



# St. Mary's School, Altona Newsletter 2015

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No: 8. 20<sup>th</sup> March, 2015



Dear Parents

Please pray for the following children and their families as they prepare to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation administered by Bishop Vincent Long at a special Eucharistic Celebration this Sunday, 22<sup>nd</sup> March, at 3.00 pm.

Dominic Azzopardi, Zane Azzopardi, Madison Cutajar, Lana Fenech, Portia Fenech, William Fenech, Mairead F, Marie H, Ben Hussey, Emily Kakoullis, Trent Micheli, Destiny Mizzi, Angelique Mullins, Jessica Offen, Isabelle Paras, Isabella Pisani, Ryan Said, Joel Sortino, Fikre Tsegay and Mia Vuleta. Thank you to our two Year 5/6 teachers, Mrs Lisa Vella and Mrs Olive Chodowski for preparing the children and to Mrs Angela Hamilton, our Performing Arts teacher for co-ordinating the music for the Mass as well as preparing and conducting our school choir to lead the singing. Thank you to Mrs Olive Chodowski our Religious Education Leader for preparing the liturgy for this special Celebration.

#### OPTIONAL PARENT / TEACHER CONTACT:

A reminder that our Optional Parent / Teacher Contact afternoon is on Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> March. The online bookings have closed.

#### CONGRATULATIONS:

To Eva Coppola (Canteen Manager) and Amy Xu (Canteen Assistant) as St. Mary's Primary School has been selected to receive a Food Safety Award for 2014 from Hobsons Bay City Council. The Council will present the award at the Ordinary Council Meeting on Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> March, 2015 in the Council Chamber. We received a high assessment score in our category and met the three criteria for a Food Safety Award. Congratulations again to Eva and Amy.



#### EASTER RAFFLE:

Thank you to those families that have already bought/sold their book of raffle tickets and returned the money to school and to the families that have donated an Easter egg or plush toy to our raffle prizes. (Please remember dairy and gluten free eggs are appreciated). **Our Easter Bunny helpers have asked if all raffle tickets, money and prize donations could be sent to school by Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> March.** The Easter Raffle will be drawn at a Special Assembly on the last day of this term at 2.00 pm. Thank you for your support.

#### FOOTY TIPPING:

So far 14 people have joined our Footy Tipping Competition, if you are interested in joining you will need to do so as soon as possible as the first game is on Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> April. Details were in last week's newsletter and on our school website, 'News, Notes & Forms'. The cost is \$23.00 per person or \$40.00 for two. Money needs to be sent to the school office in a sealed envelope with the names of the tippers. Half the money raised goes toward purchasing school resources and the other half in prizes. The site is: [www.victeach.footytips.com.au](http://www.victeach.footytips.com.au) (remember to click on St. Mary's Competition).

#### YEAR SIX CAMP:

Our Year 6 children are not only excited about receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation this week end but also they will be on Camp on Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup>, Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> and Friday 17<sup>th</sup> April which is the first week of Term Two.

**TERM ONE ENDS NEXT FRIDAY 27<sup>th</sup> MARCH at 2.30 pm.**

**There will be NO NEWSLETTER next Friday.**

**David Kelly.  
Principal.**

#### PRINCIPALS AWARDS:

Congratulations to the following children who received Principals Awards on Monday:

PREP HM	Jai LeRoux & Zara Reis
PREP S	Akelan Evans & Zali Howell
1/2HK	Keyon'Dre Fallace & Thomas Pye
1/2ST	Keely Williams & Jett Porter
1/2D	Joshua Jackson & Samuel Molinia
2/3S	Grace Azzopardi & Lachlan Vandeligt
3/4M	Sofia Bitaks & Gab. Manguiat
3/4L	Ava Robertson & Shawn Pendlebury
4/5G	Evelyn Nguyen & Thomas Karas
5/6VT	Mia Vuleta & Sienna Cutajar
5/6C	Justin Nguyen & Angelique Mullins

#### CONDOLENCES

Our condolences go to the Said family (Ryan 5/6VT) on the recent death of their grandmother. Please keep this family in your prayers.

