St. Thomas More’s
Newsletter
Wednesday, 27th July 2016

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Vinnies School Sleepout

The St Vincent de Paul Society – also affectionately known as ‘Vinnies’ in Australia - first began in Australia in 1854 and has been active in the community since, growing into one of the most well recognised and highly regarded charitable organisations in the country. Vinnies provides practical frontline support, advocacy and friendship for the most vulnerable members of our community. Their services are varied and respond to the special needs of local communities.

Last year in Victoria, Vinnies provided over $10.5 million worth of assistance, over 250,000 meals to people in need and made around 13,000 home visits. Through the network of members, volunteers and staff, they helped over 300,000 people experiencing disadvantage with accessing and financing a range of everyday necessities including education, utilities, food, accommodation and more.

The Vinnies School Sleepout helps to assist the good work that St. Vincent de Paul Society does in providing for the thousands of people who are homeless.

Our Year 6 leaders are organizing this event under the guidance of the staff. It will be held on Friday night, 12th August commencing at 6:30pm in the school gymnasium. A light tea will be provided of soup, a bread roll and a hot chocolate. All participants will then climb into their sleeping bags to sleep on the hard floor without any heating for the night!

A light breakfast will be provided in the morning, with the event finishing at 7.30am Saturday morning. Please let me know if you are able to help on the night or by a donation of food towards the evening.

When each child registers, they will receive a sponsorship form. Children are encouraged to ask family and friends to sponsor them to raise as much as we can for this great cause. If your child is not able to attend, perhaps he / she could sponsor another child. All donations over $2 are tax-deductible.

Thank you for supporting the children in making a difference to those who find themselves on hard times.

Eucharist Workshop: Tonight at 7:30

The Eucharist Sacramental program continues tonight with the final session in the Multi - Purpose Room. This is the second session where parents and children come together to reflect and learn about the Eucharist.

Prep 2017 Enrolments

We are about to begin our interviews with next years Prep families. If you are yet to enrol your child please see the office for an application form as soon as possible.

NAPLAN Testing Online 2017 Pilot

The National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) for Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 students is held in May each year. NAPLAN tests assess student knowledge and skills in Writing, Reading, Language Conventions (spelling, grammar and punctuation) and Numeracy. The results of the tests provide information for students, parents, teachers and principals which can be used to improve student achievement.

From 2017, the NAPLAN tests will transition from a paper based test to an online assessment (i.e., students will complete the tests utilising a computer or tablet). NAPLAN Online will deliver numerous benefits including:

- reduced time between testing and reporting, increasing the ability of teachers to use the results to inform teaching practice;
- a ‘tailored test’ design that adapts to correct and incorrect student responses providing a more precise understanding of student achievement;
- innovative use of technology, including a more engaging test design and a wider range of item types;
- improved equity of access, including greater potential to support students with a disability;
- the extension of the ‘test window’ to two weeks, allowing schools greater opportunity to schedule the tests at times that suit them best and increasing student participation.

In Victoria, the transition will involve a 2017 Pilot of NAPLAN Online, with the majority of schools completing the tests online in 2018 and all schools completing the tests online in 2019.

Our school is participating in the NAPLAN Online 2017 Pilot. As part of this participation, the school will also be involved in an online trial on 26th August.

The trial is a valuable opportunity for schools to set up and utilise the system, as well as to provide feedback regarding any suggested changes or issues. The trial will also be used to confirm the capacity of schools to participate in the 2017 Pilot.

Parents of Year 3 and Year 5 students will be sent more information in the coming weeks.

Fee Reminder

The third quarterly instalment is due by Friday 5th August. Please contact Jo Muller if you wish to discuss your payment options.

Calendar

July
27th – Eucharist Workshop, 7:30pm
28th, 29th – Incursion Smart Workshop Y1 – Y6

August
5th – Year 3- 6 Athletics
5th – Assembly, Y1/2
Congratulations

Congratulations to the Obligado family on the arrival of their baby boy Peo, a younger brother for Lily (Prep D)

Condolences

Our prayers and thoughts are with the Stewart family (Tia 3/4N) for the passing of their Great Grandmother.

Children’s Liturgy of the Word

Just a reminder, especially during this time of preparation for First Eucharist, that at 10 am Mass each Sunday during the school term, there is the opportunity for primary school age children (and pre-schoolers accompanied by a parent) to “go out” from the Church and into the Undercroft with adult leaders, to listen to the Readings and talk about them, and often complete an activity too. This allows the children to hear the same Readings as the adults are hearing, but at their level of understanding. The children leave the Church at the beginning of the Mass, and return around the time of the Sign of Peace, before Communion time.

Smart Economics Primary Program

The Commonwealth Bank, Start Smart is designed to teach students about finance. By making money management interactive, engaging and fun. It provides the students with more confidence to make decisions about money. All workshops are delivered free of charge and do not promote the products or services of the Commonwealth Bank. On Thursday and Friday, the students have been timetabled to participate in these sessions. Thanks to Mrs. Chaplin (Maths Leader) for organising the sessions for the students.

