Welcome back to term three. It was lovely seeing the children welcoming their friends back to school this morning. We look forward to a successful term culminating in our musical at the end.

Parent Teacher Meetings
The opportunity to meet together to determine goals for the rest of the year is important. Success in student achievement is most evident when parents, students and teachers understand and work together. Times have been distributed.

On the night we have books available for purchase in the library as part of the “Book Fair”. The children will visit at the beginning of the week to identify books that they like. The PFA has organised some wine tastings of their newly bottled St Joseph’s “Parent’s Friend”. These will be in the South Building. So give yourself some time either side of your meetings to visit these two great opportunities.

Mrs McQuade has been accepted for some professional development on Wednesday. Mr Booth is taking the week to recuperate from his oral surgery last week. So, all of Mr Booth’s and the afternoon meetings of Mrs McQuade will be postponed. The effected parents will be contacted and offered alternatives.

Working Bee
We offer many thanks to those families that have been able to come to our previous working bees. Our next one is this Saturday and the forecast is positive. We again want to refresh the kitchen garden, install some post and rail fencing, tidy some gardens, and some inside cleaning. Something for everyone!! So come and help maintain and develop our great facility.

Shopping Tour
The PFA still has some places for the tour on 18 August. Please contact Cathy Linder or the school office for further information. Join the gang for a fun day shopping!

Morning Tea Time!
Parents are welcome to attend a regular first day of the term for a catch-up “cuppa” in the staffroom. A number enjoyed our quality staffroom coffee this morning!

Eucharist Workshop 24 Tuesday 7pm
Students and parents preparing for Eucharist in late August are expected to attend this information workshop next Tuesday with the teachers and Fr Ashkar. The Commitment Mass is 29 July at 9am.

Prep 2013 Enrolments
Please be aware that the Prep Enrolment Evening is on 21 August.

Maths Family Fun Night
The name isn’t too inviting but the activities will be. So, book up in your diaries the evening of Wednesday 1 August to join other families and staff.
Welcome to third term. I hope you have rested well as this promises to be busier than the last one with a variety of interesting activities being organised. Some children will be preparing for their first Eucharist at the end of August too.

This term the whole school will be focusing on the many aspects of belonging. These will incorporate family, school, church and the Olympics games. Initially, the children will be tuned in to what belonging means, why we need to belong to groups and how groups are identified through actions, words, symbols, rituals, uniforms etc. They will look at types of groups and ones that they belong to. Then they will explore the expectations of group members including responsibilities, commitment, rules, co-operation, support and care for each other.

From the Religious Life perspective, the children will be learning about becoming a part of God’s family through Baptism. The three sacraments of initiation into the Catholic Church are Baptism, Eucharist and Confirmation. At Baptism, we are given new life through water and the Holy Spirit. As the scriptures describe, we are ‘brought out of the darkness into the light of Christ’. At Eucharist we are nourished to be strengthened for our journey. At Confirmation, we are given the gifts of the Holy Spirit as we confirm that we wish to be followers of Jesus.

The St. Joseph’s school community has been given an excellent opportunity to attend a Baptism next week, thanks to The Smith family who have agreed to be baptised during school hours. Father Ashkar will be conducting the ceremony and explaining the meaning of the rituals and symbols to assist the children’s understanding. This will be invaluable to their learning about “Belonging, Being and Becoming”, the title of our Integrated Studies unit this term.

Everyone is welcome to attend the Baptism on Wednesday, 25th July, at 10am in the parish church. There will be a small celebration afterwards. Also, please note that children making their First Eucharist this year are required to attend an evening session with a parent on Tuesday, 24th July at 7pm.

Karen McQuade
Christian Life Leader
Dear parents and friends,

To celebrate the **National Year of Reading 2012** our school is hosting a Scholastic Book Fair. We would love you to come to our family event during the first week of Term 3, i.e.

**Wednesday, 18th July, 8.30 am to 8 pm and**  
**Thursday, 19th July, 8.30 am to 5 pm**

To make our Book Fair successful we need your support not only in purchasing books but also with some assistance on the following days.

**Tuesday, 17th July - Preview and Wish Lists**

Volunteers needed to assist the Junior students with their wish lists

- Junior B  
  9.10 - 9.45 am
- Junior V  
  9.47 - 10.15 am
- Prep  
  10.20 - 11.00 am

**Wednesday 18th July - Book Sales**

Volunteers are needed (3.00 - 4.30 pm) to help students find the items they are looking for (wish list), place an order or make payment. Let parents know about the Classroom Wish List.

**Thursday 19th July - Book Sales**

Some help may be needed from 3.00 to 4.00 pm

If you can manage to volunteer some time during the times listed above then please contact Mrs Ann Manning or leave your name with Mrs Sue Lucas.

Please note: As much as we hope you can purchase a book or two you are under no obligation to do so. Please join us to make this Book Fair the BEST our school has ever seen. I look forward to seeing you at the Fair!

Ann Manning  
Teacher Librarian.
Kids in the kitchen

“The kitchen is a great place to start developing the skills of independent living in your kids. Cooking by nature is practical, a lot of fun and you get to eat the results of your efforts immediately.”

