Dear Families

Congratulations to all our Grade 6 students who have been preparing to celebrate the Sacrament of Confirmation. Last Thursday they attended a preparation day at St Mary’s. Fr. Dillon celebrated Mass for them and then they spent time listening to Bishop Vincent Long speak about the seven gifts of the Holy Spirit and the importance of these gifts in their lives.

They then took part in three activities for the rest of the day. One was an art activity where they used Indigenous art techniques to decorate a symbol associated with one of the gifts of the Holy Spirit. Another activity was learning more about our parish partnership with Mary Immaculate Parish, in Viqueque, Timor Leste. The final activity was to practice what they needed to do and say during the actual Confirmation ceremony. Congratulations to all these students for the way they participated and behaved throughout the day. They represented our school very well and we are very proud of them. Thanks also to their teachers, Mrs Boland and Mr Broekman who have done an outstanding job preparing the candidates at school and a big thank you to you, their parents for your continued guidance and support on their sacramental journey.

At last Sunday’s 11:00am Mass, our first group celebrated their Confirmation and this Friday, at 5:30pm and 7:30pm two more groups of candidates will be Confirmed. Well done to all involved in these special celebrations and we ask everyone to please keep them all in your prayers at this important time in their lives.

There are only two weeks and three days until one of the biggest events on the Parish calendar, the St Mary’s Parish Derby Day Fete. As a community this is where our attention is now clearly focussed. Our Derby Day Fete is a fantastic opportunity for all members of the St Mary’s Parish to come together to celebrate as a parish with the wider Geelong community.

The fete is a great highlight of the year and again it is shaping up to be another terrific day with lots of great stalls offering bargains, a wide variety of food, exciting activities for the children and wonderful entertainment throughout the day.

Thank you to all who are helping out behind the scenes in preparation for this big day and all who have nominated to assist at the fete and the days leading up to the fete. All your generous donations are also greatly appreciated!

Additional hands for the clean-up and pack-up after the fete, on Saturday, November 1st are still required, so if you are yet to volunteer for something, this may be something you could consider.

Our new captains for Term Four have been selected and we congratulate them and wish them all the very best as they take on these very important school leadership roles.

School Captains: Jesse Morrissey & Tayla Gartner
Class Captains: Matilda Pretty, Mia Doherty, Isabelle Auld & Sasha van Slageren
Sports Captains:
  Lourdes: Bella Gard, Emerson Mitchell & Tommy De Grandi
  MacKillop: Cleo Mackay, Isabella Van Den Berg & Kasey Pritchard
  Carmel: James Lappin, Cameron Bily & Chelsea Osburn
  Mercy: Isabel Waterhouse, Nicholas Zanghi & Giarna Barker

Have a wonderful week!

Annice
(Acting Principal)
BASKETBALL NEWS
Congratulations to our Girls’ Team and our Boys’ Team who both came runners up for the Bellarine Division Basketball Championships on Monday 13th October. They played with great determination, skill and most importantly, sportsmanship. We are truly proud of them! A special thanks to our super-coaches Aaron Green and Wendy Sinnott and to all our great parent support team. Go St Robert’s!

ENHANCING OUR CATHOLIC IDENTITY

*Children’s Spirituality and Catholic Education*

By Rina Madden, Religious Education Primary Education Officer, CEOM

Children’s spirituality has come to the fore in research literature over the past 20 years, focusing on the experiential aspects of religion. This signalled a change in focus from the cognitive stages of faith exemplified by James Fowler in the early 1980s. Interest in children’s spirituality has coincided with the growth in understanding of social–emotional learning and wellbeing in the education sphere. It also marks a trend toward a more holistic approach to teaching and learning which includes the spiritual and emotional as well as the social, physical and cognitive growth of the child. There is a vital role for spirituality in education and one which is particularly relevant for Catholic schools. Teaching is a relational – one might argue, spiritual – occupation that can touch the heart of teacher and student alike, opening up new ways of thinking and being in the world. Teachers can create rich experiences for their students in their everyday interactions when they are aware of the spirituality of each moment. Spirituality is often interpreted in humanist or atheist terms as wholeness, connectedness or relationship with self, others and the world, but not necessarily with God or the Transcendent. Spirituality can be described as a ‘getting in touch’ with a lived sense of being. For those with a religious sensibility, this sense of being will reflect a relationship with God or the Transcendent, the source of all being. Indeed, some authors claim that spirituality cannot be developed without being grounded in relationship with God. A religious tradition can offer a language, rituals and symbols as well as a rich heritage of thought and culture to a lived sense of identity and being. Life in dialogue with a religious tradition may be understood differently and transformed – spirituality realised fully. To ‘get in touch’ with our lived sense of being, with our spirituality, reflection is vital. Reflection for both teachers and students can build awareness and seeks to understand and make links, developing a sense of connectedness and meaning. Reflecting on being in light of a religious tradition may enhance the possibilities for spiritual growth and transformation, for orientation to good. It becomes important, then, for all teachers to develop a habit of reflection on their own and their students’ spirituality. A spiritual education ideally creates a space that respects the lived experience of each person and enhances that experience in each relationship. Understood religiously, a spiritual education proposes a living and deeply felt connection with others and the world through the essence of the connection between all creation and its Maker, which orients all actions and decisions for the common good.

