Dear Parents,

This week is Catholic Education Week and the Feast of St. Patrick. Over the past ten years Catholic Education Week has coincided with the Feast Day of St. Patrick. Our main Cathedral in the Archdiocese of Melbourne is St. Patrick’s Cathedral. The Archdiocese of Melbourne hosts the largest Catholic Education System in Australia, with 265 Catholic Primary Schools, 65 Secondary Colleges and 6 Special Schools. Catholic Schools in the Archdiocese educates approximately one in five metropolitan students. During this week there are various activities taking place to highlight Catholic Education. On Tuesday, the Feast Day of St. Patrick, our school leaders attended the St. Patrick’s Day Mass at St. Patrick’s Cathedral. The Mass was celebrated by the Archbishop of Melbourne, Archbishop Denis Hart.

It is also important to mention the role played by the Irish in the growth and development of our early Church in Australia. Catholic Schools were set up by various Irish Religious Orders including the Brigidines, the Josephites, the Christian Brothers, Good Samaritan Sisters, Sisters of Charity and the Mercy Sisters. Under the influence of Religious Orders, Catholic Schools not only survived but flourished; the sisters and brothers were to be the mainstay of the schools for over 100 years.

One of the earliest Catholic Priests to arrive in Australia in early 1800 was Fr. Dixon. Fr. Dixon was sent back to Ireland after being responsible for a rebellion at Castle Hill. The first Catholic Bishop of Australia was Bishop Polding appointed in 1820. So on St. Patrick’s Day we give thanks to those early religious orders and priests who built the foundations of the Catholic Education System we have today.

As part of the school’s Lenten Liturgies parents are invited to the following Liturgies:

- **Passion Liturgy (Palm Sunday)**: Friday 20th March presented by Grade 2 Yellow at 11.30am
- **Holy Thursday Liturgy**: Thursday 26th March presented by Grade 4 Red at Assembly 2.30pm
- **Good Friday Liturgy**: Friday 27th March presented by Grade 4 Yellow at 11.30am

**School Toilets** - Please note that adults are not to use any of the student toilets and children are not permitted to use any of the adult toilets. This is a legal requirement.

**ANZAC Day** - ANZAC Day is on Saturday 25th April. There is NO public holiday on Monday 27th April for ANZAC Day. School will be as normal for all children on this day.

**Extra Curricular Activities Term 1 Week 9**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Activity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fri. 20th March</td>
<td>Palm Sunday Liturgy 11.30am (2Y)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fri. 20th March</td>
<td>District Sport Trials</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sat. 21st March</td>
<td>Working Bee 9-12 noon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sat. 21st March</td>
<td>First Rite Celebrations 10-11am, 4.30pm – 5pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thurs. 26th March</td>
<td>Holy Thursday Liturgy 2.30pm (4R)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thurs. 26th March</td>
<td>Prep Sports Night 5.30pm – 7.30pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thurs. 26th March</td>
<td>Parish Penitential Liturgy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fri. 27th March</td>
<td>Good Friday Liturgy 11.30am (4Y)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**School Advisory Board** - The next meeting will be held next Wednesday 25th March at 7.00pm.

**School Athletics** - Years 1-6 on Friday 1st May and Prep will be on Thursday 26th March at 5.30pm. More details will be sent home closer to these events.

**Prep Twilight Sports** - The Preps sports will be held on Thursday 26th March. The sports will commence at 5:30pm and conclude at approximately 7:00pm. Please note children need to wear their sports uniform. Team coloured T-shirts are not to be worn at the sports. The venue is the synthetic oval next to the basketball courts.

This year the Parents’ Association will be co-ordinating a BBQ. If any parents (Years 1 – 6) are available to assist the Parents’ Association at the BBQ you please complete the form at the end of the Newsletter and return it to school by Monday 23rd March. Parents in Prep Year will not be expected to assist as they will be watching their children participate in the sports.

**CDF Banking Volunteers** - Are required as the current volunteers have been doing this job for a few years and now have other commitments. Banking is done every Thursday during the term and you only need to be available for about 1 hour each week. If interested please contact the school office.

**Email Subscription to Newsletter** - If any parents are not receiving their copy of Contact by email please contact the school office with your email address or return the slip below.

**Working Bee** - The first working bee this year will be this Saturday 21st March commencing at 9.00am and concluding at 12midday. Parents are requested to try and attend at least one working bee a year. More information attached to Contact.
Quote of the Week - This week’s quote from Grade 4 Red is

"Measure twice, you get it right" from Alyssia De Rose.

Shave for Cancer – Last Wednesday Nathaniel Louey from Year 5 Red “shaved” his head as a fundraising activity to raise money for research into cancer. On behalf of the school community I would like to congratulate Nathaniel on his efforts to raise money for cancer research.

