Dear Parents and Friends,

On Thursday this week, it was the Feast of St Patrick. Patrick was born in England and was kidnapped by Irish pirates at the age of sixteen. He was brought to Ireland where he was held captive for six years. In his Confession, Patrick writes that the time he spent in captivity was critical to his spiritual development. During this period, Patrick worked as a shepherd and strengthened his relationship with God through prayer eventually leading him to convert to Christianity. St Patrick is credited with teaching about the Trinity using a clover leaf, a shamrock, to illustrate three persons in one God. St Patrick’s Breastplate is known throughout the Christian world:

Christ be with me, Christ within me
Christ behind me, Christ before me
Christ beside me, Christ to win me
Christ to comfort me and restore me.
Christ beneath me, Christ above me
Christ in quiet, Christ in danger
Christ in hearts of all that love me
Christ in mouth of friend or stranger.

On Saturday, it will be the Feast of St Joseph. The Order of the Sisters of St Joseph is celebrating their 150th Anniversary with a special Sesquicentenary Mass to be held at St Joseph’s Church in O’Connor at 11.30am. We wish all the Sisters a very happy day!

School Awards

The result of the recent survey with regard to changing some school awards was overwhelmingly in favour of making the changes, noting that some very good reasons for maintaining the status quo were also put forward. Taking into consideration the staff evaluation as well, the following changes will now take place:

- The End of Term Awards Assembly will be replaced by an End of Semester Awards Assembly
- The Peacemaker Award will be merged into the Christian Leadership Award and a St John Vianney Award will be added for students who continually strive to do their best
- A Vision Award will be added to the Year 6 Graduation Awards for an ‘all rounder’ and the Claire Bentley Shield will be retained for academic excellence and citizenship.

Thank you to the many parents who responded to the survey. Your input has been greatly appreciated.

Catholic Schools 2016 Enrolment Period For All Catholic Schools

The 2016 Catholic Schools Enrolment Period is from Monday 2 May – Friday 20 May 2015 (Weeks 2 – 4 inclusive, Term 2). If you know of anyone outside of our school community who has a child at a Pre-school or Early Learning Centre, please notify them of the opportunity to enrol at St John Vianney’s during the above period.

SJV Care Group

For those of you who may not be aware, the SJV Care Group responds to those in our community who are in need by providing meals or baked goods, transportation or some other form of support as required. The situation of the family or the individual is completely confidential. To let the Care Group know of a need, contact should to be made with me or with Elena Morrissey or Justine Angus, who are the Coordinators of the Pastoral Care Focus Group of the Community Council/Parish, so that the appropriate services can be actioned. Providers are not informed of a person’s or family’s situation and do not know for whom they are providing – except in the case of transport needs. If you, or someone you know, could use some support, please make contact with me or Elena or Justine. Please be aware that the individual or family is always contacted to ensure that the support is actually wanted should the notice have come from elsewhere. A message can always be left at the front office for one of us to get in touch with you if you are unable to make direct contact. This is a great work of our community and I thank everyone involved. Your services may be required regularly or seldom… and the latter would actually be a good thing!
The Cross Country Carnival will be held on Wednesday 30th March. This year, we are holding the Carnival on our own. St Jude’s has withdrawn from sharing the event with us this year due to the difficulties of involving the little ones from the ELC. Our Carnival will be held at Stromlo Forest Park and the children will enjoy lunch at school upon their return from the event.

I look forward to seeing the children at the Sparkly and Spikey Disco tonight! I’m sure they will have a fabulous, fun-filled time.

Thank you to the parent volunteers for making this special event possible.

St Patrick’s Day Blessing:

*May the Lord bless you and keep you.*

*May his face shine on you and be gracious to you.*

*May he look upon you with kindness and give you his peace.*

Vicky van der Sanden
Principal
Community Council

OPEN COMMUNITY COUNCIL MEETING:
At the meeting, along with the regular reports of finance, parish and school, the following agenda items were discussed:

- The Events and Fundraising Focus Group Report
- The panel visit for Registration and the invitation to the community to attend afternoon tea
- The progress of the Facebook Trial
- The results of the survey with regard to Awards
- The need to begin preparations for the fete and advertise for a Fete Committee
- The Cross Country Carnival – St Jude’s having withdrawn and SJV conducting the day on our own
- Ways to canvass the ideas of parents with regard to spending the Netball Carnival proceeds

Full minutes of the meeting will soon be available on the website.

