Dear Families  

I can’t help but be impressed with the general sense of happiness that exists amongst the children as I move around the school and into classrooms. I mentioned at our very first assembly how important it was for our school to be a happy place where every person feels welcome and safe. This morning while I was on morning duty a number of parents approached me to comment on how happy and contented the children seemed as they played and mixed so well with each other while waiting for the school bell to sound. Teachers have also said similar things. What a great thing to say about our school. Nothing gives me greater satisfaction than knowing the kids are happy at school. This is in no small way due to the way our children go about treating each other and the extra efforts they make to include other children in their games. Your children are a credit to you and I will continue to commend them on the spirit of friendship that they promote in the school. I will also continue to remind them of how important it is to greet people with a smile and treat others the way they would like to be treated themselves. It is as Jesus has told us and simply the best recipe for happiness. Please let your children know how proud you are of the things they are doing at school especially those little acts of kindness that really do make a difference.  

God Bless, and have a great week    Mark  

SPORTS NEWS  

It has been an exciting term with so many sporting events on the calendar. On Friday, 22nd February we had our cross country and our first five place getters will go onto the district championships on Friday, 22nd March. Last Monday we had our Athletic Trials at Landy Field and our first two placegetters in each age group for each track/field event, except for 100m sprint(first 4 placegetters for relay) will go onto district competition on Friday 17th May. Thirdly, yesterday we had the Geelong North Division and Bellarine Division Swimming Championships and we had 28 students competing. The top 4 for the combined division individual events and top 2 relay teams will go onto the regional championships on Tuesday 19th March at Hoppers Crossing. Parents of students who qualified to the next level, will be notified in due course. It must be said that there has been a real ‘buzz’ throughout these sporting events as the students’ enthusiasm, determination, sportsmanship and spirit in which they competed was exemplary. They all should be very proud of their efforts and achievements. These events ran smoothly due to the dedication and support from our parents and teachers and I would like to thank everyone for their continual support throughout this busy sporting schedule. It was a great team effort by all!    Paul Broekman.  

CONGRATULATIONS  

We extend our congratulations to Belinda and Mark Pedretti on the safe arrival of ‘Sophie’ brother for Lucas (Gr F JP).  

BIRTHDAYS  

The St Robert’s School community wish to congratulate the following children on the celebration of their birthday this week:  

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Name</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6th  March</td>
<td>Isobel Higgins</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7th  March</td>
<td>Coby Williams</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9th  March</td>
<td>Tess De Grandi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11th March</td>
<td>Heather Watkins</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12th March</td>
<td>Sebastian Buchanan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Emerson Mitchell</td>
</tr>
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<td></td>
<td>Zoe Morrison</td>
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</table>
UNIVERSITY OF NSW TESTING

St Robert’s School will again be providing students with the opportunity to enter the University of NSW: International Competitions and Assessments for Schools (ICAS). The subjects offered, sitting dates and costs are outlined below. All students from grades 3 to 6 are invited to enter. Each participating student will receive an individual diagnostic report as well as a certificate to recognise their achievement for each subject entry. More information about the ICAS is available at: www.eaa.unsw.edu.au.

Please complete the following entry form with the appropriate money amount if your child wishes to enter the ICAS and return it to the office by Wednesday, 20 March 2013.

Marie Monea

University of NSW: ICAS Entry Form

Student Name: ....................................................

Class: .................................

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TICK FOR ENTRY</th>
<th>SUBJECT</th>
<th>ENTRY COST</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Computer Skills</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
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<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td>Spelling</td>
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<td>18/5/2013</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>31/7/2013</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mathematics</td>
<td>$ 8.80</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>13/8/2013</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Money amount enclosed: ..............................

Signed: ....................................................

CATHOLIC IDENTITY

The Year of Faith

The YEAR OF FAITH HAS BEGUN!

The Year of Faith runs from the 50th anniversary of the opening of the Second Vatican Council on 11 October 2012 until the Solemnity of Christ the King on 24 November 2013.

The YEAR of Faith is an invitation to everyone in the Church to celebrate and renew their faith - individually, in families, in parishes and schools, in our Diocese, country and across our global Catholic community.

Desiring to respond to the call for ‘fresh impetus’ in the Church’s mission, how might we celebrate this Year of Faith?

As disciples of Jesus Christ, as members of his Church through our parish, school, home and diocesan communities how can we enter into this Year and bring it to life?

