Dear St John’s School Community,

Since our Newsletter last week, our School Community has been very busy. Last Friday we had our Whole School Cross Country at Eastern Gardens. Congratulations to all competitors who participated, parent helpers for giving up their time, parents and friends for cheering and supporting our event organised Mr Tkaczuk. After the closest competition in many years Barton narrowly won the day with Parkes and Higgins tying for second place and Deakin a close third.

On Saturday morning, our School participated in the Pako Festa Parade which is the largest free celebration of cultural diversity in Australia! The students looked splendid in their uniforms enthusiastically supported by our staff and shared our presence with thousands of spectators along the way. Thank you to Mrs Lyszki for her enthusiasm and commitment in coordinating this opportunity to be involved in our Community.

Our new teachers were installed at St John’s Lutheran Church on Sunday, followed by a Morning Tea with fellow staff and the St John’s Lutheran Church Community.

Swimming has commenced for all students in Years 1-6 and will continue next week.

I received a visit from our Extend after School Leader, Traci and her students on Monday night. They offered me the most delicious fruit smoothies I have had in a long time. They were much appreciated. Please consider using this service to enhance the viability of the program.

I was encouraged with the attendance and enthusiasm at our ‘Fete Meeting’ on Tuesday night. Please consider any opportunities to be involved and I would encourage you all to read any forthcoming information. Obviously the more donations of goods and services we receive, the more successful our Fete will be.

Then he said, ‘Daniel, don’t be afraid. God has heard your prayers ever since the first day you decided to humble yourself in order to gain understanding. Daniel 10:12

Comment -: God will answer your prayers when they are offered in humility: whether ‘Yes’, ‘No’ or ‘Wait’.

With God’s Blessings,
Brian Schultz, Head of School

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.

Athletics Carnival – Friday 4th March

The Athletics Carnival will be held at Landy Field (Barwon Terrace, South Geelong) tomorrow, Friday 4th March from 9am -3pm. Students from Years 3-6 will need to be dropped off at Landy Field by 9am. Students in Years Prep – 2 will arrive at School as usual and will then travel to Landy Field by bus with their classroom teacher at 12pm.

All students are to be collected from Landy Field by 3pm

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Upcoming Dates</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mon 29th - FRI 11th Mar</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FRI 4th</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FRI 4th</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WED 9th</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WED 10th</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MON 14th</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TUES 15th</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WED 16th</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>THURS 17th</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FRI 18th</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MON 21st</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>THURS 24th</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FRI 25th MAR- FRI 8th APR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>APR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mon 11th</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TUES 12th</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SAT 16th</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Birthdays</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Joel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Samuel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indiana</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alexander</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oliver</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Happy birthday to the following students who will be celebrating in the coming week.
Devotional Thought

Luke 6: 37 – 45

This week’s Bible reading had a lot of different themes in it – from not judging others to producing ‘good’ fruit in your life. However the theme I chose to pick up on was from one small verse that could be easily overlooked, “Give, and you will receive. You will be given much. It will be poured into your hands – more than you can hold. You will be given so much that it will spill into your lap (verse 38)”

I did a fun experiment in Chapel this week where I handed out some chocolate and left the students to decide whether to keep the chocolates and eat it themselves or pass it on to someone else. There were a variety of responses and of course those who gave away their chocolate were rewarded with more.

The message was above all, ‘when you have God’s love, you can keep it to yourself, or you can choose to share it with others. As you share His love—as you choose to give it away—the more you get in return’. The getting more in return isn’t meant as receiving more materially but experiencing the amazing phenomena of the deep joy encountered by helping others and showing kindness. The positive psychology movement now have evidence of this through many experiments that they have overseen, but God has been telling us all along to love others – we were created to love and be loved.

So this week is a reminder that as we reflect upon God’s great love for us we will choose to share it with others.

Angela McLean, Wellbeing Coordinator.

