Dear parents, children and friends

Education of a child is a partnership between the home and the school. It is a privilege that we have your child in our care. The staff and I are thankful for the support and encouragement that we have received in the early part of the year from you, our fantastic parents.

Together, as home and school, we are dedicated to achieving the very best for all our children. We thank you for your trust and commitment to this partnership.

Thank you to all in our school community for the great start to the year. Most children, even our very youngest Pre Kindy children have settled in and are working and playing well. The teachers are as committed as always and they are ensuring great learning is happening.

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Lord Jesus, help us to become builders of bridges. Bridges that will link our parish and our school, our teachers and our parents, our hopes for our children and the realisation of these hopes. And, above all, help our children to see the relevance of their faith, to their everyday lives.

May this term unite us in our vision and strengthen us in our purpose.

Amen.

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Uniform Changes

Thank you to the many families who responded to the uniform survey late last year. The results were discussed at length at last Tuesday’s first School Board meeting. We were pleased to discover that parents really loved to see the students looking neat, smart and tidy and so demonstrating pride in being a St Jerome’s student.

We have brought in three changes that were overwhelmingly requested by the families. These changes will take effect immediately. I believe these changes will genuinely help our students feel more comfortable and so learn more effectively.

1. Only Years 4, 5 and 6 boys and girls will wear ties with the winter uniform. Years 1, 2 and 3 boys and girls DO NOT need to wear a tie.
2. Boys are free to wear short pants right throughout the year. Long pants for winter may be worn but short pants are also acceptable. This change recognizes that many active boys are restricted from play in long pants.
3. Girls’ Winter Uniform. We will phase out the pinafore currently worn by Years 1, 2 and 3 girls. Instead all girls will wear an elasticised skirt. If you wish to modify your existing pinafore, the bib top is easily unpicked from the skirt.

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Next week I will be attending the Catholic Primary Principals’ Annual Conference. This year, for the first time in CPPA’s history, we are holding the conference in the Kimberley region. Mrs Hoare will be acting principal in my absence.

Helen O’Toole
Principal
Religious Education News

Ash Wednesday
Next Wednesday is Ash Wednesday and it marks the beginning of the season of Lent. It is a season of penance, reflection and fasting which prepares us for Christ’s Resurrection on Easter Sunday. The Ashes are made from the blessed palms used in the Palm Sunday celebration the previous year. The ashes are a symbol of penance made sacramental by the blessing of the Church, and they help us develop a spirit of humility and sacrifice.

During these days of Lent we are called to commit ourselves to renewing our faith and spiritual life. We are called to help others and try to make a difference. Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are days of Fast and Abstinence.

We invite all families to join the school community for mass and the distribution of Ashes at 9am.

Catholic Traditions
Catholics are not very different from anyone else in the community but we do hold certain beliefs which affect the way we think about ourselves, about other people and about the world around us. A Catholic upbringing has a strong influence on the way we lead our lives, even if we no longer go to church.

Catholic tradition comes out of a long and colourful history which has picked up stories and traditions, a wide range of religious practices and diverse ways of celebrating those stories from every race and nation on the planet. (Taken from, “So you’re sending your child to a Catholic School” by Tony Doherty).

Year 6 Children’s Mass
All children from year 6 are encouraged to come along to the children’s mass led by the year 6 students on Sunday 9 March at 10am.

Parent Sacramental Faith Formation Sessions
All parents wishing to have their child receive the sacraments of Confirmation, Eucharist or Reconciliation this year are required to attend one of the sessions on Wednesday 12 March or Thursday 13 March at 7pm. If you are unable to attend one of these sessions, please contact Fr Mathew or John Fernandez at the parish.

Parish Mass Times

Weekday Mass Timetable:
Monday to Friday; 7am and 9am

Weekend Mass Timetable:
Saturday; 9am & 6pm
Sunday; 8am, 10am and 6pm (Youth Mass)

Reconciliation:
Sat; 9.30am – 10.30am and 5pm – 5.30pm
Or on request at any time

Parish News

One Day Eucharistic Healing Retreat in Preparation for Holy Week

The Filipino Community has organized a One Day Eucharistic Healing Retreat at St. Jerome’s Church, Munster on Saturday 29 March 2014 from 9:00am to 1:30pm.

The retreat will be led by Fr. Varghese Parackal V.C (Director and Superior of the Perth Retreat Centre) who is blessed with the gift of healing and evangelization.

Programme includes: Praise and worship; Preaching of the Word of God; Sacramental Reconciliation: Holy Mass; Eucharistic Adoration; and Healing Prayers.

