Dear Families

Next Friday the 31st October is World Teachers Day. It is one day set aside in the year on which we can stop for a moment and particularly reflect on and recognise the tremendous things our teachers do as they go about their business of teaching. The past couple of years a building program in full swing has once again provided many challenges both physical and mental for all staff. All without exception have met every challenge head on in a spirit of understanding, acceptance and cooperation and have worked so hard over this period to maintain their high standards of teaching. It could have been easy to ‘cut themselves a little slack’ so to speak and take advantage of the distractions that were certainly there with a major works project literally developing around them. It is history now and they were all fantastic and I am most thankful for all their efforts. Despite this phase being completed things never really settle down. Teachers are still constantly called upon to take on new challenges and consequently greater workloads. I don’t know if too many give a thought to the extra hours our teachers put in during the course of any year. Our teachers this year have made themselves available after school, evenings, weekends, lunch times and even early mornings to attend various meetings, school camps, information and professional development sessions. They spend a great part of the school holiday time evaluating the previous term and planning for the new term. It wouldn’t be uncommon to see them up here for hours on a weekend preparing for the coming week. This is a testament to their dedication and commitment as teachers and guardians you entrust to our care every day. We are indeed fortunate here at St Roberts to have such a dedicated and committed ‘teaching group’ made up of, class teachers, specialist teachers, teacher aides, and our ladies in the office. All of them work diligently as a team to ensure that all the kids are getting the very best instruction using all that is available to them. For all of this I am both proud and privileged to be part of the very special team we have at St Robert’s. Happy World Teachers Day!!!

While on the subject of teachers it is with a feeling of sadness that I inform the school community that one of our long serving and valued teachers is leaving us at the end of the year. Mrs Julie Snowdon who has been at St Robert’s, initially as our Reading Recovery teacher and then as class teacher, for the past 15 years is moving to Nazareth Catholic Primary School in Grovedale. Julie has been a most dedicated and selfless member of our community for such a long time and her not being here will take some getting used to. We all wish her well in her role as class teacher at Nazareth and sincerely hope that we haven’t seen the last of her.

Have a great week, God Bless, Mark

ENHANCING OUR CATHOLIC IDENTITY

National Children’s Week – 18th to 26th October 2014

National Children’s Week begins on 18th October. This is an opportunity to celebrate the talents, skills and abilities of our students. It recognises their achievements and also the rights of young people. It is also an opportunity to focus on the needs of the child in the context of family, the school, the wider community and the world. Children’s Week is a national program based on the articles expressed in the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child, highlighting play, wellbeing and protection. This theme for the week celebrates Article 12, focusing on every child's right to speak and be heard. There is an ideal link with Mission Month, which asks us to increase our awareness of the needs of children and young people in Jamaica, and to direct our support to Catholic Mission’s efforts there.

AFTER SCHOOL IN THE SCHOOL GROUNDS

Families are reminded that ball games are not permitted in the school grounds after school. If training sessions are taking place they commence at 3:45pm and balls are not to be in use until that time. Also children are not to be on any playground equipment after school, lately some children are not following this rule. These restrictions are necessary as teachers are busy on duty on the front and back gates at this time and there is no teacher supervision in the playground area.
The St Roberts Parents and Friends committee invites all parents to attend our Annual General Meeting to be held on Tuesday 28th October at 7.30pm (a light supper will be provided).

The Parents and Friends is a great way to get involved in the school community. Hope to see you there!

**PARENTS AND FRIENDS WINE AND CHEESE NIGHT – An Opening Event**

The P&F are holding a special night for the adults in our community to come together at a Wine & Cheese Night. This event is to celebrate the completion of the new school building and will be held on Friday 21st November from 7:30pm in the St Robert’s Chapel. If you would like to attend please forward the return slip to the school office.

**A NIGHT FOR THOMAS AND HARRY**

If you are in the habit of entering the school through the Mervyn Street gates you will have noticed the sign advertising the upcoming fundraiser for Thomas and Harry Mallon, two brothers battling cancer. Their story is one of courage and inspiration and I know I speak on behalf of our wonderfully supportive and caring community when I offered to support this initiative in any way – please consider supporting this event.

**A NIGHT FOR THOMAS AND HARRY**

Thomas Mallon aged nine, and Harry Mallon, aged three, are brothers and best friends battling their separate cancers together. Since Thomas was a baby he has had multiple surgeries and intense chemotherapy and after nine years still has another 18 months of chemotherapy ahead. Little brother Harry was diagnosed with leukemia in August and immediately began treatment. These brave beautiful brothers are in need of support from the community to help with the cost of ongoing treatments and care.

We are calling on the Geelong community to help Thomas and Harry and are asking for donations to assist them in their fight. We are hoping for donations big and small to auction at a fund raising evening for Thomas and Harry, with all proceeds going to the brothers’ medical costs. ‘A Night for Thomas and Harry’ will be held on Saturday the 22nd of November 2014 at 7pm at the Alex Popescu room, Simonds Stadium. Tickets are $50 and we encourage you to organise your own table of ten!

Please contact Charmaine Massey on 0417 198 000 or email charmaine.massey@hotmail.com.

