Dear Families,

A LENTEN REFLECTION

On the street I saw a small girl cold and shivering in a thin dress,
With little hope of a decent meal.
I became angry and said to God,
“Why did you permit this?
Why don’t you do something about it?

For a while God said nothing,
That night he replied, quite suddenly,
“I certainly did something about it.
I made you!”

How can you share your blessing this LENT?

This week the children making their first Reconciliation will participate, with their parents, in the second Reconciliation workshop. See inside for further information.

YEAR 5 CAMP
Later this week the children in year 5 will be venturing to Rawson for their annual camping experience. The children will depart on Wednesday and return on Friday. We hope that the weather will be kind to our campers! Regardless I’m sure that they will enjoy their time away and have many wonderful learning experiences. Thank you to our staff who will be attending the camp, making sure the children have safe and exciting experiences!

CLOSURE DAYS
Please note that next Monday 14th March is the Labour Day holiday and thus no school for the children. Friday 18th March, as noted on last week’s newsletter, is a professional learning day for staff. School will be closed for the students on this day.

Due to the holiday falling on Monday and the closure day on Friday, there will be no assemblies next week!

MAINTENANCE WORKS
We have recently replaced the gutters/spouting on the north and south sides of the main building block. During the closure day on the 18th March, the plumbers will also replace many of the damaged/water stained ceiling panels in a number of classrooms in the main block.
The Pitfall Of Using Other Children As Benchmarks

Have you ever compared your child’s behaviour, academic progress or social skills with a sibling, or your friend’s children? Comparing your child with others is a stress-inducing and, ultimately, useless activity.

BUT it’s hard to resist as we tend to assess our progress in any area of life by checking out how we compare with our peers.

When you were a child in school you probably compared yourself to your schoolmates. Your teachers may not have graded you, but you knew who the smart kids were and where you ranked in the pecking order. Now that you have kids of your own do you still keep an eye on your peers? Do you use the progress and behaviour of their kids as benchmarks to help you assess your own performance as well as your child’s progress? Or perhaps you compare your child to yourself at the same age?

Benchmarking children’s progress with that of other children is not a wise parenting strategy. Inevitably, it will lead to parent frustration as there will always be a child who performs better than your own on any scale you use.

Kids Develop At Their Own Rates

Each child has his or her own developmental clock, which is nearly impossible to alter. There are slow bloomers, early developers, bright sparks and steady-as-you-go kids in every classroom. It’s the first group that can cause the most concern for parents who habitually compare children to siblings, their friends’ kids and even themselves when they were in school.

The trick is to focus on your child’s improvement and effort and use your child’s results as the benchmark for his or her progress and development. “Your spelling is better today than it was a year ago” is a better measure of progress than “Your spelling is the best in the class!”

Kids have different talents, interests and strengths.

So your eight-year-old can’t hit a tennis ball like Novak Djokovic, even though your neighbour’s child can. Avoid comparing the two as your child may not care about tennis anyway.

It’s better to help your child identify his or her own talents and interests and also recognize that strengths and interests may be completely different than those of his or her peers and siblings.

Avoid linking your parenting self-esteem to your child’s performance

As a parent you should take pride on your children’s performance at school, in sport or their leisure activities. Seeing your child do well is one of the unsung pleasures of parenting. You should also celebrate their achievements and milestones such as, taking their first steps, getting their first goal in a game or getting great marks at school.

However, you shouldn’t have too much personal stake in your children’s success or in their milestones, as this close association makes it hard to separate yourself from them. It may also lead to excessive parent pressure for kids to do well for the wrong reasons- to please you!

