Dear Parents and Friends,

Autumn Fair Meeting Tonight
The Autumn Fair is getting closer! Only 3 weeks! It is going to be FANTASTIC. We need YOU to help by giving some of your time by adding to the lists on the board! Also we need more volunteers to help organise. Come along!!

Thank you for your contributions to be used to make up hampers to be auctioned at the Fair on 23 March. Now we are into the bottle competition! The class that gathers the most litres of soft drink by Friday 15 March will win ice creams!

Audit
The annual audit of the school’s finances occurs this Wednesday. We would appreciate people not attending the office on this day as much as possible!

Garden Workers
After the holidays our kitchen garden was looking very well because of the care of Bee and Paul, parents of Peter Rawlinson (Junior V). We have been picking cucumbers, tomatoes, rhubarb, herbs, admiring the sunflowers, and watching all sorts of other things growing. Have you seen? Thank you for displaying great St Joe’s spirit! Please also see the attached photo.

Mrs Margaret Broderick
Mrs Broderick is unwell and away from school again this week so there will be no choir/choral group tonight. We wish her a speedy recovery.

The Proven Value of Reading to Your Children
Please read the attached article from yesterday’s The Age on the benefits of reading to your children. It is one of the greatest gifts you can give!

Sacramental Programs
The children preparing for Reconciliation, Eucharist or Confirmation must enrol to participate in the preparation programs. As a matter of urgency please contact Christian Life Leader Karen McQuade if you have not done already.

Combined Catholic Parishes Raffle for 2013
Books have been sent home. It is a huge job which can be made much easier by families if sold and unsold tickets are returned on time. If you do not wish to purchase any tickets please return immediately. Some parents are asking for MORE books! It is a great way for the school to support the Sacred Heart Parish to which we all belong. I am sure many of your co-workers and family might love an opportunity to win such fabulous prizes. Tickets are $2 each in books of 5. Books MUST be returned by: 22nd MARCH 2013. Drawn Friday May 24th.
God bless us all,
John

So far 42 families have returned Parish Raffle tickets and have received a ticket in the Easter Raffle to be drawn on the last day of Term 1.

Clean Up Australia Day—Think Global Act Local

On Sunday Peter Rawlinson (Junior V) and his sister picked up the rubbish dropped by SJS students last week and by visitors on Saturday.

The only way to get to school on a beautiful morning!!!

William Reilly rode his pony Seamus to school today!

WORKING BEE FRIDAY 8th MARCH

The following families are rostered on to attend the Working Bee this Friday:

Bannerman  Bowman  Bradley
Cummings  Dunne  Durant
Gibson  Hendriks  Hirschfeld
Nyhuis  Reilly  Rolando
Swankie  Young

An SMS will be sent to these families during the week to advise them of suitable tools to bring along.
Third week of Lent: The Barren Fig Tree

In this week’s Sunday Gospel reading Jesus tells the parable of the fig tree. The owner of the tree asked the caretaker to cut it down because it had not borne fruit for three years. The caretaker pleaded to keep the tree for another year so he could dig around it and fertilise it.

Jesus explained to his listeners that God is like the caretaker, he is constantly at work pruning, watering and fertilising us. He is a God of consolation and love. It is comforting to know that despite our weaknesses and failures, he is still at work in us to make us more fruitful. In fact, his compassion is one of the most effective fertilisers around. It is capable of feeding and strengthening us through pain and the setbacks we experience. It encourages us to take the next step forward to a fruitful, peaceful life.

We are now at our mid-point through Lent. This is an ideal time to open up the space in our lives to receive God’s free offer of forgiveness and renewal. We need to make a response to this. Perhaps we need this time to de-clutter our lives and discover the goodness of God which already dwells within. We need to allow this time to be days of change and renewal. What aspect of your life is Jesus challenging you to turn around?

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>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Echidnas</strong></td>
<td>Circuit Training</td>
<td>SPA gym (one third)</td>
<td>SPA gym (one third)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mrs O’Brien</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></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 Booth</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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<tr>
<td>Mrs Brown/ Mrs Broderick</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Kangaroos</strong></td>
<td>Aerobics</td>
<td>SPA Performing Arts</td>
<td>SPA Performing Arts</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mrs McQuade</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Wombats</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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<tr>
<td>Mrs Vranken</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Koalas</strong></td>
<td>Obstacle Course</td>
<td>Meet on playground</td>
<td>South building shared area</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mr Colley</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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<tr>
<td>Mrs Vanstan/ Miss Bourke</td>
<td></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>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mrs Traynor</td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not on this week</td>
<td>Pentathlon</td>
<td>SPA gym</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Games</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
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Would you like the newsletter emailed rather than receive the ‘paper copy’ to help up reduce the amount of paper used?
If you have already notified us – thank you!
If not, please email office@siyarrajunction.catholic.edu.au from your preferred email address and type ‘newsletter’ in the subject line.
This week is the World Education Games.

