



# SAINT VINCENT'S PRIMARY SCHOOL



## NEWSLETTER

WEEK 8 TERM 4

5 DECEMBER 2019

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*"An inclusive, Christ-centred community providing educational excellence and opportunities."*



### DATES TO REMEMBER

**Tues 10 December**  
Giving Liturgy 12pm

**Friday 13 December**  
Nativity Assembly-  
Kinder  
School Christmas  
Carols 6.30pm

**Mon 16 December**  
Optional Parent  
Teacher Interviews

**Tues 17 December**  
Year 6 Mass 12.30pm  
Grad Dinner 6.30pm

**Wed 18 December**  
Year 6 Fun Day  
Meet the Teacher  
2.15pm –3pm

**Thurs 19 December**  
Last day of year

**PARISH OF  
ST MATTHEW'S AND  
ST VINCENT DE PAUL**  
**WEEKEND  
MASS TIMES  
at St Vincent's**  
**From 5 October**  
Saturday-6pm  
Sunday-10am  
Tuesday-5.30pm  
Thursday-9.30am  
Parish: 6254 1827

### FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Parents and Friends of St Vincent's,



I had a wonderful experience on camp last week with our Year 6 students. Travelling home after a wonderful three days in Sydney I kept thinking what a great group of boys and girls our Year 6 student leaders are and how worthwhile every one of the experiences we had was. A wonderful way to celebrate their final days as the St Vincent's Year 6 2019 cohort.

With just two weeks left of the school year our classrooms and corridors are humming with sounds of children engaged in learning. Students are demonstrating how well they own their learning through their showcase presentations and the sweet sound of Kinders singing can be heard down the corridor from the hall as they practice for their Nativity concert. Teachers have finalised semester reports which will be coming home next Thursday. As always there is an opportunity for parents to meet with teachers (by appointment through the Front Office) at an optional parent teacher meeting on Monday, 16 December.

The sounds of hammering, drilling and sawing have finally slowed right down. This is good news! Tomorrow I have a meeting with the project management team with the intent of having a handover. We continue to wait for furniture to arrive and I know you will love the new look. I hope we can give families a tour of the classrooms on Carols Night – see you there.

#### **Staffing News**

A few weeks ago I shared that Lisa Harris, Assistant Principal, has accepted a 12 month secondment to Catholic Education in 2020. Following an interview panel decision, I am pleased to announce that Mrs Monique Egan has secured the position of Assistant Principal in 2020. Monique is currently the co-ordinator and has acted in the role of Assistant Principal at St Anthony's Wanniasa. She brings a wealth of knowledge and expertise to the role. We congratulate Monique and look forward to welcoming her to our school community.

In other staffing news both Lynne Hellyer and Sonia Mattiske have been successful in obtaining continuing part-time status from 2020. Lynne has accepted 0.6FTE and Sonia 0.4FTE, we thank both teachers for their commitment to Part-Time temporary contracts in the lead up to this. Miss Tayla Hart, ACU Graduate Teacher, and Mrs Trees Williams, experienced teacher from Catholic Education Melbourne Diocese, have both accepted 12mth temporary contracts in 2020.

We thank sincerely Mr John Jennings for his dedication and commitment to 1/2B in Semester 2 of this year. John will return to casual teaching in 2020 and we look forward to having him cover as a relief teacher next year. Ms Anna Zaja will be taking leave in 2020. We thank Anna for her passion for teaching and dedication to her students. We wish Anna all the best for her next adventure and look forward to her return in 2021.

## School Community Council News

On Tuesday night we had our last School Community Council meeting for 2019. The 2020 school budget was presented and accepted. This budget is set by myself along with Office Manager Nicole Watson, (who truly is remarkable in this role and deserves most of the thanks for the hard work that is put into preparing the budget). The Council agreed to a 3% increase in the St Vincent's component of next year's fees. A letter explaining the fee structure for next year will be sent home today.

St Vincent's is certainly the richer for having a good number of our parents lead initiatives which bring the parent community together. Every member has been supportive and their dedication and interest in the life of students and teachers at our school has been instrumental in setting the school on its course to providing a quality education for all students. This year we farewell long serving Council member Tina Majstorovic, Council Chair Paul Baker and Canteen rep Kristen Lees. To Tina and Paul who will be leaving St Vincent's at the end of the year we thank you for the service you have given our community.

