Dear Parents and Families,

We are delighted to have the opportunity to celebrate Mass each week in our classrooms with Fr Peter Bickley. Families are always welcome to join their children and we thank those parents, grandparents and friends who are able to come. Today Yr 3/4 KB celebrated Mass and I thank Karen Bayliss and the children for their preparation.

This week we had the last two workshops for the sacrament of Reconciliation. This is a beautiful sacrament that demonstrates God’s everlasting love for us. It falls timely during our Church season of Lent, where we are called to have a change of heart and make an extra effort to follow Christ in our daily lives. It is a season of reconciling ourselves with God the Father and with those around us. We wish our Reconciliation candidates the very best as they continue their faith journey and receive the sacraments.

Our Yr 5 and 6 classes travelled to Maffra last Wednesday and will do so each Wednesday until the end of term to participate in Gymnastic lessons. We thank Joel Brayshaw for his work in accessing the funding and coaching for our children. We also thank him for his preparation to ensure our children still accessed their Specialist timetable during the week.

As I write this newsletter, I wait in anticipation of the election of a core P&F Committee and a supportive group of volunteers to assist with the fundraising efforts for our school. We truly value the work of our P&F and their efforts to provide equipment, resources and support for our school programs. They have always played an integral part of our school community and not only serve to raise funds, but to also build a social network for our families. I sincerely thank Toni McKay and her hard working committee and volunteers for their work during 2015 and hope that we will be blessed with another group of supportive and enthusiastic parents for the 2016 year and beyond.

Our children have started training for our Cross Country Event which is to be held early in Term 2. We have so many enthusiastic children across the grade levels keen to get fit and to build their stamina and endurance by participating in an early morning run around the school. Well done to all!

Congratulations to our Year one children who had a successful morning in making pizza on Thursday. They have been learning the structure of a procedural text and writing procedural texts. By all accounts they followed the steps accurately to provide a very tasty pizza dish for most, however not all taste buds were satisfied!!!! But, they did all relish making them!

IMPORTANT DATES

Monday 14th March
- Labour Day public holiday

Wednesday 16th March
- Year 5 & 6 gymnastics

Thursday 17th March
- Gippsland Region Swimming Carnival
- First Reconciliation

Friday 18th March
- P & F meeting at 9.00am
- St Patricks Day cake stall
- Green jelly cups available at todays tuckshop.

Tuesday 22nd March
- Year Prep – 2 Good Deeds day
- 5N attending Mass of the Holy Oils at the Cathedral

Wednesday 23rd March
- Year 5 & 6 gymnastics

Thursday 24th March
- Passion Play
- Last day of Term 1. Students finish at 2.15pm

Friday 25th March
- Good Friday

Monday 11th April
- First day of Term 2

Friday 22nd April
- Cross Country

Tuesday 26th April
- School Board meeting and AGM

Friday 29th April
- Catholic College open day for Year 6 students

Our annual Easter raffle is coming. Heaps of prizes! We do rely on donations for this raffle so please drop off your donation at the school office.
Staff completed Anaphylaxis Training on Tuesday night and each year complete a review to ensure they recognise symptoms and know how to administer an Epipen. Likewise all staff will be updating there First aid, CPR and asthma management skills throughout the year. If your child needs an action plan (eg. asthma), please ensure you have provided the school with an up-to-date action plan prepared or verified by their doctor. These plans must be reviewed annually and are a condition of enrolment. Admin are currently entering and updating all personal and medical records and will be in touch if plans are noted to be out of date. Thank you to families who have provided plans for the 2016 year. A reminder also that staff can only administer medication if it has been prescribed by the doctor and comes with a pharmacist label and specific instructions. All medications must then come to the office and a request form is to be completed.

Enjoy your long weekend. I think we have many tired children who have done a brilliant job in starting the year and who have managed the consistent heat and the busy routine of a school day very well.

Thank you for your support.

God bless and take care

Anita Little and staff

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**Religious Education – Spirituality – Liturgy – Outreach Faith, Loyalty, Hope**

Jubilee Year of Mercy – Parish Prayer

Lord Jesus you are loving and
Your mercy endures forever.
You are compassionate and gracious,
Slow to anger, overflowing with love
And faithfulness.
Turn to me and have mercy on me,
Forgive my sins and grant me,
The Grace to live the life
Worthy of your praise,
We ask this in the name of
Jesus Christ, Our Lord
Amen

Sacrament Program - Reconciliation

Please be aware that there is a change in the sessions for First Reconciliation. There is only one session for those children who are going to do their First reconciliation. This will be on Thursday 17th March at St Mary's Cathedral. It will begin at 7 pm. There is Reconciliation on Tuesday 22nd March and this will be for all parishioners. This begins at 7 pm at the Cathedral and will be the 2nd Rite of Reconciliation.

Class Masses

Today’s class Mass was in Mrs Bayliss’ room. Next week it will be in Mrs Gould’s and Mr Wilson’s room. All parents and grandparents are more than welcome to attend. Coffee and tea will be available after the Mass. If you can please bring a small plate of food to share. All class Masses begin at 9.15am.

