**TERM DATES**

**February**
- Mon 2—Students commence
- Mon 2 to Fri 6—5/6 Camp, Forest Lodge Farm, Yarram
- Wed 11—Sacramental Information Night, 7pm in the hall
- Fri 13—Swimming Trials, 9:30am to 12noon, Grades 1 – 6 only
- Mon 16 & Tue 17—Parent Teacher Interviews
- Fri 20—District Swimming—Qualified competitors only
- Fri 27—Swimming Sports, 9am to 12noon, Grade 1 – 6 only

**March**
- Sat 14—P & F Mitre 10 Mega BBQ Fundraiser
- Thu 26—School Photos
- Fri 27—Term 1 concludes, 2:10pm finish

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**Principal’s Report**

Dear Parents,

Welcome back to the start of the 2015 school year, I hope you have all enjoyed a relaxing and restful holiday period. I’d especially like to welcome all of our new students and families, I’m sure you will enjoy your time with us at St John’s.

Our first term calendar proves to be extremely busy; please keep a close eye on the term dates section of the newsletter.

On staff we officially welcome Mrs Narelle West and Miss Sarah De Koning, they are both very excited about their new roles and I am sure that they will be made to feel welcome by all. We also welcome back Mrs Sarah Manelski from maternity leave.

Our Grade 5/6 students and teachers excitedly headed off on camp yesterday morning to Forest Lodge Farm. They will spend the week enjoying activities such as bush cooking, archery, canoeing, flying fox, giant swing, ropes course and yabbying as well as a visit to Wilsons Promontory.

Thanks to all families for your cooperation with the testing days last week. The teachers enjoyed the opportunity to work individually with the children. At the testing days all families should have received a yellow envelope with forms that are required to be filled in at the start of the school year. We ask that these please be returned to the office ASAP as they are very important. If you do not have the school app I encourage you to download it (see instructions enclosed in the newsletter). It is a very effective method of communication.

Please note that as our Foundation students have Wednesdays off until the long weekend in March, the newsletter will come home on Tuesdays until then.

Beginning of Year Parent / Teacher Interviews for all students will be Monday the 16th and Tuesday the 17th of February. These interviews are exceptionally important as they provide you with the opportunity to get to know your child’s teacher and set learning goals for the year. A positive partnership between home and school is critical in allowing your child to reach their full potential. Bookings are online at www.schoolinterviews.com.au (event code: PF523) and open at 9:30am Wednesday 4th February. I remind parents that you are welcome to make an appointment with your child’s teacher, or Kristy and I, at any time should you have any issues or concerns.

Please keep Friday the 20th February free in your diary as this is our Welcoming Picnic. It is traditionally a great night that provides a wonderful way to welcome our new families, mix together, get to know people and have fun. It will be between 5:30-8pm. Families bring along their own dinner and enjoy some games and activities.

For new families who have put in a bus application form we do not find out until late February, early March, if you have been successful. As soon as we are made aware we will let you know, however, until families receive that notification new students cannot travel on the bus. A reminder to existing bus travelers that unless we receive formal notification (note, phone call) your child will be placed on the bus each evening.

A reminder that students are not to arrive at school before 8.30am each morning and we ask that for the safety of our children all parents enter Salmon St from the Station St end, drop off and continue to exit in the same direction. This avoids congestion and makes the drop off safer. If you are parking and walking into the school we ask that you please use the car park area or stop further down Salmon St, leaving the area parallel to the basketball court for quick drop off only.

Attached to this newsletter you will receive a copy of the Emergency Alert-National Telephone Warning System. We have been asked to distribute this flyer so you are aware of the...
system used to warn people of an emergency within your area. With the growing number of children now having their own mobile phone, it is essential they know what to do if they receive an emergency telephone warning. Similarly, that they know how to respond if they answer the home phone when a warning comes.

Mrs Ann Larkins will be teaching private piano lessons this year on Mondays starting from the 16th February. These lessons are available for all students, if you are interested in further details please contact Ann at school or email alar-kins@stjohnskwr.catholic.edu.au

This year our whole school assemblies will be on Mondays at 2:30pm, our first assembly for the year will be on Monday 9th February.

Both Kristy Telford and I will be away on camp for the week, if you have any concerns please contact Nancy in the office. Karleigh Fiddelaers and Louise Hennessey will share Principal responsibilities in our absence.

Regards,

Justin Greenwood
Principal

Please note—All families have received a paper copy of the newsletter this week. As of next week families who have indicated that they would prefer the newsletter electronically will not receive a paper copy.

