Upcoming dates

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>OCT 31st</td>
<td>World Teachers Day</td>
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<td></td>
<td>NOV 12th</td>
<td>Parents &amp; Friends AGM – 7pm – School Hall</td>
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<td>NOV 28th</td>
<td>Report Writing Day – No School</td>
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<td>Sun 30th</td>
<td>Carols Evening – 5.30 Sausage Sizzle, 6.30 pm Start, Finish at 7.30 pm</td>
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<td></td>
<td>DEC 8th</td>
<td>Year 6 Graduation Evening</td>
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<td></td>
<td>DEC 10th</td>
<td>Term 4 Ends for School and Kinder</td>
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<td>DEC 10th</td>
<td>Closing Service</td>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
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<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>FEB 2nd</td>
<td>School &amp; Kinder Commences – Term 1</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>MAR 27th</td>
<td>Term 1 Ends</td>
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<td>APR 13th</td>
<td>Term 2 Commences</td>
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<td>JUN 26th</td>
<td>Term 2 Ends</td>
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<td>JUL 13th</td>
<td>Term 3 Commences</td>
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<td>SEP 18th</td>
<td>Term 3 Ends</td>
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<td>OCT 5th</td>
<td>Term 4 Commences</td>
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<td></td>
<td>DEC 9th</td>
<td>Term 4 Ends</td>
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Head of School

Dear St John’s School Community

October 31st is remembered in Lutheran Churches throughout the world as Reformation Day. On this day in 1517 Martin Luther nailed his 95 theses to the Church door at Wittenberg. Luther was hoping to bring about scholarly debate on abuses that he felt were occurring in the Church at that time. This act started what is known as the ‘Reformation’ that set about re-forming the church’s teaching to highlight that we are saved by grace through faith in Jesus Christ. This message is still proclaimed in Lutheran Churches and Schools throughout Australia and the world.

Staffing changes for 2015: We are very excited to announce some staff changes for 2015. As previously announced, due to reduced student numbers in Year 5, there will be two Years 5 and 6 classes in 2015, with an anticipated return to three classes at this level in 2016.

Charlene Grieger will move into the Prep area to work with Naomi Gibbons as the two Prep teachers. Carrie Veith will move from the 5/6 area into Years 3 and 4 and will take on the role of Level Leader in that area. Jeanette Pelchen will work as the Numeracy Intervention teacher for 2015 as well as assist in the Years 5 and 6 area to create three classes for Spelling Mastery and Mathematics. She will also spend time working on Curriculum as we continue to implement the Australian Curriculum into our School.

Due to the retirement of Carmel Schulze, we will be advertising for a Music Teacher for 2015 in this Saturday’s Geelong Advertiser.

We are looking forward to another exciting year of Teaching and Learning at St John’s in 2015 as students build on their skills, knowledge and understanding of God’s wonderful world in which they live.

As part of the Years 5 and 6 Leadership Program we invite guest speakers to our School to share their stories, experience and aspects of leadership. This week, Mr Tim Edwards, Geelong College School Chaplain and past parent of our School, and Mr Keith Fagg spoke to our students. The students appreciated the experience and opportunity to hear and learn more about leadership and the many qualities involved. Over the years, many of our past students have taken on varying leadership opportunities throughout our community and I’m certain our Year 6 students this year will take these experiences and develop their own leadership qualities next year and beyond.

Tomorrow we celebrate World Teachers Day Australia. This is the day that the community pay tribute to the state’s 90,000 teachers who work in Government, Catholic and Independent Schools in metropolitan and regional Victoria. Celebrated in over 100 countries, World Teachers’ Day acknowledges the efforts of teachers in an increasingly complex, multicultural and technological society. It is a day when students, parents and community members can demonstrate their appreciation for the contributions that teachers have made to their community. We are blessed at St John’s to have such talented and caring teachers on our Staff.

As mentioned last week, our School has been selected to participate in a research project organised by student Meaghan Danby from the School of Psychology at Deakin University in Burwood. All students from Prep to Year Three will have received a Plain Language Statement and Consent Form. Activities will begin November 3rd. Thanks to those parents who have returned the interview consent forms to the School Office. There is still time to return these forms. I encourage all families to get behind this research opportunity.

For in the gospel the righteousness of God is revealed—a righteousness that is by faith from first to last, just as it is written: “The righteous will live by faith.” — Romans 1:17 (NIV)

The famous reformer Martin Luther identified this verse as one of the key inspirations for his work. Luther saw in it (and in other verses, like Habakkuk 2:4) a powerful reminder that it is through faith in God’s grace, and not through good works, that humans are justified before God.

With God’s blessings

Brian Schultz
The Parents and Friends Annual General Meeting will be held on Wednesday November 12 at 7 pm in the School Hall.  
All are most welcome to attend.

Devotional Thought

Our Reformation Refuge (Psalm 46)

Did you ever have a place as a child where you could hide? It may have been a place you’d go to when you were in trouble or upset or just wanted some time on your own.

Psalm 46 starts off by saying “God is our refuge and strength, an ever present help in trouble.” A refuge is a place to take shelter and to feel secure as the outside world rages against you. It is a lovely image to think of Jesus as our refuge. He is the One who has faced and conquered the storms of life. His nail pierced hands show the scars of battle that he has fought and conquered. His victory over all the powers of sin and darkness are now our spoils to share. He is our refuge and strength. When the world rages against us, and when the powers of darkness are causing our world to turn to darkness (whether it be a guilty conscience due to sin, a fear of death, or any host of things that battle against us), it is then that we seek refuge in the LORD. He is our ever present help in trouble. He is the fortress that will protect us from all those things. The LORD is with us – this indeed is good news.

