Dear Families

“A Happy Face in Every Space”. This is our motto for 2015 and this week we are particularly focussed on the part respect and support for each other plays in fostering a sense of happiness and belonging that is so important to our school. This sense of happiness and support can take a variety of forms. We can see it in the playground as children play and laugh with each other as they play together. It is evident in the classrooms as the children share their knowledge and talents in all sorts of ways. I see it in the way our teachers work together with a spirit of encouragement, support and shared responsibility and in the way our parents pocket together for that all important chat either at the start or end of the day. There could be no greater evidence of this than witnessing firsthand the manner in which our parents support the many programs and events we have going on throughout the year. I know the class parents are busy organising get togethers with their groups and many are already working closely with class teachers organising rosters and help with activities. In such a short space of time we have had parents help us out with a number of sporting events and excursions including swimming, athletics, representative tryouts and most recently our school cross country championships. We even had a couple of our parents come out on a boat with our “I Sea, I Care” ambassadors when they travelled to Queenscliff to swim with the seals. The huge presence of parents officiating, supervising or spectating at these events most certainly creates an atmosphere that is rich with support, encouragement, appreciation and good will. In my mind, it takes all of these things to establish that “Feel Good” feeling within our school community and if this doesn’t create a school where there is every chance to find a Happy Face in Every Space, then, at the risk of sounding my age, “I’ll be a Monkey’s Uncle”! Thankyou!

God Bless you all, have a nice week, Mark.

SYMPATHY
We extend our sincere sympathy to
The Phillips family on the sad passing of Ronda Braybrook, mother of Elissa and Grandmother of (Ben Gr 4MM, Georgia Gr 3KJH and Paige Gr 1JB).
Eternal rest grant unto her O Lord
And may perpetual light shine upon her
May she rest in peace.
Amen

ENHANCING OUR CATHOLIC IDENTITY

SACRAMENTAL ENROLMENT EVENING AND ONLINE ENROLMENT

The final of two Sacramental Enrolment Evenings will be held tomorrow night Thursday 19th March from 7:30pm to 8:30pm at St Mary’s Parish Basilica. This evening is for parents only, children do not attend. Parents of children intending to celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation, Eucharist or Confirmation in 2015 must have attended one of the two enrolment evenings to enrol their child for a Sacrament. 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 Eucharist for the first time are asked to log on to the website www.schoolinterviews.com.au on Friday March 20th from 8:30am, the Eucharist Event Code is WMVZ6. St Robert’s school has a limited number of spaces available at each First Eucharist Mass. See dates to remember for Mass dates and times.
Project Compassion Week

Thank you to all families for your continued support with Project Compassion. Congratulations to Grades 3NF, 5/6SP and 1JB for winning last week’s challenge – Every child in those classes contributed something to the Project Compassion box. This week’s challenge is a whole school challenge. Our aim is to see if we can collect enough coins to have a coin trail which can go all the way around the basketball court and possibly the goal and centre circles.

Next Monday, 23rd March, just before assembly all classes will meet on the asphalt to participate in completing the coin trail. How far will we get? This will be our last challenge before our major Project Compassion fundraiser and celebration on the last day of term (more information on this to come soon). We appreciate your support, thank you, Yvonne, Bridgette and Grade 1.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SYMPATHY</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>We extend our sincere sympathy to</td>
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<tr>
<td>The Gard family on the sad passing of Kelly’s father, Kevin Robertson</td>
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<td>and Grandfather of (James Gr 5/6PB).</td>
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<td>Eternal rest grant unto him O Lord</td>
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<tr>
<td>And may perpetual light shine upon him</td>
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<tr>
<td>May he rest in peace. Amen</td>
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RESPECT FOR ALL WEEK

One of the key messages we wish to deliver this week across our school community is ‘St Robert’s says NO to bullying!’ Each class and year level will be discussing what bullying is (and isn’t), and the types of bullying behaviour that are totally inappropriate at our school, eg. teasing, name-calling, ‘ganging up’, put downs, etc.