School Uniform – All children are to be in their summer uniform until the end of term 1. As from the start of term 2 all children are to be in full winter uniform.

Footy 2015 - With the football season gearing up we have gathered the experts to give their predictions for 2015.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Premiers</th>
<th>Wooden Spooners</th>
<th>Name</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Geelong</td>
<td>Essendon</td>
<td>Fr. Jim Clarke</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Richmond</td>
<td>St. Kilda</td>
<td>Anna Morgan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Richmond</td>
<td>St. Kilda</td>
<td>Lauren Dril</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Richmond</td>
<td>Collingwood</td>
<td>Natalie La Fontaine</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Collingwood</td>
<td>Carlton</td>
<td>Shane Regan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carlton</td>
<td>St. Kilda</td>
<td>Lisa Thompson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Western Doggies</td>
<td>Collingwood</td>
<td>Annabelle Acosta-Harvey</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carlton</td>
<td>Richmond</td>
<td>Jacqui Giuliano</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>St. Kilda</td>
<td>Melbourne</td>
<td>Pope Francis I</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Essendon</td>
<td>St. Kilda</td>
<td>Rita Petracca</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Essendon</td>
<td>Collingwood</td>
<td>Nick Frederiksen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Collingwood</td>
<td>Carlton</td>
<td>Pat Healy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carlton</td>
<td>Melbourne</td>
<td>Carmelina Corio</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Essendon</td>
<td>Collingwood</td>
<td>Matthew Murphy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Melbourne</td>
<td>GWS</td>
<td>John Tilbrook</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Collingwood</td>
<td>GWS</td>
<td>Luke Blasi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hawthorn</td>
<td>Lions</td>
<td>Emma Sperings</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hawthorn</td>
<td>St. Kilda</td>
<td>Anthony Rowe</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hawthorn</td>
<td>GWS</td>
<td>Archbishop Denis Hart</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Melbourne</td>
<td>St. Kilda</td>
<td>Matthew Stantic</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hawthorn</td>
<td>Collingwood</td>
<td>Kevin Cahill</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North Melbourne</td>
<td>Melbourne</td>
<td>Helen Rocheeauce</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sydney</td>
<td>Melbourne</td>
<td>Megan Hiscox</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Geelong</td>
<td>Collingwood</td>
<td>Mel Wharton</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Melbourne</td>
<td>Collingwood</td>
<td>Angelene Longano</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sydney</td>
<td>Carlton</td>
<td>John Downie</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North Melbourne</td>
<td>Western Doggies</td>
<td>Chris Giosis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hawthorn</td>
<td>Essendon</td>
<td>Bishop Mark Edwards</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Melbourne</td>
<td>Western Bullies</td>
<td>Rodney Grinner</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Prayers – Please keep the Hajj family in your prayers and thoughts as Rocco (5/6P) Grandfather passed away recently.

Term 1 - Concludes on Friday 27th March at 1.15pm and Term 2 commences Monday 13th April.

The Good Manners Award goes to Corinne Lakat (4 Yellow) and Uniform Award goes to Nathan Silva (1 Red) Well done to these children.

Yours sincerely,

[Signature]

Phil Hesse
Principal

TERM 1 ENDS FRIDAY 27TH MARCH AT 1.15PM
TERM 2 RESUMES MONDAY 13TH APRIL

DATES TO REMEMBER

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Thursday 19th</td>
<td>First Rite Celebrations 6.30pm – 8pm</td>
<td>Thursday 26th</td>
<td>Prep Sports Night 5.30pm – 7.30pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday 20th</td>
<td>Palm Sunday Liturgy 11.30am (2Y)</td>
<td>Friday 26th</td>
<td>Parish Penitential Liturgy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday 20th</td>
<td>District Sport Trials</td>
<td>Friday 27th</td>
<td>Good Friday Liturgy 11.30am (4Y)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saturday 21st</td>
<td>Feast of St. Joseph</td>
<td>Saturday 28th</td>
<td>Earth Hour</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saturday 21st</td>
<td>Working Bee 9am – 12pm</td>
<td>Saturday 28th</td>
<td>End Term 1 Dismissal 1.15pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saturday 21st</td>
<td>Harmony Day</td>
<td>Saturday 28th</td>
<td>Passion/ Palm Sunday</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saturday 21st</td>
<td>First Rite Celebrations 10-11am. 4.30 – 5pm</td>
<td>Saturday 28th</td>
<td>Good Friday</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sunday 22nd</td>
<td>5th Sunday of Lent</td>
<td>Saturday 4th</td>
<td>Easter Saturday</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday 25th</td>
<td>Feast of the Annunciation</td>
<td>Sunday 5th</td>
<td>Daylight Savings ends</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday 26th</td>
<td>Holy Thursday Liturgy 2.30pm (4R)</td>
<td>Sunday 5th</td>
<td>Easter Sunday</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

