**Dear Parents and Friends,**

Each day I am growing more comfortable here, particularly as I meet more of you. Remembering names is a huge challenge, so please keep forgiving me for asking repeatedly.

**Play Group**

I would like to invite parents of any young children to consider participating in an informal playgroup here at school one morning a week. Attached you will find a form to complete to indicate your interest or availability. We will continue to look for new and renewed ways to build community.

**Working Bee**

Many thanks are offered to those families that were able to come up on Saturday. If you look behind the South Building you will find that the veggie garden has been given a new lease of life. We will start planting some lettuce and silverbeet soon. It is easy to see the beautiful new garden at the front door that we will keep growing well with “juice” from our worm farms. We also cleared out some dead bushes, cut some tea tree and self-sown saplings and moved some furniture around. The honour roll includes Katie Vranken, Ken Boxell, Richard Finette, Nicolle Lunson, John Hannon, Anthony Virgona, Maria Virgona, and Will Smith. The next working bee is 10 September.

**Morning Tea Time!**

I would like to start regular Monday morning opportunities for parents to gather for a catch-up “cuppa” in the staffroom. So if you are free please stay next Monday, 15 August for a quick or more lingering cuppa in the staffroom. It will be an opportunity for us to chat. I would like to invite everyone to regularly gather in the staffroom on the first day of each term.

**Staffing**

Long time librarian Mrs Ann Manning is taking the rest of the term as Long Service Leave. We wish her and school handyman husband, Don, a great holiday caravanning north. Ann will be replaced by Mrs Deb Fahey working on Tuesdays. Mrs Ann Pierpoint will be doing Deb’s regular job for the remainder of Term 3.

**Prep Enrolment**

Please be aware that the Prep Enrolment Evening is on 23 August. Hopefully the advertising banners catch your attention at Woori Yallock and Wesburn. I would also like to invite parents of next year’s preps to make a 15minute appointment to meet me with your child over the next few weeks so we can get to know one another. Please contact the office for available times.

**Literacy and Numeracy Night**

The name isn’t too inviting but the activities will be. So, book up in your diaries the evening of Tuesday 30 August to join other families and staff.

**Assembly**

Over the next month the senior students are busy engaged in other things. So assembly will be held on Mondays this term: August 15, 29, and September 12. We hope you are able to join us and that the change doesn’t inconvenience you.

**Confirmation**

We are hoping that the families of the confirmation candidates and other members of the community might be able to spring clean the church in preparation for the celebration on 20 August. The suggested date is Tuesday 16 August, 2-3pm.

**God bless us all,**

John

John Faulkner
Principal
Please keep in your prayers the children who are preparing for the Sacrament of Confirmation which will be held at St Mary’s church Mt Evelyn on 19th August or St Thomas à Becket church Yarra Junction at 1.00pm on Saturday 20th August.

Fr Ashkar has asked for volunteers to help make sure St Thomas à Becket church is looking its best for the Confirmations so, if you have some spare time on Friday afternoon (19th August) from 2.00pm, could you please help to arrange flowers for the church.

Weekend Mass Times

Saturday – 4.30pm
Sacred Heart Church, Warburton

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

THIS WEEKENDS READINGS

Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

First Reading: 1 Kgs 19:9.11-13
The Lord passes by Elijah as a whisper.

Psalm: Ps 84:9-14. R. v.8
Lord, let us see your kindness, and grant us your salvation.

Second Reading: Rom 9:1-5
Serving Christ involves some pain.

Gospel Acclamation: Ps 129:5

Gospel: Mt 14:22-33
Jesus walks on the water.

NEXT WEEKENDS READINGS

Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time

First Reading: Is 56:1.6-7
The Lord's justice is about to be revealed.

Psalm: Ps 66:2-3 5-6. 8. R. v.4
O God, let all the nations praise you!

Second Reading: Rom 11:13-15. 29-32
God's gifts are irrevocable.

Gospel Acclamation: Mt 4:23

Gospel: Mt 15:21-28
A Canaanite woman asks Jesus to heal her daughter.
This week’s morning fitness roster:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week 4</th>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Location if wet</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Echidnas</strong></td>
<td>Commando</td>
<td>SPA gym or driveway</td>
<td>South building shared area</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mrs Vranken</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Dingos</strong></td>
<td>Relays</td>
<td>Basketball court</td>
<td>Church meeting room</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mr Frederiksen</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Kookaburra</strong>s</td>
<td>Pentathlon</td>
<td>SPA gym</td>
<td>Art room or corridor of main building</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mrs McQuade</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Koalas</strong></td>
<td>Games</td>
<td>Basketball court</td>
<td>SPA gym (one third)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr Booth</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Kangaroos</strong></td>
<td>Skipping</td>
<td>Roundabout</td>
<td>SPA gym (one third)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Miss Bellman</td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Wombats</strong></td>
<td>Circuit Training</td>
<td>SPA gym (one third)</td>
<td>SPA gym (one third)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Miss Bourke/ Mrs Vanstan</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Bandicoots</strong></td>
<td>Aerobics</td>
<td>SPA Performing Arts</td>
<td>SPA Performing Arts</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mr Colley/ Mrs Traynor</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Tassie Devils</strong></td>
<td>Boundary</td>
<td>Meet outside office. Run around cross country track and oval</td>
<td>Join in with aerobics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Miss Angeli</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Not on this week:</td>
<td>Obstacle Course</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Power Walk</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**LOST:**
Size 14 Leadership jacket belonging to Joel Purton.
Please return it to Joel or to the office if you find it.
Wellbeing
Kathy Walker has written a number of great parenting and child raising articles and ideas. Here is one of them. The website is easy to use and has some interesting reading for all parents, www.earlylife.com.au

Encouraging our children: Not just praising all the time!!

