FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Families,

This Monday school photos are being taken. All children must be in full school uniform. If your child/children have sport they may bring their runners in a plastic bag and change them at sport time. Each student must have their own envelope to hand to the photographer. Please make sure there is correct change if paying by cash. No change is held at the office. If you are having a sibling photo please give the form to the eldest in the family and we will collect these from the classrooms. Family forms can be collected from the office tomorrow.

Next week we have family conferences on Tuesday and Wednesday evenings. If you haven’t booked yet go to www.schoolinterviews.com.au and use the event code of u6twp. This is a great chance for you and your child to catch up on their learning so far and goals moving forward.
Thank you to the parents who have been to our parent information nights for Prep and Yr 3/4. We would love feedback about the night. The prep feedback form can be found at http://goo.gl/forms/p8ia3WLNQc
If you haven’t left feedback from the Yr 3/4 night please go to https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1okwzPN5K6k08NydI1Y1KFO_H4aQ2ZJ00vtyovu6Nt4k/viewform

Pinafores
On Tuesday a pinafore order form went home with girls in Prep-Yr 2. If any student in Yr 3-6 would like to order a pinafore please send the order form with money to the office. We order these pinafores in bulk so we must have all orders in by Friday 4th March.

There is a saying that, “When you point one accusing finger at someone, three of your own fingers point back at you”. Try it right now, you’ll see it’s perfectly true. Jewish law even forbids spreading negative truths about anyone lest perhaps it lowers respect for the person: “Never tell evil of a person if you do not know it for a certainty, then ask yourself, ‘Why should I tell it?’”

Unfortunately, our culture tends to treat gossip lightly, even though people who gossip show a shallowness to their own lives and, generally, are viewed as untrustworthy. Gossip in a schoolyard can have a negative effect on the school community; it can dampen morale and possibly cause conflict and ill will. It can lead to incorrect assumptions and to a shrinking of the vision that a school community should have about itself. Furthermore, gossip can foster an environment of fear and distrust because, usually, it is a vehicle for processing negative feelings.

For those who engage in gossip, it can be a symptom of the breakdown in the health of their group. For a group to maintain its ‘good health’, the friends in the group need to work towards an environment where, when gathered in conversation, they should be able to stop and say, “Wait a minute, does this feel right?” when gossip starts. There should be no shame, no blame, just questioning whether the conversation is compassionate and constructive and if not, then how to change it.

Sadly, gossip entails the exclusion of the person who is the topic of the gossip, for one does not gossip about another with them present. This is because gossip is not the exchange of factual information; rather it is concerned with telling untruths about a person, about what they said or did. Gossip is inherently a lie, or it is not gossip.

Important lines of communication between parents and teachers or parents and the school administration can be disrupted, because of a lack of trust created by gossip. We all need to display maturity and responsibility when faced with disagreement or diversity of opinion. It is not the action of a mature or responsible person to assassinate the character of someone who perceives things differently to them.

School leaders need support and emotional safety in order to do their jobs well. They need the members of the school community to be open, honest and constructive when they observe attitudes or decisions that they regard as questionable. Problems are solved when people of good will engage in informed and compassionate conversation and, in so doing, testify to their personal integrity. Many a time has “loose talk” sabotaged a relationship and magnified a simple problem when “direct talk” could have improved mutual respect and resolved a problem.

Here is another saying, “Reputation is what men and women think of us; character is what God and angels who of us”.

“Lord,
Guide us in the choices
we will make today,
so that we may choose what
is positive and life-giving.
Amen.”
Congratulations to Clare on a fantastic job....
On Australia Day, I competed in the Swimland Great Australia Day Swim, which was held at Brighton Marina. I competed in the U11 age group against 24 swimmers. I finished 2nd out of my age group. I also finished 6th overall out of 104 competitors in the U10-U12 age category. I had the best day ever!!!

By Clare Milligan

Canteen News
There is no macaroni & cheese available at the canteen tomorrow.

News from Chelsea Heights Community Centre
Still time to enrol for our De-cluttering workshop on Monday 29 February 7pm to 9pm and the 4 week Positive Mind, Positive Future Course starting Thursday 25thFebruary 7pm to 9pm. Both these activities will give you strategies to simplify and bring more calm to your life.

On Saturday 5th March graphic designer James Hawkins will be running a four hour Photoshop workshop, don’t miss this one, places will be limited.

Get fit on Thursday mornings with a calorie burning, Latin inspired Zumba dance workout – your first class will be free! On Wednesday afternoons 1pm to 3pm the line dancing class welcomes beginners to advanced dancers.