THURSDAY 19TH MARCH

Good Friday Liturgy 11.30am (4Y)

END TERM 1 DISMISSAL 1.15PM
JOKE OF THE WEEK
St. Patrick’s Day Irish Joke

An Englishman, an Irishman and a Scotsman were reading a newspaper article about which nationalities’ brains were for sale for transplant purposes. An Irishman’s or a Scotsman’s brain could be bought for $500 but an Englishman’s brain cost $10,000.

That proves,’ said The Englishman, ‘that Englishmen are much cleverer than Irishmen or Scotsmen.’

‘No it doesn’t,’ said The Irishman, ‘it just means that an Englishman’s brain has never been used.’

OFFICE NEWS

SCHOOL FEES: The first instalment of $490 is NOW OVERDUE. Prompt Payment would be appreciated.

AUTOMATIC SCHOOL FEE PAYMENT: Families can collect the form from the school office if interested. This is for your convenience and will help you avoid queues at the office.

HEAD LICE: There has been a report of head lice in Grade 1 Blue. Parents please check your child/ren’s hair. Treatment must be done before the child can return to school. Thank you.

BIRTHDAY WISHES

Wishing the following staff and students a very happy birthday.

Katie Edgar
Abbigael Jayasuriya (1Y)
Lachlan Yandle (5B)
Zak Wiedemann (5B)

Makayla Cusolito (5B)
Jacob Perera (4Y)
Lily Cribbin-Matthews (2R)
Ashley Sikka (3B)

ART SMOCKS SHOULD BE LABELLED AND BROUGHT TO SCHOOL AS SOON AS POSSIBLE

STUDENT OF THE WEEK FOR ART: This week’s award goes to Anabelle Abboud (Prep G), Marcus D’Angelo (Prep R) & Sienna Barbotin (Prep Y) for working well with colours.

STUDENT OF THE WEEK FOR LIBRARY: This week’s award goes to Alanna Solorzano (5 Yellow) & Ethan Ha (1 Yellow).

STUDENT OF THE WEEK AWARDS

The following students have been selected from each class for their outstanding achievements within the school. We congratulate the following:

Prep B – Alicia Polydor
Prep G – Anabelle Abboud
Prep R – Marcus D’Angelo
Prep Y – Anelica Skoblar

1 Blue – Georgia King
1 Green – Gisele Ordenes
1 Red – Evelyn Dunne
1 Yellow – Matthew Costanzo

2 Blue –
2 Green – Jodie Lam
2 Red – Kael Rabot
2 Yellow – Zoe Reeves

Chantelle Pitruzzello
Xavier Orbien

3 Blue – Cameron Fistes
3 Green –
3 Red – Christian Gallo
4 Blue – Anthony Massin

4 Green – Jeslynn Thalappillil
4 Red – Roshan Joby
4 Yellow – Kara Appleton
5 Blue – Grace Louey

5 Green – Chloe Boric
5 Red – Michael Lanzone
5 Yellow – Nikki Stanic
5/6 Purple – Sophia Fabien

Peter Giuliano
Eunir Alpay

6 Blue – Gianni Dissegna
6 Green – Alisha Downie
6 Red – Noah Von Kelaity

Madeleine Dryer
Zac Cairns
Madeleine Staffieri

CANTEEN ROSTER:

CANTEEN CLOSED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE DUE TO RENOVATIONS

UNIFORM SHOP ROSTER: Tuesday 24/03 Felicia, Kathy W, Angela 2.30pm to 3pm

PARENT’S ASSOCIATION NEWS

EASTER RAFFLE: EASTER RAFFLE: Donations of Easter Eggs are starting to come in. Thank you to those families who have generously donated. Please help make our annual raffle the success it has been in the past. Last year we had more than 70 prizes, that is a 1 in 10 chance of winning. Please send your family’s donation of an Easter egg by Monday 23rd March. We also have lots of raffle tickets left, so if you want to double or triple your chance of getting one of the yummy Easter egg hampers, please fill in the form below to receive more.

Raffle tickets are due back by Monday 23rd March and will be drawn on Wednesday 25th March. See flyer attached. We would really appreciate some help to wrap Easter Eggs on Tuesday 24th March after school drop off in the P.A Meeting room. See reply slip below.

PREP SPORTS NIGHT: The Parents’ Association will once again be holding a sausage sizzle on the night of the Prep Sports Night. Any help will be greatly appreciated. See reply slip below.

