FEBRUARY 4 2016 No 2

**Shrove Tuesday**
On Tuesday staff provided pancakes for students and families as they arrived at school. It was wonderful to see our school community celebrating this Catholic tradition together.

Parent Teacher Meetings
Parent Teacher Meetings will be held on Tuesday 16 and Wednesday 17 February from 3:40-6:30pm. This year we are trialling conducting all meetings in the school hall. There will be a waiting area and a book display available to parents. The purpose of this first parent/teacher meeting is to provide an opportunity for parents and teachers to meet each other, exchange information about students and begin to develop open communication, which in turn will benefit student learning. Please follow the instructions for school interviews online to book meeting times with your child’s teacher.

**Student Medical and Contact Information**
Parents please ensure that the hard copy of family contact details form you received with the term 1 fee information is returned to the school office with any changes to information. It is important that the school has up to date information regarding your child and family.

**Parents and Friends**
I encourage parents to consider becoming active in our school community by joining the Parent’s and Friends. We are looking for parents who are willing to hold positions of treasurer and secretary. Research suggests that parent engagement in their child’s school contributes to improved student outcomes. I look forward to working with many of you.

**DATES TO REMEMBER**

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St Catherine’s Parish Mass Times
Wednesday 10am
Saturday 8.30am
Sunday 8.30am & 10.30am
Welcome Picnic
This Friday 12 February from 5:30-7:30pm families are invited to gather at school for a picnic. Parents and friends will sell BBQ sausages and drinks. This is a great opportunity to meet other families and staff. I hope to see you there.

Principal

Parent Initiated – Parish Based – School Supported Sacramental Program

Thank you to the families in our schools who attended the Family Nights this week in preparation for Reconciliation. We have moved to a Parent Initiated – Parish Based – School Supported Program across the three schools. The organisational approach we have introduced in 2016 is having 2 Family Nights for each sacrament with families going online to select the day and venue that best suits the family. Two of the schools will host a Family Night and the third school will host the Reflection Day. This is an effective way in which we can optimise our resources. For Reconciliation St Peter’s and St Catherine’s hosted the Family Nights and St Paul’s will host the Reflection Day. With Eucharist St Paul’s and St Catherine’s will host the Family Nights and St Peter’s the Reflection Day. With Confirmation: St Paul’s and St Peter’s will host the Family Nights and St Catherine’s the Reflection Day. Details will be sent out to those Families involved when appropriate for the remaining sacraments.

Father Michael spoke at both meetings about how parents take up the invitation for their children to participate fully in the Sacraments. He made the point that the teachers ‘teach’ the knowledge and understanding of the content but it is the parents’ responsibility to impart faith in their children. The children preparing for Reconciliation received a book this week and it provides a forum to have the conversation with your child about their preparation.

Parent Initiated – Parish Based – School Supported is all of us working together to support the children we care about.

New School Website

In 4th Term last year representatives from the three schools met with a web developer to have a new website that would be reflective of our Federated Schools www.trinityparishschools.catholic.edu.au The planning began then and we did not renew the hosting of our previous websites for 2016 with the belief we would be ready to launch the new site at the beginning of the school year. We have had a slight hold up and as a result the current website has been closed. Today a ‘Coming Soon’ page should have been uploaded and in the next week or so our Federated site will be launched. I apologise for any inconvenience.

Best wishes
Michael Juliff
Co-Ordinating Principal
St Peter’s, St Paul’s & St Catherine’s

Education in Faith

Reconciliation 2016
Families participating in the Parent Initiated – Parish Based – School Supported Sacrament of Reconciliation Program gathered together this week to begin preparation to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation this year. Families are asked to attend one of the Parish masses across the Parish this weekend to receive a purple candle and pray with their family and parish Community. These candles will be used during the Communal and Individual Reconciliation ceremonies. Please refer to the letter sent home on January 29th for more details.

Mass Supporting People Seeking Asylum
Next Tuesday, 16th February Father Michael, Michael Juliff and 9 students from St Catherine’s, St Peter’s and St Paul’s will represent Holy Trinity Parish at a Mass at St Patrick’s Cathedral to support people seeking asylum. Families are invited to attend. More details can be found on the last page of this newsletter.

