Dear Parents,

Walk Safely to School Day & St Vincent de Paul Winter Appeal

On Friday 22nd May we will launch our Holy Family Winter Appeal along with Walk Safely to School day which promotes the physical activity of walking to live an active and healthy life. We invite all children to join us for breakfast from 8:30am where toast and fruit will be provided. After breakfast we will all celebrate with a liturgy at 9am in the quadrangle to launch our Holy Family Winter Appeal for the St Vincent de Paul Society. The appeal will run for the month with a different focus each week-

Our appeal will conclude as we gather together at Mass on Friday 12th June at 9:15am to celebrate the Feast of the Sacred Heart. This celebration focuses on the love of Christ and how we are called to spread this love to those in need.

We are looking forward to a fabulous month of fun, action and prayer and encourage all students to support our endeavour to raise awareness for St Vincent de Paul.

Board Shorts – Education Board Meeting 20th April 2015

Monday night 20th April saw the next meeting of the Holy Family Education Board.

The meeting commenced with Kellie Johnston – Student Services Leader, telling us about her role at the school in helping students with various needs and working with teachers, families, external agencies and the Catholic Education office, to achieve the best possible results for our students.

Deputy Principal – Admin & Innovation, Eithne King delivered the P&F report advising that the Trivia night was a great success, showcasing the spirit of the school community whilst raising a good amount. Similarly the movie night was a fun night for all that attended, with a family friendly social event also raising good money for the school. The Kids Café continues to go very well, and now that Winter has set in, it is time for the Winter uniforms to be dusted off and used. We were also updated on the upcoming Mother’s Day Event with the promise of some nice surprises for the mother’s that attend.

Eithne also delivered the Deputy Principal report advising that Open Days would be held shortly, with visits to local Kinders handing out information on Holy Family School. The building program continues with the “new” library almost finished, the toilets to be upgraded in the next holidays and the wire fence between the school oval and the train line replaced.

Deputy Principal – Teaching & Learning, Anna White advised of the next school closure day on Friday 5th June. NAPLAN has also come around again and will be completed 12th – 14th May. Student Perception Surveys at all class levels have been completed, with the intention to build stronger relationships between teachers and students in the classroom. Student progress reports will continue in the current format with the June interviews to be used to seek feedback from families and teachers.

Meeting was finished at 8:15pm with the next board meeting scheduled for Monday 16th June.

Richard Matthews– Board Member
Communion Family Night – Wednesday 20th May – 7pm

The second Eucharist Family Night will be held on Wednesday 20th May at 7pm. The Family Nights are an integral part of the program and complement what is covered at school and home.

The children will celebrate the Sacrament of Communion on either Saturday evening (6.00pm) 30th May or Sunday morning (10.30am) 31st May.

Cross Country Trial Reminder

Tomorrow, Friday 15th May is our school cross country which is the trial to enter the Syndal District Cross Country on the 29th May at Jells Park. Students in years four to six are involved and are permitted to wear their school sports uniform for the day. A big thank you to those parents who offered to help and supplied their Working With Children Check details. Please meet me on the oval at 9.00am, and bring a nice warm jacket or coat to wear.

Prue Smith
Physical Education Coordinator

Mother's Day Stall

Thank you! Thank you to members of the Parents and friends Committee for running the ‘mother’s day stall’ held last Friday. We hope that all mothers were delighted with their special gifts! A great deal of thought went into each transaction!

2016 Enrolments

Thank you to the many parents who have already completed 2016 Prep Enrolment forms. We urge all 2016 families to have enrolment forms submitted as soon as is possible.
We aim to establish numbers for 2016 Prep children with siblings in the school and Catholic families with Prep enrolments in our Parish boundaries before we can accept placements for all other enrolments. It is anticipated that the large majority of enrolment applications will be confirmed by letter by the end of May.

Enrolments Forms are available from the School Office.

Eithne King
Deputy Principal

Entertainment books

Entertainment Books either need to be paid for or returned by today Thursday 14th May.
Any questions to contact Adrianna 0403 808 927
So this week in our Social Emotional Learning Curriculum focus we move onto the third element entitled, ‘Social Awareness’. From years prep through to year ten, this element involves students recognising others’ feelings and knowing how and when to assist others. Students learn to show respect for and understand others’ perspectives, emotional states and needs. They learn to participate in positive, safe and respectful relationships, defining and accepting individual and group roles and responsibilities. Students gain an understanding of the role of advocacy in contemporary society and build their capacity to critique societal constructs and forms of discrimination, such as racism and sexism.

In developing and acting with personal and social capability, students will learn to appreciate diverse perspectives, contribute to civil society and continue to understand relationships.

We need to consider that our children’s ability to understand others and take their needs and views into account develops over time. Young children are naturally self-focused. They often play beside, rather than with, other children and tend to think that everyone sees things the same way that they do. In early primary school children learn that others may see things differently from them. Then, as their thinking skills develop, children are more able to understand another person’s point of view and, finally, to appreciate multiple ways of looking at the same event or situation.

Teaching children how to put themselves in someone else’s shoes helps them to relate better to others and manage conflict more effectively. It promotes caring, respect and fairness. Research shows that children who have learned to value others are more likely to include and appreciate children who are different from them or who are viewed negatively by others. Research into moral development has highlighted how social behaviour reflects the attitudes people hold about social conventions and about themselves. Learning to take account of others’ feelings, perspectives and expectations contributes to children’s understanding of social values, and to the values and ethics they choose for themselves.

Children’s earliest and most extensive learning about social relationships occurs in the family. Parents and carers can support positive social development when they model respect and consideration and encourage children to be similarly respectful in all their relationships.

- Provide care and support by tuning into children’s needs. Show you are willing to listen and take children’s feelings into consideration.
- Help children to develop social skills by providing coaching and teaching them to think through and solve the day-to-day social difficulties they encounter. Supervise and support children’s social activities without taking over.
- Ask questions that encourage children to put themselves in someone else’s shoes. Questions like “How would you feel if …?” help children learn skills for perspective-taking.
- Asking questions in a supportive way helps children to think through situations and encourages them to take others’ feelings and perspectives into account.
- Discuss moral issues with children and encourage them to state their opinions and reasons.

Check out this week’s newsletter for some research into Social Development.

Have a wonderful week and enjoy the proposed warmer weather this weekend

Treasa Barwick
Wellbeing Leader
FRIDAY NIGHT AT THE MOVIES!!
MAY 22

Holy Family Parish is organising a free movie night for all the family - now there's a bargain!

Date: Friday, 22nd May
Time: 6.45 pm for a 7.00 pm Movie Start
Where: Parish Hall
Movie: MARY POPPINS
BYO Snacks
(No nuts please)

Enjoy a relaxed evening with your school and parish community - the kids will love it!

Enquiries: Lucy Phillipos: 98062472