Dear Families

I hope all our wonderful mums had a great day on Sunday and were given extra special treatment. I know for a fact that you will have received some very special presents beautifully packaged and presented in the most personal and heart felt way. I couldn’t speak highly enough of the band of parents who worked so hard behind the scenes for months leading up to our now famous Mother’s Day stall sourcing products and suppliers to ensure that the kids had a wide range of gifts to choose from at extraordinarily great prices. As sure as ‘God made Little Green Apples’ those specially designed bags filled with wonderful gifts would have most certainly made all our mums feel special - as you all should. A big, big thankyou to all the mums who turned up on Friday to help out with sales and again a particular vote of thanks to Corrine Summerhayes, Caryn Bourke, Andrea Waterhouse and Leesa Hyland who did the bulk of the work preparing the gifts and to Scott Wilkes who did a massive job sourcing and purchasing a wide range of great quality gifts.

In recent weeks I have been chatting with potential new families who are considering the enrolment of their children at St Robert’s. During these chats I make particular mention of the strong sense of community and partnership that exists between parents and the school. I am blown away just about every day by the sight of so many parents up here helping out in one way or another either in the classrooms or doing special and valued tasks. Just this morning there were a band of mums in the uniform shop doing a stocktake and moving boxes of clothing from one location to another, yesterday we had our school banking mums in their parlour counting out the money just like in Sing A Song Of Sixpence and no doubt we will have many parents heading to Landy Field on Friday to help out and support our children participating in the Geelong Catholic Schools Athletic Championships. It is a great place to be and I am so grateful for all your support. Together we really do make St Robert’s an even better place!

God bless. Have a great week,

Mark

CATHOLIC IDENTITY

Catholic Family Week – Stronger Families, Stronger Communities

Each year, tens of thousands of people and hundreds of organisations celebrate National Families Week - Australia's annual celebration of families. The aim of National Families Week 2014 - the 20th Anniversary of the International Year of the Family - is to celebrate the vital role that families play in Australian society. The 2014 theme is 'Stronger Families, Stronger Communities'.

This year's theme highlights the important role families play as the central building block of our communities and that community wellbeing is enhanced by family wellbeing. National Families Week is a time to celebrate with your family, make contact with your extended family and friends, and share in the enjoyment of family activities within the wider community. It is a time to celebrate the meaning of family and to make the most of family life. Let’s take the time to reflect on the critical role that families play in teaching, supporting and nurturing children especially as they grow, and in supporting community elders.

National Families Week coincides with the United Nations International Day of Families on 15th May. This day is observed by the United Nations to mark the importance that the international community places on families as the most fundamental units of society, as well as to show concern about their situation in many parts of the world.

We pray for all our family and for family life as the source of care and protection in our world.
REPORT WRITING DAY – STUDENT FREE
Next Monday 19th May is a Report Writing Day for our teachers and is a student free day.

ENHANCING CATHOLIC SCHOOL IDENTITY PROJECT – PARENT SURVEY
This year, along with many other Catholic schools in the Archdiocese of Melbourne, St Robert’s will be involved in the Enhancing Catholic School Identity Project. A key aspect of this project is the completion of surveys by staff, parents and students. The survey results have been designed to assist the school in its effort to enhance its Catholic identity.

Sixty Five parents have been randomly selected to complete the online surveys. In order to fulfill our sample size, it is very important that these surveys are completed.

Survey recipients are asked to read the information provided and complete the online surveys by Friday 20th June. Naturally, if there is a problem with your involvement please give us a call and another parent will be selected to complete the surveys. All answers will go ANONYMOUSLY into a database with those of all staff, other parents and students who complete the survey and all responses will remain ENTIRELY CONFIDENTIAL.

TERM 2 SCHOOL FEE ACCOUNTS
Term 2 School Fee Accounts will be sent home on Monday. The amount due for payment for Term 2 by 20th June is $485. Families with children participating in the Sacramental Program, grade 3, 4 and 6, will also have a Sacramental Levy of $15 per child. The Camp co-contribution of $100 for grade 6 families is also on this account. If there are any queries, or you have not received your account please contact the office.

For your convenience we have several payment options; cash, cheque, EFPOS or Internet banking. For families wishing to use the Internet, details are:

- St Robert’s General Account
- National Bank, Melbourne
- BSB Number: 083 347
- Account Number: 647 110 294

Please remember to include your family code and/or surname.

