FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK

Yesterday was Shrove Tuesday, this may also be known as Pancake Tuesday. Traditionally in the church this day was to use up eggs and fat before the season of fasting began. On this day each year we continue the tradition by eating pancakes together as a community before the symbolic fasting of Lent begins.

Shrove Tuesday is followed by Ash Wednesday. This is the first day of our Season of Lent. On this day Christians have a cross placed on their foreheads in ashes. These ashes are made from the previous year’s blessed palms from Palm Sunday. The Season of Lent spans 40 weekdays from Ash Wednesday to Holy Week. It is a time of prayer and preparation to celebrate Easter. Today students attended the Ash Wednesday Mass where they received the ashes.

This Saturday, 13th February we have our Opening of School Year Mass at 6.00pm in the church. We invite all families to share in this liturgy to welcome the new school year. At this Mass our Year 6 students will be presented with their Leadership Jackets and our Prep students will be presented to the school and parish community. Mass will be followed by a BBQ dinner. We look forward to seeing all families on Saturday night.

On Monday, the Reconciliation Reflection Night was held for parents of children wishing to make the Sacrament of Reconciliation this year. As part of the preparation for this Sacrament students MUST attend one of the Reconciliation Commitment Masses this weekend the 13th (Opening of School Year Mass) and 14th February.

Our Parent Teacher Chats will be held next Tuesday, 16th February. These meetings are an opportunity for teachers to gather information about the students in their classroom from their parents. School concludes at 1.00pm on this day to allow staff to meet with all families. Notes have been sent home explaining the Parent Teacher Chats. Bookings can again be completed online or by contacting the office if you do not have this facility. If you have not yet made an appointment – please make the booking online immediately. Please note that if you have a PSG meeting with your child, that you do not need to attend a Parent Teacher Chat.

Our first School Improvement Committee (SIC) meeting was on Monday to plan for our first Working Bee on Saturday, 20th February. All families are encouraged to attend the working bee with the focus on preparing our
grounds for the Parish Fete. The Parish has also scheduled a working bee for this day so it will be great to work in partnership. Families who attend the working bee will be re-credited the $90 Working Bee levy. (It is essential that you sign in at the start of the working Bee at 9am and sign out at the end to ensure that we have a record of your attendance and participation so we can deduct the working bee levy from your fee account.) We look forward to your attendance on the day; we need many families on this day to complete the many planned jobs.

Our first School Advisory Council (SAC) meeting will be held on Monday, 22nd February (Please note change of date). Agenda, minutes and reports will be sent home prior to the meeting. If members are unable to attend they are asked to place their apology with the office.

A reminder for Year 6 parents, that the closing date for Applications for Year 7 to Catholic Secondary Colleges for 2017 is Friday, 26th February. Please ensure that you have completed this process to avoid disappointment.

The 2016 Parish Fete is just over a month away on Saturday, 19th March. Please place this date in your diary. Over the coming weeks the Fete committee will also let you know how you can help and be involved to ensure the success of this event. Please note that Friday, 18th March is NOT a school closure day this year. Further information about this day will be announced in the coming weeks!

During the coming days all students will receive a “Cybersafety Use Agreement”. Could you please take time to go through this in detail with your child/ren before signing and returning this to school. Students will be restricted from using the internet at school for lessons until this form is received.

Students must wear correct school uniform to school each day. Students are not permitted to wear runners to school unless it is their sports day. Students not in correct uniform must bring a note from parents. Simple earrings and watches are the only acceptable jewellery. Chains, dangling earrings and bracelets are a safety issue especially on the playground. Make up and nail polish are also not to be worn at school.

St Joseph’s School is a SunSmart School - All students are required to wear an appropriate SunSmart school hat at all times between 1st September and 30th April when they are outside at play. Students without hats are required to sit in the designated shaded area during recess, lunchtime and during sporting or other outdoor activities.

Can you please ensure that your child’s clothing and belongings are clearly named. Already in a week we have found “new” clothes left outside and placed in the Lost Property basket. I appreciate that families spend good money to purchase school uniforms – if they are named we can hopefully return them to their owners.

To encourage independence in your child we ask you allow them to carry their own bags, to pack and unpack their own belongings and to follow classroom routines at the start and end of each day. Although it is often easier to do these things for them this does not allow your child to be independent and take on these simple responsibilities. It is also important that if you see your child to the classroom (and you are not staying as a classroom helper) that you leave promptly to allow your child and the class to settle into their daily program.