**Student Awards**

**STUDENT AWARDS**

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Name</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Gr F CC</td>
<td>Joshua Baum</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gr F CC</td>
<td>Syesha Crisione</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gr 1YE</td>
<td>Xavier Walker</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gr 1YE</td>
<td>Coby Williams</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gr 1MC</td>
<td>Holly Barker</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gr 1MC</td>
<td>John Bird</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gr 2KT</td>
<td>Sam Sinnott</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gr 2KT</td>
<td>Ally Zappone</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gr 2LO</td>
<td>Oliver King</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gr 2LO</td>
<td>Renny Bowden</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gr 3JS</td>
<td>Holly Dover</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gr 3JS</td>
<td>Livi Favre</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gr 3KH</td>
<td>Isaac Dunell</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gr 3KH</td>
<td>Sansa Gifford</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gr 5NF</td>
<td>Rosie Maiden</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gr 5NF</td>
<td>Byron Cosic</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gr 5SP</td>
<td>Thomas Brooks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gr 5SP</td>
<td>Lachie Trethowan</td>
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</tbody>
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**BIRTHDAYS**

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

Happy Birthday to:

- 22nd October: Will Courtney
- 24th October: Montanna Adamko
- 26th October: Bridget Hart
- 28th October: Amelia Muhor
- 26th October: William Maskell
- 28th October: Freyja Tew
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

**DATES TO REMEMBER**

**OCTOBER**
Thur 23rd School Advisory Board Meeting
Grade 1 Prayers in Pyjamas
6:00pm to 7:00pm (please note change of date)
Bravehearts Presentation for
Foundation and Grade 1 classes
Mon 27th Foundation 2015 Orientation
Session 1 9:30am to 10:30am
Tues 28th P&F Meeting - AGM, 7:30pm
Wed 29th Foundation excursion to
Melbourne Zoo

**NOVEMBER**
Sat 1st Derby Day Fete, 9am to 4pm
Mon 10th Student Free Day – Report Writing
Thur 20th St Robert’s Annual Sports Day.
1:30pm to 4:30pm (to be confirmed)
Fri 21st Wine and Cheese Night
Mon 24th New Family Information Night
Thur 27th State Boys/Mixed Basketball
Sat 29th St Mary’s Parish Mission
Sun 30th St Mary’s Parish Mission

**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
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
It is now time for all Raffle Books to be returned. Please return them to the office as there is no problem selling them elsewhere, we actually ran out last year!

CAKE STALL NEWS
With just under 2 weeks to go until the St Mary’s Fete, we thought it was a good time to remind everyone about the famous St Robert’s Cake Stall!! For new parents to the school, St Robert’s is responsible for running the cake stall. This entails not only being available on the day to staff the stall, but the important task of baking a range of cakes and slices to sell. On Monday, a cake kit will go home to every family. The cake kit basically is the packaging for families to send back their donations of cakes and slices. More details on staffing requirements and cake drop off will be in next week’s newsletter. If you have any questions or suggestions, please contact Carol Digby on 0408 580 060 or Joanne van Slageren on 0419 270 464.

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 recently. Please read this information and if you are able to help with this request now it the time to return your form to the office so there is time to collate and contact helpers.

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:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ride</th>
<th>Cost</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Animal Farm</td>
<td>$2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hook A Duck</td>
<td>$2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jurassic Park Inflatable</td>
<td>$4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jumping Castle (small)</td>
<td>$4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tea Cups Ride</td>
<td>$4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rock Climbing Wall</td>
<td>$6</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

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:

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DERBY DAY FETE AMUSEMENT RIDES – ALL DAY TICKETS

Name: ..................................................

Class: .................................................. Number of Tickets: ......................

Payment Enclosed: $.....................................
Dear Family,

We can’t believe that this year's fete is less than 2 weeks away!! We want this year’s fete to be the best so far & we need your help! We will be grateful for any time you can give us, it doesn’t matter how large or small your contribution of time is. If we all work together it will make a fantastic day. A day that directly benefits OUR children.

Please take the time to fill out this form, return it to school by this **Tuesday 28th October** and we will get back to you personally with more details.

- **Cake Making.** The cake stall is our largest stall at the fete & depends upon the support of everyone. All families will receive a cake packaging kit shortly & your support will be much appreciated.

- **Transport of cakes –.** We need drivers to transport cakes from St. Robert’s in the morning on Friday 31st October

- **Set-up of Cake Stall & Death by Chocolate stall –.** A couple of hours will get the job done ready for fete day in the morning on Friday 31st October.

- **Transport of cakes –.** We need drivers to transport cakes from St Robert’s in the afternoon on Friday 31st October. (Just in case anything is dropped off through the day.)

- **Working on a stall on fete day.** We have 2 hour shifts so that you are not stuck there all day!

  - ❑ Cakes
  - ❑ Death by Chocolate

  Time that suits you best
  - ❑ 9-11
  - ❑ 10-12
  - ❑ 12-2
  - ❑ 2-4

Contact Name______________________________

Contact Number___________________________

With Many Thanks
Sharon & Scott Wilkes (St. Robert’s Fete co-ordinators)