FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK

Our first **Working Bee for 2015** was held on the weekend. Although it was quite warm we still had a good turn up of families from the school and parish. A lot was achieved during the day and the school looks great in preparation for the Parish Fete. Jobs completed included mulching garden beds around the Environmental Trail, weeding and re-mulching of the kitchen gardens and cleaning chairs from the old staff room. Thanks to all staff, families and parishioners who contributed to the success of the day. Thanks also to the ladies who provided the wonderful morning tea ... it is worth coming to a working bee just for the morning tea.

The **2015 Parish Fete** is just under a month away on **Saturday, 21st March**. Please place this date in your diary. The Fete generates approximately $10,000 for the school which aides in the lease of the classroom laptops. It is therefore imperative that all families fully support this Major Fundraiser.

We ask that **ALL families volunteer to assist for an hour or two on a stall during the day.** Lists have been placed in the school entrance foyer for families to place their name next to a suitable activity and time slot.

We thank you in advance for your commitment to ensure the success of this event.

Our **Prep students** have settled in extremely well to school life and are quickly learning school routines and expectations. Today is the last Wednesday that our Prep students don't attend school – from next week they will attend Full Time.

Our **Parent Helpers Course** to support parents assisting in classrooms this year will be held in the coming weeks – **please stay tuned for details.** St Joseph’s School values the partnership that we have with our families in supporting the education of your children and we welcome you into the classrooms. Children thoroughly enjoy their parents assisting in the class which in return benefits their learning.

Please remember if you wish to assist in the classroom; with school excursions, camps; or assist with sporting events you require a **Working****Supervision of students at St Joseph's School is from 8.30am until 3.45pm**
With Children Check (WWCC). The cost of the WWCC is free for volunteers. Forms are available online at www.workingwithchildren.vic.gov.au and then completed forms must be taken to the Post Office with the required documentation. The school must sight this card before you are eligible to assist with any of these activities.

A reminder for Year 6 parents, the closing date for Applications for Year 7 to Catholic Secondary Colleges for 2016 is this Friday, 27th February. Please ensure that you have completed this process to avoid disappointment.

This Sunday, 1st March our school choir (The Green and Gold Songbirds) will be performing at the Knox Festival at 2.00pm. Please come along and support our students. If you are at the festival please also remember to look at our school banner and place your vote for it.

Preparation has commenced for the Sacrament of Reconciliation this year with the Parent Evening and Reconciliation Commitment Masses. In readiness students are required to attend most weekend Masses before the Sacrament of Reconciliation which will be celebrated on Thursday, 26th March at 7pm. The Reconciliation Workshop for children and families will be held next Tuesday, 3rd March at St Bernadette’s, The Basin at 7pm.

School Photographs will be taken on Thursday, 5th March. Students must wear their Summer School Uniform on this day. If it is your child’s sports day, students they may bring their runners in their bag.

Friday, 6th March is Chocolate Donation Day at St Joseph’s. Please bring a family sized block of chocolate (for our “Choc a Toss” Stall at the Fete) or $4.00. This is per family not per student.

Our Annual Visitors Day will be held on Wednesday, 11th March. This is an opportunity for existing and potential families to see our wonderful school in operation. Students love to have family members visit them and share what they are doing. If you know of any families who are looking to send a child to St Joseph’s in 2016 please encourage them to come along. We look forward to seeing you on the day.

Our students are very fortunate to regularly have extra-curricular activities at school. During this week many of the students will be involved in sports clinics in athletics and hockey and next week they will have the opportunity to participate in a Road Safety incursion. These opportunities further engage the students in their learning.

Once again our Parish will be participating in the Combined Catholic Parishes Raffle. This is a fantastic raffle for a number of reasons. Firstly, there are some amazing prizes that are outlined below but more importantly for every $2.00 ticket sold by our community $1.35 comes directly back to us. As mentioned once again there are some sensational prizes that I have listed below:

1st Prize – Toyota Corolla Ascent Sport
2nd & 3rd Prize - Toyota Yaris YR
4th & 5th Prize - Coles Myer Gift Cards (Valued $1000 each prize)
6th – 14th Prizes- Coles Myer Gift Cards (Valued $500 each prize)
As an added incentive and to say thank you for supporting this raffle, any family that returns their Combined Parishes Raffle Book by **Wednesday 18th March** will receive a free ticket into our **P&F Easter Raffle**.

If you have not received tickets and would like some or a book of ten please contact the office.

We lose $5.00 per book of ten that is lost or not sold ... this is the price that the parish had to prepurchase them for!!! This takes a big chunk out of our profits. Therefore if you are unable to sell the tickets you have received we ask you to immediately return them to school so they can be redistributed.

