Dear Parents & Carers

The highlight of this week, if not the year, has to be the concert! What a wonderful show we all enjoyed. The two performances were thoroughly enjoyed by those in the audience and I thank the many people who have expressed their appreciation to the staff for their fine efforts in producing this event. I particularly thank Mrs Mullamphy for teaching every class their dance act and for directing the Yr 5/6 students who took the lead roles. I especially thank Mrs De Rosa who produced the show and who thought of every detail including backdrops, seating, ticket sales, lighting, sound equipment, costumes, make up – you name it, Mrs De Rosa had it covered! In addition, Mrs De Rosa worked the spotlight the whole time for the rehearsals and the performances. I believe she still can’t feel her arms! Special thanks must also go to Mrs Thomas for the best backstage direction I’ve ever witnessed (It’s the first time I’ve ever seen one person be in two places at the same time!); to Mr Konik and Mr Kucher for the most amazing sound and lighting effects; to Mrs Urbaniak for the ticket bookings; Mrs McCormack for the program and Ms Heath for the photography. These staff members gave up many hours of their own time to ensure the success of the concert and to make sure the students were prepared to perform at their very best. We had some very generous parents and friends of the school helping us out too. Thank you to Dee Hogan, Rosemary Horton, Suzanne Kelly, Maddy Nolan and Bridgette and Emily Mullamphy for sewing costumes and to Hastings Troy for the additional special effects lighting. We also very much appreciated the generosity of our neighbouring systemic schools - St Jude’s for lending us the chairs and St Mary MacKillop College for lending us the spotlight.

I wholeheartedly thank the children for their enthusiasm, cooperation and joyful participation. They were a delight! I especially thank our Year 5/6 students for sharing the lead roles and carrying them out with such flair. Congratulations to all those involved in presenting this wonderful production.

Readers/Library Books

Teachers are now collecting all home readers and library books. We would appreciate families taking a close look at home to find any outstanding school readers or library books and returning them as soon as possible.

Parent / Teacher Interviews

All reports will be sent home to parents on Tuesday 6th December. Following receipt of the report, parents have the opportunity to meet with teachers. These interviews are not compulsory but provide an opportunity for discussion should there be a need regarding any aspects of the report or the child’s development. Should you wish to make an appointment with your child’s teacher, please phone the front office.

Farewell to Students Leaving the School

Graduation events provide opportunities to say ‘farewell’ to our Year Six students and to celebrate their contributions to our school over the time of their association with us. Everyone is most welcome to come along to the Mass on Monday afternoon, 5th December at 5.30pm. At this Mass, the Graduation Certificates and special awards are presented. We will farewell all the children from other grades who will be leaving St John Vianney’s at the end of this year, at the morning assembly on Monday 12th December and wish them well for their future learning.

I look forward to seeing many of our families at the Parish BBQ tonight on the grounds of St Jude’s school. Everyone is most welcome at this event which is a Christmas present to the community from Father Brannelly. I take this opportunity, on behalf of our school community, to thank Father for his generosity, his prayers for us and his blessings upon us.

End of Semester Reports

As per our Semester One process, (due to the high cost of postage and the difficulties we have encountered with Australia Post and the timing of deliveries), we will not be posting reports home. Instead, reports will be sent home with the eldest child in the family in the afternoon on Tuesday 6th December, unless already collected by the parent. Parents are welcome to collect the reports in person. They will be available at the front office from 9.00am until 2.30pm (after this time they will be placed in the class bag system for the students to take home).

Thought for the Week:

“Great dancers are not great because of their technique. They are great because of their passion.”

Martha Graham

Vicky van der Sanden
Principal
REPEAT NOTICES:

Students Leaving St John Vianney’s at the end of the year
Please ensure that you have informed me, in writing, if your child will not be returning to St John Vianney’s in 2017. It is imperative, for planning purposes, that I have accurate information with regard to enrolment numbers. I also need to know the destination school as part of system accountability requirements. Thank you to those who have already provided this information.

Awards Assembly
The end of semester Awards Assembly will be held on Friday 9th December at 2.00pm in the hall. Everyone is most welcome to attend. Parents will soon receive notification from the classroom teachers if their child has been nominated for an Award.

Candle Ceremony
On Monday 12th December, the Candle Ceremony will take place at 9.30am in the hall. At this ceremony, the Year 6 students hand over responsibility for student leadership to the current Year 5 students. The Year 5 students also hand over responsibility for the leadership of Heart Space to the current Year 4 students. Everyone is cordially invited to attend.

