



Term 1 Week 2 9th February 2017

Upcoming Dates

2017		
FEB	MON 13 th	Monday Mingle Resumes
	TUES 14 th	Canteen Orders Due
	WED 15 th	Canteen Resumes
	WED 15 th	Scholastic Book Club online orders close.
	WED 15 th	Parent Information Night. Years 1-6. 6.30pm
	MON 20 th	P & F Meeting 7pm
	FRI 24 th	School Cross Country
	SAT 25 th	Pako Festa
MAR	THURS 2 nd	Kitchen Garden Volunteer Info Session - 9am
	MON 6 th – FRI 17 th	Swimming lessons start. Year 1 – 6 Students only
	THURS 9 th	Cybersafety Sessions
	MON 13 th	LABOUR DAY PUBLIC HOLIDAY
	WED 15 th	Preps resume Wednesday classes
	WED 15 th	Division Swimming
	FRI 17 th	National Day of Action against Bullying
	MON 20 th	P & F Meeting 7pm
	Tues 21 st	Years 5 & 6 Excursion
	FRI 24 th	Athletics Carnival
	MON 27 th	Years 3 & 4 Serendip Sanctuary Excursion
	THURS 30 TH	Bravehearts Presentation Prep – Year 2
	FRI 31 st	End of Term 1

PLEASE NOTE: The School Newsletter will be published every fortnight and emailed out to families. On the alternate weeks you will receive an email listing upcoming dates.

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.

Head of School

School Improvement training:

Next week, Thursday 16 and Friday 17 February, a number of staff (including classroom teachers) will participate in training sessions relating to School Improvement. These sessions build on similar programs run last year and will guide the School in achieving our Strategic Goals as well as addressing matters raised in last year's Quality Schools Surveys.

Teacher absences will be covered by experienced relief teachers. The School Improvement process is an important opportunity to respond to the identified needs and challenges of St John's.

As we move through the process, the School Community will be informed of any changes to our practice.

We welcome Mrs Merrilee Hawker to the Admin team and trust she will soon settle into her roles at St John's and GLC.

Staff will take part in an update on **Asthma Awareness**, next Tuesday 14 February.

Don't forget the **School Breakfast** tomorrow 10 February and the **Year 1-6 Parent Information** night on Wednesday 15 February.

Gavan Cramer

2017 Dates

The following are important dates in 2017:

Term 1: Thursday February 2nd – Friday March 31st
Monday 13th March – Labour Day Holiday

Term 2: Wednesday 19th April – Friday 30th June
Monday 17th April – Easter Monday
Tuesday 18th April – Curriculum Day, (No Students)
Tuesday 25th April – ANZAC Day
Friday 2nd June – Report Writing Day (No Students)
Monday 12th June – Queen's Birthday

Term 3: Monday 17th July – Friday 22nd September
Thursday 17th & Friday 18th August – Curriculum Days (No Students)

Term 4: Monday 9th October – Wednesday 13th December
Friday 20th October – Geelong Show Day
Friday 17th November – Report Writing Day (No Students)

These dates are correct at the time of printing.

Welcome

Welcome to Baidyn (M2) and Xavier (Red Group) who started this week.

We hope your time at St John's will be a blessing to you and your families.



Birthdays

Happy birthday to the following students who will celebrate in the coming weeks.



Davina	Feb 11 th	J3
Alysha	Feb 13 th	RED
Saskia	Feb 15 th	J3
Eli	Feb 15 th	J2
Aidan	Feb 15 th	M1
Joshua	Feb 16 th	S3
Emilia	Feb 17 th	J1
Nicholas	Feb 18 th	J2
Tom	Feb 18 th	S1
Quinn	Feb 21 st	J1
Ethan	Feb 22 nd	Yellow
Sarah	Feb 22 nd	S1
Sebastian	Feb 23 rd	J4
Jacob	Feb 23 rd	J5

Parent Information Nights

In an effort to ensure that we communicate effectively with all parents of our School Community, we have organised Parent Information Sessions for 2017. They are early in the school year as we feel that there is important information that parents and caregivers require at the start of the year to ensure teachers and parents/caregivers are able to begin an ongoing partnership of support for all students and families in our St John's School Community.