Carmel Doolea
Religious Education Leader

Old Cutlery Wanted

The art room needs your unwanted cutlery for an upcoming project. Any type is suitable but forks, spoons and any kind of metal spatulas and whisks would be perfect! Donations can be left at the office or in the box provided at the art room door.

Thank you for your continued support of the Visual Arts Program at St Catherine’s.

Sandra Renehan.
Dear Parents

We have had no Volunteers to help with Canteen this week. This service cannot operate Effectively without support. Please email Kylie with available dates.

P & F Report

Thank you for those who came along to the ‘meet & greet’ morning tea yesterday. It was lovely to chat and I appreciate your interest in helping the P&F this year. We are still in need of helpers to complete our team and to share the workload so please if you are interested let me know on the email address below...after all, it is helping the school community and it would be lovely to see new faces join the committee.

Another committee we do need to fill is the Fete Committee for our 2017 Fete. This is very important to organise as soon as possible as it is big event for our school and there is lots of planning to be done. It is a separate committee to the P&F.

We look forward to seeing you all at the ‘Welcome BBQ’ this Friday from 530pm til 730pm. Don’t forget to bring some money to purchase a sausage sizzle, drink, icypole or chocolate. The BBQ will be set up on the oval as it is supposed to be a beautiful sunny afternoon.

Easter chocolate drive is underway, I know it is not the healthiest of options but it is not done every year. It is such a great fundraiser and if we manage to sell all the stocks we can make a substantial amount of money to go towards the playground upgrade.

If any queries at all, please do not hesitate to contact me at carapeto@optusnet.com.au
Regards, Kylie Carapeto

Sports News 2016

Swimming

Our sporting school year starts off with Swimming Trials for our Year 3/4 and 5/6 to enter the Zone Swimming Carnival. Notes have been sent home with those children interested but it must be made clear that children are proficient swimmers in their chosen stroke/s and must be able to swim 50 metres easily. Good luck to all those having a go.

Cross Country

Training for Cross Country began on Tuesday 2nd February with a record number of participants trying out this year. The event is not till May but we want to perform the best we can while still having fun. Any extra training would be appreciated at home.

State School Victoria nomination process

Nominations are now open for parents to register their child for School Sport Victoria if they believe their child truly excels in a particular sport. This is for elite athletes only not just Best and Fairest players. I would suggest parents to go to ssv.vic.edu.au to check out the nomination process.

Hockey Clinic

This week all children participated in a Hockey Clinic run by Hockey Victoria. It was enjoyed by all.

Sports Tops

Children have been allocated their sport top for this year. When used they are to be washed and returned to school by the following Monday. In the event of the top being lost it will need to be replaced at the family’s expense.

Susan Pattinson

Financial Assistance Information for Parents Camps, Sports & Excursions Fund (CSEF)

Every Victorian child should have access to the world of learning opportunities that exist beyond the classroom. The Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund will ensure that no student will miss out on the opportunity to join their classmates for important, educational and fun activities. School camps provide children with inspiring experiences in the great outdoors, excursions encourage a deeper understanding of how the world works and sports teach teamwork, discipline and leadership. All are part of a healthy curriculum. CSEF will be provided by the Victorian Government to assist eligible families to cover the costs of school trips, camps and sporting activities. If you hold a valid means-tested concession card or are a temporary foster parent, you may be eligible for CSEF. The allowance will be paid to the school to use towards expenses relating to camps, excursions, or sporting activities for the benefit of your child. The annual CSEF amount per student will be: $125 for primary school students $225 for secondary school students. How to Apply Contact the school office to obtain a CSEF application form or download from www.education.vic.gov.au/csef Closing Date You should lodge a CSEF application form at the school by 25th February, 2016. For more information about the CSEF visit www.education.vic.gov.au/csef

Canteen Roster

Dear Parents

We have had no Volunteers to help with Canteen this week.

This service cannot operate Effectively without support.

Please email Kylie with available dates.
Dear Parents,

At the beginning of every school year we invite parents to attend our ‘Meet and Greet’ interviews. The purpose of this is to meet with your child’s teacher to share information regarding your child. Ten-minute interview times are allocated per child.

Parent/Teacher interviews will be held between 3.40pm and 6.30pm on 3.40pm and 6.30pm Tuesday 16th February and Wednesday 17th February.

You can book interviews at times that suit YOUR FAMILY BEST. Go to www.schoolinterviews.com.au and follow these simple instructions.

