NEWSLETTER NO: 13                                                                                                      Monday 23rd May 2011

*** Supervision of students at St Joseph’s School is from 8.40am until 3.20pm ***

SCHOOL OFFICE HOURS
8.45am – 3.30pm

ACTING PRINCIPAL
Mrs. Jenny Allatt

DEPUTY PRINCIPAL
Mr. Justin Colley

ADMINISTRATION OFFICER
Mrs. Sue Lucas

DATES TO REMEMBER

MAY
25th National Simultaneous Story Time Day – Juniors visit Yarra Junction Library at 11.00am
27th 2nd School Fee Payment due
Yr 5 – 6 Aussie Sports Expo

JUNE
1st P & F Meeting 7.30pm
3rd Prep – Yr 2 excursion to Scienceworks
6th Assembly 2.30pm
7th School Advisory Board 7.30pm
8th Division Cross Country
9th School at Work Open Morning
13th Queen’s Birthday Public Holiday
17th School Disco
18th Working Bee
20th Assembly 2.30pm
21st Sacrament of Reconciliation 7pm

NOTE: Assemblies will be held on alternate Mondays in Term 2

NEWS FROM THE PRINCIPAL’S DESK
I trust children and parents were able to take advantage of the pupil free day last Friday to recharge the batteries. The staff certainly had their batteries recharged at the Symposium that was held at St. Jude’s, Scoresby. There were well over two hundred catholic educators in attendance and we were treated to a smorgasbord of ideas. The keynote speaker was a prominent psychologist - Michael Carr Greg who inspired me with his address on “Building Resilient Children, Parents and Staff.” I spent the week-end retelling snippets to my immediate and extended family. His basic message was centred on developing the ability for each of us to bounce back and the teacher’s role in assisting children to develop resilience.

We all need to feel safe, valued and listened to; whilst at the same time have the ability to count our blessings daily and put things into perspective. Problem solving and decision-making were seen as key factors in one’s development as well as social emotional competencies, which can and should be taught by parents and teachers alike. Spirituality - a sense of inner being gives purpose and belonging and we need to celebrate our faith. Many of us may experience a hole in the soul, an emptiness which spirituality can fill. He spoke of participating each day in acts of kindness and a motto – “Feel Good Do Good” struck a cord with me as did the thinking that mistakes are allowable and developing in the children the skill of positive self talk. I find it inspirational when you listen to someone who makes sense whilst at the same time gives you strategies for developing life skills. One final thought he left us with – Life rewards action!!!!!

Staff also attended a variety of workshops and the Fast ForWord session facilitated by Kaye Brown, Sue McConachy and Bek Spencer introduced many school in the zone to a new initiative so I’m sure we will be having observers in the near future.

Nicole Angeli, Marg Broderick and Simone Traynor co-facilitated with two other schools a session on Positive Partnerships that was also very well received. We thank these staff members for sharing their expertise. All in all a very fruitful learning experience and a memorable opportunity to be able to join with fellow educators as we journey together to work with and for the children in our care.

We wish Fr Ashkar a belated happy birthday. He celebrated his special day last Wednesday.

A number of activities children are involved in this week. Please make sure you check the school calendar.

Yours with every blessing,

Jenny Allatt

Acting Principal
ALIVE IN OUR FAITH

Fifth Sunday of Easter

Gospel  Jn 14:1-12
A reading from the holy Gospel according to John
I am the way, the truth, and the life.
Jesus said to his disciples:
‘Do not let your hearts be troubled.
Trust in God still, and trust in me.
There are many rooms in my Father’s house;
if there were not, I should have told you.
I am now going to prepare a place for you,
and after I have gone and prepared you a place,
I shall return to take you with me;
so that where I am
you may be too.
You know the way to the place where I am going.’
Thomas said, ‘Lord, we do not know where you are going, so how can we
know the way?’ Jesus said:
‘I am the Way, the Truth and the Life.
No one can come to the Father except through me.
If you know me, you know my Father too.
From this moment you know him and have seen him.’
Philip said, ‘Lord, let us see the Father and then we shall be satisfied.’
‘Have I been with you all this time, Philip,’ said Jesus to him ‘and you still do
not know me?
‘To have seen me is to have seen the Father,
so how can you say, “Let us see the Father”?
Do you not believe
that I am in the Father and the Father is in me?
The words I say to you I do not speak as from myself:
it is the Father, living in me, who is doing this work.
You must believe me when I say
that I am in the Father and the Father is in me;
believe it on the evidence of this work, if for no other reason.
‘I tell you most solemnly,
whoever believes in me
will perform the same works as I do myself,
he will perform even greater works,
because I am going to the Father.’

