Dear St John’s School Community,
Welcome to the 2016 school year. I was enthused by the positive atmosphere around the School and Kindergarten on Monday morning and this has continued throughout the week. It was wonderful to have a full hall of students, staff, parents and friends as we gathered as one for our opening 2016 Chapel Service led by Pastor Lester Priebbenow (North Geelong Lutheran Church).

There was a buzz of excitement around the place as friends old and new gathered in anticipation of what this school year may bring. All the children transitioned extremely well into their classes including the Preps and Kindergarten. Anxious parents were soon comforted by some hearty conversation. Thanks again to our wonderful team of parents for organizing this much appreciated occasion.

As I walked around the School visiting all the classes, I certainly felt a buzz of excitement and focussed and attentive students. Dancing away to the Heel and Toe Polka in Music, in Art they were learning about using lines to make a picture- making a beautiful combined class flower which is on the wall in P2 - “we are each unique and beautiful but together we are a masterpiece!” Mrs Kerdell also read “You are Special” by Max Lucado which is about knowing that we are loved by our maker.

In PE they were exploring and developing their ball handling skills and next week they will begin their Science experience.

I would like to welcome all of our new families to our School this year whether as Prep parents or parents of children joining our community from other schools. Welcome back also to our families from previous years, students and staff.

Welcome to Mrs Laura Chadwick (Year 5), Miss Hannah Huf (Years 3/4), Mrs Robyn Kerdell (Art) and Mr Andrew Dowd (Business Manager – shared with GLC).

As you may be aware from media coverage this past week there have been a few incidents reported to schools across the Country that have required those schools to enact their Emergency Management Plan. Please be aware that St John’s has all the appropriate guidelines in place to enact our Emergency Management Plan if the need should ever arise. Parents would be notified using our SMS communication system.

We’re looking forward to another fantastic year and appreciate all the support given to our School Community in any way.

Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good; his love endures forever. Psalm 118 v 1

God’s blessings
Brian Schultz, Head of School

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**Upcoming Dates**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2016</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>FEB</td>
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<tr>
<td>MON 8th</td>
<td>Monday Mingle Playgroup starts 9am</td>
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<tr>
<td>TUES 9th</td>
<td>Prep Parent Information Night 7pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>SUN 14th</td>
<td>Scholastic Book club online orders close.</td>
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<tr>
<td>THURS 18th</td>
<td>Parent Information Night Years 1-6</td>
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<td>FRI 19th</td>
<td>St John’s Family Picnic on the Green 6pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>THURS 25th</td>
<td>Junior Sports Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>FRI 26th</td>
<td>School Cross Country</td>
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<td>SAT 27th</td>
<td>Pako Festa</td>
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<td>MAR</td>
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<td>Mon 29th – FRI 11th</td>
<td>Swimming Lessons</td>
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<td>FRI 4th</td>
<td>School Athletics Carnival</td>
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<td>FRI 4th</td>
<td>Division Swimming Championships</td>
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<tr>
<td>MON 14th</td>
<td>Labour Day Public Holiday – No School or Kindergarten</td>
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<tr>
<td>FRI 18th</td>
<td>National Day Of Action against Bullying</td>
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<tr>
<td>MON 21st</td>
<td>Parent/ Teacher Interviews – Student Led Conference 2pm – 8pm.</td>
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<tr>
<td>THURS 24th</td>
<td>End of Term 1</td>
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**Devotional Thought**

Teachers and Learners
(Bible reading: Luke 5:1-11  Jesus Calls the First Disciples)

The beginning of a new school year always brings new students, new teachers, new classes, new experiences and new things to learn. Gospel-writer Luke tells about a new teacher in his neighbourhood – Jesus - who had a lot of new things to teach God’s people.

One day, as a crowd gathered by the lake to listen to him teach God's Word, the new teacher chose some new students for his class, men by the name of Peter, James and John who were fishermen. “Disciples” he called them, which means “Learners.”

First, he taught them to trust him, proving he was God’s Son by causing them to have a miraculously large catch of fish. Then he told them he would teach them to ‘catch’, not fish, but people, by telling them the good news of his salvation.

This new school year, let’s not forget that Jesus is our teacher too. We’ll gather to listen to God’s Word just like the crowds and his new disciples did. He’ll teach us to trust him, just like he taught his disciples. And he’ll help us to tell other people about him too.

