G’day parents and friends,

Honouring
Yesterday our year 6 students attended the local RSL school ANZAC service, led the singing of the National Anthem, and raised the two flags. We laid a wreath we had made on Tuesday in addition to memorial crosses with the names of our family members who fought or died. We then had the opportunity to visit the museum and talk to some of the veterans. The sausages were good too!

Gallipoli Oak
Our seedling Gallipoli Oak was planted yesterday outside the Green Room after the solemn ANZAC service led so well by the Middles. We are lucky to have it and we need to pass the nurturing of it through our generations.

First Eucharist
The children are preparing for their First Eucharist on Sunday 29 May at 11am. The community is called upon to support them especially through prayer. We had a successful workshop with families last night.

Masses
The class Masses during this term are on:
18 May-First Eucharist Children
25 May-First Eucharist children
1st June-Seniors
8 June-Juniors
15 June-Middles
22 June-Seniors
Parents and other family are encouraged to join the children at these celebrations.

Regional Manager visit
This morning, Mrs Marwin Austerberry, the Eastern region manager of the CEM visited and toured our school to observe the learning here at SJS. She was impressed by the quality of the programs we have, and our children!

NAPLAN
Next Tuesday Wednesday and Thursday the Year Three and Year Five children will sit the national tests. It is important that the children are at school on those days. The results provide some important information to the school on the effectiveness of the learning at SJS. They assess a narrow range of each child’s ability and the individual results are viewed as part of a range of ways to assess your children’s development and achievements.

Sovereign Hill
We had a great day last Friday. Did you see the pictures on Facebook?

Enrolments
Please encourage friends and neighbours to consider our great school. Parents are our best promoters!

School Advisory Board
Members are invited to attend Friday 6 May at 9am.

Mother’s Day
Sunday 8 May is Mother’s day. This is a great opportunity for children to reflect on the wonderful attributes of their own mothers and all the mothers they know.

God bless us all,
John
The Ascension

We might compare the Ascension to the passing of a baton from one runner to another in a relay race.

On this day, just over 2000 years ago, Jesus passed the baton of his work to his disciples including Peter, James, and John. They, in turn, passed it on to the people who came after them. They, in turn, passed it on to us. And now it is our turn to pass it on to others.

Practically speaking, what does this mean? Does it mean going out and preaching about Jesus, as Peter, James, and John did? Does it mean mounting soapboxes in shopping centres and telling everyone about Jesus?

For most of us the way to begin preaching Jesus to the world is to begin living Jesus in our own lives. This means showing compassion (love and care) and forgiveness to others. Once we begin to do this, the message of Jesus will begin to ripple out across the world. And if enough Christians do it, that ripple will turn into a tidal wave, and that tidal wave will change the face of the earth in a way we never dreamed possible.

How well are you fulfilling Jesus’ command to share the good news with others? How have you been challenged to act on the good news in your everyday life?

Karen McQuade

Christian Life Leader
HELP OUT A STUDENT!

Hi, I’m Sienna Spencer, Mrs Spencer’s daughter. I am currently in Year 12 and completing Studio Arts. My theme is “Facial Narration” and is the story that a face tells without words. I have just started trialling photographs of “Youth” and am still working with trials of “Texture” and “Culture/Race”. I believe that the faces of youth show a blank canvas, which is yet to have their entire life mapped out on it. I’m looking for some volunteers to have their photo taken, whether it be your child or yourself, or even a grandparent. If it is a child, I will obviously need parental permission to allow their photo to be taken. These photos will be placed in my portfolio as proof that I have trialled these ideas, and photos will not be put anywhere else. I will be at St. Joseph’s SPA Centre on Wednesday the 11th of May after school (from 3pm onwards) with my camera to take some photos. I am happy to email these photos of you or your children through to you if you would like a copy of them. I can’t wait to capture some images of wonderful, expression-filled faces.

Thank you very much, it will be immensely appreciated.

Regards,
Sienna

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Survey
Each 4 years the school reviews its achievements and prepares, with the support of an external Reviewer, a new 4 year SIP - School Improvement Plan. As part of the preparation parents are encouraged to complete a survey on the religious nature of the school. There are NO CORRECT answers, it is anonymous, and appropriate for Catholic, non-Catholic and non-religious parents. It does assist us in developing the future of our SJS.

As a small encouragement, those who send in a completion certificate will go in the draw for a $100 Woolworths card! If you wish to do the survey at school please contact the office and we will negotiate a convenient time for you.
Life-long learners

ANZAC Ceremonies
The Mother’s Day stall will be held tomorrow at about 10.30am. Each child may bring $15 to purchase gifts for their mother or a special person in their life.

We wish all mothers and carers of children a very special and happy day on Sunday.

**UNIFORM SHOP**

The uniform shop is open on Thursdays at approximately 2.45pm.

*Please note: the cost of the sport polo shirt is now $27.50*

Please call 0458 594 606 if interested.

Workshop Dates: May 21 & 22, June 4 & 5.
Victorian Premiers’ Reading Challenge

The Victorian Premiers’ Reading Challenge is now open and St Joseph’s is excited to be participating. Usernames and Passwords to log on to the website have been handed out to each child. If lost, the teachers and office have a copy of these also.

The Challenge is open to all Victorian children from birth to Year 10 in recognition of the importance of reading for literacy development. It is not a competition; but a personal challenge for children to read a set number of books by 9 September 2016.

Children from Prep to Year 2 are encouraged to read or ‘experience’ 30 books with their parents and teachers. Children from Year 3 to Year 10 are challenged to read 15 books.

All children who meet the Challenge will receive a certificate of achievement signed by the Victorian Premier and can choose to have their name included on the online Honour Roll. If you would like your child’s name to appear on the Honour Roll, please sign the form below and return it to school.

To read the Premier’s letter to parents, view the booklists and for more information about the Victorian Premiers’ Reading Challenge, visit: www.education.vic.gov.au/prc

TERMS AND CONDITIONS

Definitions: Department refers to the Victorian Department of Education and Training, Person refers to the child/adult listed below in the consent declaration.

1) Privacy Protection
The Department takes its privacy obligations seriously and any personal information collected or used by the Department will be handled in accordance with the Privacy and Data Protection Act 2014 (Vic). This law sets out what we must do when the Department collects, uses, handles and destroys personal information.

Personal information includes personal details such as an individual’s name and school that could be used to identify an individual.

2) Collection, use, disclosure and storage of personal information
If you provide your consent your school will collect and disclose your child’s first and last name, and the name of the school to the Department. The Department will then:

- Publish your child’s name on its online Honour Roll located at: www.education.vic.gov.au/prc at the completion of the Challenge with no other identifying factors such as early childhood setting name.

3) Accuracy, access to information and withdrawal of consent
The Department will endeavour to ensure that any personal information held about your child is up to date and accurate. You can access, correct and withdraw personal information held by the Department by written request in accordance with the Department’s Information Privacy Policy located at: http://www.education.vic.gov.au/Pages/privacypolicy.aspx

Consent may be withdrawn at any time by writing to the Department’s Privacy Unit on: privacy.enquiries@edumail.vic.gov.au.

If you have any questions about this form, or if you need more information, please contact the PRC Challenge Coordinator at the Department readingchallenge@edumail.vic.gov.au or (03) 9637 3624.

Yes I consent to my child’s name appearing on the online Honour roll for the Victorian Premier's Reading Challenge 2016.

Name of child.................................................................................................................. Class........................................

Parent Signature..............................................................................................................