Giving Mass and Thank You Morning Tea
The Giving Mass, for the whole school, will be celebrated at 9.30am on Wednesday 14th December in the church. This is an opportunity for the school to give thanks for the year that has passed and to give to others through the presentation of donations of goods to the St Vincent de Paul Christmas Appeal. Following the Mass, a ‘Thank you’ morning tea will be held at the school, in the staffroom, for all who have assisted the school in any way during the course of the year – everyone is most welcome and we would love to see you there. To allow staff members to attend the morning tea, the timetable for the day will be as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Activity</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9.30am</td>
<td>Giving Mass in the church</td>
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<tr>
<td>10.30am</td>
<td>Thank you morning tea at school. At this time, the children will enjoy a recess break.</td>
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<tr>
<td>11.00am</td>
<td>Classes resume</td>
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<tr>
<td>12.30pm</td>
<td>Lunch break (canteen lunch orders will be served at this break)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Students will resume classes at 1.10pm and will have another short break mid afternoon</td>
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Christmas T Shirt Day
Christmas T Shirt Day has become a bit of a ‘tradition’ at St John Vianney’s. On Friday 9th December (also the Awards Assembly day), everyone can come to school dressed up in a decorated Christmas T Shirt. This day is a designated fundraiser for our sponsored school, Charcha Academy in Kenya, as we are a Global School Partner. Any size donation will be appreciated on the day for the Charcha Academy. Please be as generous as you are able in support of our partner school as we are hoping to fund a staircase so the students can reach the top floor of their newly constructed classroom building! Please see the Global School Partners attachment for more detailed information. The attachment also details developments specific to the Charcha Academy which have been made possible due to the generous sponsorship of our school community. Thank you for making a difference to the lives of the children and their families at our partner school and for making the world a better place.

Community Council Notice – Positions Vacant
The Community Council Executive is seeking new Parent Representatives as some members are coming to the end of their two-year term. Roles are decided internally once all members are in office. The Council urges parents to seriously consider being part of the Executive. Nominations, of self or of others, can be lodged via the Community Council email account: sjv.communitycouncil@gmail.com Should the Council be overwhelmed with nominations, a formal election of candidates will need to be held.

The Council would also like to invite members of the parent body to consider taking up roles as assistants to the Focus Groups in the following areas:
- Environment
- Communication
- Pastoral Care
- Events and Fundraising and;
- a sub-group that deals with Sponsorship.

The people who are leading these areas are doing an amazing job but would appreciate any support that you can offer. Please notify the Council via the above email if you can help.
Rebel Sport

SJV is part of a Rebel Sport program that gives a percentage of each purchase (made by a SJV community member) to our school as store credit to be used at Rebel Stores. If you’re buying any sporting equipment from Rebel Sport in the lead up to Christmas, or over the holidays, make sure you let them know you are from SJV and they will add some money to our account. The money we had in our account this year was used to buy Netballs, which were used at the Catholic Schools Netball Carnival.

2017 SANITARIUM WEET-BIX KIDS TRYATHLON CANBERRA

Registrations are now Open for the 2017 Weet-Bix Tryathlon. It will be held on Sunday 12th February at the Australian Institute of Sport. It’s a great event for students to be part of and if enough SJV students enter, our school can win some great prizes. There are currently some early bird sign up and registration discounts being offered. Please go to https://tryathlon.com.au/ for more information.
R.E. NEWS by Sharee Thomas

On Tuesday we celebrated the 30th Anniversary of Saint John Paul II’s visit to Australia and in particular, his visit to the Aboriginal people of Alice Springs. The visit and subsequent ground-breaking address acknowledged the richness and grace of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples’ traditions and urged all Australians to move towards reconciliation and healing. As Saint John Paul II spoke, a wind storm picked up the red soil from the Earth and swirled it amongst our people. The dust seemed to intertwine with the words of love, hope and empathy.

“You are part of Australia and Australia is part of you. And the Church herself in Australia will not be fully the Church that Jesus wants her to be until you have made your contribution to her life and until that contribution has been joyfully received by others.”


My family attended Mass at the Cathedral on Sunday which was celebrated by the Apostolic Nuncio in Australia; His Excellency Most Reverend Adolfo Tito Yllana, The Most Reverend Archbishop Christopher Prowse and several other priests. It was a wonderful celebration of both our Catholic Faith and Aboriginal Spirituality.

The impact of this day on our lives cannot be measured. It provided the encouragement for the establishment of Aboriginal and Islander Catholic Ministries all over Australia and it lit the fire in our hearts which still provides the warmth, energy and strength for us to continue. We now have over 120,000 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Catholics in Australia and the support of our Australian Catholic Bishops on our journey of faith. As we travel closer to Christmas, this weekend’s Gospel shares with us a message we hear in Saint John Paul II’s words (above), in both the theme is one of hope and rebirth.