Can I remind students and parents walking or riding to school that you are not to access the school grounds through the Parish Driveway. Parish staff, Parishioners, St Vincent de Paul members, Parish visitors and other Parish groups use this this driveway for parking and access. These people are not expecting students and families to be walking or riding down this driveway. It is also part of Fr Mirek's Parish house and he is entitled to his privacy. Access to the school must be via the pedestrian path. We thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

Can I please remind families using our school car park to follow **speed limits** and car park rules. I see a number of cars travelling above these limits. Please remember that the safety of all members of our school community is far more important than getting to the parking space 10 seconds earlier! Thanks for your support in this matter.

Finally, just a reminder that there will be no school on **Monday, 9th March** due to the **Labour Day public holiday**.

Have a great week!
Peter Vanstan

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**OFFICE NEWS**

**EDUCATION MAINTENANCE ALLOWANCE**

From 1 January 2015, the government will provide extra financial support directly to Victoria’s neediest schools instead of providing the Education Maintenance Allowance directly to parents. **Parents will not be able to apply for the Education Maintenance Allowance in 2015.** The money will be allocated to eligible schools through schools’ core operational funding mechanism, with the neediest schools receiving the most funding. Not all schools will be receiving funding in 2015.

This change to how the money is distributed was required by the funding agreement with Commonwealth government to make sure Victorian schools receive increased funding that will benefit all students and, in particular, those from schools with concentrated disadvantage.

**CDF Student Banking** **CDF SCHOOL BANKING DAY is every Tuesday.** CDF encourages you to open an account for your child, to teach them about saving. As a practical sign of appreciation, there is a welcome gift for each child who opens a CDF Student Account. Further information /or an application form can be obtained from the office.
SCHOOL PHOTO DAY

SCHOOLPIX will be visiting us on THURSDAY MARCH 5—order forms were sent home several weeks ago (extra order forms and sibling order forms can be picked up from the office).

PHOTO DAY TIPS:

Dress: Clean and tidy FULL SUMMER SCHOOL UNIFORM (NO SPORTS UNIFORM OR RUNNERS). If it is your child’s sports day, students may bring their runners in their bag.

Hair: Neat and swept off face

Orders: Complete your order form and return to school prior to photography day

Pre-orders: To pre-order online, take your personal Order and ID Numbers found on your order form and go to www.schoolpix.com.au. Orders can be placed online up to 3 working days after photography. All orders placed online will receive a free 20cm x 25cm black and white portrait print.

COMBINED PARISHES RAFFLE
A BOOK OF 10 TICKETS HAS BEEN DISTRIBUTED VIA THE BUCKET SYSTEM TODAY. As usual there are 3 cars up for grabs as well as vouchers. We have sold winning tickets in the past for the vouchers, so hopefully this year will be our turn for a car or two!

All books sold or unsold need to be returned to the office by MARCH 18. The Parish has paid $5 per book to participate in this raffle, so it is really important to sell as many tickets as possible.

Extra books are available from the office for anyone requiring them.

TEACHING & LEARNING

LITERACY
Write 4Fun- What an enjoyable thing to do!! The poster for this competition immediately caught my attention. Even better still, many students are now buzzing about it with comments ranging from ‘When Can I start’ to ‘Please can I do this instead…….’
Write4Fun is a writing competition for Children aged kinder to 12. Its attraction is not only the cool prizes up for grabs, but the fact that each child can choose the topic they would like to write about. For more information regarding an entry form and competition details log on to: www.write4fun.net. The competition closes on Sunday 29th March. You can also find out information from posters around the school.

This year we are having a major focus on writing throughout the school. Preceding this in 2015, oral language was a major focus in all areas of the curriculum. The children were given many opportunities to express themselves and rehearse their questioning skills. Our 2014 Foundation class participated in a significant research project called CPOL (Classroom Promotion of Oral Language’) which we will build on in Year 1\2 this year.

Building a love of Literature is something we are promoting in conjunction with writing, exploring connections between ourselves and text. We know that reading like a writer leads to an understanding of writing like a writer, all of which emphasise the importance of honing thinking and speaking skills.

Have a great week of enjoy and celebrating our favourite stories. Jenny small
PHYSICAL EDUCATION (P.E)

Sporting Clinics
Can children from Grades 1 to Grade 6 please wear their sports uniform on Thursday the 26th so they can best participate in our hockey clinic.

Thankyou Anne Baumann

Sports Stars Week 3


ART NEWS

Our school has entered into the Primary School Banner Competition at the Knox Festival THIS Saturday 28th February and Sunday 1st March At Ferntree Gully Reserve.

