Reflection

Teach me to listen, O God, to those nearest me, my family, my friends, my co-workers.

Help me to be aware that no matter what words I hear, the message is ‘Accept the person I am. Listen to me.’

Teach me to listen, my caring God, to those fare from me – the whisper of the hopeless, the pleas of the forgotten, the cry of the anguished.

Teach me to listen, O God my Mother, to myself. Help me to be less afraid to trust the voice inside – in the deepest part of me.

Teach me to listen, Holy Spirit, for your voice – in busyness and in boredom, in certainty and doubt, in noise and in silence.

Teach me, Lord, to listen. Amen. (Fr. John Veltri, S.J.)

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome to the 2015 school year here at Annunciation. We would like especially welcome all the new families to Annunciation. We hope that each family has enjoyed the Christmas break and the children are all fresh for the new school year. It has been lovely over these first few days to see everyone back and to meet the new children and their families.

2015 is to be a very special year for Annunciation as we celebrate 50 years, or our ‘Golden Jubilee’, as the school opened in 1965. At our “Parents and Friends” meetings we will be planning some of the events that will ‘mark’ the year. Some interest is starting to grow and two ladies that were in the 1975 year 6 class are visiting tomorrow. They are arranging a reunion for their class sometime in the next few months.

One significant change this year is that we are taking the year 5 and 6 children on a pilgrimage to Sydney. This will be the children’s school camp but will also be a wonderful pre-Confirmation experience, as the children will be visiting the Mary McKillop Centre and the grave of Mary McKillop. What an exciting adventure for the children to look forward to.

We are planning another very exciting event for all the children, yrs. F -6. We have made a booking for the whole school to see the Lion King, in Melbourne on July 22nd. This will be a great experience at the start of term three, the term in which our yr 4/5/6 class will be working intensively with artists from Polyglot, as part of the “Outside In” project. Annunciation was one of four Victorian schools to receive $35,000 from Arts Victoria to conduct a joint project with an arts provider, in our case Polyglot is our partner.

All in all, it will be another very busy year for Annunciation and a wonderful year of education for your child. Please join with us, at every opportunity, to make the year special for your child and for the whole community.

Barry Ennis
Principal
NEW STAFF MEMBERS
We are delighted to welcome two new teachers to Annunciation. Loretta Bartilotta is our new teacher of Italian, and Lindsay Owen will be teaching The Jellybeans Music program across the school this year. Both ladies will be working on Fridays.

On Fridays, while the classroom teachers are released from classroom duties to collaboratively plan, each of the three classes rotate through one hour lessons with specialist teachers. Each class will have an hour of Information Technology with Mrs Strybosch, an hour of Italian with Signora Bartilotta and an hour of Music with Ms Owen.

SCHOOL FEES
1st Term school fees together with Pupil levy and Excursion Levy are due on 9th February. You can either by cash or cheque. Direct debit method is also available to pay school fees. Please see Connie at the office for details.

NEW BABY!
Congratulations to John and Lena Picoula and their sons Phillip (year 4) and Nicholas (year 3) who welcomed Georgia Anna into their family on January 27th.

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

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 11th, after the long weekend. The children need this break in the school week for a little while, while they make the transition to school and while the weather can be so hot.

LIBRARY BORROWING
This year the children, and 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. Please remind your child that they can borrow any day.

WELCOME BARBECUE
Please keep next Tuesday evening the 10th February free so you can attend a barbecue night for all families at Annunciation. The BBQ will go from 6:00pm until 7:30pm and in the last 20 minutes we will ask the parents to come inside for the Parents and Friends AGM.

The BBQ is free! We will be providing beef sausages and hamburgers and an icy pole for the children. This is a chance for staff, parents and children to meet up with new and old friends.

Could you please complete the reply slip as soon as possible for catering purposes.

Return Slip - Welcome Barbecue - Tues Feb 10th.
Name...........................................................................
Our family (will / will not) be attending the Welcome Barbecue on Tuesday Feb 10th at 6pm.
No. of Adults _______ No. of children _______
Signed.......................................................................
## Calendar Dates To Note

### Week

**Tues 10<sup>th</sup>** Feb.  
Family BBQ – all invited for 6pm start.

**Wed 11<sup>th</sup>**
No school for Foundation class (Preps)

### Week 3

**Tues 12<sup>th</sup>**
Family BBQ at school for all families – 6pm. start

**Wed 13<sup>th</sup>**
No school for Foundation class (Preps)

### Week 4

**Mon 16<sup>th</sup>**
Parents and Friends Meeting at 7:00pm in the staffroom

**Wed 18<sup>th</sup>**
Ash Wednesday

### Week 5

**Tues 24<sup>th</sup>**
“I Want To Be…” Day (More information in next newsletter.)

### Week 6

**Mon 2<sup>nd</sup>** Mar.
Life Saving Victoria – Beach program – Yrs 4/5/6.

**Tues 3<sup>rd</sup>**
Parish Mass and Picnic day in Yarraville – whole school.

### Other Term Dates:

**Mon 9<sup>th</sup>**
Labor Day Holiday

**Wed 11<sup>th</sup>**
Foundation begin attending each Wednesday.

**Thurs 12<sup>th</sup>**
School Photos

**Mon 16<sup>th</sup>**
Parents and friends Meeting at 7pm.

**Fri 20<sup>th</sup>**
“Orange Day” – Anti-Bullying

**23-25**
Inter-school Summer Sports Day for yrs4/5/6.

**Wed 25<sup>th</sup>**
Yr 5/6 School Camp in Sydney

**Thurs 26<sup>th</sup>**
Feast of The Annunciation

**Fri 27<sup>th</sup>**
School Twilight Sports – (2pm – 6pm)

**Mon 13 Apr**
Term 2 Commences

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**Emmanuel College information morning**

An information morning for prospective parents, including tours, will be conducted at Notre Dame Campus, Pt Cook at 9:00am and St Paul's Campus, Altona at 10:30am on Saturday 7 February. For further information, or to obtain a copy of the College Prospectus, please contact the College Registrar, Donna Grech, on 83255119. **The closing date for applications for Year 7, 2016 is Friday 27 February 2015.**