SCHOOL OFFICE HOURS
8.45am – 3.30pm

PRINCIPAL
Mr. John Faulkner

ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL
Mr. Justin Colley

ADMINISTRATION OFFICER
Mrs. Sue Lucas

DATES TO REMEMBER
NOVEMBER
13th Prep transition 9 – 9.45am
Middles Safeway excursion
Assembly 2.30pm
14th Future Stars Day at MLMC
16th Seniors Interschool Sports
Sacrament of Confirmation 7pm
19th Swimming program begins – walk
Spring Fair meeting
20th Swimming program - bus
Advisory Board Meeting 7.30pm
21st Prep/Juniors Mass 9am
Swimming program – walk
22nd Swimming program - bus
23rd Giving Tree ends
Seniors Interschool Sports
Swimming program – walk
24th Trivia night
26th Swimming program – bus
27th Swimming program – walk
Prep transition 9.00-11.00am
Assembly 2.30pm
28th Swimming program – bus
P & F Meeting 7pm
29th Swimming program – walk
30th Swimming program – bus
Working Bee (Twilight)

Dear Parents and Friends,

Remembrance Day
Today we hosted Mr Denis Reeves from the Yarra Junction RSL, who joined us at our service to celebrate Remembrance Day. Through several activities including The Ode, the children learned of the meaning behind this solemn celebration.

Confirmation
On Friday in our St Thomas à Becket Church we celebrate the Confirmation of our senior students. This is the third step in their initiation into the church after Baptism and Eucharist. We are all called to support them, especially to pray for them to deepen their relationship with God, to use their gifts, and enjoy the fruits of the Spirit. The candidates are: Amy Bourke, Natalie Boxell, Samantha Edwards, Daniel Enever, Jasmine Hendriks, Pierce Jenkin, James Linder, Joshua Mazurak, Hunter Nugara, Jacob Peels, Michael Read and Danielle Virgona.

As part of their preparation, the candidates will attend a “Spirit Day” on Thursday with the candidates of St Mary's Mt Evelyn who will be celebrating their Confirmation the following week.

Trivia Night 24 November
Have you booked yet? This is planned to be a fantastic night! This is for parents AND children, a family night! Be there!

Classes 2013
As we are planning for next year we need to know if your children are not returning to our school next year. In the organisation for this year most classroom teachers changed levels. To enable us to consolidate teaching and learning we will continue with teachers in the same levels for 2013. When developing class groupings, the teachers take into consideration up to 3 friendships that the children nominate, the educational needs of the children, and relationships that help or hinder learning. If parents wish to have an issue considered that might have an impact on their child's learning, they are asked to submit it to me in writing by Monday 19 November.

Prep Drop In
Tomorrow we again welcome our 2013 preps.

Assembly
Tomorrow we celebrate at 2:30pm our learning over recent weeks. See you there!

Mass
On Wednesday morning the Middle classes are attending Mass. Everyone is welcome to join us.

Parish Advisory Board
The PAB meets on Wednesday at 7:30.

Future Stars
On Wednesday our senior students are attending Mt Lilydale Mercy College as part of their Future stars program. What will they learn?

Swimming Monday 19
Our program starts next week, so remember to follow the weather so your children have coats and umbrellas on possible wet days. Hats will be worn every day. Any parents able to assist are asked to contact Mr Colley.

Giving Tree
There are already a number of presents under the tree. Please consider this and be as generous as possible. The tree ends on 23 November

Library
Parents are requested to help their children be responsible for our resources. We have had a number of lost and damaged books. It is the practice of most libraries, including ours, that those responsible for lost and damaged books make good the loss. I'm sure you are most understanding and supportive of this process.

God bless us all,
John

The Pied Piper DVD order forms are due by 16th November.
Confirmation Preparation

This week will be busy with preparation for Confirmation on Friday evening. I will be accompanying the twelve candidates to St. Mary’s school in Mt. Evelyn for reflection and the final preparation for their celebration.

Please remember the following Confirmation children in your prayers:

Amy Bourke               Natalie Boxell
Samantha Edwards         Daniel Enever
Jasmine Hendriks         Pierce Jenkins
James Linder             Joshua Mazurak
Hunter Nugara            Jacob Peels
Michael Read             Danielle Virgona

A Prayer for our Confirmation Preparation

God of life, you continue to call your pilgrim people to share more deeply in your intimate love.

As we prepare for Confirmation pour out your Spirit upon us and our students that we may be the very sign and promise of your presence in the world.

Enflame us to know you more deeply and serve you more truly as we respond to your call to be your disciples and share that call to those around us.

