Dear Parents/Carers,

We have just had a marvelous experience at the zoo with each class, over the last three days. The children were enthralled and took it all in. This experience will really provide a lot of impetus for the children’s science unit over the coming weeks. Many thanks to those family members who were able to come along and support the staff with the excursions.

MEETING FOR ALL PARENTS OF CHILDREN IN FOUNDATION/YEAR 1.
On this Monday evening, March 3rd, we would like to meet with all parents of child in years Foundation(prep) and year 1. Now that we have settled into the school routine, Mrs Johnson and I would like the opportunity to discuss a number of aspects of school life with you. Please make every effort to be at school at 7:00p.m. and we will ensure that the meeting does not go past 7:15p.m. Please return the reply slip attached to this newsletter.

SHROVE(PANCAKE) TUESDAY AND ASH WEDNESDAY
We have some very important events in our Church year coming up next week. The season of Lent, a period of preparation before Easter, begins with Ash Wednesday. We will all be going to Mass at 10a.m. The day before Ash Wednesday is Shrove Tuesday which has over time become known as Pancake Tuesday. This day was traditionally a day when many ingredients in the larder were used up before Lent got under way. We continue to remember this tradition by making and eating pancakes at school. Please let us know if your child has any allergies, or if you have any concerns about them eating pancakes at school.

SCHOOL PHOTOS NEXT THURSDAY, MARCH 6TH
Please ensure that your child is wearing the correct Summer uniform next Thursday for our school photos:
Boys – Grey school shorts, grey ankle socks, black school shoes short-sleeve light-blue school polo shirt
Girls – Annunciation summer school dress, white ankle socks, black school shoes lace up or T-bar, maroon hair ribbons or scrunchies.

LABOR DAY HOLIDAY – MONDAY MARCH 10TH
There will be no school on Monday March 10th and we hope that everyone enjoys the long weekend.

FOUNDATION (PREP) CHILDREN STAY HOME ON WEDNESDAYS
I would like to remind all families with a child in Foundation that there is no school on Wednesdays, for the Foundation children, until Wednesday March 12th, the week after the long weekend.

DRESS UP TO HELP CURE KIDS CANCER
Tomorrow is “I Want To Be Day”. As we said in the last newsletter, we are joining in this Cancer Research fundraising day tomorrow. We are asking the children to dress up as what they would like to be, when they grow up. For the privilege, we ask that each child brings a gold coin donation that we will then pass on

PLEASE HELP US TRY TO SAVE THE GORILLAS
Yesterday the year 4/5/6 class went to the Melbourne Zoo and the zoo-keepers spoke to us about how making new mobile phones destroys the gorillas’ habitat, and how we can help save the gorillas from extinction, if we just donate our old mobile phones. The year 4/5/6 class have decided to take up this challenge. We are asking all the families and friends of Annunciation to support this cause by donating any old mobile phones they may have. There will be a collection box in the office.

School Captains:
Mac Church
Rachel Dang
HEAD LICE
Please be vigilant with your own children and inform the school if your child has head lice, so that we can inform other families. Children are permitted to be at school, once the lice have been treated.

LIBRARY BORROWING
A reminder that children, mums and dads, will be able to borrow books from the library on any day of the week. Katy Hall will be available at the start of lunchtime, each day, to supervise the borrowing of books for the children. Parents are very welcome to borrow books at any time during the day, before or after school. Please remind your child.

SPORTS UNIFORM ON WEDNESDAYS THIS YEAR
This year, Miss Jaqui Perrett our physical education teacher, will be working on Wednesdays. Therefore we ask that the correct sports uniform is worn, by all children, on Wednesdays throughout the year.

SCHOOL FEES
1st Term school fees together with Pupil levy and Excursion Levy were due on 10th February. Direct debit method is also available to pay school fees. Please see Connie at the office for details.