REMINDER

Years 1-6 Information Evening is on Wednesday 15th February at 6:30pm. This session will run in a similar format as last year, commencing with a whole school session, followed by year level sessions. Refreshments will be offered to parents between sessions, allowing for some valuable social interaction. The times for this evening are as follows:-

- 6:30 – All parents
- 7:00 – Years 1/2 parents
- 7:30 – Years 3/4 parents
- 8:00 – Years 5/6 parents

Please make an effort to attend the session/s which are relevant to your children as we will be passing on some important information at these times.

Devotional Thought

Taking care of business - John 2:13-22

It was almost time for the Passover Festival, so Jesus went to Jerusalem. There in the Temple he found people selling cattle, sheep, and pigeons, and also the moneychangers sitting at their tables. So he made a whip from cords and drove all the animals out of the Temple, both the sheep and the cattle; he overturned the tables of the moneychangers and scattered their coins; and he told those who sold the pigeons, 'Take them out of here! Stop making my Father's house a marketplace!' (verses 13-16)

The people in Jesus' time probably had no problem with the business being transacted in the Temple. I'm not sure it's much different in the church today. We often seem to be more involved in transacting business than in getting out with the word of God. We can even be influenced by one of the basic concepts of marketing, that the customer is always right, and so we think the church should do whatever it takes to make the good news of Jesus more attractive. Our thinking, time and energy can be entirely dominated by meetings, budgets, vision statements and strategic plans. These things can distract us from the fact that we are the people of God, gathered in his grace through the suffering, death and resurrection of his Son, Jesus, and equipped in the power of the Holy Spirit to live lives of worship, service and witness for him. We have been claimed by God to witness to the world and to the people around us about his love and the gift of life he offers to all. Let's share his good news.

Lord, forgive me for the times when I am too busy with the business of living and I ignore the privilege of being a living witness for you. Amen.

(Adapted by Lutheran Media, from a devotion written by Pastor Tom Peitsch in the LCA book "Assurance for each day".)

Art Awards

This week's Art Awards go to:

Archie (J5), Marcel (M1), Lucas (M2), Thomas (M3).

Pako Festa

This year's Pako Festa Parade is on Saturday February 25th with the theme being 'Food'.

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.

The Parade organisers have restricted the number of participants in each parade application.

Thank you to all the families who have returned their forms. We now can only place students on a waitlist.

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

Lynn Lytzki, Librarian

Picking Up and Dropping Off Children at School & Kindergarten

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 or in the carparks of businesses nearby.

School Breakfast

Due to the overwhelming success of last week's presence of the City to Surf Mobile Coffee Van at our Welcome Morning Tea, the Parents and Friends Committee are inviting parents to come along to the planned Class Breakfast this Friday and grab a complimentary coffee/tea/hot chocolate on their way into the school and classrooms. We are asking that a gold coin donation be given if ordering a beverage from the coffee van on this particular morning. A container will be situated on the table at the Coffee Van for your donation. This will be used to purchase garden gloves for the Kitchen Garden program.



BACK TO SCHOOL BREAKFAST

PARENTS AND CARERS ARE INVITED INTO THE CLASSROOM FOR SOME YUMMY BREAKFAST AND TO GET TO KNOW ONE ANOTHER.

DATE: FRIDAY FEBRUARY 10TH

TIME: 8.00AM – 9.00AM

LOCATION: YOUR CHILD'S CLASSROOM

Your child's teacher will be in touch to ask you to bring along something to share for breakfast. There will be time for parents to visit multiple classrooms, and if a parent is unable to attend please feel free to send along a grandparent or another special person.

Conveyance Allowance & CSEF (Camps, Sports Excursion Fund)

Some families may be eligible for a Conveyance Allowance in 2017. Please contact the School Office for a form, if you have a current Health Care Card.

Canteen

The School Canteen will resume **Wednesday February 15th** and will continue to operate every Wednesday until the end of Term. A menu will be attached to next week's newsletter email.

Thank you to Milissa and Glenys for co-ordinating the Canteen.

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.

Canteen Volunteers

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.

Date	Volunteer
15/02	Jeanette
22/02	Helper needed
1/03	Helper needed
8/03	Helper needed
15/03	Helper needed
22/03	Helper needed
29/03	Helper needed

Netball News

St John's Lollipops

Last night the St John's Lollipops played the Monarch Kittens. The heat was extreme which made the game a difficult one but we came out with a win scoring 7 goals to 3. Well done girls – you did an outstanding job especially considering the conditions. And thanks to the parents for all coming along and supporting the team every week.