Students arriving late to school MUST be brought to the office by their parent and have a late arrival form filled in and signed. This is not only a legal requirement but also is essential if there was an emergency evacuation. School rolls are completed at the start of the day and without this late arrival form being completed there is no record that your child is on the premises. If you are picking up your child be-
Before the end of the school day, you will need to fill in an **early dismissal form** at the office and take it to your child’s classroom when collecting your child. We thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

**At the end of the school day,** children can be met at their classroom, or alternatively they will walk to the designated pick up area located on the stairs at the front of the Administration building. A teacher will be on duty until 3.45pm. Supervision of students is from 8.30am—3.45pm. If your child has not been collected by 3.45pm they will be brought up to the office.

If your child is celebrating a birthday and you wish to bring along food to share, this must be prearranged with the class teacher. When planning this staff need to take into account food allergies and special dietary requirements. Prearrangement is crucial as we have students in the school who are **Anaphylactic, a severe peanut allergy which is life-threatening.** Students are also reminded not to share any food or drink as we have students with severe food allergies and Anaphylaxis. We ask to avoid providing Peanut Butter and Nut products in your child’s lunch to support these students. Please also discuss and stress with your child/ren the importance of washing hands following eating.

Finally, before school commences each day teachers are preparing for and focusing on their day with their students. Unless prearranged this is not the most practical time for an unscheduled meeting. At St Joseph’s School the teachers are very approachable and always happy to meet with parents to discuss any concerns, however, at the start of the day their focus must be on their teaching and their students. To make a suitable time to meet, please arrange this with the class teacher or contact the office. We thank you in advance for your cooperation.

Once again welcome back and we look forward to a great year!

Peter Vanstan

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**Hello Everyone,**

Today we celebrated the beginning of Lent by participating in our Ash Wednesday Mass. The children were very reverent and participated fully in all aspects of the liturgy and the choir did such an amazing job. Lent is a time to pray, fast and almsgiving to those who need help, we do this by supporting Project Compassion and this year the focus is Learning More – Creating Change. Caritas Australia is celebrating 50 years of Project Compassion with the theme ‘Learning more, creating change,” by demonstrating how education, training and sharing knowledge is empowering individuals and communities in six countries around the world to transform their futures and create lasting change. This Saturday night at 6.00pm is our Opening of the School Year Mass and the Reconciliation Commitment Masses. At this mass we will be presenting the Year Six School Leaders with their badges and jackets and the Year Sixes will introduce their Prep Buddies to our parish community. Looking forward to seeing as many families as possible at mass this Saturday.

Yours in Faith,

Nerida Byrden
STAFF 2016

Parish Priest: Fr. Mirek Knap
Principal: Peter Vanstan
Deputy Principal/ Student Services: Leonie Sheehy
Administration Officers: Marg Booth, Gayle Ashdowne
Religious Education Leader: Nerida Byrden
Learning & Teaching Leader (Literacy): Leonie Sheehy
Learning & Teaching Leader (Maths): Sandra Anderson
Student Wellbeing Leader: Liz Miller

Teacher

Prep Kylie Hare Leonie Sheehy (Fri f’nightly)
Year 1/2 A Sandra Anderson Jenny Small (Thurs)
Year 1/2 B Georgina Bennett
Year 3/4 NL Nerida Byrden (M, T, W) Liz Miller (Th, Fri)
Year 3/4 K Julie Klep
Year 5/6 D Maree Davis
Year 5/6 M Troy McGown

Reading Recovery Teacher: Anne Baumann
PE: Anne Baumann
LOTE (Indonesian): Olivia Hutabarat
Visual Arts: Jane Strickland
Student Services support: Maree Jones
Kitchen Garden: Cathy D’Arcy Evans
Library Technician: Elaine Folino
Maintenance: David Amor
Cleaners: Edward Mayarich

2016 Specialist Days

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<th>ART (Jane Strickland)</th>
<th>LOTE (Indonesian) (Olivia Hutabarat)</th>
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OFFICE NEWS

For all families new to St. Joseph’s we use the ‘bucket system to distribute correspondence. In each classroom there is a bucket where correspondence from school to home and from home to school is sent. The buckets are brought to the office at the beginning of the day and returned to the classroom at the end of the day. Fee payment, Uniform Shop Orders, Special Lunch Day Orders, Student Banking or any other correspondence can be sent to the office via this system. Please don’t hesitate to contact Marg or Gayle if you have any further questions.

Thank you to those families who have returned their Student Information Checklist so promptly.

