20th November, 2013

NEWSLETTER

Reflection

We stand before you, Holy Spirit, conscious of our sinfulness, but aware that we gather in your name.
Come to us, remain with us, and enlighten our hearts.
Give us light and strength to know your will, to make it our own, and to live it in our lives.
Guide us by your wisdom, support us by your power, for you are God, sharing the glory of Father and Son.
You desire justice for all: enable us to uphold the rights of others; do not allow us to be misled by ignorance or corrupted by fear or favour.
Unite us to yourself in the bond of love and keep us faithful to all that is true.
As we gather in your name may we temper justice with love, so that our decisions may be pleasing to you, and earn the reward promised to good and faithful servants.
You live and reign with the Father and the Son, one God for ever and ever.

Amen

Dear Parents/Carers

ORIENTATION DAYS FOR OUR 2014 FOUNDATION (PREP) CLASS:
This morning we held the first of our Orientation mornings with the children that will be starting school next year. We had 12 beautiful young children (6 boys and 6 girls) and many of their parents join us for a couple of hours. We had a great morning and look forward to seeing the children again next week.
Next Wednesday, November 27th, we will hold our second session will begin at 9:15am and conclude at 11:00am. Parents are reminded that you don’t need to stay next week and you can make the morning your own.

ABSENT CHILDREN – PARENTS PLEASE RING US (93146271) BY 9:30A.M.
If any child is absent from school, I would ask parents to make sure they ring in to the school by 9:30a.m. on the same day. We have had a few situations where we were worried about the safety and the whereabouts of children who have not arrived at school.

ART SHOW – Remember to keep free the evening of Friday December 6th, For the Annunciation School Art Show, beginning at 5:00p.m.

END OF YEAR SCHOOL PICNIC – FAMILIES WELCOME!
This year we will all be going to Anakie Fairy Park for our end of year picnic, on Tuesday December 17th. As with last year, everyone is welcome to come along. The entry to the Fairy Park, for all other family members is $16 for adults and $8 for children. There will be a separate note coming home about the trip, the cost for the school children and containing a permission slip.

YEAR 6 GRADUATION
Our Year 6 children will have a Graduation Mass and Presentation on Tuesday evening, December 17th. I would ask all school families to try to come along as it is a whole school community celebration to see the year 6 class graduate from Annunciation and move into the next important phase of their lives. The Mass will begin at 7p.m. and the short Graduation ceremony will follow immediately in the Community Room. Mark it on your calendar.
SCHOOL FEES
A reminder that Term 4 fees are now due. Could you please endeavor to bring your fees up to date as soon as possible. If you would like to discuss payment options please see either Connie in the office or myself to make alternative arrangements.

MONDAY MORNING PRAYER
This week our prayer time was beautifully prepared and led by a group of year 5/6 children and this will be the case again next Monday. Please stay for 15 minutes each Monday morning and join us for this special community prayer.

TRYSAIL PROGRAM FOR YRS 5/6
On Monday December 2nd, the yr 5/6 class have been invited to experience a Yachting ‘TrySail’ program with the Royal Yacht Club of Victoria in Williamstown. The children will be leaving school at about 11:30a.m. and will return at about 3:30p.m. A separate note with a permission slip will be sent home.

2ND HAND UNIFORMS:
As your children grow, uniform items become outgrown. If you have good quality school uniform items that you would be happy to donate back to the school, we would be very pleased to receive them. Sometimes we use them to help out other families or use them when a child needs to change a uniform item.

PARKING IN OUR CAR PARK – THANK YOU!
I have recently been requesting that anyone picking up children at 3:30p.m., and using the car park, reverse into the park, when you arrive, and to drive forwards on the way out, so that you have much clearer vision. Thank you for the great response to this request. The car park will be safer for the children.

ICT FOR PARENTS
Want to be cybersmart and learn some new skills to help yourself and your child/ren at home?

Or maybe you need to update your resume, print something or want to play with an iPad?

If yes, then come along for a cuppa/learning session each Thursday morning at 9am in the computer/Italian room. Let Connie in the office know if you’re interested.

Hopefully we’ll see you soon!

Have no skills!! Then come along and see what you can learn!! You will be surprised at just how easy it is!!!

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<th>Calendar Dates for Term 4, 2013</th>
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**PARENTS AND FRIENDS NEWS**

**MOVIE NIGHT THIS FRIDAY**
The children have a very special treat this Friday night with a MOVIE Night that is being put on by the Parents and friends. It is **only $2** and all the children will get a bag of popcorn and a drink. The children are asked to be at the Community Room by 6:30p.m. and can be collected after the movie at 8:30p.m. Several parents and myself will be supervising the evening.

**CHRISTMAS RAFFLE**
Each year the Parents and friends organize a Christmas raffle that all families are urged to support. The initial support is through donations to make up the hampers of Christmas goodies, that are to be the prizes. Then, all families are asked to sell raffle tickets to ensure that the raffle is a fundraising success. Books of raffle tickets will be sent home to each family on Monday December 2nd. We would ask that you try to sell them all, even get a second book, and return them by Wednesday December 18th, when the raffle will be drawn.

So that we don’t receive too many of the same item we have decided to allocate each grade a “category” from which to purchase and donate. The categories are as follows:

- **Grade Prep/1:** biscuits, lollies, chips, chocolates, cordial, canned goods etc.
- **Grade 2/3/4:** christmas decorations, wrapping paper, cards, bonbons, baubles, etc.
- **Grade 5/6:** Nuts fruit mince, christmas Condiments, mince pies, tarts

Of course any donations you may want to make will be gratefully accepted. When you send in a donation could you please check the use by dates.

**ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY**
The annual Vinnies Christmas gift appeal is on again. Vinnies Christmas gift appeal assists people and families in need who, without their support, may not experience all that Christmas has to offer. Our school will is asking for donations to be sent in and we will pass them on to St. Vincent de Paul Society.

Some gift suggestions are:

- **Children and teenagers:** Plus toys, rattles, clothes, building blocks, toy musical instruments, books, DVD’s, board games, sporting equipment, movie tickets and gift vouchers.

- **Men:** Toiletry packs containing razors, shaving cream, shampoo, soap toothpaste, toothbrush and deodorant make wonderful gifts and are easy to distribute. Clothing such as t-shirts (all sizes), thongs (sizes 8-12) socks, backpacks/bags and gift vouchers are also ideal.

- **Women:** Toiletry packs containing shower gel, razors, shampoo/conditioner. Body lotion, amkeup, toothpaste, toothbrush and deodorant are great gifts. Clothing or clothing vouchers, shoes and sandals, bags and gift vouchers are also appreciated.
All gift donations can be left at the office. We have until approximately 11th December to collect all gifts. PLEASE DO NOT WRAP ANY GIFTS.