Dear Parents,

Traditionally, the third Sunday of Advent is called Gaudete Sunday, the Sunday of Joy. The joy of this Sunday comes both from the message of the readings and from the anticipation that Christmas is nearing. The focus for this week is again on John the Baptist. We know him by this name. When people came to see this strange man in the wilderness, living in dire poverty on the margins of society, to give his name ‘John’ would have been inadequate. This Gospel immediately puts the inter-relationship with another – that is how we are to understand who he is. This Gospel never calls him John the Baptist. No, he is John the Witness, ‘a witness to speak for the Light’.

Witness? Witness to what? To the Light. He makes a very clear distinction between himself and the Christ, his mission is simply to point towards the light; the Christ. This year, we have been using the symbol of light within our school community. The light of Christ is evident in different ways. As a school community we can look back over the year with much pride and satisfaction. Some of the highlights/achievements throughout the year are:

Education in Faith
Sacramental programs
Family Week
Mission Week
Gospel values
School masses and liturgies
Link with social justice

Learning and Teaching
Various incursions and excursions
Senior camp
Whole school learning
Specialist programs
Health programs
Maths Week
Intervention and extension groups across levels
Special events: Italian day, Art show
Integration of IT, blogs and Google drive
Parent-teacher interviews and student conferences

Student Wellbeing
Values in action
Buddy programs across the school
Seasons program

Maintaining the veggie garden
Focus on Mindfulness
Focus on anti-bullying
Flow Club
Games for social seats

School Community
Education Board
Parents’ Association
Fete – committee and successful outcomes
School events – Sports day, Art show
Out of hours school care
Parent and family evenings and events
School disco
P.A. trivia night
Grandparents’ day
Bookweek activities
Maths games evening
Celebration of Sr. Patricia’s golden jubilee
Fundraisers
Running club
COHR Feast day
School assembly
Prep orientation program
Working bees
Parent Seminar (led by Georgina Manning – Tips to encourage Resilience and Confidence in our Children)
Welcome to new staff/school members
Parent information session for 2015 camp
2015 Prep Orientation program
Year 6 Graduation/Year 5 Leadership programs

THANKS
One of the strengths of our school is the wonderful and outstanding support we receive from you – the parents. We are blessed with parents who: assist in the classrooms; who help out with excursions and sport; who are involved with the Parents Association, Fete Committee or the Education Board; or who assist with Hot Dog days, working bees, sausage sizzles; or helping out on Sports day .... Our school is enriched by the outstanding support of our parents ...THANK YOU.

ROCK STAR CARPARK
The rock star car park auction will conclude at the Christmas Party tomorrow night.
COHR CHRISTMAS PARTY
You are welcome to attend the COHR Christmas Party tomorrow evening from 5-7pm on the oval. Thanks to families who have responded with RSVP slips to help us cater the sausage sizzle for correct numbers. This is a wonderful opportunity to gather together to celebrate a year of achievements. You can BYO drink, chairs, salad etc.

LIBRARY NEWS
Unfortunately this year we have a lot of books that are still overdue.
Could you please check your child’s bedroom, house bookshelves or school bags for any COHR books and return to school promptly. Thank you

STAFFING FOR 2015

Level One (Prep)
Nicole Harink  Prep H
Susan Daly  Prep D

Level Two (One/Two)
Jo White  1/2 W
Emily Shannon  1/2 S
Phil Solari (T-F) & Franca Paduano (M)  1/2 SP
Ilona Cetrola & Franca Paduano (W)  1/2CP

Level Three (Three/Four)
Sofie Burger  3/4 B
Elise Pape  3/4 EP
Georgina Laming  3/4L
Jill Palermo  3/4JP

Level Four (Five/Six)
Michella Pradel
Sue Tobin (Tues)  5/6 P
John Killen  5/6 K
Tanya Weston  5/6W

Specialists
Karen Wakeling  Resource Centre & ICT (T, Th,F)
Sue Tobin  PE (Th,F)
Marisa Lucia  LOTE (Italian) (??)
Connie Antenucci  Performing Arts (Th, F)
Karin Dornbierer  Visual Arts (M)

Student Services
Michelle Seel
Sr Patricia Keogh

Class support/Integration Aides
Sue Jenkins
Lorraine Hill
Isabelle Georgalas

Administration
Virginia Macdonald  (M,T,Th,F)
Pru Barrett  (T,W)

