)
29	Thursday	District Athletics, Years 4 - 6

September

1	Sunday	Father's Day
2	Monday	School Assembly, 8.50am
3	Tuesday	Swimming Program, Prep - Year 2 (Tuesday 3 - Friday 6 September)
7	Saturday	PA BBQ
10	Tuesday	Education Board Meeting, 7.00pm
11	Wednesday	PA Meeting, 7:00pm
14	Saturday	Working Bee, 9:00am
16	Monday	Literacy and Numeracy Week (Monday 16 - Friday 20 September)
16	Monday	School Assembly, 8.50am
17	Tuesday	Parent/Teacher/Student Learning Conferences, 3:50 – 7:00pm
18	Wednesday	Parent/Teacher/Student Learning Conferences, 3:50 – 6:00pm
20	Friday	Free Dress Day, 'Footy Colours'
		Last Day of Term 3