Dear Parents and Friends,

In the lead up to Easter, we have participated in Prayer Celebrations commemorating the events of Holy Week. I thank all the teachers involved in the preparations for their efforts in making these meaningful for the children. I hope that you will take the opportunity to attend the coming Easter Ceremonies with your children so that they can make the connection between what they have participated in at school and the events of Holy Week as they are commemorated in the Church. Easter is the high point on the liturgical calendar in our Catholic Tradition.

Please remember the Easter Prayer Celebration at 9.30pm on Tuesday 29th April when school resumes following the Easter break. We would love to celebrate the Resurrection of Jesus with you.

“The resurrection was intended to be given to all the living, to be carried out in the world, to all the dark places where people need the reassuring presence of the risen Christ embodied in a caring, loving, compassionate person. Easter is a beautiful day to ground ourselves in the message and power of the resurrection and recommit ourselves to the endless task of renewing God’s creation and a broken, fragile humanity. The living one is not in our churches but in the hearts of all believers."

(From: *Mindful Meditations for Every Day of Lent and Easter* Savage and McSweeny.)

**Spikey and Sparkly Disco Thank You**

Thank you to Eleanor Corcoran, Karen Wilder and Nadia O’Halloran for the wonderful job they did in organising the disco for the children. Thanks also to the many parent helpers who came to assist in a variety of ways. The children were so well behaved and it was great to see them enjoying themselves; dancing and socialising with friends. The ‘spikey and sparkly’ outfits and hairdos they sported were creative and looked fabulous! DJ Cliff was, once again, amazing and he commented to me at the end of the evening on the excellent behaviour of the children and what a delight it is for him to come to our school. It’s always wonderful to hear such positive feedback with regard to the children’s conduct. Parents, you can be very proud.

**Open Days**

This year, we will host two Open Days. They will be held on Wednesday 4th and Thursday 5th May next term. Visitors will be welcome to come and have a look around the school at any time during these two days and the school will be open to greet people until 6pm each evening.

Enrolment Packs will be available from the beginning of Term Two. If you have a younger child who is commencing school in 2017, please collect an information pack from the Front Office. If you have friends whom you know are interested in enrolling at St John Vianney’s, please let them know about the enrolment period and Open Days and inform them that packs are available from the school. Your help in spreading the word is greatly appreciated.
Registration
Over the past two days, a panel of six made up of representatives from within our Catholic administration and teaching system as well as from the public system has been present in our school. The panel was tasked with evaluating the school’s educational practices in meeting the conditions of the Education Act for the purpose of re-registration for the next five years. Yesterday afternoon, staff received verbal feedback detailing the key commendations and recommendations. A formal report will be provided to the school in the near future and I will share key elements with you upon its receipt. However, for now, I am pleased to report that the list of commendations was very long and affirmed the school’s practices in a variety of areas. The panel was extremely impressed with our students; their articulate expression of pride in their school, their beautiful manners and friendly, welcoming attitude and the way in which they engaged so enthusiastically with their learning. Parents, you can be most proud of your children. As a staff, we certainly are!

I wish all our families an enjoyable, relaxing, safe, happy and holy Easter break. I also hope that the Easter Bunny will be good to you!

Vicky van der Sanden
Principal
Cross Country

The Cross Country Carnival will be held next Wednesday at Stromlo running track. You are reminded that you will need to drop your child at the running track by 9am, but no earlier than 8.30am. The students will return to school by bus. Please remember to send in the permission form to the class teacher. If you have indicated that you will be able to assist on the day, I will contact you this week.

Easter Raffle.

The SRC has been doing an excellent job setting up the Easter Raffle and selling tickets to the students. The raffle was drawn after lunch today. Thank you to all the parents who donated Easter items for the raffle. Congratulations to all who won a prize.

Bullies No Way!

The SRC representatives helped to lead the ‘Bullying, No Way’ activities last Friday. They helped set up the groups and explained to the students the type of posters they needed to design and make and helped judge the winners. The posters have been displayed around the school for the students to enjoy. All students participated and had a great afternoon working with their buddy classes.

Community Council

Position Vacant

POSITION VACANT - SECRETARY

A vacancy still exists on the Community Council Executive for a parent representative to fulfil the role of Secretary. If you are interested in assisting the school in this capacity, please contact the front office. There are two meetings held per term and the tenure is for a two year period, under normal circumstances. Please give this special consideration as an opportunity to serve your school community and have a direct impact on the decisions that are made.

