NEWSLETTER
Volume 2016 – Issue 2
Monday 15th February, 2016

Principal: Gerard Lewis
Parish Priest: Fr Barry Moran

Education Support: Erica Nastopoulos (Mon – Thurs)
Office Assistance: Janelle Adams (Thurs) & Robbie Bartlett (Fri)

Teachers
Year FF: Jacquie Fleming
Year 1J: Therese John & Jane Davy
Year 2B: Gabrielle Berends
Year 3M: Maureen McDonald & Lisa McCarthy
Year 4B: Katie Bryan
Year 5M: Samantha Malin
Year 6B: Claire Butson
Year FT: Freda Tahtouh & Catherine LeHunt
Year 1S: Stephanie Schultz
Year 2M: Kate Morgan
Year 3R: Carrington Speed
Year 4F: Ben Fahey & Eleanor Colaneri
Year 5R: Chelsea Roche & Catherine LeHunt
Year 6C: Ruth Crispin

Reading Recovery: Paula Incretolli
Library: Daniela Borgese
Italian: Carmela Vozzo
Phys Ed (Junior): Chris Kidman
Phys Ed (Senior): Matt Ottobre
Number Intervention: Anna Side
Teaching Assistant: Shiny Pereira

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Thursday 18th February
Class Mass Year 3 – 9:15am
Friday 19th February
Pupil Free Day (no school for students)
Tuesday 23rd February
Holt Swimming Carnival Years 3 – 6
Friday 26th February
Class Mass Year 5 – 9:15am
Sunday 28th February
School Opening Mass 9am
Sunday 28th February
St Mary’s Open Day 10:30am to 12pm
Thursday 3rd March
Parent Information Night
Friday 4th March
Class Mass Year 6 – 9:15am
Wednesday 9th March
Year 5 & 6 Camp – Sovereign Hill
Thursday 10th March
Year 5 & 6 Camp – Sovereign Hill
Friday 11th March
Year 5 & 6 Camp – Sovereign Hill
Friday 11th March
Class Mass Year 2 – 9:15am
Monday 14th March
Labour Day Public Holiday
Wednesday 16th March
School Photos
Friday 18th March
Class Mass Year 4 – 9:15am
Thursday 24th March
End of Term – Student’s breakup at 1pm

After Care is available until 6pm, booking is essential

From the Principal’s Desk:

Open School Mass and Open Day
All families are invited to the Opening School Mass on Sunday 28th February at the 9:00am Parish Mass. At this Mass the Year Six Leaders will be presented with their Leadership badges. Following the Mass we will have an Open Day from 10:30am – 12:00pm. At the Open Day, students, parents and teachers will be conducting tours with any visitors. If you would like to help welcome the visitors to our school on this morning please let me know by email or phone. This Open Day coincides with the Open Days at CBC St Kilda and Presentation College Windsor.
Year Six Leadership
Congratulations to the following Year Six students who have been appointed to the following Leadership positions:

**School Captains**
- Olivia Desiderio
- Lucas Kennedy

**Vice Captains**
- Amelie Siruelo
- Christian Psirris

**Red House Captains**
- Marika Tsoureki
- Max Timlock

**Blue House Captains**
- Susannah Green
- Matteo Macali

**Green House Captains**
- Francesca Kokkinos
- Benjamin O'Mahoney

**Yellow House Captains**
- Sofia Giannakopoulos
- Tom Kostalos

**ICT Leaders**
- Sofia Fullaondo Olba
- Mick Hourigan

**Education in Faith Leaders**
- Kayla Vourvoutsiotis
- Henry Nguyen

**Student Well Being Leaders**
- Elisa Leyva McEnroe
- Grace Henderson

**Arts Leaders**
- Alex Cappola
- Emma Mansour

**Curriculum Leaders**
- Josh Harris
- Isabella D'Orio

**Community Leaders**
- Pia Kim
- Mayek Neil

Our Year Six Leaders have started the year very well and have shown great leadership in the first four weeks of school. We wish them the very best as they commence these important leadership roles within the school.