The maxim “You are not your child” is a challenging but essential parental concept to live by. Doing so takes real maturity and altruism, but it is the absolute foundation of that powerful thing known as ‘unconditional love’. (taken from Michael Grose ‘Parenting Ideas’)
Upcoming Term 1 Dates

**WEEK 7**

Wednesday 9th - 11th March - Grade 5 Camp (Rawson)
Wednesday 9th March - Prep Literacy Info Session 6.30pm

**WEEK 8**

Monday 14th March - LABOUR DAY PUBLIC HOLIDAY
Tuesday 15th March - Catholic Education Week
Wednesday 16th March - Parents & Friends Meeting 2.30pm
School Committee Meeting 7.00pm
Thursday 17th March - St. Joseph’s Day (Whole School Liturgy)
Regional Swimming
Friday 18th March - SCHOOL CLOSURE

**WEEK 9**

Monday 21st March - National Harmony Day
Wednesday 23rd - 24th March - Grade 4 Camp (Forest Edge)
Thursday 24th March - Stations of the Cross, Easter Raffle

**END OF TERM FINISH** 2.20PM

Teacher School Email Addresses
To assist with communication between teachers and parents, please find teacher email addresses listed below. Please remember that teachers will respond to emails when they are able, during office hours, and this will not necessarily be as soon as you have emailed them. If you need to contact the school immediately, ringing reception is still the best option on 5623 2943. The principal email address is listed on the front page of the newsletter.

Office Admin - kbarrett@stjwarragul.catholic.edu.au, drobbins@stjwarragul.catholic.edu.au
Prep Paulger - tpaulger@stjwarragul.catholic.edu.au
Prep Wans - lwans@stjwarragul.catholic.edu.au
Grade 1/2 Barry - vbarry@stjwarragul.catholic.edu.au
Grade 1/2 Ford - kford@stjwarragul.catholic.edu.au
Grade 1/2 Hawes - jhawes@stjwarragul.catholic.edu.au
Grade 1/2 Jeffers - cjeffers@stjwarragul.catholic.edu.au
Grade 1/2 Thompson - kthompson@stjwarragul.catholic.edu.au
Grade 3/4 Dodman - ldodman@stjwarragul.catholic.edu.au, minchincoli@stjwarragul.catholic.edu.au
Grade 3/4 EA - evanboven@stjwarragul.catholic.edu.au, adaly@stjwarragul.catholic.edu.au
Grade 3/4 Maunder - mmaunder@stjwarragul.catholic.edu.au
Grade 3/4 Moritz/Leary - smoritz@stjwarragul.catholic.edu.au, rleary@stjwarragul.catholic.edu.au
Grade 3/4 Shannon - mshannon@stjwarragul.catholic.edu.au
Grade 5/6 Clancy - mclancy@stjwarragul.catholic.edu.au
Grade 5/6 Baker - jbaker@stjwarragul.catholic.edu.au
Grade 5/6 Farina - lfarina@stjwarragul.catholic.edu.au
Grade 5/6 Silver - msilver@stjwarragul.catholic.edu.au
Weekend Mass Times for the Parishes of Warragul & Drouin:

Warragul: Saturday 7pm & Sunday 9am
Drouin: Sunday 10.30am
Neerim Sth: Saturday 5.30pm

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>WEEK</th>
<th>FRIDAY MASS/LITURGY</th>
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<td>Grade 5/6 Clancy</td>
<td>Grade 1/2 Ford</td>
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<td>Grade 1/2 Thompson</td>
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<td>Whole School Liturgy</td>
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<td>Thursday 24th March</td>
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<td>Grade 5/6 Farina</td>
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<td>Stations of the Cross</td>
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Children’s Liturgy

Children’s Liturgy of the Word will be held weekly during the school term at the 9.00am mass in St. Joseph’s Church, Warragul and at St. Ita’s Church, Drouin at 10.30am.

Pre-schoolers, as well as primary aged students are warmly invited to attend. Parents are welcome to attend with their children if necessary.

For more information ring Liz on 5625 2253.

Let the children come to me.
(Matthew 19:14)

First Australian Evangeline lives in a remote community that faces many ongoing challenges. She had a limited vision for her future until three years ago, when she started working at the Djilpin Arts Ghun-marn Culture Centre, a community-owned venture supported by Caritas Australia. Today Evangeline is flourishing, with new skills and a passion for the preservation and promotion of her Aboriginal culture.

Please donate to Project Compassion 2016 and help First Australians in remote communities of Australia gain new skills and renewed passion to preserve and celebrate traditional culture. You can donate through School boxes, by visiting www.caritas.org.au/projectcompassion or phoning 1800 024 413.
**Sacrament of Reconciliation**

Our final parent/child workshops will be held this Thursday 10th March – either 4pm OR 7pm in the Marian room - St Joseph’s Church, Warragul.

