Dear Families,

What a great effort in raising over $5000 for our GaGa Pit fundraiser. Thank you to everyone for your efforts. The pit was installed this week and the children have been enjoying the new pit (see the photos below). Congratulations to Prep CL who raised the most money. Next Thursday 1st September, they will receive their free lunch. A note will be issued on Care Monkey today for you to order a free lunch for your Prep CL child.

Today our Year 6’s Confirmation excursion was postponed due to the weather. The students had a reflection day here at school as part of their Confirmation preparation.

In preparation for the district athletics next Friday 2nd September, the Year 3-6’s will be attending athletic trials at the Edithvale Athletics Track tomorrow.

Don’t forget our Book Week dress up day next Wednesday. See our flyer in the newsletter.
The word “character” is used quite frequently in Australian conversation:
- “It took character for our team to win.”
- “She showed a lot of character to come back after the accident.”
- “He is a bit of a dodgy character.”
- “It’s a test of their character as a group of parents.”
- “It was a true measure of the character of the person.”

Somehow this word fits well with our imagination and we are able to supply an expanded mental explanation as to its meaning according to its setting.

A recent conversation amongst a group of mums and dads, which momentarily focussed on the inevitable topic – children, produced a result few of the mums and dads expected. One set of parents had come across the “Six Pillars of Character” and decided that this would be the solution to home discipline problems. The “Six Pillars” were given prime position on the fridge door and the relevant section was refereed to, to identify the shortcoming in behaviour of any one of their three children.

The “Six Pillars of Character” turned out to be Trustworthiness, Respect, Responsibility, Fairness, Caring and Citizenship and in case you were curious as to their details, here it is. Do you see any of your favourite pieces of advice to your children?

**Trustworthiness:**
Be honest. Don’t deceive, cheat or steal. Be reliable – do what you say you’ll do. Have the courage to do the right things. Build a good reputation. Be loyal – stand by your family, friends and country.

**Respect:**
Treat others with respect – do other what you want done to you. Be tolerant of differences. Use good manners, not bad language. Be considerate of the feelings of others. Don’t threaten, hit or hurt anyone. Deal peacefully with anger, insults and disagreements.

**Responsibility:**

**Fairness:**
Play by the rules. Take turns and share. Be open-minded; listen to others. Don’t take advantage of others. Don’t blame others carelessly.

**Caring:**
Be kind. Be compassionate and show you care. Express gratitude. Forgive others. Help people in need.

**Citizenship:**

Virtues and values are the core to building good character into a person, so that the person will make the correct choice, even when the stakes are high or when no one is watching. Of course, a piece of paper on a fridge door, of itself, will have little input into the development of character. However, it could be a useful reference point for parental expectations of behaviour, especially if the parents are good models for what they expect.

> “God, I turn to You for guidance,
> I listen to Your wisdom already in my heart.
> I thank You for Your strength and peace that are within me.
> Help me to be a true guide to my children.
> Amen.”

Peace and Best Wishes

Gavan O’Donnell

**Fees**
Fee Statements were sent out Thursday 4th Aug. If you have no other arrangement and you are paying in 3 instalments, your 3rd and final payment is due by next Thursday 1st September. If you are experiencing any financial hardship, we ask that you contact the office by phoning or email to: accounts@sjchelsea.catholic.edu.au
Father’s Day
Our Father’s Day stall will be on Thursday 1st September. Items will be $5 and is attached with this newsletter. If you can spare a couple of hours to help from 8.50-10.50am please see the office. The children will see the flyers up around the school. Please ask your child to have a couple of gifts in mind as we hold limited stock.

FRIDAY LIBRARY HELPERS!!!!
The library would love some new people to come and help us during our busiest time on Friday morning. We shelve about 300 books between 8.45-10am. If you could spare even a few minutes after Friday morning drop off, please stay and help us. No regular commitment is needed, just come when you can. Thank you.
Anne and Mandy

Footy Day Order Form
On Friday 9th September we have our annual footy dress up day, assembly and lunch. This year we will be doing a sausage sizzle for the students.
The canteen will run as normal on Thursday 8th September and will be open for snacks only on Friday 9th September (no hot lunches). Today we have sent home a form for you to fill out and return with the correct money if your child would like a sausage in bread. Please send money in a clearly named envelope with the completed form by Thursday 1st September. As you can appreciate we need this information in order to be able to cater. Thank you.

