Dear Parents and Friends,

Wow, do we have some busy weeks ahead of us!!!

St Joseph’s Day Wednesday 20 March
We celebrate our school patron with a Mass at noon followed by a picnic lunch.
Parents and friends are welcome to join us.

OPEN DAY Thursday 21 March 8am – 8pm
Please let friends and neighbours know that St Joseph’s is a great school and they should consider having a look during the day, particularly those that have preschool age children.

Autumn Fair Saturday 23 March
Well now we only have TWO weeks to the Autumn Fair and we need everyone to step up to assist in some way.
This is our major fund raiser for the year so we need everyone to help in some way. We can make this easy for you! PLEASE put your name on the stall roster or send in the form attached nominating the times you are available and we will allocate you to a stall. It will be a great day for the community and we need you there!

URGENT HELP!!!
If you have any large beach umbrellas, market umbrellas, or fold up shelters, we would like to borrow them for the Fair. Please contact John urgently! Also we need 2 kettle barbeques to cook potatoes. Please contact John urgently!!!

External Review 18/19 March
In the last year of the 4 year school planning cycle the school closes for 2 days while the school leaders take the staff through a process to write a review of the school’s achievements, and plans for the next four years. Please note that the school will be closed to students next Monday and Tuesday.

Storage
You will notice that we have purchased a sea container to be used for SPA storage – chair risers, chairs, tables et cetera, and some other PFA storage.

Homework
What a joy it is to have so many of the students enthusiastically involved in learning at home and eager to share this at school.

Student awards went to: Grace Patterson, Forbes Hermon, Mia Caneva, Nate Reihana, Tahlia Nicolandos, Ash Pitman, Kayla Weir, Ailish Sheehan, Joel Lunson, Josh Read, Declan Taeuber, Amy Schroeders, Jonathon Pitman and Finn Reardon.
God bless us all,
John

**EASTER CEREMONIES**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>First Reconciliation &amp; 2nd Rite Reconciliations</td>
<td>Tuesday 26th March 7pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Palm Sunday</td>
<td>Saturday 23rd March 7pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sunday 24th March 9am</td>
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<tr>
<td>Holy Thursday</td>
<td>Thursday 28th March 7pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Good Friday</td>
<td>29th March 3pm</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Pallotti College, McNamara’s Rd Millgrove</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Easter Sunday</td>
<td>30th March 6pm</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Easter Vigil at Yarra Junction</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>31st March 9am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Easter Sunday at Warburton</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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**WORKING BEE FRIDAY 8th MARCH**

Thank you to the following families who attended the Working Bee:

Gibson Hendriks
Hirschfeld Nyhuis
Swankie Young

What do you think?

How many minutes do your children read?
ALIVE IN OUR FAITH

Fourth week of Lent: The Forgiving Father

In this week’s Sunday Gospel reading Jesus tells the parable of the Prodigal Son who left home with his inheritance, wasted it, ended up feeding pigs and eating scraps that remained. His father was overjoyed when he returned, forgave him and celebrated.

Jesus explained that God is like the loving Father, waiting for us to repent and gain his forgiveness so that we can become closer to him. God also wants us to reflect his own heart of compassion and mercy as we relate to the people in our lives. He wants us to live as people of God, by “forgiving and giving” not judging and condemning.

Lent is also a time of repentance. How could it not be? After all, we are trying to change, following Jesus and drawing closer to him. We will inevitably uncover areas in our lives that need forgiveness. This is why the Sacrament of Reconciliation is central to this season. In the next few weeks we will be teaching and preparing children for this. St. Teresa of Avila once said that our sins are like a coat of tar that covers our soul and prevents the light of Jesus from shining out. Reconciliation removes this tar when our deliberate poor choices are absolved.

Karen McQuade
Christian Life Leader
We greatly appreciate the response so far from people offering to help with on the stalls to make this a wonderfully fun and successful day.

However, we still need more help with setting up, ‘manning’ the stalls and clearing up afterwards.

Could you please consider helping out for a couple of hours. Fill out the form below, if you have not put your name down already, and return it to the office by Friday 15th March to enable us to finalise rosters.

We DO need quite a few more helpers!

AUTUMN FAIR HELPER

I/We are able to help with the following:

☐ Setup from 8.30am – 10.00am

☐ Clear up from 3.30pm

☐ Serve on a stall for two hours:
  Preferred time (e.g. 10-12, 12-2, 2-4) is………………
  Preferred stall (if any) is………………

Name………………………. (Please print)

Signed……………………….

