ST JOHN THE APOSTLE ATHLETICS CARNIVAL—
A GREAT COMMUNITY CELEBRATION!

The first St John the Apostle Athletics Carnival was run last Friday at the Victoria University track. The day proved to be a huge success!

We would like to extend our thanks to the many people who assisted with the running of the events.

Simon Werner
Jarnelle Tapsell
Robyn Ellis
Craig Ellis
Rob Teretzanis
Pat Tardio
Rebecca Osborne

The MacKillop College SEDA students also were made available by our parish secondary college. These students not only conducted the activities but acted as fantastic role models for our younger students.

We would also like to extend our appreciation to all families who support the day by coming along and joining us for morning tea and lunch. This brought a community feel to our sports which would be the envy of many much larger schools. It was also great to see families encouraging their children to do their best on the day supporting our school message to “Make it Fast, but keep it Fun!”

Congratulations to Mrs White for overseeing the organisation of the day, which was well supported by our fulltime and part-time staff.

END OF YEAR DATES

The end of year dates have been finalised on our school calendar. Please consult the guide below and make any arrangements regarding the care of your children over these days.

**Wednesday, 16th December:**
Last day of school for students Year Prep—6 (3:15 Dismissal)

**Thursday & Friday, 17th & 18th December:** Staff Professional Development Days

Care is available through Quantin Binnah community centre on these days. Please call to book your place if required.
SCHOOL FEES—DIRECT DEBIT

Direct debit setup for the 2016 school fees can now commence. This will enable families to take advantage of regular deductions towards their school fees over the year.

The form required to register for this service can be collected from the office or simply contact the office and we will arrange the forms to be sent home via your child.

Direct debit arrangements must be finalised prior to December.

BIRTHDAY CAKES & ANAPHYLAXIS

Recently we have had some parents who have supplied their children with birthday cakes and other food to celebrate birthdays within the class. Whilst our school loves to acknowledge these important days of celebration, we are compelled to follow the guidelines of our school anaphylaxis policy to ensure the safety of students at risk of severe allergic reactions.

This policy is downloadable from the school website and is currently under review as we now have anaphylactic students enrolled in the school for 2016.

We ask that parents understand the importance of this policy and are not upset on occasions where children are unable to share foods such as birthday cakes.

SCHOOL FEE STATEMENTS

Families with outstanding school fees will be issued with a statement outlining the balance of their fee account this week.

Please finalise these payments as soon as possible and communicate with the school if this is causing a problem. In these situations payment plans can be arranged with the school.

YEAR 1—6 (2016) TRANSITION DAY

Students from year 1—6 will be involved in a transition day on Tuesday, 1st December.

On this day they will meet their new teacher (if available) and find out their class groupings for 2016.

Newly enrolled students from Year 1 to 6 will also join us on this day between 9:30am—12:30pm.

We look forward to seeing the students grouped as they will be next year!

PREP 2016 ORIENTATION

Our transition program for prep students in 2016 has proven extremely successful. These students have now visited the school twice and have one last visit where they will form their proposed class grouping for 2016. The details of this final day are below:

Date: Wednesday, 18th November
Time: 10am—11am or 12—1pm
Venue: Onsite

This structure maintains our class sizes at a low level in all levels across the school, providing students the assistance that need and a culture which allows them to build positive relationships with their teachers.

MACKILLOP COLLEGE ENROLMENTS 2017

Families with students currently in Year 5 wishing to access a Catholic secondary education at our parish college should take note that enrolments open on 25th August and close on 26th February, 2016.

Mackillop College is our parish secondary college and has a fine name throughout the community.

Please contact the college registrar on 8734 5216 to arrange an application form.

STAFFING & SCHOOL STRUCTURE 2016

Over the school holidays and during the first week of term 4, St John the Apostle commenced interviewing for staff to join our teaching team for the 2016 school year.

We are very pleased that all out current staff have informed us that that wish to continue and continue to volunteer their commitment to attend the fair at 4pm during October and November.

The school is very pleased to announce that joining the teaching team next year are Mrs Nicole Tottle, Mrs Cinzia De Luca and Miss Ann Raj.

The proposed school structure is as follows, however this is open to change if enrolments between now and January grow beyond expectations.