**School Improvement Framework (School Review)**
In the second week of Term 2, the school will be undergoing the School Improvement Framework (school review) through the Catholic Education Melbourne. This review allows us to evaluate the progress the school has made over the last three years and establish clear direction for the next cycle of School Improvement. Presently the Leaders and teachers are evaluating the schools progress in the domains of Education In Faith, Learning and Teaching, Student Wellbeing, Leadership and Management and School Community. An extensive evaluative report will be written for an external reviewer who will be visiting the school on 21st March, 19th April and 21st April. This Friday, the Pupil Free Day will enable the Leaders and teachers within the school to work on preparing the documentation for this review.

**Parent Information Night**
On Thursday 3rd March we will be having a Parent Information Night for all parents. This night will replace the first Term Parent Teacher Meetings for this year only. The information night is for parents only and we ask that you keep the children home as the night will be centred on parents in class groupings attending presentations by teachers in their classrooms on the expectations and recommendations for 2016. We will gather in the hall as a large group first, before we disperse into classrooms. We are having this format this year because of the school review. This evening will be easier for each classroom teacher, as they are already heavily committed to working on the school review in Term one.

**Parking at St Mary’s**
Please make sure that when you are dropping the children off in the morning that you are doing so according to our parking procedures. Some parents have been taking short cuts and not parking in the appropriate spots or have been double parking. Only when you are parked in the allocated car spot, should the children leave the car. Vehicles that stop beside parked cars on Westbury Street are DOUBLE PARKING. This is against the law and very dangerous for the children. Double Parking interferes with the flow of traffic and can cause accidents.

Some tips to AVOID Double Parking:
- ✔️ You CAN stop to give way to a vehicle leaving a parking spot
- ❌ You CANNOT park next to a stationary vehicle and wait for it to leave a parking spot
- ❌ You CANNOT Double Park to drop someone off or pick someone up
- ❌ You CANNOT leave the vehicle when Double Parked

If you are going to drop your child off and use the parish driveway, please let your child disembark at the crossing near the Church, not at the top of the drive. As the school is getting bigger there are more cars on Westbury Street. Dropping your child at the crossing near the Church will ease the congestion on Westbury Street. On the Senior Campus, please do not drop the children near the Senior Campus building or near the Presbytery garage or roundabout. Please drop the children at the Church crossing or park on the basketball court. Following these procedures will make it safer for the children and smoother for all drivers.
Years 5 & 6 Camp
All children in Years 5 & 6 will be attending Sovereign Hill for their school Camp from Wednesday 9 – 11 March.

Piano lessons
We are very close to finalising the negotiation with a music company to provide lessons to the children in piano and other musical instruments. As soon as this arrangement has been organised letters will be sent home asking for interested parents to respond.

Parish Hall
It is hoped that by the end of February we will finally have a new PA sound system and electronic screen in the Parish Hall. This will then allow us to use the Hall for school assemblies on a Monday afternoon.

I hope you have an enjoyable week.

Gerard Lewis
Principal

PUPIL FREE DAY
Friday 19th February
No school for students

PARENT INFORMATION NIGHT
Thursday 3rd March

ENROLMENTS FOR 2017
We are currently taking enrolments for next year. If you have a family member who is scheduled to start next year please come to the office and obtain an Enrolment Form or download it from our website, as places are filling up quickly and numbers are limited.

SCHOOL PHOTOS – Wednesday 16th March
Information will go home regarding the school photos next month. We ask that the children wear their correct school SUMMER UNIFORM – no coloured ribbons or socks. Girls navy socks and boys grey socks are the uniform colour. Family portrait envelopes can be collected at the office next month.

STUDENT BANKING
Student Banking will commence on Thursday 25th February and new members are welcome. Student banking will be processed on the last Thursday of each month with a minimum deposit of $10.00.