Pastor Lester Priebbenow, ‘Our Redeemer’, North Geelong

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**ABSENCES:**

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.
Welcome to our new Kindergarten and Prep children who have started at St John’s this year. We also welcome the following students who have commenced in other year levels:

- Alice (M2)
- Anna (S1)
- Anitalia (J3)
- Faaasu (M1)

We hope your time at St John’s will be a blessing to you all.

Birthdays

Happy birthday to the following students who celebrated their birthdays over the School Holidays or who will celebrate in the coming week.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Year</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Olivia</td>
<td>Jan 1st</td>
<td>P1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vedanshi</td>
<td>Jan 4th</td>
<td>S1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Viktoria</td>
<td>Jan 6th</td>
<td>S2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amali</td>
<td>Jan 6th</td>
<td>M3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ruby</td>
<td>Jan 7th</td>
<td>S3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aria</td>
<td>Jan 9th</td>
<td>J2</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hudson</td>
<td>Jan 12th</td>
<td>M1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Grace</td>
<td>Jan 17th</td>
<td>M1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marcel</td>
<td>Jan 18th</td>
<td>M2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>William</td>
<td>Jan 18th</td>
<td>M2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jack</td>
<td>Jan 18th</td>
<td>P1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Olivia</td>
<td>Jan 21st</td>
<td>J3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zachariah</td>
<td>Jan 27th</td>
<td>M1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Leo</td>
<td>Jan 28th</td>
<td>J2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ranura</td>
<td>Jan 29th</td>
<td>M3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tyler</td>
<td>Jan 29th</td>
<td>M3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eli</td>
<td>Jan 30th</td>
<td>S3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rebekah</td>
<td>Jan 30th</td>
<td>S2</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dane</td>
<td>Jan 31st</td>
<td>J1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lara</td>
<td>Feb 2nd</td>
<td>M2</td>
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<tr>
<td>Felicity</td>
<td>Feb 2nd</td>
<td>J2</td>
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<tr>
<td>Holly</td>
<td>Feb 3rd</td>
<td>J1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mateo</td>
<td>Feb 3rd</td>
<td>RED</td>
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<tr>
<td>Anna</td>
<td>Feb 4th</td>
<td>P2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maidie</td>
<td>Feb 4th</td>
<td>P2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Charlie</td>
<td>Feb 5th</td>
<td>M2</td>
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<tr>
<td>Davina</td>
<td>Feb 11th</td>
<td>J2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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These dates are correct at the time of printing.

School Captains 2016

Congratulations to our School Captains for 2016. We wish them well with their duties during the coming year.

![Jack](image1.jpg)  ![Luka](image2.jpg)

Student Wellbeing News

Welcome back to another year in the St John’s school community. I’m returning for my second year feeling refreshed and excited and here to support you with any concerns particularly relating to social and emotional needs. I’m excited that the school will be implementing the Kidsmatter framework - this a wonderful government resource to help guide mental health and wellbeing practices in primary schools.

The wellbeing focus for Term 1 will be around celebrating diversity, not just cultural diversity but also recognizing similarities and differences in all of us. It will culminate with an opportunity for all families to showcase a culture they identify with, by putting together an interactive display. This will be held on Friday March 18 from 1.30 – 3.30pm. This day also marks National Day against Bullying and Harmony Day. Please set aside this date if you would like to be involved. More details to follow.

Angela McLean, Wellbeing Coordinator

2016 Dates

The following are important dates in 2016:

**Term 1:** Monday February 1st – Thursday March 24th
- Monday 14th March – Labour Day Holiday

**Term 2:** Tuesday 12th April – Friday 24th June
- Monday 11th April – Curriculum Day (No Students)
- Monday 25th April – ANZAC Day
- Friday 10th June – Report Writing Day (No Students)
- Monday 13th June – Queen’s Birthday

**Term 3:** Monday 11th July – Friday 16th September
- Thursday 18th & Friday 19th August – Curriculum Days (No Students)

**Term 4:** Monday 3rd October – Friday 9th December
- Friday 14th October – Geelong Show Day
- Friday 18th November – Report Writing Day (No Students)
Volunteering at School or Kindergarten

This is a note for all parents wishing to volunteer at St John’s School or Kindergarten to help in the classroom, on camps or with other student activities this year. In order to volunteer, parents must bring the following to the School Office:

1) a current Working with Children Check and;

2) a certificate of completion of one-hour Valuing Safe Communities training session on-line within the past three years. The school keeps a record of face-to-face training so a certificate is unnecessary if you have completed training in a group session.