I encourage you to take the family and enjoy the entertainment at the Festival and Vote for Our School Banner.

Art Stars Week 3

1/2AS Hannah Clarke, Ben Cross;
1/2B Tyler Maxwell, Talia Stafford
3/4BK Sophie Ashdowne, Joel Prys;
3/4H Chloe Shaw, Ryan Williamson
5/6 SM Tinus Van Reenan, Angus McIntosh
5/6D Gessica Lorusso, Sienna Cross

(No preps last week due to early finish on Tuesday)

KITCHEN GARDEN

This week's kitchen garden participants are:
Hamish Chandler Wright, Orlando Aliotta, Gareth Amor, Joey Abraham, Veronica Morales, Aliza Montaldo, Sophie Redgewell, Isobel Skillern.
**Happy Birthday**

Happy Birthday to Joey Abraham, Rebecca Edwards, Tyler Maxwell, Hannah Thoma, Christian Ponce, Mrs Baumann & Mr Amor who are celebrating their birthday this week.

**ACHIEVEMENTS OUTSIDE OF SCHOOL**

If your child has achieved something notable as part of a club/hobby, we would love to acknowledge it in the newsletter. Information can be sent via email to:
gashdowne@sjboronia.catholic.edu.au

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**ENROL NOW FOR MUSIC LESSONS AT ST JOSEPHS PRIMARY**

**MUSIC TUITION INCREASES CONFIDENCE, SELF ESTEEM AND HELPS TO IMPROVE SCHOOL SUBJECTS – MATHS, LITERACY, SCIENCE, READING ETC**

ST JOSEPHS Primary School in association with Metro Music School is now offering Music Lessons to students who are interested in learning an instrument at school every week. Lessons are held during school hours (30 mins/once per week) at suitable times. (Prep to Gr 6) Enquiries are welcome on 9460 4818 (Metro Music School).

Lessons Offered: KEYBOARD  PIANO  GUITAR  SINGING

Discount Hiring and Purchase also available. Contact us for details or visit our online shop at www.metromusic.net.au

FROM $13.20 per lesson (incl GST) ENROLMENT forms can be obtained from the school office or contact Metro Music School on 9460 4818. You can also enrol online at the above website address.

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**Prep Aerobic Gymnastics Classes**

Does your child love to dance to music, needs a creative physical outlet, is full of beans and tumbles & jumps around the house? If the answer is yes, then come down and try the Knox Gymnastics Prep Aerobics Classes. The 1hr class is jammed packed full of the building blocks for coordination, teamwork, flexibility, strength, power & agility.

These fun classes are for prep aged boys and girls. Each lesson involves dynamic movements to high energetic & fast paced music in a creative & safe environment.

If you would like to come down to Knox Gymnastics Centre in Ferntree Gully for a FREE trial just e-mail knoxgym.aerobics@gmail.com

The Knox Aerobics Program also offers other classes for all ages.
Wantirna Netball are recruiting junior through to senior players to play in a Saturday Competition at Mountain District Netball Association (Knox Regional Netball Complex).

If you are interested in playing please contact Sue Hall via email to registration@wantirnasouthnetballclub.com or Log onto our website: www.wantirnasouthnetballclub.com

Complete the contact form under the contact us tab

***Junior's must be 8 or over***

Season Commences March 14th 2015

Club Fees $150 for 1st player of the same family and $130 for every family player after that

Netball Victoria Membership –

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Scholarships

YEAR 7 2016

Our community celebrates and nurtures the 'can-do' leadership energy of girls. Visit our website to learn more about the EMERGING LEADERS SCHOLARSHIPS.

Apply before Friday 27 February to secure a place in Year 7 2016.

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Knox Schools Expo 2015

The Knox Schools Expo is an annual information night for parents/guardians of Years 5 & 6 children changing to secondary school in 2016/17, or for those with younger children who like to plan ahead.

Attendees can have conversations with representatives from Knox Secondary Schools, and a Q&A session at 7pm will provide the audience with an opportunity to explore/discuss critical factors when selecting a secondary school.

When: Thursday 12 March 6.30-8.30pm

Where: Knox Civic Centre, 511 Burwood Hwy Wantirna South 3152

For more information about the Knox Schools Expo, contact Angela Thurlow, Knox Youth Services, t 9298 8533, or e angela.thurlow@knox.vic.gov.au or Megan Parker, Knox Youth Services t 9298 8388 or e megan.parker@knox.vic.gov.au.

