Dear Parents,

As you may be aware,
I am heading off to Spain on Sunday to walk part of the Camino. The Way of St James or Camino de Santiago was one of the most important Christian pilgrimages during the Middle Ages, together with Rome and Jerusalem. During these times the route was highly travelled. However, the Black Death, the Protestant Reformation and political unrest in 16th century Europe led to its decline. The route has attracted a growing number of modern-day pilgrims and tourists from around the globe. I will be walking with fellow Principals from the South East Principals’ Network. Over the past year the Network has been preparing by studying the works and leadership style of Pope Francis and Ignation Spirituality. The pilgrimage will entail walking the last 120 kilometres of the Camino in 6 days from Sarria to the resting place of the Apostle St James at the Santiago Cathedral. This spiritual pilgrimage has for me a number of foci - it has a focus on mediation and prayer, building a relationship with my fellow Principals, being able to walk in the footsteps of the early members of our Church, as well as representing the COHR community.

Since early times peoples of many faith traditions have formed pilgrimages to sacred sites. Many Australian have a sense of pilgrimage as they hike the Kokoda trail, or go to Gallipoli to remember those who have fought and died for their country. Mecca is regarded as the holiest city in Islam, and a pilgrimage is obligatory for all able Muslims. For Christians, the significance of pilgrimage is in part to enable the successful bidders to collect their items for weeding. There will be a sausage sizzle afterwards.

WORKING BEE – Saturday 5th September
There is a Working Bee planned for Saturday 5th September. We will need extra rakes, brooms and gardening forks for weeding. There will be a sausage sizzle afterwards.

CONDOLENCES
Our prayers and thoughts are with the Theodorakakis family upon the death of Alexa’s (Yr 5/6W) grandfather. We also pray for the Carlson family (Tiffany 5/6W) on the death of her grandmother.

CONCERT

Tickets Order forms were sent home last week. **Tickets are available to parents and siblings not at the school.** There will be no designated seats. This ensures that each family will be represented as there are limited seats in the hall.

Tickets will be sent home today. Any families who have not purchased tickets yet are asked to order them by tomorrow so that extra tickets can go on sale next week.

**Costumes** All costumes are to be completed and at school by this Friday (tomorrow).

**Dress Rehearsal on Wednesday 16th September at 1:30pm in the COHR hall.** This is an opportunity for any family members/friends, especially grandparents who will not be attending on the night of the concert. To assist with the seating, could you kindly fill in the attached form.

**Photos** Individual photos and class photos will be taken on **Wednesday 9th September** and will be available for purchase on Concert night. The entire concert will be filmed, and DVD’s will be available for purchase at the beginning of next Term. We are very grateful that Joe Armao (Madeleine 3/4L & Alessandra 1/2W) has volunteered to take the photos.

**Rehearsal Day: Thurs 17th Sept** Buses will ferry the children to and from Sacred Heart College on the day.

**FATHERS’ DAY STALL**
Many thanks to the organisers of the Fathers’ Day stall and to those who assisted in the setting up yesterday afternoon and to those who were here today helping with the sales!

**Silent Auction:** There is a Silent Auction of a signed Richmond Football Jumper, a gas outdoor patio heater, and a voucher from Rapid Tune to the value of $800+ as well as the carpark for Term 4. The Rock Star Car Park auction is currently underway in the foyer. The silent auction for the above items began on Monday. Bidding will close at 3:30pm on Friday 4th September to enable the successful bidders to collect their items for Fathers’ day.
DISTRICT ATHLETICS

On Monday 67 students from Yrs 3 – 6 represented our school at the District Athletics. Congratulations to all students who competed and represented our school with pride.

Thank you to Mr Bernardo, Mrs Heil, Mrs Fisher, Mr Falconieri, Mrs Makrogiannidis, Mrs Iverson and Mrs Heil for all te help with athletics on the day. A special note of congratulations to the following students who progressed to the next level:

Harry Chetwin shotput
Tom Reid shotput
Mitchell Boyce high jump
Daniel Amendola shotput
Nicholas Montano shotput
Jemma Ryan triple jump & loom
Antonia Tolmacev shotput
Christian Heil high jump
Mia Franzoni shotput
Tiffany Carlson discuss

11 year old girls Relay

Thank you to all the parents who helped out with the breakfast program throughout the term. We really appreciated it.

