Dear Families

It was great to see a good turn out of parents at last night’s Parents and Friends meeting so much so that we had to move the meeting into Mr B’s classroom to accommodate everybody. There was a lot of discussion on fund-raising and social events and some practical school management conversation addressing issues relevant to the varying needs of our families and students. All in all it was a really good meeting with great representation of parents from across the school. The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday 23rd April which is in the second week of term, maybe if you couldn’t make it to last night’s meeting you might make it to the next. “The More the Merrier!”

At last night’s meeting I spoke briefly on the great start to the year. Our children are doing some great work and it would be well worth the effort to pop into the school to have a look at some of the wonderful displays that are up in classrooms and outside rooms. I also paid tribute to the great sporting achievements of our students over the course of the term. The efforts of all the children at the school Cross Country championships were outstanding as they were at the school Athletic trials. Yesterday a number of our children competed at the regional swimming championships. All of them were great representatives of our school with all making finals, some just missing out on a medal with Drew and Molly Green picking up a bronze medal in their Freestyle Finals. Molly and Drew also came 6th and 8th respectively in their Freestyle Finals. Congratulations also to Harry Roache, Isobel Higgins and Jordan Thompson who came sixth, eighth and fourth respectively in their age group Freestyle finals. Our Freestyle team comprising of Oliver Stephens, Archie Sinnott, Paddy Harris and Harry Roache came 6th in the final. Our girls, Jemma Anglin, Grace Blood, Jessica Costa and Molly Green finished 6th in Open Medley. Well done team!

Speaking of success stories it is with great pride that I share with the school community the outstanding achievements of Sophie Alexander from Gr6RM. Sophie and her brother Thomas, a former St Robert’s student, have been invited to Sail at the World Cadet Sailing Championships Regatta in the Promotional series in Belgium in July/August. Thomas and Sophie were members of the Australian Sailing team which competed in Hobart at the Southern World Championships in Hobart in January 2012 and recently placed 2nd at the Victorian State Titles. Sophie also represented St Robert’s in the Equestrian Interschool Dressage in which she placed 8th overall in the Primary competition held at Geelong Grammar. She has more competitions throughout the year and I am sure she will continue to be a great ambassador for our school. Well done Sophie!

God Bless, and have a great week  Mark

SYMPATHY
We extend our sincere sympathy to
The Trethowan family on the sad passing of
John van den Hoek father of Leanne and Grandfather of Lachlan (Gr4MA), Olivia (Gr 2KT) and Tara (F CC).
Eternal rest grant unto him O Lord
May perpetual light shine upon him
May he rest in peace.  Amen

CATHOLIC IDENTITY

Easter Season
– Holy Week

HOLY WEEK

Holy Week is the final week in our journey through Lent. Holy Week is especially significant and sacred as it recalls the last week of Jesus; life in preparation for his death and the immensity of his resurrection.

Holy Week begins with Palm Sunday and ends with Holy Saturday, the day before Easter Sunday. Holy Week includes Holy Thursday (also known as Maundy Thursday) and Good Friday, which, together with Holy Saturday, are known as the Triduum.

Holy Week and all the other events of the Church’s year, lead up to Easter, the most significant celebration in the liturgical year and the heart of Catholic life. It is at Easter that we remember and rejoice in the resurrection of Jesus that can be a turning point for the world and in the life of each believer.
During Holy Week, we commemorate the Passion of Christ, Who died on Good Friday in reparation for the sins of mankind, and rose on Easter Sunday to give new life to all who believe. Thus, while Holy Week is solemn and sorrowful, it also anticipates the joy of Easter through the recognition of God's goodness in sending His Son to die for our salvation.

**HOLY WEEK AND EASTER AT ST MARY’S BASILICA**

**Palm Sunday 24th March**
Mass at usual Sunday times

**7.30pm Tenebrae**: a service of psalms & motets from the Office of Maundy Thursday, Good Friday & Holy Saturday.

**Tuesday 26th March 7.30pm**
Second Rite of Reconciliation. 5 or 6 priests will be attending. Please use the “First Rite” confessions (detailed below) ONLY if it is IMPOSSIBLE for you to attend on Tuesday night. The extremely heavy demands on the priests this week require co-operation and common sense from parishioners.

