Dear Parents,

Before School—There are a small number of children at school before 8.30am; there is no supervision before this time. Fortunately, for all our hard-working parents, Camp Australia is now offering a before school program. Please visit their website to register your child if, and when you need before (or after) school care.

After School—Parents are asked to collect their children from the allocated space. If your child is to walk to another place or be collected by someone else, please write a brief note to let the teacher know. We have a duty of care until we hand the child to their parents.

Year 3-6 Swimming Day
Deakin University and PARC, Frankston invited our Year 3-6 students to be involved in a research project on young children’s abilities to remember water skills and safety. Year 3/4s will attend on Monday 13th February and Year 5/6s on Thursday 16th February. The lessons will be between 12.30 and 2.30pm. As the research group need hard-copy permission forms, all the information is being provided by hard copy. Please read the information carefully, complete the permission form and return to the classroom teacher if you wish your child to attend.

Parent Nights
During first term, parents are invited to meet with their child’s teacher in a formal parent information meeting. The dates for these meetings will be notified to parents as soon as available.
February 15th—Year 5/6 at 7.30pm
February 22nd—Year 1/2 at 6.30pm.
Wednesday March 1—Preps at 7pm.

There is a Sacramental Information session on Monday 20th February at 7.30pm for all families with children preparing for Reconciliation and First Eucharist (not Confirmation as mentioned last week).

Professional Learning
The staff professional learning day for Term 1 is Friday 10th March. This will be a pupil-free day for students.

Condolences
Please remember the McLoughlin family in your prayers on the passing of Aodhan and Niamh’s grandmother.

May she rest in peace.

Class Contact Lists
Class contact lists are a great resource to help with organising plays, car pooling, socialising etc. The lists will be developed over the next few weeks.

If any families do not give consent for their information to be published, please contact the school office by Friday 17th February.

Enjoy your week ahead.

Mrs. Pat McConvill
Principal

Staff Commitment Mass
The Church always makes it clear that the Family is the first and most important cradle for educating young children in Faith. But most families look for help in carrying out this responsibility and I’m sure that is why most of you look to the Parish School to assist in this task.

But “handing on” Faith is also the responsibility of the whole faith community—the Parish! Our generous and very dedicated Parish School Staff also represent the wider community in passing on faith and good education to our youngest members.

Our School Staff will make their Commitment to ministry at 10:00am Mass this Sunday (Feb. 12). We all are in debt to our staff who do so much for us all in this task. I do hope that you will make a special effort to join the rest of the parish community in expressing our support and gratitude to them. Please join us for tea/coffee and a mingle with other parishioners after Mass.

Fr. Laurie

Calendar

February
10th—Year 3-6 Swimming Sports
10th—PA Welcome Picnic
13th—Year 3/4 Swimming at PARC
14th—PEB Meeting, 7.30pm
15th—Year 5/6 Parent Information Night, 7.30pm
17th—Beginning of Year & Leadership Mass, 12 noon.
Social Media Safety Centres

Social media safety centres provide advice to help you deal with a range of online safety issues, including cyberbullying, online abuse and protecting your privacy. The Federal Government provides a website designed for schools, parents and teachers to cater for our online safety.

At the bottom of our school website there is a link to Cybersafety help. [www.esafety.com.au](http://www.esafety.com.au).


You will find information regarding Minecraft, Clash of Clans, Snapchat, PokemonGo and many more that students have been known to use.

School Carpark:
The school would like to congratulate everyone using the school carparks. We have started the year very smoothly. Please remember you can stagger your pick up times as students are supervised in the office area until 4pm. With the new building works we have utilised the Sails Area for the after school supervision area.

Working Bee: Saturday 4th March starting at 9:00.

Arthur House is the new working bee co -ordinator and to support him some of the dads have formed a working bee committee. We will meet to plan future jobs for the school and to ensure the playgrounds are kept safe for the school community.

We ask that every family assists with the working bees. We ask that you attend one working bee per year. For new families, the students love coming along and either helping or just playing with their friends. We provide an amazing morning tea and BBQ lunch with refreshments. We look forward to seeing you at our first working bee for the year. Just a reminder that the Year 5 / 6 families are asked to donate towards the morning tea.

LIBRARY NEWS

Welcome back to the new year, and welcome to the new (mobile) Library. As many of you will be aware, the Library is now operating as the office/administration area.

Library classes are still operating for your children, but I am conducting them in the classroom. Therefore I am limited to the amount of books that I can make available for borrowing each week for each class. The Library (office/admin area) will be open on [Thursday at lunchtime](#) for the children to come in and browse, and choose an extra book for borrowing. There is such a good culture of book borrowing at our school, and I would like to see this continue during the Administation block renovations. As parents, you can help with maintaining this great attitude by encouraging your child to bring their library bag to class each week and talking to them about making use of the Thursday lunchtime Library opening time, where they will have the whole range of Library books available for borrowing.