AVILA COLLEGE OPEN DAY - Attending an Open Morning is one of the best ways to learn more about the College. Information about fees, uniform requirement, transport options and the transition program are helpful when starting at a new school to help students settle in quickly. Register online for the Saturday 21st March Open Day.

Avila College is proud to celebrate its Golden Jubilee in 2015 and a special Carnival and Open Day will be held from 10am to 2pm on Saturday 21 March. Please register for a school tour online.
PARISH NEWS

FIRST RITE CELEBRATIONS: Thursday 19th March from 6.30pm - 8pm and Saturday 21st March from 10-11am or 4.30pm - 5pm. Families book in child for one 5 minute timeslot for celebration of First Rite.

JOIN US FOR HIGH TEA: Join us for High Tea for one afternoon only, St Simon’s hall will be transformed into the home of the best value High Tea in town. Join us at one of three sessions for tea, coffee, sandwiches, scones, dainty savouries, sweet treats and sweet music. Treat yourself, your wife, husband or family. Think of it as an early mother’s day with friends! Generous discounts for families and groups of 8 or more. Places are limited so you will need to book. Look out for the flyer to come with prices and booking form. Date: 19 April 2015 Venue: St Simon’s Hall, 2 Taylor’s Lane, Rowville Time: 12 noon, 2pm or 4pm Enquiries: Imelda Evans, 0438 534 290 Seats are limited, so please book. Get a table together and save! Proceeds go to the upkeep and services of St Simon’s Parish.

ST. SIMON’S OUT OF SCHOOL HOURS CARE – STAFF REQUIRED URGENT: Staff required urgently for the Before Care, After Care and Vacation Care to start in Term 2 2015. Qualifications in Early Childhood or Primary Teaching an advantage but consideration will be given to those studying in the field as well. For more information call Ruwayda 0403 172 817/ 9764 4101.

ST SIMONS VACATION PROGRAM: Monday 30th March – Friday 10th April 2015.
Come along and enjoy the holidays with your friends at St Simon’s Vacation Care Program. The program is open from 8am -6pm from Monday 30th March to Friday 10th April inclusive. There will be exciting excursions to Jump Deck, the movies and a sports extravaganza run by Proactivity. Drumming experts will bring the rhythm of Africa to the program. Plenty more themed days such as Comicon/Superheroes, The Amazing Race, Grand Prix, loads of Easter activities and a giant Easter egg hunt. Don’t miss out! To make a booking please call: (03) 9763 0136 or email: admin@zubeys.com.au

GOOD FRIDAY APPEAL TRIVIA NIGHT

Saturday 28th March 2015, St Bernadette’s Parish Hall, Doors Open 7pm, Tickets $15 Each or Table of 10 $100. All money raised goes directly to Royal Children’s Hospital Good Friday Appeal, Support a great cause today! Book a Table today 0490 093 478.

MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER WEEKEND: Invest in your most precious asset.....Your Marriage!
Forget life’s tensions and interruptions and rekindle the closeness, intimacy, love and romance that brought you together. Recharge your relationship batteries and explore the precious nature of your marriage, allowing you both to share your feelings, hopes and dreams with each other in ways that normal, daily living tends to inhibit.
There is no group sharing. Couples and a priest present the weekend. It is based around Catholic values but couples of all faiths are welcome.
Accommodation and all meals provided. Information/Bookings: PH: Marianne & Marcel (03) 9733 0997 Email: viebookings@wwme.org.au
www.wwme.org.au

AN INVITATION TO PARENTS
CONSIDERING ENROLMENT FOR THEIR CHILD FOR 2016

PREP ENROLMENT INFORMATION EVENINGS
Dates: Monday 11th May, 7.00pm
or
Tuesday 19th May, 7.00pm

Enrolment folders will be distributed during the evening.
Alternatively, after the 11th May, enrolment folders may be obtained from
From the School Office
Monday to Friday 9.00am – 4.00pm

SCHOOL TOURS
Wednesday 27th May - 11.30am - 12.30pm
Thursday 4th June - 11.30am - 12.30pm

ALL WELCOME

ST. SIMONS COMMUNITY FOOTBALL CLUB - INTERESTED IN PLAYING FOOTBALL? Everyone is welcome. We have a team in every age group. Teams available from U8’s to U17’s for boys. Girl teams for Under 12’s & Under 16’s. We have positions in our Boys Under 8’s 9’s 11’s 12’s & 17’s and Girls Under 12’s & 16’s.

