Dear Parents,

On Sunday we celebrate Palm Sunday. We also celebrate and pray for our new Pope. He called on us all to care for the poor and for God’s creation. His words seem to echo the Gospel of Luke that we are following this year. Throughout the Gospel of Luke, Jesus is portrayed as not only the champion of the poor and outcast, but indeed being one with them. The witnesses to his birth in this gospel are lowly shepherds, not the wise men from the East. His parables and actions are addressed to the lost and the lowly. He eats with sinners and other outcasts – to the horror of Jewish leaders. Finally, at his death, Jesus is crucified as a criminal with other criminals. This gospel in particular addresses the message and ministry of Jesus to those on the margins of society. His resurrection, that we celebrate at Easter next weekend, is the twist in the tale that means the death of Jesus, rather than being a point of despair, in fact becomes a moment of hope.

The times of the Easter liturgies are as follows:
- Holy Thursday: Mass of the Last Supper
  COHR 7.00pm Sacred Heart 7.00pm
  Good Friday: Stations of the Cross - COHR 9.30am
  SH 11.00am
- Passion of the Lord 3.00pm COHR & SH
- Easter Saturday: Confession at COHR 10 – 10.45am
- Easter Saturday Vigil COHR 7.00pm
  SH 8.00pm
- Easter Sunday: Easter Mass
  COHR 8.00am & 11.00am
  SH 9.45am

EDUCATION BOARD
At the last Education Board meeting the Board developed a set of Guidelines for the operation of the Education Board. The Board will be looking for some new members in the June meeting.

SPORTS DAY
Our Annual Sports day will be held on Monday 25th March at Duncan MacKinnon Reserve (corner of North and Murrumbeena Roads). The children will be dismissed at 1:10pm to enable the sports to commence at 3:30. As you may be aware, the grandstand has been demolished, so it will be the case of parents needing to bring their own chairs. The Parents’ Association will once again organize a BBQ and drinks. It is expected the Sports will conclude around 7pm.

The Parents Association are organizing a BBQ and parents are asked to assist – there are still some times left to be filled. Please fill in the roster in the foyer, or if you are unable to be at school, please feel free to ring Virginia in the Office and she will happily add your name to the roster.

EASTER HOLIDAYS
The children will be dismissed at 2:30pm on Thursday 28th March at 2:30 for the Easter holidays. Term Two will commence on Monday 15th April

SECONDARY ENROLMENTS
Fr John has asked me to inform you that he will not sign secondary application forms for families who live outside our parish boundaries. These will need to be signed by your own parish priest.

HEAD LICE
There have been a number of cases of head lice throughout the school. Please be vigilant in checking your child’s hair regularly. Attached to this newsletter you will find a brochure on treating and controlling head lice.

HOT CROSS BUN ORDERS
A reminder that all Hot Cross Bun order forms are to be returned to school no later than Friday 22nd March (tomorrow). Please ensure that order forms are filled out and payment is included.

MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER WEEKEND
Married couples, we encourage you to prioritise your relationship. It underpins your family life. Please join us for a Marriage Encounter weekend. Our weekend helps you to remember why you married and gives you skills to maintain your love for each other.

Our next weekends in 2013 are on: 19-21 April, 14-16 June and 9-11 August in Melbourne. For further information and bookings contact Marianne & Marcel Van den Bronk (03) 9733 0997 or Email vicbookings@wwme.org.au

DATES
March
- Saturday 23rd Reconciliation (Yr 3)
- Sunday 24th Palm Sunday
- Monday 25th School Sports day – Duncan MacKinnon
- Wednesday 27th Parents Association meeting
- Thursday 28th Holy Thursday; Easter holidays – school finishes 2:30pm

With Best Wishes

Tom Coghlan
PRINCIPAL

SECOND HAND UNIFORM SALE
Thank you to everyone who donated items for the sale. We raised $140 for the Parents Association to support school projects. If you have any other items to donate for the next sale please leave them at the office.

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Let me know – please!

How many of each do we need to buy to go around the perimeter 3 times?

The sleepers are available in lengths of 2.4 meters and 3 meters.

Sleepers to go around the perimeter 3 times.

and another one that across the top so we can sit on it, so we need enough.

We want to build raised garden beds – two sleepers on top of each other.

The year 5/6 students have measured the perimeter of the kitchen garden.

Kitchen Garden - can you help work out how many sleepers we need to buy?

Perimeter: 45.89 meters
Caritas and Harmony Day

On Harmony Day the 1/2 classes walked one kilometre around our school oval which is equivalent to the distance Ditosa has to travel to get to her community’s fresh water supply and back home again. We raised $85.00 for Project Compassion. Thank you to our parents who sponsored and supported us.
Forgiveness and Healing

In 3/4 we have been busy preparing for the Grade 3’s First Reconciliation. It has provided us with a great opportunity to investigate the idea of forgiveness and healing during this special season of Lent. We have used words and symbols to demonstrate our understanding of forgiveness.

We have read and investigated lots of different scripture stories in order to better understand Jesus’ message of forgiveness. Some of the stories we have looked at are:
- The Prodigal Son
- The Lost Sheep
- Jesus and Zacchaeus
- The Good Samaritan
- The Good Samaritan

After reading the stories we tried to make connections to our life by thinking about the message each story teaches us about forgiveness and healing in our own lives.

This story teaches me…
...show love and respect to everyone
...help others in need
...never leave the person you
...forgive people even when they do bad things to you
...don’t be selfish
...be kind to everyone, not just your friends
...our parents will love us no matter what
...forgive others
...be honest

...be honest