Dear Families

Welcome back! In less than a week everybody seems to be well and truly into the swing of the new school year and things couldn’t be travelling better as far as the children settling back into their classroom and school routines goes. Each year the transition from kindergarten to school for our new prep children seems to get easier and easier and this year’s group have once again settled beautifully into their new surroundings. Moving around the classrooms I find it gratifying to see them happy and eagerly working on the tasks their teachers have set for them. I’ve got this feeling that we have another fantastic year in store. Our motto for this year emblazoned on our sign at the front of the school is “Together we can make our school even better in 2014” and as this suggests I am hoping we can do lots of exciting things together throughout the year. An early opportunity for this is our “Fish n Chip” night next Thursday 13th Feb. and I am looking forward to catching up with many of you there. It is my hope that this is the first of many opportunities to gather together this year.

With the lack of an indoor assembly facility due to current works we will continue to hold our whole school assemblies every alternate Monday at 3pm on the school oval, weather permitting. The first assembly for the year will be held this coming Monday and I’m hoping many parents are able to come along. A very important part of this assembly will be the presentation of our Senior Sixes for 2014 which will be the first of many memorable moments for our Grade Sixes this year.

Finally I would like to take this opportunity to welcome all those new to our school community, our new families and our new teachers, Ms Nikki Fiesley our newly appointed Grade 5 teacher and Ms Claire Lappin taking on PE for Gr’s 3 to 6 this year. Welcome one and all as “Together We Can Make Our School Even Better in 2014. For your convenience a full staff list is included with today’s Newsletter.

God Bless,  Mark

CATHOLIC IDENTITY

Trust and Dare to Dream

The Catholic Education Theme for 2014 is Trust and Dare to Dream. This theme is taken from Pope Francis who encourages all young people to embrace the grand plan God has for each person, a vision that includes personal integrity, strong relationships with others, service to community and a shared vigilance for our world.

Our Catholic community enjoys a rich legacy when it comes to the idea of trust: it is one of the cornerstones of our faith. In everything we do there are divine assurances to rely on:

- The love of the Father, who created and sustains us
- The love of Christ, who modelled authentic human life for us
- The love of the Holy Spirit, who lives in our hearts

These three actions of God are what our faith is based on.

Trust is a key element in the life of any vibrant community. For a Catholic school it is essential. Trust is a foundation on which to build relationships essential to effective teaching and the wellbeing, growth and development of students. These include relationships between teachers, parents and principal. The story of a school is one of mutual collaboration, cooperation and shared life. As a community of faith, the Catholic school has trust in God as its starting point, from which it strives to build trust at all levels. A school builds trust in God by beginning each day gathering with prayer. We state our trust in God and connect to the rich current of prayers, that form our Catholic narrative.

In Pope Francis’ call to trust in God he continued this with a call to ‘dare to dream’. The second depends on, and grows from, the first. God continually calls each of us to be a better person and to embrace a life grounded in love. God wants us to dream of enhancing our school this year by embracing a new awareness of our rule
and in creating an environment of love. God asks us to co-create a better world wherein all are included, freedom championed and peace is actively fostered.

**SACRAMENTAL DATES FOR 2014**

Advanced notice is given for the proposed Sacramental dates for 2014:

**Reconciliation:**
Thursday 21st August and Thursday 28th August 2014

**First Eucharist:**
Saturday 14th June at 6:00pm  
Sunday 15th June at 11:00am  
Saturday 21st June at 6:00pm  
Sunday 22nd June at 9:30am and 11:00am

**Confirmation:**
Saturday 21st June at 6:00pm  
Sunday 12th October at 11:00am  
Friday 17th October at 5:30pm and 7:30pm

Sacramental Enrolment Evening in March date to be confirmed

All Sacraments to be celebrated at St Mary’s Basilica.

**LET’S CELEBRATE**

On Sunday 23rd February the St Mary’s Parish community will gather for the 11:00am Mass to Celebrate Fr Dillon’s AM award. As this Mass is also the Commissioning Mass for all staff members from the four Parish Schools, St Robert’s Families are invited to join in this duel celebration. Given that the building project is impacting on our space, it is not possible to celebrate our Beginning of the School Year Mass on site as we have done in previous years. Following the Mass there will be a BYO Barbeque/Picnic in the grounds of the Parish Office Centre, tea and coffee provided. Everyone is welcome to come to the Mass, the barbeque/picnic or both.