Cake Stall

As it is St Patrick’s Day soon and Lent – a time for charity, we will have a Cake Stall on Friday 18th March. This will be to raise money for Caritas. The team that will be supplying the cakes for this event is Teresa – the Green Team. So get cracking and get ready to make green coloured or green iced cakes, slices and any other thing that can be sold at a cake stall. The Pastoral Care Leaders and Teresa Captains and senior Teresa team members will be manning the cake stall.

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**Lent Meditation**

Asking for forgiveness …

Bless me Father for I have sinned,

For these and all my sins that I cannot remember I am sorry.

The Act of Contrition

O my God I am very sorry that I have sinned against you;

Because you are so good,

And with your help,

I will try not to sin again.

Reconciliation times up until Easter:

Tuesday 22nd March 7:00 pm

Wednesday 23rd March 5:30 – 6:30 pm

Holy Thursday 24th March 9:30 – 10:30 am

5:00 – 6:00 pm

Tony Capurso
Religious Education Leader

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**TUCKSHOP ROSTER:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>HELPERS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>Kristy Bicknell</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16/03/2016</td>
<td>Elise Dyce</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>Belinda Greenwood</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18/03/2016</td>
<td>Rachael Bye</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday 18/03 morning</td>
<td>Candice Johnson</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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**ST PATRICK’S DAY TUCKSHOP TREAT**

In celebration of St. Patricks day, the tuckshop will be selling green jelly cups for 50 cents each on Friday 18th March. This is for one day only.
**Holy Week and Easter Services**

**Come Worship With Us!**

**Palm Sunday**
**Saturday 19th March**
- Mass Cathedral 5.30pm
- Mass Rosedale 7.00pm

**Sunday 20th March**
- Mass Cathedral 9.30am
- Mass Stratford 11.00am
- Mass Cathedral 6.00pm

**Monday 21st March**
- Mass Cathedral 9.30am

**Tuesday 22nd March**
- Mass of the Holy Oils, Cathedral 11.00am,
  2nd Rite of Reconciliation with 4 Priests available 7.00pm

**Wednesday 23rd March**
- Mass 10.30am Ashleigh House
- Reconciliation 5.30pm – 6.30pm
- Tenebrae 7.30pm Cathedral

**Holy Thursday 24th March**
- Reconciliation Cathedral 9.30am – 10.30am
  and Cathedral 5.00pm – 6.00pm
- Mass of the Lord’s Supper 7.30pm
- Watching with the Lord till 10.30pm

**Good Friday 25th March**
(A day of fasting and abstinence from meat)
- Stations of the Cross 9.30am Cathedral
- Stations of the Cross 10.00am Rosedale – Dean Peter – Reconciliation to follow
- Stations of the Cross 10.00am Stratford – Fr Dominic Matthew – Reconciliation to follow
- Solemn Commemoration of the Lord’s Passion 3.00pm Cathedral (followed by reconciliation)

**Holy Saturday 26th March**
- Reconciliation 10.30am – 11.30am
- Easter Vigil Cathedral 7.30pm (please bring your own candle with drip proof holder)

**Easter Sunday 27th March**
- Mass Loch Sport 8.00am
- Mass Cathedral 9.30am
- Mass St. Rose of Lima Rosedale 10.30am
- Mass St Patricks’s Briagolong 11.00am
- Mass Cathedral 6.00pm

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**MEETINGS:**
- Fri 18th Mar – P & F meeting at 9.00am
- Tue 26th Apr – School Board Meeting at 6.45pm followed by the School Board AGM at 7.30pm

**SCHOOL ASSEMBLY**
The main school assembly is held every Friday afternoon at 2.30pm in the school hall. All families are welcome to attend. Each week we will have a different class celebrating their learning. The timetable of classes for this term are:

- 18th March – 3/4S
- 15th April – 6FM
- 22nd April – 3/4AC
- 29th April – 2H

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**GOOD DEEDS DAY**

**Tuesday 22nd March at 1.00pm**
Year Prep, 1 and 2 will be operating stalls to raise funds for Caritas. There will be a variety of things on offer such as cakes, biscuits, pancakes, lucky dip, guess the lollies in the jar and sports games. Please bring along some spare change from 5 cents to 50 cent pieces. Last year was a huge success, but we are looking to make this year even bigger.

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**MERIT AWARDS**
These children have received an award this week.

- Prep J: Ochre Fraser
- Prep MF: Nate Brady
- Year 1BJB: Remy Sutton
- Year 1BV: Emily Evans
- Year 2H: Michael Coulthard
- Year 2I: Riley Collier
- Year 2WG: Peri Fraser
- Year 3/4AB: Reigan Clapton
- Year 3/4AC: Michael Felmingham
- Year 3/4CG: Ivy Johnson
- Year 3/4KB: Lily Kuch
- Year 3/4S: Violet Harris
- Year 5N: Hayden Stewart
- Year 6BF: Ethan Rye
- Year 6FM: Maddison Findley
SWIMMING NEWS

St. Thomas' again had a successful day at the Wellington Zone Swimming Carnival. Kiana Wedlock was first in her three individual events, freestyle, butterfly and backstroke. Ryan Feltis won the backstroke and Emma Feltis came second in the freestyle. Isabella Tatterson came first in the breaststroke and second in the butterfly. The under 9/10 boys and girls relay teams won their event. The girls open medley team came second.