Position Vacant

POSITION VACANT – FETE COMMITTEE

✓ Are you looking for an opportunity to get involved?
✓ Are you driven and organised!!?
✓ Are you looking for a fun, rewarding challenge?

We are looking for you!! 😊

The 2016 SJV Fete is looking for a team of volunteers to drive the organisation and logistics of the 2016 FETE. Scheduled for November 2016, SJV prides itself on hosting the ‘best day ever’ and our fete has an incredibly good reputation in the community and surrounds.

Previous fete coordinators have built a strong foundation for this event. There are extensive hand over notes (including budgets, timelines and contacts) to assist in the development of this fabulous event as well as a tonne of support from teachers and the parish.

This is a whole school initiative and everyone will be on board but we are looking for a committee of dedicated people to move forward and start the planning for this year.

If you are interested or would like to chat a bit more please contact the Front Office.
The Liturgical Season of Easter is the perfect time to ‘re-ignite’ our relationship with Jesus. We are reminded that we are called into a deep personal relationship with Jesus – it is not enough to know about the person of Jesus, his life and his message. We are asked to be his friend, talk to him and get to know him better. Only by ‘being in relationship’ with Jesus can we truly share his love with others.

This Holy Thursday let’s remind ourselves of our call to service by allowing Jesus to wash our feet and seeking to build one another up in humility and love. Allow ourselves to cry with Mary our Mother at the feet of Jesus dying on the Cross as we try to understand at what cost Christ has won our redemption. Let us embrace the love and sacrifice of His Love.

On Easter Sunday, let’s celebrate closely with family and friends the new covenant that God made with us through the shedding of his blood at Calvary.

I wish all families and friends a safe and peaceful Easter break and encourage families to just STOP and allow God’s Spirit to catch up with your human bodies and renew your relationship with Him. Happy Easter!

‘He knew the price of those sins was death. He knew the source of those sins was you and since he couldn’t bear the thought of eternity without you, he chose the nails.’

Max Lucado

Mrs D’s “Thought of the Week”......

The Disco planning committee would like to acknowledge the generous contribution of discounted high quality sausages provided for the Disco by Barry Hawke's Butchery.

Nina De Rosa
Assistant Principal
This weekend we begin the Easter Season, our 50-day meditation on the mystery of Christ’s Resurrection. Each of the four Gospels tells us that Jesus’ empty tomb was first discovered by women. This is notable because in first-century Jewish society women could not serve as legal witnesses. In the case of John’s Gospel, the only woman attending the tomb is Mary of Magdala.

The Easter Gospel tells us about how Mary and the disciples found the tomb empty three days after Jesus’ death. We are also told that they do not yet understand the Scriptures or that Jesus had been raised from the dead. That understanding gradually unfolded for the disciples as they began to experience the risen Lord. Similarly, our understanding of Jesus’ Resurrection unfolds for us throughout our lives. In the weeks ahead, we will hear how the first disciples moved from confusion, doubt, and scepticism to faith. Their experience can teach us how we too might receive this gift of faith from God.

Easter has been subjected to a great deal of commercialization. Yet behind the chicks and bunnies, jelly beans, chocolates, and decorated eggs lies the profound mystery that death has been conquered through the power of Jesus’ death and resurrection. Our great challenge as catechists is to instruct our children about the promise of Easter, the new and eternal life that only God can give to us. Over the Easter weekend, gather your family for prayer and ask them to share what they know about the events that happened in the days after Jesus’ crucifixion. Invite your family to imagine that they are among Jesus’ first disciples who heard that the stone had been removed from Jesus’ tomb and that Jesus’ body was no longer there. What would you think? What did Mary of Magdala, Simon Peter, and the disciple whom Jesus loved think had happened?

Throughout the Easter season, we will learn more about how the disciples came to believe that Jesus had been raised from the dead.

“I asked Jesus how much He loved me………

So he stretched out His arms and died for me”

PROJECT COMPASSION

CONGRATULATIONS!!!! We added $161.55 this week which means that as a school this Lent we have raised a fantastic total of $780.90!