Below is the list of definitions, signs and indications of bullying that form a core part of our Anti-Bullying Policy. We are planning to publish our complete Anti-Bullying Policy in next week’s newsletter.

Definitions

**Bullying** is unwanted, aggressive behaviour amongst children and adults. It is a form of harassment that has been repeated over time. The harmful behaviour is intentional, and designed to humiliate, hurt and disempower the recipient.

This behaviour includes:

- An imbalance of power where others use their ‘power’ eg. physical strength, access to information, influence or popularity to control or harm others
- Repetition, where bullying happens more than once, or has the potential to happen more than once
- Actions such as making threats, spreading rumours, attacking someone physical or verbally, deliberately excluding someone from a group

The three main types of bullying are:

- Verbal bullying, which is saying or writing mean things. This includes teasing, name calling, inappropriate sexual comments, taunting and threatening to cause harm.
- Social bullying, which includes refusing to associate with the target and encouraging others to do the same, telling others not to be friends with someone, spreading rumours about someone, and embarrassing someone in public.
- Physical bullying which involves hurting a person’s body or possessions. This includes, hitting/kicking/punching, spitting, tripping/pushing, taking or breaking someone’s things and making mean or rude hand gestures.

**Cyberbullying** is bullying that takes place using electronic technology, mobile phones, computers, tablets, ipods as well as communication tools including social media sites, text messages, chat and websites.

**Discrimination** is treating, or proposing to treat, someone unfavourably because of personal characteristic. This includes bullying someone because of a personal characteristic, including age, race, disability, physical features and political beliefs.
Sexual Harassment is bullying that occurs when a person is subjected to unwanted, aggressive behaviour, teasing, taunting, put downs or discrimination because of their gender, or sexual orientation.

Signs and Indications of Bullying
There are many warning signs that may indicate that someone is affected by bullying—either being bullied or bullying others. Recognizing the warning signs is an important first step in taking action against bullying. Not all people who are bullied or are bullying others ask for help.

Some signs that may point to a bullying problem are:
- Injuries such as unexplained bruises and scratches
- Lost or destroyed clothing, books, electronics, or jewellery
- Frequent headaches or stomach aches, feeling sick or faking illness
- Changes in eating habits, like suddenly skipping meals or binge eating. Children may come home from school hungry because they did not eat lunch.
- Difficulty sleeping or frequent nightmares
- Declining grades, loss of interest in schoolwork or work, or not wanting to go to school or work
- Sudden loss of friends or avoidance of social situations
- Feelings of helplessness or decreased self esteem
- Self-destructive behaviours such as running away from home, harming themselves, getting into trouble and acting out, or talking about suicide, excessive drinking or drug taking

HEALTHY EATING POLICY & EASTER TREATS
In line with our healthy eating policies we ask that children refrain from exchanging chocolate or candied Easter treats at school.

COMBINED CATHOLIC PARISHES’ CAR RAFFLE
The Combined Parishes’ Raffle is with us once again. This is a major fund-raising project in the parish - with four cars to be won! A book of ten tickets for this raffle was sent home last week. As the prizes for this raffle are over $5,000 this raffle must be officially audited by accountants, therefore all tickets must be accounted for. If you do not feel you can sell this book then please just return it to the school office immediately and it can be redistributed to be sold elsewhere. Thank you to the many families who have returned their books so promptly.

P&F ANNUAL BRUMBY’S HOT CROSS BUN FUNDRAISER
The Parents & Friends will be selling vouchers for $7 each. The voucher entitles you to six delicious hot cross buns redeemable at any Brumby’s Bakery store in Geelong right up until Easter Sunday. The Parents & Friends receive $2.50 profit from each voucher sold. Order forms were sent home last week, if you did not receive one, spare copies are available at the office.

TERM 1 SCHOOL FEE ACCOUNTS
Families are reminded that all Term 1 School Fee Accounts are due for payment by Friday 20th March. 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 or surname).