How can we put our faith into action in the service of others?

How can we grow in our faith understanding and as witnesses to the teaching of Christ and his Church?

We are being called to GREATNESS in faith and service.

What can we do? What will you do?

STUDENT AWARDS

Congratulations to the following students who have received certificates this week for outstanding work.

Gr 1YE  Georgia Phillips
Gr 1YE  Oliver King
Gr 2LO  James Burtt
Gr 2LO  Amelia Northey
Gr 2KT  Olivia Trethowan
Gr 2KT  Tom Ryan
Gr 3KH  Abbey Stephens
Gr 3KH  Charlie Poulter
Gr 3JS  Amanda Perrett
Gr 3JS  Jude Ryan
Gr 4MA  Connor O’Sullivan
Gr 4MA  Savannah Cook
Gr 4MM  Ashlyn Dwyer
Gr 4MM  Sophia Frances
Gr 5PB  Chelsea Osburn
Gr 5PB  Sam King
Gr 5DB  Bella Gard
Gr 5DB  James Lappin
Gr 6RM  Maddie Pendergast
Gr 6RM  Will Ryan
Gr 6SP  April Wright
Gr 6SP  Hannah Baric

Gr F CC  Zara Goodall-Wilson
Gr F CC  Jagger Mooney
Gr F JP  Isabelle O’Sullivan
Gr F JP  Joshua McWilliam
Gr 1MC  Harry Hardy
Gr 1MC  Dana Mackay
PROJECT COMPASSION
Our Week 6 total for Project Compassion is $525.05 bringing our total to $944.25. What a huge amount after only two weeks of fundraising – keep up the great work everyone. Grade 6 students

ANAPHYLAXIS RISK MANAGEMENT STRATEGIES
This year we have 14 children with nut allergies, 12 of whom have epipens in case of severe anaphylaxis. To provide the safest possible environment for these students, we follow the guidelines set down by the Royal Children’s Hospital, and ask that all families do their best to comply with these.

NO SHARING/SWAPPING FOOD
Children are not permitted to swap/trade/share food with one another. It is important that children eat only the food that is provided in their own lunch boxes. This policy extends to treats provided for birthdays, feastdays, etc. We ask that parents do not send any ‘special’ food treats to help celebrate birthdays, etc.

PACKAGED FOOD PRODUCTS CONTAINING NUTS
We ask all families to avoid sending nut bars and other foods containing nuts as a main ingredient, as lunch box items. ‘Nut free’ items should be selected for school lunches.

PEANUT BUTTER AND NUTELLA SANDWICHES
Please avoid sending sandwiches using these spreads. If this is unavoidable, please notify the classroom teacher so an alternative eating space can be arranged. Contact with peanut butter or Nutella can kill children with nut allergies!

WIPING TABLES/WASHING HANDS
It is recommended that tables be washed down at the end of snack and lunch breaks to remove traces of nuts and other allergens. It is also recommended that children wash hands at the conclusion of recess and lunch breaks to eliminate traces of allergens that may have been picked up in the playground.

ALLERGY ALERT ZONES
Junior classes with children with diagnosed severe food allergies have signage that alerts families to this situation.

ACTION PLANS AND MEDICATION
Action plans, medication and epipens for children diagnosed with severe food allergies are kept in a central storage area. Details of children with anaphylaxis action plans are kept in classroom medical information folders.

EPIDEM TRAINING
Training in the administration of epipens is undertaken by all staff on an annual basis.

COMMUNICATION
Regular reminders of these strategies will be placed in school newsletters.

CURRICULUM
Information regarding food allergies/healthy and safe nutrition choices will be included as part of the Health and Physical Education program.

IT’S EASTER TIME
The Annual Easter Egg Raffle is on again. We are asking every family to donate an Easter Egg for our raffle prize. We would like to have over 20 prizes so there are more chances of winning. The raffle will be drawn at the final assembly on Term 1. All eggs can be left at the office. Tickets for this raffle will be distributed soon.

