Dear parents, children and friends

I have begun the very pleasant task of interviewing the families of prospective Pre Kindy and Kindy students for 2015.

May I ask all existing parents who have a younger child to check that we have your child's name down for enrolment. Every year we have had anxious families wondering if the youngest child will gain a Pre Kindy or Kindy place because they forgot to put in the enrolment form.

Kindy 2015 students should have a birth date between 1 July 2010 and 30 June 2011.
Pre Kindy 2015 students should have a birth date between 1 July 2011 and 30 June 2012.

If you want to try out fantastic free kid friendly adventures with your family, please check out: www.kids-around-perth.com.
It has a list of 30 plus free things you must do with children in Perth, before they grow up.

To give a taste of some of the activities, here are five of my favourites:-

1. Climb a Dinosaur at Synergy Parkland, Kings Park.
2. Ride the Huge Slide at John Oldham Park, Perth. (This is a hidden park just near the Mount Hospital).
3. Play aboard a Pirate Ship at Heathcote Reserve, Applecross.
4. Get some exercise with Dr Seuss at Kadidjiny Park, Melville.
5. Walk along the tree tops at Kings Park.

(Kadidjiny Park, Melville)
There are a few items that I wish to bring to your attention about the “Drive Through” system in the afternoons.

1. Cars should drive no faster than 10 kph.
2. Cars should park in one of the three spaces at drive through.
3. Children must wait behind the yellow line and only approach the car once it has stopped.
4. Children should not put their bags into the boot. Doing this places them directly in front of the following car. Please consider other options to safely place the school bags.
5. “Drive Through” parents should not pull out at random, but wait until the first car drives off and then follow them.

I have attached the “Road Safety around Schools” pamphlet by the City of Cockburn for your reference and attention.

Helen O’Toole
Principal

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PARENTS AND TEACHERS WORKING TOGETHER

I dreamed I stood in a studio and watched two sculptors there, the clay they used was a young child's mind and they fashioned it with care. One was a teacher; the tools being used were books and music and art, one a parent with a guiding hand and a gentle, loving heart. Day after day the teacher toiled with touch that was deft and sure, while the parent labored just as hard and polished and smoothed it o'er. When at last their task was done they were proud of what they had wrought, for the things they had molded into the child could neither be sold nor bought. And both agreed they would have failed if they had worked alone; for behind the parents stood the school and behind the teacher, the home.

From A Canopy of Stars: Some Reflections for the Journey by Fr Christopher Gleeson SJ [David Lovell Publishing 2003]
There are times when things are going just right. We are on cloud nine, on a high. We wish these times would never end. But all too soon these times end and we come down from the mountain, or the mountain comes crashing down on us! For Peter, James and John, for Jesus and for us, it is not up the mountain where life is lived. Love is not proven in the peak moments of a person’s life, but in the dogged perseverance of the daily journey.

Lent invites us to open up to God and allow God to work through us. But opening up to God is just the first step. The next step is to recognise God’s presence and actions in our lives. Lent gives us time for such recognition. (Taken from Break Open the Word – The Liturgical Commission)

Lenten Thoughts
Some suggestions from children have been:
Smile more often; help someone with their project or task; volunteer your time; send thank you notes to those who have helped you; invite someone who might be alone over for dinner; try to look at things in a positive way.

Sacramental Commitment Weekend
22 March/23 March
Students wishing to make a Sacrament this year **are required** to attend one of the masses (Saturday 6pm, Sunday 10:00am or Sunday 6pm) over the weekend **22/23 March** with their parents or guardians.

After the homily, Father will call the children forward to the altar where they will renew their baptismal promises. Parents will also be asked to stand and commit to supporting their children as they prepare for the sacrament. Candidates will be given a commitment form to sign which they will need to return the following weekend at one of the Sunday masses.

Year 4 Children’s Mass – 6 April at 10am
Everyone is invited to attend, particularly those children involved in the sacramental program.

CARITAS – Project Compassion
This term our major fundraising focus is Project Compassion, which raises money for Caritas Australia. Caritas is a Catholic organisation run mostly by volunteers, which ensures that 90% of all funds raised reach its target. The office, canteen, uniform shop and each classroom will have a Project Compassion box for staff, students and parents to donate to this worthy cause. Please give generously where you can.

The Virtue of Honesty
**Honesty** is being open, trustworthy and truthful. When people are honest they can be relied on not to lie, cheat or steal.