CARE MONKEY SYSTEM
CareMonkey at St Mary's is now fully operational and parents will now be able to set up their child's Caremonkey profile. All families should receive an email detailing how to create their child's profile. The process is very simple and easy to do. If you do have any problems please come and speak to me or send me an email at bfahey@smstkildaest.catholic.edu.au. All children are required to have a profile set up as we will be using this system with all permission slips and notices in the near future.

CSEF (Camps, Sports & Excursion Fund) - FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE
CSEF provided by the Victorian Government to assist eligible families to cover the costs of school camps, excursions and sporting activities. If you hold a valid Centrelink Pensioner Concession Card or Health Care Card (CRN) you may be eligible for CSEF. An application form is attached, please fill out and return to the school office by Friday 26th February 2016.
**RE NEWS**

**St Mary's School Commencement Mass**

This is an important celebration of our Parish and school communities. We encourage all families and students to attend on Sunday 28th February at 9am. Following Mass our school will be open between 10:30am-12:00pm for new and existing families to take a look at our wonderful place of learning.

**Project Compassion**

Tomorrow each family and classroom will receive a Project Compassion box. Please return these to school at the beginning of Term 2. Caritas Australia's annual fundraising and awareness-raising appeal, bringing thousands of Australians together in solidarity with the world’s poor to help end poverty, promote justice and uphold dignity. Running through the six weeks of Lent each year, Project Compassion is an extraordinary, ongoing demonstration of the faith, love and generosity of caring supporters, all in the name of justice and peace. It is the lifeblood of Caritas Australia. In Project Compassion 2015, $11.57 million was raised to help the world's poorest communities.

**Project Compassion 2016**

This year Caritas is celebrating 50 years of Project Compassion with the theme “Learning more, creating change”. As Pope Francis says “Education is an act of hope”, so this year Project Compassion celebrates the power of learning, and the many ways in which Caritas Australia is working with local partners around the world to provide vital learning and renewed hope to children, women and men most vulnerable to extreme poverty and injustice. Throughout Project Compassion 2016, inspiring stories from Malawi, Laos, Papua New Guinea, Australia, Cambodia and India will show how education, training and sharing knowledge can empower individual communities to transform their futures and create lasting change.

"Together we can empower the world's poorest people with the opportunity to learn, grow and create change.”      Bishop Greg O'Kelly

**Doney's story – Malawi “Learning more, creating change”**

Doney is a quiet and humble woman, but thanks to an innovative program supported by Caritas Australia, she's creating big changes - in her life and in her village. Malawi in East Africa is one of the poorest countries in the world. Most people rely on farming small plots of land to produce food to feed their families. But many, like Doney and her family, have often gone months without enough food to eat. Yet, when Caritas Australia and the local Caritas, CADECOM (the Catholic Development Commission in Malawi), began working in Doney's remote village, they saw beyond the community's challenges. Together they identified the community's strengths, and each family created their vision for a healthier, more sustainable future. CADECOM worked with Doney's community to harness their natural resources. Families were trained in new farming techniques, and already they're producing more plentiful crops. “The problem of malnutrition in my household is an old song now,” says Doney. CADECOM also worked with the community to install a borehole so Doney and her family now have access to clean water, dramatically improving their health. Doney's passion for education was recognised as a strength of the community, so she received training as an Adult Literacy Facilitator through the CADECOM program, and is now teaching adults in her village. These days, the people of Doney's village have access to clean drinking water, flourishing crops and are building their knowledge to create a better future. "My life has been transformed," smiles Doney.

*The village is developing... I would like to thank the people of Australia. The support you provide to us is going to the right people, and is helping us." - Doney*

**LIBRARY NEWS**

Welcome to 2016. It is hard to believe we are into another year.

**Library Classes**

Library classes have commenced and the students are happy to be borrowing and reading some great books. Remember that all students need to have a library bag; this protects the books from spills and is also a safe place to keep the books. Each class has a 45 minute session where they borrow, listen to stories and complete various activities:

- Tuesdays - Year 3, Year 4 and Year 5
- Wednesdays - Foundation, Year 1 and Year 2
- Thursdays - Year 6

**Helpers Needed**

I would really appreciate some helpers with returning the books to the shelves. Please come along on a Tuesday, Wednesday or Thursday afternoon at 3pm. Your support is truly appreciated. Thank you! Happy Reading!