We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Karen McQuade
Christian Life Leader
This week’s morning fitness roster:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week 6</th>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Location if wet</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Echidnas</td>
<td>Circuit Training</td>
<td>SPA gym (one third)</td>
<td>SPA gym (one third)</td>
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<td>Miss Bellman</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dingos</td>
<td>Skipping</td>
<td>Roundabout</td>
<td>SPA gym (one third)</td>
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<td>Mr Booth</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kookaburras</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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<td>Mrs Drago</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kangaroos</td>
<td>Aerobics</td>
<td>SPA Performing Arts</td>
<td>SPA Performing Arts</td>
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<td>Mrs McQuade</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wombats</td>
<td>Power Walk</td>
<td>Meet in undercover area. Walk around school paths</td>
<td>Meet in uncover area. Walk around passages/stairs in main building.</td>
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<td>Mrs Vranken</td>
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<tr>
<td>Koalas</td>
<td>Obstacle Course</td>
<td>Meet on playground</td>
<td>South building shared area</td>
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<td>Mr Colley</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bandicoots</td>
<td>Relays</td>
<td>Basketball court</td>
<td>Church meeting room</td>
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<td>Mrs Vanstan/ Miss Bourke</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tassie Devils</td>
<td>Commando</td>
<td>SPA gym or driveway</td>
<td>SPA gym (one third)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mrs Traynor/ Mrs Brown</td>
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*** BOOKCLUB NEWS ***

"You may have tangible wealth untold, Caskets of jewels and coffers of gold, Richer than I you can never be, For I had a mother who read to me."
— Strickland Gillilan

Book Club Issue no. 8 was sent home last week with the children. Please return any orders by Tuesday 20th November.
Thank you for your support throughout the year and HAPPY READING ☺!
PAYMENT TO DONNA BY CREDIT CARD IS NOW AVAILABLE

The Uniform Shop is open on Tuesdays after school.

Donna’s contact number is: 0427 516 375.

Want that SCULPTURAL EXPERIENCE?

Try taking a visit to the local winery YERING STATION – 36 Melba Highway, Yarra Glen.

Yering Station and the Yarra Valley Arts invite one and all to attend the 12th Annual Sculptural Exhibition.

28th October – 2 December
10am – 5pm weekdays
10am – 6pm weekends
entry is free

If you are down Frankston way you may wish to visit the McClelland Gallery and park.

This is a large park full of sculpture that varies in style and scale. There are gallery spaces with changing exhibitions and café.

390 McClelland Dr. Langwarren.
Tues – Sun. 10am – 5pm.
Have you got your Booking Form to the office yet?

FAMILY EVENT
Alcohol free

st joseph's
Everyday
Einstein
Trivia Night

Sat 24th
November

7pm @ the SPA centre

The P&F would like to invite you to a fun event for the whole family and you don't have to be Albert Einstein to answer the questions. It's a Trivia night with a twist. So bring your grandma, bring your cousin, bring whoever and see if your table can be the winner on the night.

Prizes for the winning table. Activities for the kids will be set up so they can come and go from the table as the please but be aware, they may have the answers!

BE QUICK - tickets go home next week

to get a booking form log on to Facebook St Josephs Parents and Friend & click “like” or see Sue in the office
This letter is to update you on changes being made to the Conveyance Allowance Program (CAP).

The program provides financial assistance to families attending schools in rural or remote areas who have limited or no access to public transport or a school bus.

This is the first review of the program in 30 years and the Government has decided to better target the assistance to those most in need.

Please read below to find out how the introduced changes affect your school.

Means testing
From 1 January 2013 means testing will come into effect and all new conveyance allowance applications will be subject to it.

Applicants for the conveyance allowance must be listed on a means tested pension concession card or health care card that can be verified by Centrelink. Students who qualify for the Education Maintenance Allowance (EMA) may also qualify to receive the conveyance allowance, subject to the eligibility criteria.

Means testing is a new criterion that has been added to the existing eligibility requirements. The existing eligibility criteria remain unchanged and also must be met.

Transitioning to the new eligibility criteria - grandfathering
To help schools and families transition to the new eligibility, the Minister has directed the Department to ‘grandfather’ existing payments of students for either the duration of their primary years of schooling or for the duration of their secondary years of schooling.

This means all eligible students in receipt of the conveyance allowance in 2012 are entitled to continue to receive it as long as they:

a) remain in either their primary or secondary years at the school from which they received the allowance in 2012

b) remain at the residential address as listed on their 2012 conveyance allowance application.

Primary students attending a P-12 school are entitled to have their conveyance allowance grandfathered until they complete Year 6. Under the grandfathering conditions, Year 7 students attending a P-12 school in 2013 are not entitled to have their allowance grandfathered, irrespective of their continued attendance at the school and receiving the allowance the previous year.

The grandfathering of the allowance will give schools, families and bus companies time to plan and adapt transport arrangements to the changed eligibility criteria.

Other changes to the conveyance allowance
The following changes to the conveyance allowance are for your information only and do not affect your school.

From 1 January 2013, the Department will use a new boundary based on Melbourne Urban Growth Boundary (UGB - the UGB defines Melbourne’s urban area and is managed by intergovernmental agencies and statutory authorities).

Families attending schools located within the UGB will be ineligible to claim the conveyance allowance, irrespective of whether or not they hold a means tested health care or pension cards.

The Department acknowledges that some schools within the UGB postcode areas have limited public transport options and until public transport options improve in those areas, it is appropriate to continue the payment of conveyance allowance.

Exempted postcodes will be reviewed annually and their status changed once accessibility to the schools sufficiently improves.

Your school is not affected by the change to the conveyance allowance boundary.