ONLINE BOOKINGS FOR CONFIRMATION DATES
Families are reminded that all Sacramental celebrations will be booked online using the ‘school interviews’ website. The number of spaces allocated to each school for each sacramental celebration will be available until that Mass is full. Parents of children enrolled to celebrate the Sacrament of Confirmation are asked to log on to the website www.schoolinterviews.com.au, Monday 12th May from 8:30am, the Confirmation Event Code is BK3KT. St Robert’s school has a maximum of 16 spaces available on the Sunday Mass and 21 places at each of the two Friday evening Masses. Online bookings will close at 3:30pm this Friday 16th May.

2015 ENROLMENTS CLOSING SOON
Applications for enrolments at St Robert’s for 2015 are now Parish based and must close on Friday 23rd May. It is essential that we have all sibling enrolment forms, together with required certificates, in by this date so as we are able to know how many positions we can offer new families for 2015. First round Offers will be posted to new families on Friday 30th May. Likewise if your child will not be returning to St Robert’s in 2015 (except 2014 Graduates) advanced notice would be helpful with our planning.

PARENTS AND FRIENDS ASSOCIATION – NEXT MEETING
The next meeting of the Parents and Friends Association will be held next Tuesday 20th May. All Welcome.
STUDENT AWARDS
Congratulations to the following students who have received certificates this week for outstanding work.

Gr F CC  Tom Hyland
Gr F CC  Harrison Lamb
Gr F JP  Ollie Wilson
Gr F JP  Dante Conte
Gr 1MC  Mikayla Whelan
Gr 1MC  Tara Trethowan
Gr 1YE  Sam Gillespie
Gr 1YE  Maia Kanellos
Gr 2 KT  Liana Skoko
Gr 2KT  Eliza Hannagan
Gr 2LO  Freddy Gill
Gr 2LO  Chloe Bryant
Gr 3KH  Will Tarrant
Gr 3KH  Lachlan Lamb
Gr 3JS  Olivia Gstalter
Gr 3JS  Harry Peacock
Gr 4MA  Aydan Masljaik
Gr 4MA  Lucinda Stephens
Gr 4MM  Archie Lazzaro
Gr 4MM  Noah Bily
Gr 5NF  Xavier Tresidder
Gr 5NF  Scarlett Sinclair
Gr 5SP  Meg Courtney
Gr 5SP  Tom Brooks
Gr 6DB  India Griffiths
Gr 6DB  Isabella van den Berg
Gr 6 PB  Ben Huby
Gr 6 PB  Matilda North
Office  Scarlett Hanneysee

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

14th May  Abby D’Andria
15th May  Bobby Kavanagh
          Emily Perrett
          Xavier Tresidder
16th May  Scarlett Cox
          Toby Osburn
17th May  Daniel Lazzaro
18th May  Liana Skoko
19th May  Phoebe Markovic
          Olivia Bryant
          Bridie Larkins
20th May  Tara Trethowan

ENTERTAINMENT BOOK 2014-2015
Copies of the 2014-2015 edition of the Entertainment Book were sent home to each family in early April and were due for return or payment by 30th April. If you have not purchased or returned your copy as yet please do so as soon as possible so we can finalize this fundraiser.

Chess Coaching
All skill levels welcome!

Where: School Chapel
When: Friday lunchtimes
2nd May – 20th June 2014
Cost: $85 (discount $75 for 2nd sibling)
Benefits: Strategic thinking, improved self esteem, attention span in class, lateral thinking, teamwork, analytical skills.

To enrol your child please make payment (per child) of $85 by Friday 16th May. Cheques made payable to “Hooton Consulting Pty Ltd”

Please note reduced fee for remaining on Term 2 - now $50

For more info contact Phil on 0421 901 530

Forward this section in an envelope marked “Chess Coaching” with your payment to your school office.