It is imperative that we have the most up to date information regarding contact details for your child. If there is an emergency we need to be able to make contact quickly. Please change any details that are no longer current and sign/date this form and return immediately.

If you would like to receive the newsletter electronically you can do so by emailing your details to gashdowne@sjboronia.catholic.edu.au or by filling out the form below.

The school newsletter is distributed each WEDNESDAY via email and the bucket system (for those requiring a hard copy). All information for inclusion in the newsletter must be submitted by Tuesday 4pm to Gayle Ashdowne at the address listed above. Be placed on the school website: www.sjboronia.catholic.edu.au each Wednesday afternoon.

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 PHOTOS

SCHOOLPIX will be visiting us on THURSDAY MARCH 3—order forms have gone home via the bucket system this week. If you require a sibling form they can be picked up from the office.

FULL SUMMER SCHOOL UNIFORM IS TO BE WORN ON THE DAY (NO SPORTS UNIFORM OR RUNNERS please) If your child has PE/Sport on this day, children are encouraged to bring their runners in their bag.

I would like to receive the school newsletter via email/hardcopy - please circle

Name:___________________________________________________________________

Email address:(please print clearly) ________________________________________

________________________________________________________

Please return this form to the office via the bucket system Thank you.
Hi Everyone,

Every second Friday, the students at St Joseph’s participate in Buddy classes. This time is dedicated to exploring social and emotional learning. Through the practice of Circle Time, and using the Program Achieve – You Can Do It resource, students explore and develop skills in areas such as resilience, getting along, organisation, persistence, and confidence. Buddy classes will commence next Friday (19th) with a focus on ‘Nourishing and Nurturing’ others. As part of this lesson, students will be making and decorating an affirmation box, which will then be left on their desks in their classrooms. Throughout the year, they will be given the opportunity to write affirmations for others in their class as well as for those in their Buddy Class.

As you may have noticed, morning fitness is up and running with lots of students enthusiastically participating. The sessions run from 8.30 to 8.45 on Monday, Wednesday and Friday mornings and are facilitated by the very capable and energetic Melinda Toce (mum of Joey 3/4K). Well done to all the enthusiastic students who have already joined in these sessions and thanks to Melinda!

Have a great week.
Liz Miller

All Families and Friends of St Joseph’s School
Community
Are invited to our

OPENING OF SCHOOL YEAR MASS
ON
SATURDAY, 13th FEBRUARY 2016
Commencing at 6.00pm
St Joseph’s Church, Boronia

• Year 6 Students will be presented with their leadership jackets
• Prep students will be introduced to the school and parish community
• Year 3 students making their First Reconciliation will make a commitment at this Mass.

Mass will be followed by a Sausage Sizzle Dinner
(If you are able to assist with the BBQ on the evening please leave your name at the school office)
COMMUNITY

Happy Birthday

Happy Birthday to Matthew Wicks, Zackary Kelaita, Sophie Triandafillou, Orlando Aliotta & Miss Georgina Bennett who are celebrating their birthday this week.

ACHIEVEMENTS OUTSIDE OF SCHOOL

Congratulations to Joshua Constable (5/6M) on making Red Squad leader at Boys Brigade. What an achievement. Well done Joshua!

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

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 direct. You can also enrol online at the above website address.
FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE
INFORMATION FOR PARENTS

Every Victorian child should have access to the world of learning opportunities that exist beyond the classroom. The Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund helps ensure that no student will miss out on the opportunity to join their classmates for important, educational and fun activities. It is part of making Victoria the Education State and the Government’s commitment to breaking the link between a student’s background and their outcomes.

CAMPS, SPORTS & EXCURSIONS FUND (CSEF)

School camps provide children with inspiring experiences in the great outdoors, excursions encourage a deeper understanding of how the world works and sports teach teamwork, discipline and leadership. All are part of a healthy curriculum.

CSEF will be provided by the Victorian Government to assist eligible families to cover the costs of school trips, camps and sporting activities.

If you hold a valid means-tested concession card or are a temporary foster parent, you may be eligible for CSEF. A special consideration category also exists for asylum seeker and refugee families. The allowance is paid to the school to use towards expenses relating to camps, excursions or sporting activities for the benefit of your child.

The annual CSEF amount per student is:
- $125 for primary school students
- $225 for secondary school students.