NEXT WEEKENDS READINGS
Sixth Sunday of Easter

First Reading: Acts 8:5-8, 14-17
The Messiah is proclaimed and accepted in Samaria.

Psalm: Ps 65:1-7. 16. 20. R. see v.1
Let all the earth cry out to God with joy.

Second Reading: 1 Pt 3:15-18
Suffer for good deeds, not evil.

Gospel Acclamation: Jn 14:23

Gospel: Jn 14:15-21
Jesus promises disciples the Paraclete.
Cross country at Wesburn park.

On Thursday 12\textsuperscript{th} May 2011 St Joseph’s went to Cross Country along with many more schools.

We all did some warm-ups and had a little snack along with a drink, then we went over to Mr Devisser. He explained the tracks for the 10s and unders, the 11s, 12s and 13s.

The 10s ran around the oval nearly 2 times then out the gate up to the horse shed through the bush near the highway, through the 2 ovals, under the gate, around the oval and then through the red cone.

By Stella and Jack J.

More about Cross Country…

We had record 52 children from our school have a go at the District Cross Country Event at Wesburn this year. Congratulations to every child who completed the course. Running 2km or 3km on a cold, rainy day takes persistence, confidence and endurance.

Some children placed in the first ten in their event winning a position in the Division Event at Yarra Glen.

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<tr>
<td>1\textsuperscript{st} Jamie Hirschfeld</td>
<td>4\textsuperscript{th} Chris Newell</td>
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<td>6\textsuperscript{th} Sienna Clark</td>
<td>7\textsuperscript{th} Josh Meerkotter</td>
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<td>4\textsuperscript{th} Lilian Pagels</td>
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<td>3\textsuperscript{rd} Daniel Petty</td>
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<td>4\textsuperscript{th} Karah Hannon</td>
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<td>4\textsuperscript{th} Joel Purton</td>
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There is a current exhibition at Tarrawarra Museum near Healesville that crosses the divide between painting and drawing, and textiles. It would be wonderful if students could visit and make the most of the gallery works on show. This show ties the work our students have done in weaving and painting together beautifully.

Tarrawarra Museum of Art  
Healesville Yarra Glen Rd.  
Tues – Sun. 11am – 5pm.  
$5 adults  
children free.

Artwork to Tapestry closes June 19th

With wet conditions predominating for the next few months, please consider putting a change of clothes in your child’s bag. There have been a lot of students requiring a total or partial change of clothes over the last two weeks (mainly due to slipping on wet grass) and we do not have the capacity to accommodate this demand.

It may be necessary to phone parents to organise for them to bring in a change of school clothes – we have very limited second-hand items and cannot supply goods from the Uniform Shop.
Yarra Valley Uniforms
Navy Polar Fleece Vests with school emblem now available $35
(all sizes available including adults!)

The Uniform Shop will **not** be open on **Thursday 26th May.** It will reopen next week. Donna’s contact number is 0427 516 375.

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**The annual Children’s Disco is planned for Friday 17th June. Mark your diaries!**
More information soon. Helpers to organise the event would still be appreciated. Contact Jo on the number below or leave your details with the office. Thanks.

The Footy tipping ladder at the end of Round 9 has the following leaders...
Steve
Cummings Family
Robbo Family

Well done!