**FISH ‘N’ CHIP NIGHT**

Next Thursday, 13th February, our now famous Fish ‘N’ Chip Night will take place on our school oval starting at around 5pm and finishing around 7pm. Despite the title please feel free to bring any type of food you like. This is a great way to start the year and a chance to catch up and meet other families in a fun and relaxed way. Hope to see you all there on Thursday.

**WHOLE SCHOOL ASSEMBLY**

Our first whole school assembly for 2014 will be held on Monday 10th February at 3:00pm. Our Grade Six students will be presented with their Senior Sixes caps and will take their Leadership Pledge at this assembly.

**LOURDES FEAST DAY CELEBRATION**

Students in Lourdes House will celebrate the Lourdes Feast Day together on Friday 14th February with extra playtime and a fruit platter morning tea. Lourdes members may wear something red with their uniform on this day.

**SYMPATHY**

We extend our sincere sympathy to  
The Gstalter family on the sad passing of Mrs Judy Gstalter mother of Mark  
and Grandmother of Olivia (Gr 3JS) and Hailey (Gr 1MC).  
Eternal rest grant unto her O Lord  
And may perpetual light shine upon her  
May she rest in peace. Amen

**GATE FOBS**

Families are reminded that all gate fobs issued prior to 2014 will need to be updated on the ‘hot spot’ just outside the front door. This is necessary as we have now set up the 2014 calendar.
AUSTRALIAN CATHOLIC MAGAZINE
The Summer Edition of Australian Catholic Magazine was distributed today. This issue features articles on Pope Francis’ friendly church and how he has changed the way Catholics engage in evangelisation. Hope you find time in your busy day to have a read!

E.M.A.(EDUCATIONAL MAINTENANCE ALLOWANCE)

The Education Maintenance Allowance provides assistance to low-income families by helping with the costs associated with the education of their children. EMA applications are made by parents/guardians and submitted to schools. Schools have the responsibility to enter all EMA applications by the application close date onto the EMA Web System.

Who is eligible for the EMA?
The EMA provides financial assistance to families on a low income to help with the cost of essential educational items such as textbooks, stationery, uniforms and excursions. EMA is a means-tested payment - parents must hold a Centrelink/Veterans Affairs concession card to be eligible.

In 2014, the EMA amount is $200 for parents of eligible Prep students, $150 for parents of all other eligible primary school students, $300 for parents of eligible Year 7 students and $250 for parents of all other eligible secondary school students up to the age of 16. Children turning 16 years during the year, are paid on a pro rata basis until their birth month. An EMA application form must be completed by eligible parents/guardians and submitted annually to schools. Schools have the responsibility to enter all EMA applications by the application close date onto EMA Web System (secure site).

How is EMA paid
On the EMA parent application form, parents may choose from the following payment methods:

- paid by direct deposit (Electronic Funds Transfer) into the parent’s bank account; or
- paid to the school to be held as credit which the parent can use towards education expenses; or
- paid by cheque which will be posted to the school for collection.

Who can parents contact for more information about EMA?
Parents should contact their child’s school for information about their EMA payments. Information for parents is also available: Education Maintenance Allowance

EMA Website For Parents For information directed at parents/guardians about the Education Maintenance Allowance, see: Education Maintenance Allowance

Instalment One Eligibility day – 28 January 2014 and Parent applications close – 28 February 2014

Instalment Two Eligibility day – 14 July 2014 and Parent applications close – 1 August 2014

Application forms can be collected from the office.

LATE CLAIMS CANNOT BE ACCEPTED

ST ROBERT’S PARENTS AND FRIENDS
The St Robert’s Parents and Friends Association would like to invite all new and returning families to our first meeting for 2014. Come along and get involved in your school community.

Meeting: Tuesday 18th February 2014 @ 7:30pm in the staffroom.
STUDENT AWARDS
Congratulations to the following students who have received certificates this week for outstanding work.