Today, all students will receive a letter, detailing their Log-in and Password detail for the World Education Games. Teachers will be endeavouring to give students access to technology throughout the week to participate, however students are able to log-on and participate from home as well.

The ‘World Education Games’ can be accessed via the internet, or by downloading the free Apps from either the Samsung or Apple App stores (depending on which devise you may have).

“When a student enters a challenge, they are matched in real time with up to 3 other students of similar age and ability from anywhere in the world in exciting live challenges. Students earn points for correct answers, with their personal tally growing as they complete the challenges.”

Please take the time to read the World Education Games letter, and encourage your child to participate in this event.

**Last week’s Solution:**

**Put the numbers 1-8 in the squares so that each side adds up to the middle number.**

Congratulations to Zoe Hendriks (Middle M), Charlie Wells (Senior BV) and Tiffany-Jo Gribbrock (Senior BV) who all submitted the correct solution before the end of last week. You are in the draw (to be drawn at assembly) to win a special prize.

**This week’s Problems:**

*This question is for Foundation to Year 4 only! This question is open to all students.*

Students can submit their answers to Ms Bourke, to be mentioned in next week’s newsletter, and go in the draw for a special prize. Entries close on Friday (8th March). Drop your answers in the box outside Senior BV classroom.
Swimming Sports - District

On Friday 22 of February 13 of our schools students (listed below) went to the divisional swimming sports at Healesville.

Sienna Clark and Ryan Finette made it through to regionals, Sienna in butterfly and Ryan in backstroke.

The school relay team came second in both of their races. The team was made up of Angus Smith, Kane McDonald, Ryan Finette and Riley Swankie. A few other students competed in the relays with teams from other schools made by Mr Devisser.

All up, the day was really good with nice weather and an even nicer teacher (Ms McLean). Congratulations to all that competed.

By Riley Swankie.

Results

Ryan Finette – 11s 50m Boys backstroke 1st, breaststroke, freestyle 3rd and butterfly. He was in the school relay team.

Violet Hall – 11s 30m Girls backstroke 1st.

Kane McDonald – 11s 30m Boys backstroke 3rd and freestyle 3rd. Kane was in the school relay team.

Sienna Clark – 12s 50m Girls butterfly 1st, backstroke 3rd and freestyle 3rd.

Roisin Scoble – 12s 50m Girls backstroke heat 3rd

Josh Read – 12s 30m Boys backstroke 3rd and freestyle 3rd.

Ben Bourke – 11s 30m Boys freestyle

Shantelle Dolheguy – 11s 30m Girls freestyle 2nd. In the first relay Shantelle came 1st and in the second relay she came second.

Zoe Hendriks – 10s 30m Girls freestyle 3rd.

Madisyn Nicolandos – 10s 30m Girls backstroke heat 1st backstroke finals 1st.

Angus Smith – 10s 50m Boys freestyle 4th, breaststroke 3rd. Angus was part of the relay team

Riley Swankie – 11s 30m Boys freestyle 1st, backstroke 1st. Riley was in the relay team.

Melinda Virgona – 10s freestyle
Swimming Sports - Division

On Friday 29th February, Ryan Finette and Sienna Clark travelled to Nunawading to compete in the Divisional Swimming competition.

Ryan won the 50m backstroke which qualifies him to compete next Friday in the Regional Swimming Competition.

Sienna Clark qualified to compete in the butterfly event.

We wish them both good luck.

Japanese Week 5 Term 1

Last week in Japanese we learnt how to write and read the first five characters of Hiragana. We played a game where we asked our friends to answer our questions so we could work out which Hiragana was on our back.

You may like to practice reading and writing the first 5 Hiragana at home by making some flash cards, playing snap or memory.

The first 5 Hiragana are:

あ a い i
う u え e お o

Keep practicing your Self Introduction and have fun practicing your Hiragana. (The more Hiragana we know the better our reading will be!)
Hi all,

Please make sure you diarise the upcoming events and let us know if you are able to assist by contacting our chairperson Cathy Linder on 0409 187 166 or leave your details at the office.

