Dear Parents and Friends,

Bush Dance

You are all leaving it very late to book your tickets to the Bush Dance THIS FRIDAY!!!! Unfortunately, as of last Friday we only had a small number booked. The children have spent many hours over several weeks learning dances to perform for their families. The plan is for each level of the school to perform and then invite their parents to join them for a bracket of the same dance. It should be fun. Please book tomorrow! If you are unable to attend please also let us know!

Camp
This week we look forward to the senior students attending camp at Ballarat and deepening their knowledge and understanding of the gold rushes. Miss Angeli, Mr Frederiksen, Mrs Broderick, a student teacher, and I will be supervising the children. For Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday the school will be in the capable management of Mr Colley.

Prep 2012
On Friday we have the next visit of next year’s 25 prep children. Last Friday this year’s preps and their Year 6 buddies celebrated Mass together. It was a delightful experience particularly all present holding hands during the Lord’s Prayer.

Junior Sport
Buses will pick up all the junior children on Wednesday morning to take them to their interschool sport at Yarra Junction postponed from last week. They will return about 2pm. We hope that the forecast showers stay away and the children have a successful day. I hope the middle school enjoy having the school to themselves for the day!

P & F AGM
On Wednesday 23 November, all parents are invited to attend the Annual General Meeting of the Parents and Friends Association. This is the opportunity for you to contribute your ideas to the development of OUR community here at St Joseph’s School.

John
John Faulkner
Principal
ALIVE IN OUR FAITH

In the Senior classes for last terms R.E, we have been preparing the Masses that have been celebrated in the levels this term. There was a Senior Mass, Middles Mass, Junior Mass and a Buddies Mass between the Grade 6 children and their Prep Buddies. Here are some of the children's thoughts on the experience.

I did the Senior Mass and my thoughts for it were that it went fine because everything went in place smoothly and nothing bad happened so I'm really happy with how the Mass went. Next time we could change the songs. - Amie Lawrence

The Senior Mass

For the Senior Mass I helped to put it together. Chloe, Belinda and I wrote the prayers of the faithful. As we only had a few days to organise the Mass it was very chaotic. On the day of the Mass I didn't have a special job but it was a very good Mass.

The Buddy Mass

For the buddy Mass I wasn't involved in creating that Mass. I got given a reading from the Book of Wisdom to read. Because it was a buddy Mass I sat next to my buddy, Caitlyn. Overall it was a very well organised Mass that was surprisingly fun! - Maddy Cottier

My group and I were organising the Junior Mass. I think that it went really well, but the time leading up to the Mass was a little nerve racking, organising all the people who were doing the readings and gifts!

I think that perhaps next time we should be a little wiser with our choice of songs and the readers, get to know the people before we give them the really complicated readings. However, it was really fun and I enjoyed every minute of it. I would certainly do it again! - Jasmine Hendriks

Weekend Mass Times

Saturday – 7.00pm
Sacred Heart Church, Warburton

Sunday – 9.00am
St. Thomas à Becket Church, Yarra Junction

THIS WEEKENDS READINGS

Thirty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time

First Reading: Prv 31:10-13.19-20.30-31
A worthy wife is invaluable.

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 127:1-5. R. v.1

Second Reading: 1 Thes 5:1-6
You are children of the light.

Gospel Acclamation: Jn 15:4. 5

Gospel: Mt 25:14-30
Parable of the rich man, going on a journey.

NEXT WEEKENDS READINGS

Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe

First Reading: Ez 34:11-12.15-17
The Lord will rescue his sheep.

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 22:1-3. 5-6. R. v.1

Second Reading: 1 Cor 15:20-26.28
When all has been subjected to Christ, all will be one in Him.

Gospel Acclamation: Mk 11:9-10

Gospel: Mt 25:31-46
Whenever you serve the least of people, you serve Christ.
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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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Echidnas</strong></td>
<td>Circuit Training</td>
<td>SPA gym (one third)</td>
<td>SPA gym (one third)</td>
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<td>Mrs Vranken</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Dingos</strong></td>
<td>Skipping</td>
<td>Roundabout</td>
<td>SPA gym (one third)</td>
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<td>Mr Frederiksen</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Kookaburras</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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<td>Mrs McQuade</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Koalas</strong></td>
<td>Aerobics</td>
<td>SPA Performing Arts</td>
<td>SPA Performing Arts</td>
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<td>Mr Booth</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Kangaroos</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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<td>Miss Bellman</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Wombats</strong></td>
<td>Obstacle Course</td>
<td>Meet on playground</td>
<td>South building shared area</td>
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<td>Miss Bourke/ Mrs Vanstan</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Bandicoots</strong></td>
<td>Relays</td>
<td>Basketball court</td>
<td>Church meeting room</td>
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<td>Mr Colley/ Mrs Traynor</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Tassie Devils</strong></td>
<td>Commando</td>
<td>SPA gym or driveway</td>
<td>SPA gym (one third)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Miss Angeli</td>
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<tr>
<td>Not on this week:</td>
<td>Pentathlon</td>
<td>SPA gym</td>
<td>Art room (Mon, Tues, Fri) or Church Meeting room (Wed, Thurs)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Games</td>
<td></td>
<td>Basketball court</td>
<td>SPA gym (one third)</td>
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**2012 Fete Meeting**  
Wednesday 16 November at 7.30pm  
in the Parish Meeting Room  
All welcome to come and have your say or see how you can help.