I am also happy to hear from any parent who may be able to give me a hand with book covering. This is something that can be done in your own home and in your own time. If you think you maybe able to help out with this just let me know.

Thanks
Katie Rodgers.

School Sport Victoria (SSV) Team Vic State team selection process.

Each year, talented Victorian School students have the opportunity to trial for a place in the School Sport Victoria (SSV) Team Vic State team for the following sports, *Australian Football, Basketball, Football (Soccer), and Netball* (*To be eligible applicants must be born in 2005, 2006, 2007*)

Trials are no longer held at District level. All applications need to be approved by the P.E. Co-ordinator (Mrs Carbis) and the Principal (Mrs Mc Convill). Prior to asking for approval, please consider that unlike all other school sporting activities participation is not the emphasis for nominations. In selecting students to attend the preliminary stages of Team Vic selection our sole priority is to ensure that students who are a genuine chance for State selection are given the opportunity. These students will be the standout player at their club and will have earned a reputation within their League / Association as being a player with extraordinary talent. Participation in a School Sport Victoria Team Vic state team is self funded. As a guide it may cost between $2000 - $3000 to participate. Costs may include uniforms, host state levies, flights, transport, accommodation and meals. Costs will vary depending on the location of the Championship.

Please consider all this information carefully prior to asking for approval, so as to avoid disappointment.

**2017 Welcome Picnic - THIS Friday 10th February**

Our annual family welcome picnic is on Friday 10th February at 5.00pm until dark. Come along and join in the fun and games on the night as well as taking the opportunity to relax while meeting and chatting to other families. Perhaps you’ll join in the parents’ running race and take home the honour of winning the STM parents trophy for the year! BYO food, drinks, chairs, picnic rugs and smiles! We look forward to seeing many of you there on what has been in the past a terrific evening.

We also have Manhattan Express Food Truck at the Welcome Picnic selling lovely pizza.

We are looking for some Grade 5/6 leaders to help run the activities... please let Fleur Crawford know if your children are interested in helping. fleur.crawford@hotmail.com

**AGM - Tuesday 7th March**

Our Annual General Meeting will be held on Tuesday 7th March, 2017. Beginning at 7.30pm in the Multi-Purpose Room.

Both Father Laurie and Pat McConvill will do a short presentation updating everyone on important school matters. This is a very important and highly informative meeting for all parents at STM, we strongly encourage at least ONE member of your family to attend and gain a better understanding of the operations of the school and the Parents Association.

**NOW RECRUITING!! STM Parents Association**

Opportunities have opened up to become involved in the PA in 2017. We would love to have you!! It’s also a great opportunity to get to know so many parents and families.

Roles up for review in 2017

- President
- Vice President
- Assistant Treasurer
- Treasurer Counters
- Parish Education Board Parent Rep (PEB)
- Parent Rep Co-ordinator
- General Committee

Nomination forms are available in the office. Nomination forms are due into the office by Friday 3rd March. For more information or to express interest regarding executive and general positions please contact leonieroyall@yahoo.com.au

**Parent Class Reps 2017 – Your Class Representatives**

Your Parent Class Reps will help organise year level social gatherings throughout the year. (morning teas, dinners, plays etc) and provide you with important information on what is happening in your class.

Prep D - Emily Husband and Simone Morley
Prep G - Marcia Torcasio and Christine Ward
1/2N - Amanda Kelly
1/2L - Kate Hadley
1/2K - Emma Newton

1/2E - Christie Leppitsch
3/4M - Angela Biasuzzo
3/4N - Jen Wills
3/4S - Emma Smith
3/4J
5/6J - Amanda Cooke
5/6M
5/6K - Leonie Zammit
5/6S - Geraldine Lynch

**3/4J and 5/6M PARENTS**

We require 2 more class Rep's and would really appreciate a parent from 3/4J and 5/6M to volunteer for this small role. Thanks.

Please contact Amanda Cooke or myself ASAP if you are interested, thanks.

**Uniform Shop**

Due to our temporary location, and high traffic volume in the Multi Purpose room, I would like to minimize interruption to the 3/4 unit. As of Wednesday 15th February the uniform shop will be a pre order and delivery service only. Order forms are to be collected and returned at any time from the school office and every Wednesday your purchases will be processed and delivered to your child's classroom. Please note, I will only process orders for which I have a completed order form. Payment can still be CASH OR CREDIT CARD, no eftpos. We do not make a profit and rely on volunteers to keep the costs of our uniforms down. If you would like to be rostered on please contact Bianca Goonan on bgoonan@optusnet.com.au

**Canteen**

Is open on Mondays. We do not make a profit. Volunteers are extremely important, we cannot run the canteen with help.