**Honesty is telling the truth.**
It is admitting the truth even when you know someone might be angry or disappointed.

Being **honest** means you don’t pretend to be something you are not.

We practise honesty because it builds trust. When people lie or cover up their mistakes, others can’t trust them.

When you are honest others can believe you.

You are practising honesty when you:
- Say what you mean and mean what you say.
- Make promises you can keep.
- Admit your mistakes
- Refuse to lie …..cheat …….or steal.
- Tell the truth tactfully.
- Do what you know is right

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

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
Developing Your Child’s Comprehension Skills

Comprehension is our ability to understand both spoken and written language. In order to comprehend, we need to understand many types of questions and instructions. The ability to comprehend effectively is essential to help your child take part in conversations, develop their overall language skills; and to make progress at school.

Effective comprehension involves being able to:

- Understand simple, concrete questions such as “what, who, where and when” type questions. You can practise this by incorporating these questions into conversation with your child as much as possible eg “who did you play with today; what did you play?”

- Understand complex, abstract questions such as “why?”, “what will happen if?”, “what else?” and “how can we tell?”

These questions require a child to reflect on information that is presented, analyse that information at a deeper cognitive level, and to provide explanations. To practise this, try working these questions into conversation when reading with your child, or watching TV eg “why do you think he did that?”; “what else could he have done?” “what would have happened if he had done X instead of Y?” etc.

- Following simple and complex verbal instructions. This is easy to practise at home – as parents we give instructions all the time! Mix it up by giving some simple instructions eg “get your shoes and hat” and some longer instructions that really require your child to listen eg “before you brush your teeth, go and get your school bag.”

We hope these tips are useful for you! Happy chatting,
From the team at Talk the Talk Speech Pathology

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

Faction Swimming Carnival

Well done to all students involved in the St Jerome’s Swimming Carnival on Wednesday. Despite it being extremely hot, your behaviour, sportsmanship and efforts were fantastic! There was a wonderful sense of community present at the carnival with many parents braving the heat and limited shade to cheer the students along. As usual staff at St Jerome’s rose to the occasion to all work together to achieve a job well done.

I am very grateful to our lovely parent helpers. Without you the swimming carnival would not have been such a success. Special mention must go to Mrs Romano and Mrs Del Bianco for organising the students prior to each race and to the team of judges who at times had a very difficult task picking 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 4th.

The victorious faction once again was DeVialar but only by 7 points! Salvado were just behind them but were awarded the Spirit Shield for displaying what junior sport is all about – enjoying physical activity with your friends and giving it a go. Congratulations to the following students who were awarded with Champion and Runner up Champion medallions at our swimming carnival:

**Year 6**
- Champion Boy: Finn H
- Runner up Boy: Thomas R
- Champion Girl: Alesha F
- Runner up Girl: Sarah R.B

**Year 5**
- Champion Boy: Patrick T
- Runner up Boy: Caleb P
- Champion Girl: Hannah F
- Runner up Girl: Aaliyah J

**Year 4**
- Champion Boy: Blake P
- Runner up Boy: Kyle V
- Champion Girl: Simone C
- Runner up Girl: Sarah S

Miss Gardiner
PE Teacher
Canteen News
Phone Number 9499 9510
Roster 2014

Monday 17 March
Christine Mooibroek

Tuesday 18 March
Tanya Quintilliani
Kat Armstrong

Wednesday 19 March
Diana Bucat
Sandra Ratta

Thursday 20 March
Julie Gorman
Lisa McElroy

Friday 21
Kylie Cuoci
Brooke Byrne

Please note to all new parents, ONLY lunch items are able to be ordered on your child's lunch bag. No recess items, or ice creams can be pre ordered. Please give your child money, and they will line up at recess and lunch times to buy what they choose.

Remember available Fridays during lent:
Fish Burger $4.10 & Fish and Wedges $4.20

Thanks
Renate, Michelle & Yvonne
Canteen Team

Parents and Friends’ Association

At the P&F meeting last Tuesday, the office bearer positions were filled.

For 2014 the Office Bearers are:-
President: Mrs Daniela Lambert
Vice President: Mrs Marita Brenzi
Treasurer: Mrs Tonia Wilson
Secretary: Mrs Tracey Pesich
School Board Representative: Mrs Tania Marraffa

On behalf of the students and staff, we are extremely grateful for the hard work and dedication of all members of the P&F. We thank them for their efforts in the past and hope that the year ahead is as successful as the previous years. They began their year by agreeing to buy over $17,000 of items for our students.