## EDUCATION IN FAITH

### RECONCILIATION & EUCHARIST

Just a reminder that the Information and Registration session for Reconciliation and First Eucharist takes place on Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> March at 2.00 pm OR 7.30 pm in the Church Narthex. (For more details please refer to the note sent home.)

### CONFIRMATION

Congratulations to all our Year Six Confirmation Candidates as they prepare to celebrate the Sacrament of Confirmation this Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> March at 3.00 pm.

#### A Confirmation Prayer

Holy Spirit, strengthen our Confirmation Candidates with your gifts of the Spirit. Grant that they may grow into the fullness of the stature of Christ. Fill them with the joy of your presence. Increase in them the fruit of your Spirit. Help them to experience and trust your dwelling within, so that they can count on your guidance today and every day. Show them the way to help one another become better disciples of Jesus, sharing your love with our world and with each person we meet. Come, Holy Spirit! Come.

### St Patrick's Day Mass – Report

Dear Parents and Students,  
On Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> March we had the School Leaders travelled to St. Patrick's Cathedral to represent St. Mary's at the Opening Mass for Catholic schools in Melbourne. There were nearly 2000 Catholic Primary and Secondary students there representing more than 160 Catholic schools. It was a magnificent symbol of our Catholic faith in our Melbourne community. Two of our School Captains Jessica Offen and Dominic Azzopardi carried our school banner proudly into the cathedral before Mass.



After mass we walked to Treasury Gardens for a Concert in the Park. There was a lot of music and this set us off dancing! When we returned to Altona Mrs Chodowski bought us an ice-cream and Mrs Offen gave us chocolates. We had the best day!

From Madison Cutajar & Trent Micheli  
(School Captains)

## Message From Fr Shabin

Dear Families,

I belong to the secular order called "Institute Voluntas Dec" founded in 1958 in Trois – Rivières, Canada which has its presence in many countries including Australia. The charism of our institute is "To be, like the virgin at the Annunciation, the instrument of Christ living the Father's will within the reality of the present moment". The Feast day of our Institute is **25<sup>th</sup> March on the Feast of the Annunciation**. I would like to invite you all to join with Monsignor Greg Bennet, the Vicar General of our Archdiocese together with other priests of the order to celebrate the Feast Day Mass on **Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> March at 9.15am** here at St. Mary's followed by a morning tea in our Narthex. Your presence and prayers will be highly appreciated.

*Fr. Shabin Kaniampuram*

*Our Senior Students will be in attendance.*

**Year 1/2HK will be attending the Friday 27<sup>th</sup> March Parish Mass at 9:15am. Please come, celebrate, sit with and join your children in prayer.**



### PLEASE PRAY FOR

- \* All members of our community who are sick or in need of our prayerful support.
- \* Our Year 6 Confirmation Candidates as they celebrate the Sacrament of Confirmation on Sunday.
- \* An enlightened Lenten journey towards Easter.

***Olive Chodowski – REL.***

***"Truly wonderful are the ways of God."***

*St Mary of the Cross MacKillop - 1873*

## IMPORTANT DATES

### MARCH

Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> Year 6 – Confirmation – 3.00 pm  
Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> Prayer Assembly 4/5G – 2.40 pm  
Optional Parent Teacher Contact  
Afternoon 3.20 – 5.30 pm  
Friday 27<sup>th</sup> Easter Raffle Assembly – 2.00 pm  
Last Day of Term – 2.30 pm finish

### APRIL

Monday 13<sup>th</sup> First Day of Term Two  
School Captain Assembly  
Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> Year 6 - Camp  
Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> Year 6 - Camp  
Friday 17<sup>th</sup> Year 6 – Camp



### ST. MARY'S CHOIR FOR CONFIRMATION

The Choir will be leading the singing at the Confirmation Mass on Sunday March 22<sup>nd</sup> at 3.00 pm in the Church.

All members of the Choir will need to wear their summer uniforms, bring a water bottle and be there by 2:45 pm. The ceremony should take about an hour.