Your children will enjoy the fun Wednesday and Thursday childcare sessions and parents will enjoy the four hours of time.

Ring 9772 3391 to book, for more details or our Term brochure, and please visit our website for a full program at www.chelseaheightscommunitycentre.com.au or just drop on by.

Breakfast Club
Breakfast Club has run with the help of volunteers for over 6 years. It has served a great service for the children of St Joseph’s. It would be a shame to see it close. We need your help. We have a number of parishioners helping but need school families to help out. Can you spare half an hour once a week from 8.15am – 8.45am? Special thanks to our parents who have organised to pick up the bread.

We are asking for donations of juice, long life milk, vegemite and milo. Thanks for your support.

Tuesday Morning Coffee
Do you want to catch up with other families and let toddlers play together on Tuesday mornings in the staffroom. Come along after dropping your child/ren off.

Caremonkey
Thank you to all the families who have updated their information on Caremonkey. It is really important that this information is kept up to date. If you are receiving emails to join please log on and input the information required. When you do this it updates our records at school as well so we have the most current and correct information at all times. We will use Caremonkey for excursion permissions as well.

Uniform   NEW DAY WILL NOW BE THURSDAY MORNINGS
The uniform shop will be moving from Wednesday morning to Thursday morning, still at the same time 9-10am from next week. We will be sending out Pinafore order forms next week for Prep – Year 2 to be ordered shortly. If any family from other year levels would like to order a winter pinafore please see the office, all orders must be submitted by 9th March.

Kidz on Nepean 488 Nepean Highway, Chelsea Ph: 9772 8586
From 12th-19th February if you make a purchase the money will be donated to the Monash Children’s Hospital Walk – See below.

Kidz on Nepean is owned and managed by Amanda Convey-Ryan (one of our parents). Amanda is the mother of two young children and loves to shop locally, but found it increasingly difficult to buy affordable, quality, garments and gifts in the area. Amanda is now proud to be able to offer the local and wider community a place to come and shop for new and exciting children’s toys, accessories and giftware.
Monash Children’s Hospital Walk
On Sunday 6th March at Jell’s Park in Wheeler’s Hill there is a walk to help raise money for the new children’s Hospital at Monash. Enjoy 1, 5 or 10 km walk with friends. Register at mchwalk.com.au

Working Bee
On Friday 26th February 4.30-6.00pm. Please see the attached letter regarding our first working bee for 2016. If you attend any working bee, please ensure you sign in on the day to enable us to credit your fee account.

School Fees
All statements have been sent out either home with your child or via email/mail, as nominated by you. If you do not receive it, please contact the office as soon as possible. The total fees for 2016 have been charged to your account and may be paid by instalments either fortnightly, monthly or over 3 terms by direct director credit, Bpay, online banking, cash or cheque. If paying in 3 instalments as per the fee schedule the first instalment is due Thursday 25th February, with the total to be paid off by the end of Term 3.

Kind Regards
Mr Gavan O’Donnell
Principal.

Financial Assistance Information for Parents
Camps, Sports & Excursions Fund (CSEF)
CSEF will be provided by the Victorian Government to assist eligible families to cover the costs of excursions, camps and sporting activities.
If you hold a valid means-tested concession card or you are a temporary foster parent, you may be eligible for CSEF. The allowance is paid to the school to use towards expenses relating to excursions, camps or sporting activities for the benefit of your child.
The annual CSEF amount per student is $125 for primary school students.
HOW TO APPLY:
Contact the school office or download a form from www.education.vic.gov.au/csef for the school’s website

Child First Family Solutions
CFFS is a free and voluntary service providing support and advice directly to families, professionals and the general community. They support families with children up to 17 years of age, pregnant women, community members and professionals seeking advice for those who reside in the cities of Bayside, Frankston, Glen Eira, Kingston, Port Phillip, Stonington and the Mornington Peninsula Shire.

CFFS support families who may need assistance or support with the day to day challenges of parenting children up to 17 years of age, if you are a member of the community who is concerned about a family in need, a professional seeking advice about supporting a family you are working with or an adolescent feeling isolated and not heard by your parents.

CFFS can provide you with:
- Support to identify the needs of your child/ren or family
- Information and advice on local child youth and family services
- Referrals into a range of family and support programs offered through Family Solutions.

CFFS can also help by referring you to other services you may need:

To access Child First Family Solutions simply call 1300 721 383.