Daniela Borgese (Librarian)
Congratulations to our newly elected Student Representative Council Leaders (SRC). Today at assembly the SRC students received their badges. These students will represent their individual classes at SRC meetings.

Our members for First Semester are:

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<tr>
<th>Year Level</th>
<th>Boy</th>
<th>Girl</th>
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<tr>
<td>Fondation F</td>
<td>Jake</td>
<td>Jamie</td>
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<td>Foundation T</td>
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<td>Year 1J</td>
<td>Yianni</td>
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<td>Year 1S</td>
<td>Eddie</td>
<td>Daisy</td>
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<td>Year 2B</td>
<td>Marat</td>
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<td>Year 2M</td>
<td>Dimitri</td>
<td>Ritisha</td>
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<td>Year 3M</td>
<td>Hans</td>
<td>Vicky</td>
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<td>Year 3S</td>
<td>Mitchell</td>
<td>Mabel</td>
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<td>Maria</td>
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<td>Year 4F</td>
<td>Emmanuel</td>
<td>Lulu</td>
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<td>Year 5M</td>
<td>Vraj</td>
<td>Samantha</td>
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<td>Year 5R</td>
<td>Jaden</td>
<td>Madeleine</td>
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Therese John (Student Wellbeing Leader)

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**Extend OSHC at St Mary’s - Primary School**

Welcome back!
We hope you have had a fantastic summer holiday and are looking forward to the exciting opportunities that 2016 will bring. We are looking forward to seeing lots of familiar faces at After School Care and to welcoming lots of new faces as well.

Existing Families
Don’t forget to manage your 2016 bookings. Last year’s bookings do not roll over so log on to the parent portal NOW to secure your bookings for 2016. You can book for the entire term or year or even book specific dates.

New Families
Enrol online – allow 24 hours
Enrolling is quick and easy! Simply set up your own account online via the Parent Portal. Please note it is government regulation that all children must be enrolled BEFORE attending an Extend service. For information on operating hours and fees for your school, visit your After School Care venue or school website.

Enrol now, pay later
The annual enrolment fee per family of $20 is NOT payable until you first use the service. So why not enrol now so you can access the service later? It doesn’t matter if you don’t end up using the service, because you won’t be charged.

*Watch this space throughout the term for regular updates from our Extend team!*

**PARENT PORTAL:** extend.com.au
EXPERIENCE SUCCESS

Visit Us
OPEN DAY
Sunday 28 February 2016
1–4 pm

T: 03 8517 2777 E: enrolments@pcw.vic.edu.au
187 Dandenong Rd, Windsor, VIC 3181 pcw.vic.edu.au

143 YEARS OF LEARNING, INNOVATION & FRIENDSHIP

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OPEN DAY
Sunday 28th February 2016
12:00pm – 3:00pm
Enquiries: 9529 6611
E: admin@cbcstkilda.com
F: CBC St Kilda
W: www.cbcstkilda.com.au
CAMPS, SPORTS AND EXCURSIONS FUND (CSEF) APPLICATION FORM

School Name

Parent/legal guardian details

Surname

First name

Address

Town/suburb

State

Postcode

Contact number

Centrelink pensioner concession OR Health care card number (CRN)

[ ] YES  [ ] NO

[ ] YES  [ ] NO

Foster parent* OR Veterans affairs pensioner

*Foster Parents must provide a copy of the temporary care order letter from the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS).

Student details

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Child’s surname</th>
<th>Child’s first name</th>
<th>Student ID</th>
<th>Date of birth (dd/mm/yyyy)</th>
<th>Year level</th>
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I authorise the Department of Education and Training (DET) to use Centrelink Confirmation eServices to perform an enquiry of my Centrelink customer details and concession card status in order to enable the business to determine if I qualify for a concession, rebate or service. I also authorise the Australian Government Department of Human Services (DHS) to provide the results of that enquiry to DET.