THANKS GIVING MASS

Wednesday 14th December (Week 10) we will celebrate our Thanksgiving Mass. This is an opportunity to give thanks for the year and all we have. It is also a time of reflection and giving. During Mass we will bring forward gifts that will be collected by our local St Vincent de Paul to be shared amongst families in our community who are in need. We ask that each grade bring celebratory items to help make Christmas better for these families. Items can be brought into school from Monday and placed under the Christmas Tree.

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<tr>
<th>Kinder</th>
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<th>Year 6</th>
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<tr>
<td>Bon-Bons</td>
<td>Lollies</td>
<td>Chips</td>
<td>Soft drink</td>
<td>Shortbread</td>
<td>Mince Pies</td>
<td>Chocolates</td>
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If you would like to participate in the Mass by either reading, bringing forward a selection of the gifts or the offertory or you would like to sit with your child/children please let me know via email sharee.thomas@cg.catholic.edu.au.

Have a great week.
Sharee Thomas

CHRISTMAS VIGIL MASS CHILDREN’S LITURGY

Help is requested from parents, grandparents or parishioners who are interested in organising the Children’s liturgy (both churches) and music (St John Vianney Church).
The children love to be involved but unless we have volunteers we will not be able to offer this liturgy.
If you are interested contact the parish office, 6288 1979, where they have a programme you can follow.
LIBRARY NEWS

Book Club is now closed for the year.
Issue 8 orders will arrive next week. Thank you for your support this year.

All Library Books are now overdue! Please send in all library books as soon as possible. Any queries please email samantha.heath@cg.catholic.edu.au

ELC NEWS

Happy Birthday Alexandra W
The Wombat and Echidna classes had a wonderful time exploring the National Zoo and Aquarium last week. They hand fed an emu and deer and held a corn snake named Cob! They learnt about how animals use camouflage to blend in with their environment. The Joeys made the most of the warm weather with a special Water Play Day on Tuesday. All the children have continued to learn about the meaning of Christmas and are having fun rehearsing their Christmas concert.

Mrs Kay – A big thank you to Mrs Kay for her great activities and enthusiasm. It has been lovely to have her back and we congratulate her on the completion of her prac placement.

Library Books - Please ensure that all library books are returned to school.

Baby News – Congratulations to Allira B (Joeys) on the safe arrival of her new baby brother Oliver.

Uniforms for 2017 – The uniform shop will be open next Friday 9 December for purchases or exchanges. This will be your last opportunity to buy ELC uniforms this year.

ELC Christmas Concert and Party – The ELC children will have their Christmas concert on Thursday 8 December in the school hall, followed by a party at the ELC. All current and 2017 ELC families are invited to attend. Please bring a plate to share and a gold coin donation.

Final ELC Fees – Thank you to those families who have finalised their ELC accounts for the year. The final fee statements were sent today. Please ensure that you check your final balance and cancel any automatic payments to ensure you do not overpay.

WARAMUNCHIES

The Canteen is open each Wednesday and Friday

VOLUNTEERS FOR NEXT WEEK:
Wednesday 7 December
Georgina Doyle
Rebecca Ransom

Friday 9 December
Sharon Hardy
Melissa Eagles
Kerry Kennealy

If you would like to volunteer to assist at the canteen, please contact Trish in the canteen

Please make sure you have your WWVP card with you.
**SJV FORTNIGHTLY CALENDAR**

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<th>Monday</th>
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<tr>
<td>5 Dec</td>
<td>6 Dec</td>
<td>7 Dec</td>
<td>8 Dec</td>
<td>9 Dec Christmas T-Shirt Day</td>
<td>10 Dec</td>
<td>11 Dec</td>
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<tr>
<td>Yr 6 Graduation Mass 5.30pm</td>
<td>Reports available for collection from Front Office</td>
<td>Yr 6 Graduation Dinner SJV Hall 6.00pm</td>
<td>Gingerbread House Making 5.30-7.30pm</td>
<td>Awards Ceremony 2pm SJV Hall Vicky’s Farewell Afternoon Tea 3pm SJV Library</td>
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**Term 4 Wk 8 2016**

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<th>Monday</th>
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<td>12 Dec</td>
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<tr>
<td>Candle &amp; Heart Space Ceremony 9.30am</td>
<td>13 Dec</td>
<td>14 Dec Thanksgiving Mass &amp; Thank You morning tea 9.30am</td>
<td>15 Dec Year 3/4 Open Classroom</td>
<td>16 Dec Yr 6 Fun Day Excursion</td>
<td>Last Day of Term</td>
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**Term 4 Wk 9 2016**
Expressions are sought from local businesses within our school community for the position of Grounds & Gardens Maintenance.

Duties will include:
- Regular lawn mowing
- Gardening
- Grounds maintenance
- & other duties as required.

For further information or to submit your Expression of Interest, please contact Sandra Urbaniak in the Front Office or email sandra.urbaniak@cg.catholic.edu.au.