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Dear Parents,

For many of our children the bunny and its eggs are the most important thing about Easter. Over the millennia, Christianity has had a gift for domesticating local traditions and festivals, bringing them on board and making them our own. The name Easter comes from the Anglo Saxon spring festival in honour of the goddess Eostre. Her symbol was the rabbit and the giving of eggs were signs of new life bursting forth as winter withdrew. Sunday's Gospel does focus on the empty tomb. On Mary Magdalene's urging, Peter and John run to the tomb, find it empty and come to at least an initial belief about the resurrection of Jesus.

We do not believe that God simply revived Jesus' corpse in the tomb. Easter Sunday does not celebrate the resuscitation of Jesus, but his Resurrection. We know his 'glorified body' was not the same as his human body because Jesus' presence could be encountered in several places simultaneously and he is reported to walk through walls and to vanish. The link between both resurrection traditions is the importance of Jesus' death.

Whatever way they came to experience the Resurrection of Christ, the disciples knew that this was Jesus who actually died and was buried and that their personal encounter was with the one who was crucified.

Like Jesus, with hands of offering, hands of praying and hands of supporting, may we be blessed during this time of Easter.

May our families be strengthened with the love of Jesus Christ.

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

PROJECT COMPASSION

Our Social Justice leaders wish to thank all the families who supported Project Compassion this year. We raised a magnificent amount of over \$1300.

SPORTS DAY

Our Annual Sports day was a great success. Congratulations to all the children who participated so enthusiastically in all the events. We thank our House Captains, Sue Tobin and John Killeen who worked together with staff to ensure the smooth running of the afternoon.

The Parents Association again provided us with food and drink and we thank them for all their support. Once again, the Iverson family provided the bread and many thanks to **Len's Quality Meats (Ford family)** in Malvern Central Shopping Centre for providing the meat.

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. Our morning assembly prayer will focus on Easter.

CAMP

This year our senior students will be at camp from Wednesday 17th April – Friday 19th April. Camp is based at Briars, Mornington and is an outdoor education camp.

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.

WINTER UNIFORM

Winter uniform is worn in Terms 2 and 3. There is a two week turn around at the beginning of term.

DATES

<u>April</u>	
17 th -19 th April	Senior Camp
Sat 20 th April	Reconciliation
Wed 24 th April	Open Day 10am-4pm
Anzac Day April 25 th	School Closure Day
Wed 1 st May	Walk-a-thon/Hotdog Day
	Eucharist parent information Night
Fri 3 rd May	Working Bee

PARENTS ASSOCIATION MEETING

The next Parent Association meeting will be held on Tuesday 16th April at 7pm.

Wishing you a happy and safe term break

Tom Coghlan
 PRINCIPAL