Parent Teacher Interviews

Parent Teacher Interviews will be held on Monday 21st March from 2pm. School will finish at 1pm on this day. Bookings for the Interviews will need to be made online, please see attachment with this Newsletter for all relevant information. Bookings will open at 4pm today and will close at 9am on March 21st. If you have any queries please see Office Staff.

The Library will be open with supervision by our Librarian Lynn Lytzki, from 2pm until 8pm, during Parent Teacher Interview times. Children may attend the Library but must be dropped off and collected by a parent or carer. They must not leave the Library until they are collected.

Scholastic Bookclub

The Book Club (Issue 2) has been distributed this week. Orders close on Thursday March 10th at Midnight. All book orders will need to be done online. Therefore, cash or cheques will no longer be accepted at School.

Lynn Lytzki, Librarian.

Pako Festa

Thank you to all the Students and Staff who walked in the Pako Festa Parade on Saturday. It was a wonderful morning and everyone looked amazing in their School uniforms and carrying the bright balloons.
BOUNCE Resilience Program

This year St John’s is providing specific resilience coaching by involving Years 5 & 6 students in the BOUNCE Program and by inviting the parents & carers of all Years 3-6 students to a 2 hour interactive session. This session looks at way in which we can build resilience in our children through play, role modeling and conversation. The program is run by facilitators from BATFORCE and will take place on Thursday March 17. The student session is from 11.30pm – 1.30pm and the parent session is in the evening from 7pm -9pm. The best outcomes for resilience are when the parents and students both participate in the program. Information packs will be sent home with a request to indicate whether or not you are able to attend. Please direct any questions to Angela McLean

Harmony Day/ National Day against Bullying

Last week you will have received a handout inviting families to join with the students to recognize Harmony Day. This day will be interwoven with themes around bullying but the main focus is on building a community of belonging and inclusion and celebrating all our similarities and differences. The students are invited to DRESS UP in any cultural costume, wear a colour from a country they identify with or wear orange – the colour of Harmony Day. Additionally, families are invited to put together a stall with information from a culture they identify with – this stall will be visited by all the students. The day will end will an assembly. Please read the full handout for all details and return the slip to the office if you are able to attend.

KIDSMATTER

Thank you to all families who completed the Kidsmatter survey – this information will help the School to identify its strengths and to target areas where we could improve. The information is formative in the Kidsmatter process as the action team is influenced and guided by the contributions of staff, students and parents. If you have yet to participate in the survey please click on the link and complete.


Angela McLean, Wellbeing Coordinator

Fete News

Thank you to all who attended the Fete Planning meeting this week.

It’s great to see lots of energy and support for the Fete coming through.

Promotional Billboards

We are seeking locations for our promotional billboards. If you or family members live or work on a prominent high exposure main road and would be happy to have a billboard at your property for the month prior to Fete please let Carrie know.

Each week we will be using the newsletter to request help with certain items for fete. Please keep reading this space and help our where you can.

Many thanks to the many who have already responded to last week’s requests.

Sally, Sarah and Carrie

Silent Auction.

Please start collecting Silent Auction Donations now. The Silent Auction is the biggest money spinner for our Mother’s Day Fete. We need lots of items to make it huge again this year. Grab a letter of introduction from the Office and ask any business you may be linked with if they would like to support our School. Please record in the Office Fete book any businesses you contact. It’s that easy!

Parents & Friends News

Hot Cross Bun Fundraiser

We are raising funds for some more IPADS for the classrooms. Order Forms have been sent home to every family. Please return Order forms and payment to the School Office by Wednesday March 16th with delivery of Hot Cross Buns from Baker’s Delight on Wednesday March 23rd.

Playgroup News

We've had a great start to the year at Monday Mingle, catching up with some 'old' friends and meeting new friends too! We are keeping busy with lots of craft and play, and are learning to play some group games together too. As we move into March, we'll be celebrating the arrival of autumn with some leafy craft and stories. Please come and join us if you have some time on a Monday morning, we’d love to see you there!

