Newsletter 3

RESPECT, CO-OPERATE, ACHIEVE!

Our first school assembly took place last Friday and was well attended by our school families.

We as a staff would like to thank all who were able to celebrate the wonderful achievements we have already made as a school community.

Our prep students have already become accustomed to the routines of a primary school, entering the assembly orderly and sitting quietly as students shared their learning experiences.

As a school we have commenced our work making St John the Apostle School a place where we respect and co-operate to achieve.

Best of luck to those students who were presented with learning challenges to complete in readiness for our next assembly. Tristian & Christian are working together on the "Coaster Kaos Challenge, whilst Akul, Dylan and Aaliyah will be busy raising Prehistoric Triops for us to view in a few weeks time. These challenges are just a few of those we have in store for our students, making learning fun and school a place we look forward to arriving at each day.

LENTEN SEASON

This week students will commence their preparation for Easter as we enter the Church Season of Lent.

Lent is a time of preparation. Personal preparation for the coming of Jesus at Easter can take many forms. As a school we focus on being of service to others and caring for those around us. We also will be collecting funds for Caritas Australia through the project compassion initiative.

Our Lenten preparations commence with an Ash Wednesday Liturgy to be held this Wednesday, 18th February in the Year 1-6 learning space. Parents are encouraged to attend.

The day prior is also traditionally called Pancake or Shrove Tuesday. Students will have the opportunity to have a pancake on this day if they wish. A big thank you to those parents who offered their time to assist in the cooking of pancakes.

SCHOOL UNIFORM—CLEAR EXPECTATIONS

All uniform supplies have now arrived at Rushford’s schoolwear. Families have been very flexible in way they managed the delays in the girls school dress.

Our uniform is a strong symbol of our school identity throughout the community. It should be worn with pride and become renowned for the fine students who wear it.

The school unfortunately has experienced some complications with the installing of land phone lines to the site. We are please to say that these have now been rectified and the school main phone line is now operational.

We request that parents contacting the school now use 9748 9003 as the official school number.

In the next few weeks our phone system will be upgraded to an I.P system which will give us greater functionality to transfer calls, etc.

We ask for your continued patience until this system has been finalised.

SCHOOL LANDLINE NOW OPERATIONAL

www.stjatarneit.catholic.edu.au
We now will be expecting all students to be in full school summer uniform each day. Please be aware of the following misunderstandings:

1. Long Pants cannot be worn as part of the school summer uniform.
2. Leggings cannot be worn with the summer uniform.
3. The school jumper, vest and cardigan cannot be worn with the sports uniform. If cool students can wear their sports jacket only.
4. Runners cannot be worn with the normal summer uniform.

Students will be reminded of these expecta
tions in the coming week. Students not wear correct uniform after a warning will receive a written notification which must be signed and returned to the school.

BEFORE AND AFTER SCHOOL CARE—REGISTER NOW!

If you are intending to use this service it is vital that you complete the necessary paper work and submit it to:

Quantin Binnah Community Centre
61 Thames Blvd, Werribee.
Ph: 9742 5040.

Enrolment forms are available from the school office and at Quantin Binnah.

Those families already enrolled, please collect and drop students off at the portable classrooms at the rear of the school. An access gate will be open on the boundary near the portables.

ELECTRONIC FUNDS TRANSFER—NOW AVAILABLE

Eftpos facilities have now been installed at our front office. Thank you for the patience shown by parents wanting to use this method of payment.

We also have direct debit forms available for those families wanting to set up automatic payments. Either collect one from the office or call us and we can arrange to get one sent home via your eldest child. Payment options are outline below:

Option 1: Payment in full due by May 28th ($1250)

Option 2: Payment in three instalments:
   Instalment 1 ~ $420 due by February 12th
   Instalment 2 ~ $420 due by April 23rd
   Instalment 3 ~ $410 due by June 25th

Option 3: Payment by direct debit only ~ $150.25 per month (8 payments) from 15th February to 15th September

Option 4: Payment by direct debit only ~ $75.00 per fortnight for 16 payments from 29th January to 27th August plus one payment of $50 on 10th September

( Please Note: The $100 enrolment fee will be deducted from the above figures)

PARENT / TEACHER INTERVIEWS

Our school in holding Parents /Teacher Interviews over two nights. These interviews are two fold in their purpose.

1. For teachers to obtain information from parents regarding the students in their care.
2. For teachers to share some beginning insights on the student’s learning and their initial transition into a new schooling environment.

Bookings will be made via the PTO online portal which should be open for bookings next week.

Interviews have a 10 minute duration and are scheduled for Thursday, 26th February and Tuesday, 3rd March between 4pm and 7:30pm.

Parents without access to the booking portal may approach the front office and we can complete the booking for you.

HOMEWORK AND HOME READING

This week students in Year Prep, 1 & 2 will commence taking home levelled books.

We ask that parents spend some quality time reading over these texts with their child. The books are all new and have been catalogued by our parent volunteers but are yet to be covered. We ask that families take care of these and return them when they are due.

Homework is also taking shape and will be taken home regularly at all year levels.

More communication will take place in reference to homework in the coming weeks as we strive to provide a system which caters for families, teachers and students.

ELECTRONIC FUNDS TRANSFER—NOW AVAILABLE

Homework is also taking shape and will be taken home regularly at all year levels.

More communication will take place in reference to homework in the coming weeks as we strive to provide a system which caters for families, teachers and students.

Principal’s Morning Tea

As part of our school wide positive behaviours program, students witnessed showing respect, cooperation and an outlook to achieve have been issued with merit cards in the form of a fish—St John and St Andrew being fishermen.

Students who were awarded three fish over the last two weeks were invited to a morning tea with myself and the Deputy Principal Mrs. Rosalie Baldwin.

We had a very enjoyable time together in the front community space. This initiative will continue for the next two weeks also, so teachers will be on the look out for outstanding acts of respect, cooperation and achievement amongst out student community.

Volunteers

Thank you to those parents who have kindly offered to assist with tasks which help the day to day running of the school.

A volunteers meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, 17th February at 7pm. At this meeting we will aim to:

1. Gauge from the community the support we have on offer.
2. Outline the types of tasks that we require assistance with. (e.g Book covering, preparing fruit for students, basic ICT tasks, end of term cleaning, grounds maintenance, etc.)
3. Take nominations for representatives who can liaise between the school and the large group of volunteers.

The meeting will take place in the community space at the school entrance and will commence at 7pm. The meeting will run for one hour.

Principal’s Award Winners

This fortnight certificates where awarded to Sarah Ajang & Akul Malkotia for there willingness to live the spirit of St Join the Apostle in everyday school life.

Congratulations Sarah and Akul! The next principal’s award will be announced at our next assembly.
Community Mass
Name: _____________________
We will be attending the community mass on Saturday, 28th February at 5pm. Please place the following chairs for our family: _____ (insert number)
Signed: _____________________

School Mass
Name: _____________________
We will be attending the school mass on Thursday, 26th February. Please place the following chairs for our family: _____ (insert number)
Signed: _____________________

Ash Wednesday Liturgy
Name: _____________________
We will be attending the Ash Wednesday Liturgy on Wednesday, 18th February at 9am. Please place the following chairs for our family: _____ (insert number)
Signed: _____________________