As schools of the Lutheran Church of Australia (LCA), school staff and volunteers are obliged to meet the requirements of the LCA Safe Place Policy. Valuing Safe Communities (VSC) is a program to comply with this expectation. This training is valid for three years. If your three years has expired or you are new to St John’s School and Kindergarten, you will be required to complete this session to enable you to assist in events organised by the School or Kindergarten.

ON-LINE TRAINING INSTRUCTIONS:

2. Follow the instructions. You will need to create an account.
3. Use the Enrolment Key: VSC3_Volunt33r to gain access to the training.

On-line training takes about 1 hour. Certificates of completion will be generated at the end of the session. Volunteers who complete this online training may receive extra information specific to St Johns.

FACE-TO-FACE TRAINING

If you are interested in doing a one-hour face-to-face VSC session at St John’s (if you have time, it’s much more engaging to do as a group and you meet other school parents), please express your interest to admin@stjohns.vic.edu.au and state your preference for an evening or day-time session.

School Fees

An error was made in Term 1 fee statement in regards to the sibling discount. In a letter you received at the end of last year the new structure for sibling discount is 10% for the 2nd child, 25% for the third child and 50% for the fourth and subsequent child. We have now adjusted your account with the correct amounts. We apologise for this error.

Tina Adam, Accounts

Conveyance Allowance & CSEF (Sports Excursion Fund)

Some families may be eligible for a Conveyance Allowance in 2016. Please contact the School Office for a form.

Attached to this Newsletter is a flyer outlining the CSEF (Sports Excursion Fund) which some families may also be eligible for. Applications forms can be collected from the School Office.

Canteen

The School Canteen will resume Wednesday February 10th and will continue to operate every Wednesday until the end of Term. A menu is attached again to this week’s newsletter email.

PLEASE NOTE: Canteen Day is on Wednesday but orders need to be received on the Tuesday before.

Please write detailed orders on the front of an envelope, along with your child’s name and class and place the correct money in the envelope. Students are to place their envelopes in the Classroom Tub in their classroom on Tuesday.

Lunches will be delivered to the classrooms on Wednesdays. Frozen items may need to be collected from the Canteen.

The Canteen will only be offering pre-ordered lunches. It will not be open for counter sales.

Sorry, no late orders can be accepted.

Expressions of interest for volunteers are being sought. The Canteen can only operate with the generosity of volunteer helpers. Please consider if you are able to help for a few hours. Please leave your name at the School Office.

Scholastic Book Club

The Scholastic Book Club was sent home yesterday. Orders are required to be ordered online no later than Sunday 14th February.

All orders need to be placed using Scholastic’s Linked Online Ordering and Payment system (LOOP). No orders or payment will be accepted at School.

Lynn Lytzki, Librarian

Pako Festa

This year’s Pako Festa Parade is on Saturday February 27th with the theme being ‘Ceremonies’. Our School has been invited to participate and we believe it is a great opportunity for us to promote St John’s and be a part of the Pakington St community.

In past years we have had a large participation of students, however unfortunately this year the Parade organisers have restricted the number of participants in each parade application. Therefore we can only offer 40 places to students in Years 1 – 6. Due to the length of the Parade and walking distance, there will be no Utes to transport the Preps in the Parade, so they will be invited to participate when they are in Year 1. We do encourage the students to come and show their support as a spectator.

If you wish for your child to be involved, please contact the School Office to place their name on an expression of interest list. As explained above, we can only offer 40 places, so once the list is full we will not be in a position to accept additional students.

All students will be required to be in full Summer Uniform.

Lynn Lytzki, Librarian
The M1 class played some fun games in Maths. We built constructions from MAB blocks and added the total number in thousands, hundreds, tens and ones. We also played the Jelly bean game, picking up a 5c piece for each roll of the dice. For each dollar we made, we got one jelly bean. We love having fun in Maths and learning at the same time.

(More photos on last page.)

Anna Burger, M1 Teacher

Picking Up and Dropping Off Children around Schools

Please be reminded about the drop off/pick up zones in Aberdeen Street and Pakington Street. These zones are designated as dropping off and picking up only. Please do not leave your car parked and unattended in these zones as this leads to further congestion in the already busy streets. We also request that you be mindful of residents, by not parking in front of driveways.

We have received a letter from the City of Greater Geelong asking for the following notice to be placed in our School Newsletter:

For the safety of students, parents are reminded to take care and obey parking signs and observe the Road Rules when picking up and dropping off students around Schools. Council’s Parking & Information Officers monitor all supervised school crossings on a regular roster and issue infringements to drivers who stop in unsafe areas, such as “No Stopping” zones, within 20 metres of a school crossing, parallel to a yellow edged line, or if double parked even for a moment to drop off or collect a student. Queing to enter a drop off/pick up zone leads to traffic congestion and vehicles being stationary in prohibited areas.

