Dear St John’s School Community

It seems like there is never a week that goes by at St John’s without some type of Co-curricular activity or program opportunity being made available to our students.

I had the pleasure to accompany Mrs Lytzki and 12 students from Years 4 to 6 to Cambridge Primary School at Hopper’s Crossing for the Chess Victoria’s Primary Zonal Tournament. We received extremely encouraging feedback from the organisers and representatives from other schools regarding our students’ sportsmanship, and their interaction with other students. We were very proud of our students for their fair play and for the comments received regarding their exemplary behaviour.

On Tuesday and Wednesday of this week, both of our Kinder groups ventured up the highway by bus to Melbourne to visit and explore Scienceworks. They were all very excited about their adventure and very tired at the end of it.

The week ended with our Year 6s participating in an Inter-school Debate Competition, with an unseen topic titled ‘Too much money and attention is given to sport’. I appreciate all of the extra preparation and time required by our staff in enabling these extra co-curricular opportunities to take place. I also acknowledge the time that the students and their parents commit to these activities.

Recently I received a request from a postgraduate researcher from La Trobe University, Stephanie Mertins, interested in investigating links between diet and behaviour in children. Parents of children aged 4-11 years are invited to complete an online questionnaire and three day diet diary to help understand how diet impacts children’s behaviour, gastrointestinal and sleep problems.

I thought that there may be some parents who would be interested in taking part in this research so have included a link to the enable you to read more information and to participate in the survey.

To participate or to read more information, please visit:  
http://tinyurl.com/n3u6soa
Stephanie can provide us with a summary of the research findings at the completion of the study.

Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will lift you up.  
James 4:10

Comment :: How many times must you make a mistake before you are humble enough to ask for help? Are you proud and think you can handle life on your own always? Let God lend a hand and see the result.

With God’s Blessings

Brian Schultz
Devotional Thought

Taking off the Mask

Many Superheroes wear masks to hide their true identity or disguise their look to stop people from seeing who they really are. Batman doesn’t want people to know he is Bruce Wayne. Iron Man didn’t want people to know he is really Tony Stark. Wonder Woman was really Diana Prince. Superman, of course, disguised himself as Clark Kent. The Lone Ranger also wore a mask and people would ask the question, ‘who was that masked man?!’

In Matthew 16:13-20 we read of Jesus asking the disciples ‘who do people say that I really am?’ There were different answers. Some thought he was a good bloke, others thought he was a prophet. Some thought he was a little like a superhero who did good things. But the apostle Peter answered differently. Inspired by the Holy Spirit he could see that there were no disguises and that Jesus wasn’t a superhero or just a good guy helping others. Rather he could see that Jesus is truly God! Peter answered Jesus’ question by saying ‘you are the Christ, the Son of the living God.’

As we hear of Jesus and as we share his message with others we take off the mask and say who he truly is – He is the Son of God, the One who died for us, the One who came to this world to forgive sin and to fill our hearts with true hope and to comfort us in all our troubles.

We don’t ask ‘who is that masked man?’ Rather we ask, ‘who is that one dying on the cross?’ and the answer is ‘that is God’s Son, the Saviour who loves us.’

God bless,
Pastor Mark.

Birthdays

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Class</th>
<th>Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Luka</td>
<td>MS</td>
<td>30th Aug</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Milla</td>
<td>PP</td>
<td>30th Aug</td>
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<tr>
<td>Luca</td>
<td>MG</td>
<td>1st Sep</td>
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<tr>
<td>Isaac</td>
<td>Kinder</td>
<td>2nd Sep</td>
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<td>Fletcher</td>
<td>JP</td>
<td>4th Sep</td>
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<tr>
<td>Gulliver</td>
<td>JT</td>
<td>4th Sep</td>
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Toucan Appeal

St John’s Lutheran School is proud to be associated with the Geelong Food Relief Centre by collecting any non-perishable food, groceries or personal care items. A collection box is located at the School Office where items can be left during the month of August.

Parents and Friends

The Parents and Friends School and Kinder Working Bee will be held on Saturday October 11. Please mark this date in your diary.

Keryn McNaught – Secretary

Concert

The School Concert is only 3 weeks away!

An order form for tickets and DVD sales has been sent home and tickets are selling fast.

Tickets can only be purchased from the School Office until Wednesday 17th September – there will be no tickets for sale on the night.

Tickets are allocated as they are sold – unfortunately, we are not able to offer selected seating.

For further information please contact Office Staff.

Chess

St John’s Lutheran School was invited to participate in the Primary Zonal Chess Challenge held at Cambridge Primary School in Hoppers Crossing this week.