Things have certainly heated up in many Australian kitchens as family members go head-to-head inspired by some recent TV reality cooking show type competitions. Father-son cook-offs, mother-daughter bake-offs and all-in family challenges are the go as families rediscover what was once the hub of every home – the kitchen.

The positive spin-off from all this activity, apart from promoting better family relationships, is that kids are learning how to cook. For someone like me, who believes the fundamental goal of all parents is to make themselves redundant, teaching kids to cook is a no-brainer.

The kitchen is a great place to start developing the skills of independent living in your kids. Cooking by nature is practical, a lot of fun and you get to eat the results of your efforts immediately.

It has the added bonus of being boy-friendly. Many boys love to cook because it’s hands-on, messy and encourages creativity and experimentation. These characteristics suit the learning styles of many boys, particularly those who abhor being stuck behind a school desk. It’s little wonder that many of our top chefs are men.

If your kids haven’t been bitten by the cooking bug yet, here are some ideas guaranteed to get them into the kitchen, and developing a bunch of great skills as well:

- **Start young:** Kids should be able to cook an edible, interesting two-course meal for the whole family by the time they finish primary school. They are perfectly capable of doing this, but from my experience, few kids can. The key is to start when children are young.

- **Start small:** If your kids are strangers to cooking and preparing meals, start by showing them how to make their school lunchbox, prepare snacks and prepare parts of the family meals. Little by little, increase the number of food preparation activities until they are familiar with the kitchen, feel comfortable with many of the utensils and can read some basic recipes.

- **You help me:** Cooking is one of the few activities that parents and kids can do together. So try to get a child involved in some way, each time you cook a meal. Whether it’s peeling vegetables, pouring water into a pot or stirring chocolate sauce in a bowl there are plenty of ways to involve kids with you in the kitchen.

- **Give them a purpose:** I’ve always found kids will usually do just about anything if they see a purpose for what they do. So if your child is a reluctant mini-chef, get him or her cooking for you, their friends or part of a family celebration. They will feel good about all the compliments they receive.

- **Let them choose:** Kids are more likely to stick to any decision that they have had a say in making. This is why I’ve always asked my children’s opinion about a range of matters. It’s about establishing some buy-in. The same principle applies to the kitchen. Invite your kids to choose a meal to cook, perhaps once a week, and be willing to work alongside them to produce a joint masterpiece.

If all this sounds a little high maintenance for your liking, consider the time spent developing the cooking habit in your kids as an investment in your future redundancy. You don’t want to be cooking for them forever.

Cooking is also a great way to get kids talking, because while their hands are busy, their tongues loosen up. So if you have a conversational clam in the family who keeps things close to their chest try some shoulder-to-shoulder parenting where cooking together provides.

Published by Michael Grose Presentations. All rights reserved. For more ideas, support and advice for all your parenting challenges visit:
The Parents and Friends Association will be holding a wine tasting at school from 3.00pm – 8.00pm on Wednesday 18th July.

You can pre-order their special label wine, “The Parent’s Friend”.

The date is drawing near!

Money raised will be used to support preparations for the St Joseph’s Fair 2013.

Contact Cathy or Georgette for more details.
EVERYONE is doing a remarkable job collecting stickers from Woolworths, vouchers from Coles and Pauls milk bottle caps. 😊

WORKING BEE
The following families are rostered on for the Working Bee this Saturday:

Bowman
Clements
Dolheguy
Hamment
Holland
Loughnan
Mazurak
Purton
Rawlinson
Reardon
Smith (Harvey, Angus & Lily)
Stafford
Wells (Daisy & Charlie)
Young
Weir
Ziegler

Any other families are welcome to attend!

Mount Lilydale Mercy College Enrolments Year 7 2014
Parents/guardians wishing to apply for enrolment at Mount Lilydale Mercy College for Year 7 2014 are advised that Enrolment Application Information Sessions will be held at the College on the dates listed below throughout July and August 2012. To apply for enrolment in Year 7 2014, parents/guardians MUST attend one of these meetings. The meetings will be held in Centennial Hall.

2014 YEAR 7 INFORMATION EVENINGS
Wednesday 25 July - 7.30 PM (Current Parents)
Tuesday 7 August - 7.30 PM
Monday 20 August - 7.30 PM
Friday 31 August - 2.15 PM

OPEN DAY
Friday 31 August - 11.00 AM—5.00 PM

MOUNT LILYDALE MERCY COLLEGE
120 Anderson Street
Lilydale Victoria 3140
Telephone: 9735 4022 | Fax: 9735 0295 | Enquiries: The_Reg@mlmclilydale.catholic.edu.au
Web: www.mlmc.lilydale.catholic.edu.au
Mercy Education Limited ACN 154 531 870

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Maddy O’Donnell’s size 12 NEW windcheater is missing!
It may not have a name on it – but the family would very much appreciate its return.

Yarra Valley Uniforms
ORGANIC COTTON CHILDREN’S UNDERWEAR NOW AVAILABLE

The Uniform Shop is open on Tuesdays after school.
Donna’s contact number is: 0427 516 375.
Remember to keep receipts to claim on your Education Tax Refund next year.