**Holy Thursday 28th March 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 29th March at 10.45am**
Ecumenical Way of the Cross (begins at St. Mary’s) and moves to rear of Market Square in Little Malop St., to conclude around 12 noon.

**Good Friday 29th March at 3.00pm**
Solemn Good Friday Ceremonies with Holy Communion

**Holy Saturday 30th March at 7.00pm**
Easter Vigil.

**Easter Sunday 31st March at 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.**


**Please use the First Rite in Holy Week ONLY if it is IMPOSSIBLE for you to attend the Second Rite on Tuesday March 26 at 7.30pm.**

**AUSTRALIAN CATHOLICS MAGAZINE**

The Easter edition of Australian Catholics Magazine has been sent home. This edition explores how God speaks to us through art, both in its creation and in its consumption. Art can speak to those who rarely visited parts of ourselves, touching ideas and experiences we may not even have words for. Art can be seen to be sacramental – the outward and visible sign of inward grace. Also sent home recently is a publication from the Catholic Education Office filled with articles, facts and figure on Catholic Education. Hope you can find some time in your busy day to explore these articles and ideas.

**PROJECT COMPASSION**

**CRAZY HAIR DAY**

Next Monday, 25th March the Grade 6 Team will hold a ‘Crazy Hair Day’ to raise money for their Project Compassion Campaign. Students are invited to come to school in with their Crazy Hair style and sports uniform may be worn on this day. Please bring a gold coin donation to help ‘Open Doors Into The Future’.

**SYMPATHY**

We extend our sincere sympathy to The Antonac family on the sad passing of Katrina Antonac mother of Steven and Grandmother of Madison (Gr 5DB).

Eternal rest grant unto her O Lord
And may perpetual light shine upon her
May she rest in peace. Amen

**BIRTHDAYS**

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

- 21st March: Petra Faoro
- 22nd March: Ewan Guinane
- 23rd March: Abbey Stephens
- 24th March: Juliette Summerhayes
- 25th March: Nicholas Dowling
- 24th March: Casey Morrissy
- 25th March: Lucinda Sinclair
- 31st March: India Griffins
- 25th March: Charlie Lazzaro
- 31st March: Rebecca Maschmedt
STUDENT AWARDS

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

Gr F CC  Luke Pitman
Gr F CC  Maggie Clatworthy
Gr F JP  Gregor McLeod
Gr F JP  Samuel Gillespie
Gr F JP  Cate Donovan
Gr 1MC  Jack Kelly
Gr 1MC  Zoe Kennedy
Gr 1YE  Cadhla Cunningham
Gr 1YE  Louis Layton
Gr 2LO  William Tarrant
Gr 2LO  Olivia Gstalter
Gr 2KT  Ben Phillips
Gr 3KH  Seamus Ryan
Gr 3KH  Mimoso Gillespie
Gr 3JS  Abby Costa
Gr 3JS  Jessica Kelly
Gr 4MA  Sophie Campbell
Gr 4MA  Byron Cosic
Gr 4MM  Will Bourke
Gr 4MM  Belle Goodall-Wilson
Gr 5PB  Kasey Pritchard
Gr 5PB  Eva Hay
Gr 5DB  Eric O'Malley
Gr 5DB  Sasha van Slageren
Gr 6RM  Isabella Spetch
Gr 6RM  Jordan Muhor
Gr 6SP  Alice Sheehan
Gr 6SP  Thomas Bucki-Smith

TERM 1 SCHOOL FEE ACCOUNTS

Families are reminded that all Term 1 School Fee Accounts are due for payment by 25th March 2013.

Payment can be made by cash, cheque EFTPOS or internet banking (banking details below).

St Robert’s General Account,
National Bank, Melbourne
BSB Number: 083 347-Account Number: 647 110 294
(please remember to enter your family code/name.)

CUPPA & CATCH UP

FOUNDATION PARENTS

Foundation Parents are invited to a cuppa and catch up on Monday 25th March at 9:00am in the Multi-Purpose/Chapel area.

