Dear Parents

I hope everyone enjoyed the Anzac Day Holiday yesterday. At today’s assembly, the senior children led an Anzac Day Reflection which gave us all the opportunity to pray and give thanks for the country we live in. We are blessed to call Australia our home. The children understand this, especially when learning about other countries who are at war and in a state of disharmony.

On Wednesday all children in Catholic Schools in the Wellington Shire came together for the annual Peace Mass. This was the 11th Peace Mass which began as a result of the Bali bombings. This culminated in the commencement of Catholic Education Week for 2013. The official launch of Catholic Education Week for our diocese was on Wednesday night with the Leadership Mass and Dinner in Traralgon.

St Thomas’ celebrates Catholic Education Week with Open Days during the five mornings next week between 9.00am-10.30am. The children in Grade 5/6 will be conducting School Tours for all visiting families. This is the ideal opportunity for children at kinder to see our school in operation. A reminder for all current families who have a child starting Prep next year, that it is still important to have a tour of the school. Enrolment Packs can be collected from the front office at the conclusion of the school tour. Current families are not required to make enrolment interviews unless they feel it is necessary. It is important if children have had any specialist appointments with information that will help with the placement of the children.

To celebrate the end of our school tours, at our Friday Assembly next week, we will have a short reflection about Catholic Education which all parents are invited to attend.

Jason Slattery

IMPORTANT DATES

Monday 29th April
- Prep Open Day
  9.00am – 10.30am
- Catechist Workshop at 6.30pm

Tuesday 30th April
- Prep Open Day
  9.00am – 10.30am
- Catholic Education Week Mass

Wednesday 1st May
- Prep Open Day
  9.00am – 10.30am
- Cross Country
- Confirmation Parent/Child Workshop at 4pm or 6pm
- Book Club orders due

Thursday 2nd May
- Prep Open Day
  9.00am – 10.30am
- Mothers Day Concert

Friday 3rd May
- Prep Open Day
  9.00am – 10.30am
- Year 4 Fundraiser

Monday 6th May
- Catechist Workshop at 6.30pm

Wednesday 8th May
- RCIC sessions begin
- Year 4 Fundraiser

Thursday 9th May
- Mothers Day Concert

Friday 10th May
- Mothers Day Breakfast

Tuesday 14th May
- NAPLAN Testing

Wednesday 15th May
- NAPLAN Testing

Thursday 16th May
- NAPLAN Testing
- Year 6 Bike Education
- Confirmation Reflection/Final practice Workshop at 6.30pm

Friday 17th May
- P & F meeting at 8.45am
- Year 5 Bike Education
- District Cross Country
- Catholic College Open Day
MEETINGS:

Friday 17th May – P&F Meeting at 8.45am
** All agenda items are to be emailed to Jo Roads at ciroads@hotmail.com by the Thursday before the P&F meeting.

Tuesday 28th May – School Board Meeting at 7.30

NETBALL PLAYERS

Could all netball players that haven’t paid the $12 for Umpire fees please bring the money into the office as soon as possible.

Concert

We have a great tradition at St Thomas’ for celebrating Mothers Day. A special mini concert by Grades Prep, One and Two classes.

Mums, Grandmas and really anyone (including Dads, Grandpa and friends) are invited to attend the Mothers Day concert in the stadium on Thursday 9th May at 2.00pm sharp.

We hope to see you there.

Rite of Christian Initiation for Children (RCIC)

The RCIC provides the opportunity for school aged children who have not been baptised to enter into a journey of faith and prepare for the sacrament of Baptism.

A new season of RCIC sessions will start on Wednesday 8th May at 4.00pm in Chapter House. At least one parent needs to be a baptised Catholic.

For enquiries and to enrol please contact Veronica at the Parish office on 5144 4100.

BOOK CLUB

Orders are due back by Thursday 2nd May.

Fundraiser

The Year 4 students are doing a fundraiser for ‘Assist a Student Program’ which is an education sponsorship program in Burma aimed at breaking the cycle of poverty. This program is coordinated by St Vincent de Paul Society, Australia. Available for sale will be:

Friendship bracelets, bookmarks and bag tags for the cost of 10, 20 or 50 cents each.

The stall will be open on Friday 3 May and Wednesday 8 May in the school hall during recess and lunch only.

Help us to make a real difference.