MERCY FEAST DAY
Mercy House is named for Our Lady of Mercy. Catherine McAuley founded the Sisters of Mercy in Ireland. Mercy Feast Day is 24th September which was during our school holidays. Members of Mercy house at St Robert’s will celebrate this Feast Day this Friday 17th October with an extended recess break and a special fruit platter morning tea.

HELP WANTED
If you are available to assist with the sorting of costumes next Tuesday 21st October at 11:45am please see Krissy Thompson in 2KT.
STUDENT AWARDS
Congratulations to the following students who have received certificates this week for outstanding work.

Gr F CC       Jimmy Reilly
Gr F CC       Baxter Roth
Gr F JP       Lyle Williamson
Gr F JP       Amelia Reid
Gr 1YE        Scarlett Cox
Gr 1YE        Daniel Lazzaro
Gr 2KT        Georgia Phillips
Gr 2KT        George Leslie
Gr 2LO        Chloe Bryant
Gr 2LO        Jack Kelly
Gr 3JS        Emma Carroll
Gr 3JS        Dibdin Fitzgerald
Gr 4MA        Abby D’Andria
Gr 4MA        Flynn Richards
Gr 4MM        Harriet Maskell
Gr 4MM        Jasper Hudson-Collins
Gr 5NF        Millie Watson
Gr 5NF        Grace Clatworthy
Gr 5SP        Xavier Muhor
Gr 5SP        Milla Lappin
Gr 6DB        Jacob Palmer
Gr 6DB        India Griffiths
Gr 6PB        Jessica Lazzaro
Gr 6PB        Claire McKenna

BIRTHDAYS
The St Robert’s School community wish to congratulate the following children on the celebration of their birthday this week.
Happy Birthday to:
16th October    William Huby
                Stella Mackay
                Lucy Watts
17th October    Amelia Reid
                Henry Stephens
19th October    Jimmy Reilly
20th October    Silas Kanellos

FYANS PARK KINDERGARTEN
204 West Fyans Street, Newtown VIC 3220
Ph: 5221 4630

The Fyans Park Kindergarten community extends an invitation to current and past students and staff, to the 50th Anniversary celebrations and the 2014 Children’s Week Art Show.

On Friday 24th October 2014, 6-8pm at the kindergarten (West Fyans St, Newtown). Sausage sizzle, Lucky door prizes, Come and help us celebrate!

ST JOSEPH’S CRICKET CLUB MILO IN2 CRICKET & T20 BLAST
2014-2015 REGISTRATION INFORMATION
Friday 24th October 5:30 – 6.30pm
St Joseph’s Cricket Club, Queens Road, Newtown

The MILO in2CRICKET program is the entry level participation program for boys and girls (aged 5-8 years) and involves fun, safe activities that teach kids the basic skills to play cricket, in a supportive, non-competitive environment. The active, inclusive program allows kids to make friends, develop social skills and team work. It's about fun, fitness and being a good sport. It is a 10 week program starting on the 14th November – 12th December and 30th January – 27th February.

MILO T20 Blast is a new program that has been designed to allow boys & girls (Aged 7-12 years) the opportunity to play modified cricket matches in teams of 8 in a T20 atmosphere. It is run by Cricket Victoria. It is proposed that there will be an 8 week season, run as a cluster group with other clubs in the vicinity. Proposed dates are similar to In2 Cricket dates, but yet to be confirmed by Cricket Vic.

Program information can be found on www.t20blast.com.au. More specific details will be available soon.

Online registration (non payment) is available prior to this date at www.in2cricket.com.au or www.t20blast.com.au search for St Josephs.

All families must attend registration night to make payment and select T-shirt size.
Cost - In2 Cricket $75.00 - T20 Blast $100.00.