PREMIER’S ACTIVE APRIL
Hi Everyone, just a reminder that the Premier’s Active April is on again this year. You can be part of it all by going to the website (see poster attached to this newsletter), logging in under St Robert’s school as a student participator. Simply log-in under st-roberts-newtown and enter the necessary information. Please note that there will be many free activities around Geelong for you and your child to be a part of if you are interested. Thank you and Enjoy! Louise Kluer, PE.

Requesting to join a team
1. Teacher tells students the Team ID – st-roberts-newtown
2. Student logs in and goes to the Teams page.
3. Under “Request to join a team”, student enters the Team ID and clicks “Send Request”.  
4. A notification will be emailed to the teacher who created the team. When the teacher accepts the request, the student will see the team details when they next login.

PARENTS & FRIEND’S ASSOCIATION UPDATE
- The next P&F meeting will be held next Tuesday 24th March at 7:30pm in the staffroom. All parents welcome.
- The Uniform Shop is selling sports polo tops for a reduced $10 each. Limited sizes only.
- If you are unable to make it into the shop on Wednesday or Friday morning please collect/return an order form from the office. Your order will be processed and items(s) sent home with your child. Please note, payment is credit card or cheque only.
- Last chance to submit your ‘expression of interest’ form to be involved in the St Robert’s Business Directory. Please refer to the form attached to this week’s newsletter email. Otherwise, spare forms are available from just outside the office window.

CHILWELL AFTER SCHOOL HOURS CARE
To book or cancel please call Chloe or Cheryl on 0417 014 973

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Activity</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Thursday 19th March</td>
<td>Sponge Painting</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday 20th March</td>
<td>Food Fair Exploring</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday 23rd March</td>
<td>Easter Colouring</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday 24th March</td>
<td>Making paper plate Easter Bunnies</td>
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SINGING LESSONS TERM 2
If your child is in Grade 3 or above and is interested in starting singing lessons at St Robert’s please complete the application form below and return it to the school office before the end of Term 1. You will be contacted with more information and details.

PRIVATE SINGING LESSONS WITH REBECCA HAY – BELLA VOCE

Parent Name: .................................................. Email: ..................................................
Contact Number: ................................ Student’s Name: ................................ Grade: ..................................}

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

Gr F CH  Lucas Skoko
Gr F CH  Charlie Segrave
Gr F JP  Tayla Barbaro
Gr F JP  Ava Hallebone
Gr 1JB   Ted Hart
Gr 1JB   Lucy Eldridge
Gr 1YE   Jude Seecamp
Gr 1YE   Maddie Dover
Gr 2CC   Meg Lappin
Gr 2CC   Xavier Walker
Gr 2KT   Lucas Pedretti
Gr 2KT   Zoe Morrison
Gr 3KH   Mackenzie Tayler
Gr 3KH   Lucy Robertson
Gr 3NF   Meg Alsop
Gr 3NF   Charlotte Pleiter
Gr 5/6DB Sophia Francis
Gr 5/6DB Remy Watson
Gr 5/6PB Bridget Hart
Gr 5/6PB Rosie Maiden
Gr 5/6LO Freyja Tew
Gr 5/6LO Brandon Rakas-Hoare
Gr 5/6SP Archie Sinnott
Gr 5/6SP Connor O’Sullivan

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

Happy Birthday to:

17th March  Xavier Bryant
19th March  Dante Leslie
20th March  Lucinda Sinclair
21st March  Ewan Guinane
22nd March  Abbey Stephens
ST ROBERT’S AUSKICK 2015
Auskick will commence on Saturday 2nd May 2015 at 9.00 am. Held at St Robert’s Oval, Nicholas St, Newtown. To register for Auskick go to:  aflauskick.com.au
Enquiries to St Robert’s Auskick co-ordinators Ben Williamson 0401 513 556 or David Cook 0403 428 114 or email strobertsauskick@gmail.com

It’s Food Fair time at Chilwell Primary School Friday 20th March. Lots of food stalls, Silent & Live Auctions, Music, Wine, Rides for the kids and fun!
Come for dinner from 4 pm. till 9 pm. and bring all the family.