We require volunteers to be rostered on in the canteen from 9am to 1.30pm, 9 to 11.30 AND 11.30 to 1.30. We also require volunteer counters to count the lunch order money from 9am to 10ish (toddlers are welcome) If you would like to volunteer please contact Susie Power Reeves on powerreeves@yahoo.com.au. Thank you.

**STM DATES FOR THE DIARY**

- 10th February - Friday - Welcome Picnic - STM Oval from 5pm
- 4th March - Working Bee - 5/6 to provide morning tea.
- 7th March - Tuesday - AGM - 7.30pm Multi Purpose Room
- 17th March - Friday School Disco - More info coming soon

Sincerely
Leonie Zammit
President
Parents Association
leonieroyall@yahoo.com.au

**MORNINGTON MARKET CAR PARKING**

It is time for me to step down from my role as Car Park Co-ordinator and I am pleased to announce that Tom Danaher will take over as of March 2017. Many thanks Tom and wishing you well.
MORNINGTON RACECOURSE MARKET—CAR PARK DUTY

Please advise Daniel Ferlin on 0410 184 494 with your confirmed attendance via text (incl your name) ASAP.

Please find the car parking rosters for the coming markets here. Together, this small contribution of our time is raising approximately $14,000 annually for the continual improvement of our school and the programs provided to our children. All families will be rostered on an approximate 15 month cycle.

If you are unavailable for your rostered month, please organise another family to take your place at least a week in advance of the market, and advise Daniel of the change ASAP.

All Markets:
- Arrive at 7:45am (all weather event); exception for Twilight market 1:45pm
- You will be told by the Market Leader when you can leave. This is typically around 12:30pm (6:30pm Twilight) but can alter depending on how busy the market is.
- Enter via the main gates of Racecourse on Racecourse Road, Mornington.
- Park in the designated area (Market Staff will be at the gate to assist you)
- Sign in with the Team Leader (for record keeping and Work Cover).
- Team Leaders must collect a black folder from the school office the Friday prior to attending the market, and return it the following Monday.
- Receive your safety vest.
- Market Staff will take you to your location in the car park where you will direct cars accordingly and finish at approximately noon. (On slower days Market Staff will advise if you can leave earlier).

Daniel Ferlin
0410 184 494
daniel_ferlin@hotmail.com

** Please Confirm Attendance ASAP
^^ Re-rostered due to prior non-attendance

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Camp Australia—Before and After School Care

Camp Australia are now offering Before School Care as well as After School Care at St Thomas More, in the multi-purpose room.

**Before School Care Program**

From: 6:45am to 8:30am each school day

**After School Care Program**

From: 3:30pm—6pm each school day.

To register please log on to www.campaustralia.com.au

Please see Janet in the multi purpose room if you have any questions

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CANTEEN NEWS

Canteen starts back next Monday Feb 13th. Please note the new Price List as there have been a few minor price changes. I have done my best to keep it to the minimum. I am still in need of a helper in the Canteen from just before 11am til we finish about 1:15pm. If you can help please text me on 0401139124.

Rosters for Monday:

**Canteen**: 9am -10:30am Kelly Davies, 9am-11:30am Deanne Patane, 10:45am-1:30pm ??, 11am-1:30pm Laura Harbour

**Counting**: Mia Hunt, Emma Smith, Lou-Ann Gibson, Laura Snow

If you cannot make your shift please message me ASAP or find a replacement if you can.

Kind regards,

Susie Power-Reeves

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SUNDAY 12th Feb

Doyle (Team Leader)
Cox
Boatwright
Floro
House
Jones M & A
Landsaat
St Clair
Trimbble
Vandermeer J&L
Wills

SUNDAY 12th March

Griffin (Team Leader)
Garrett
Gooden
Faidutti
Hunt
Kratzer
Lynch
Marshall
Nottingham
Owens
Rosemblum
Taverna-McDonald
Webster

SUNDAY 9th April

Curry
Fennell
Flaus
Harbour
Norris
Patane J&B
Saporito
Sayers
Taylor S & G
Torcasio
Vandermeer J & L
Whyte

SUNDAY 14th May

Ferlin (Team Leader)
Boundy
Cust
Edwards
Grimma
Kelly
Leslie
Manna
Newton
Owens
Smith R & E
Taylor J & F

SUNDAY 11th June

Firth (Team Leader)
Anderson
Biasuzzo
Fitzpatrick
McKernan
Palancian
Polatidis
Postregna
Storeb
Taranto