This wonderful effort from SJV has helped provide a young person with training on how to lead a Community Conversation to discuss issues they face in Papua New Guinea AND has provided two days of training for health centre staff so they can share new knowledge about childhood nutrition with local communities in Cambodia.

Thank you so much everyone for donating over the past 6 weeks. If you still have a Project Compassion Box at home, please return it on Tuesday so we can finalise our donation and send the much needed money into Caritas.

Have a great week!
Sharee Thomas
REC
**MERIT AWARDS**

- **Kinder St Anthony**
  - Gabby Walker

- **Year 1/2 St Brigid**
  - Rafael Rodrigues

- **Year 1/2 St John the Baptist**
  - Carys Luck

- **Year 1/2 St Nicholas**
  - William Burgemeister

- **Year 3/4 St Patrick**
  - Joshua Brehaut

- **Year 3/4 St Catherine**
  - Tegan Stackpoole

- **Year 3/4 St Clare of Assisi**
  - Georgia Hill

- **Year 5/6 St Joseph**
  - Livia Mastrocinque

- **Library**
  - William Lloyd

- **Italian**
  - Samuel Corcoran

- **Assistant Principal**
  - Sarah Adam
  - Bethany Kelly

- **Principal**
  - Harriet Palmer
  - Whitney Gill

Certificates will be awarded at next Friday's Assembly.

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**WARAMUNCHIES**

Our school canteen is open Wednesday & Friday.

**Wednesday 30 March**

**CROSS COUNTRY**

- **Friday 1 April**
  - Mary Longford
  - Pip Harrington
  - Melissa Eagles
  - Dianne Wallace
  - Lucy Webb 9-10am

Please make sure you have your WWVP card with you.

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**ELC NEWS**

**Happy Birthday Milla L**

Our ELC children have all been preparing for Easter with liturgies, activities, craft and baking. We also had a big week of reptiles. The Wombats and Joeys had an exciting experience when Peter from Reptiles Inc. bought in a variety of native animals including turtles, lizards and our favourite, ‘Fluffy’ the python. Thanks to Mrs Rice and Hugh for bringing their Bearded Dragon in for the Echidnas to learn about.

Thanks to Lara’s dad Gareth and Sean, Nick and Peter from Kambah Fire Station for bringing the Firetruck and talking to us about safety. The Wombats visited Mirinjani to take part in their Intergenerational Playgroup. Thanks to Thomas D for providing Easter Eggs for us to take to our new friends.

**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 Fortnightly Calendar

### Term 1
**Wk 9**
- **28 Mar**: Easter Monday Holiday
- **29 Mar**: Easter Sunday Prayer Celebration 9.30am (Kinder)
- **30 Mar**: Cross Country Carnival @ Stromlo Running Park from 8.30am
- **31 Mar**: 1 Apr
- **1 Apr**: Tennis Clinic
- **2 Apr**: Catholic Schools Soccer Carnival

**Wk 10**
- **4 Apr**: COSA
- **5 Apr**: COSA Tennis Clinic
- **6 Apr**: Italian Carnivale Afternoon 1-3pm
- **7 Apr**: 8 Apr
- **9 Apr**: 10 Apr
- **9 Apr**: School Holidays
- **Last day of term 1**: Enrichment Week

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**SJV Celebrates Carnivale and all things Italian**

**Wednesday 6th April from 1pm**

**Italian Lunch - Parade of Masks - Buddy Activity**
EASTER NEST CUPCAKES from www.kidspot.com.au

**Ingredients**
- 1/2 cup caster sugar
- 125 g butter
- 1 tsp vanilla extract
- 2 eggs
- 1/2 cup self-raising flour

**Icing**
- 85 g Flora spread
- 1 cup icing sugar
- 40 g white chocolate
- 1 tbs lemon juice
- 36 chocolate Easter eggs

**Method**
1. Preheat oven to 180°C (160°C fan-forced) and line a 12-hole muffin tray with paper cases. Beat sugar, butter and vanilla together using electric beaters until pale and creamy.
2. Add eggs one by one beating well after each addition. Add flour and mix until combined.
3. Spoon into prepared cases and bake for 12-15 minutes or until cakes are springy when lightly touched. Cool completely before decorating.

To make icing, combine ingredients and beat until smooth. Icing may need to be refrigerated if a little soft. Ice cakes and decorate with chocolate eggs.