EDUCATION MAINTENANCE ALLOWANCE (EMA)
The Education Maintenance Allowance (EMA) is provided by the Victorian Government to lower-income families to help with education-related costs.
If you have a child under 16, and you hold a valid Health Care Card, Pension Card, or are a temporary foster parent, you may be eligible to receive the EMA. The allowance is paid in two instalments, one in March and one in August.
How to Apply: Contact the school office to obtain an EMA application form.
Closing Date: You need to obtain an EMA application form from the school office and return by 28 February 2014 - TOMORROW!
For more information about the EMA, visit http://www.education.vic.gov.au/school/parents/financial/Pages/default.aspx

Emmanuel College Enrolment for Year 7 2015
As the closing date for applications for Year 7, 2015 at Emmanuel College was Friday 28 February any outstanding applications should be submitted urgently.
Any queries regarding applications should be directed to Donna Grech (Registrar) on 83255119 or email enrolments@ecmelb.catholic.edu.au.

UNIFORMS ORDERS
Attached to this newsletter is a winter uniform order. If you require any items of uniform could you please complete the form and return to school by 4th March so orders can placed to be received before the end of Term. Could you please also include full payment.

Please choose sizes carefully. Only a limited supply of uniforms is kept on hand at any time. You can exchange items if you choose wrong size but there may be a delay.
Calendar Dates To Note

Fri 28th  “I Want To Be” Cancer Day.
(Children can dress as who, or what, they would like to be and are invited to make a gold coin donation to go towards Cancer research.)

Week 6

Tues 4th Mar  Shrove Tuesday/Pancake Tuesday.
Wed 5th  Ash Wednesday – Mass at 10a.m. – all welcome.
Thurs 6th  No School for Foundation class. (last Wednesday at home)

Week 7

Mon 10th  Labor Day Holiday – No classes.
Tues 11th  Life Saving / Water Safety Lessons for all classes, at school. (Surf Life Saving Australia)
Wed 12th  First Wednesday at school for Foundation
Thurs 13th  Yrs 4/5/6 Life Saving activity at the beach. (Surf Life Saving Australia)

Week 8

Mon 17th  Book Author visit – Susan Berran.
Parents and Friends Meeting at 7p.m.
Tues 18th  Fire Brigade to visit the Yrs F/1 class
Wed 19th  Parish schools Gathering in Yarraville – all day for whole school.

Week 9

Tues 25th  The Feast of the Annunciation – special lunch for the children.
Wed 26th  Fire Brigade to visit the Yrs F/1 class
Twilight School Sports (2:00p.m – 6:30p.m.) BYO Picnic Tea

Want to play outdoor soccer in 2014? Altona City Soccer club caters for all, boys, girls, women and men of all age groups. It welcomes all to come and try before joining. Under 5s to 7s are starting from March 15, 10am at H.C. Kim Reserve, Millers Rd, Altona with its Nationally recognised and focussed program for this age group. A player’s first session is a free “come and try session”. Registration and payment is due the following week only if you decide to return. Other teams (under 8s to 18s) have just started and there are some vacancies in some age groups. Coaches are also needed in some teams. More information is available on our website. www.altonacitysoccerclub.com.au or call on 9398 3974.

BARNSTONEWORTH UNITED JUNIOR FOOTBALL CLUB

“The Barnies” are now inviting boys and girls between the ages of 5-16 to register for the 2014 season. Based in Williamstown, the “Barnies” are a family-friendly, FFV-affiliated soccer club with members coming from across the Western suburbs.

WHERE:  J.T. Gray Reserve, Kororoit Creek Rd, Williamstown
WHEN:  Registrations now open
TRIAL DAYS:  Thu 13th, Sun 16th and Thu 20th March, at JK Grant Reserve, Altona
SEASON:  starts 26th April to 14th Sept
COST:  U7’s $100, U8-11’s $180, U12-16’s $230
MORE INFO:  Maria 0487916590 info@bujfc.com www.bujfc.com

All new members welcome.

U8-14s come and try out this Sunday at JK Grant Reserve, Altona.

Reply slip

Family name:

☐ I/we will be attending the information session for Foundation/Gr. 1 on Monday 3rd March.

☐ I/we will not be attending the information session for Foundation/Gr. 1 on Monday 3rd March.