For more information; Contact Natalie Williams (Secretary) (Ph) 0417 346 863 or; (E) stsimonsknights@gmail.com Or Wayne Sargeant (President) (E) president@stsimonsknights.org.au

ST. SIMON’S KNIGHTS JUNIOR FOOTY CLUB - Hosting a Ladies Pamper & Wellness Evening at Cocomo’s Restaurant, Rowville. Monday 23rd March from 7.30pm. Ladies take a night off & join us for a social & totally indulge evening. A ticket at $25 includes drink on arrival, light finger food & entry to raffle. Additional drinks purchased at the bar. Treatments & services on the night are there purely to indulge you. Services are FREE of charge. RSVP by 13th March. To book please contact Anabel 0432 890 025 or e-mail anabelandtim@gmail.com.
ST SIMONS AUSKICK: It's Footy Time "2015"  ST. SIMON'S AUSKICK CENTRE-STUD PARK RESERVE, FULHAM RD ROWVILLE (Behind Stud Park Shopping Centre). ALL REGISTRATIONS ARE DONE ONLINE NOW. Register now for St Simons Auskick. Kids can be registered online via the www aflauskick.com.au website. Wayne Pieterse St Simons Auskick, Coordinator, 0418 454 742


JUMP! SWIM SCHOOL ROWVILLE OPEN DAY will be held on Saturday 28 March 2015 from 9am-1pm at JUMP! Swim Schools Rowville: 2/895a Wellington Road, Rowville. This is a great opportunity to take a look at our new, modern, private facility and have a chat with our friendly staff. There will be a sausage sizzle, balloonist, face painter, colouring competitions and more! For more information please contact us at rowville@jumpswhimschools.com.au or JUMP! on over to our website www.jumpswhimschools.com.au to see what we’re all about!

SCHOOL HOLIDAY PROGRAM

KNOX GYMNASTICS CENTRE – 4 Mossfield Ave, Ferntree Gully, Telephone – 9758 1089. Days – Wednesday 1st & 8th April from 10am to 12 noon. Cost - $16 per week or $30 for both (GST inc.) Age – 5 years to 12 years (and at Primary School). Closing Date Friday 27th March when maximum numbers reached. Enrolment forms from Centre Office. Attire – Shorts or track suit pants & t-shirt; bare footed.

ROWVILLE SPORTS ACADEMY – Learn, build and improve your skills in your favourite sport with fun school holiday camps led by the Rowville Sports Academy Head Coaching team. All camps include a hot lunch. Visit the Rowville Sports Academy facebook page for individual camp flyers or request via email: farrogi.a.simone.m@edunmail.vic.gov.au To register please contact Lauren McKellar on 9755 4651 or via email on mckellar.lauren.i@edunmail.vic.gov.au REGISTER NOW!

ENDEAVOUR HILLS LEISURE CENTRE: Are offering a school holiday program for kids aged 5-12 years of age each day from 9am to 12pm during the school holidays (excluding Good Friday and Easter Monday). Gymnastics, Basketball, Netball, Soccer, AFL, Cricket, Hockey & other Games and Activities. Special $22.50 per child per day, 5% sibling discount, 20% member discount. Book for 3 days for $50 (save 25%), book for 5 days for $84 (save 25%). For more details come in or contact the Centre on 9213 1400 or visit www.ehlc.ymca.org.au 10 Raymond McMahon Bvd, Endeavour Hills 3802, Tel: 9213 1400, email ehlc@ymca.org.au

PREP AEROBIC GYMNASTICS CLASSES: Does your child love to dance to music, needs a creative physical outlet, is full of beans and tummies & jumps around the house? If the answer is yes, then come down and try the Knox Gymnastics Prep Aerobics Classes. The 1hr class is jammed packed full of the building blocks for co-ordination, team work, flexibility, strength, power & agility. These fun classes are for prep aged boys and girls. Each lesson involves dynamic movements to high energetic & fast paced music in a creative & safe environment. If you would like to come down to Knox Gymnastics Centre in Ferntree Gully for a FREE trial just e-mail knoxgym.aerobics@gmail.com The Knox Aerobics Program also offers other classes for all ages.

NATIONAL BREAST CANCER FOUNDATION: Clothes For A Cure. Clothing Auction and event to raise $ to help find a cure for Breast Cancer! We are having a one day clothing sale and BBQ on the 22nd March from 9am at 11 Were Street, Montmorency as well as an online auction via our Facebook page. You’re invited to donate and attend. Donate your New or Near New Ladies, Mens or Kids clothes, Shoes and/or accessories for us to sell and raise much needed funds to support the National Breast Cancer Foundation. Phone 0411 873 024, info@clothesforacure.com.au

ST SIMON'S PARENTS' ASSOCIATION EASTER RAFFLE BOOKS
Name.................................................. Eldest child’s grade .............
I would like to receive _________ more books of raffle tickets for the Easter Raffle.