St John’s was represented by twelve students out of a total of one hundred participants. It was a great experience for all of the students with each one playing seven games of Chess throughout the day.

Our students presented themselves as excellent and respectful competitors. All of the students received certificates and three were awarded medals. Milly Schultz was awarded a Gold Medal for her 1st place in the Years 3-4 Section, Harry Schultz received a Gold Medal for placing second in his age group and Luka Kanellos was awarded a Silver Medal in her Section.

Congratulations to you all.

Lynn Lytzki
Library

Our School’s celebration of “Literacy and Numeracy Week” using this year’s Book Week theme of “Connect to Reading” was very successful. Everyone had a fantastic time. Students and teachers embraced the day by being warm and cosy in their pyjamas and onesies.

In the afternoon, the Library Captains read “Little Bunny’s Sleepless Night” and they all did an outstanding job!

We then separated into small groups where teachers, parent helpers and Year 6 students shared their favourite picture stories with their small group of School and Kindergarten students.

Thank you to the teachers and parent helpers for their assistance on the day. I would particularly like to congratulate the Year 6 students in how they presented themselves and their stories on the day. They all worked very hard studying and practising and this showed with their delivery of the stories. They also took great care of their groups to make sure that they were all connected.

**Paper Chain Challenge!**

In the cosy small reading groups children and helpers worked together to create paper chains. Each loop on the paper chain was decorated with a word that reflected our theme of ‘connecting’, particularly how we connect at St John’s with God through prayer and with each other.

We knew this was going to be a mega paper chain and students were invited to estimate how long it might end up! To check the accuracy of our estimates we wanted to be able to count the number of loops in the finished chain! The students all know from their Maths lessons that the best way to count a large collection is to group into tens and then skip count. Therefore the children set about make chains of 10 loops! Some groups made 3 chains of 10 equalling 30, some made 8 chains of 10 equalling 80, some groups made even more!

Next we set about joining the small chains of 10 together using special silver linking loops. This meant that each set of 10 become 11! Many students also knew the counting pattern when counting by 11 (11,22,33,44,55,66 etc). So we knew our final total should have the same digit in the ten’s place and one’s place!

Once each group had connected their own chains they joined with other groups to connect their chains with each other. Finally we ventured out to the oval to link everyone’s chains together and attempt to count the final number of links in the chain!

With Mr Illingworth’s excellent skip counting skills we found we had 206 chains of 10 equalling 2060, plus the 206 linking chains bring the grand total to 2266 links! Wow! This amazing mega chain is now looped up around the ceiling in the Library and some of it has also been hung in the Kinder.

This activity also reinforced the theme that at St John’s we are all connected to each other.

**Lynn Lytzki – Librarian**

Canteen

Thank you to Jeanette de Boer for your help 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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<tr>
<td>Thursday 11.00am – 1.30pm</td>
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**TERM 3**

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<th>Thursday 4th September</th>
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**TERM 4**

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The end of 2014 will also see the end of wearing any of the older style uniform and the changeover will be complete to the latest version of the St John’s uniform. This changeover will have taken two years to complete, with any new students to the School since 2013 having to purchase items that comply with our new look uniform.

With these 2 years almost behind us and 6 months left until the beginning of the 2015 school year, I am requesting that you now consider the uniform needs of your child for next year, so that they are wearing the correct School uniform. Please keep this change in mind when considering the purchase of second hand items.

We are currently considering our options regarding the operation of our School’s Second Hand Uniform Shop in 2015, however with the transition to our new uniform complete at the end of this year, we will no longer be accepting second hand items at our Uniform Shop that do not comply with this requirement.

Brian Schultz – Head of School

St John’s Slamdunks
Wednesday 3rd September – 4.00pm
Wednesday 10th September – Semi Final
Wednesday 17th September – Grand Final

St John’s Bobcats
Saturday 30th August – 9.50am GBNC
Saturday 6th September – 10.40am GBNC
Saturday 13th September – 9.50am GBNC

St John’s Prayer Group is a group of parents who gather regularly to pray for 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 Friday September 6. If you would like more information, please contact Pastoral Care Coordinator Jonny Hedt at hedtj@stjohns.edu.au

Uniform

Geelong Lutheran College

In recent weeks a Victorian Parliamentary Committee reviewed homework – is it essential or is it unnecessary? After 32 submissions and 16 public hearings into the value of homework they found they had a mixed bag of results. This finding has been reported in the media and it is not surprising in itself. Homework is an emotive topic that brings out a range of opinions.

