Dear Families

I don’t think there is a week that goes by that I don’t have cause to thank somebody for doing something in the weekly newsletter. Not that I mind one little bit! This school is the school it is because of the collective things everybody does at various times throughout the year for so many different reasons. Take last Friday for example. St Robert’s Day is a very special event on the year’s calendar and we try and make it a highlight of the year for all the children.

I think I can say, without a doubt in the world, Friday was a great day for everyone for so many reasons. The organisation of the day was superb thanks to the efforts of all our teachers and teacher aides who cooked, cleaned, skipped, screened movies, coordinated card, computer and outside games throughout the day. In particular I would like to acknowledge the efforts of Julie P. who coordinated the day, Mrs Lappin who planned and facilitated our whole school prayer celebration, Mr. B. who organised the tabloid events outside, Mrs Lewis who was the driving force behind the very successful St Robert’s Got Talent show and a special mention to Mr Oddo (Ricky Martin) and Mrs Presa (Shakira) our guest judges for the show. I would also like to praise the efforts of our senior sixes who did an outstanding job overseeing the various activities out on the oval. Before the day even started our very talented Nola had sewn up all that beautiful St Robert’s bunting, and Gerd, Nola’s husband was in here late Thursday night hanging it all up. What a great sight it was! Thanks to Corrine Summerhayes, who organised the purchase and pick up of bread and the hot dogs. The kids really enjoyed their Hot Dog lunch and finally a special mention to our builders who worked tirelessly to open up the new area and clear our playground on time for the big day.

Combined efforts such as these create a wonderful spirit about the place. It’s a spirit we can all be proud of!

St Robert’s School Motto is ‘Striving to Achieve’. Matthew Spiranovic, one of our past students has definitely strived and achieved and will represent Australia in the World Cup in Brazil playing with the Socceroos. Matthew together with other notable achievements of past students has featured on our Achievement wall just outside my office along with the Socceroo Guernsey he so generously gave us a couple of years ago. Well done Matthew and good luck – we will all be cheering for you!

Speaking of great achievements, I received news only this morning that two of our year six students, Tanner Bruhn and Charlie Lazzaro have been selected as members of the School Sport Victoria Australian Football 12 Years and Under State Team. What a fantastic achievement. You may recall in a previous newsletter, I made mention of both Tanner and Charlie as the two noticeable absentees from this year’s Bellarine Division Cross Country Finals. Charlie and Tanner qualified to run but unfortunately couldn’t be in two places at once. On that day Charlie and Tanner had been selected by the District and Bellarine Division to participate in the Western/Melbourne Metro Regional Primary Schools Football trials. From there, Tanner and Charlie won their way through to the combined Victorian Country/Metro squad and, along with another 78 hopefuls from Country and Metropolitan regions, competed for a place in this year’s Victorian State Team. The rest is now history. Tanner and Charlie are now part of the 25 member team that will travel to Sydney in July to compete in the School Sport Australia Football Championship wearing the Big ‘V’. What a fantastic achievement. Well Done boys! We all wish you well.

God bless. Have a great week,

Mark
ENHANCING OUR CATHOLIC IDENTITY

First Eucharist
First Communion is considered one of the most important occasions in a Catholic person's life. It is the first time that a person receives the Sacrament of the Holy Eucharist, which is the eating of consecrated bread and drinking of consecrated wine. Catholics believe these to be the body and blood of Jesus Christ. Most Catholic children receive their First Communion at an age considered to be the age of reason. A child's first communion is often a cause for celebration, however to many Catholics, the event has a deeper meaning. They believe that the event means that a child has studied and understood, to the best of his or her ability, what Catholics call the mystery of transubstantiation — the changing of the substance of ordinary bread and wine into the substance of Jesus Christ's body and blood, according to Catholic beliefs. Catholics believe that, before receiving communion, a child also should be able to tell the difference between Eucharistic bread and regular food.

ONLINE BOOKINGS FOR FIRST RECONCILIATION CELEBRATIONS (GRADE 3)
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 each ceremony is full. Parents of children enrolled to celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation are asked to log on to the website www.schoolinterviews.com.au, Thursday 17th July from 8:30am (advanced notice due to school holidays), the Reconciliation Event Code is TV4WM. St Robert’s school has a maximum of 20 spaces available at each celebration.

ENHANCING CATHOLIC SCHOOL IDENTITY PROJECT
Catholic schools across Victoria were created through the vision, dedication, hard work and commitment of the whole Catholic community. Today, schools are challenged to:

- articulate their identity and vision
- express their distinctiveness as Catholic schools in a society where the Christian faith is increasingly marginalized.

To assist schools in facing these present realities the Catholic Education Commission of Victoria Ltd. (CECV) and the Catholic Education Offices of Melbourne, Ballarat, Sandhurst and Sale, have entered into a research partnership with the Catholic University in Leuven, Belgium (KULeuven) to profile and develop the Catholic Identity of Catholic Schools. The Project is to assist schools to understand better how their Catholic identity is expressed in work and practice and to support them in their future development.

Enhancing Catholic Identify School Project Surveys were sent home to seventy five families who were asked to complete these surveys online or to let the school know if this was not possible. To date 22 have been completed, 5 started but not completed and the remainder not attempted. We are required to have a minimum of 55 submitted and remind families who may have received a survey to please complete or alternatively let the school know that they do not wish to participate so we can allocate to other families. Please contact Annice Lappin if you have any queries on 5221 1075.

PARENT/TEACHER INTERVIEWS AND MID-YEAR PROGRESS REPORTS
Mid-Year Progress Reports are due to be sent home on Friday 20th June and Parent/Teacher Interviews will be held on Tuesday 24th and Wednesday 25th June from 3:40pm to 6:00pm. Once again all bookings for these interviews will be online. Online bookings will open this Thursday 12th June at 8:30am and close on Monday 23rd June. Please see attached flyer for more information.