ST SIMON'S PARENTS' ASSOCIATION EASTER RAFFLE HELPERS
Name............................................. Phone Number.................. Eldest child’s grade ..........
I am available to help wrap Easter hampers on Tuesday 24th March from 9am in the meeting rooms.

ST SIMON'S PARENTS' ASSOCIATION PREP SPORTS NIGHT BBQ HELPERS
Name............................................. Phone Number.................. Eldest child’s grade ...........
SCHOOL WORKING BEE

Saturday 21\textsuperscript{st} March 9.00am - 12 noon

At this Saturday’s Working Bee we would like to do the following:

- Put boxing around some trees on the oval
- Trim back and clear the gardens around the library
- Weed and clear the garden area next to D Building
- Mulch the area next to D Building
- Clear the garden beds around the Prep rooms

Tools and equipment (if you have them) we need people to bring- rakes, hoes, hedge trimmers, blower vats, trailers, shovels, electric saw, pruning implements.

If we can get 30 adults for 2 hours each, that’s 60 hours of very productive work that benefits our entire school community and of course the best part of the day is that sausage and a drink at the end.

INTER SCHOOL SPORT

Our inter-school sporting activities are currently focussed on Swimming. Following our own school trials in early February we selected a squad to participate in the Rowville District Swimming Carnival. Our swimmers did a great job at the carnival winning the school championship for the first time in many years. As our inter school sport is part of the School Sport Victoria program, those students who are successful at their local level have the opportunity to continue to progress through to the next level.

On 3\textsuperscript{rd} March fourteen of our swimmers progressed to the Knox Division Championships and subsequently twelve of those swimmers progressed to the Regional Championships. At Regional level the swimmers swim a heat in the morning and if they qualify they then swim in the final in the afternoon. If swimmers are successful in their final they then progress to the Victorian Championships. At the Regionals we were represented by- Sarah Charlton, Sienna Jury, Matthew Bray, Catarina Dell’Aquila, Kohan Dockrill-Daley, Austin Rapp, Lachlan McCarthy, Kara Appleton, Catherine Williams, Emma Frerker, Hayley Sargeant and Daniela Hockley.

Sarah Charlton and our 10y.o. Girls and Boys Freestyle Relay teams progressed to the afternoon finals and although they aren’t progressing to the Victorian Championships, their achievements to have got through to this stage have been outstanding. Special thanks to the parents/families who have transported and supported our swimmers and our staff- Nick Frederiksen, Pat Healy and Shane Regan who have been involved in the coordination of the inter-school swimming carnivals.

Finally special thanks to all of our swimmers for their willingness to participate and the very positive manner in which they represented themselves and our school. We will publish the names of our full Swimming Squad in next week’s CONTACT.
ST. SIMON’S PRIMARY SCHOOL
WORKING BEE

Saturday March 21st 2015, 9am to 12pm
2 Taylor’s Lane Rowville

A Working Bee has been organised for our school community on
Saturday, 21st March 9am.
Please mark this date in your diary.
Bring along rakes, wheelbarrows, and yard brushes,
garden gloves, etc.
Come along and join the fun and experience Mr. Hesse’s
world famous sausage sizzle skills.

PLEASE RETURN THIS REPLY SLIP IF YOU CAN HELP US ON THE DAY

THE........................................FAMILY is attending
our working bee - 21/03/2015

SPONSORED BY FACILITIES MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE
Easter Sunday - April 17th
8:00 am, 9:30 am, 11:00 am Masses
5:30 am - Vigil & Mass

Holy Saturday - April 16th
11:00 am - Sacrament of Reconciliation
3:00 pm - Solemn Celebration of the Lord’s Passion
11:00 am - Sacrament of Reconciliation
Ecumenical Way of the Cross at the Community Centre

Good Friday - 15th April
8:00 pm - Mass of the Lord’s Supper

Holy Thursday - 14th April

at St. Simon’s Church, Rowville
Easter 8 Holy Week Services
St Simon's Harmony Day 2015

Last week we celebrated 'HARMONY DAY' and 'BULLYING, NO WAY!' as a school. Many different activities were done across the levels culminating in a shared lunch and liturgy. A great day was had by all. Many thanks to the teachers for the planning and execution of the day and to the parents who came along and helped with the cooking of sausages and a big thank you to Mr Ordenes who cleaned the three BBQ's for us when it was all over. The official BULLYING NO WAY! is this Friday 20th of March and HARMONY DAY is Saturday 21st March so we're sure the children will have some ideas of how to bring harmony to their world.

