Dear St John’s School Community

Thank you for the positive feedback we received regarding the Michael Grose article last week. Michael is Australia’s number one parenting educator, with an enviable track record of helping parents and professionals raise and teach today’s kids. As a member school we have access to all the resources to help us rise to the challenge of supporting, managing and engaging today’s parents. As a subscriber to Parenting Ideas Magazine, the School is able to offer free access to this magazine for our parents. You may like to connect to this magazine using the following link: http://www.parentingideas.com.au/Parent_Magazine.html

At St John’s School, we were delighted to have the chance to welcome two Geelong Cats AFL players, Zac Bates and George Burbury to our school last Friday as part of our extensive Years 5 and 6 Student Leadership Program. The players spoke about responsibility, being level headed, how to cope with being on a ‘big stage’ and the importance of having mentors. A question and answer session then followed. The players also really enjoyed their time with our students. We thank the AFL and the Geelong Cats for providing the opportunity for the visit from these players.

A reminder to all parents and students that, unfortunately, the playground equipment should not be used after school hours. This equipment is designed to be age appropriate and is also to be used under supervision. As our staff are not able to supervise these areas after school, we are not able to comply with our OH&S obligations on our School site. Students who are playing on this equipment after school can sometimes delay a pick up by parents, which can also add to the traffic and parking issues in the area.

The Lord gives strength to his people and blesses them with peace.
Psalm 29:11

Comment -: When times of testing come, and they always do, rely on the Almighty to give you the inner strength to succeed.

With God’s Blessings
Brian Schultz

In early high school, I became obsessed with treasure hunting. I was convinced that I would unearth an enormous gold nugget worth thousands. I had caught “gold fever”. Dad finally listened to my nagging and bought a metal detector. Over the next few years we regularly made day trips to Stawell, Ararat and Wedderburn to hunt for nuggets. I’ve never found even a little one, but the fever still burns.

I am not alone. During the great gold rushes of the mid 1800s, millions caught the fever and flocked to goldfields in Australia, California and other parts of the world to seek their fortune. In 1851, the non-indigenous population of Victoria was 80,000. Just 10 years later and due almost singlehandedly to gold fever, it had increased seven-fold to 540,000 people.
The Bathurst Free Press reported: “A complete mental madness appears to have seized almost every member of the community. There has been a universal rush to the diggings.”

One Californian gold digger said, "I have left those that I love as my own life behind and risked everything and endured many hardships to get here. I want to make enough to live easier and do some good with, before I return."

The diggers were not intending to stay at the goldfields. They wanted to find gold and take it back with them to their loved ones.

Jesus told a collection of short parables about God’s kingdom and his work here on earth: The Kingdom of Heaven is like a treasure that a man discovered hidden in a field. In his excitement, he hid it again and sold everything he owned to get enough money to buy the field.

It’s an amazing and wonderful realisation that God has “gold fever” for us. Jesus gave up everything – he left his home in heaven and his Father and his angels whom he loved – to endure the hardships and troubles of life on Earth. He didn’t intend to stay here, but came with the sole purpose to find us, his treasure, and carry us back to heaven with him. It cost him his life on the cross.

Each of us is unique and valuable to God. There can never be another you. And although you may sometimes doubt God’s love for you, God’s word reveals that you are irreplaceable and immensely precious to him.

Jonny Hedt – Pastoral Care

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**Birthday**

Happy Birthday to the following students who will be celebrating their birthday in the coming week:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Namh</td>
<td>Kinder</td>
<td>2nd August</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Layla</td>
<td>ST</td>
<td>3rd August</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Abeni</td>
<td>Kinder</td>
<td>4th August</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mili</td>
<td>MB</td>
<td>6th August</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mitchell</td>
<td>JT</td>
<td>6th August</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jesse</td>
<td>PP</td>
<td>7th August</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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**School Photos**

*School Photo Day on 14th August.*

Order forms for individual photos and family photos will be available late next week.

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**Youth Group**

St Paul’s Youth meets tomorrow, August 1 for an evening based around the theme “Team Challenge”. Teams will compete in a variety of physical, mental and other challenges to test them to their limits. BYO nerf gun if you have one (there will be some spares). All youth aged 10-16 are welcome. Gold coin donation. Parents sign in at St Paul’s Community Centre, corner Heyers Road and Torquay Road at 6.45pm. Pickup at 8.30pm. RSVP to Lee Smith 52417182 or text 0425870136 email Jonny Hedt hedtj@stjohns.edu.au

St Paul’s Youth will also meet on August 22 and September 12.

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**Canteen**

Thank you to Kristy Whitehead for helping today. For those of you who are keen to help, a roster for Term 4 is now available.

