Dear Parents

Hello once again from St. Peter’s school community. At this stage it appears our “Christmas Concert/Liturgy” planned for tonight will proceed and we should expect clear skies. In the event of the weather turning nasty we do have our back-up plan for the concert to take place at Thomas Carr. A flyer will be forwarded to you via the children and or the school app., if required. In the meantime let’s hope for a wonderful night….. the children are fantastic.

Just a few reminders......... 1) Annual General Meeting (A.G.M), Tuesday 9th December, 2) Gr. 6 Graduation/Thanksgiving Mass Thursday 11th December, 3) Gr. 6 Fun Day, Friday, 12th December, 4) End of Year Mass Monday, 15th December at 9.45 am.

Finally, it is very sad news what happened to our St. Peter’s statue last week. It is difficult to understand what amuses people at times. Let us pray our St. Peter’s statue can be replaced by Mr Louis Loman whose reputation as a sculptor is without peer.

I have enclosed an information sheet outlining our current approach to our “learning and teaching”, for your perusal. It is imperative parents are fully aware of how best we can meet the educational needs of all students at St. Peter’s. I therefore hope you find the flyer informative.

Also attached is the complete Staff List for 2015. We have also enclosed an important letter regarding our East Timor “Social Justice” focus for 2015 and beyond.

Kind Regards

Michael McGrath
Principal

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK
We make a living by what we get, but we make a life by what we give.

- Sir Winston Churchill
REMINDERS
Thursday 4 December Christmas Carol Family Night at 7.00pm
Tuesday 9 December Parents & Friends AGM at 6.30pm in Discovery Centre
Wednesday 10 December Prep Students meet their new 2015 teacher
Thursday 11 December Whole School Orientation
Friday 12 December Grade 6 “Fun Day”/Grade 6 Final Dismissal at 3.15pm
Monday 15 December Whole School End of Year Mass at 9.45 am
Tuesday 16 December Final Dismissal of Grades Prep – 4 at 3.15pm
Tuesday 16 December Maths Testing Day Grades Prep – 4/Grade 5 Leadership Workshops
Friday 30 January Final Dismissal for Grade 5 children at 3.15pm
Tuesday 3 February Prep children at school from 8.45 am to 12 noon
Wednesday 3 February Swimming Program for Grades 3 to 6 (3rd Feb to 16th Feb)

THIS WEEK’S WINNERS – ‘SHOWING CONFIDENCE’

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ICT NEWS
Have a Cybersafe Christmas, This Christmas many of our families will find all sorts of exciting new pieces of technology under the Christmas tree on December 25. These powerful new tablets/IPads/laptops/etc are fun and exciting tools for entertainment, gaming, learning and communicating. However, as many of you know all too well with these new technologies comes new ways for children to bully one another or for children who are not properly monitored to stumble across websites, games or movies that are entirely inappropriate for developing minds.

With this in mind we would like to suggest that you "download" what is sometimes known as the "Two Feet and Two Eyes" app. Note: this is not actually an 'app' but a gentle reminder to parents that the very best form of protection against cyberbullying and inappropriate content is for parents/guardians to use their "Two Feet" to walk over to their child and their device and use their "Two Eyes" to see how they are being used. We would also suggest taking things one step further and ensure you are having regular conversations with your child about: what they are doing; sites they are visiting; who they are communicating with; and what are appropriate time limits and locations for technology use.
Have a fun and cybersafe Christmas.

TERM DATES FOR 2015
Term 1 – Friday 30 January – Friday 27 March
(Easter 3-6 April)
Term 2 – Monday 13 April – Friday 26 June
Term 3 – Monday 13 July – Friday 18 September
Term 4 – Monday 5 October – Friday 18 December
PERFORMING ARTS NEWS
The Big day has arrived! The Students and Staff are ready for our musical, ‘Voices of Christmas’. A gentle reminder that families are kindly requested to begin arriving at 6.30pm. Students and teachers will gather in the following assembly areas:

*Prep, Year One and Year Two students on the basketball court –
At the end of the evening children will remain seated with their teacher. For health and safety reasons parents are kindly requested to form a line in front of the first row of chairs across the basketball court and the teachers will send your child to you- using the centre aisle.
It is most important that the centre aisle is left clear at all times to enable families to exit the basketball court. This procedure may take a little more time however, it will be less stressful our little performers who will be very tired by the end of the night! Thank you for your anticipated support.

*Years Three & Four students in the Year 4B/C classrooms -
At the end of the evening please collect your child from under the Discovery Centre Verandah.

*Year Five & Six students in the hall –
At the end of the evening please collect your child from the church hall foyer doors off the car park.
Families are asked to be seated by 6.45pm so that the musical can begin promptly at 7.00pm. It is recommended that your child bring his/her water bottle with their name clearly marked on it on the night. Students come to the performance wearing their costume. Year 6 Cast are to meet teachers in the Drama Room at 6.15pm to change into their costume!
Thank you for your continued support. Looking forward to sharing this special evening with you.
Kind Regards
Connie Skinner

CHRISTMAS FOOD AND TOY DRIVE
Every year before Christmas, we collect food and toys to help St Vincent De Paul make Christmas Hampers for the poor. We ask that if they are able, families donate some non-perishable food or one NEW toy so that St Vincent De Paul can give poor families food for Christmas and the children a gift as well. Gifts for adults are also welcome. Presents do not have to be wrapped as we will wrap and label what age the gift is appropriate for.
We will be collecting food and gifts until the pick up on Friday, 12th December. Please send food and toys to your child’s classroom and the Class Captains will collect the goods so that St Vincent De Paul can pick them up. Your generosity is much appreciated.
Pattie McCusker - Student Wellbeing

2015 NEWSLETTERS
In 2015 our Newsletters and notes will be on-line ONLY. This initiative is consistent with our endeavours to transform our administration into a paperless school. If you have any concerns regarding this initiative please contact the office and/or if you have not forwarded your preferred E-Mail address please do so asap.

EDUCATION MAINTENANCE ALLOWANCE (EMA)
As of January 1st in 2015 the present arrangements regarding EMA payments directly to parents will cease. Instead, the most needy schools will receive additional funding. Not all schools will be receiving funding in 2015. This change to how the money is distributed was required by the funding agreement with Commonwealth Government to make sure Victorian schools receive increased funding, that will benefit all students and in particular, those schools with concentrated disadvantage.

2nd Hand Uniform “Shoppe”
2nd Hand Uniform “Shoppe” folk, wish to thank all who have availed themselves of this service. Many thanks to those who donated goods.
We will still be trading in 2015, with plenty of larger sizes to get you through the transition time.
We wish you all a Very Happy and Holy Christmas, and a safe holiday time.
COMMUNITY NEWS

Get Active Sports – Basketball for Juniors at Mossfield Primary School Gym, Langridge Street, Hoppers Crossing starting on Sunday, 8th February. Cost $90 for 6 weekly sessions. Register at rego@activesports.com.au or call 1300772106 or fax 1300 672 823.

Tarneit Football Club are approaching their second year in the WRFL with a renewed enthusiasm and are on the look out for Auskick and junior players.

If you are interested in playing or you have a child that is looking to play football in 2015 or wanting to enrol in Auskick, please contact Terrence Bradley on email enquiries@tarneittitansfc.com.au or call 0466 930 350.

All Auskick enquiries can be directed to Neil Prossertarneitauskick@hotmail.com or call 0428 100 232.

Tarneit FC is based at Wootton Rd Reserve Tarneit, corner of Hogan's and Heaths Rd Tarneit.

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