Gr F CC Katie Carroll
Gr F CC Jimmy Reilly
Gr F JP Evelyn Downie
Gr F JP Cooper Kennedy
Gr 1MC John Bird
Gr 1MC Xavier Starling
Gr 1YE Jaziah Mason
Gr 1YE Summer Madden
Gr 2 KT George Leslie
Gr 2KT Jemima Fitzgerald
Gr 2LO Freddy Gill
Gr 2LO Chloe Bryant
Gr 3KH Lachlan Lamb
Gr 3KH Lucy Clatworthy
Gr 3JS Blake McMahon
Gr 3JS Ruby Pidgeon
Gr 4MA Abby D’Andria
Gr 4MA Brandon Rakas-Hoare
Gr 4MM Bonnie Leslie
Gr 4MM Osca Riccardi
Gr 5NF Indi Ryan
Gr 5NF Sebastian Buchanan
Gr 5SP James Afford
Gr 5SP Lachlan Trethowan
Gr 6DB Cameron Bily
Gr 6DB Giarna Barker
Gr 6PB Mia Doherty
Gr 6PB Tanner Bruhn

BIRTHDAYS
The St Robert’s School community wish to congratulate the following children on the celebration of their birthday this week and throughout January. Happy Birthday to:

2nd January Noah Bily
3rd January Jack Northey
4th January Thomas Ryan
7th January Matilda Pretty
8th January Henry Beggs
9th January Oscar Cosic
11th January Hamish Vautier
13th January Hilary Beggs

14th January Chelsea Osburn
15th January Seamus Ryan
16th January Jasmine Saric
19th January Remy Watson
20th January Chloe Cook
23rd January Jacob Palmer
28th January Charlie Borracci
29th January Dibdin Fitzgerald
1st February Mekah Morrissy
2nd February Adam Saric
1st February Clarissa Walker
2nd February Jack Kelly
23rd January Luke Pitman
28th January Oscar Smith
2nd February Samuel Gillespie
1st February Sullivan Johnson
2nd February Jayde Morrissey
3rd February Ethan North
4th February Jasper Hudson-Collins
6th February Sam Bowden
8th February Monteya Criscione
10th February Henri North
11th February Adam Mathews
15th January Samuel Washington
16th January Will Bourke
23rd January Jordan Thompsoon
29th January Finn Alsop
2nd February Addision Turley
2nd February Sid Sullivan
5th January Jaziah Mason
11th February Finn Alsop

Also a belated Birthday Wish to Millie Watson who celebrated her birthday on 26th December – hope you had a great day Millie!

LEARNING AN INSTRUMENT 2014
If any families are considering their child learning an instrument in 2014 please call me to discuss any details. Lessons are available in; Brass; Trumpet, Trombone, French Horn, Euphonium, Tuba – Woodwind; Alto, Tenor Sax, Flute, Clarinet – Strings; Violin, Guitar (electric, acoustic and base) – Percussion; Piano, Drums. Most instruments can be hired. Bob Stirling, PH: 5243 1040.

ST JOSEPH’S FOOTBALL & NETBALL CLUB
NETBALL
St Joseph’s Football & Netball Club welcomes junior players to our netball trials being held:

On: Sunday 9th and 16th February 2014
At:     Geelong College Prep School, Aberdeen Street  
Times:  9am Under 13’s, 10am Under 15’s and 11am Under 17’s  
Trials will only be held for these age groups, Under 11’s players will be contacted at a later date.

NetSetGo  
We will also be running a NetSetGo program for 5-7 year olds. Details and dates to be confirmed.  
Please email your interest for Trials for NetSetGo to stjoeysjuniornetball@gmail.com or contact Fiona Threlfall on 0417 485 457.

FOOTBALL  
St Joseph’s Family Registration day is to be held at the St Joseph’s club rooms on Sunday 23rd February between 10am and 2pm.  
New and existing players are welcome with REGISTRATION FORMS AVAILABLE ONLINE AT OUR WEBSITE OR ON THE DAY. Team gear will also be available to order. Payment can be made via Credit Card, Eftpos and Cheque.

Auskick Enquires also welcome register online and nominate your Centre Locator ‘3218’ and select St Joseph’s – sessions are Friday nights family and friends welcome. For further information contact Ann-Marie 0413 906 399 after 4pm.