Please bring in your gift to place under the tree.  
St Vincent de Paul, LinC and River Valley will ensure the gifts are supplied to needy families in the Upper Yarra Valley.
Nurturing your child’s thinking skills

How can you nurture your child’s thinking life in the pre-primary and primary years? The purpose is not so much for your child to excel at school, but to instil a desire to learn and the ability to think for themselves and be resilient enough to resist following the crowd in thoughts as well as actions. 

Children spend more time at home than at school yet parents often feel most children’s learning occurs behind the classroom door. Learning is natural and has no boundaries and can happen anywhere. 

Parents teach their children both implicitly and explicitly. Take advantage of your role modelling position and take an active interest in your child’s learning and in the activities, such as reading and questioning, that foster learning. If your child sees you reading and taking an interest in a myriad of subjects he or she will be more interested in reading and more likely develop a sense of curiosity as well. 

Curiosity may be the most important learning behaviour that your child develops. Bake a cake with your child and see it rise. Make a model plane and see it fly. Help your child dismantle a broken clock. Ask questions of yourself and of your child. Curiosity needs to be fed by experiences and they don’t have to be expensive or externally provided. They can be provided at home by parents. 

It is worth considering how your home environment fosters a sense of curiosity and enquiry in children. Consider the following: 

- **Spaces for doing and thinking:** Look at your home through the eyes of a child and his or her learning needs. Do you have spaces that invite your child to explore, create and think? Do you have a quiet place for reading and drawing? Do you have a space for kids to be creative and messy? Do you have a place for noise and music? Do you have a space for kids to be tactile with plenty of textures (this can be outside or inside)?

- **Materials:** Look at the materials available that can stimulate the senses of a child. These include art materials, books, costumes and masks, sketch pads, construction materials, puzzles and games. Take a minimalist approach. That is, the more bells and whistles that a toy has the less opportunity a child has to be creative with it. Kids don’t need much to be creative.

- **The role of television:** Some specifically designed children’s programs such as Play School are great but much of television promotes a spectator mode of consciousness and suppresses active thinking. Don’t let the TV dominate your child’s free time.

- **Teachable moments:** Be on the lookout for teachable moments. These are the opportunities to explain, question and prompt exploration with your child. Looking at insect wings, ants walking in a line or moths flying around the lights can provide teachable moments as long as you are lead by your child and don’t get too heavy handed with the ‘lesson’ learnt. 

Sometimes the experience is enough.

Nurturing in children the ability to think openly about their world starts with their own environment. It involves a mixture of free, open exploration on their own and interactions with adults that stimulate discussions and prompt them to explore new ideas and think. It is these types of experiences that can foster in kids a love of learning and thinking that can help them succeed at school and beyond.
The biannual St Joseph's Bush Dance will be held this Friday 18th November from 6:00p.m. So far, bookings have been very poor. Please remember that the children are currently learning bush dances in their performing arts classes which will be performed on the night, and the bush dance is supporting the history curriculum currently being studied. It would be great to see all families supporting this event. Please see the office if you need a new booking form.

The P&F AGM will be held next week on Wednesday 23rd November. 7:00p.m. for a 7:30p.m. start. Once the AGM has been completed, our normal meeting will commence. An AGM flyer was sent home last week. We would love to see some new faces at the AGM.

Christmas Hamper/ Casual Dress Day. It is hard to believe we have already come to that time of year again. On Friday 2nd December, children will be asked to bring a donation for the Christmas hampers in return for wearing casual clothes. Ideas for donations include Christmas novelties such as serviettes, colouring books, decorations, Christmas shortbread, puddings, chocolate, cranberry sauce... basically anything you can think of that is Christmassy! Each child can bring something, or you may choose to send one donation as a family. The raffle will be drawn at the end of year Mass at 9:00a.m. on Wednesday 21st December.

The P&F Christmas Dinner has been booked for 7:00p.m. on Wednesday 7th December at the Upper Yarra RSL. If you have helped the P&F during the year, you are welcome to attend. Please note that the night is pay your own way. Please contact Jo on the number below if you would like to come.

Contact: Jo Taylor 0403 504 096 or Drew Cummings 0413 999 315

"Come on everybody and Like the New St Joseph's Parents and Friends facebook page.

You can get updates on what’s going on and have your say. You can even comment live when meetings are on from the comfort of your own home.
Community has just got wider"

Here is the link to make it easy


Nick Love Parents & Friends
Applications can now be submitted for new students to use the school bus service for 2012.

Existing travellers are automatically rolled over and families are only advised if there is no room for their child/children.

Students who access the school bus service are ineligible for Conveyance Allowance but instead are issued with a bus pass enabling them to travel on the school bus network to and from their home address only. This includes use of the shuttle bus service.

Applications are available from your primary/secondary school and must be submitted to Upper Yarra Secondary College. There is currently room on most bus routes and families are accommodated on a ‘first in first served basis’.

Any family who is currently using the school bus service but does not wish to continue in 2012 please advise Upper Yarra Secondary College as soon as possible.

Paul’s bottle cap collecting is still going – please keep saving them and bring them in to the office.

Yarra Valley Uniforms

The Uniform Shop is open on Wednesdays.
Donna’s contact number is: 0427 516 375.

Remember to keep receipts to claim on your Education Tax Refund next year.