Chaplain
Sr Patricia Keogh

Positions of Leadership
Antonietta Corp  Deputy & Learning & Teaching Leader
Michella Pradel  Literacy & Curriculum Leader
Jill Palermo  Religious Education Leader
Emily Shannon  Maths Leader
Karen Wakeling  ICT leader
John Killen  Sport Co-ordinator
Michelle Seel  Student Services
Tom Coghlan  Principal

As you would notice Jennifer Smith is leaving us after 10 years. Jenny is moving to St Patrick’s in Mentone to take on a similar role. Jenny is leaving COHR with a wonderful legacy having led and driven the school’s curriculum through the many changes that have been thrust upon schools from the various State and Federal governments. Although disappointed that she is leaving, we also recognize the great opportunity that is presented to her and that St Patrick’s is gaining an expert educator. Thanks Jennifer.

Antonietta will take on Jenny’s role as well as maintaining her role as Deputy Principal. Emily Shannon and Michella Pradel have been elevated to the Leadership team.

We will also farewell Pina Killaly who took over from Karen Gosling last term. It’s always a little difficult taking over mid-stream, but I would like to acknowledge Pina’s enthusiasm with the children in her care. I hope that we may see her back at COHR in Emergency/Relieving teacher roles.

We farewell Leah Macdonald who will be leaving us to go on maternity leave. We wish her the best with her new arrival in January.

Next year we will welcome Sofie Burger in the 3/4 Level and Tanya Weston into the 5/6 Level. The children will have the opportunity to meet them on Monday.

CAROLS IN THE PARK
Congratulations to our school choir for sharing their angelic voices with the community in Oakleigh last Friday evening. Many thanks to Jo White for coordinating the practice sessions and for leading the choir on the night.

CHESS TOURNAMENT
Yesterday we hosted a Chess tournament for 33 students. They enjoyed the friendly competition with each other and had the opportunity to experience a Chess tournament.

REPORTS AND PORTFOLIOS
Reports and portfolios will be sent home tomorrow afternoon. We ask that you spend time looking through these with your children. We ask students in years 1, 3 and 5 return portfolios by next Wednesday at the latest please.

MEET 2015 CLASS
Students will spend some time with their new class on Monday at lunchtime. This can be a time to meet each other. Students will also be given a copy of a postcard template to fill in over the holidays—this can be returned in the first week of school to share with the class.

END OF YEAR SCHOOL PRAYER CELEBRATIONS
Families are invited to the school mass on Tuesday morning at 10am in the church and the liturgy on Thursday morning at 9am in the school hall.
YEAR 6 ASSEMBLY
Families are also invited to the Year 6 assembly on Tuesday at 2:30pm in the school hall. This is an opportunity for the students to share some of their school stories, their videos and their singing and dancing talents with the whole school.

NEXT WEEK
Monday 15th
- Advent assembly 9am
- Transition – children gather with their new class at 12:40
Tuesday 16th
- Visit to the school of the 2013 & 2014 AFL Premiership Cups (for any Hawks supporter feel free to bring along your jumper, scarf for a photo opportunity.
- End of year Thanksgiving Mass 10am
- Yr 6 Final assembly – 2:30pm ... Anna burke – Federal member for Chisholm will present Graduation Certificates

Wednesday 17th
- Cleaning day

Thursday 18th
- Final Prayer service 9am
- Children dismissed at 2:30pm
- School Office closes at 10am

Friday 19th
May I also take this opportunity to wish every family a joyous and holy Christmas.

Happy Christmas,

Thomas Coghlan
PRINCIPAL

2015 DATES
January
Wednesday 28th Staff return
Thursday 29th Years 1 – 6 return
     ‘O’ week commences
Friday 30th Preps commence

February
Wednesday 4th No preps
Thursday 5th Whole School Mass 9am
     Family Fish’n’Chip night
Monday 9th ‘Building a Better School yard’ program commences
Tuesday 10th Safer Internet Day
Wednesday 11th No Preps
Thursday 12th District Swimming
Tuesday 17th Parent Information evening
     7pm
Wednesday 18th Ash Wednesday (Mass at 11am)
Sunday 22nd 1st Sunday of Lent
Wednesday 25th No Preps