NEWTOWN & CHILWELL FOOTBALL NETBALL CLUB  
Junior Information Season 2014  
Registration Day – Sunday 6th February 9:30am to 1pm  
Under 14-16; training commences Tuesday 4th February  
Under 9-12; Training commences Thursday 20th February  
AUSKICK REGISTRATION  
AUSKICK  
Season begins Sunday 27th April @ 8:45am

YOUTH GIRLS – TBA  
Heather Harris Under 14-16 0438 393 599  
Gillian Thornton Under 9-12 0400 676 466  
Greg Wood Auskick 0412 026 477

DATES TO REMEMBER

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<th>FEBRUARY</th>
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<tr>
<td>Mon 10th</td>
<td>Whole School Assembly, 3pm, Gr 6 Pledges and Cap presentations</td>
<td>Introduction to Sports Program presentation, Grs F – 4 on school oval at 11:50am</td>
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<td>Thur 13th</td>
<td>Fish and Chip Night 5pm – 7pm</td>
<td>Lourdes Feast Day Celebrations</td>
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<td>Fri 14th</td>
<td>St Robert’s Cross Country, Grades 4 to 6, Eastern Gardens</td>
<td>St Mary’s 11:00am</td>
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<td>Fri 21st</td>
<td>Parish Schools Staff Mass,</td>
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<td>Sun 23rd</td>
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<td>Mon 24th</td>
<td>Whole School Assembly, 3pm</td>
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<td>Fri 28th</td>
<td>Bellarine Division Swimming</td>
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<td>Tues 4th</td>
<td>Shrove Tuesday</td>
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<td>Wed 5th</td>
<td>Ash Wednesday</td>
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<td>Thur 6th</td>
<td>Foundation and Staff Photos</td>
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<td>Fri 7th</td>
<td>St Robert’s Athletics, Grades 4 to 6, Landy Field</td>
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<td>Mon 10th</td>
<td>Labour Day – Public Holiday</td>
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<td>Mon 17th</td>
<td>Whole School Assembly, 3pm</td>
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<td>Fri 21st</td>
<td>GDCSSA District Cross Country</td>
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<td>Tue 25th</td>
<td>Region Swimming</td>
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<td>Wed 26th</td>
<td>School Photos Gr 1 to 6</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fri 28th</td>
<td>Division Tennis</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mon 31st</td>
<td>Whole School Assembly, 3pm</td>
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<th>APRIL</th>
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<td>Wed 2nd</td>
<td>Term 1 concludes 3:30pm</td>
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<td>Tue 22nd</td>
<td>Term 2 commences</td>
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<td>Fri 25th</td>
<td>Anzac Day Public Holiday</td>
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<td>Mon 28th</td>
<td>Whole School Assembly, 3pm</td>
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<td>Tue 29th</td>
<td>State Swimming</td>
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School Advisory Board Committee Members  
Fr Kevin Dillon frkd@stmarysgeelong.com.au  
Website: www.srnewtown.catholic.edu.au  
Mark Soldani marks@srnewtown.catholic.edu.au  
Claire Lappin clappin@optusnet.com.au bluffcottage@live.com  
Gabrielle Sinclair sinclair.five@bigpond.com Ian Courtney Ian.Courtney@originenergy.com.au  
Sonia Mackay mackays@7mail.com Anita Thomas pryan40@bigpond.com.au  
Louise Clatworthy the.clat@bigpond.com Chilwell Outside School Hours Child Care Program
2014 St Robert’s School Staff

LEADERSHIP TEAM
Mr. Mark Soldani   Principal
Mrs. Annice Lappin   Deputy Principal
Religious Education Co-ordinator
Learning & Teaching Co-ordinator
Ms. Julie Prendergast   Student Wellbeing Co-ordinator
Ms. Marie Monea   Learning & Teaching Co-ordinator

OTHER LEADERS
Mrs Mandy Amezdroz   Numeracy Co-ordinator
Mrs Deborah Boland   Literacy Co-ordinator
Mr Paul Broekman   Sport Co-ordinator