For further information, contact Callie or Vicki

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sports Awards</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>BARTON</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jack</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>For being a very conscientious student and improving each lesson.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jorja-Grace</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>For working very hard and showing very good skill development.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

WEEK 4: Feb 22-26
Kindergarten News

Lunch boxes & Drink Bottles
Can we please ensure that a piece of fruit is included in the children’s lunch boxes. We encourage a healthy eating program and usually start snacktime with eating our fruit. Ideally we encourage small amount of prepackage food. PLEASE BRING SNACKS ON FRIDAY SESSIONS

Water bottle – WATER ONLY! We are seeing fruit juices etc. We only want water to be consumed at Kinder.

Nut Free Kinder
We have had a few cases of peanut butter in sandwiches. Please try not to put this spread and other nut spreads like Nutella in the sandwiches.

Parent and Friends - Kindergarten Representatives:
The Parents’ and Friends are seeking a representative from Red and Yellow group, to represent the Kinder at these meetings.

The Parents’ and Friends provide a vital role for both the School and Kinder community by fundraising funds to buy resources.

The Kinder representatives will be the voice of the Kinder staff and families, and form an important link with the rest of the School Community.

On a personal note, I have never regretted volunteering to help with my own children’s Kinder committees. It was a fun way to make new friends and learn new skills. In fact I have made some lifelong friends and it has strengthened my networking within my own community. Please see Rae if you are interested

Kinder and Prep Enrolments for 2017
4 year old Kindergarten and Prep enrolments for 2017 close 30th April 2016. Please note enrolments from 4 Year old Kinder to Prep are not automatic. To obtain an enrolment form or to check whether your child is enrolled for 2017, please contact the Office Staff.

Raelene Roede, Kindergarten Team Leader

Netball News

St John’s Lollipops
Last night the Lollipops played Central Flames Butterflies who are on top of the ladder. I have to say, the girls played an awesome game. They kept up with the Flames on the court and kept the game very exciting. We lost the game in regards to goals but certainly didn’t lose the game in the middle of the court. There were so many girls that were absolutely fantastic on court that I would have to list the whole team if I were to list the names. Girls, you can be really proud of yourselves. Well done.

Jeanette, Lollipops Coach

St John’s Swifts
Due to a fantastic effort by our sizzling "Swifts", we were victorious in winning 12 goals to 6 over the CTK Angels. Congratulations to all team members: Ella, Imani, Isaac, Lily, Lucille, Savannah, Sibiya & Victoria M - "GO SWIFTS!"

Rachel

Basketball News

St John’s Bobcats
Saturday 5th March – 9.50am

Leeanne

Professional Photography Service at the 2016 Cross Country & Athletics Events

Please note: Parents who have indicated on the Enrolment forms & Student Information Forms that they do not give permission for photographs of their child/children to be published, will not have their child/children on the website.

Winkipop Media is proud to be providing a professional photography service of this year’s Cross Country & Athletics Events.

Owned and operated by Shaun and Emma Patterson, they will be photographing students participating and eligible for photographs.

To view and order the Cross Country photos complete the following steps
Visit:
http://winkipopmedia.photostockplus.com/event/2224387/

1. Enter your email address and the password: Contact the Office
2. Click on the events you wish to view, eg. Under 9 Boys
3. Click on the heart symbol under any photo you are interested in purchasing – this adds that photo to your favourites list.
4. From your favourites list you can select from a range of products (digital image, standard prints or posters) to purchase.

Photos for the Athletics Carnival will be available for purchase on Monday 7th March. To view and order the Athletics Carnival photos complete the following steps
Visit:
http://winkipopmedia.photostockplus.com/event/2229634/

1. Enter your email address and the password: Contact the Office
2. Click on the events you wish to view, eg. Under 9 Boys
3. Click on the heart symbol under any photo you are interested in purchasing – this adds that photo to your favourites list.
4. From your favourites list you can select from a range of products (digital image, standard prints or posters) to purchase.

Photos will be available online until 30 April 2016

Fundraising opportunity for the P&F
Winkipop Media will be donating 10% of sales to the Parents’ & Friends so show your support.