Liz Gardner – Canteen Manager

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ROSTER - TERMS 3 &amp; 4 - 2014</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Thursday 7th August</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday 14th August</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday 21st August</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday 28th August</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday 4th September</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday 11th September</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday 18th September</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Sports Awards**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>BARTON</th>
<th>Elijah</th>
<th>For always enjoying his sporting activities and for improving his skills.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>DEAKIN</td>
<td>Sarita</td>
<td>For always being conscientious and eager to participate and for being an example to her class.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HIGGINS</td>
<td>Jesse</td>
<td>For progressing his skill development at a great level.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PARKES</td>
<td>Leah</td>
<td>For always being happy to participate and eager to be at her best.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Kai</td>
<td>For maintaining a very high skill level and ability. Keep up the great work!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Ahlyia</td>
<td>For always being happy and eager to work well during her PE lesson.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Nicholas</td>
<td>For showing great attitude to his PE lesson and for always trying his best.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Lily</td>
<td>For showing improved skills and a willingness to do her best.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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**Terms and Dates**

**TERM 3**

- Thursday 7th August: Alissia Milliken
- Thursday 14th August: Miranda Puglia
- Thursday 21st August: **NO CANTEEN**
- Thursday 28th August: Jeanette de Boer
- Thursday 4th September: Tanya Marshman
- Thursday 11th September: Kathryn Vick
- Thursday 18th September: Belinda Yockins

**TERM 4**

- Thursday 9th October: Suzanne Sprague
- Thursday 16th October
- Thursday 23rd October
- Thursday 30th October
- Thursday 6th November
- Thursday 13th November
- Thursday 20th November
- Thursday 27th November
- Thursday 4th December
Parents and Friends

What have the Parents & Friends been doing over the last months?

As not many people would know who or what the P & F Committee does, after each meeting the Committee will provide a brief Newsletter update.

Who is on the Committee: Lorelle Hamilton (President), Keryn McNaught (Secretary), Sally Fitzpatrick (Kinder Representative), Milissa Meyer (Vice President), Rebekah Lennon (Treasurer), Symone van der Vliet (Working Bee Coordinator).

WHAT'S ON?

Film night with a difference: A Geelong man has transformed his shearing shed, into a 20 seat cinema complex. In June, the Prep parents were invited to attend the movie ‘Bridesmaids’ in the shed. Whilst the numbers attending were small, the people who did go along, had a fabulous night, and were keen to do it again. Another night has been organized for WEDNESDAY OCTOBER 15th (movie to be decided). The cost will be $5.00.

Routley’s Pie Fundraiser: Just in time for football finals time. All families will be given an order form by 7th August. This is to be returned by 14th August. You will receive your orders by 28th August.

Father’s Day Fundraiser: The School will be holding a Casual Dress Day on the 3rd September. The purpose of the Casual Dress Day will be for families to donate a small item, which will then be used to make Father’s Day gift packs that will then be sold at the School on Friday 5th September. Further information to follow.

Parents and Friends Committee Positions:
The P&F Annual General Meeting will be held in November when all current positions will become vacant. The Committee is looking for fresh faces, eager people and new ideas, so now is the time to find out more by coming along to a meeting.

The current Committee intends to create separate roles for the President and Fete Coordinator. This is in order to share the load and create more opportunities to get involved.

The P&F is a fun and rewarding way to get involved, support the School and forge new and strong friendships. Where required, the newly elected Committee will receive mentoring from outgoing members until Fete 2015. If you think you’d like to get on board please come along or contact one of the current members to find out more. Stay tuned for more info on AGM in upcoming newsletters.

Fete 2015

We were lucky enough to have Imogen Brough come along to our Fete in 2014. We are again on the lookout for a known artist to come along to our Fete in 2015. If you have any contacts or ideas, please let us know as soon as possible so we that can follow these up.

Anybody is welcome to come along to the P & F meetings. The next meeting will be held on Monday 4th August between 10-11 am in the Conference Room. We are always looking for new and fresh ideas and support, so please come along, meet some new friends and have a cuppa with us.

Keryn McNaught – Secretary

Congratulations

Grey Wolf Award

Will, along with this year’s other 19 Grey Wolf recipients from the Geelong Region and as far away as Colac, was formally recognised for his Grey Wolf Award achievement at a function on Sunday 27 July 2014 at the 1st Barwon 2nd Geelong Scout Hall where the Mayor and Mayoress presented recipients with their certificates.

The Grey Wolf Award is the highest achievement for a Cub, and one that not all Cubs obtain. It is the Cub’s equivalent to the Queen Scout Award. To complete his award Will completed or achieved the following:

- The Gold Boomerang Badge
- Attended at least 4 outdoor activities in the past year, including:
  - an overnight camp
  - a number of activities with other Cub Packs
  - Planned and led a bushwalk, of 2 hours duration
  - Completed a bike return ride from Moolap to Drysdale

Completed the following Level 2 Achievement Badges: Citizenship, Sports, Swimmer, Entertainer, Animals and Birds, Cyclist and Bushcraft.