NOW IS YOUR OPPORTUNITY TO CONSIDER HOW YOU TOO CAN JOIN THE SCC IN 2020. PLEASE GIVE SERIOUS CONSIDERATION TO JOINING THE TEAM AND RETURN THE SLIP INDICATING YOUR INTEREST TO THE SCHOOL.

Thanking you all for your ongoing support of St Vincent's.

*Lina Vigliotta*

[lina.vigliotta@cg.catholic.edu.au](mailto:lina.vigliotta@cg.catholic.edu.au)

## STUDENT NEWS FROM AROUND THE SCHOOL



### Grey Wolf Award

Last Saturday, Alex and Indy from Year 6, were awarded the Grey Wolf Award by the ACT Cub Scout Commissioner Mr Tim Kirsopp.

The Grey Wolf Award is the pinnacle of the Cub Scout Section and there are a number of requirements involved in earning this big achievement. Both Alex and Indy have worked hard over a 12 month period to meet this award requirements that few achieve.

These Lake Ginninderra Sea Scouts have demonstrated initiative by completing badge work covering a wide array of skills and challenges increasing in difficulty as they progressed through the Gold Boomerang awards, as well as a number of special interest and achievement badges.

For the final challenge, both St Vincent's boys individually were responsible for planning and leading a 2 hour hike with a Leader and a group of six-ten Cub Scouts. They were responsible for planning and implementing all logistical aspects of the hike, ensuring everyone had appropriate equipment, clothing, food and a personal first aid kit for the chosen hike. This is quite an achievement for children of their age.



### *From Jessica...*

We have been praying for the animals in the bush fires at school. With a couple of my friends we have asked Mrs Vigliotta if we could run a fundraiser (guess how many lollies are in the lolly jar) to give to WIRES (Australia Wildlife Rescue Organisation) to help all of our Australian animals in the bush fires. 1 dollar for three guesses, 50 cents for one guess.

Guesses can be bought every Thursday and Friday for the next two weeks and on Christmas carols night. I have been saving up my spending money for this cause. Thanks for your support, Jessica.



**YOU ARE INVITED TO....**

## *Helpers Morning Tea*

We would dearly like to acknowledge all who have helped us this year: canteen, open days, Fete, craft, disco, Mother's/Father's Day breakfasts, class reading, club4kids, working bees... the list is huge! We really are grateful for every bit of help given and now it is our turn to give a little back. Please join the staff **MONDAY, 16 DECEMBER** at **11am** for morning tea, time to sit a while with staff and ponder on the year.



## *Christmas Carols Evening*

**FRIDAY 13 DECEMBER 6.30PM**

Please join us for our Community Christmas Carols evening. This will be a casual event and Carols will be held on the oval.

### **FANCY A CATERED PICNIC DINNER?**

We are offering families the opportunity to pre order their **PICNIC DINNER** through Qkr.



For \$10 per person you get:

Roast chicken, 2xbread roll and a choice from an assortment of salads.

Bring your own: chair/rug, drinks, plates, cutlery

Families are invited to wear some 'Christmas' for this special event.

A lovely way to connect with new friends and families you have met over the year.

### **SCHOOL COMMUNITY COUNCIL NOMINATIONS**

At the end of each school year, several vacancies arise on the school's Community Council. Council members are appointed for a period of two years, during which time they attend two meetings per term. These meetings are an opportunity to hear about what is going on at the school and to participate in planning for the future. No special skills are required, although there are opportunities to join sub-committees focusing on the grounds, fundraising or catering. Your voice is important, why not consider having your say by joining the Community Council in 2020!

## **ST VINCENT'S COMMUNITY SCHOOL COUNCIL** **Nomination Form**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Nominated by: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Nominee: \_\_\_\_\_

Dated: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Nominator: \_\_\_\_\_

Dated: \_\_\_\_\_



## FROM THE ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

Dear families and friends,

As we draw tantalisingly close to the end of the year, many of us are already turning our thoughts to how best to navigate our children through the long Christmas break that ultimately leads into the 2020 school year. For some this break is one that offers many opportunities for quality time to be spent with family and close friends, for others it can be a time that causes a degree of stress and anxiety as the pressure of keeping children occupied for such a long period of time can appear overwhelming. Listed below are a few handy tips that may prove helpful as you and your family journey through Christmas and into the New Year.