ANAM CARAMARKET
Every Saturday, sellers of private cars in the Geelong region can display their vehicle to hundreds (or more) of potential purchasers. The “Anam CaraMarket” is held each Saturday, 8.30am to 1pm, in conjunction with Beckley Park Market, Broderick Rd., Corio, (average attendance 2-3,000 weekly). Sellers can display their car for just $10, with all proceeds helping Anam Cara House, our Geelong Community Hospice. For preferential booking (i.e. the best sites), book via Anam Cara House website, www.achg.org.au, or on 5222 5831, or just turn up on the day. Any enquiries? Ring 5222 5831. Browsers (and potential purchasers) most welcome – no entry fee.

SCHOOL HOLIDAY PROGRAM
School Holiday Program is an educational child care service for children currently attending Primary School age 5 to 12 years. The School Holiday Program offers a range of activities, experiences and excursions. Enrolment application forms available at the office or you can enrol on line at www.geelongaustralia.com.au/shp. Enrolments now open and are due by 5pm Wednesday 20th March 2013. For more information please contact Team Leader on 5272 4443 or pont@geelongcity.vic.gov.au
Saint Ignatius College Geelong
Families are invited to join us on our
2013 OPEN DAY
Sunday March 24th - 11:00am-2:00pm.
Information sessions at
11:00am and 12.15pm.

“SEE THE COLLEGE AT WORK”
Wednesday 1st May, 9:00am-12 noon
Applications for Year 7 enrolment 2014
close Friday 17th May 2013.

Year 7, Year 9 & Year 11 Academic Scholarship
online applications close
Wednesday 17th April.

Visit the college website to download an
Application for Enrolment form, apply for a
College Prospectus and to submit an online
Academic Scholarship registration.

A Jesuit Partner School
Saint Ignatius College Geelong
27 Peninsula Drive, Drysdale. 3222
Phone: 5251 1136
Email: info@ignatius.vic.edu.au
Website: www.ignatius.vic.edu.au

Sacred Heart College
Open Day

Tuesday 26th March 2013
Option 1 – Tour 1: 3:45 – 4:45pm
Followed by information session 5 -5:45pm
Option 2 – Tour 2 5:30 – 6:30pm
Followed by information session 7 7:45pm
For more information, please contact our Registrar,
Mrs Judy Smith on 5222 0490
Closing date for enrolments is Friday 17th May 2013

Chilwell P.S. Outside School Hours Care
Term 1 – February 2013
To book or cancel care please call Olivia or Laune
on 0417 014 973

DATES TO REMEMBER

MARCH
Wed 6th Grade 6 Parent Information Night
7pm – 7:45pm
10th to 17th Catholic Education Week
Mon 11th Labour Day Public Holiday
Sat 16th St Patrick’s Day Races
Mon 18th Whole school assembly 3:00pm
Fri 22nd GDCSSA District Cross Country
Championships, eligible St
Robert’s reps only

Mon 25th Grade 1 Prayers in Pyjamas 6:00
to 7:00pm
Tues 26th Foundation Prayers in Pyjamas,
6:00-7:00pm in Chapel area
Wed 27th End of Term 1 for students,
dismissal 3:30pm
Thur 28th End of Term for Staff, ‘Kids
Matter’ staff in-service day
Fri 29th Good Friday
Sun 31st Easter Sunday

APRIL
Mon 15th Term 2 commences
Mon 22nd Whole School Assembly 3:00pm
Thur 25th Anzac Day Public Holiday
Fri 26th Whole Parish School Closure Day
– Religious Education staff in-
service

MAY
Wed 1st School Advisory Board Meeting
7:30pm
Mon 6th Whole School Assembly 3:00pm
Wed 8th Grade 2 Prayers in Pyjamas 6:00 –
7:00pm
Thur 9th Eucharist Activity Evening,
Chapel 7:00 – 8:30pm

May 20th
Mon 20th First Eucharist 6:00pm at St
Mary’s Basilica
Sat 25th First Eucharist 9:30am and
11:00am, St Mary’s Basilica

School Advisory Board Committee Members
Fr Kevin Dillon frkd@stmarysgeelong.com.au Website: www.srnswtown.catholic.edu.au
Mark Soldani marks@srnewtown.catholic.edu.au Scott Bowman jacscottb@hotmail.com Lisa Northey
bluffcottage@live.com Gabrielle Sinclair sinclair.five@bigpond.com Ian Courtney
Ian.Courtney@originenergy.com.au Gabrielle Moody gabshaun@optusnet.com.au Sonia Lazzaro
sonlou723@gmail.com and Katrina De Grandi k.degrandi@bigpond.com