Jeanette

Volunteering at School or Kindergarten

This is 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 *Valuing Safe Communities* training session within the past three years.

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 IINSTRUCTIONS:

1. Go to <http://vscvolandrs.lutheran.edu.au/>
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. Please give a copy of your certificate to the school officer for our records.

Scholastic Book Club

For parents who are new to the School, Scholastic Book Club is offered for the children to purchase books and in participating, our Library receives free books throughout the year. On average, the school receives around \$1,000 worth of books from the generous support of parents and students participating in Book Club.

Orders are made from catalogues handed to students usually twice per term. Book Club has a Linked Online Ordering and Payment system (**LOOP**) which the school uses for the payment of all orders. All book orders will need to be done online by individuals/ parents. The books are delivered to the School and sent home with the child unless requested by the parent stating that they will be collected from the Office (in case the book is a gift). The parent will be notified by telephone when the order is ready. There will be a **DUE DATE** for orders and this will be advised in the Newsletters. **No late orders can be accepted after the DUE DATE.**

The Scholastic Book Club were sent home last week. Orders are required to be ordered online no later than **Wednesday 15th February**.

Lynn Lytzki, Librarian



Sport

1. **'Team Vic' registrations** – Parents wishing to nominate their child **from Years 5 & 6** for the opportunity to trial for a VIC state team in a particular sporting area now have the opportunity to register. These students should be playing at an excellent standard within their sport, and where applicable, would be competing at a 'representative' level. To register, you may visit <http://www.ssv.vic.edu.au/team-vic>.
 - a. If you are wishing to register your child in the sports of Basketball, Netball, Soccer or Aussie Rules, **you MUST register** your interest with Steven Tkaczuk (Mr T) **PRIOR** to registering online. There is a **MAXIMUM** of 3 students per school that are allowed to be registered in each of these sports.
 - b. Please note that the closing date for Australian Football, Netball, Football (Soccer) and Basketball is 10th March. Students will need to check the closing dates for all the other sports.
 - c. In order to register for a team, your form must be completed correctly and by the due date, and where applicable, **this form MUST** be signed off by Steven Tkaczuk.
 - d. It must be stressed that this is **NOT** a forum to trial for a team **unless your child competed at a very high standard in their sporting field.**
2. **Swimming** – The '2017 Bellarine and North Geelong Divisions Primary Schools Swimming Championships' will be held on **Wednesday 15th March 2017** this year. Should your child be interested in competing in this competition, please inform Steven Tkaczuk (Mr T). Notes will **be sent home** with students interested in competing.
3. **Swimming** – The **Bay City All Schools Swimming Competition'** date is now on **Sunday 26 March 2017**, not the 19th February as previously noted. If you would like your child to compete in this competition, **parents must** register them at the following link <http://i.swimming.org.au/visageimages/clubs/bswsa/2017%20ALL%20SCHOOLS%20FLYER%20FINAL.pdf> or collect a registration form from our School Office. Please note that should we have sufficient interest, there is a possibility of organising a relay team. Please inform the School Office by Friday 17th February if your child would like to form part of the relay team.

If you have any queries about the above information, please speak with Steven Tkaczuk

Meals for Families in Need

From time to time families in our School and Kindergarten community require meals to help them through some difficult events – be it illness, death or other trauma. We currently have a group of families who help out during these times. Sometimes it is just a one off meal that is required and other times it is ongoing meals across the school year via a roster. If you are willing to help out and join the meal roster, could you please forward your name and email address to Michelle

There are disposable containers available for meals as well as a freezer for storage in Angela McLean's office so that we can store a small bank of ready available meals. If you know of a School or Kindergarten family in need could you please contact Angela or email angela.mclean@stjohns.vic.edu.au so that the meals can be arranged.

Playgroup News

Monday Mingle starts up again on Monday 13th 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.



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 & Johanna

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 Paul's Lutheran Church, 307 Torquay Rd, Grovedale. Rev Colin Simpkin. Sunday worship with Holy Communion 9.30am. Office: 5241 5141.

Our Redeemer Lutheran Church, 60 Ballarat Rd, North Geelong.. Office: 5278 2443. Sunday worship at 9.30 am with Holy Communion on 2nd and 4th Sundays of the month.

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