At this time of year in the Lutheran Church we celebrate the Reformation, where we once again give thanks for the gospel and for those who fought so tirelessly to restore and defend it (people like Martin Luther). Now we move forward into the future confident that the LORD is our refuge. We don’t stand alone in this life, rather we have a gracious and merciful God who forgives and comforts, restores and loves and who promises to forever be our ever present help in trouble.

God bless

Pastor Mark

Canteen

Thank you to Jeanette de Boer for helping in the Canteen today.

Liz Gardner – Canteen Manager

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<tr>
<th>ROSTER - TERMS 3 &amp; 4 - 2014</th>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday 6th November</td>
<td>Fi Rae</td>
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<td>Thursday 13th November</td>
<td>Tif Kitchin</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday 20th November</td>
<td>Belinda Yockins</td>
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<td>Thursday 27th November</td>
<td>Kathryn Vick</td>
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<td>Thursday 4th December</td>
<td>Alissia Milliken</td>
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St John’s Carols Service

You are invited to celebrate the start of Advent and the Christmas season at the St John’s Lutheran School 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.

Prior to the Service, a sausage sizzle will start at 5.30pm and there will be cold drinks available. Gold coin donations for these will help cover costs with any proceeds going to Australian Lutheran World Service.

Please BYO camping chairs, picnic rugs and other snacks. All welcome. No alcohol please.

We look forward to a wonderful night of celebration, music and worship as a community. If anyone would like to help by setting up or cooking several hundred sausages from about 4pm (or whenever you are free), please let the School Office know.

Angela McLean & Jonny Hedt – Wellbeing Coordinators
**Youth Group**

St Paul’s Youth meets this Friday, October 31 for a “Sweet Tooth” – games and fun around a sweets and chocolate theme. All youth aged 10-16 are welcome. Gold coin donation. Parents sign in at St Paul’s Community Centre, corner Heyer’s Road and Torquay Road at 6.45pm. Pickup at 8.30pm. RSVP to Lee Smith 52417182 or text 0425870136, or email Jonny Hedt jonathan.hedt@glc.vic.edu.au St Paul’s Youth will also meet on November 14 and December 5 – activities to be advised.

**Library**

The Library Appreciation Award is presented to **Hannah** for helping with Library duties.

**The Library Awards go to:**

**JI** - for having lots of fun with Marcel and Abby who featured in our shared story “Monster Chef” by Nick Bland.

**SF** - for enjoying the story and short film “The Lost Thing” by Shaun Tan.

[Image of children holding library cards]

Lynn Lytzki – Librarian

**Geelong Lutheran College**

Tomorrow, “World Teacher’s Day” will be celebrated in Australia. This annual event celebrates the teaching profession and honours all teaching professionals. I reproduce below, the poem “I am not just a teacher:”

I am not just a teacher, I AM A GARDENER. Mine is to sow and water the seeds of greatness in the future leaders entrusted in my care and to weed out all the ill habits that will hinder them from achieving their full potentials.

I am not just a teacher, I AM AN ARTIST. Mine is to paint beautiful pictures of a great future on the hearts of everyone that reports to me.

I am not just a teacher, I AM A MENTOR. Mine is to give these great future leaders the keys to success and to shine the light on the pitfalls along their career paths to success.

I am not just a teacher, I AM A BUILDER. Mine is to build in them the principles, habits and lifestyle of greatness daily, one day at a time.

I am not just a teacher, I AM A ROLE MODEL. Mine is to be a shining example of what true greatness can be.

I am not just a teacher, I AM A GREAT LEADER.

Thank you to our teachers for the splendid work they do.

This week our thoughts and prayers are with John Aras our Business Manager who is recovering from some recent surgery. We pray for a speedy recovery and return to us.

Well done to our students. On Tuesday our Years 3 to 6 students participated in our Interhouse Swimming Carnival. The students participated well in their events and Torquay emerged as the winning House. Yesterday our Year 9 students participated in a school’s forum associated with the Great Ocean Road Coast Committee’s Coastal Guardians Program. The presentations by our students stood out and Ryan Emmerson received the Coastal Guardian of the Year award. Well done.

Tomorrow our Middle and Senior School students will be involved in “Martin Luther Day”. This is an initiative of our student forum and it will involve Middle and Senior School students only. On October 31, 1517 Martin Luther nailed 95 theses (or points for discussion) onto the door of the Schlosskirche (Castle Church) in Wittenberg, which precipitated the protestant reformation. This is an important part of our heritage.

**Barry Kruger – Head of School**

**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.


**Extend After School Care**

Last week we had a lot of fun practising our musical skills, watching a movie (as it was Grady’s birthday) and baking cookies, which we decorated and ate the next day. We also spent quite a bit of time outside during the week, enjoying the warmer weather. Whilst out there we played games of cricket, sat under the shady oak tree and even played with water balloons!

-Stephanie

Our Extend Superstar is... **Melody B**, for always being so polite and helpful. Well done Melody!

**Next week’s activities:**

- **Monday 3 November**: CD Hovercrafts
- **Tuesday 4 November**: Melbourne Cup Craft
- **Wednesday 5 November**: Final Extend-A-Hand card making
- **Thursday 6 November**: Milkshakes
- **Friday 7 November**: Cricket

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

**CALL OUR OFFICE**: 1300 366 437