Contact phone number……………………
This week’s morning fitness roster:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week 7</th>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Location if wet</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Echidnas</strong></td>
<td>Boundary Run</td>
<td>Meet outside office. Run around cross country track and oval</td>
<td>Join in with aerobics</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mrs O’Brien</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Dingos</strong></td>
<td>Aerobics</td>
<td>SPA Performing Arts</td>
<td>SPA Performing Arts</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mr Booth</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Kookaburrras</strong></td>
<td>Power Walk</td>
<td>Meet in undercover area. Walk around school paths</td>
<td>Meet in undercover area. Walk around passages/stairs in main building.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mrs Brown/Mrs Broderick</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Kangaroos</strong></td>
<td>Obstacle Course</td>
<td>Meet on playground</td>
<td>South building shared area</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mrs McQuade</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Wombats</strong></td>
<td>Relays</td>
<td>Basketball court</td>
<td>Church meeting room</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mrs Vranken</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Koalas</strong></td>
<td>Commando</td>
<td>SPA gym or driveway</td>
<td>SPA gym (one third)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr Colley</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Bandicoots</strong></td>
<td>Games</td>
<td>Basketball court</td>
<td>SPA gym (one third)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mrs Vanstan/Miss Bourke</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Tassie Devils</strong></td>
<td>Pentathlon</td>
<td>Oval</td>
<td>SPA gym (one third)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mrs Traynor</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Not on this week

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Skipping</th>
<th>Roundabout</th>
<th>Art room (Mon, Tues, Fri) or Church Meeting room (Wed, Thurs)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Circuit Training</td>
<td>SPA gym (one third)</td>
<td>SPA gym (one third)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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Would you like the newsletter emailed rather than receive the ‘paper copy’ to help up reduce the amount of paper used?
If you have already notified us – thank you!
If not, please email office@sjyarrajunction.catholic.edu.au from your preferred email address and type ‘newsletter’ in the subject line.
WELLBEING NEWS

What a busy start back to the year! We had a very successful Date Night with Dad, thank you for the HUGE turnout! It was wonderful to see so many Dad’s, Grandad’s and special people. Better Men Australian will be back visiting and running a ‘Dad’s Only Parenting’ night on the 27th of March at 7pm. Please consider coming along to this one off session which should be informative and a great chance to talk about being a parent.

For a more ‘hands on’ time with the kids, we are heading to Ben’s Shed early next term for some wood work fun: NO experience necessary. This will be a few hours in the shed to make and create with the kids. This activity will be for our middle and senior children. Stay tuned for dates and times.

Friendship Groups began again last week. It was great to meet with our special group of children, chat about what has been happening and play some team building games. Next Wednesday our Foundation children will join us for the first time. They are in the same group as their Grade 6 Buddy and will be introduced to their Friendship Group leader and children by their Buddy. We are looking forward to another positive year of group interaction and social skills building.

I mentioned last year holding some Parent Chat groups to address and talk about parenting or child related issues. Due to the immense number of things going on this term, I would like to set a date to meet, Wednesday 1st May. We can meet after drop off and have a cuppa. Small children and toddlers most welcome! What to chat about? Please let me know and I will organise some information or readings to help facilitate discussion. Fill in the slip below to help generate some ideas.

I am available every Wednesday to discuss any Wellbeing needs or issues. Please don’t hesitate to see me or make a time for a chat.

Prue Vanstan
Wellbeing Leader

Parent Chat Group

1st May 2013: Please return via the black office box.
I would like to know more about or discuss
Hi all,
Wow, what a busy term we are having. Please make sure you diarise the upcoming events and let us know if are able to assist by contacting our chairperson Cathy Linder on 0409 187 166 or leave your details at the office.

Upcoming events:

**Autumn Fair**
THANK YOU – for the lovely **hamper items** to be used at the fair.
THANK YOU – to those who helped wrap the **Lucky dips**. We also achieved getting the cake plates ready for distribution – great work everyone.
Order forms have been distributed to purchase **wrist bands** for all day **rides** at the fair, orders need to be in by **Friday 22nd March**. Wrist bands bought on the day of the fair will cost $30 or alternatively, rides will be available at $5 each on the day.
Please see the **helpers board** in the office foyer to see where you may be able to volunteer your time or skills to help with the fair.

**Footy Tipping**
Yes, it’s on again. Come on everyone, don’t let Drew Cummings win again. Join in for a bit of fun competition within the school community. All picks done on-line. See flyer sent home for more information.

**Easter Raffle**
The Easter Raffle is to be drawn on the last day of Term 1. It would be great if a donation towards the raffle could be brought in on **Friday 22nd March – photo day**. While chocolate is great for the hampers there are other Easter goodies available as well. You will already have received the raffle tickets for the Combined Catholic Parishes Raffle, for which selling the book of 5 tickets you automatically get a ticket in the Easter Raffle. Also, if anyone could help put the hampers together, meet in the staff room on Tuesday 26th March.