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

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**WANTED – BASKETBALL PLAYERS**

Local basketball teams need more players in the following age groups:
- Under 12 girls – play on Saturdays
- Under 14 girls – play on Tuesday afternoons
- Under 16 boys – play on Monday afternoons

**WANTED – NETBALL PLAYERS**

A local netball team is looking for more players in 11 and under girls – play on Friday afternoons

Contact Mrs Traynor if you are interested in any of these teams

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**CONVEYANCE ALLOWANCE CHEQUES**

There are still a few cheques to be collected or signed over to help towards school fees.

These can be collected from the school office.

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**MISSING!!!**

Brand new windcheater
Size 12
‘Josh M’ handwritten on the label

Please return it to the office or to Josh Meerkotter.
TOPIC: Raising Mighty Boys
Presenter: Michael Grose
(Primary & Secondary)

This seminar will provide a better understanding of the needs of boys so you can adapt your parenting. You will get essential information and lots of strategies and some reassurance to help you raise your mighty boys into mighty fine men.

7 June
St Mary’s
15 Cecil Street
Williamstown
Ref: Mel. Map No 56 C9

7pm – 9pm
(Registration 6.30pm)

TOPIC: Valuing Girls
Presenter: Andrew Fuller
(Primary & Secondary)

Raising girls to be confident and resilient young women is a fine art given the demands placed upon them. This seminar will cover the following:

- The active ingredients of resilience
- How to promote confidence in young women
- Friendship skills
- Concentration and memory skills
- Creating happy girls
- Building self-esteem and dealing with the anxieties that are toxic to girls
- How to communicate with girls

16 June
St Charles Borromeo
230-234 Serpells Road
Templestowe
Ref: Mel. Map 34 A7

7pm – 9pm
(Registration 6.30pm)

TOPIC: Anxiety in Children & Teenagers
Presenter: Murray Evely
(Primary & Secondary)

This seminar is designed to assist parents and others to understand anxiety and depression. The presentation will briefly describe ten anxieties or depression conditions, explain who is most at risk, parental risk factors, patterns of thinking that can cause anxiety and depressed children and adolescents.

For young people, anxiety can also co-exist with other issues or concerns whether it is a family based issue, worry or sadness, a medical or paramedical issue, a learning issue, underachievement, a disability or disorder, a social competency issue, or a school attendance or a behaviour issue. Resources and support services that are available to parents through schools and other professionals will be discussed.

28 June
St John’s College
Caroline Street
Dandenong
Ref. Mel. Map 90 G8

7pm-9pm
(Registration 6.30pm)

TOPIC: Thriving – A New Approach to Parenting
Presenter: Michael Grose
(Ages 3 – 12 yrs)

The seminar will cover the following:

- Why developing a sense of ‘other’ in kids is vital for their future success and their well being
- How parents can get cooperation from tough kids without using bribery, shaming or blaming
- The three keys to developing real confidence in kids
- How to help kids grow and learn from many of the social difficulties they face
- Discover how parents can work together even when they are not together
- Learn about the incredible power of the kitchen table and use it to build confidence, character and resilience in kids and a super strong family
- How parents can get more joy from their parenting

9 June
Our Lady of the Southern Cross
Cnr Howqua Way & Manor Lakes Boulevard
Wynsdales Vale
Ref: Mel. Map 204 G1

7pm – 9pm
(Registration 6.30pm)

TOPIC: How to Engage Young People in Conversation
Presenter: Chris Daicos
(Secondary)

This seminar will look at ‘communication killers’ and how to avoid them when trying to communicate with young people. It will also provide a hands on opportunity to practice empathy, active listening and reinforced questioning skills to help parents and others engage with young people.

1 June
Killester College
433 Springvale Road
Springvale
Ref: Mel. Map 79 K11

7pm – 9pm
(Registration 6.30pm)

Registration/Further Information
Contact your school or Catholic Education Office Melbourne, Parent Seminar Series Coordinator:
Mrs Shirley O’Sullivan on 9464 2225 or email shirley@stclaresthomastown.catholic.edu.au

Seminar Cost: $10 per person (to be paid in advance)