Remember as soon as you stop to let your student in or out of the car, you are deemed to be parked. You do not have to leave car or turn the engine off to be fined, so please ensure you are parked in a legal parking area.

At children’s crossings, you must remain stationary at the stop line while any person (including an adult or the supervisor) is on the crossing or the stop sign is displayed. Do not let your child alight from the vehicle at this time, and ensure that they wait until you are safely and legally parked.

If you breach a parking regulation or Road Rule the Parking and Information Officer assigned to monitor the crossing will usually record your registration number and details, and the Penalty Infringement Notice will be posted to you in due course.

The 2016 Bellarine and North Geelong Divisions Primary Schools Swimming Championships’ will be held on Friday 4th March 2016 at the Kardinia Aquatic Centre. We encourage students to participate at this event, provided that they meet the relevant criteria. For further information and notes, please contact the School Office. All relevant information must be provided to Mr Steven Tkaczuk or the School Office by Friday 12th February 2016.

St John’s Lollipops

We would like to welcome our newest player – Lara. Lara played an excellent first game – well done Lara!

Last night the Lollipops played the Fyans Park Possums. It was our first game back for the year and our fitness levels were put to the test after our summer holidays. We lost the game but the team played really well. We look forward to a fun second half of the season. Well done girls.

Jeanette, Lollipops Coach

St John’s Swifts

On Wednesday night, the Swifts played against Chilwell Crystals - we scored 2 goals with our opponents scoring 24. A very big welcome to the newest team member being Ella. Also a surprise guest visitor to our game was Mrs Foott which the kids adored having her watching from the sidelines. Thanks to all our team members (and parents) for such a tremendous effort - "GO SWIFTS!"

Rachel

To the Grade 5 & 6 families of St Johns

The St Johns Swifts Netball Team are looking for new team members. This includes boys and girls who may be interested in playing of a Wednesday afternoon at the Geelong Basketball and Netball Centre located in South Geelong.

Match times do vary on a weekly Wednesday basis. We do currently have 8 team members but are in search of any interested other boys and girls who may like to give it a go.

If you are interested - please make contact with me via email. My work email address is:

OR

You could text me on my personal mobile number being OR

You are welcome to make contact with the school office ladies at reception, who would be able to pass your information on.

Kind Regards,

Rachel (mum of Lucille in Grade 5)
First Day Back Morning Tea

The P&F kicked off our Calendar of events for 2016 with the Annual First Day Back Morning Tea on Monday morning. It’s always a great chance to reconnect with friends and welcome new families to our School Community. The first day of school is so exciting for the students. For the parents, grandparents and carers it can be an amazing mix of different emotions. It’s so great to get together and support each other on this day. Thanks to all who were able to hang around for a cuppa and chat.

Thanks to the many who helped with set up and pack up and of course to all who brought along the yummy goodies to share.

Picnic on the Green

The Picnic on the Green is coming up on February 19th at 6pm. Pack a picnic and come along for a relaxed fun evening. It’s another great opportunity to get to know families and friends of the St Johns community. See more details on the attached flyer. Hope to see you there.

Get Involved with You P&F Committee

Our P&F committee still needs to fill the Kinder Rep positions. (One from Yellow Group, one from Red Group). If you have a child in the Kinder this year and you’d like to get involved with the P&F please contact Sally

We are always after more helpers on the P&F. This year we will be having our Monthly meetings on the second Tuesday of the month at 9am, in the conference room at the School. Please come along if you can.

Sally, Parents & Friends President

Monday Mingle starts up again next Monday morning (8 Feb) from drop off time til 10.30am in the School Hall. Monday Mingle is a relaxed, informal playgroup for any babies/toddlers/preschoolers and their parents/carers and a lovely way to start the week after school drop off. Each week there are things to make and do, lots of free play, a fruit snack, songs and stories and plenty of friendly faces. In the first weeks of term, we’ll be doing lots of activities to do with ‘Me and my family’, including:

Feb 8 - paper plate self portraits
Feb 15 - spotty name craft
Feb 22 - family cutouts

Come for the whole session or even just a part. Monday Mingle is supported by St John’s Lutheran church - you don’t need to bring anything, just come as you are. If you don’t have a small child to bring, you are still most welcome to drop in for a cuppa and a chat. Monday Mingle is also open to families who are not associated with St John’s school, so if you have a friend or neighbour that might be interested, please spread the word.