Thank you for your support and I am looking forward to hearing all of the angelic voices.

**Angela Hamilton.**  
**Performing Arts.**

## STARTING TERM TWO

Starting on 22<sup>nd</sup> April and 24<sup>th</sup> April we are opening the TRI Centre on a Tuesday and Thursday from 8.20 to 8.40 am for our **Need 2 Read Club**.

All school children and their family members are welcome to come along and enjoy reading. As a way to encourage children to come they will have a N2R card and each time they come will receive a stamp. When they reach 5, 10 and 15 they can choose a prize from our Lucky Prize Box. Children need to be in the library by 8.30 am to receive a stamp. See you there.



**ARE YOU READY  
TO TAKE UP THE  
CHALLENGE.....?  
THE 2015  
VICTORIAN  
PREMIER'S  
READING  
CHALLENGE.**



This is the **11<sup>th</sup> year** for the VPRC and St. Mary's students have proudly been part of the Challenge EVERY year. The Challenge encourages Victorian students to read more frequently and more broadly. Last year at St. Mary's we had **130 children** who met the challenge. Some children have done so every year! Once again we are encouraging all students from Prep to Year 6 to join in the challenge. Children who have participated in previous Challenges will know that there are **many benefits** in taking part. As well as the intrinsic rewards of reading, each student who completes the Challenge will **receive a certificate**.

### How to Meet the Challenge

There are rules you need to follow to meet the Challenge.

- register as a Challenger and make sure you keep a record of your reading on the Challenge website read the following number of books during the Challenge. **YOUR TEACHER has your login number.**

Year level	Number of books	Number from the Challenge book list
Prep – Year 2	30 books	20 or more
Year 3 – Year 6	15 books	10 or more

We are looking forward to all students taking up the Reading Challenge and successfully completing it. **PERMISSION FORM** can be found on School Website in Notes & Forms.

**There is plenty of time ....as challenge finishes on .....11<sup>th</sup> September.**

## YELLOW HOUSE TEAM EVENT

Well done to Dblanchi and Fikre (Yellow Captains) who organised during lunchtimes this week the Yellow House Team Events. Thanks also to the other house captains and Year 5/6 students who helped them.

Prep to Year 2 students were involved in an obstacle race. . There was LOTS of FUN and LOTS of POINTS for all teams. Photos are on the Yellow Team board.

**Gwenda Burnett.**

**Deputy Principal & Literacy Leader.**

### NORMIE THE GNOME

Normie the Gnome is awarded to the House Team who keeps their part of the yard the cleanest. This week's winner is:



**ALL TEAMS**

**TUCKSHOP HELPERS -** Week beginning 23<sup>rd</sup> March

Wednesday Caroline Cassar

Manager: Eva Coppola Tel: 9315 0799

**UNIFORM SHOP OPEN  
WEDNESDAY AFTERNOONS  
2.30 – 3.00 PM**

### CREATIVE MUSIC

Creative Music for Schools conducts a music program here at school each week.

Small group classes or one-on-one lessons give children an excellent grounding in music where they will learn to read music and play their chosen instrument.

Tuition costs from \$16.20 per lesson and enrolments are now being accepted for limited places in Term Two.

Interested parents should call Marika during office hours on 9818 2333.

[www.creativemusic.com.au](http://www.creativemusic.com.au)

### OUT OF SCHOOL HOURS CARE AT ST. MARYS

WE MAKE KIDS SMILE!

Phone: 1300 105 343 / (03) 9398 4065

[www.campastralia.com.au](http://www.campastralia.com.au)

### NEW DANCE CLASSES STARTING (Every Thursday) at Altona Meadows Community Centre.

28 Trafalgar Avenue, Altona L.C.D. Academy is run by a teacher with 16 years' experience. For more information check out our website [www.lcdacademy.com](http://www.lcdacademy.com) 0412 984 143.

### BUNNINGS ALTONA

Join our Free Easter Family Night

Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> March 6.00 – 8.00 pm

Booking s recommended for more information

Go to [www.bunnings.com.au](http://www.bunnings.com.au)