Completed the “Their Service – Our Heritage” special interest badge which involved attending the Anzac Day Pre-Dawn Service at Johnsons Park then attending the 11.00am March in Ballarat with his Grandfather. He did this three years in a row.

Developed and presented a Jungle Book based set of games to his cub pack.

Mathletics Top Students

Congratulations to the following students on achieving scores of 85% or higher when mastering Mathletics Activities:

Arthur has mastered 141 activities, Adele has mastered 100 activities and Calvin who has mastered 75 activities. These students will be presented with Certificates at Assembly.

Congratulations to these students on their fantastic achievements. Well done to you all!

Basketball

St John’s Slamdunks
Wednesday 6th August – 4.00pm
Wednesday 13th August – 4.40pm

St John’s Bobcats
Saturday 2nd August - 9.00am
Saturday 9th August – 10.40am

Leeanne Williams
Congratulations to our Chess Tournament winners who are shown here with their Award Certificates.

1st Place: Noah (Junior), Milly (Middle), Harry (Senior).
2nd Place: Charlie (Junior), Luka (Middle), Nicholas (Senior).
3rd Place: Archer (Junior), Max (Middle), William (Senior).

This week’s Library Awards go to:
MB - for their excellent focus with our author study on “Nick Bland and to everyone enjoying his story “King Pig”.
PP - for enjoying a laugh with our rhyming book of “The Underpants Zoo” by Brian Sendelbach.

Certificates of Appreciation go to:
Max Ogle, William Baum and Xavier Korolis for adjudicating with the Chess Tournament.

Lynn Lytzki – Librarian

Prayer Group
St John’s Prayer Group is a group of parents who gather regularly to bring the School and School community before God in prayer. All parents are welcome. In Term 3 the Group will meet in the Hall following morning assembly on the following Fridays: August 8, August 22, September 5. If you would like more information, please contact Pastoral Care Coordinator Jonny Hedt at h edtj@stjohns.edu.au

Music
On Thursday 7th August the St John’s Lutheran School Choirs (Middle and Senior Choir) will be performing at the Geelong School’s Music and Movement Festival at GPAC. Both Choirs will be performing two different songs, which will surely entertain the audience.

We will require a few parent helpers on the day to walk down to GPAC with us. If you hold the current Working with Children Card then please let Mrs Schulze, Miss Seljak or Miss Veith know as soon as possible. Parents, grandparents and friends are welcome to attend the Festival if they would like to see their child perform. The cost for any day session is $5.00 per adult, and tickets can be purchased directly from GPAC.

Music Awards for this week go to ST, SV & SF – Fabulous work with “Swingin’ Bones”

Carmel Schu – Music Teacher

Prep
This week the Prep children are learning about animals with fur. They have learnt that they are called Mammals. The children know many facts about these animals and they found out that people fit into this group. Prep G have made themselves an amazing giraffe puppet using a paper bag.

Jeanette Pelchen – Level 1 Leader
Congratulations to our Preps on their 100th! To explain, today our Prep students complete the first 100 days of their schooling. I don’t think there are another 100 days of any student’s schooling where the growth in learning is as remarkable as these first days. Well done to our Preps on their wonderful progress. Next week Mrs Kelly Rodway returns to her Prep class from her Long Service Leave. Thank you to Miss Rebekah Shurley who has covered this vacancy.

Currently our Year 9A students are involved in their CityCite experience which involves travelling to Melbourne on the train each day, navigating their way around the city and completing their Rich Research Task. This is proving to be a very rewarding learning experience for them in terms of the curriculum, life skills and their growing independence. Next week our Year 9B class will participate in CityCite.

In recent weeks there have been reports of an unknown male person photographing children at various local schools. The safety of our students is paramount. Students are supervised in the yard and their play areas are away from our boundaries. Parents visiting our College (other than the morning drop off and afternoon pick up of primary students from their classrooms) are reminded to sign in and out via the Reception desk. Further, we will be rehearsing our lockdown procedures this week as part of our regular training in emergency response procedures.

I would like to give a reminder of the two Curriculum Days in Week 5 so parents can plan for their children on these days. Our staff will be spending these two days on curriculum development ahead of the second iteration of the Australian Curriculum, starting in 2015. I am very positive about the changes ahead of us, which further refine our teaching and promise to provide more meaningful reporting to parents.

Our final Open Morning will be held on Friday August 8 from 9:30am. Please commend this opportunity to view our College to families who may be interested in what we have to offer. Although our Prep classes for next year are currently filled and the Year 7 classes nearly filled, there are vacancies at other year levels.

Looking ahead to next week, we wish our 9B students well as they travel to Melbourne each day for their CityCite experience and we will welcome our visitors from Honjo Daiichi High School in Japan.

Barry Krueger