FROM THE PRINCIPAL’S DESK

REMINDER - TOMORROW THURSDAY, 3rd MARCH IS SCHOOL PHOTO DAY.

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.

The 2016 Parish Fete is just over two weeks away on Saturday, 19th March. Please place this date in your diary. The Fete generates approximately $10,000 for the school which aids 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 at the students entrance for families to put 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.**

If you are able to assist with delivering pamphlets advertising the fete (and school’s Visitors Day) these have been left for collection on a table outside the students entrance. Thank you in advance for people that are able to assist with this.

This Friday, 4th March is Chocolate Donation Day at St Joseph’s. Please bring a family sized block of chocolate (for our “Choc a Toss” Stall at our Parish Fete) or $4.00. This is per family not per student.

Please note that Friday, 18th March (the day before the Fete) is NOT a school closure day this year. I am excited to announce some of the special activities that have been organized on this day for our students. To celebrate our school feast day, students will attend mass for St Joseph at 9.10am. Following mass students will have a snack and then walk to the Boronia Cinemas. Here they will watch the new release movie “Zootopia.” We will be using the $1,000 that we won late last year in the Christmas colouring competition organised by Ray White Mountain High for this “special” activity. Further information relating to this day will be announced next week.

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 Dates to Remember

**MARCH**
- 3rd: School Photographs
- 4th: Fete Chocolate Donation Day
- 5th: 6pm Confirmation Commitment Mass
- 6th: 4th Sunday of Lent 1.45pm Choir singing at the Knox Festival Confirmation Commitment Masses
- 9th: Visitors Day 9am-1pm
- 11th: Assembly 2.40
- 13th: 5th Sunday of Lent
- 14th: Labour Day Holiday (No school)
- 15th: Catholic Education Week commences Reconciliation Work-Shop 7pm @ St. Bernadette’s
- 16th: Yr 3-5 400m Yr 6 Marathon @ 9.15
- 17th: St Patrick’s Day
- 18th: Feast of St Joseph
- 19th: Fete 10am-4pm St Joseph’s Feast Day
- 20th: Catholic Education Week Concludes Palm Sunday
- 22nd: Twilight Sports 3pm
- 23rd: SLPs sent home
- 24th: End of Term 1 Holy Thursday

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Leadership

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Supervision of students at St Joseph’s School is from 8.30am until 3.45pm
We are able to notify families that **Friday, 22\textsuperscript{nd} April** will be a **School Closure Day**. On this day staff will be working with Mark Clarke exploring Social Justice and how we can make this more relevant in our lives. Further School Closure dates for 2016 will be announced soon ... we are still trying to finalise presenters and dates. Also just a reminder that there will be no school on **Monday, 14\textsuperscript{th} March** due to the **Labour Day public holiday**.

This **Sunday, 6\textsuperscript{th} March** our **school choir** (The Green and Gold Songbirds) will be performing at the **Knox Festival** at 1.45pm. 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.

Our **Annual Visitors Day** will be held next **Wednesday, 9\textsuperscript{th} 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 2017, please encourage them to come along. We look forward to seeing you on the day.

As mentioned last week, there has been a number of students sent home ill (including stomach upsets) over the past couple of weeks. Staff have been reinforcing with students the importance of healthy habits – including properly washing hands after using the toilets, covering nose and mouth when sneezing and properly disposing of tissues. Signs have been placed in toilets reinforcing these practices. We ask for your cooperation by reinforcing this at home and not sending students to school when unwell. Thank you for your support in this matter.

On Monday preparation commenced for our Year 6 students participating in the **Sacrament of Confirmation** with the Parent Reflection Night. Students preparing for this Sacrament must attend one of the **Confirmation Commitment Masses** this weekend on the **5\textsuperscript{th} and 6\textsuperscript{th} March**. It is compulsory for all candidates to attend one of these Masses. Candidates are reminded that they must attend most weekend Masses leading up to the **Sacrament of Confirmation** on **Friday, 20\textsuperscript{th} May**.

Preparation continues for the **Sacrament of Reconciliation** with the **Reconciliation Workshop** for children and families on **Tuesday, 15\textsuperscript{th} March** at St Bernadette’s, The Basin at 7pm. In readiness students are required to attend most weekend Masses before the **Sacrament of Reconciliation** which will be celebrated on **Thursday, 21\textsuperscript{st} April** at 7pm.

