Dear St John’s School Community

I would like to extend my sincere thanks to everyone who came along and helped in Saturday’s Working Bee. Many hours went into the preplanning for this day and I would like to thank the organising team, students, parents, grandparents and staff for giving up your time to make this such a successful School community effort.

This week our Years 3 & 4 (Level 3) classes are attending their camp at Baanya Biami Adventure Camp between Anakie and Ballan. Benefits to our students attending school camps are numerous including developing social skills and independence, participation, personal challenges, encouraging physical fitness and active lifestyles, leadership skills and team building, new challenges and having fun.

Congratulations to our students representing St John’s who competed in the Primary Girls State Final of the Chess Competition and to those representing our School at the Athletics State Regional Competition. Results will be published in next week’s Newsletter.

A reminder that October is Walk to School Month. This is an annual event which encourages primary school children to walk to and from school in October. Walking to school is great for children’s health and wellbeing, and helps to reduce traffic and parking congestion around schools.

This short article, written by Associate Professor Jane Burns, highlights recent research findings that describe how parents’ knowledge and practice of online safety can be supported and ultimately enhanced. Technology plays a significant role in many areas of young people’s wellbeing—improving education, fostering creativity and strengthening relationships. The online world should not be feared, yet many parents report they have a limited understanding of why young people engage with technology. Parents also indicate that their own digital literacy is not sufficient to enable them to guide their children’s engagement.

It is clear there is scope to enhance parents’ knowledge and practice of online safety, in order to maximise all that technology offers. https://www3.aifs.gov.au/cfca/2014/09/04/enhancing-parents-knowledge-and-practice-online-safety

Love one another warmly as Christian brothers and sisters, and be eager to show respect for one another. Romans 12:10

Comment –: Go out of your way to do good. Look for and acknowledge the good in others. It will encourage them.

With God’s blessings
Brian Schultz

Devotional Thought
Matthew 22.1-14

Picture again the royal wedding of Will and Kate. All the celebrities and royal guests are invited and a great big feast is laid out at Buckingham Palace. The doors are thrown open at the appointed time, but there’s no one there. No one. The hall is empty, except for the Queen and the bridal party. Can you imagine the humiliation?

That’s the picture that Jesus paints of God’s invitation to the kingdom of heaven. The invitation to God’s heavenly feast is issued, and yet people simply ignore Him. They’re busy with work, or their hobbies. Or perhaps they actively reject the call of God. Either way, God’s invitation is left unheeded. Unanswered. And Jesus doesn’t water down what the consequences of ignoring God’s invitation are.

And so instead our Lord gives us a beautiful picture of God’s invitation being extended to everyone, to all of the normal people, and the abnormal people. To all of the good, and to all of the bad. They’re all invited. The grace of God beckons everyone, and goes out to all people through God’s Word.

But in the final sentences, Jesus draws our attention to the wedding of forgiveness and joy to the repentant. Indeed, let us daily wear Christ, the man of sorrows, and the bringer of forgiveness and joy to the repentant.

Tom Pietsch – St Paul’s Lutheran Church
Welcome Angela

Hi, my name is Angela McLean and I’ve recently been appointed as the Wellbeing Coordinator here at St John’s Lutheran School.

I’m very excited about this role (and a little bit daunted) as I’m passionate about supporting children in their social, emotional and spiritual development. Being confident in these areas not only gives children better learning outcomes and school experiences, but also helps set them up with important life skills.

Please come and introduce yourself to me anytime, especially if your child is vulnerable in these areas. My days at the School will be Tuesday 1pm-5pm, and Wednesday and Friday 8.30am-4.30pm. I’m looking forward to getting to know everyone in the St John’s community.

Angela McLean – Wellbeing Coordinator

Canteen

Thank you to Miranda Puglia for helping in the Canteen today.

Liz Gardner – Canteen Manager

Chess

Millie and Luka (pictured below with their Certificates of Participation), represented St John’s Lutheran School at the Chess Victoria Primary Girls State Final held at Lauriston Girls’ School. The event was held on Tuesday 14th October. The girls enjoyed the spirited competition and the experience of being part of a large tournament.

Lynn Lytzki

Library

Library Awards go to JP & ST for introducing our shared story “I’m Coming To Get You” by Tony Ross with amazing monster voices!

Library Appreciation Awards were presented to: Viktoria, Grace, Holly, Willow, Georgie, Evelyn.

The Book Club due date is Thursday October 23. Please ensure that all details have been completed on the form and correct money is included. Unfortunately, no late orders can be accepted.

Lynn Lytzki – Librarian

Absent Students

If your child is absent from School for any reason, you must notify the School. We are required to include details of absences as part of DEECD reporting regulations.

Shortly, we will be introducing an automated SMS message to parents and carers if we have not received notification regarding an absence from School.