CLASSROOM TEACHERS
Ms. Julie Prendergast (F.JP)
Ms. Carolyn Colman (F.CC)
Ms. Claire Cunningham (1MC)
Ms. Yvonne Erwin (1YE)
Mrs. Krissy Thompson (2KT)
Mr. Lucas Oddo (2LO)
Mrs. Julie Snowdon (3JS)
Mrs. Kate Haas (3KH)
Mrs. Mandy Amezdroz (4MA)
Ms. Marie Monea (4MM)
Mrs Sandra Presa (5SP)
Miss Nikki Fiesley (5NF)
Mrs. Deborah Boland (6DB)
Mr Paul Broekman (6PB)
Mrs. Jenny Coverdale (F.JP – Thurs/Fri 11:45-3:30)
Mrs. Theresa Lewis (4MM – Fri 9:00-3:30)
Mrs. Claire Lappin (4MA - Fri 11:45-3:30)

SPECIALIST TEACHERS
Mrs. Pam Niewman   ICT
Mrs. Louise Kluver   Physical Education F-2
Mrs. Claire Lappin   Physical Education 3-6
Mrs. Maria Kristiansen   Library
Mrs. Theresa Lewis   Music
Mrs Santi Sherry   LOTE (Indoneisian)

LEARNING ASSISTANTS / INTEGRATION AIDES
Mrs. Dianne Nolan   Ms. Jo Downie
Mrs. Joan Saltalamacchia Ms. Katrina Fanning
Ms. Paulette Faulkner   Mrs. Phil Dodds
Mrs. Raquel van Arend   Mrs. Rhonda Sullivan
Mrs. Sally Soldani   Mrs. Tania Durante

OFFICE PERSONELL
Nola Schwidlewsiki
Robyn Gannon
Chilwell Outside School Hours Child Care Program

The program is available to all families attending either school, the program is based in the Multi Purpose room and within the school grounds for outdoor activities.

The Program operates daily and on curriculum days. Operating hours are: **7.30 am-8.45 am** and **3.15–6.00 pm**. Enrolment packages are available from the Coordinator. Every child is welcome to use the service with a one off registration fee of $10 per family. A $50.00 bond applies which is refundable when the family exits the program.

<table>
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<th>Our Fees for 2014 are:</th>
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<tr>
<td>Before School Care $10.00 per child</td>
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<td>After School Care $15.00 per child</td>
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<td>Non-cancellation fee $10.00 / $15.00 per child</td>
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<td>Late pick up fee $1.00 per/min late</td>
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**Fees.** To assist the OOSHC Team and to minimise administration we request that families are in credit on their accounts. A number of families have taken this option and find it saves their time as well.

The government provides fee relief for all families through the child care benefit scheme and details of how to apply are outlined in the enrolment package.

We offer a diverse and exciting program for the children that is both relaxing and socially stimulating. Examples of our program include Arts and Craft, board games, cooking, play station challenges, and outdoor games. Our program is advertised weekly in the newsletter.

The program has the flexibility to offer both permanent and casual bookings.

**Should you wish to make a booking please return the slip below to the program and collect an enrolment package.**

All enquiries can be answered by calling 0417 014 973

Outside School Hours Care Booking Sheet  *(to be returned to the OSHC program)*

Name: _______________________________ Grade: _____________

I am interested in enrolling my child/ren in the program on:

<table>
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## Chilwell P.S. Outside School Hours Care
### Term 1 – February 2014

To book or cancel care please call Olivia/Laune on 0417 014 973

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Activity</th>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday 5th Feb</td>
<td>Making Bracelets</td>
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<td>Thursday 6th Feb</td>
<td>Musical Games</td>
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<td>Friday 7th Feb</td>
<td>Movie &amp; Popcorn</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday 10th Feb</td>
<td>Guessing Competition</td>
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<td>Tuesday 11th Feb</td>
<td>Outdoor Games</td>
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EFTPOS facility is available – for payments over $10.00.
Form available at the office or from the OSHC.

### IMPORTANT!!!
The 2013 account should be fully paid otherwise placement of your child in 2014 will be suspended until the account is cleared. We encourage families to keep their account in credit.

Thank you – OOSHC Team.

Just a reminder to all those who have a permanent after school booking. If unable to attend please cancel before 2.30pm, to assist staff and avoid session fee. Thanks – OOSHC Staff.

### Payment by Credit Card (for amounts $10 & over)

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