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 With Children Check (WWCC)**. The cost of the WWCC is free for volunteers. Forms are available online at [www.workingwithchildren.vic.gov.au](http://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.
Recently students received a “Cybersafety Use Agreement” including the updated Privacy Policy and Collection Notice. 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.

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 Sports 5 door hatch
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)

This year the school has only been allocated 27 books with 10 tickets in each.
If you wish to collect a book to sell / buy or wish to purchase tickets please see the school office immediately as these will not last very long!!

Preparations are well under way for our Twilight Sports on Tuesday, 22nd March commencing at 3pm. The Annual Year 3-5 400metre events and the Year 6 Marathon will proceed this evening on Wednesday, 16th March commencing at 9.15am.

We ask that students and families use the zebra crossing to cross the car park. We have noticed growing frustration of drivers as students, siblings and parents dart across the road between cars. We are concerned that there will soon be an accident which could be avoided if we follow rules in the car park. Parents we ask that you set the example for our students.

A final reminder, it has come to our attention that a number of students are arriving on site well prior to 8.30am each morning and / or being collected after 3.45pm in the afternoon. A reminder that hours of supervision are from 8.30am – 3.45pm. If you require care prior to 8.30am or after 3.45pm we ask that you make arrangements with Camp Australia – our Out of School Hours Care (OHSC) provider. Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

Have a great week!
Peter Vanstan
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.

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.sjboroniacatholic.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 TOMORROW—(THURSDAY MARCH 3) FULL SUMMER SCHOOL UNIFORM IS TO BE WORN (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.

MOBILE PHONES AND ELECTRONIC DEVICES
Please be reminded that children must hand their mobile phone and any electronic devices to the office at the beginning of each day. Thank you.

Hello Everyone,
This year is the Year of Mercy in the Catholic Church and the Pope calls us to be the ‘Face of Mercy’. During Lent we have listened to Gospel passages related to Mercy and how Jesus showed mercy towards others. What is Mercy? How have you showed Mercy in your everyday life? Can we be more merciful during this season of Lent? We often talk to the children about being kind to one another which is another way to discuss mercy in our lives. Just a reminder that Confirmation Commitment Masses are this weekend starting from Saturday 6.00pm, Sunday 8.00am, 9.30am (St. Bernadette’s) and 11.00am. Candidates must bring their Confirmation Commitment forms to the church and collect their badges to wear.

We will also be celebrating the Feast of St. Joseph on Friday 18th March at 9.10am mass in the church and all are most welcome to attend.

Yours in Faith,
Nerida Byrden
Hi Everyone,

New families to our school may not be aware that St Joseph’s is a **Kidsmatter** school.

Launched in 2015, **Kidsmatter** can help improve:

- The mental health and wellbeing of students
- The quality of their school work
- The ability of parents, carers and teaching staff to help children deal with their problems

As well as these benefits, we know that children who are mentally healthy are better able to meet life’s challenges and have stronger relationships with the people around them. They are better learners who are more likely to succeed at school. Good mental health in childhood provides a solid basis for managing changes as they grow.

**Kidsmatter** have recently launched a new enewsletter specifically for parents, carers and families. It’s packed full of expert information, tips and strategies to help you support the mental health and wellbeing of your kids.

You can access the newsletter at [https://www.kidsmatter.edu.au/families/enewsletter](https://www.kidsmatter.edu.au/families/enewsletter)

You can also subscribe and receive the newsletter monthly via email.

Have a great week.

Liz Miller

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**KITCHEN GARDEN**

**Hello Everyone,**

**Kitchen Garden** will run over 2 weeks for this term.

Groups will run after lunch for half the session and cooking on Thursday until home time. Morning tea Friday morning at 9am again.

This week’s participants will be: 1/2B: Charley Botterill, Maya Kelaita, Lily Edwards, Christian Ponce; 3/4K: Shaun Constable; 3/4NL: Matilda Westwood, Kahlil Ann Wynne; 5/6M: Thomas Cunningham.

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**COMMUNITY**

Happy Birthday to **Hannah Thoma, Christian Ponce, Gigo Cruz, Veronica Morales, Anlia Van Reenan, Angelina Macs & Mr David Prowse** 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*
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
COMBINED CATHOLIC PARISHES RAFFLE 2016

Has been launched once again.
As usual 3 cars are up for grabs as well as vouchers, we have sold winning tickets in the past for the vouchers, so hopefully this year is our turn for a car or two.