You will be required to return an SMS or phone the School to advise the reason for the absence of your child.

St John’s Carols Service

You are invited to celebrate the start of Advent and the Christmas season, St John’s Lutheran School will host a Christmas Carols evening on the Oval on Sunday, November 30. The Carols Service will begin at 6.30pm and run for about one hour, including a nativity play by students and a choir performance.

Jonny Hedd & Angela McLean – Wellbeing Coordinators

Bornhdays

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Student</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Class</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Louis</td>
<td>17th October</td>
<td>ST</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lucas</td>
<td>18th October</td>
<td>JP</td>
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<tr>
<td>Xavier</td>
<td>18th October</td>
<td>JI</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lewis</td>
<td>19th October</td>
<td>MG</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sarieta</td>
<td>19th October</td>
<td>JT</td>
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<tr>
<td>Claudia</td>
<td>19th October</td>
<td>MG</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paris</td>
<td>20th October</td>
<td>SF</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jacqueline</td>
<td>20th October</td>
<td>PG</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Isabella</td>
<td>22nd October</td>
<td>Kinder</td>
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<tr>
<td>Joshua</td>
<td>23rd October</td>
<td>MG</td>
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**Sports Awards**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>BARTON</th>
<th>DEAKIN</th>
<th>HIGGINS</th>
<th>PARKES</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Baxter</td>
<td>For working well, improving his skills and for always trying hard.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Dane</td>
<td>For always working so well and at a high skill level.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Harrison</td>
<td>For always eagerly participating to the best of his ability and for showing good skills.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Arrah</td>
<td>For always cooperating and for being interested in her PE Class.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Keziah</td>
<td>For always trying her best and for being eager to be part of any PE activity.</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Sofiyka</td>
<td>For her great effort and willingness to participate.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oliver</td>
<td>For always trying his best and showing very good skills.</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Georgie</td>
<td>For always being happy and eager to participate and for developing her skills.</td>
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**Geelong Lutheran College**

Last night it was my pleasure to view performances by our Years 9 and 10 and VCE drama students. Well done to our drama students for this impressive display of their work, and thank you to Mrs Vendy. The solo performances by our VCE students were the same as those prepared for the VCE examiners.

Currently our Year 12 students are in revision mode and they will finish their formal schooling with an assembly next Thursday. Their graduation, the first graduation for our College, will be held November 19. These are exciting times for our College.

Sustainability is one of the key themes we are developing in our curriculum. Yesterday afternoon our teachers met again to examine what sustainability looks like in the formal curriculum, and just as importantly, through our operations as a school – our “hidden curriculum”. Already our students are composting waste, learning about sustainable practices through the Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden, our primaries are reducing waste through “nude food” and paper use is being controlled. This morning our Year 9s continue their involvement with the Coastal Guardians Program and next Monday our Year 8 students will be planting trees onsite with Barwon Water. Within our Christian context, sustainable practices are one part of the way we can be good stewards of God’s creation.

Looking ahead to next week, I would like to commend the Parents and Friends Trivia Night as an important opportunity to meet with other parents, and ultimately support their children.

**Barry Kruger – Head of School**

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**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.


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**Extend After School Care**

Last week we sat and watched the School Concert on DVD. The children enjoyed seeing their classes perform, as did the Extend staff, as we didn’t get to see the Concert live. We also played various games outside, baked a delicious chocolate brownie and started our new Extend-a-hand project, making Christmas cards and colouring in pictures that will go into special Christmas hampers for families in need.

- Stephanie

**Next week’s activities:**
- Monday 20 October: Crayon Transfer Pictures
- Tuesday 21 October: Sugar Cookies
- Wednesday 22 October: Epsom Salt Paintings
- Thursday 23 October: Floating Rice Bottle Experiment
- Friday 24 October: Extend-a-hand Craft

**Are you ready to Share Christmas?**

Term 4 sees the launch of our Extend-a-Hand annual Project and we would love your children to be a part of it. We hope to empower and inspire our children by asking them to ‘Share Christmas’.

Extend is teaming up with Magic Moments Foundation by participating in the Basket Brigade Program to help families in need. The Basket Brigade Program raises funds throughout the year in order to put together gift baskets for families in need with items including food, necessities, and even toys.

Extend is honoured to be given the opportunity for the children in our programs to hand-craft the Christmas cards that are placed inside these baskets. We’ve named this the Share Christmas Project.

Until Wednesday 12 November, children who attend any Extend service can contribute to the Basket Brigade by making cards for families. We encourage you to speak with your child about this worthy cause so that they can get excited and involved in our Share Christmas Project.

Thank you for your support in a wonderful cause.

**ONLINE BOOKINGS**: extend.com.au
**CALL OUR OFFICE**: 1300 366 437