**Crank Up**
We have been offered the opportunity to run the BBQ at the ‘**Crank Up**’ event held at the Upper Yarra Museum in Yarra Junction, weekend of **6th and 7th of April, 2013**. This would be a great fund raiser for the school if we could get enough helpers. It is in the middle of the school holidays after Easter. We would be looking at setting up a roster with 2 hour shifts (4 people per shift) from **9am to 4pm** both days (note change of time). Maybe your family would have the numbers or you could team up with another family and make it a bit of fun. Please leave details at the office or contact Cathy 0409 187 166.

**Parents & Friends Goals for 2013:**
- Update our school **Library** by replacing old stock and purchasing much needed new **books**.
- **Tables** to go with the new furniture in the South Building.
- A **Path** leading from the school to the SPA centre.
- A **Pie Warmer** for more hot lunch days.

*The Parents & Friends committee are happy to welcome more members, many hands make light work. We are meeting 2 times per term during 2013, but you don’t have to attend meetings if you can’t or prefer not to. We have lots of events and activities proposed for this year; for example, The Autumn Fair, Bushdance, Shopping Tour, Trivia Night and we are always open for suggestions.*

The next parents and friends meeting will be on **Monday 25th March** in the staff room at 7pm.
Thanks from the
P & F Team
AUTUMN FAIR

During the Fair on 23 March the St Vincent de Paul members will be running the Bric-a-Brac Stall and would appreciate any goods that we can sell. Items in good condition, such as books, crockery, cutlery, toys, household bits and pieces, etc. would be suitable (please NO clothing or electrical items).
Goods can be left in the Parish Meeting Room.

Yarra Valley Uniforms

The Uniform Shop is open on Tuesdays after school.

Remember: School photos will be taken on Friday 22nd March - get your uniform orders in early!!!!!!

Donna’s contact number is: 0427 516 375.

*** Book Club news ***

The brochures for Book Club Issue No.2 have been sent home with your children last week. Please return any orders to the office by this Friday 15th March.

Thank you.
MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER WEEKEND

Married couples, we encourage you to prioritise your relationship. It underpins your family life. Please join us for a Marriage Encounter weekend. Our weekend helps you to remember why you married and gives you skills to maintain your love for each other.

Couples and a priest present the weekend. It is based around catholic values but you don’t need to be catholic to attend. There is no group sharing.

Our next weekends in 2013 are on: 19-21 April, 14-16 June and 9-11 August in Melbourne.

For further information and bookings contact Marianne & Marcel Van den Bronk (03) 9733 0997 or Email vicbookings@wwme.org.au

SPECIAL EVENT!!!

World’s Greatest Shave
Date: 16th March, 9am – 1pm
At: Yarra Junction Playground

Sausage Sizzle, Hair Colouring and shaving, Raffles, Face-Painting and LOTS, LOTS more!
Help Angus Mellett and team Dougzilla raise funds for the Leukaemia Foundation.
Sponsor online at www.worldsgreatestshave.com.au

REMININDER – ORDERS DUE THIS FRIDAY

SPRING BULB FUNDRAISER

Help us to renovate and improve the St Joseph’s vegie patch and fruit orchard by purchasing beautiful spring bulbs.
It is great for children to be involved in the school garden, growing and eating fresh, healthy produce. We aim to have an improved, fully productive veggie patch, plant more fruit trees and install a watering system by the end of the year. All profits from this fundraiser will go toward this project. Please have a look at the catalogue and order some bulbs. Please ask your family, friends and neighbours if they want to order any of these beautiful bulbs too.
Order forms and money, cheque or money order need to be returned to the office by Friday 15th of March and you will receive your bulbs at the start of Term 2. Many thanks, Bee Rawlinson 5966 9967.
A good ol’ time
COUNTRY FAIR
ST. PAULS PRIMARY SCHOOL
59 MOORES ROAD MONBULK
MARCH 16TH
GREAT ENTERTAINMENT, LIVE AUCTIONS AND FUN FOR ALL THE FAMILY! SATURDAY 12noon - 6pm

THE LITTLE BIG TIME
KIDS, COME AND HAVE SOME FUN AT WARBURTON AUSKICK AT WESBURN FOOTBALL OVAL
FRIDAYS 4:30PM TO 6:00PM
STARTING FRIDAY 19TH APRIL UNTIL THE END OF AUGUST
REGISTER ONLINE - ANY QUERIES CONTACT SHERIDAN ON 0407 683 826

REGISTER NOW AT AFLAUSKICK.COM.AU

Check us out on 📸 🎥