Dear St John’s School Community,

I hope you had a wonderful holiday and the children are refreshed and ready for the final term ahead. The term began with a Whole School Chapel led by Mrs McLean. It was a wonderful message …….. Jesus performed amazing miracles when he was on earth that changed lives. Still today we can be part of the ongoing miracle of life. We can make a difference in the world by the words we say.

I would like to thank Steve Tkaczuk and Jeanette Pelchen for their tireless work last term while I was on leave. It is fantastic to be back and I’m looking forward to the exciting things ahead.

This week Richard Bennett spoke to our Years 5 and 6 students during the day and to our Staff after school. We are very excited to have organized Richard to return to our school to conduct an informative presentation for our School and Kindergarten parents on the topic …….. Cultivating human potential: Insights from Olympic/Paralympic Sport to enrich wellbeing, performance and achievement in school and in life.

Rich will share how Olympic/Paralympic coaches, psychologists and sport science professionals work together to support the wellbeing, development and performance of athletes and teams, and how these insights can be applied to cultivate your children’s full potential in the home and school environment.

Our previous information session on Cyber Safety was well supported and I would encourage parents to support this opportunity and attend. Registration details will be sent out soon.

We will be conducting a Canteen trial for a Wednesday lunchtime commencing soon. Thank you to those parents who have been working diligently on this task. Look out for further details and hopefully it will be well supported.

Upcoming activities for students include, the Years 3 and 4 Camp, Years 1 and 2 Melbourne Museum excursion and a MILO Cricket competition for a Team of Year 5 and 6 students.

May the glory of the Lord last for ever! May the Lord be happy with what he has made! Psalms 104:31

Comment :- Have you ever been touched by the hand of God? Then you know He has started a good work in you and will continue until it is finished.

God’s blessings
Brian Schultz, Head of School

REMINDER: ST JOHN’S LUTHERAN SCHOOL & KINDERGARTEN WILL BE CLOSED ON FRIDAY 16TH OCTOBER FOR GEELONG SHOW DAY
**Devotional Thought**

**Mark 7:31 – 37 Jesus Heals the Deaf and Mute Man**

When we hear about the amazing miracles of Jesus, sometimes we can brush over the social and emotional impact these miracles would have had on the person. A deaf person in that culture would have been socially isolated, friendless and lonely. Without any way to communicate he would have been trapped in his own mind. When Jesus healed the deaf man and gave him back the ability to speak he opened up a new world of connection and belonging. A big part of this miracle is not only that the deaf man can hear but he can also speak – he can share, he can be a friend to others and have friends...he is no longer alone in a world of silence. The miracles Jesus performed really changed people’s lives.

Words have power - with words we can help people feel loved and accepted, included and valued. With words we can also hurt, shame, reject and cause pain. Mrs. Pelchen finished last term talking about the power of words and how it tells us in the Bible that the tongue can be full of deadly poison - how the things we say can do a lot of damage and once the words are out you can’t put them back in. Our words can help change people’s lives by choosing kind, friendly and loving words, by paying attention to the world around us and by noticing when someone is lonely or sad. With kindness and love we can change someone’s life. Jesus performed amazing miracles when he was on earth – they changed lives, but still today we can be part of the ongoing miracle of life. We can make a difference in the world by the words we say.

**Angela McLean, Student Wellbeing Coordinator**

**Birthdays**

Happy birthday to the following students who are celebrating their birthday over the next week.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Class</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ava</td>
<td>October 9th</td>
<td>M1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oscar</td>
<td>October 10th</td>
<td>M2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Annabelle</td>
<td>October 10th</td>
<td>J3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arthur</td>
<td>October 10th</td>
<td>M1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Archer</td>
<td>October 11th</td>
<td>Yellow</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dylan</td>
<td>October 13th</td>
<td>P2</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fletcher</td>
<td>October 14th</td>
<td>M2</td>
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<tr>
<td>Isaac</td>
<td>October 14th</td>
<td>M1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Isla</td>
<td>October 14th</td>
<td>J2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lewis</td>
<td>October 14th</td>
<td>M3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zechariah</td>
<td>October 15th</td>
<td>S2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Lost Property**

A Rugby top clearly named “Elsie” has gone missing. Please check your student’s tops to make sure it inadvertently hasn’t turned up at your home.

**School SMS and Attendance**

If your Child is to be absent from School, please inform the School Office by 9.30am either by phone 5221 5221, email admin@stjohns.vic.edu.au or by using the SMS service “0418712263. Please note this number will only send and receive SMS messages - it will not receive telephone calls.