If parents and students are unable to attend either of these sessions, they need to attend the session held on Wednesday 9th March, 7pm, at St Ita’s school hall, Drouin.

Please bring with you your Sharing Sheets and any outstanding enrolment forms, photos or levy envelopes.

For more information ring Ruth Thompson on 5623 1642, or see Mr Thompson at school.

The following week will be the ceremony of the Sacrament of Reconciliation. This will be on Wednesday the 16th of March at 7pm at St. Ita’s Church, and 7pm on Thursday the 17th of March at St. Joseph’s Church. Please keep the following St. Joseph’s children in your prayers as they complete this Sacrament:

Matthew ARMSTRONG, Eva BARRY, Tyler BEST, Molly BINGHAM, Millicent BROWN, Tayla CLARK, Tarynt DAVIDSON, Angus DUNSMUIR, Cody GEARY, Evelyn GRAAFSMA, Charlotte HARRIS, Oliver HILTON, Skye HUGGINS, Miller IRELAND, Sydelle ISAACS, Maci JAMES, Heath JINKS, Chloe JINKS, Darcy JONES, Logan JOYCE, Reagan JOYCE, Isaac KITTELTY, Seth LEAR, Thomas LOGAN, Alana MAGYAR, Noah MCDONALD, Caleb McIntosh, Zali MIRON, Ryan MURPHY, Will O’BRIEN, Tyson O’LEARY, Xavier OLSSON, Cooper PATTERSON, Thomas PATTERSON, Noah RIDSDALE, Elijah RYAN, Rebekah SCHREYER, Joseph SIMPSON, Rylee SOMERVILLE, Tess TALBOT, Cameron THOMPSON, Jake VAUGHAN, Sienna WAKEFIELD, Ava WEBSTER.

**St. Joseph’s Day**

On the 17th of March we are going to be having a celebratory day for our patron saint St Joseph. This year the day falls on St Patrick’s Day so the children will be participating in some activities for each saint. We will be having a liturgy in our school hall at 9.15am. All parents are welcome to join us. In the morning of this day we are also going to be having a whole school focus on Reconciliation. The Sacrament of Reconciliation will be celebrated that evening at 7pm.
Parents & Friends Rosters & News

Bakers Delight at Coles Centrepoint
Dough Raiser Program
Simply mention St Joseph’s Primary school at the Bakers Delight near Coles, Williams Square in Warragul and they will give 5% of sales back to our school. Fresh bread tastes even better when you know it’s helping raise money for our school.

Warragul Cinema Tickets
Warragul Cinema vouchers/tickets available for $13.00 from the school office.

School Support Roster
Ideally we still need some more volunteers to be part of this service. If you are able to provide a meal once a term to feed a family of 5, please contact Naomi.

Thank you again for your generosity, Naomi Simpson 0438 558 152

March 7th  Margot Baker, Lisa Heggart, Hayley Davidson, Prue Metcalfe
March 14th  Meg Height, Richelle Harris, Emma Pilla, Erika McInerney
March 21st  Mary Rothmeier, Fiona Armstrong, Holly Stockdale, Kylie Logan

Cake Raffle Roster – Friday at Assembly 50 Cents
Please remember no nuts when baking and to provide a list of ingredients with the cake. The cake is required at School by 2.00pm on a Friday afternoon so raffle tickets can be sold prior to assembly.

Thanking you, Meg Height 0438 514027 or admin@thesummit.net.au.

Friday 11th March  Michelle Ireland
Friday 18th March  SCHOOL CLOSURE

Iron On School Logos
available in green & yellow for application onto school polos and school jumpers. Logos are available from the office at $2.50 each.

St Joes Playgroup
Every Monday morning at 9.30am
or straight after morning assembly in the Art Room
(old Staffroom)
All Welcome
For further information contact
Contact Silvia 0418 764 954
or silviantony@vic.australis.com.au

Icy Poles Term 1 Wednesdays
Available on Wednesdays only at lunchtime for 50 cents

Next Parents & Friends Meeting
Wednesday 16th March at 2.30pm in the Staffroom
**St. Joseph’s Easter Raffle 2016**

Don’t forget our Parents and Friends’ Easter Raffle. There are 10 great quality chocolate prizes to be won, which are on display in the office.