CHILDREN’S CHOIR

“The Children’s Choir will be singing on Sunday, 6 September at 11am Mass – Father’s Day.

No Choir Practice on Thursday, 10 September. Will resume on Thursday, 17 September.

The Choir has been invited to sing at the Sacred Heart Church on 25th October, 2.00pm for an afternoon Mass dedicated to Our Lady.”

TERM THREE DATES

September
Saturday 5th Working Bee – 8am until 10:30am
Sunday 6th Fathers’ day
Thursday 17th CONCERT
Friday 18th End of term – children dismissed 2:30pm.

October
Monday 5th Term 4 commences

Wishing all fathers and grandfathers a wonderful family day on Sunday.

With best wishes,

Thomas Coghlan
PRINCIPAL
**BOOKS Light Up Our World** and they certainly did on our Book Week Parade. We all enjoyed seeing the wonderful ideas and creations that our students had put into dressing as a book character. We had such a variety of characters from well known and loved characters to lots of new characters. We had many of our senior students collaborating and coming as a group of characters as well. Whether it is a complete costume or a character dressed in everyday clothes with an object to make them standout, there was certainly lots of colour and excitement at our parade. All students were keen to share who they were on the microphone!

Thank you to the staff that were the delightful pug from Pig the Pug by Aaron Blabey. Thank you to the students for sharing their excitement with us all and their buddies when they did activities together. AND of course it all happens because of the wonderful support from our parents. I know dress up days can be hard, especially if you have a few children to outfit, but many thanks to you all for your support with the characters and costumes. We did truly celebrate the joy we get from books.

Thank You

Karen Wakeling
Catholic family life is an opportunity to recognize the grace of God in our daily lives. You are invited to nurture your family’s faith with the readings, reflections and activities below…

For more resources, check out our COHR Religion Blog – [http://recohr.global2.vic.edu.au](http://recohr.global2.vic.edu.au)

**THIS SUNDAY’S GOSPEL**

**Mark 7:31-37**

Jesus heals the deaf man.

Returning from the district of Tyre, Jesus went by way of Sidon towards the sea of Galilee, right through the Decapolis region. And they brought him a deaf man who had an impediment in his speech; and they asked him to lay his hand on him.

He took him aside in private, away from the crowd, put his fingers into the man’s ears and touched his tongue with spittle. Then looking up to heaven he sighed; and he said to him, ‘Ephphatha,’ that is, ‘Be opened.’ And his ears were opened, and the ligament of his tongue was loosened and he spoke clearly.

And Jesus ordered them to tell no one about it, but the more he insisted, the more widely they published it. Their admiration was unbounded. ‘He has done all things well,’ they said ‘he makes the deaf hear and the dumb speak.’

FAMILY CONNECTION

This Sunday’s Gospel invites us to consider how we witness the healing presence of Christ in our care for and ministry to those who are sick. We notice that the deaf man is brought to Jesus for healing by his friends. These people beg Jesus to lay his hands on this deaf man so that he might be healed. Jesus’ healing power is shown in his opening of the man’s ears and the restoring of his speech. When family members care for one another when they are sick, they bring Christ’s healing presence. When we pray for those who are ill, we ask God to show his healing power. When health is restored, we share that good news with others.

As you gather as a family, recall a time when a family member was ill. What steps were taken to help restore this family member to health? Talk about what it feels like to care for a person who is ill, and about how it feels to be the sick person being cared for. In today’s Gospel, we hear about a time when Jesus healed a man who was deaf.

Read this Sunday’s Gospel. Notice how the man who was cured and his friends could not honor Jesus’ request to keep quiet about Jesus’ power to heal. We continue to celebrate Jesus’ healing presence in our lives by giving thanks to God for the gift of healing and health. Conclude in prayer, thanking Jesus for the gifts of health and healing. Pray together for those who are sick. After each person is named, pray, “Jesus, heal us.”