Dear Families

It seems like only a couple of weeks ago that I put pen to paper to welcome everyone to a new school year, yet here it is the last newsletter for first term. It has been a fantastic term and many exciting things have taken place thanks to the wonderful spirit of cooperation that exists between staff, students and parents. We certainly have lived up to this year’s motto, “Together We Can Make Our School Even Better in 2014”.

It has been such a pleasure being around the place this term despite the obvious distractions of the building program. The children seem happy, the teachers have developed good relationships with the children and this year the degree of parent participation at this early point in the year has been nothing short of fantastic. We’ve had parents in classrooms, parents at sporting events, parents wrapping Easter prizes, parents preparing Mother’s Day gifts, parents in the kitchen baking, parents doing the children’s banking, parents operating the Uniform Shop, parents organizing Book Club and parents doing heaps of “behind the scenes” things that are so vitally important to the success of our school. Let me take this opportunity to acknowledge the time and effort you all give to the school and thank you on behalf of all our teachers and children. I hope you can find the time to be involved once again next term. You are all most welcome. To those who haven’t been able to join us for one reason or another, it’s never too late. Please feel free to come and get involved with anything you feel confident doing.

Last week I was able to praise the efforts of our cross country runners and this week I get another chance to acknowledge the performances of the children who represented St Robert’s at the recently held Regional Swimming Championships at Kardinia Park. Molly Green, Maya Laffan, Bella Gard, Isabel Higgins, Chloe Cook and Dibden Fitzgerald were all outstanding both in and out of the pool. The Girl’s Medley relay team won a bronze medal and Molly Green won gold in both her butterfly and freestyle events. Molly is now going on to compete in the State championships at the Melbourne Aquatic Center to represent the Western Region and St Robert’s and we are sure, no matter what the result, she will do St Robert’s proud. Congratulations to all members of our Swimming team. Well done!

Have a great holiday and Easter Season.

God bless,

Mark

**CATHOLIC IDENTITY**

**The Fourth Sunday of Lent - “Let there be light.”**

In last Sunday’s Gospel, Jesus, the Light of the World, brings light to a man born blind. If you are prepared to accept it, you are the man born blind and it was our baptism and the faith it gave us, that has rendered us able to see, and by stages, to come more fully into the light.

Light is where it all begins. This is how creation starts, how the universe is made, how the great and unending work of God’s imagination takes off. And in this miracle, Jesus in his own way is repeating his father’s words: let there be light. Let creation begin. Let me help you see what you couldn’t. He said that to the blind man two thousand years ago. He says it to each of us today. *Let there be light.* And this Gospel cries out: Let there be Christ, the light of the world. In him, we are given another Genesis. We began Lent by being told to rend our hearts. Perhaps we need to do that to let in the light. Have we been selfish? Thoughtless? Unforgiving? Have we been too comfortable living in the shadows? Maybe we have been reluctant to love, closing off our hearts. Lent tells us: rend them. Tear them open. Let in the light.
Holy Week and Easter Schedule

Palm Sunday, 13th April:
Mass at usual Sunday times

Holy Thursday, 17th April at 7:30pm:
Solemn Mass of the Lord’s Supper, with adoration at the Altar of Repose until Midnight (additional Mass at 4:00pm for those who cannot attend the Evening Mass)

Good Friday, 18th April at 10:45am:
Ecumenical Way of the Cross (begins at St Mary’s) and moves to rear of Market Square in Little Malop Street, to conclude around 12 noon

Good Friday, 18th April at 3:00pm:
Solemn Friday Ceremonies with Holy Communion

Holy Saturday, 19th April at 7:00pm:
Easter Vigil

Easter Sunday, 20th April:
6:00am Dawn Mass of the Resurrection
Mass also at St Mary’s at 7:30am, 9:30am, 11:00am, 12:15pm (Polish), 5:30pm
Mass at St Margaret’s at 9:45am

St Robert’s AUSKICK
St Roberts AUSKICK will be kicking off again in 2014, commencing Saturday 3rd May. This year we will run from 9-10am. The season will run over 14 weeks, not including the school holidays. Parents can register their children online at www.aflauskick.com.au. For any enquiries, please ring Bruce Lindsay on 0439 035 277.

St Robert’s Primary School

is pleased to announce the fundraiser!

We are excited to be offering the opportunity to purchase 2014|2015 Geelong Entertainment™ Memberships to help us raise much needed funds.

This year you have a choice – to purchase the popular Entertainment™ Books or the brand new Entertainment™ Digital Membership, which puts the value of the Entertainment™ Book into your iPhone or Android smartphone!

The brand new 2014|2015 Entertainment Memberships feature many of the area’s best restaurants, cafés, hotel accommodation, attractions, and activities, and are packed with hundreds of up to 50% off and 2-for-1 offers, valued at over $20,000 that you can enjoy until June 2015!