HOW TO APPLY

Contact the school office to obtain a CSEF application form or download from www.education.vic.gov.au/csef

MORE INFORMATION

For the CSEF application closing dates and more information about the fund visit www.education.vic.gov.au/csef
Boys’ Brigade 33rd Vic Boronia

THE ADVENTURE BEGINS HERE

Boys’ Brigade has been successfully operating youth work programs for over 125 years. Our particular strength has been in programs which focus on training and developing Boys and Young Men into balance people through Physical, Spiritual, Social and educational activities.

The Boys’ Brigade, 33rd Vic Boronia Company meets every Thursday night during school terms at the following times:

- Anchors (5-7 yrs) 6.00am to 7.00pm
- Juniors (7-12 yrs) 7.00am to 7.45pm
- Seniors (13 – 19 yrs) 7.00am to 7.30pm

For more information please feel free to contact Captain Cheung at:
- 4048 500 713
- E: cheungkau.33rd@boys.org.au
- 1300 333 713

Visit us at:
www.wantirnasouthnetballclub.com

Come and play!

- Have Fun
- Increase Fitness
- Make Friends
- All ages welcome!

Contact us:
enquiries@wantirnasouthnetballclub.com

BORONIA JUNIOR FOOTBALL CLUB

2016 Season Launch
Registration & Family Day

Sunday 14th February 10.00am-12.00pm
@ Templeton Reserve

The WANTIRNA SOUTH JUNIOR FOOTBALL CLUB, based at Templeton Reserve, will field junior teams in the Eastern Football League (EFL) for season 2016.

Meet your coach
For 2016

come and kick the nuts and join in with activities for all players

Wantirna South Auskick Centre

Potential Auskickers come down to meet our coordinators for 2016
- Chris Murrey 0403724855
- www.wantirnasouth.netballclub.com

All new players will receive FREE socks, shorts!

Club apparel will be available for purchase

There will be a sausage sizzle and drinks for sale – FREE for all registered players

Boronina Junior Football Club Inc.
PO Box 325
Boronia 3155

BORONIA JUNIOR FOOTBALL CLUB

Registration Day
Sunday 14 February
11am - 1pm
Chandler Park, Chandler Road, Boronia

Free Socks and Shorts for all NEW players

All Age Groups Welcome

U8 U9 U10 U11 U12 U13 U14 U15 U17

For more information please contact Elissa Schmitke (BJFC Secretary) on 0417 593 864

DEVELOPING SPORTING & SOCIAL SKILLS

Home Ground Location: Located right in the heart of Boronia at Logan Park Reserve, Logan Rd, Boronia 3155.

About Us: We are a great family oriented club that is focused on having fun within the community. With a great coaching group we can offer encouragement and further skill sets to take the kids to the next level of their football with confidence.

All players are guaranteed a game every week in a great family club atmosphere. Eastern Lions are looking for kids of all ages to be part of our 2016 Under 11 through to Under 19 teams. Come down and join us at the Den.

For further inquiries, please contact:
- Andrew Buckley President Ph: 0400 134 216
- Lisa Williams Secretary Ph: 0411 098 017
- Email: easternlions@gmail.org.au
- Web: www.easternlionsjfc.com
- Under 17’s Rodney Morris: Ph: 0425 300 029

2015 - Kids, come play football with the Eastern Lions!

This upcoming season we are seeking kids to play in our Under 8 through to Under 19 teams.

For more information and to register please visit:
www.easternlionsjfc.com

PO BOX 52529, STUDFIELD 3152
www.easternlionsjfc.com
Welcome back to the new school year!

We hope you have all enjoyed the holiday break and are excited for a fantastic new year. After having a great holiday ourselves, we are back on board and excited to see familiar faces returning – as well as some new faces.

To help get your family back into the swing of things, here are some tips that you might find handy for easing your children into After School Care.

**Tips for easing you kids into After School Care:**

1. Give your child as much advance warning as you can that they’ll be coming to After School Care.
2. Pop into the program with your child to meet our Camp Australia team and find out what kind of activities they can look forward to.
3. Speak with the Camp Australia Coordinator if your child is nervous, and let us know how your child felt after their first visit.
4. If there is something in particular your child would like to play when they are in our care, encourage them to tell us know or you can give us a call.

We’re here to make after school care visits the best experience possible, if you have any questions about the program – feel free to drop by, meet the team and see what happens in After School Care first hand.

We look forward to seeing you soon.

The Camp Australia Team.

**Program Details**

To find out more about our program and to register and book visit [www.campaustralia.com.au](http://www.campaustralia.com.au)

From all of the team at Camp Australia we wish you a fantastic 2016 and we look forward to seeing you and your family in the program soon.

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*we make kids smile*