The next Open Meeting of the Community Council will be held at 7.00pm on 7th June.

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2016 SJV Easter Raffle!

Check out the prizes in the Front Office area.

There are over 18 prize baskets to be won!!

The SRC will be selling raffle tickets at recess each day until Thursday 24th March.

Tickets are: 50c each or 3 for $1.00

The raffle will be drawn at morning assembly on Thursday 24th March

Good luck
Sight Words

*Sight words* are written words that children know just by seeing them. Children do not have to spend time or energy decoding (sounding out) a sight word. Sight words tend to be common words that a child sees over and over. Sight words are also referred to as high frequency words.

Sight words are crucial in helping a child develop beginning reading skills. Not only do sight words help build a vocabulary base, but they help build reading fluency skills. Reading fluency is the child’s ability to read text quickly and accurately. Fluency skills help improve comprehension because the child is not spending time trying to figure out many words. Instead he/she is reading for content.

How can I help a child learn Sight Words?

- Label common objects around the home with sticky notes
- Write sight words on a chalkboard or on the driveway or sidewalk outside
- Put magnets with sight words on the refrigerator
- Read storybooks with words that repeat
- Make grocery lists with common items and read these with your child.
- Have children look at newspapers/magazines etc and use a highlighter to highlight as many sight words they can find
- Have children write sight words in a journal/log and review them on a regular basis


There are many apps and websites available. This is just one that I have found useful in an educational setting.

Harmony Day

Harmony Day is held every year on 21 March to coincide with the United Nations International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination. The message of Harmony Day is everyone belongs. It’s a day to celebrate Australia’s diversity – a day of cultural respect for everyone who calls Australia home.

**Mrs D’s “Thought of the Week”**

“Happiness is when what you *Think*, what you *say*, and what you *do* are in harmony.”

*Gandhi*

Nina De Rosa
Assistant Principal
This Sunday we celebrate Palm Sunday which is the beginning of Holy Week. Holy means “set apart.” Christians set apart an entire week—Holy Week—to recall the events surrounding the Passion, Death, and Resurrection of Jesus. Holy Week commemorates Jesus’ triumphant entry into Jerusalem; his gift of the Eucharist; and his suffering, death, and Resurrection. It is a time of final preparations and great anticipation. Our long-term preparations of prayers, fasting, and almsgiving during Lent will continue but with greater intensity.

Palm Sunday is our doorway into the holiest week of the Church year. There are two Gospels proclaimed in this weekends Masses. The first Gospel, proclaimed before the procession with palms, tells of Jesus’ triumphant entrance into Jerusalem. Riding on a borrowed colt, Jesus was hailed by the crowds as they shouted blessings and praise to God. This event is reported in each of the four Gospels.

In the second Gospel reading for this Sunday, which is also called Passion Sunday, we hear the details about Jesus’ passion and death on the cross. This year, we read the passion from Luke’s Gospel. Unique to Luke’s Gospel is the detail about the words spoken by Jesus and the two criminals who were crucified with him.

Throughout Holy Week, we will continue to reflect on the events of Jesus’ passion and death. As we meditate on the cross, we ask again what it means to make the statement of faith that Jesus, in his obedient suffering and dying, revealed himself to us as God’s Son and brought to fulfillment the Kingdom of God.

**UPCOMING PRAYER CELEBRATIONS**

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**SACRAMENTS**

Please remember that parents who wish for their child to receive a Sacrament this year need to fill in the nomination form found in the Parish Bulletin on random Sundays over the next six weeks, starting this week.