Congratulations to all of these children who will now represent our school and the Wellington zone in the Gippsland region event next week. Again we'd like to thank Amanda Castle and Dave Wedlock for their assistance on the day. Congratulations to Kiana Wedlock, Owen Gallagher, Ryan Feltis, Hannah Levey, Luca Centra, Emma Feltis, Brad Nikolajew, Grace Hobbs, Isabella Tatterson, Charlie Anderson, James Nikolajew, Zac Bloink, Maya Bown, Ellie Roache, Charlotte Ronchi, Brady Wilms, Noah Lawless, Jack Kelly, Katelyn Manning, Kirrily Bruce, Oliver Duffell, Max Castle, Jack Ireland, Ashley Centra and Sophia Wilson for representing our school on the day. You were all wonderful!!

TERM DATES 2016:
TERM 1 – 1 February – 24 March
TERM 2 – 11 April – 24 June
TERM 3 – 11 July – 16 September
TERM 4 – 3 October – **19 December
** Date may change

PUBLIC HOLIDAYS:
Term 1 – Monday 14 March (Labour Day)
   Friday 25 March (Good Friday)
Term 2 – Monday 25 April (Anzac Day)
   Monday 13 June (Queens Birthday)
Term 4 – Tuesday 1 November (Melbourne Cup)

SCHOOL CLOSURE DAYS:
Term 2 – Monday 9 May
Term 3 – Friday 2 September

Weekly MATHS Challenge
Scan the QR Code below to access Google Forms or visit
http://goo.gl/forms/vxZAJZ5qej
and complete this week's Maths challenge.

Recommended LEVEL Middle/Senior School

BUILD STRATEGIES

We all have coping strategies. If we rely too heavily on one or two methods of coping in difficult times, we can find ourselves in trouble if we suddenly can’t use them (eg. An injury might stop us from taking exercise). There are various coping strategies you can try; exercise, relaxation techniques, talking to someone, writing or art.

COMMUNITY NOTICES

SWIM TO VIETNAM SWIM-A-THON
Help Tim and Adam raise funds to reduce the drowning rate in Vietnam. Register at Kemp Aquatics or phone 5141 1127. Relay $50/team (maximum of 5. Participants receive a free sausage and drink). On Sunday 17th April at Kemp Aquatics 10.00am – 3.00pm for 1 hour sessions.

Sausage sizzle, fun games, prizes per session, all ages encouraged.
LIVE WELLington
Saturday 12th March from 8am – 4pm

LIVE WELLington is a great opportunity to encourage children of all ages and their families to become active in our open spaces by introducing them to a range of common and new active recreation pursuits.

The day is free with a range of food and light refreshments available for purchase.

Below is the information for the day.

7:45am - Sale parkrun @ the LEAF
8:45am - Bebliss Yoga, Meditation & Natural Therapies - Laughing Yoga @ the LEAF
9:00am - Bebliss Yoga, Meditation & Natural Therapies - Yoga (BYO Something to lie on) @ the LEAF
10:00am - Bebliss Yoga, Meditation & Natural Therapies - Meditation @ the LEAF
10:00am - Melbourne Parkour Classes and Training - Parkour Workshop near the Maple Grove
10:30am - Sale Tennis Club - Hot Shots Tennis @ the Tennis Courts in the Gardens
11:00am - Melbourne Disc Golf Club - Disc Golf Workshop @ the Oak Lawn
11:30am - Sale Tennis Club - Cardio Tennis @ the Tennis Courts in the Gardens
1:00 pm - Melbourne Disc Golf Club - Disc Golf Workshop @ the Oak Lawn
1:30 pm - Melbourne Parkour Classes and Training - Parkour Workshop near the Maple Grove

Throughout the day Sale Scout Group will have a challenging scavenger hunt around the Lake Guyatt Precinct with fun family activities along the way. There will be a BBQ and light refreshments available as well as information from a variety of health and well-being providers.

Sale Tennis Club will have activities in the Tennis Courts throughout the day. Test your skills and see how fast you can serve on the speed gun!

Melbourne Disc Golf Club will have a six hole short course set up for people to try their skills, as well as a couple of instructors to assist.

Melbourne Parkour Classes and Training will have instructors on hand to assist in this growing craze. This high intensity workout is great for those thrill seekers amongst us!

Gippsland Griffins will be on hand to introduce the Quidditch competition that was borne out of the Harry Potter series of books

There are heaps of giveaways throughout the day from Aqua Energy, Sale Tennis Club and Premier’s Active April Challenge…….