TERM 2 SCHOOL FEE ACCOUNT
A reminder to families that all Term 2 School Fee Accounts are due for payment next Friday 20th June. For your convenience we have several payment options; cash, cheque, EFPOS or Internet banking. For families wishing to use the Internet, details are:

St Robert’s General Account, National Bank, Melbourne
BSB Number: 083 347 Account Number: 647 110 294

Please remember to include your family code and/or surname.
JUNIOR SWIMMING PROGRAM
The Junior Swimming Program commences on Monday 16th June and concludes on Friday 27th June. All children from Prep to Grade 2 are expected to participate in the Junior Swimming Program. If children are unable to participate, parents will need to supply the school with a valid reason, in writing.

OUR GRADE TWO PERFORMERS
On Thursday our grade two students will visit BUPA Aged Care Home to entertain the residents with a lively selection of golden oldie songs and to have a chat with them. These children have practised like true professionals and if you have wandered down the hallway recently you may have been treated to a sample of their talents – they sound just amazing! Well done Grade Twos we just know that your audience is going to love you!

ST ROBERT’S P&F MOVIE NIGHT – HOW TO TRAIN YOUR DRAGON 2
A reminder that the Movie Night will be held on Thursday 26th June, session time 6:30pm. Tickets are $10.50 and forms and money must be returned to school by Monday 16th June, or until sold out.

ENTERTAINMENT BOOK
Families are reminded that all Entertainment Book payments are now overdue. If you do not wish to purchase your copy please return it to the office as soon as possible to avoid the school having to contact you.

BOOK WEEK 2014 – ARTISTS WANTED
Once again we will be celebrating Book Week here at St Robert’s. This year the date for Book Week is 16th August to 22nd August and the theme is ‘Connect to Reading – Reading to Connect’. Connect to reading is about enjoying the experience of exploring story, and travelling to other worlds. Reading to Connect, has a broader meaning, suggesting that reading assists in creating a bond with others.

At this point in time we are calling for help from our many creative and artistic parents who over the past years have produced wonderful painted portraits of nominated book covers for display in our library. If you are able to help this year please contact us to choose a book and to pick up the poster whiteboard for the artwork.

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

Gr F CC Bridie Larkins
Gr F CC Madeleine Dover
Gr F JP Billy Smith
Gr F JP Jayde Morrissy
Gr 1MC Emily Matthews
Gr 1MC Hamish Harendarz
Gr 1YE Georgia Caracella
Gr 1YE Charlotte De Grandi
Gr 2 KT Mackenzie Taylor
Gr 2KT Liana Skoko
Gr 2KT Alessandra Zappone
Gr 2KT Lucy Robertson
Gr 2LO McKenzie Mitchell
Gr 2LO Claudia Gifford

Gr 3KH Amelia Northey
Gr 3KH James Burtt
Gr 3JS Emma Carroll
Gr 3JS Ben Phillips
Gr 4MA Zara Madden
Gr 4MA Abby D’Andria
Gr 4MM Bridget Hart
Gr 4MM Bonnie Leslie
Gr 4MM Oliver Baric
Gr 5NF Agnes Kim
Gr 5SP Eleanor Carroll
Gr 5SP Phoebe Markovic
Gr 6DB Bella Gard
Gr 6DB Jack Combeby
Gr 6 PB Mia Doherty
Gr 6 PB Charlie Borracci
**BIRTHDAYS**
The St Robert’s School community wish to congratulate the following children on the celebration of their birthday this week.

Happy Birthday to:

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<th>Date</th>
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<tr>
<td>11th</td>
<td>Thomas O’Malley</td>
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<td>14th</td>
<td>Matisse Raimondo</td>
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<td>15th</td>
<td>Oscar Hart</td>
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<td>16th</td>
<td>Ruby Pidgeon</td>
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<td>17th</td>
<td>Noah Caracella</td>
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**SEPTEMBER**

| Mon 6th    | Term 4 commences                         |
| Thur 9th   | Confirmation Preparation 9:00am to 3:00pm |
| Sun 12th   | Confirmation, 11:00am St Mary’s Basilica  |
| Tues 14th  | Region Track & Field, (Qualifying students only) |
| Thur 16th  | Bellarine Division Basketball,           |
|           | (Qualifying students only)               |
| Fri 17th   | Confirmation 5:30pm and 7:30pm,          |
|           | St Mary’s Basilica                       |
| Wed 22nd   | Geelong Cup Public Holiday               |
| Mon 27th   | State Athletics, (Qualifying students only) |

**OCTOBER**

| Mon 21st  | Whole School Assembly                   |
| Wed 23rd  | Grade 6 Camp – Kangarooibie             |
| To Fri 25th |                                           |

**AUGUST**

| Fri 1st   | Grade 6 Interschool Sports             |
| Sat 2nd   | St Mary’s Parish Dinner                |
| Mon 4th   | Whole School Assembly, 3:00pm          |
| Fri 8th   | Grade 6 Interschool Sports             |
| Thur 14th | Reconciliation Family Activity         |
|           | Night 7pm-8pm                          |
| Fri 15th  | Grade 6 Interschool Sports             |
| Mon 18th  | Whole School Assembly, 3:00pm          |
|           | Book Week commences                    |
| Thur 21st | First Reconciliation, 5:00pm and 7:00pm|
| Fri 22nd  | Grade 6 Interschool Sports             |
|           | Book Week concludes                    |

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**School Advisory Board Committee Members**

Fr Kevin Dillon frkd@stmarysgeelong.com.au  Website: www.srnnewtown.catholic.edu.au
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