Book Launch
Joe Leach (Mandy’s husband) is launching his book series Myfanwy’s People, an adventure / fantasy series aimed at young teens on February 25th at 7.30 pm in the O’Hanlon Centre, Mitchell St. Mentone. Any families who wish to come would be very welcome.
If you are coming, please let Mandy know or email teachpublications@gmail.com by Feb 19 for catering purposes.
St Bede’s College, Mentone
Enrolment Applications for Year 7 in 2017
CLOSING DATE for Enrolments Year 7 in 2017
Please note that the closing date for St Bede’s College to receive Enrolment Applications for Year 7 in 2017 is: Friday 26 February 2016. To obtain a Year 7 Enrolment Application Form you can download and print the form from our website www.stbedes.catholic.edu.au

Kilbreda College
Year 7 2017 Enrolment Application Closing Date
Applications are welcomed for Year 7, 2017, with applications closing on Friday 26th February 2016.
For further information or to book a tour please contact the College on 9581 7766 or email Melissa.dwyer@kilbreda.vic.edu.au

John Paul College
Inviting Year 7 Enrolments for 2017 and 2018
9784 0200
McMahons Rd Frankston, Ngargee Centre, Enter Gate 2
All families warmly welcomed

OLSH College
Year 7 2017 Enrolment to be in by Friday 26th Feb.
Please go to our website mlisi@olsh.vic.edu.au for more information

Mammont School Of Dance  FIRST CLASS FREE
Classes in ballet, Tap and Jazz.
All ages and abilities. Classes held at Chelsea Heights Community Centre.
For further information please contact Kerri on 0412 869 431

Carrum Patterson Lakes Junior Football Club
Is looking to recruit girls 9-12 years old for girls only football teams for 2016.
If you are interested please come along to an information session/kick to kick on Wednesday 24th February 4.30pm-5.30pm.
Football is a great way to stay active, learn new skills and make new friends.
Please contact Tracey Maguire on 0425861526 or Stacey Nayna on 0413356112
IMPORTANT DATES

- **Thursday 18th February**
  Yr 5/6 Mass 9.15am
- **Friday 19th February**
  2.30pm Assembly Preps, Yr 5/6 Summer Sport Rd 1 vs Chelsea Heights
- **Monday 22nd February**
  School Photos ALL STUDENTS TO WEAR CORRECT SCHOOL UNIFORM (BRING RUNNERS IF YOU HAVE SPORT)
- **Tuesday 23rd February**
  Gymnastics (4) P-Yr 2, Yr 5/6 Leadership (4), Family Conferences 3.30-8.00pm
- **Wednesday 24th February**
  NO Preps, Gymnastics (4) Yr 3-Yr 6, Yr 5/6 Leadership (4), Yr 1/2 DO & Yr 1/2FG Ripponlea Excursion, Family Conferences 3.30-6.00pm
- **Thursday 25th February**
  Yr 3/4 Mass 9.15am, Reconciliation Night (2) 7pm
- **Friday 26th February**
  Yr 5/6 Summer Sport Rd 2 vs Cornish College, 2.30pm Assembly 3/4 performing, 4.30pm Working Bee
- **Saturday 27th February**
  Mass for Reconciliation families 6pm
- **Sunday 28th February**
  Mass for Reconciliation families 9.30am & 11am
- **Monday 29th February**
  Yr 5/6 Mt Evelyn Camp
- **Tuesday 1st March**
  Yr 5/6 Mt Evelyn Camp
- **Wednesday 2nd March**
  Yr 5/6 Mt Evelyn Camp
- **Thursday 3rd March**
  Yr Prep-2 Mass 9.15am
- **Friday 4th March**
  Yr 5/6 Summer Sport Rd 3 vs Seaford, 2.30pm Assembly 1/2 performing
- **Saturday 5th March**
  6pm Year 5 Mass
- **Monday 7th March**
  District Swimming at The Pines 9.00am - 2.00pm
- **Tuesday 8th March**
  Year 1/2 Parent Information Night 5.30pm-6.30pm, Gymnastics (5) P-Yr 2, Yr 5/6 Leadership (5), 7.00pm Parent Education Board AGM
- **Wednesday 9th March**
  Gymnastics (5) Yr 3-Yr 6, Yr 5/6 Leadership (5),
- **Thursday 10th March**
  Reconciliation Night (3) 7pm
- **Friday 11th March**
  Yr 5/6 Lightning Premiership
- **Saturday 12th March**
  Mass for Reconciliation families 6pm
- **Sunday 13th March**
  Mass for Reconciliation families 9.30am or 11.00am
- **Monday 14th March**
  Labour Day Holiday
- **Friday 21st October**
  Twilight Fete
  Put this date in your diary

2016 Term Dates
Term 1  28th January – Thursday 24th March (Good Friday 25th March)
Term 2  11th April – 24th June
Term 3  11th July – 16th September
Term 4  3rd October – 15th December