Year Prep - Miss Alisha Keogh
Year Prep - Mrs Jenny Fenech
Year 1 - Miss Kathleen Warr
Year 1 - Mrs Nicole Tottle
Year 2/3 - Mrs Leah Jozeljic
Year 2/3 - Mrs Cinzia De Luca
Year 4/5/6— Mrs Angela Anderson
Year 4/5/6—Mrs Ann Raj

The end of term 4 clean up is scheduled for the last day of school, Wednesday, 16th December at 3—5pm.

The support that families have given this initiative each term has been greatly appreciated by the staff.

It prepares our building for learning day one of the following term, saves the school spending money on contract cleaners, and sends a
valuable message to our students about having pride in our learning spaces.

If you are able to volunteer your time to the clean up please complete the return slip on the newsletters.

YEAR 6 THOMAS CARR INDUCTION SCHEDULE

Year 6’s who have enrolled at Thomas Carr College for 2016 should be aware of the following important dates:

**Orientation Day:** Tuesday, 1st December at 9am

**First Day of Year 7:** Friday, 29th January at 8:40am

YEAR 4/5/6 SLEEPOVER

To celebrate and acknowledge the fantastic contributions of our inaugural school leaders the school has planned a school sleepover for these students on Friday, 27th November.

The aim of the sleepover is to provide students with a bonding experience which also gives insights into their local area. During the day the students will hike up to the summit of the You Yangs National Park, they will also tour Werribee South and Wyndham Harbour.

Further details regarding this will be given to parents of our Year 4/5/6 students in the coming weeks.

VOLUNTEER’S EVENING

The school would like to take the opportunity to formally thank all parents who have assisted with any tasks over the 2015 school year.

This evening will be for parents only and is scheduled for Tuesday, 8th December at 7pm.

Any parents who have volunteered to help over the year in any of the following tasks are encouraged to attend:

- End of Term Clean Ups
- Book Covering
- Parent Reading Program
- School Religious Displays
- Chicken Coop Construction
- Working Bee Attendance
- Mother’s & Father’s Day Stall
- Ipad & Computer Set Up
- Hoop Time Supervision
- Teacher Resource Construction
- School Sports Assistance
- School Opening Catering

At this event we would also like to formally thank the parents of our departing families from Prep to Year 6. These families will receive a formal invitation in the coming weeks.

SCHOOL SECURITY - A COMMUNITY APPROACH

We have recently experienced an increase in school security concerns. Fortunately, till now we have been untouched by vandalism and theft. Our school video surveillance system, and contracted security patrols have been instrumental in keeping our school ground secure.

Whilst we welcome local residence using our facilities such as basketball rings and synthetic soccer pitch, we expect that they respect these as school property by keeping them in good condition and free from litter, etc.

School security must be owned by the entire school community and we ask that if families observe vandals or suspicious behaviours on the school premises they report this to the local police station at Tarneit.

We would also like to extend our gratitude to local residents on Kingbird Ave and Cottesloe Blvd who have reported recent security issues to the school and local police. This is truly a community which strives to work together to enable the building of relationships between the school and local residents.

ADVENT PRAYER RITUALS

As the church season of Advent approaches, our students will celebrate this season of preparation for Christmas through regular prayer times.

The prayer times will involve the progressive lighting of the four candles on our school advent wreath. These rituals will take place daily from Friday, 27th November at 9am.

Parents, Preschoolers and toddlers are invited to join us in the community space for these rituals.

LONG SLEEVE SPORTS TOP FINALISED

From the commencement of school next year, a long sleeved version of the sports T-Shirt will be available from Rushford’s Schoolwear.

Some parents have advised us of a need for a long sleeved option for protection from the sun during summer and the cold during winter.

Now that this is available, no children should be wearing long sleeved undergarments under the short sleeved shirts.

End of Term Clean Up

Name: _____________________
Child’s Name: _____________________
I am willing to assist with end of term clean up on Wednesday, 16th December
Signed: _____________________

Cultural Performances

Name: _____________________
Child’s Name: _____________________
I am willing to lead our community in preparing a cultural performance for the St Andrew’s Fair.
Signed: _____________________

End of Term Clean Up

Cultural Performances

www.stjatarneit.catholic.edu.au