It is clear that time spent on homework should not be excessive to the point that it draws students away from their families and healthy pastimes. This was one of the criticisms raised before the committee. Drilling down into the research literature, and I am guided by John Hattie’s analyses that homework does make a significant difference if it is well-constructed and meaningful. Furthermore, the effects of homework are most significant in the senior years of a students’ learning. This latter finding is hardly surprising since programs are constructed on the assumption that students spend considerable time out-of-school on their learning. I would encourage our parents to support their children with their homework – we believe that it essential and necessary.

Thank you to Ms Helmer and Mrs Bell for their work with our choirs. Last week our choirs were placed in the Geelong Eisteddfod. This week they travelled to Ballarat and competed in the South Street competitions with merit. It is particularly pleasing to see the way our choirs have progressed in the last 12-months.

Preparations for next year are well in hand. Thank you to Mrs Tattersall for last night’s information session for our Year 9 families. Our students have quite a few choices! Currently we are advertising for teaching staff for next year and onwards. Next week I hope to be able to provide an update on staff movement.

Looking ahead to next week, our Middle and Senior School students will be participating in the House Swimming Carnival on Wednesday. This is an important part of our program and the participation of all our students is expected – whether as a swimmer, supporter or helper with the Carnival. It important that our students appreciate the value of working in teams, develop the attitudes of applauding the achievements of others and the skills of supporting their team mates.

Barry Kruger

Basketball

Sports Awards

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>BARTON</th>
<th>For always enjoying his Sport lessons and for improving his skills.</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Olivia</td>
<td>For always being positive and eager to contribute.</td>
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</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DEAKIN</th>
<th>For always being happy and for trying his best every lesson.</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Brooke</td>
<td>For being highly skilled and for working well in every lesson.</td>
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<tr>
<th>HIGGINS</th>
<th>For improving his effort and his skills.</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Amy Rose</td>
<td>For always being eager and cooperative.</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PARKES</th>
<th>For showing very good skill development and for happily contributing to every lesson.</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Marcus</td>
<td>For improving her skills and for working so well with her classmates.</td>
</tr>
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St John’s Prayer Group

Head of School

St John’s Bobcats

Sports Awards

Lewis

Olivia

Isaac

Brooke

Charles

Amy Rose

Marcus

Hannah
**Church Information**

**St John's Lutheran Church**, 165 Yarra Street, Geelong. Rev Mark Blackwell. Sunday worship with Holy Communion 9am. Sunday School is now every week during school term. Office: 5221 5121. Playgroup meets 9am-11am every Tuesday of school term at Tyne Cottage adjacent to church. All welcome.

ROBIN MANN

Writer of songs (like Father welcomes, May the feet of God walk with you, Feed us now), compiler of songbooks (All Together Now ... & 5 more), singer, guitar player, worship leader, husband of Dorothy, long-time Christian on the low-way, Adelaidean, inter-denominational Lutheran, father of Kris, Jon & Thom ...

Robin is coming to Geelong for a sing-a-long and to share with us some of the new songs from the latest All Together song book.

**Date:** Sunday, October 5th

**Time:**
- 5.30pm for dinner (bring a plate of something to share)
- 6.30pm for singing

**Venue:**
- St John’s Lutheran Church,
- 165 Yarra Street Geelong

**Cost:** Donations taken on the night


**Holy Trinity Lutheran Church**, Mollers Lane, Leopold. Rev Mark Blackwell. Worship, 11am Every Sunday with Holy Communion

**Extend After School Care**

Last week we cooked some delicious pizza cheese rolls, hunted for buried treasure in the sandpit, played many games of kick to kick, decorated our very own 3D glasses and continued to practise drawing using soft pastels. We also played two new beanbag games and learned how to play Pictionary.

- Stephanie

Our Extend Superstar is... Ashmeet, for always playing well with others. Well done!

Next week’s activities:

- **Monday 1 September:** Mini Science Experiments
- **Tuesday 2 September:** Treasure Hunt
- **Wednesday 3 September:** Lemonade Scones
- **Thursday 4 September:** 3D Bugs
- **Friday 5 September:** Free Play Friday

Have you ‘liked’ Extend After School Care?

Did you know we have a Facebook page filled with fantastic pictures and information from our services? Find out what your After School Care has been up to or get some great ideas of activities to do at home with the kids. You never know what you might find if you don’t look and like!

Visit: [http://www.facebook.com/ExtendAfterCare](http://www.facebook.com/ExtendAfterCare) and make sure to LIKE us!

**ONLINE BOOKINGS:** extend.com.au

**CALL OUR OFFICE:** 1300 366 437