The best part is that for only $55 you’ll be helping us, with $11 from every Membership sold contributing to our fundraising. Please let everyone in your network know we are fundraising, as the more we sell, the more funds we raise!

A copy of the Entertainment™ Book will be sent home with your child on 23rd of April

To purchase securely online OR to order your Entertainment™ Digital Membership visit: https://www.entertainmentbook.com.au/orderbooks/1131r82

If you are interested in purchasing a Digital Membership this year please reply to this email as we wont send home the printed Book but the instructions on how you can download your Digital Membership. If however you do not wish to purchase a Book or a Digital Membership please reply to this email.

All replies to be received by 4th April
ST JOSEPH’S FOOTBALL & NETBALL CLUB – NetSetGo Program
Come and join our NetSetGo Program being run at St Joseph's Football & Netball Club, Drew Reserve, Herne Hill. The program is for children aged between 5 and 7 and incorporates skill activities and minor games.

WHEN: Fridays from 6th June to 8th August
TIME: 5.00pm to 6.00pm
COST: $45 which includes a participant pack

We will hold a registration day closer to the program commencing. To register your interest or for more information, please contact Kirsten Hood on 0410 469 887, or email stjoeysjuniornetball@gmail.com.

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

Gr F CC  William Harry
Gr F CC  Nellie Watts
Gr F JP  Jayde Morrissy
Gr F JP  Archie King
Gr 1MC  Adam Saric
Gr 1MC  Hamish Harendarz
Gr 1YE  Maggie Clatworthy
Gr 1YE  Ben Costa
Gr 2 KT  Joshua Faoro
Gr 2KT  Will Maskell
Gr 2LO  Xavier Paatsch
Gr 2LO  Vittoria Conte
Gr 3KH  Ava Hyland
Gr 3KH  Samuel McWilliam
Gr 3JS  Ethan North
Gr 3JS  Livi Favre
Gr 4MA  Jessica Tarrant
Gr 4MA  Amanda Perrett
Gr 4MM  Laura Sanigorski
Gr 4MM  Sully Johnson
Gr 5NF  Jack Northey
Gr 5NF  Claudia Anglin
Gr 5SP  Tom Brooks
Gr 5SP  Milla Lappin
Gr 6DB  Jesse Morrissy
Gr 6DB  Eric O’Malley
Gr 6PB  Marisa Spanninga
Gr 6PB  Claire McKenna
Office  Joshua Baum
Issy Auld

4th April  Thomas Afford
Edward Hart
Eleanor Maskell
6th April  Finn Jaques
8th April   Benjamin Groves
9th April   Lachlan Trehowan
11th April  Christopher Johnson
12th April  Jemima Fitzgerald
           Benjamin Phillips
12th April  Sasha van Slageren
14th April  Isaac Dunell
           Jessica Kelly
           Isabella Saric
15th April  Lachlan Appleford
17th April  Michael Bird
           Hamish Harendarz
           Flynn Richards
18th April  Lucy Clatworthy
19th April  Lucy Eldridge
21st April  Madeleine Dover

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

2nd April  Joseph Anticev
           Cadhla Cunningham
HOLIDAY MOVIES

ST MARY’S PLAZA THEATRE
(Parish Centre, ( Little Myers Street)

Tuesday 8th April:
“TURBO” 10:30am & 2:00pm

Thursday 10th April:
“CLOUDY WITH A CHANCE OF MEATBALLS” 10:30am & 2:00pm

Tuesday 15th April:
“PLANES” 10:30 & 2:00

Suggested donation of $3 per head would be appreciated for both children and adults

DATES TO REMEMBER

APRIL
Tue 22nd Term 2 commences
Fri 25th Anzac Day Public Holiday
Mon 28th Whole School Assembly, 3pm
Tue 29th State Swimming, (Qualifying students only)
Parent & Friends Meeting

May
Fri 2nd Hot Chocolate Fundraising Day
Wed 7th Prayers in Pyjamas, Gr 2 6:45pm
Mon 12th Whole School Assembly, 3pm
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, 3pm
Eucharist Family Night, 7:00pm–8:00pm (Parent/s and Sacramental Candidates) – please note change of date

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, 3pm
Tues 24th Parent/Teacher Interviews
Wed 25th Parent/Teacher Interviews
Year 4 Eucharist Celebration Lunch
Fri 27th Junior Swimming concludes
End of Term 2, 2:30pm

July
Mon 13th Term 3 commences
Thur 17th State Cross Country Championships
Mon 21st Whole School Assembly
Wed 23rd Grade 5 Camp – Kangarooobie
To Fri 25th

School Advisory Board Committee Members
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