Lis Thompson - Wellbeing & Student Services
Year 6 Camp 2015

On Monday March 2nd our Yr.6 class headed off to Canberra, this is now the 5th time that we have taken our Yr.6’s to Canberra and each time there is something a little different in the trip.

Our trip began with a 7.30am departure, the total travel time to our camp is approximately 10 hours which is punctuated with stops at Bonnie Doon, Holbrook and Gundagai. The bus travel, in itself, is a great experience for the students because it provides a first hand look at the Australian countryside and a couple of our more famous landmarks i.e. the submarine in the park at Holbrook and the Dog on the Tuckerbox at Gundagai. Once in Canberra there was time to unpack and settle into our accommodation.

Tuesday 3rd March was our first day of touring the sights and resources of Canberra and for the first time on one of our Canberra Camps we had our Principal Phil Hesse, join us for the day. The children and staff really enjoyed having Phil with them. Following our very early start, 6.30am breakfast, the children were ready to hit the road. Our itinerary included the following.

- Australian Institute of Sport where the students were able to participate in an interactive, multi-disciplinary sports area pitting themselves against the accomplishments of our sports heroes and each other. Once completed they then took a tour of the training facilities with one of the athletes currently in residence at the Institute.

- Royal Australian Mint provided students with a history of our monetary system – in particular the coins that have been and are currently in circulation. In addition to the coins the Mint produces medals used for Australian Honours.

- High Court of Australia, this is a most impressive building which houses Courtrooms 1, 2 & 3 of the High Court of Australia. Usually these courtrooms have been empty at the time of our visits but this year we were fortunate enough to see Courtroom 2 in action. This was very impressive with five judges sitting, all the support staff and the public gallery. The children were taken by the level of formality and the disciplines of the courtroom.

- National Gallery of Australia is located just across the road from the High Court and houses many of Australia’s more notable works of art. Following lunch in the gallery’s sculpture garden we went into the gallery for a guided tour. Highlights were definitely “Blue Poles” by Jackson Pollock and the Ned Kelly Series by Sidney Nolan.

- The Australian War memorial is truly the highlight of every Year 6 Camp. We are fortunate to be there in the afternoon and stay for the Closing Ceremony which includes the Last Post and a Wreath laying Ceremony where our school was represented by James Bayliss and Marcus Dimeo. Our children have always been most respectful of what the War Memorial represents to all of us and have valued the opportunity to learn about life at home and abroad during times of conflict.

We arrived back at our Camp in time for Dinner followed by some outdoor activities including a swim, for those brave enough and in the evening some group initiative activities, diary writing and the Camp Blog finished us off.
Wednesday 4th March and another busy day lay ahead, following a more leisurely breakfast - 7.45am, we were on the road. Our itinerary included the following:

- Electoral Education Centre where the children learnt about our democratic processes, the Houses of Parliament and how Preferential Voting provides all electors with a say. The children were exposed to all the processes of voting day and although they didn't vote for people they did vote for fruits with the Peach being elected.

- National Museum of Australia is another very impressive building which houses a range of contemporary and historical exhibits. The arrangement of exhibits provides the students with a feel for the growth of communities within Australia, rather than viewing of individual items.

- International Embassies – as part of this day we took a drive through the Embassy district where we viewed the distinctive national style of building that have been built by those countries who have Diplomatic relations with Australia. We also took some time to visit the "Aboriginal Embassy" which has been established on the lawns outside Old Parliament House.

This evening we had an early dinner then headed off to Telstra Tower to watch the setting sun and evening lights over Canberra. Following that we were back to camp for diary writing and the Camp Blog.

Thursday 5th March was our last day in Canberra and again a more leisurely start with a 7.30am breakfast then our itinerary included the following:

- National Science & Technology Centre – Questacon, where the children watched a stage presentation about Energy and then headed off for 3 hours of “hands on” science understanding and challenges. Included in this was the Lightning Cage, the Earthquake House, the Giant Slide and much more.

- National Capital Planning Display where we were given a presentation on the history and development of Canberra from its early days as a sheep farm, through the design of Walter and Marion Burley Griffin to what Canberra is in 2015.

- Parliament House, along with the War Memorial the other highpoint of our visit. This year we were fortunate enough to be able to sit in on “Question Time” where the children were most surprised by some of the behaviours on the floor of the House of Representatives. Following Question Time we had a tour of Parliament House and participated in a role play focused on the Passing of a Bill and what the individual roles are in the process. Following this we had some time with our Local Member, Mr Alan Tudge and then enjoyed some afternoon-tea compliments of Parliament House.

- On the way back to camp we went to the top of Mt Ainslie for one last panorama of Canberra. Following dinner we had a few games, our “Special Camp Canberra Quiz”, diary writing and then time to pack-up for our trip home on Friday morning.