I understand that:

- DHS will use information I have provided to DET to confirm my eligibility for the Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund and will disclose to DET personal information including my name, address, payment and concession card type and status.
- This consent, once signed, remains valid while my child is enrolled at a registered Victorian school unless I withdraw it by contacting the school.
- I can obtain proof of my circumstances/details from DHS and provide it to DET so that my eligibility for the Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund can be determined.
- If I withdraw my consent or do not alternatively provide proof of my circumstances/details, I may not be eligible for the Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund provided by DET.
- Information regarding my eligibility for the Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund may be disclosed to the Victorian Department of Health and Human Services and/or State Schools Relief for the purpose of evaluating concession card services or confirming eligibility for assistance.

You are able to request access to the personal information that we hold about you, and to request that any errors be corrected, by contacting your child’s school.

Signature of applicant ___________________________ Date __/__/____
CSEF ELIGIBILITY

Below is the criteria used to determine a student’s eligibility for the Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund (CSEF).

Criteria 1 - Eligibility

To be eligible* for the fund, a parent or legal guardian of a student attending a registered Government or non-government Victorian primary or secondary school must:

• on the first day of Term one, or;
• on the first day of Term two;

  a) Be an eligible beneficiary within the meaning of the State Concessions Act 2004, that is, be a holder of Veterans Affairs Gold Card or be an eligible Centrelink Health Care Card (HCC) or Pensioner Concession Card (PCC) holder, OR

  b) Be a temporary foster parent, and;

  c) Submit an application to the school by the due date.

* A special consideration eligibility category also exists. For more information, see: www.education.vic.gov.au/csef

Parents who receive a Carer Allowance on behalf of a child, or any other benefit or allowance not income tested by Centrelink, are not eligible for the CSEF unless they also comply with one of (a) or (b) above.

Criteria 2 - Be of school age and attend school in Victoria

School is compulsory for all Victorian children aged between six and 17 years of age inclusive.

For the purposes of CSEF, students may be eligible for assistance if they attend a Victorian registered primary or secondary school. Typically, these students are aged between five and 18 years inclusive.

CSEF is not payable to students attending pre-school, kindergarten, home schooled, or TAFE.

Eligibility Date

For concession card holders CSEF eligibility will be subject to the parent/legal guardian’s concession card being successfully validated with Centrelink on the first day of either term one (27 January 2016) or term two (11 April 2016).

Closing Date

Parents are encouraged to lodge the application form by 29 February 2016, so that payments can be made from March 2016. However schools can accept parent applications up until 03 June 2016.

PAYMENT AMOUNTS

CSEF payment amount

The CSEF is an annual payment to the school to be used towards camps, sports and/or excursion expenses for the benefit of the eligible student.

• Primary school student rate: $125 per year.
• Secondary school student rate: $225 per year.

The CSEF is paid directly to your child’s school and will be allocated by the school towards camps, sports and/or excursion costs for your child.

For ungraded students, the rate payable is determined by the student’s date of birth. For more information, see: www.education.vic.gov.au/csef

Year 7 government school students who are CSEF recipients are also eligible for a uniform voucher. Secondary schools are required to make applications on behalf of parents so please register your interest at the school.

HOW TO COMPLETE THE APPLICATION FORM

1. Complete the PARENT/Legal Guardian Details section. Make sure that the Surname, First Name, and Customer Reference Number (CRN) details match those on your concession card. You will also need to provide your concession card to the school.

   If you are claiming as a Foster Parent or a Veteran Affairs Pensioner, you will need to provide a copy of documentation confirming your status as a temporary Foster Parent or provide your Veterans Affairs Pensioner Gold card to the school.

2. Complete the STUDENT/S Details section for students at this school.

3. Sign and date the form and return it to the school office.

CSEF payments cannot be claimed retrospectively for prior years.

Queries relating to CSEF eligibility and payments should be directed to the school.