TUCKSHOP ROSTER:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>Helpers</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday 01/05/2013</td>
<td>Bridget Kelly</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Peta Callahan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday 03/05/2013</td>
<td>Emily Jones</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Julie Cockman</td>
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</tbody>
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Amendment to Tuckshop Menu

Please note that the menus sent home showed sausage rolls as an everyday food but should have been marked as a *sometimes food. The menu has been corrected.

SACRAMENTAL NEWS:

SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION

CATECHIST WORKSHOP
Monday 29th April – 6.30pm
Monday 6th May – 6.30pm

PARENT/CHILD WORKSHOP
Thursday 2nd May – 4pm or 6pm

PARENT/CHILD WORKSHOP (REFLECTION/FINAL PRACTICE)
Thursday 16th May – 6.30pm

CONFIRMATION DAY
Pentecost Sunday 19th May – 9.30am
SECOND HAND UNIFORM SHOP HOURS

Located in the School Boardroom
Every Friday – 2.15pm – 3.15pm

MASS/LITURGY TIMES:
All Liturgies will be held at 11.00am unless otherwise advised.

Tue 30th Apr  Catholic Education Week Mass at St Marys Cathedral. School captains will be attending
Thu 30th May  Mass at St Marys Cathedral – all Year 3 & 4s attending, beginning at 9.30am
Tue 4th Jun   Prayer Service – all Preps
Tue 11th Jun  Pilgrimage Mass at St Marys Cathedral – all Year 5s attending, beginning at 11.00am
Tue 18th Jun  Prayer Service – 2B
Mon 24th Jun  Prayer Service for Feast of St Thomas

Please feel free to join us after Mass/Liturgy for a cup of tea or coffee.

HEALTHY RELATIONSHIPS PROGRAM:
The following children have received an award this week.

Prep BC  Maddison Dee
Prep FB  Caitlyn Reid
Prep L  Maddison Stewart
Year 1B  Daphne Appleby
Year 1G  Sophie Brown
Year 1KB  Trista Leighton
Year 2B  Holly Bullen
Year 2E  Thomas Hocking
Year 2W  Diana Brady
Year 3/4AI  Ellie Roache
Year 3/4AP  Joshua Nair
Year 3/4M  Alyssa Simpson
Year 3/4P  Brodie Johnson
Year 5/6BF  Hayley Castle
Year 5/6F  William McKinnon

TERM DATES 2013:
TERM 2 - 15 April – 27 June
TERM 3 - 15 July – 19 September
TERM 4 - 7 October – 19 December

PUBLIC HOLIDAYS
Term 2 - Monday 10 June (Queens Birthday)
Term 3 – Tuesday 5 November (Melbourne Cup)

COMMUNITY NOTICES

LEARN TO UMPIRE
Sale Netball Association is holding an introduction to umpiring course on Saturday 4th May from 3.30pm – 5.30pm. The cost is $15.00 and all participants are asked to bring their own whistle. This course is open to all ages. It is a great opportunity for both senior students and for parents to go along and learn the basic skills of umpiring netball. Forms are available at the office or you can contact Janine Roest on 0417 389 263 if you have any further enquiries.

NET-SET-GO
Net-Set-Go is a junior netball program designed to develop skills in our young players between the ages of 6 and 10. It provides these players with the best possible learning and playing experience to develop a positive introduction to netball, ensuring enjoyment and hopefully a continued participation. The program incorporates skill development, minor games and modified matches. Each player will receive a participants kit, which comprises a bag, ball and other goodies. Ideally, I would love to see all our Under 9 and 10 players using this session as a chance for further skill development. This year there is a Barbie t-shirt included in the pack. One of each size is on display at GRSC Netball office. We have done our best to estimate sizes with our orders as we may not be able to exchange these. The cost of the program is $65 and this includes Netball Victorias registration cost. If your child is already registered the cost will be $30.
The program runs for 8 weeks starting on 4 May from 9.30am – 10.30am.
Registration forms are available on Netball Victorias website, at the desk at the Gippsland Regional Sports Complex or at the school office.
Registration day for Net-Set-Go is 27 April from 11.00am – 3.00pm.

Sale City Junior Football Club are seeking interested players for their two Under 10 teams this season. Due to recent rule changes, children who turn 8 this calendar year are now eligible for registration. For further information contact Greg Robinson on 0419 549 984.