It may sound strange to consider not always praising our children. However, constant praise such as everything is always; "great, wonderful, fantastic and good" sometimes becomes a bit overdone.

Using encouraging phrases often helps children to keep trying even when things aren't "great" and it also acknowledges that the effort, the attempt, the act of having ago and trying to do something or work on something is worthy of acknowledgment even if it doesn't always work out.

Encouragement helps build resilience and self esteem and models for children that it is productive and constructive to have a go - even if you don't always achieve the intended outcome. Praise and encouragement are both lovely for children but encouragement is often underdone and praise is often overdone.

Finding the balance is the key!!

Examples of encouraging phrases and comments

- I can see you have tried hard with that today
- I like the way you had a go
- I can see you have had to try really hard with that
- I like the way you kept trying
- I wonder if there is another way you could try to make that work
- I enjoyed playing together with you today
- I know you are finding this hard. Perhaps there is another way...
- How do you feel you went with that today?
- Could we do this bit together to keep you going
- Can you think of another way to do this?
- I love the effort you have put into this today
- You have worked really hard and tried really well with this today
- I know it isn't quite how you thought it would be, but you really persisted and tried hard
- I like the way you have picked up your things and packed away today.
- I appreciate you collecting the mail. Thanks.
- I like it when we read together and you have a go at the words
- I thought we all worked well together today as a family
- We might have to try and problem solve this so we can work it out
- Would you like to tell me about this today and how it went?
We have an exciting social event coming up. Keep the evening of Saturday 17 September free in your diaries. More information soon!

**Footy Tipping Leaders** at the end of Round 20 are Drew Cummings, Dean Cerveri and Steve, again! The leaders have been very consistent over the past few weeks. Well done!

**Family Camp 2011** will be held at Mansfield Holiday Park over the Melbourne Cup Long Weekend. All St Joseph’s families, past and present are welcome. Contact Matt at the Mansfield Holiday Park on 03 5775 1383 or at [www.mansfieldholidaypark.com.au](http://www.mansfieldholidaypark.com.au). Let them know you are from St Joseph’s. The park has requested that if you have young children or toddlers you let them know when booking as there is an unfenced dam nearby.

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

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**Yarra Valley Uniforms**

Navy Polar Fleece Vests with school emblem now available $35 (all sizes available including adults!)

The Uniform Shop is open on **Wednesdays**. Note change of day. Donna’s contact number is 0427 516 375.

*Remember to keep receipts to claim on your Education Tax Refund next year.*

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

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**VOUCHERS, DOCKETS AND BOTTLE CAPS!!!!!!!!!!!!!!**

We have lots of opportunities to obtain free goods for our school.

If you (or family members) shop at Woolworths or Coles please keep the vouchers (Coles) and dockets (Woolworths) for our school.

If you drink Paul’s milk please send in the especially marked Paul’s bottle caps.
Mount Lilydale Mercy College Open Day 2011

Mount Lilydale Mercy College will once again be holding an Expo/Open Day on Tuesday 9 August between 11am and 3pm to enable prospective parents/guardians and students to visit the College, to see examples of student work and to participate in a tour of the College’s facilities.

Tours will depart half hourly from Centennial Hall between the hours of 11am and 4.30pm. No need to book.

YEAR 7 2013 INFORMATION EVENING

An additional Information Session will be held in Centennial Hall at 5.30pm for parents who were unable to attend one of the July Information Evenings.

MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER WEEKEND

Married couples, make 2011 the year that you prioritise your relationship. It underpins your family life. Please join us for a Marriage Encounter weekend this year. Our weekend helps you to remember why you married and gives you skills to maintain your love for each other.

Couples and a priest present the weekend. It is based around catholic values but you don’t need to be catholic to attend. There is no group sharing. The next weekends will be held on 19-21 August and 11-13 November. For further information and bookings contact Peter & Erika Smith (03) 9899 0824 or Email vicbookings@wwme.org.au. Checkout the website for more information on www.wwme.org.au

WORKING BEE

Thank you to the following families who attended the Working Bee on Saturday.

Boxell
Finette
Lunson/Hannon
Vranken
White-Smith/Smith
Virgona

SAB MEETING

The School Advisory Board met on the 2nd of August, 2011. We were advised that 6 de-humidifiers were purchased and are currently being used in the South Building and Library. They seem to have made a huge difference in those rooms. We would like to remind parents to adhere to the road rules when collecting kids from school each morning and night.

We shortly will be looking for 3 new Board Members and it might be time to think if you would like to join this Board. We will be sending out Nomination Forms.

Sharon Knight – Secretary on behalf of the SAB

PLAYGROUP INTEREST FORM.

PLEASE RETURN BY WEDNESDAY 10 AUGUST.

☐ I am interested in participating in a playgroup.
☐ I am NOT interested in participating in a playgroup.

Please circle your available times:
9-11am Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday
1.30 – 3pm Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday

Please print your name here:..................................................................................................................