Raffle books are now available from the school office if you would like to participate.

All sales are to completed by the 5th May, please be aware that we have paid $5.00 per book to be in this raffle, so it is really important to sell as many tickets as possible.
Boronia Community Fete
Saturday 19th March 2016 • 10am – 4pm

St Joseph’s Primary School, Boronia

This is our major fundraiser for the year!

FETE FLIERS TO DELIVER

Bundles of fete flyers are now available to take in the entranceway. Please take a bundle to deliver in an area of your choice (please remember to highlight the area on the map). A great way to get fit & to tell others about our fete!

VOLUNTEER ROSTERS

Thank you to all the people who have already volunteered their time on a stall. We still require LOTS of helpers for the fete – set up, car parking, helping on the various stalls on the day i.e. BBQ stall & finally for clean up at the end of the day. If you haven’t already, please add your details on the rosters or alternatively please fill in the section at the end of this form & we will choose a stall for you

DONATION DRIVE

Our donation drive for a block of chocolate is this Friday 4th March. Don’t forget its one block per family or $4

DONATIONS

Thank you to all our generous families who have already donated items for our trash ‘n treasure stall/raffle hampers/silent auction, we are still taking donations so please continue to fill the tub in the entranceway! (No clothes please)

DISCOUNTED WRISTBANDS END NEXT WEEK!

Friday March 11th is the last day that you can order your All Day – All Ride Wristbands with a saving of nearly $10.00 each! Another order form is attached or you can order on the trybooking website at: www.trybooking.com/KEYX

DRAWING COMPETITION:

Entries for the drawing competition will be distributed tomorrow. Completed entries will be displayed on fete day where you can vote for your own or another fabulous work of art for 50cents! Great prizes & entry is free.

LEGO COMPETITION:

Remember to use your imagination & start making your creation to enter into the Lego competition at the fete. Entry is free.

BAKE SOME GOODIES FOR THE CAKE STALL

Our cake stall is always very popular & always sells out. Plates will be coming home from school next week, so as fete day approaches, please consider baking a cake, slice, cookies or other goodies to bring on fete day. Contributions can be delivered to the cake stall at any time during fete and don’t forget to include an ingredients label

If you are unable to fill in your details on a roster at school, PLEASE return this form via the bucket BY WEDNESDAY 16th & we will allocate where you are needed,

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

- Fri 18th from 9am (set up day)
- Sat 19th 9.30am – 11am
- Sat 19th 11am – 1pm
- Sat 19th 1pm – 3pm
- Sat 19th 3pm – 5pm
- Sat 19th Clean up from 4pm

Your name ______________________________

Child’s class ___________

Phone__________________________________
Boronia Community Fete
Saturday 19th March 2016 – 10am – 4pm

All Day - All Ride Wristbands

For $25 each Early Bird purchase (before 11th March, otherwise $35) you get Unlimited and All Day access to the following activities at the fete:

- Hurricane ($6 per ride)
- Laser Tag ($6 per turn)
- Jumping Castle ($3 per ride)
- Pony Rides ($3 per ride)
- Mini Golf ($3 per turn)
- Meltdown ($6 per ride)
- Cup & Saucer ($3 per ride)
- Electric Go Karts ($3 per ride)
- Petting Zoo ($3 per visit)
- Inflatable Slide ($3 per ride)

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/KEYX

OR complete the following form and return to school via the class bucket by Friday 11th 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.
St Bernadette’s & St Joseph’s School Fete First Annual Lego Building Competition!!!!!

Competition theme is ‘Imagination!’ Use your Lego and your imagination to come up with the most creative piece you can. Please, no models built from the book. We want to see your craziest designs! Space ships, boats, cars, villages and towns or whatever you can come up with. Free Entry.

Competition open to students at both schools. Competition divided into Senior Unit (grade 5-6), Middle Unit (grade 3-4) and Junior Unit (Prep – grade 2). A prize for the winner of each category. Displays will be judged by fete goers at 50 cents per vote.

Get Building! Bring your entries to the fete by 11am, winners announced at 2.30pm.
Chocolate Block
Fete Donation Day

Friday 4th March

Please donate a family block of chocolate or $4
This donation is per family not per child