PRODUCTION … by Webster Seeley

Two weeks ago we kicked off to fantastic start to Term 3. The 2016 Jurassic Lark production cast members were the cause of that. Of course, last week’s rehearsal was just as wonderful as all the other weeks and Mrs Shaw organized an awesome activity to get us all focused and warmed up. Not many people forgot their scripts and we finished our first complete script read! Hooray! Everyone was so great on stage and it was awesome to finally go over the whole script with everyone’s contribution. I can’t wait for each week’s practice.

GREAT THINGS … by Hudson Higgins

On the 20th of July we successfully completed our first script reading. But it was more than just a script reading … we got to hear the story unfold firsthand and try songs we’d never heard before. That session was spectacular. The fifteen action activity was … BOLD … and it was hilarious trying to do one activity while you were watching someone else do their own activity. Also, some cast mates found out their second roles and extra rehearsals. Overall, this production session was astounding

AUSTRALIA—STORY COUNTRY

During Book Week this year (Monday 22nd - Friday 26th August) we will be running a special event for the children each morning, but we need your help to make it a success. Every morning during Book Week, your child’s classroom will be open from 8.45am for you to come in and read a book to your child. Reading to your child is one of the most important influences in developing lifelong learners and lovers of reading. There is a crucial link between reading ability and the success of students. The example you set, the importance you place on reading and the bond you create lasts a lifetime. In our busy lives, unfortunately time for reading to your child, is something we seem to have less time to do. I am very passionate about finding time for reading to your child (not just listening to them read). As a Librarian I get to experience first hand how much enjoyment children receive from being read to, right from Prep through to the senior students. Therefore I am offering you the opportunity and experience of coming into your child’s classroom before school to share a book with them. Come in just once or everyday during that week. I’ll leave that up to you. You might even like to bring in your favourite childhood book to share with your child. I know this will be a very rewarding experience for you and your child or children (bring your toddlers along as well).

Coming soon Book Day Monday 15th August
CADBURY CHOCOLATE DRIVE
The money is now overdue, please return envelope with money to the school office by this Friday 29th July, thanks.

2016 AFL FUNDRAISER
Hawthorn V North Melbourne
The AFL have donated a limited number of general admissions tickets to: Hawthorn V North Melbourne at the MCG on Saturday 13th August 2016 at 2.10pm.
We are offering these tickets at $15/ea (Kids aged 6 - 14 tickets $5 at the ground, under 6 are free) You are welcome to buy for family and friends.
TICKETS CAN BE PURCHASED AT THE OFFICE...GET IN QUICK LIMITED TICKETS AVAILABLE

Bad Moms Movie Night Out - Tuesday 16th August
Who loves the movies? We have arranged a private screening of the new movie 'Bad Moms' at Hoyts Frankston (leather reclining seats) for the mums (and teachers) at STM. 7.15pm
Tickets are $20. Included in this price - Movie ticket, great company, and a few other treats.
Please pay $20 cash at the office ASAP.
(in an envelope with correct money please)

STM DATES FOR THE DIARY
DUE NOW - Cadbury Chocolate Money Due

2nd August - PA meeting 7.30pm in staffroom

16th August - Bad Moms Movie Night
7.15pm Hoyts Frankston

27th August - 2016 MAJOR FUNDRAISER 80’S MAYHEM AND MADNESS featuring Sports and Music Trivia

2016 MAJOR FUNDRAISER - 80'S MAYHEM AND MADNESS featuring Sports and Music Trivia and Disco
SATURDAY 27TH AUGUST 2016 6.30 to 11.30pm @STM Gym

$25 Early Bird special ends this SUNDAY 31st July, there after $30
Cash - Payment slip and cash payable at the office (correct money in envelope)
Credit Card - https://www.trybooking.com/206440
Put a table together of family & friends or add your name to a general table we have allocated for each year level.

Table charts located in the office.

Dress with a touch of 80's - BYO Drinks and Food. Massoni Wine tasting. Margarita's and wine for sale

We are holding live and silent auctions and are looking for donations of vouchers, goods or services. All money raised from the auctions will go back to the school and benefit your children so all donations will be very gratefully accepted. Maybe you own a business or work for someone who would be willing to make a donation. You may own a holiday home and would be willing to give us a weekend away. Or you may just have unwanted bottle of wine, prizes or gifts you would be willing to part with. All businesses who donate will be given recognition on the night, on our Facebook page and in the newsletter.

Donations over $500 will qualify as a Major Sponsor.
Donations can be left at the office or if you would like to discuss, please contact myself leonieroyall@yahoo.com.au, Amanda Cooke amandacooke3@bigpond.com, or Christina Day paulchristina1@bigpond.com

Thank you to more wonderful businesses that have so far donated items towards our auctions and raffle.

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

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/Car Parking Coordinator
0410 184 494 / daniel_ferlin@hotmail.com
**Please Confirm Attendance ASAP**
^^ Re-rostered due to prior non-attendance

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