GRADE 1 PARENTS

Grade 1 parents are invited to meet at Soft Cafe after school drop off (9am) on Tuesday 26th March for a cuppa and catch up. Fiona Tayler (Grade 1YE) and Jackie Caracella (Grade 1MC)

PARENTS AND FRIENDS ASSOCIATION

Thank you to the new parents who attended our meeting last night. It was great to see such a good turnout.

Thank you to all the families who have donated Easter eggs and purchased raffle tickets for our Easter Raffle. It’s not too late to donate eggs and tickets can be returned up until Monday.

It was decided at the committee meeting that the raffle would be a joint fundraising effort with half the proceeds from this raffle being forwarded to St Mary's Viqueque Parish Timor Leste to provide much needed resources for the children of Viqueque.

Our Hot Cross Bun Drive is also continuing and forms together with payment can be forwarded to the office.

Next Meeting Tuesday 23rd April, 7:30pm in the staffroom. Everyone most welcome.

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

EFTPOS facility is available for payments over $10.00. Important!!! We encourage all families to keep their account in credit. Thank you.

Saint Ignatius College Geelong

Families are invited to join us on our 2013 OPEN DAY
Sunday March 24th 11am-2pm.
Information sessions at 11am 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.

Dear Parents & Friends

At a recent Parents & Friends meeting it was decided this Easter to hold a

**Brumby’s Hot Cross Bun Fundraiser**

The Parents & Friends will be selling vouchers for $7 each. Each voucher entitles you to *six delicious hot cross buns* redeemable at any Brumby’s Bakery store in Geelong.

The Parents & Friends receive $2 profit from each voucher sold. Please fill out the order form below and drop into the box outside the office. Your voucher(s) will be sent out to you, via your child.

- **Family Name**
- **Child’s Name & Class**
- **Number of vouchers required**
- **Amount Enclosed**

**DATES TO REMEMBER**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>MARCH</th>
<th>APRIL</th>
<th>MAY</th>
<th>JUNE</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fri 22nd</td>
<td>Mon 15th</td>
<td>Wed 1st</td>
<td>Mon 3rd</td>
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<tr>
<td>GDCSSA District Cross Country Championships, eligible reps only</td>
<td>Term 2 commences</td>
<td>School Advisory Board Meeting</td>
<td>Whole School Assembly 3:00pm</td>
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<td>Mon 25th</td>
<td>Thur 18th</td>
<td>Thur 2nd</td>
<td>Wed 5th</td>
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<td>Grade 1 Prayers in Pyjamas 6:30 to 7:30pm</td>
<td>Mass (Buddies) 9:10am</td>
<td>Whole School Assembly 3:00pm</td>
<td>School Advisory Board Meeting</td>
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<td>Tues 26th</td>
<td>Mon 22nd</td>
<td>Mon 6th</td>
<td>Fri 7th</td>
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<tr>
<td>Foundation Prayers in Pyjamas, 6:00-7:00pm in Chapel area</td>
<td>Whole School Assembly 3:00pm</td>
<td>Grade 2 Prayers in Pyjamas 6:00 – 7:00pm</td>
<td>Whole School Assembly 3:00pm</td>
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<td>Wed 27th</td>
<td>Tue 23rd</td>
<td>Wed 8th</td>
<td>Mon 10th</td>
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<td>End of Term 1 for students, dismissal 3:30pm</td>
<td>P&amp;F Meeting 7:30pm</td>
<td>Eucharist Activity Evening, Chapel 7:00 – 8:30pm</td>
<td>Queen’s Birthday Public Holiday</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  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
Good Friday Appeal

The Pier Geelong are hosting the Good Friday Appeal Call Centre on Friday 29th March and you're invited to join us for FREE festivities along Cunningham Pier and Steampacket Quay from 11.00am-4.00pm

ACTIVITIES
Jumping castles | Mechanical rides
Bellarine Bootcamp Activities
Live performers on main stage
Roving entertainment | Face painting
Photobooth | Farmers Market 8am-3pm
Thomas the Tank Train Rides
Appearances by players from the Geelong Cats & Hali Cat | All money raised will go to the Good Friday Appeal
And much, much more!