Girls Junior Football 8 to 12 Years of Age
Girls can play footy too! This year Newtown and Chilwell Football Netball Club will establish a Junior Girls Football Team to play in the AFL Barwon Junior Girls competition. Games will be played on Sunday mornings. If you are interested or require further information please contact Heather Harris 0438 393 599 or hdnharris@bigpond.com.au
Go Girls, Go Eagles

DATES TO REMEMBER

MARCH
Thurs 19th  Sacramental Enrolment Evening 2 7:30-8:30pm St Mary’s Basilica
Fri 20th  National Day Against Bullying & Violence & Friendship Day, Giant

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  Carmen Morrison  morrison.carmen.r@edumail.vic.gov.au
David Tarrant  david.tarrant4@bigpond.com  Angela De Grandi  dominic.degrandi@bigpond.com
Fiona Tayler  bftayler@people.net.au  Kym Brooks  kymgibson@ncable.net.au
Katey O’Sullivan  katevos@bigpond.com  Michael Reid  emick71@bigpond.com
Dear parents,

If you are self-employed, part owner or employee within a locally owned business or organisation, the Parents & Friends Association would like your feedback on a new school community initiative.

The P&F would like to create a ‘St Robert’s Families Business Directory’. The purpose of this activity is not only to raise funds for the school’s growing demand for IT equipment, but to raise awareness to the number of parents within our school community who work/own a locally operated business (large or small). Thus, supporting each other’s families in various jobs and industries.

If enough interest is generated to participate and be part of the directory, we hope to produce an A5 sized, full colour booklet, which will showcase display advertisements to represent the business or company. The booklet will also be uploaded onto the school website as an e-book which is estimated to reach over 700 people within our local community.

The cost is $50 for a display advertisement in both the printed booklet and website e-book.

If you or your employer would like to be part of this fundraising and advertising opportunity, please complete the survey on the attached page and a representative from the P&F will make contact with you shortly.

Please note that all efforts to construct and implement this booklet will be from parents who have donated their time and effort. Can any volunteers who are able to assist with collating information, graphic design, printing or distribution please contact me by phone or email.

Thank you in advance for your co-operation in this activity!

Kind regards,

Donna Carroll - P&F Coordinator
Phone: 0408 476 276
Email: pfstroberts@gmail.com
PREMIER'S
ACTIVE APRIL
JOIN THE FUN!

GET ACTIVE THIS APRIL!
All it takes is 30 minutes of physical activity a day during April. You can win awesome prizes and enjoy great benefits.

Register today – activeapril.vic.gov.au

Your school can win:
► Visits from high profile sporting personalities
► Sporting equipment

Register to get:
► 10 free YMCA passes
► 15% off at Sportsmart in store and online
► One free hour tennis court hire at Melbourne Park or Albert Reserve
► 2 for 1 ticket offer to SEA LIFE Melbourne Aquarium
► Entry into the draw to win four tickets to the 2015 Toyota AFL Grand Final

Terms and conditions for all prizes and offers apply, visit activeapril.vic.gov.au for details.

Authorized by the Victorian Government, Tourism Victoria, Melbourne.
CHALK THE WALK

SUNDAY 29 MARCH
10.00AM-2.00PM
RITCHIE BOULEVARD, EASTERN BEACH
GEELONG

BUY A “SPACE” ON RITCHIE BOULEVARD AND SEND A MESSAGE TO THE CHILDREN AT THE ROYAL CHILDREN’S HOSPITAL.

$10 PER SPACE

CHALK PROVIDED
3D CHALK ARTWORK

REGISTER ON THE DAY

CHANNEL 7 CELEBRITIES

FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT WWW.GEELONGAUSTRALIA.COM.AU

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