### Set priorities

Learn to say “no” to some things - choose quality over quantity. Your main priority may simply be spending time with your children and enjoying each other’s company.

### Look after yourself

To take care of others you need to first take care of yourself. A healthy diet, regular exercise, learning to relax and getting enough sleep will also help to reduce stress.

### Laughter

Nothing reduces stress as quickly or as effectively as a good laugh!

### Plan ahead

Take charge of your holidays in advance by making lists of things to do and setting aside some time each day for them - nothing creates more stress than last minute shopping and preparations. When entertaining children, one different activity each day will keep them excited.

### Deep breathing

Spend five to ten minutes several times a day practising the art of deep breathing. It helps to raise your energy levels.

Next week starts a myriad of end of year events on the school calendar. So many exciting things are happening! The Giving Liturgy, Kinder Nativity, Community Carols, Y6 Graduation Mass & Dinner.

I look forward to catching up with you all at one, all or many of them!

With best wishes always,

Lisa

## AWARDS

We congratulate the following recipients of this weeks awards

**KINDER BLUE:** Bella M, Max K, Archie N

**YEAR 1/2 BLUE:** Lachlan R, Joseph S, Jacinta R

**YEAR 1/2 WHITE:** Athena M, Daniel M, Harriet M

**YEAR 1/2 YELLOW:** Laurence H, Opal D, Chaz A

**YEAR 3 YELLOW:** Puendirika P, Jayla M, Grace F

**YEAR 4 WHITE:** Achiik K, Chris M, Diego P, Jessica M

**YEAR 5 BLUE:** Elle S, Simon R

**YEAR 6 YELLOW:** William P, Sari T, Tara S, Bronson M



## BIRTHDAYS

Happy Birthday to the following students celebrating their birthday over the coming week:

Zikora N, Luke A



## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS



'I am the Light of the World; he who follows Me will not walk in darkness, but will have the Light of life'. (John 8:12)

### *Second Week of Advent*

These final few weeks of Term 4 are always such a busy time for families. There is an endless list of events to attend, tasks to complete for work and excited and tired children to support. As we prepare ourselves and our families for the end of term, stand-down periods at work and preparations for visitors or travel over the Christmas and New Year period, it is important that we also take time to stop and bask in the peace and hope that the season of Advent brings. This season is a special gift to us all, a time to put things into perspective, to give thanks for the many gifts we have in our lives and to prepare our hearts for the celebration of the birth of Jesus.



### *Vinnies Christmas Hampers*

Information was sent home on Monday about the St Vincent de Paul Christmas Hamper Giving Appeal. Each child selected an item to donate to their class hamper. In total we will be presenting full Christmas meal hampers to 9 families in need via the St Vincent de Paul Society this Christmas. All items need to be returned by Monday, 9 December as we will be handing over the hampers at the Giving Liturgy on Tuesday 10 December. All members of the community are very welcome to attend this liturgy on Tuesday.

| Prayer Celebration Dates                            |
|---|
| The Nativity – K Yellow Friday 13 December (Week 9) |

Peace and best wishes,  
Luke Maher  
Religious Education Coordinator

## CANTEEN

### REMINDER:

### NEW CANTEEN MENU STARTS TOMORROW

**St Vincent's has canteen at recess on Thursdays and recess and lunch on Fridays.**

An app will need to be downloaded onto your device and ordering can be made through the Qkr! app.

The cut off time for all orders will be 8.45am Thursdays and Fridays.

Orders can be placed through the Qkr! app for recess on Thursdays and also recess and lunch for Fridays.

Over the counter recess sales on Thursdays and Fridays are still able to be cash.

All lunches on Fridays must be ordered.

The preferred option for ordering lunch of Fridays is through the new Qkr! app but you may also put money into a brown paper bag with all the details on the front.

**Please remember to bring your keep cups for Hot Chocolate and Ice Cream.**

Please volunteer to help in the canteen [www.volunteersignup.org/7EWJ3](http://www.volunteersignup.org/7EWJ3)



with  masterpass

## AUDITIONS - WODEN VALLEY YOUTH CHOIR

WVYC will hold auditions during January for its two senior choirs for students going into Year 7 or above. Woden Valley Youth Choir has a strong emphasis on music education and is seeking young people who have an interest in developing their musical skills. The flagship choir, Australis Voices, is for young men and women with treble voices and Centauri Voices is a choir for young men with changing voices.