Lost Property
An excursion bag has gone missing that is clearly marked "Robert". Please check to make sure that you haven’t inadvertently brought it home. It contains a towel and goggles. Please bring into the School Office if you find it. Thank you
Open Day

If you know of any families that have an interest in our School & Kindergarten, please let them know of our upcoming Open days and Twilight Tours.

St John's Lutheran School & Kindergarten

Invite you to:

TWILIGHT TOURS
Tuesday 15th March 2016
5.00 – 7.00pm

OPEN DAY
Saturday 16th April
10.00am – 12.00pm

OPEN MORNINGS
Open each Tuesday morning during the school term from 9.30 am until 11.00 am

33 Aberdeen Street NEWTOWN
Phone: 5221 5221
Email: admin@stjohns.vic.edu.au
Web: www.stjohns.vic.edu.au

Church Information

St John’s Lutheran School, 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

Easter Holy Week Worship Services:

Maundy Thursday - 24th March - 2.30 pm with Holy Communion at ‘Our Redeemer’ North Geelong, followed by fellowship afternoon tea.

Maundy Thursday - 24th March - 7.30 pm at ‘Our Redeemer’, North Geelong.

Good Friday - 25th March - 9.30 pm with Holy Communion at ‘Our Redeemer’, North Geelong.

Combined (with St John’s) Easter Sunday dawn - 27th March - 7.00 am at St John’s Lutheran School, Newtown.

Easter Sunday - 27th March - 9.30 am with Holy Communion at ‘Our Redeemer’, North Geelong. All most welcome to come along!

Easter Sunrise Service

You are invited to join us for an Easter Sunrise Service at 7am Easter Sunday, 27th March, in St. John’s Lutheran School grounds.

Hosted by the St. John’s and ‘Our Redeemer’ Lutheran communities.

Please enter via Pakington St. gate.

Community Noticeboard

Have a look at the School Noticeboard for Community Notices and events.

Extend After School Care News

Welcome to week 5.

Recap

We had a lot of fun expanding our knowledge whilst exploring Maths, Social development, Science and Food Technology – Designing and creating mini Succulent Terrariums was popular, children worked in large groups layering sand, soil, plants and accessories to individual creations. Most children chose to take completed Terrariums home.

Water Piñata Party on Thursday was a lot of fun, gross motor skills and hand –eye coordination were certainly enhanced when attempting to break the water balloon filled water bag piñata with bamboo poles. Primary colours were used to colour our freshly made popcorn in Food Technology on Friday.

Well done to all students for completing the cross country last week. Fantastic effort

PROGRAM GUIDE FOR WEEK 6:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Monday</th>
<th>Tuesday</th>
<th>Wednesday</th>
<th>Thursday</th>
<th>Friday</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>School yard Nature hunt. Tennis ball tiggy</td>
<td>Extend Family Tree group collage. Tail spin tiggy</td>
<td>Glass window painting. Hide and seek</td>
<td>Lego creations, Down ball, Air basketball round 2</td>
<td>Crazy outdoor wall art chalk creations</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT FOR EVERYONE: ALL ASC STUDENTS WILL BE COLLECTED FROM OUTDOOR AREA NEAR THE PREP ROOM.

If you have any questions regarding ASC please come over and introduce yourself.

Traci

Pupil free days can be conducted at St John’s, if we have a minimum of 12 students.

PARENT PORTAL: extend.com.au is the place to Book for Vacation care if you haven’t done so already.

AUTUMN HOLIDAY PROGRAM - BOOKINGS ARE OPEN AT A SCHOOL NEAR YOU! Book by the deadline to take advantage of lower rates!Booking deadline: Friday 18 March

We have heaps of fun activities planned these school holidays and can’t wait for you to attend!

Create a diorama of the Amazon jungle, mould an autumn leaf dish out of clay, and participate in lots of group games including a time challenge and secret agent maze!

Join in on all this and more at Extend’s Autumn Holiday Program.

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.