Please also inform us if you your Child will be away for more than one day. We are required to include details of absences as part of DEECD reporting regulations.

Please state your child’s name, class, reason for absence, and date of absence. E.g. Steven Scott, Year 6 is sick today (Tuesday 15th November)

Thank you to those parents who have started using this service.

**St John’s Christmas Carol Service**

To celebrate the start of Advent and the Christmas season, St John’s Lutheran School will host a Christmas Carols evening on the School Oval on Sunday, November 22nd. 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 from 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.**

**Pako Festa 2016**

We have received an invitation to partake in the Pako Festa on Saturday February 27th 2016 and we would like to be involved again.

We are seeking interest from parents who have any ideas on how we could celebrate the theme “Ceremonies”. Please come and see me in the next few weeks.

**Lynn Lytzki.**

**Canteen News**

The School Canteen will be operational in the 3rd week of Term and will continue to operate every Wednesday till the end of Term. A menu will be sent home next week.

Expressions of interest for volunteers are being sought. Please leave your name with the School Office.
Student Wellbeing News

Psychological Services at School

As of this term, St John’s will be utilizing the services of onPsych – Australia’s largest provider of Medicare funded school based psychological services. onPsych works on a preventative model of early intervention. They have the ability to take on students who have relatively low priority mental health problems, which are usually too low a priority for most other services. These students usually do not cause problems but do have a problem. Many have poor social skills, are isolated, and suffer in silence from anxiety problems. onPsych psychologists can make a meaningful contribution to the mental health of these children before their issues become entrenched.

onPsych are a team of fully qualified and registered psychologists who specialise in child and adolescent services working in primary and secondary schools in both individual and group settings. Services are performed at NO COST to the School, student or parent through Medicare bulk billing.

If you believe that this might benefit your child, please contact Angela McLean for further information.

Angela McLean, Student Wellbeing Coordinator

Self-Regulation: Strategies to teach children and teenagers about how their brain works, how to monitor their emotional state, and how to calm down.

Teaching young people self-regulation techniques helps them to limit impulsive and disruptive behaviour in the classroom, at home and in the community. GLC Pastoral Care Coordinator Jonny Hedt will lead the session and give parents several tried and tested strategies to help their child understand their emotional state, what happens in their brains when they are impulsive, anxious or angry, and strategies for them to calm down so they can learn and think effectively.

In this hour-long session Mr Hedt will walk parents through the knowledge, skills and strategies for self-regulation that have been taught to students from Years 1 to 8 at GLC this year. Parents of GLC and St John’s students and friends are welcome to attend. The session is free and tea and coffee will be provided.

It runs on Tuesday, 27th October at Geelong Lutheran College in the Multipurpose Hall, from 7.30pm to 8.30pm followed by refreshments. Please RSVP to Jonathan.Hedt@glc.vic.edu.au for catering and seating purposes.

Jonny Hedt, Pastoral Care, Geelong Lutheran College

Wanted

Sandpit Play: have you got any old pots and pans that can be added to our school sandpit for play? No sharp edges please. Please put these in the sandpit if you have some to donate. Much appreciated.

Mrs. Melinda Troeth

Parents & Friends News

AGM

The Annual P&F AGM will be held Tuesday November 17th at 7.30pm. At the AGM a new executive committee will be elected.

Our Committee needs new faces as quite a few are stepping down from their positions. If you have ever considered getting more involved with the P&F now is your chance. If you want to know more please feel free to give me a call on 0407739413.

WHERE: Bareena Bowling Club, 89 Noble St, Newtown
DATE: Sunday 8th November
TIME: 2-6pm
COST: $10 per adult (KIDS FREE) Tickets must be bought in advance from the School Office
BBQ: Gold coin donation

Look for the flyer and booking form coming home this week in your child’s satchel

Sally, Parents & Friends President

Playgroup News

Please note that Playgroup will resume on Monday 12th October.
Come along from 9am – 10am, in the School Hall. Coffee & tea, fruit & play. All Welcome. For more information contact Callie Fry 0411 287 366

Basketball News

St John’s Bobcats Basketball Team.
Saturday 10th October 9.00am
Saturday 17th October 9.00am
Leeanne

Library News

The next Book Club orders are required to be ordered online no later than Thursday 22nd October. All orders need to be placed using Scholastic’s Linked Online Ordering and Payment system (LOOP). Therefore no orders or payment will be accepted at School.