Free morning tea and lunch will be provided at the Hall.

Please register for catering purposes.
Contact: Edita -9418 3728; Susan – 9434 3969; Aileen – 0423 578 059

Chess Club at St Jerome’s

We are looking for an interested parent/grandparent or friend to help coordinate and run our school Chess Club. At the moment we have a number of students who are very keen to play, but no one to teach the children any of the strategies. Wednesday is the lunchtime set aside for Chess Club but this could be altered to suit. If you enjoy working with children, play chess and have some free time, we would love to hear from you. Please contact Carol Hoare at the office.
ST JEROME’S PRIMARY SCHOOL IS
ALLERGY AWARE
AND
SMOKE FREE

Canteen News
Phone Number 9499 9510
Roster 2014

Monday 3 March
PUBLIC HOLIDAY

Tuesday 4 March
Luisa Direnzo
Katia Matic

Wednesday 5 March
Rebecca Verney
Diana Bucat

Thursday 6 March
Nicole Tepana
Tracey Pesich

Friday 7 March
Gail Del Bianco
Fran Pizzo

Thank you so much for all of you who have volunteered to join our canteen roster. You should have all received your rosters in an envelope via your eldest student - if you haven't, please let us know and we will send you another copy.

If you still want to put your name down, please let us know - we especially still need help on Thursdays.

Remember if you can't commit to a regular roster, you could join our pantry roster which involves donating pantry items at a regular interval - this helps keep our running costs down. Please come and see us if you are interested.

Ash Wednesday
Next week is Ash Wednesday, and the beginning of Lent. We will have extra fish meals for those of you who don't like to eat meat on Ash Wednesday, and every Friday during Lent. (This is not compulsory of course)

Fish Burger $4.10
Fish and Wedges $4.20

Thanks
Renate, Michelle & Yvonne
Canteen Team

Uniform Shop
Opening Times

Monday 8.15am to 3.30pm
Thursday 8.15am to 3.30pm

Small back-packs (16 litres) are now in stock. All remaining gold sports shirts, including long sleeved, have been discounted to $10 - these are still wearable until 2016.

Thanks
Angie Armson-Grant
Uniform Shop Manager

Talk the Talk Speech Pathology

Hi everyone

Welcome to our first newsletter article for 2014. To start us off for this year, we would like to share this article we came across, which outlines why having effective communication skills is so important in life. As speech pathologists, this is something we are very passionate about! If you have any concerns regarding your child’s communication skills, please contact a speech pathologist.

Happy Reading,
From the team at Talk the Talk Speech Pathology

Good Communication Skills - Key to Any Success

Good communication skills are key to success in life, work and relationships. Without effective communication, a message can turn into error, misunderstanding, frustration, or even disaster by being misinterpreted or poorly delivered. Communication is the process by which we exchange information between individuals or groups of people. It is a process where we try as clearly and accurately as we can, to convey our thoughts, intentions and objectives.

Communication is successful only when both the sender and the receiver understand the same information.

In today’s highly informational and technological environment it has become increasingly important to have good communication skills.

While many individuals still continue to struggle, the inability to communicate effectively will hold them back not only in their careers, but in social and personal relationships.

Source:
http://www.essentiallifeskills.net/goodcommunicationskills.html

Patricia Forbes
Speech Pathologist / Practice Manager
Talk the Talk Speech Pathology
0421 212 412
talkthetalk@optusnet.com.au
www.talkthetalksp.com.au
Extension Class News

Stayed Tuned on 720 ABC Radio

Every week at 3pm on a Tuesday, a group of Catholic school children are interviewing a WA identity.

Four students from St Jerome’s: Kaisha, Hannah, Sebastian and Kobey will be conducting an interview on Tuesday 8 April so stay tuned!

These students do not find out who they are to interview until one week before the date.

Little Athletics Champions

Many of our St Jerome’s students enjoy fun and fitness at Little Athletics.

Here is Kade with his silver and bronze medals.

Caitlin and Emily both attend Little Athletics at Phoenix Park.

Caitlin won two bronze medals in 300m and 100m. Both girls really love their athletics even when they have to pick themselves up after a major pile up of runners, which happened last week.

School Banking

It was great to see so many new school bankers on Tuesday.

Congratulations to 3 Blue who won the classroom award for this week.

School Banking is held in the uniform shop between 8.15am and 8.45am Tuesday mornings.

School banking not only teaches our children smart money management skills, but also rewards good savings behaviour with some fantastic treasures along the way.