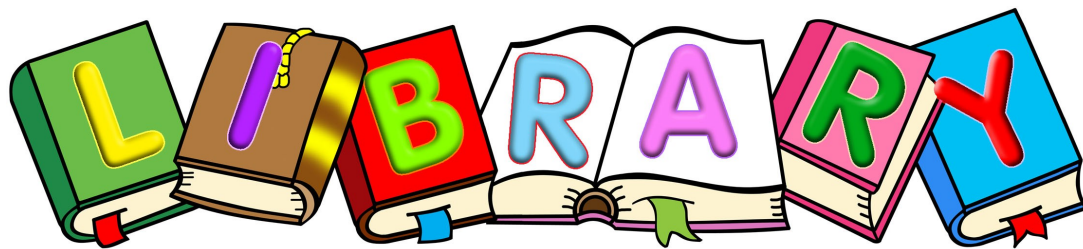
Audition times are flexible and can be held on dates and times to suit prospective choristers, with the expectation that successful applicants will attend the beginning of year camp on the first weekend of February. For further information go to <http://wvyc.org.au/join-us/> and download an application form.

Auditions for primary aged applicants will be held on Saturday 22 February following an open rehearsal on Tuesday 18 February 2020.

## SCHOOL BANKING

The last day for school banking for 2019 will be  
**Friday, 13 December 2019.**

The first day for school banking for 2020 will be in  
Week 2, Friday 14 February 2020.



The end of the school year will be upon us before we realise it. By end of Week 9, I would love to have all of our library books returned back to school and on the shelves for the start of the 2020 school year. I understand that these books can often be hard to find (under beds, behind cupboards, eaten by the dog...) but myself and your children would appreciate your help in finding them and returning them to school.

Rachel Donnelly  
Teacher/Librarian

## SOUTH BELCONNEN PARISH CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES

### CHRISTMAS EVE

6.30pm St Matthew's School oval, Page  
9.00pm St Vincent's Church, Aranda

### CHRISTMAS DAY

8.30am St Matthew's Church, Page  
10.00am St Vincent's Church, Aranda  
3.00pm St Vincent's Church, Aranda (Korean)







## Could \$500 help you with school costs?

Join Saver Plus and we'll match your savings, dollar for dollar, up to \$500 for school costs.

- |  |  |
|--|--|
|  laptops & tablets  |  lessons & activities |
|  uniforms & shoes   |  books & supplies     |
|  sports fees & gear |  camps & excursions   |

To join Saver Plus, you must be at least 18 years or over, have a child at school or starting next year, or attend vocational education yourself, have regular income from paid employment (you or your partner), have a current Health Care or Pensioner Concession Card and be in receipt of an eligible Commonwealth social security benefit, allowance or payment\*



**Contact**  
your local Saver Plus  
Coordinator

**Phone**  
1300 610 355

**Email**  
CanberraSP@  
thesmithfamily.com.au

**Online**  
saverplus.org.au

Find us on Facebook 



\*many Centrelink payments are eligible, please contact your local Coordinator for more information.

Saver Plus is an initiative of the Brotherhood of St Laurence and ANZ, delivered in partnership with Berry Street, The Benevolent Society and The Smith Family and other local community agencies. The program is funded by ANZ and the Australian Government Department of Social Services. Go to [www.dss.gov.au](http://www.dss.gov.au) for more information.



SOUTH BELCONNEN YOUTH MINISTRY

# CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION

Saturday 14th December 2019

INVITING ALL STUDENTS IN YEARS 3-7 TO JOIN US  
AT ST VINCENT'S CHURCH, ARANDA AT 4.45PM TO  
PLAY GAMES, SHARE SOME FOOD AND CELEBRATE  
THE YEAR OF YOUTH MINISTRY IN SOUTH  
BELCONNEN.

THEN JOIN IN WITH US TO CELEBRATE MASS AT 6PM.

WE CAN'T WAIT TO SEE YOU THERE!

Contact Youth Ministers  
for more information  
[Sarah.Larkin@cg.org.au](mailto:Sarah.Larkin@cg.org.au)  
[Claire.Tagliapietra@cg.org.au](mailto:Claire.Tagliapietra@cg.org.au)



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