Please complete each side of the tickets, there are 10 tickets per book @ $1.00 each.

Please see the office for more tickets and to return all money, sold and unsold tickets.

**RAFFLE DRAWN AT ASSEMBLY 24/03/16**

*Thank you for supporting St. Joseph’s Parents and Friends Auxiliary*

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**Awards Term 1, Week - 6**

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<tr>
<th>Class</th>
<th>Principal Award</th>
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<td>Prep Paulger</td>
<td>Ella Wagstaff</td>
<td>Nicholas Meggetto</td>
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<td>Prep Wans</td>
<td>James Haley</td>
<td>Mikayla Gilmore</td>
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<td>James Demicoli</td>
<td>Elijah Debnam</td>
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<td>One/Two Ford</td>
<td>Julian Darcy</td>
<td>Maddison Clark</td>
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<td>One/Two Hawes</td>
<td>Troy Sibson</td>
<td>Hugh Cunningham</td>
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<td>One/Two Jeffers</td>
<td>Jessica Wilms</td>
<td>Harrison Martin</td>
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<td>One/Two Thompson</td>
<td>William Wang</td>
<td>Bethany Reeves</td>
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<td>Three/Four Dodman</td>
<td>Jessica Haley</td>
<td>Riley Pratt</td>
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<td>Three/Four EA</td>
<td>Ali Wilms</td>
<td>Heath Jinks</td>
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<td>Three/Four Maunder</td>
<td>Tayla Clark</td>
<td>Tyler Best</td>
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<td>Three/Four Moritz/Leary</td>
<td>Sam Heenan</td>
<td>Rowan Clark</td>
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<td>Three/Four Shannon</td>
<td>Katrina Malacarne</td>
<td>Arabell Looby</td>
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<td>Five/Six Baker</td>
<td>Sebastian Alweyn</td>
<td>Ruby Pritchett</td>
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<td>Five/Six Clancy</td>
<td>Violet Pyle</td>
<td>Tom Bingham</td>
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<td>Five/Six Farina</td>
<td>Liam Lisle</td>
<td>Caeley Hurst</td>
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<td>Five/Six Silver</td>
<td>Ella Pitkin</td>
<td>Evelyn Armstrong</td>
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We had a very successful day at the Division Swimming Carnival last week with all 16 competitors qualifying for the Regional Championships in Sale on the 17th of March. Ella Dunn, Caleb McKenna, Lainie Gowans and Todd Gowans all finished second in their individual events. Our 10 and 11 year old girls and boys relay teams also did a fantastic job finishing second and qualifying. Thank you to all the parents who came to support the children. Permission slips will be coming home this week to attend the Regional Championships.
Gospel Values: Forgiveness

People who show forgiveness to others do not hold grudges. To forgive someone means to feel love and kindness for that person even though they have done something that hurt us or made us angry. Sometimes it means we have to change our angry feelings toward that person to kind feelings. When we forgive others, we do not want to hurt them or get back at them. We are kind to them, even if they are not kind to us. From the Gospel: How would Jesus act?

Getting What You Want

Quite often the best things are the things that we have been waiting for. Be it a special holiday, Christmas or a birthday, things we wait for seem to be that bit better sometimes. If we had a birthday every week it might be fun for a little while but then it would lose its ‘specialness’. The same happens with Christmas, the buildup and anticipation is there before hand rather than every week Christmas is here again. This means it is okay to say no to your children at appropriate times. We can’t just drop things because a child wants something right now. Hearing the word ‘No’ also teaches children to be patient. Sometimes the best thing for your child to hear is the word ‘No’ and learn to wait for things – the old saying is “Patience is a virtue”!

Library News - Barb Bird

Book Club

If you wish to make a book club purchase please forward orders to school before recess this coming Friday 11th March or complete orders online via the Scholastic loop. Thank you for your support.

Notice Board Items

Warragul Auskick Is Back For 2016!
Sunday 13th March 10.00am -11.30am Logan Park, Warragul
Introduction to footy for 5-12 year olds
Registration and payments only online at www.aflauskick.com.au
Contact George Morgan 0412 267 611 for further information