We have some exciting new rewards this term with a “DEEP SEA SAVERS” theme.

If anyone has not received a Parent information pack, they are available at the office or you can grab one from the Uniform Shop on a Tuesday during School Banking.

Kylie David
TAKE HOME A BIG BROTHER OR BIG SISTER

Give your children the wonderful opportunity to have an international big brother or big sister by hosting one of our exceptional international students arriving in Australia in July 2014 for their 3, 5 or 10 month programs. Our international students from France, Spain, Germany, Italy, Finland, Norway and Denmark will live as a local, attend a local secondary school, arrive with their own spending money and comprehensive insurance cover – all arranged by Southern Cross Cultural Exchange. Visit us at www.scce.com.au, email scceaust@scce.com.au or call us toll free on 1800 500 501, request our international student profiles, and capture the spirit of family and friendship!
PlayConnect South Lake Playgroup

PlayConnect South Lake playgroup invites families with children aged 0 to 6 years with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) or similar needs.

Tanya is our facilitator and the playgroup offers interesting and relevant experiences, fun and sharing, learning and practising new skills. Siblings welcome.

Wednesday mornings 10 – 12 at St James Church, 13 Elderberry Drive South Lake. Enquiries Playgroup WA 1800 171 882 or playconnect@playgroupwa.com.au or Tanya 042 3099 736.

Week 4 at OSH Club

What a great start to the term it has been at St Jerome’s OSH Club. We have been lucky to see many new families as well as many returning families join us this year.

Children have enjoyed themes of “Dragons” and “OSH Club Olympics” over the past few weeks. With a theme of “In the Gardens” this week, many children have been creative in their art skills already. Layla J from Pre-Primary has drawn some lovely dancing flowers and has put these in the art gallery at OSH Club, whilst other children have drawn gardens and flower pictures for their family members. We are very lucky to have so many artists sharing their wonderful talents with us at OSH Club.

Several children are especially excited about the Teddy Bear Picnics that are happening at OSH Club this week, whilst some of our older children are looking forward to the Paper Mache projects we will start with them this Thursday as well.

Sadly, this week, we say goodbye to one of our staff members, Amanda. We wish Amanda all the best as she returns to teaching, and know that she will be very much missed by many children and families and staff at St Jerome’s.
St Jerome’s Primary School
Parents & Friends Association
2014 School Fee Raffle

The P&F invites you to join in our School Fee Raffle. Tickets are $10.00 each and gives you the chance to win the following great prizes off your school account:

1st Prize $1,000 off your school account
2nd Prize $300 off your school account
3rd Prize $100 off your school account

To participate please fill in the form below and return it in an envelope with the correct money to the marked box in the office no later than Wednesday 5th March 2014. Raffle will be drawn on Thursday 6th March 2014.

________________________________________
Name:

______________________________
Eldest Child Name & Year

______________________________
Phone Number:

I wish to purchase ________ tickets at $10.00 per ticket.
I have enclosed $_____________
THE RIGHT TO FEEL SAFE

ABOUT THE WORKSHOP

This workshop is a must for all parents and carers. This comprehensive training workshop has been designed to teach parents the content of the internationally acclaimed Protective Behaviours Child Safety Program to increase their children’s personal safety.

There are many ways of talking to children about their personal safety and when we do so it is important that we do not scare them or leave them feeling unsafe, afraid or dis-empowered.

Protective Behaviours provides children with strategies to keep themselves safe and cope with situations that threaten their well being such as bullying, child abuse and domestic violence. The program empowers the individual with the right to feel safe and sets out ways in which they can gain the appropriate help when they are not feeling safe.

THE PURPOSE OF THIS WORKSHOP IS TO:

• Provide parents and carers with a basic understanding of child sexual abuse and other unsafe situations
• Provide specific personal safety training skills, techniques and examples to use with your children
• Lessen your anxiety about your children’s safety so you can allow them the freedom of movement they need as they grow up.

DATE MONDAY | April 7 | 2014
TIME 6.30 PM - 9.30 PM
VENUE SCHOOL HALL
LIGHT REFRESHMENT
WILL BE SERVED
COST $5 / Person

PLACES ARE LIMITED,
TO REGISTER:
EMAIL yvettekelly5@msn.com
rowland.rebecca.cathednet.wa.edu.au

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION
ON THE PROGRAM
CONTACT ANDREA MUSULIN
PHONE 0409 071 068
www. protectivebehaviourswa.org.au

Dear client, this workshop is an adult training session and is not suitable for children to attend, thank you.