St John’s Staff 2015

Parish Priest: Fr. Hilarion Fernando
Principal: Mr Justin Greenwood
Deputy Principal/Wellbeing & Special Education Leader: Mrs Kristy Telford
Religious Education Learning Leader: Mrs Louise Hennessy
Learning Leader: Miss Karleigh Fiddelaers
Learning Leader: Miss Danielle Kemp
Sport Co-ordinator: Miss Meaghan Cook
Administration Officers: Ms Nancy Rintoule, Mrs Di O’Hehir

Class Teachers:
F/1 BM: Mrs Claire Bird (3 days), Mrs Sarah Manelski (2days)
F/1 D: Miss Sarah De Koning
1/2 F: Miss Karleigh Fiddelaers
2B: Miss Brooke Baldwin
3/4 H: Mrs Louise Hennessy
3/4 W: Mrs Narelle West
3/4 C: Miss Meaghan Cook
5/6 K: Miss Danielle Kemp
5/6 M: Mrs Rhiannon McFarlane (4 days), Mrs Jacqui Dennis (1 day)
5/6 S: Mr Bill Speekman (4 days), Mrs Marlene Scanlon (1 day)

Specialist Classes:
Physical Education: Mrs Jacqui Dennis
Music/Italian: Mrs Ann Larkins
Art: Mrs Claire Bird
Drama: Mrs Rhiannon McFarlane
Library: Mrs Marlene Scanlon

Support Staff:
Mrs Wendy DeGroot
Mrs Leonie Mure
Mrs Eileen Crowley
Miss Melinda Hunt
Mrs Sharylene McDonald

IT Technician: Mrs Eileen Crowley

Specialist Classes for 2015 are as follows:

Sport
Wednesday: 5/6K, 5/6M, 2B, F/1BM, 1/2F

Music/Italian: (Music first semester/Italian second semester)
Tuesday: 3/4C, 3/4H, 1/2 F, 3/4W, F/1BM
Wednesday: 5/6M, 5/6S, 5/6K, F/1D, 2B

Library
Wednesday: 5/6S, 5/6M, F/1BM
Fees—EFT Details
Families wishing to pay fees via EFT can do so using the following Banking Details:
BSB: 083 879  Acc No:  69544 2410
Acc Name: St Johns Primary School
Your family name or account number must be noted in the detail.

EFTPOS is now available at St Johns for payment of fees.
Please note:
We do not offer CASH OUT
EFTPOS is not available for— Uniform shop, Scholastic Bookclub or other P&F fundraisers.

Join us on Skoolbag for all our latest news delivered to your phone!
Search: St John the Baptist Koo Wee Rup in the iPhone App store or Google play. Don’t forget to allow push notifications.
If you do not have a smart phone and require an SMS for urgent alerts please advise the office.

KOO WEE RUP CATHOLIC PARISHES IN PARTNERSHIP
Including the communities of St Joseph’s, Iona; St James, Nar Nar Goon; Holy Family, Maryknoll; St John’s, Koo Wee Rup and St Mary’s, Lang Lang.
Administrator: Fr. Dom Hilarion Fernando OSB
Ph: 03 5997 1510   Fax: 03 5997 2220
Mob: 0478 909 541
Email: hilarionfernando@yahoo.com
Parish Deacon: Rev.Tony Aspinall
12A Pearson Street, Bunyip, 3815
03 5629 5865 or 0414 468 892
Email: apaspinall@bigpond.com

Baptism Enquiries—Ph 5942 5293
Sister Cathy Deane RSI, Koo Wee Rup 5997 2660

WEEKEND MASS TIMES:
St Joseph’s, Iona—Sunday 11am
Holy Family, Maryknoll
2nd Sunday, 8am
St James, Nar Nar Goon
Saturday 6.00pm
St John’s, Koo Wee Rup
Sunday 9:30am
St Mary’s, Lang Lang
3rd Sunday, 8am
Alternatively, upon request.

A Wellbeing Message
At St Johns, we believe that wellbeing is central to learning. The better you feel and the greater you are supported, the more motivated and engaged you are likely to be. We encourage strong home-school links and regular communication to achieve the best possible developmental outcomes for your child.

If you have some spare time, we highly recommend you visit Michael Grose’s website, http://www.parentingideasschools.com.au, for more information on building positive home-school partnerships. Monthly articles are also available at our School Office.

If you have anything you would like to discuss regarding your child’s health or wellbeing, please do not hesitate to make an appointment to see myself or your child’s teacher so that we can work together in the interest of your child.

Kindest Regards, Kristy Telford

Canteen closed until advised otherwise.

Birthdays 1/1/15 to 9/2/15

Uniform Shop
The uniform shop is open on Friday afternoons: 2:45pm to approx. 3:15pm
Alternatively, completed order forms with payment can be left at the office. These will be processed on Friday afternoons and uniform sent home with your child.
Payment must be made at time of purchase. Cash or cheque made payable to St Johns PFA.