For any enquiries please contact Janine Courtney
Ph: 0427 681 050 or Email: janinec248@live.com.au

GEELONG CUP PUBLIC HOLIDAY
A reminder to families that Wednesday 22nd October is the Geelong Cup Public Holiday and therefore is a student free day at St Robert’s.
Chess Coaching

Free lesson Friday 10th in the chapel
Where: School Chapel
When: Friday lunchtimes
17th Oct – 12th December 2014
Cost: $85 (discount $75 for 2nd sibling)

Benefits: Strategic thinking, improved self esteem, attention span in class, lateral thinking, team work, analytical skills.

To enrol your child please make payment (per child) of $85 by Friday 17th payable to “Hooton Consulting Pty Ltd” 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:

Payment Due: Friday 17th

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)

DATES TO REMEMBER

OCTOBER

Thur 16th Bellarine Division Basketball, (Qualifying students only)
Fri 17th Confirmation 5:30pm and 7:30pm, St Mary’s Basilica

DECEMBER

Mon 1st Dec Senior Swimming commences
St Mary’s Parish Mission
Tues 2nd St Mary’s Parish Mission
P&F Meeting 7:30pm
Wed 3rd St Mary’s Parish Mission
Thur 4th St Robert’s School Advisory Board Meeting
Fri 5th End of Year Reports distributed
Tuesday 9th Orientation Day, grade 6 students attend their 2015 schools, other students in 2015 classes
Foundation 2015 session 2
Wed 10th End of Year Mass, 6:00pm
Fri 12th Senior Swimming concludes
Mon 15th Grade 6 Farewell Dinner
Tues 16th Grade 6 Excursion, Adventure Park
Wed 17th End of Term 4 at 3:30pm

School Advisory Board Committee Members

Fr Kevin Dillon
frkd@stmarysgeelong.com.au Website: www.srnnewtown.catholic.edu.au
Mark Soldani marks@srnewtown.catholic.edu.au Anita Thomas pryan40@bigpond.com.au Fiona Fitzgerald fionaf@ggs.vic.edu.au Angela De Grandi dominic.degrandi@bigpond.com Sonia Mackay mackays@7mail.com Kym Brooks kymgibson@ncable.net.au Katey O'Sullivan kateyos@bigpond.com Louise Clatworthy the.clat@bigpond.com
ST MARY’S FETE FETE DONATION COLLECTIONS, RAFFLE, AMUSEMENT RIDES & SET UP – CLEAN UP HELPERS

FETE RAFFLE TICKETS
Books of raffle tickets for the Fete Raffle were sent home at the end of last term. The prizes are great with the first prize being a $2000 shopping voucher and second prize a $1000 shopping voucher and other prizes also. Tickets just $1 each. If you feel that you cannot sell your book of tickets please return them to the office early as there is no problem selling them elsewhere, we actually ran out last year!

FETE DONATION COLLECTON:
Donations for St Mary’s Fete – clothes, books, Bric a Brac, small furniture times, woodwork, collectables, CDs, DVDs, toys and devotional items are most welcome. The receiving point this year is the property on the corner of Portarlington Road and Moon Street, Moolap. There is a St Mary’s Fete sign on the front fence. Donations will be received on Saturdays between 9am and 11am and Sundays between 10am and 12 noon.

NEXT WEEKEND IS THE LAST WEEK FOR DONATIONS TO BE LEFT AT MOOLAP

SET UP – CLEAN UP HELPERS
A letter from Fr Dillon requesting St Robert’s School community assistance with set up and clean up was sent home yesterday. Please read this information and if you are able to help with this request please return the form to the office by Tuesday 21st October, thank you in anticipation.

AMUSEMENT RIDES – ALL DAY TICKET AMUSEMENT RIDES ALL DAY TICKETS
Fete: 9 am to 4 pm, Rides: 10 am to 4 pm, 1st November
Once again we will be presenting the totally revamped Amusement Rides which were so successful last year at our Fete. Families have the opportunity to pre-purchase an All-Day ticket for the amusement rides. The cost when pre-purchased is $20 (cash only) or $25 if purchased at the Fete. The system is that a receipt is given at school and this is redeemed for a wristband at the Fete. The wristband allows unlimited entry to all rides throughout the day with the exception of the Harley Rides ($6) and one ticket to the Hook A Duck.

Individual costs of rides on the day are as follow:

- Animal Farm $2
- Hook A Duck $2
- Jurassic Park Inflatable $4
- Music Trip $6
- Giant Slide $2
- Jumping Castle (small) $4
- Tea Cups Ride $4
- Rock Climbing Wall $6

If you would like to pre-purchase an all-day ticket please call into the office or return the form below by Thursday 31st October:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DERBY DAY FETE AMUSEMENT RIDES – ALL DAY TICKETS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Name: ........................................</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Class: ........................................</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Payment Enclosed: $............................</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>