Lynn Lytzki, Librarian
St Johns Lollipops:

The St Johns Lollipops would like to welcome Sarah and Charlotte to our team. We look forward to playing a great season.

Last night we played Fyans Park in our first game of the new season and won! It was a very close game with a score of 5 to 4. Well done to all the girls.

Jeanette

Welcome to St John’s newest sporting entity:

"ST JOHN’S SWIFTS NETBALL TEAM" consisting of boys and girls from our Middle and Senior classes including new members Mackinley, Caleb, Isaac and Victoria.

We played our first game on Wednesday night against the Highton Emeralds and although we lost, it was a fantastic learning curve. Everybody tried hard and more importantly had loads of fun being a part of the new netball team. GO SWIFTS!

Rachel

Geelong Lutheran College

Welcome back to Term 4 with a special welcome to our new families and Mrs Natalie Lowndes who returns after leave. I trust that all members of our College community are rested and now ready for the final leg of this academic year.

Congratulations to Evangeline (Yr 10) who was recently presented with her 2015 Junior Tall Poppies Award at the end of last term. Her selection into the associated program for encouraging the study of Science was an outstanding achievement.

Over the holiday break our Year 12 students sat their practice VCE examinations. They are now in the final few weeks of their formal schooling. I would like to wish them well their preparations, urging them to have a strict study routine, which includes some “down” time for personal renewal.

On Monday we welcomed 10 students and one teacher from the Marburg cluster of schools in Germany. These students are joining our Year 9 and 10 students in classes over the next three weeks and viewing local attractions. Next year Mrs Hoffmann will chaperone a group of our students, together with other students from the Geelong cluster on a reciprocal visit to Germany. In the meantime this is a wonderful opportunity for our students to reinforce their German learning.

Shortly our teachers will begin placing students into their classes for next year. Placement of students into classes takes into account factors such as friendship groupings, students’ emotional and learning needs, and gender balance, etc. We do believe that our teachers are in the best position to make these judgements. The allocation of Primary School teachers to their classes for 2016 is published later in this Newsletter. As indicated last term, there have been some significant changes for the professional growth of our teachers.

Next week our Year 9 students will attend a four day camp at Cape Bridgewater as an important part of the Rite Journey Program. This Program is designed to support the development of self-aware, responsible, respectful and resilient adults by guiding them in the transition from childhood into adulthood.

As a reminder to our parents, next week is a 4-day week since we take the Geelong Show Day holiday on Friday 16th October instead of the Geelong Cup Day.

Barry Krueger Head of School

Welcome back to Term 4, hope you enjoyed your holidays. This term we will be expanding on culture, hygiene practises and road safety (as we have purchased new scooters) As the weather is warming up, we will be spending more time outside. If you have any questions or suggestions or you just want to have a chat I am available Monday to Friday between 2pm and 6pm.

WEEKLY RE-CAP

This week we have had heaps of fun learning about roadside etiquette and safety before riding our new scooters. We have commenced our Extend-a-hand program initiative that equips children – no matter how young or old, to contribute to the wider community. Read about our past and present projects on www.extend.com.au

We played lots of sports and teams games including indoor soccer, tag and on Friday we will be completing our indoor road in preparation for outdoor scooter activities.

Our Extend Superstar is: Lily for Role modelling appropriate etiquette and behaviour with the younger students.

Monday 12th October  
Monday 13th October  
Monday 14th October  
Monday 15th October  
Monday 16th October  

Tuesday 13th October  
Making Traffic Signs and signals  
Road Side Etiquette and Safety

Tuesday 13th October  
Making fruit pancakes (outdoor pop up café (weather depending)

Wednesday 14th October  
Child Initiated Activities

Wednesday 14th October  
Snakes and Ladders Obstacle Course

Thursday 15th October  
Pupil Free Day

Friday 16th October  
Snakes and Ladders Obstacle Course

Please note there will be a Pupil Free Day on 16 October at St John’s Lutheran Primary School. Extend will offer a full day service on this day subject to minimum bookings of 12. Operating hours: 8.00am - 6.00pm. Fees: $60.00 After child care entitlements are applied, including the non-income tested 50% Child Care Rebate you pay between $10.86 - $30.00.

If you would like to book in for this full day service please book online at extend.com.au. As we require minimum bookings for the service to run there are strictly no refunds or cancellations on Pupil Free Day bookings. Sorry for the short notice but bookings close 9 October, 2015

Traci

To check out what’s on and where your local program is, visit our website at extend.com.au and book via the Parent Portal.

PARENT PORTAL: extend.com.au