Have a great week!
Sharee Thomas
REC

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**CO-ORDINATOR NEWS by Mark Konik**

**Swimming Carnival Results**

On Monday the swimming carnival ribbons were handed out at assembly and the winning house was announced. It was a very close competition this year with the final standings being –

- 4th – Kubbadang
- 3rd – Winyu
- 2nd – Kanbi
- 1st – Garritt

Congratulations to students in Garritt the winning house of the SJV Swimming carnival this year.

**PSSA SWIMMING**

The South Weston PSSA Swimming Carnival will be held at the AIS on Tuesday 29th March. The following students qualified to participate at the carnival - Phoebe Cooper, Maggie Dickens, Georgia Jeffery, Sarah Temple, Sophia Harriott, Annika Plenty, Lara Myers, Katie Goodwin, Emma Stackpoole, Georgie Spurrett, Annabelle Wheadon, Mia Dutkiewicz, Sophie Vincent-Wildman, Joshua Urbaniak, Jack Mules, Lachlan Harrington, Fletcher Burrows and Nicholas Bufalo. We wish these students the best of luck at the carnival.

**PSSA SOFTBALL**

Congratulations to Tamara Brammall for being selected in the South Weston Girls Softball side. She will play at the ACT carnival in early April. Well done Tamara and good luck at the carnival.
Kinder St Anthony  
Elaine Ohlmus

Year 1/2 St Brigid  
Bronwyn Anderson

Year 1/2 St John the Baptist  
Jack Keily

Year 1/2 St Nicholas  
Estelle Walsh

Year 3/4 St Patrick  
Oliver Hetherington

Year 3/4 St Catherine  
Luke Egan

Year 3/4 St Clare of Assisi  
Will McDonald

Year 5/6 St Joseph  
Patrick Thygesen

Year 5/6 St Paul  
Hayley Parker

The Arts  
Jacob Hardy

Library  
Phoebe Cooper

Italian  
Amelia Nolan

Assistant Principal  
Arrami Pearson &  
Jack Stockbridge

Principal  
Isabelle Gavran &  
Isabella Spurrett

Certificates will be awarded at  
next Thursday’s Assembly.

**MERIT AWARDS**

**WARAMUNCHIES**

Our school canteen is open Wednesday & Friday.

**Wednesday 23 March**
Emma McDonald
Susannah Luck

**Friday**
GOOD FRIDAY

Please make sure you have your WWVP card with you.

**ELC NEWS**

**Happy Birthday Riley W and Addison R**

The ELC children all enjoyed the Bus Wash excursion this week. The Joeys have also been exploring colours with lots of fun activities including making colour shakers and fairy bread. The Wombats have participated in an Easter colouring competition and went for a big walk to Cooleman Court to deliver their entries. The Wombats and the Echidnas joined with the primary school today for the Palm Sunday liturgy presented by the kindergarten children.

**St Jude’s Fete - Saturday 19 March.** It is always a wonderful, social day. Come along!

**Holiday Care** – The ELC will be providing a Holiday Care Program for ELC children. More information and booking sheets are available at the sign-in desk.
SJV Celebrates
Carnivale
and all things Italian
Wednesday 6th April from 1pm
Italian Lunch - Parade of Masks
- Buddy Activity

SJV Fortnightly Calendar

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SJV Celebrates Carnivale and all things Italian Wednesday 6th April from 1pm Italian Lunch - Parade of Masks - Buddy Activity

89 Namatjira Drive, Waramanga 2611
Email: office.sjv@cg.catholic.edu.au  Phone: 6288 2383  Fax: 6288 8578  Community Council: sjvcommunitycouncil@gmail.com
SJV LUNCHBOX INSPIRATION

No bake - Date & Coconut Balls Recipe

Ingredients:

- 1 cup pitted dates, roughly chopped (substitute a few dates for prunes for a little extra sweetness)
- 1/2 cup coconut
- 1/4 cup pumpkin seeds
- 2 teaspoons cacao or cocoa powder
- 2 teaspoons coconut oil

To make:

1. Place all of the ingredients into your food processor.
2. Blend until all ingredients are well chopped and combined.
3. Form into small balls and refrigerate.

ENJOY!!