March
Wednesday 4th
Thursday 6th
Monday 9th
Saturday 14th
Tuesday 17th

Mass’ 7pm

Wednesday 18th
Thursday 19th
Saturday 21st
5:30pm
Wednesday 25th

Thursday 26th
Friday 27th

April
Friday 3rd
Sunday 5th

Monday 13th
Wednesday 15th

Parents’ Association Meeting

May
Friday 1st Working Bee – 3:30 to 5:30pm
Monday 4th Family week commences
Tuesday 5th Family Faith Night - Prep
Wednesday 6th Walk-a-Thon

Thursday 7th Family Faith Night –Yrs 1/2
Sunday 10th Family Week Mass
Tuesday 12th Mothers’ day stall

Wednesday 13th Prep Family Faith night

NAPLAN (Yrs 3 & 5)

Thursday 14th Yr 1/2 Family Faith Night

NAPLAN (Yrs 3 & 5)

Resolution for Yr 4’s

Sunday 17th Ascension Sunday

Wednesday 20th First Eucharist Reflection day

Parents’ Association
# June
- **Friday 5th**: School closure day – First Aide
- **Monday 8th**: Queen’s Birthday holiday
- **Tuesday 9th**: Maths Week commences
- **Friday 12th**: Feast of Sacred Heart
- **Sat/Sun 13th & 14th**: Eucharist Certificates distributed at any weekend Mass
- **Thursday 18th**: Confirmation Parent night 7pm
- **Friday 19th**: Disco (5 – 8pm)
- **Saturday 20th**: Confirmation Commitment Mass 5:30pm (SH) or 7pm (COHR)
- **Wednesday 24th**: Parents’ Association End term 2 – children dismissed at 2:30

# July
- **Monday 13th**: Term 3 commences
- **Thursday 16th**: Education Board Parent/teacher interviews 3pm – 6:30pm
- **Wednesday 22nd**: School finishes at 2:30pm
- **Thursday 23rd**: Parent/Teacher interviews 4pm – 6:30pm
- **Monday 27th**: ‘Building a Better School yard’ program continues this week
- **Wednesday 29th**: Parents Association

# August
- **Thursday 6th**: Education Board
- **Wednesday 12th**: Confirmation Reconciliation
- **Thursday 13th**: Confirmation Family night 7pm
- **Saturday 15th**: The Assumption of Mary (Holy Day)
- **Thursday 20th**: Confirmation Reconciliation 9:30am
- **Friday 21st**: Confirmation 7pm
- **Sat/Sun 22nd & 23rd**: Confirmation Certificates distributed at any Parish Mass
- **Monday 24th**: Book Week commences: “Books Light up Our World”
- **Wednesday 26th**: Parents’ Association Reconciliation Family Information Night 7pm
- **Saturday 29th**: Reconciliation Commitment Mass 5:30pm (SH) or 7pm (COHR)

# September
- **Thursday 3rd**: Fathers’ day stall
- **Saturday 5th**: Working Bee
- **Sunday 6th**: Fathers’ day
- **Wednesday 9th**: Parents’ Association
- **Thursday 17th**: Concert
- **Friday 18th**: End of Term 3 – children dismissed at 2:30pm

# October
- **Sunday 4th**: Daylight saving commence
- **Monday 5th**: Term 4 commences
- **Thursday 8th**: Education Board
- **Monday 19th**: ‘Building a Better School yard’ program continues this week
- **Wednesday 28th**: Parents’ Association
- **Friday 30th**: Working Bee

# November
- **Monday 2nd**: School Closure day
- **Tuesday 3rd**: Melbourne Cup holiday
- **Saturday 7th**: Yr3 Reconciliation (10am COHR or 4:30SH)
- **Thursday 12th**: Education Board Yr3 Reconciliation (10am COHR)
- **Saturday 14th**: School Closure day
- **Wednesday 25th**: Reconciliation Certificates distributed at any Parish Mass
- **Friday 27th**: First Sunday of Advent

# December
- **Friday 4th**: Carols in the Park
- **Thursday 10th**: Yr 6 Graduation Mass & Dinner
- **Friday 11th**: PA Christmas Party
- **Tuesday 15th**: School Mass 9:15am
- **Wednesday 16th**: Yr 6 Assembly 2:30pm
- **Thursday 17th**: Term 4 ends – children dismissed at 3:30

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![HOLY PEACE LOVE](image-url)