Bookings are not required.
**VOLUNTEER ROSTERS**

Rosters are now up, in the school foyer, for you to add your name where & when you can assist. Grade 6 students are also encouraged to help on the games stalls! We have had a great response so far, but we still need more names. Please consider where you can help.....Many hands make light work!!

**DONATIONS**

Thank you to all our generous families who have already donated items for our trash ‘n treasure stall, please continue to fill the tub outside the uniform shop! (No clothes please).

**ALL DAY - ALL RIDE WRISTBANDS**

Please see attached form for details on how to order all day fun at the fete! Don’t forget to take advantage of the “All Day—Unlimited Ride” pass early bird special. Passes purchased before March 13 are only $2 (saving $10).

**FACE PAINTING TUTORIAL FOR VOLUNTEERS**

If you are interested in learning the basics, tips and tricks of face painting or just want to practice, I will be running a face painting tutorial on Friday the 13th of March from 4 pm onwards. Venue to be confirmed. No experience necessary. Children welcome. Please contact Shantelle on 0400 836144

If you are unable to fill in your details on a roster at school, PLEASE return this form via the bucket BY WEDNESDAY 18th & we will allocate where you are needed.

Please tick the time(s) you are available to help with the FETE:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Time</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fri 20th</td>
<td>9am (set up day)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sat 21st</td>
<td>9.30am – 11am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sat 21st</td>
<td>11am – 1pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sat 21st</td>
<td>1pm – 3pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sat 21st</td>
<td>3pm – 5pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sat 21st</td>
<td>Clean up from 4pm</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Your name ______________________________ Child’s class ___________

Phone______________________________
Our Fete is proudly sponsored by:

GOLD SPONSORS:

Bank of Melbourne

SILVER SPONSORS:

BarryPlant

Microsoft

SPARTANS GYM & FITNESS

BRONZE SPONSORS:

BAXTER laboratories

tCDF

décor

Geelong Cats

Harcourts

LEDHUT.com.au

Lisa Angus photography

UltraTune

HAWKS

PHOENIX TAPWARE, SHOWERS & ACCESSORIES
All Day - All Ride Wristbands

For $25 each Early Bird purchase (before 13th March otherwise $35) you get Unlim-
ited and All Day access to the following activities at the fete:

- Hurricane ($6 per ride)
- Laser Skirmish ($6 per turn)
- Jumping Castles ($3 per ride)
- Pony Rides ($3 per ride)
- Mini Golf ($3 per turn)
- Formula 1 Racing Cars ($3 per ride)
- Inflatable Slide ($3 per ride)
- Cup & Saucer ($3 per ride)
- Trackless Train ($3 per ride)
- Petting Zoo ($3 per visit)
- Remote Control Cars ($3 per turn)

PURCHASE ONLINE PRIOR TO FETE DAY

You can purchase your wristbands online at the TryBooking website. There is a
discount of nearly $10 each for purchasing in advance.
To book online go to: [www.trybooking.com/GQIW](http://www.trybooking.com/GQIW)

**OR** complete the following form and return to school via the yellow bucket sys-
tem by **Friday 13th March** (wristbands will be $35.00 each after this date)

| FAMILY NAME: | __________________________________________ |
| ELDEST CHILD: | ___________________________CLASS:___________ |
| NAME OF EACH CHILD REQUIRING A TICKET: | ___________________________ |
| | ___________________________ |

**TOTAL NO. OF TICKETS _______@ $25 =$ ______ENCLOSED**

Receipts will be forwarded home with the eldest child via the bucket system.
Please bring along your receipt(s) on fete day, as proof you have pre-purchased an All Day-All Ride Wristband
and it will be swapped for a wristband.
OSHC is back for 2015!

With another school year starting, so does a new year of fun at OSHC. We are proud to be back for our 3rd year at St. Joseph's Boronia and we are looking forward to many fun adventures to come!

Along with the return of many familiar faces, we are thrilled to welcome our some new families to the program. A warm welcome to: Anila and Tinus Van Rennen, Olivia and Riley Wakartschuk and of course our preppies Neeve King, Nikkolai Zachary Cruz and Aiden Kors.

For the last couple of weeks, the children have been getting back into the swing of things at OSHC, with many fun activities being undertaken such as: Tennis skills clinics with David in our first week for our very own 'St Joseph's Open', made superhero masks as a part of 'Superhero Spectacular' and have had many huge games of Capture the Flag outdoors.

Here at St. Joseph’s OSHC we aspire to provide the best quality care for your children and we welcome any feedback you may wish to give. There is a feedback box located on the sign in table or you can contact Adrianna directly on: 0450776281.