MOOV CHALLENGES— DEVELOPING INDEPENDENCE, CO-OPERATION & COMMUNICATION

Preparing our students for success in the 21st Century workplace calls for individuals who are well equipped with not only academic skills, but personal and interpersonal skills. The ability to understand themselves and their colleagues and to be able to effectively communicate with each other is an instrumental part of problem solving.

At St John the Apostle, we believe that in our roll of educating the whole child, we must endeavour to teach our students the skills required to be successful in various challenging situations and then within the a nurturing and supporting environment—create the situations!

Having settled into their new learning environment, some of our students have been presented with a collaborative problem solving task using the MOOV Education Kit. This kit contains parts which can be used to build ten different constructions including a scooter, bike, car and chopper.

So far, students working in mixed aged groups have successfully created the scooter and bike. Currently a group is building the chopper. It has been very pleasing to see the co-operative learning skills which have been displayed by these students. We look forward to extending these challenges to other students within the school.

FLAG PRESENTATION - JOANNE RYAN M.P

St John the Apostle Catholic School has purposely located its flag pole at the public space near the entry of the school. This was to promote participation from the local residents in our flag raising ceremonies.

To commence these gatherings, Joanne Ryan the Federal Member of Parliament for the Lalor Electorate will officially present us with our National, Indigenous and Torres Strait Islander Flags. This will be part of our school assembly on Friday, 22nd May at 9am.

We encourage parents to join us for this special occasion and chat with Joanne in the community space before and after the assembly.

ST JOHN THE APOSTLE OPENING & BLESSING

The date of the official opening and blessing of stage one of our school building has been reviewed. As government representatives were unable to guarantee their attendance, we have now put back the date to Friday, 7th August. The ceremony and blessing will be conducted by Arch Bishop Denise Hart commencing at 2pm and should conclude ready for the dismissal of children at the end of the day. We ask all school families to reserve this date in their diaries and join us for what is a historic event in the development of our new school.

Later that night, the school will host a more informal celebration in the school building. The
evening activates will take the form of a games night whereby school families can form tables to test their knowledge and skill in various games including Minute To Win It, The Price Is Right, Deal Or No Deal and many more!

The games evening will commence at 7pm and conclude at 8:30pm.

NAPLAN— YEAR 3 & 5

We wish all our Year 3 and 5 students all the best as they embark on the Naplan (National Assessment Project—Literacy and Numeracy) for 2015. These students will be assessed on Language Conventions, Writing, Reading and Numeracy over three days.

Whilst Naplan reports provide valuable information for parents on student progress, they will assist our school in tracking student progress and identifying common trends in assessment across our school. They should be interpreted alongside other forms of assessment including teacher internal assessments, work samples and teacher anecdotal notes. These are communicated to parents using our mid year reports and parent teacher interviews.

Naplan results are issued to parents via the school in the latter part of term 3.

ST JOHN THE APOSTLE “PRAY GROUP”

A number of preschool children and their parents meet each Tuesday morning in the Community Portables at the rear of the school.

On these days the pre-schoolers and parents get to know each other and gather for informal prayer times as well as play activities.

If you have a pre-schooler and would like to join be group, please let the school office know and meet the group at the front office at 9am each Tuesday.

PARISH PENTECOST MASS—AN INVITATION TO JOIN THE FAITH COMMUNITY!

On the Feast of the Pentecost, the parish has for a number of years now combined all the parish weekend masses into one large celebration.

For this reason our next community mass will be replaced with this symbolic celebration of the Holy Spirit empowering our community.

The Pentecost Mass is scheduled for Sunday, 24th May at 11am. It will be held the Sport Centre at St Andrew’s school.

We encourage the St John’s Community to be well represented at this celebration. Please indicate your ability to attend on the return slip attached to the newsletter.

SCHOOL WINTER UNIFORM NOW COMPULSORY

With the arrival of some cooler weather this term it was pleasing to see students arriving in their full winter uniform. Please be aware that the transition time for uniforms has now ended.

All students are expected in arrive at school in their full winter uniform.

Our school does not apologise for the high expectations it places on the wearing of our school uniform. St John the Apostle has already established a very highly regarded image amongst the community. The presentation of our students is one factor which has enabled this.

Families unable to meet these expectation will be issued with a Uniform Notification Slip. This form must be completed and return to the school, communicating when the uniform breach will be remedied. The school will stamp and copy this form and return it to the child who should keep it with them so that they are treated fairly by staff over the temporary exemption period.

HANDY MEN & WOMEN REQUIRED!

Our school has a number of small jobs which require suitable volunteers from within the community to assist us. The jobs are listed below:

1. Paint our School Time Capsule ready for mounting on a wooden stand.
2. Design and construct a wooden stand which holds our school time capsule
3. Construct a large wooden cross with portable stand for display in our community space and use in our school liturgies.
4. Assemble our prefabricated Chicken Coop in preparation for the transferring of our school chickens.

For further details on these projects, please contact Simon. Estimated costs of materials should communicated with the school which will then be reimbursed providing a sales docket which includes an ABN is handed to the school office.

SCHOOL SPORTS VICTORIA— CROSS COUNTRY EVENT

Twenty three students from Years 4—6 represented our school at the SSV Cross Country Event at Presidents Park last Thursday.

Whilst our student did not finish as finalists, we can learn much from their willingness to get involved in a positive way, set an individual goal and do their best.

As our school grows, we look forward to many competitive sports opportunities for our stu-
dents. Judging from the attitude and spirit demonstrated so far, our school will not only gain attention from its sporting achievements it will also be recognised by the manner in which our students participate.

Congratulations to Jonas Carrington-Smith who was presented this fortnight's principal's award for the way he participated in the cross country!

PARENT / TEACHER INTERVIEWS

Our second opportunity to formally meet with parents to discuss student progress in scheduled for the last week of term.

Parents, as with the first term interviews, will be issued a user log on to the School’s Parent Teachers Online Portal in the coming weeks.

The dates and times of the interviews are:

Tuesday 23rd & Thursday 25th June

Time: 4pm—7:30pm

CALL FOR CULTURAL PERFORMANCE ACTS!

The multicultural nature of our school is one of its greatest assets. It is a characteristic which we should celebrate and make public whenever and opportunity arises.

We are calling on representatives of our many different cultures to communicate their willingness to perform cultural acts at some of our upcoming events.

Some events approaching include:

1. Visit from St Mary’ School, Lancefield. (This school community played host to us on our whole school excursion. Their parent community provided the farm animals as an experience for our students during their visit.)

2. School Opening & Blessing: We would love to have a cultural performance at this event, which will be remembered as an instrumental day in the history of our school.

If you would like to lead your community in performing at one of these events, please let us know using the return slips attached.

www.stjatarneit.catholic.edu.au
Cultural Performance Coordinator
Name: _____________________  Child’s Name: _____________________
I am willing to coordinate a cultural performance to be presented to the school community.
Performance Description:

Handyman & Women’s Tasks
Name: _____________________  Child’s Name: _____________________
I am able to assist in the completion of the following tasks:
- Paint School Time Capsule
- Design and construct Time Capsule Stand
- Construct a school wooden cross & stand.
- Assemble School Chicken Coop.

Curriculum Support Group
Name: _____________________  Child’s Name: _____________________
I am willing to join the curriculum support volunteer’s group to hear student reading between 9 –10 am.
I am available on these days free of toddlers.
- Mon
- Tues
- Wed
- Thurs

Pentecost Mass Attendance
Name: _____________________  Child’s Name: _____________________
Our family will attend the parish Pentecost Mass at St Andrew’s Sport Centre on Sunday, 24th May at 11am.
Signed: ___________________