Any school program where you are taking children away from the school grounds requires commitment, faith and trust. Our teachers and the tertiary students who accompanied them on the camp provided our children with a safe and most enjoyable experience. The parents of our students were very trusting of our teachers and the responsibility they undertook. Our students were committed to using the camp as an opportunity to learn about the Civics and Citizenship of our country in a most supported and respectful manner. They were a great credit to themselves, their families and our school. Thank-you to all involved in the camp and in conclusion we would like to thank the Australian Government for supporting this activity and the classroom programs with a focus on Australia's history, culture, heritage and democracy.

The Australian Government recognises the importance of all young Australians being able to visit the national capital and offers all schools a per student contribution towards the costs, based on your distance from Canberra. In our case the Government contributed $30 per child which was paid directly to St. Simon's School.
Come and celebrate 50 years of St Josephs at our Community Day

Sunday 22 March 10am – 2pm

- Free food and drink
- School tours and displays
- School band
- Free rides (including UFO, Cha Cha, Hurricane, Atomic Drop Slide)
- Free activities (including footy challenge, giant maze, inflatable castles, gladiator challenge)

Celebrating 50 years of transforming boys into exceptional young men
Come and experience the St Josephs difference

St Josephs College

Register via stjosephs.com.au
5 Brennock Park Drive, Ferntree Gully
Telephone: 61 3 9758 2000
5th Week of Lent

Prayer, Fasting, Works of Love

40 Days

"Unless a wheat grain falls... and dies, it remains only a single grain; but if it dies, it yields a rich harvest.” John 12:24
5th Week of Lent

Jn 12:20-33
A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

*If a grain of wheat falls on the ground and dies, it yields a rich harvest.*

Among those who went up to worship at the festival were some Greeks. These approached Philip, who came from Bethsaida in Galilee, and put this request to him, ‘Sir, we should like to see Jesus.’ Philip went to tell Andrew, and Andrew and Philip together went to tell Jesus. Jesus replied to them:

‘Now the hour has come
for the Son of Man to be glorified.
I tell you most solemnly,
unless a wheat grain falls on the ground and dies,
it remains only a single grain;
but if it dies,
it yields a rich harvest.
Anyone who loves his life loses it;
anyone who hates his life in this world
will keep it for the eternal life.
If a man serves me, he must follow me,
wherever I am, my servant will be there too.
If anyone serves me, my Father will honour him.
Now my soul is troubled.
What shall I say:
Father, save me from this hour?
But it was for this very reason that I have come to
this hour.
Father, glorify your name!’
A voice came from heaven, ‘I have glorified it, and I
will glorify it again.’
People standing by, who heard this, said it was a
clap of thunder; others said, ‘It was an angel
speaking to him.’ Jesus answered, ‘It was not for
my sake that this voice came, but for yours.
‘Now sentence is being passed on this world;
now the prince of this world is to be overthrown.
And when I am lifted up from the earth,
I shall draw all men to myself.’
By these words he indicated the kind of death he
would die.

“Unless a wheat grain
falls...and dies, it re-
 mains only a single
 grain; but if it dies, it
 yields a rich harvest.”

John 12:24
Thank you for your continued support.

One raffle ticket per child has been sent home.

Monday 23rd March

Easter Eggs can be sent via the school office until 10 am on
We are seeking 1 Easter Egg per family as a contribution to the raffle.

Donating an Easter Egg.
We would be extremely grateful if families could offer their support by
There will be a wonderful major prize as well as many consolation prizes.

The Parent's Association is once again running our annual Easter Raffle.

Easter Raffle 2015
St Simon’s Parent’s Association
# Our Parish Mission

**Facilitator:** Fr Ray Sanchez (CP)

**March 22 - March 27**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Session</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sunday</td>
<td>The Family and How We Communicate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 22nd</td>
<td>SUNDAY MARCH 22ND 7.30PM Only</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>GRIEF, LOSS AND THE MYSTERY OF HUMAN SUFFERING</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 23rd</td>
<td>MONDAY March 23rd</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>SHARING OUR FAITH WITH OUR CHILDREN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 24th</td>
<td>TUESDAY March 24th</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>DAY OFF – NO SESSIONS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 25th</td>
<td>WEDNESDAY March 25th</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>PRAYER, SOLITUDE &amp; EVERYDAY SPIRITUALITY</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 26th</td>
<td>THURSDAY March 26th</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>TALKS ON RECONCILIATION &amp; EUCHARIST</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 27th</td>
<td>FRIDAY March 27th</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>FINISH WITH SUPPER – BRING A PLATE TO SHARE</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>