Child’s Full Name: ____________________________
Grade: _______ Phone: ________________________
School: ______________________________________
Email: ______________________________________

CHEQUES: made payable to “Hooton Consulting Pty Ltd”

EFT: Acc Name: Hooton Consulting Pty Ltd Bank: CBA bsb: 063201
      Acc #: 1004 9289 (please put school initials & child’s name on transaction)

$50 cash: ☐ cheque: ☐ eft: ☐
# Dates to Remember

**MAY**
- **Tues 13th, Wed 14th, Thur 15th**: NAPLAN
- **Fri 16th**: GDCSSA Athletics Championships, (Qualifying students only)
- **Mon 19th**: Report Writing Day – Student free day
- **Tues 20th**: P&F Meeting 7:30pm
- **Fri 23rd**: GDCSSA Mercy 5/6 boys & girls Basketball Round Robin
- **Mon 26th**: Whole School Assembly, 3:00pm Eucharist Family Night, 7:00pm–8:00pm (Parent/s and Sacramental Candidates)
- **Tues 27th**: Bellarine Division Cross Country, Eastern Gardens, (Qualifying students only)
- **Thur 29th**: Excursion to Barwon Grange Gr 1MC
- **Fri 30th**: GDCSSA Lightning Premiership Excursion to Barwon Grange Gr 1YE

**JUNE**
- **Mon 2nd**: State Boys/Girls Tennis Championships, (Qualifying students only)
- **Fri 6th**: St Robert’s Feast Day Celebrations
- **Mon 9th**: Queen’s Birthday Public Holiday
- **Thur 12th**: Region Primary Cross Country, (Qualifying students only)
- **Sat 14th**: First Eucharist, 6:00pm
- **Sun 15th**: First Eucharist 11:00am
- **Mon 16th**: Junior Swimming commences
- **Tues 17th**: Bellarine Division Football Lightning Premiership
- **Thur 19th**: Bellarine Division Netball Lightning Premiership
- **Fri 20th**: Mid-year Progress Reports distributed
- **Sat 21st**: First Eucharist, 6:00pm
- **Sun 22nd**: First Eucharist, 9:30am & 11:00am
- **Mon 23rd**: Whole School Assembly, 3:00pm
- **Tues 24th**: Parent/Teacher Interviews
- **Wed 25th**: Parent/Teacher Interviews Year 4 Eucharist Celebration Lunch

**JULY**
- **Fri 1st**: Grade 6 Interschool Sports
- **Sat 2nd**: St Mary’s Parish Dinner
- **Mon 4th**: Whole School Assembly, 3:00pm
- **Fri 8th**: Grade 6 Interschool Sports
- **Thur 14th**: Reconciliation Family Activity Night 7pm-8pm
- **Fri 15th**: Grade 6 Interschool Sports
- **Mon 18th**: Whole School Assembly, 3:00pm
- **Thur 21st**: First Reconciliation, 5:00pm and 7:00pm
- **Fri 22nd**: Grade 6 Interschool Sports

**AUGUST**
- **Fri 1st**: Grade 6 Interschool Sports
- **Sat 2nd**: Whole School Assembly
- **Mon 4th**: Grade 6 Interschool Sports
- **Fri 8th**: Grade 6 Interschool Sports
- **Thur 14th**: Reconciliation Family Activity Night 7pm-8pm
- **Fri 15th**: Grade 6 Interschool Sports
- **Mon 18th**: Whole School Assembly, 3:00pm
- **Thur 21st**: First Reconciliation, 5:00pm and 7:00pm
- **Fri 22nd**: Grade 6 Interschool Sports

**SEPTEMBER**
- **Wed 3rd**: Grade 2 Prayers in Pyjamas, 6:45pm
- **Fri 5th**: Grade 6 Interschool Sports
- **Tues 9th**: Confirmation Family Night, 7:00pm-8:00pm
- **Fri 12th**: Grade 6 Interschool sports
- **Mon 15th**: Bellarine Division Athletics, Land Field (Qualifying students only)
- **Wed 17th**: School concert at The Arena
- **Fri 19th**: End of Term 3

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**Enrolments at St Joseph’s College 2015**
A reminder to all families that Year 7 Enrolments for 2015 at St Joseph’s College close on Friday 23 May 2014. **Julie Cole Registrar**

**St Joseph's College Geelong**
135 Aphrasia Street, Newtown Vic 3220
Direct: 03 5226 8177 - Office: 03 5226 8100

[www.sjc.vic.edu.au](http://www.sjc.vic.edu.au) [compassion innovation integrity](http://www.sjc.vic.edu.au)

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**School Advisory Board Committee Members**
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