GO to www.schoolinterviews.com.au
Enter the school event code. Then follow the 3 simple steps.

1. Enter your details
2. Choose teachers
3. Choose times

When you click finish, your interview timetable will be emailed to you automatically – check your junk mail folder if you do not receive your email immediately. You can return to www.schoolinterviews.com.au at any time, and change your interviews – until bookings close.

BOOKINGS OPEN 4pm Wednesday 10th FEBRUARY AND CLOSE 8pm, Monday 15th FEBRUARY.

*Parents that don’t have access to the internet at home, at work or at a friend’s house can contact the school office on 95557200 and a time will be entered on your behalf.

*Interviews are strictly 10 minutes and spaces are limited. If you require more time, please contact your teacher directly to make alternative arrangements.

*Parents can change their interview bookings, any time prior to the closing date, by re-visitng the www.schoolinterviews.com.au website, and using the event code. Remember to use the same name and email address, you used when you made your original booking. Parents wishing to change their interview times after the closing date should contact the school directly on 95557200.

All Interviews will take place in the School Hall. Please enter via the front double doors-Fletcher street entrance. Ben’s Books will host a BOOK FAIR in the Hall Foyer for interested families.

Kind Regards
Lynda O’Donnell

Principal
CONSENT FORM

By completing signing this form I give permission for my personal details to be distributed onto a class list and given to each family in my child’s class. You can choose to add mother or father or both.

Please complete the attached and return to the office by Monday, 15th February 2016

CHILD'S NAME: ___________________________ GRADE: ________

PARENTS/GUARDIANS

Mothers Name: ___________________________

Mobile No.: ___________________________ Home No.: ___________________________

Email address: ___________________________

Signature: ___________________________

Fathers Name: ___________________________

Mobile No.: ___________________________ Home No.: ___________________________

Email address: ___________________________

Signature: ___________________________
Nude Food EVERY Wednesday this TERM

Nude Food snacks and lunches starts Wednesday 17th February and continues for each Wednesday this term. Nude food is simply food that is not wrapped in plastic, foil or commercial packaging. The best type of nude food consists mainly of fresh food, so that it is healthy and nutritious PLUS environmentally friendly.

Promoting Nude Food empowers all students to make conscious choices about what they eat and encourages them to think about their impact on the environment, as well as their health!

Each class will keep a tally of the amount of rubbish (non-organic) that students need to throw out at snack and lunch per class and try to ‘beat’ this score each week. There may even be some friendly competition between classes! You can help by discussing what nude food is at home and by some simple changes to your child’s lunch box.

Sandra Surace
Sustainability and Wellbeing Leader

‘I sea, I care’ Student Reflection

The ISIC Student Ambassadors had a great adventure at the end of 2015, where they boarded a boat and tried snorkelling with the dolphins and weedy sea dragons. It was a day of many firsts as well as some challenges. The students all reflected on their experiences of the day. Here is a small snippet of their thoughts:

“We spotted tonnes of dolphins. They were swimming under the boats doing flips and all kinds of things.’ Elara

“I was so excited because underneath me was a dolphin!’ Kate

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ISIC noticeboard, as well as enjoy some great photos of the event

The students are now looking forward to their next workshop on Thursday 25th February where they will learn the art of peer tutoring. We look forward to sharing this experience with you.

Sandra Surace
Sustainability and Wellbeing Leader
ISIC Coordinator
Parent Teacher Interviews

3:40pm to 6:30pm Tuesday 16 and Wednesday 17 February will be in the school hall. Parents are invited to view/purchase merchandise / books from Ben’s Books. There will be a display in the school foyer. Credit cards and cash payment will be accepted.

Two of our past students, Lauren Schellebeck and Emily Bishop, will be performing in this production.
PRAY TO LET THEM STAY

Liturgy with Bishop Vincent Long & Action in Solidarity with the 267 people who face possible return to Nauru

TUESDAY, 16 FEBRUARY 2016, 11.00am

St Patrick’s Cathedral, East Melbourne

ALL WELCOME!

"The Federal government has an opportunity to show true leadership and compassion in allowing these people to stay in Australia. This is a chance to be viewed as the compassionate and democratic nation we claim to be."

(Archbishop Denis Hart op 9/2/16)