Upcoming events:

**Autumn Fair**
Help - Lucky dips have been acquired for the fair and need wrapping. Meet with Maria Viragno in the staff room at 9:00am on Tuesday 5th March if you can assist. Many hands make light work and all should be done in no time.

**Footy Tipping**
Yes, it's on again. Come on everyone, don't let Drew Cummings win again. Join in for a bit of fun competition within the school community. All picks done on-line. See flyer in newsletter for more information.

**Easter Raffle**
The Easter Raffle is to be drawn on the last day of Term 1. It would be great if a donation towards the raffle could be brought in on Friday 22nd March — photo day. While chocolate is great for the hampers there are other Easter goodies available as well. You will already have received the raffle tickets for the Combined Catholic Parishes Raffle, for which selling the book of 5 tickets you automatically get a ticket in the Easter Raffle. Also, if anyone could help put the hampers together, meet in the staff room on Tuesday 26th March.

**Crank Up**
We have been offered the opportunity to run the BBQ at the ‘Crank Up’ event held at the Upper Yarra Museum in Yarra Junction, weekend of 6th and 7th of April, 2013. This would be a great fund raiser for the school if we could get enough helpers. It is in the middle of the school holidays after Easter. We would be looking at setting up a roster with 2 hour shifts (4 people per shift) from 9am to 4pm both days (note change of time). Maybe your family would have the numbers or you could team up with another family and make it a bit of fun. Please leave details at the office or contact Cathy 0409 187 166.

**Parents & Friends Goals for 2013:**
- Update our school library by replacing old stock and purchasing much needed new books.
- Tables to go with the new furniture in the South Building.
- A Path leading from the school to the SPA centre.
- A Pie Warmer for more hot lunch days.

The Parents & Friends committee are happy to welcome more members, many hands make light work. We are meeting 2 times per term during 2013, but you don't have to attend meetings if you can't or prefer not to. We have lots of events and activities proposed for this year, for example, The Autumn Fair, Bushdance, Shopping Tour, Trivia Night and we are always open for suggestions.

The next parents and friends meeting will be on Monday 25th March in the staff room at 7pm.

Thanks from the

**P & F Team**
### AUTUMN FAIR

During the Fair on 23 March the St Vincent de Paul members will be running the Bric-a-Brac Stall and would appreciate any goods that we can sell. Items in good condition, such as books, crockery, cutlery, toys, household bits and pieces, etc. would be suitable (please NO clothing or electrical items). Goods can be left in the Parish Meeting Room.

### BOUTIQUE CLOTHING STALL AT THE AUTUMN FAIR

If you have any good quality clothing that you would like to donate to the ‘Boutique Clothing Stall’ at our Autumn Fair, it can be left at the school office from now on.

### Yarra Valley Uniforms

**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.
BOOK FAIR

SATURDAY MARCH 9

10.00am – 3.00pm

at the Cerini Centre, Park Rd., Warburton

❖ Great books at bargain prices
❖ Devonshire teas, sausage sizzle
❖ White elephant stall

SPECIAL EVENT!!!
World’s Greatest Shave
Date: 16th March, 9am – 1pm
At: Yarra Junction Playground

Sausage Sizzle, Hair Colouring and shaving, Raffles, Face-Painting and LOTS, LOTS more!
Help Angus Mellett and team Dougzilla raise funds for the Leukaemia Foundation.
Sponsor online at www.worldsgreatestshave.com.au
For raffle donations, help on the day or more details, please phone Brad Bird on 0414 274 403.

Let’s give to help families living with blood cancers.

SPRING BULB FUNDRAISER
Help us to renovate and improve the St Joseph’s veggie patch and fruit orchard by purchasing beautiful spring bulbs.
It is great for children to be involved in the school garden, growing and eating fresh, healthy produce. We aim to have an improved, fully productive veggie patch, plant more fruit trees and install a watering system by the end of the year. All profits from this fundraiser will go toward this project. Please have a look at the catalogue and order some bulbs. Please ask your family, friends and neighbours if they want to order any of these beautiful bulbs too.
Order forms and money, cheque or money order need to be returned to the office by Friday 15th of March and you will receive your bulbs at the start of Term 2. Many thanks, Bee Rawlinson 5966 9967.