*** Supervision of students at St Joseph’s School is from 8.35am until 3.20pm ***

**G’day parents and friends,**

**Carols**
To assist us in maintaining the focus of the season on the Incarnation – the coming of God as one of us, we are organising and inviting you to a service of carols next Friday at 7pm – 8pm. So please come, wearing Santa hats if you wish! Last year’s was delightful and we look forward to a wonderful celebration this year also.

**Public Announcements**
Finally after some years of PA announcements in what sound like a strange local dialect, we have improved, modernised and added to the PA system. It sounds much better!

**Sails**
After seeking ideas and quotes we have received one we can afford and that meets our criteria. Sometime in the New Year waterproof sails will be installed over the area at which we assemble after the bells. We will also be able to wait for pick up out of the sun and rain! Alleluia! The PFA has agreed to contribute this year’s fund raising money towards this project!

**SCHOOL ADVISORY BOARD**
At the SAB open meeting on Friday we discussed and recorded the behaviours we expect of our children. On behalf of the community I would like to thank retiring members Jo Taylor and Naomi Read for their many years of service to the school community especially through the SAB. The 2015 SAB consists of Tonia Atkins, Melissa Cooper, Cathy Linder, Stuart Wells, Sally Van de Paverd, Andrea Maurici, Fr Ashkar (Parish Priest), John Faulkner (Principal) and Marty McKenna (Assistant Principal).

On Friday night members of the SAB and PFA shared a very nice dinner at Cunningham’s with special guests Ann Manning and Justin Colley.

**Pinafore Pirates DVD**
The final edited DVD of the Thursday night performance will be available from the office soon for $15. To order one, please complete the attached form and return through the class black box.

**Celebrate**
We rejoice at the arrival of Noah John Vandersluis, a brother to Charli (JR) and Flynn (F) and congratulate his parents, Tracey and Jon, especially on the choice of name!

**On Monday 15 December at 2pm you are invited to join the students and staff at a special celebration of our two leaving staff, Justin Colley and especially Mrs Manning.**

God bless us all,
John
ALIVE IN OUR FAITH

Advent

It is part of the Catholic tradition to pray around an Advent wreath in this season. The Advent wreath is a circle, of evergreens as a reminder that God has no beginning or end. The candles represent the four weeks of Advent. Three of the candles are purple, reminding us of the penitential nature of the season and one is pink, symbolising joy.

During this week we light the first candle on the Advent wreath. It represents our hope that comes from God, who is faithful and will keep the promises made to us. “May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.” (Romans 15:12-13)

On Sunday we start lighting the second candle. It represents peace that comes from God, through the Holy Spirit. “May this light help us to remember Jesus who is the light, love and peace of our world.”

Karen McQuade
Christian Life Leader

Weekend Mass Times

Saturday – 7.00pm
Sacred Heart Church, Warburton

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

Parish Priest: Rev Eugene Ashkar
Parish Phone: 9736 2850
Parish Fax: 9736 3285
PO Box 317
Mt Evelyn 3796
Email: mountevelyn@cam.org.au

LAST WEEKENDS READINGS

First Sunday of Advent

First Reading
Is 63:16-17; 64:1.3-8
May the Lord come when we are doing good.

Responsorial Psalm
Ps 79:2-3. 15-16. 18-19 R. v.4

Second Reading
1 Cor 1:3-9
The Lord will strengthen us to the end.

Gospel Acclamation
Ps 84:8

Gospel
Mk 13:33-37
We know not the hour the Lord will come

THIS WEEKENDS READINGS

Second Sunday of Advent

First Reading
Is 40:1-5. 9-11
In the desert make ready the way of the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm
Ps 84:9-14. R. v.8

Second Reading
2 Pt 3:8-14
The Lord shows great patience.

Gospel Acclamation
Lk 3:4. 6

Gospel
Mk 1:1-8
John the Baptist proclaims the coming of the Messiah.

Advent

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Christian Life Leader
LIBRARY NEWS

The school library has closed for home borrowing as of the 28th November, 2014.

ALL BOOKS MUST BE RETURNED ON OR BEFORE 10th December, 2014

There are NO FINES for overdue items, however, books not returned by the 10th December will be considered lost and you will be asked to pay for them.

Students will be given a notice (if necessary) to show the books to be returned.

Books hide in the most unusual places! You might be surprised at where you find them! Here are a few suggestions of places to look. Your bookshelves at home; under the bed; in the school or library bag; in the cupboards; the toy-box; inside other books; in your child’s classroom; hanging up with the wet weather coats; the car; at Grandma’s.

Please check carefully for the school library books at home, as some students have not responded to earlier overdue notices and if these books are not returned they will have to be paid for. A refund will be made for any books found in the school library after they have been paid for.

If you find any other school books that should be returned we will be happy to have them back also!

HAPPY BOOK HUNTING!

Thank you for your co-operation,
Ann Manning, Teacher Librarian.

2015 Irish Fair Meeting Dates:

- 5 December 2014
- 12 December 2014
- 6 February 2015
- 12 February 2015
- 19 February 2015
- 6 March 2015
- 13 March 2015

Meetings held at 9am in the staffroom. All welcome to whichever days you can come.

ART NEWS

Come and admire the artworks (particularly Middle and Senior student work) in the Gallery space outside the Foundation classroom.
Special Dress Day tomorrow Friday 5th December, bring an item for the Christmas Hampers. Children can wear free dress, and in return, should bring an item suitable for the Christmas hampers. Anything delicious or Christmas based would be great.

Lap-a-thon- Please ensure you return your forms and money to the school as soon as possible. Thank-you.

Irish Fair- Rides are booked, but we still need a lot of help planning and organising the Fair for next year. Next meeting tomorrow 9am in the staffroom.

Family Camp- A great time was held by all again this year. We have decided that a change is in order, so next year’s camp will be held at the Big 4 Park in Taggerty. This is quite a bit closer than Mansfield, so we hope to see some new families attend, or come up for a day trip. If you would like to book for Cup Weekend in 2015, call 1800 880 895, or check out their website through the Big 4 website. Mention you are from St Joseph’s if you make a booking.

Morning Tea- Come to the staffroom for morning tea and a chat. We will hold one on the 1st Friday of each term, and then the 1st Friday of each month. Younger children welcome.

Have a great week!

The Pinafore Pirates DVD

The ________________________________family would like to order _______ copies of the Pinafore Pirates DVD at $15 per copy.

Enclosed is payment of $___________________(Ensure payment is attached to this order)

Please send the order home with _______________________________in _______________________________class.