Surprise Packs
Early next week you will receive a plastic container for the Fete. We are hoping families will fill these with small items to suit a boy or a girl and return to the office by Thursday 15th September. A note will be coming home with the container of suggested items. Thank you for your support.
A SAINT’S party for Mother Teresa Yr 6 girls and above – Hosted by St Joseph’s Parish

Come on over for some

**BOLLYWOOD DANCING**

**INDIAN FOOD**

**DVD**

when

**SATURDAY 3 SEPTEMBER** 7pm-9:30pm

where

**ST JOSEPH’S PARISH CENTRE**

RSVP SCHOOL OFFICE BY 30 AUGUST

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**Hugh van Cuylenburg Parent Education Night - Resilience, Monday 29th August**

Hugh has been working in education for over 12 years. Starting out as a primary school teacher, he then moved into a position with Cricket Victoria as a development facilitator working with disengaged adolescents. The highlight of his teaching career, however, was the year he spent in the far north of India volunteering and living at an underprivileged school in the Himalayas. It was here that he discovered resilience in its purest form.

Inspired by this experience (and subsequent trips to Bangladesh and Sri Lanka) Hugh returned to Melbourne and commenced working on his own programs for schools. ‘The Resilience Project’ was born. Off the back of his post graduate studies into mental resilience, Hugh’s presentations emphasise the value of gratitude, empathy and mindfulness. Of note, Hugh has developed and facilitated programs for over 220 schools Australia wide. In 2015, the National Rugby League asked Hugh to design and implement a program for every single club in the competition to ensure the entire NRL community were emotionally engaged on the challenges of mental health. Hugh has also worked closely with Collingwood, Gold Coast Suns, Geelong, Essendon and Hawthorn in the AFL. He has also served as CEO of Step Back Think.

During this lecture, Hugh will tell these stories of resilience and interweave them with practical strategies that we can employ everyday to improve the wellbeing of ourselves and our families.

**Book online by accessing this link**


This is a night you won’t want to miss!
Entry fee is $5 per person
Different narratives have challenged our senior students to discuss, compare and analyse the authorial and illustrative styles of many writers and artists.

ST JOSEPH’S CHELSEA CELEBRATES BEAUTIFUL BOOKS, FABULOUS READING, SPECTACULAR WRITING AND MAGNIFICENT ARTWORK!! DRESS UP AND JOIN IN THE FUN AT OUR SPECIAL BOOK WEEK CELEBRATION!!

This term year 3/4 students have been studying the brilliant and unique talent of author-illustrator Anthony Browne.

WEDNESDAY 31ST AUGUST

9am whole school ASSEMBLY and a “special guest” appearance!

10am PARADE Prep-2 Hall 3/4 Library 5/6 classrooms – Adults are invited to share and read their favourite story from their childhood

11.20am-1.20pm Book activities in learning areas/classrooms

2.15pm-3.00pm Prep/Seniors Buddy Yr 1/2s invite a special friend to share a story

DRESS UP suggestions: wizards, witches, goblins, fairies, trolls, munchkins, ogres, giants, one of the 3 bears or 3 pigs, a big, bad wolf, Goldilocks, Snow White, a prince or princess, gremlins, aliens, the Cat in the Hat, a viking, a character from the Hobbit, Lord of the Rings, Star Wars, Barry from Barry, Rowena Batts, an Anthony Browne “gorilla”, Pig the Pug, the Very Itchy Bear….Wally, a superhero, a very hungry caterpillar….. You could come in your pyjamas with your favourite bedtime story- bring your teddy along!

Our junior students have loved reading Nick Bland’s books.

Preps went a little “crazy” just like Max from “Where the Wild Things Are” and the Murmels in “Boom Cha Cha Boogie”
**IMPORTANT DATES**

- **Thursday 25th August**
  Year 6 Confirmation Excursion, Confirmation session 3 begins 7pm
- **Friday 26th August**
  Athletics trials Yr 3-6 Edithvale track, 2.30pm Assembly Yr 3/4
- **Tuesday 30th August**
  7pm Information session Yr 7 2018/2019 at **Kilbreda College**, Yr 5/6 Excursion to JPC 11.20-1.20pm
- **Wednesday 31st August**
  Book Week dress up and activities
- **Thursday 1st September**
  Bishop Elliott meeting with Year 6 students, Fathers Day stall, Fee payment due
- **Friday 2nd September**
  Footy day sausage sizzle lunch order due, Yr 4/5/6 District athletics
- **Monday 5th September**
  Fete Meeting 7pm
- **Tuesday 6th September**
  Marine Ambassador Yr 5/6 (TBC), Reconciliation Yr 3-6
- **Wednesday 7th September**
  7pm Confirmation, Big Green Conference (TBC)
- **Friday 9th September**
  Footy Day, Yr 5/6 Sport-Aspendale Gardens, 2.30pm assembly
- **Tuesday 13th September**
  7pm PEB
- **Wednesday 14th September**
  Whole School Mass 9.15am Feast of the Holy Cross, 11.20am Camp Quality Puppets Prep
- **Thursday 15th September**
  Surprise packs due back
- **Friday 16th September**
  Term 3 finishes at 1.00pm
- **Monday 3rd October**
  Term 4 commences

**Term Dates**
- Term 3 11th July – 16th September
- Term 4 3rd October – 15th December