For further information, contact Callie or Vicki

Geelong Lutheran College News

Welcome back to the start of a new school year. It was delightful to see all the faces, hear the excited chatter and be part of this renewed hive of activity.

I would like to extend a special welcome to all new families, students and staff joining our College this year. We commenced the year with 497 students (PS 248, MS 145, SS 104), including two students on a term program from Mesei High School, and six new staff.

Staff joining our College this year are Tricia Hedt (Primary School Teacher); Trudi Abikhair, Ross Murray, Renae Pirottina, Breeanna Redden and Dale Thomson (Middle/Senior School Teachers); and Paul Sifonios (Administration). We also welcomed back Anna Eickhoff, Tara Tink and Sophie Garrard from maternity leave.

The installation of our new staff and student leaders was a particular highlight of the week. Thank you to the parents who joined us for these services. Your support of our students and our programs is appreciated.

- Last year our second Year 12 class consisting of 9 VCE and 3 VCAL students graduated from GLC. The average study score for our VCE classes was 29. Our students are currently taking up university places, training options and employment. In time, further details of their post-school destination will be advised.

We are no longer a new school adding classes and programs year by-year. Instead, this year be will a year of consolidation, refinement and enhancement. Some of our strategic emphases include:

- Enhancing our distinct identity as a P-12 Lutheran College
- Investigating ways of lengthening the school day
- Developing a Teaching and Learning Charter to underpin our educational practices
- Growing our school culture in each of the sub-schools in a way that reflects our values of “Wisdom, Honour and Purpose” and the particular needs of each age group.

Thank you to our parents for their patience in the carpark area. Please take care when travelling on Burvilles Road. We have already spoken with the contractor regarding the earthmoving trucks travelling on Burvilles Road, together with The City of Greater Geelong and Vic Roads regarding the intersection with the Surf Coast highway.

Looking ahead to next week, I commend to parents the Primary School Profile meetings, the Parent Information Evenings (Years 10 and 11), and the Parents and Friends “Picnic on the Green”.

Finally, it is my prayer that members of our College community have a blessed year.

Barry Krueger, Head of School
Welcome back!
We hope you have had a fantastic summer holiday and are looking forward to the exciting opportunities that 2016 will bring.
We are looking forward to seeing lots of familiar faces at After School Care and to welcoming lots of new faces as well.

Existing Families
Don’t forget to manage your 2016 bookings.

Last year’s bookings do not roll over so log on to the parent portal NOW to secure your bookings for 2016.

You can book for the entire term or year or even book specific dates.

New Families
Enrol online – allow 24 hours
Enrolling is quick and easy! Simply set up your own account online via the Parent Portal. Please note it is government regulation that all children must be enrolled BEFORE attending an Extend service. For information on operating hours and fees for your school, visit your After School Care venue or school website.

Enrol now, pay later
The annual enrolment fee per family of $20 is NOT payable until you first use the service. So why not enrol now so you can access the service later? It doesn’t matter if you don’t end up using the service, because you won’t be charged.

Watch this space throughout the term for regular updates from our Extend team!

PARENT PORTAL: extend.com.au

Week 1 Activities:
Monday: Play dough making & Parachute play and Hide and go seek
Tuesday: Making Squishy balls, Commando climbing obstacle course
Wednesday: Dance and Groove day
Thursday: Erupting Volcanoes science experience
Friday: Making plant people, Child Initiated outdoor activities

Week 2 Activities:
Monday: Getting to know you group wall collage. 40-40 Tiggy with a twist
Tuesday: Making chocolate muffins, Water play
Wednesday: Origami
Thursday: Air basketball, Music Appreciation
Friday: Paintball, Art & Craft, Soccer

Traci

Church Information

St John’s Lutheran Church, 165 Yarra Street, Geelong. Sunday worship with Holy Communion 9am. Sunday school runs every week during school term. Office: 5221 5121. St John’s in currently in the process to call another pastor and lay readers and retired pastors are leading the services.


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

NEW PASTOR INSTALLATION AT ST PAUL’S LUTHERAN CHURCH, GROVEDALE
On Sunday, February 7, Pastor Colin Simpkin will be installed as the new pastor at St Paul’s Lutheran Church, corner of Torquay Rd and Heyer’s Rd. The service starts at 1.30pm and will be followed by an afternoon tea in the community centre. There will be no 9.30am service in the morning. Pastor Colin comes into St Paul’s after the vacancy left by Pastor Tom when he went to the US to study.

M1 Maths FUN PHOTOS