Dear Parents,

The children are to be congratulated on the manner in which they have settled into school this year. We have enjoyed a calm and ordered beginning to the year. Our Preps have also commenced their schooling on a positive note. On Tuesday and Wednesday the Yrs 1 - 6 enjoyed an incursion. The focus of the activities was on teamwork and working together. At last week’s Friday assembly, our school captains – Jarrod and Katia – introduced a song ‘Count on Me’ as a prompt for the children that being a friend requires positive actions. This mirrors one of the themes of Matthew’s Gospel that we are called to action: “for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, I was a stranger and you made me welcome, naked and you clothed me, sick and you visited me, in prison and you came to see me” (Matthew 25:35). We are also reminded in this Gospel to be “a light for the world.” (Matthew 5:14). We are also using a lantern as a symbol to remind us of that call to action, to be a light, or show the way, in our dealing with others within our community. This morning at Mass, lanterns were carried forward at the beginning of Mass.

FAMILY FISH’N’CHIP NIGHT
All families are very warmly invited to our Fish’n’Chip night this evening. 5:30pm onwards on the Oval. This is an opportunity for us to gather as a community to mark the beginning of the school year. It is a BYO everything.

PARENT INFORMATION NIGHT
As detailed on the flyer that was sent home on Friday, we have organized a Parent seminar on Wednesday 12th February. We have engaged Georgina Manning to run the parent workshop commencing at 7pm in the Hall. The topic: “5 Secrets to build resilient and confident children” should be of interest to all parents. Later this term Georgina will be working with the staff on Mindfulness Meditation. This will be on Monday 17th March. This will be a school closure day.

LUNCH ORDERS
Classroom Cuisine will be our lunch order provider for Mondays and Fridays. Details of the menu and costs are to found at www.classroomcuisine.com.au
All orders must be placed on line before 8.30am. Our School has no access to the service and will not be able to place late orders.

SCHOOL HATS
A reminder that children are required to have their school hats for recess, lunchtimes and PE. Please, please ensure hats are clearly named.

EDUCATION MAINTENANCE ALLOWANCE
The Education Maintenance Allowance (EMA) is provided by the Victorian Government to lower-income families to help with education-related costs.

If you have a child under 16, and you hold a valid Health Care Card, Pension Card, or are a temporary foster parent, you may be eligible to receive the EMA. The allowance is paid in two instalments, one in March and one in August.

In 2014, the annual EMA amount per student is:
- $200 for prep students
- $150 for students in years 1 – 6.
- $300 for year 7 students
- $250 for students in year 8 – until age 16*.

How to Apply: Contact the school office to obtain an EMA application form.

Closing Date: You need to obtain an EMA application form from the school office and return by 28 February 2014.

SCHOOL FEES
Accounts were sent home yesterday. Accounts are sent out 3 times per year and parents are asked to make prompt payments. Our school has a budget, based on our income and we need fees and levies to be paid so that we can resource our curriculum areas. Parents need to make payments by the due dates each term.

FRIDAY ASSEMBLY
All parents are most welcome to attend our Friday morning Assembly.

CONDOLENCES
Our thoughts and prayers are with the Callander family (Archie 3/4JP & Fergus 5/6P) on the loss of their grandmother over the holidays. We also keep in our prayers the Donnell on family (Sophia 3/4EP & Ana 1/2G) whose grandfather passed away last week.

CONGRATULATIONS
Congratulations to Jodie and Luigi Colabufulo on the arrival of their baby boy Lucas. A brother for Jessica 1/2W and Isabella.

ACER Computer Monitors 19”
We have a few Acer desktop monitors and some keyboards that we no longer require. A small donation is all we need if you would like to have one. Please contact the office or let the office staff know.
COHR FETE MEETING
The first meeting for the COHR 2014 Fete will be held on Tuesday 18th February at 7:30pm in the school hall. These meetings are open meetings and everyone is invited to attend to contribute new ideas, volunteer their time and skills to ensure the Fete is a fun, community event that we can all be proud of.

A committee is being formed for the Fete with the newly appointed President Simon Fisher and Vice Presidents Sarah Arnott and Gabby Allan. The position of Secretary remains vacant and we require many general committee members to take on the numerous tasks required to make the Fete a success.

We invite all members of the school community to consider becoming members of the Fete committee or to consider ways in which they are able to contribute for 2014. As a major fundraiser for the school bi-annually, it is essential the entire school gets behind this fun event. Not only will the children have a day to remember but the rewards of your efforts will be seen long after the Fete has passed.

If you cannot attend but would like to be involved, have ideas to contribute or perhaps are able to sponsor or make donations for the event, please contact Simon on 0409 219 981 or email simfisher@deloitte.com.au

A suggestion box has also been placed in the school foyer for your feedback and suggestions.

AVILA OPEN DAYS
Wednesday 19 February
Tuesday 20 May
Thursday 14 August
Tuesday 28 October.

School tours begin at 9am followed by an address from the Principal Ms Louise Gunther and members of the Leadership team. On line registration is now available by visiting www.avilacollege.vic.edu.au, clicking on Quick Links and then Open Mornings.

SALESIAN INFORMATION EVENING
Addressed by Principal Mr Robert Brennan, our Prospective Parent and Student Information Night shares key educational and transition material, as well as the opportunity to ask those questions you would prefer to speak face-to-face.

What you can expect from the evening:
- Exciting School Master and Building Plans
- Hear for current Year 8 and Year 12 students about what it means to be a Salesian College Chadstone student
- Year 9 Purpose built campus visit
- Explanation of the Enrolment process
- Transition program
Date: Thursday 13th Feb
Time: 7:00pm
Location: Mannix Campus, cnr Kelly St and Swanson Crs
Parking: onsite
RSVP: http://www.salesian.vic.edu/visit-our-college/ and click on ‘Book this tour’.

TERM ONE
February
Thursday 6th
School Mass

Wednesday 12th
Family Fish’n’Chip night

Monday 10th
Parent Information night 7pm

Friday 14th
Parent ‘Chats’ this week

Tuesday 18th
Inter school sport commences (Yrs 5 & 6)

Sat 22nd & Sun 23rd
FETE meeting

Mass
Reconciliation Commitment

Wednesday 26th
Parents’ Association AGM

Thursday 27th
Information Night – Reconciliation (Yr3)

Friday 28th
Enrolments for Catholic secondary schools close

March
Monday 3rd
School Photo day

Wednesday 5th
Ash Wednesday
Yr 5 & 6 leave for Camp

Friday 7th
Yr 5 & 6 return from Camp

Monday 10th
Labour Day holiday

Thursday 13th
Education Board meeting

Saturday 15th
Catholic Education Visual Arts Exhibition

Monday 17th
School Closure day

Thursday 20th
Mass for schools at St Patrick’s Cathedral

Friday 21st
National Day against Bullying & Violence

Wednesday 26th
Parents’ Association meeting

Monday 31st
School Sports day (children dismissed at 2:30pm)

April
Friday 4th
Term 1 ends (children dismissed at 2:30pm)

With thanks,

Thomas Coghlan
PRINCIPAL

DAVID MCNAMARA TENNIS COACHING
Enrol now for tennis lessons at Christ Our Holy Redeemer Tennis Club
When: Before School and Saturday morning
Who: All age groups and standards
New groups for beginners available
Where: Holy Redeemer Tennis Club
Phone: David McNamara (T.C.A.V Coach)
Home: 9803 5754
Mobile: 0413 058 876
During “O” Week

We are learning about our classroom routines

We are learning about Respect for Ourselves, Others and the Community

We are learning how to take pride in our work and learning environment

We are learning about each other

We are learning about Restorative Practices