Uniform Shop
Opening Times

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

Order forms for the new sports shirt have been sent home this week with your child, so keep an eye out for them. Could we please have orders returned by next Friday, March 21. All existing gold polo shirts in stock have been reduced to just $10 and can be worn through to 2016.

Grey school socks size 13-3 have arrived. We also now have the smaller back-packs in stock.

Angie Grant
Uniform Shop Co-ordinator

School Fees

Please note that school fees were due today.

If you have not paid your fees please attend to this immediately by arranging your payment via BPAY over the weekend. If you do not have access to internet banking, please ensure you call into the office on Monday to finalise your payment.

If you are having difficulties in paying your fees please contact this office to discuss a suitable payment arrangement.

Thank you for your prompt attention to this matter.

FOOTBALL FEVER!!!

Sunday 23 March
West Coast v Western Bulldogs

The winner is
The Marolla Family
CONGRATULATIONS!
Desal Discovery Centre (DDC)
Incursion (Yrs 2-6)

Wednesday 19 March & Thursday 20 March

After breathable air, water is the most important substance for sustaining human life. With unprecedented population growth in WA and the indisputable changes in climate, as evidenced in recorded rainfall, water supply issues have been challenging. In recent years there has been a significant investment in desalination which now means around half of Perth's potable water is sourced directly from the ocean. Presentations by Warren Hays from the DDC next week will explore all these issues and give students a greater understanding of this important resource - water.

The Desal Discovery Centre is the community outreach arm of the National Centre of Excellence in Desalination Australia, located on the Murdoch Campus here in Rockingham. Check out their website for more information on them and desalination technology - www.desalination.edu.au

Christine Mitchinson

Stayed Tuned on 720 ABC Radio

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

Four students from St Jerome’s: Kaisha W, Hannah B, Sebastian C and Kobey D 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.

School Banking

It was great to see so many school bankers on Tuesday. We were very busy so thank you everyone for your patience.

Congratulations to 3 Green who won the classroom award for this week. Congratulations also to Ruby H from 1 Red who won our weekly prize.

School Banking is held in the uniform shop between 8.15am and 8.45am Tuesday mornings. We would love to see if you if you are interested in opening a School Bank Account.

Kylie David
WORLDWIDE MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER:
Getting ready for school means lots of time spent on your children. Now school has begun, why not give yourselves some time together? You both deserve a weekend away investing in your most precious asset... Your Marriage! This is a unique opportunity to recharge your relationship batteries, refocus on each other. If you’d like to make your marriage even more special than it already is, contact Joe & Margaret on 0424 220 625 for more info or booking or Email: WAbookings@wwme.org.au
Information: Website – www.wwme.org.au
Next Weekend: 4 – 6 April 2014 (Swan Valley)

The RSPCA WA April School Holiday Program

The Easter school holidays are almost here and the RSPCA WA have everything you need to keep the kids entertained. You are certainly bound to find something that will appeal to kids of all ages between 4-14 years, we have a few favourites Junior Volunteer, RSPCA Big Day Out, Canine Capers, Cats 101 plus some new programs, all sessions have a tour included.

Check out our website www.rspcawa.asn.au or call 9209 9325, bookings for general public open 31st March and members open 24th March, we can’t wait to see you for a hopping good time.
General Parking Offences

Did you know you can be fined $100 for any of the following offences?

- Stopping or parking on a footpath or verge
- Stopping on or across a driveway or right of way
- Disobeying a no parking or no stopping sign
- Stopping at or near a bus stop or in a bus zone
- Double parking
- Stopping or parking on or adjacent to a median strip
- Stopping or parking on part of a carriageway marked with a yellow line
- Obstructing a carriageway
- Parking against flow of traffic.

Never place convenience ahead of safety.

Useful Links

- http://www.det.wa.edu/education/road-user/navigation/for-parents/

City of Cockburn
P: 9411 3444
E: rangercustomerservice@cockburn.wa.gov.au
9 Coleville Crescent, Spearwood WA 6163
www.cockburn.wa.gov.au

Printed on recycled paper
This document is available in alternative formats upon request.

Why are children so vulnerable in traffic?

Children are at an increased risk because:

- They are not all road safety educated like adults.
- They are small, fragile and hard to see between cars.
- They have difficulty in judging speed and distance in general.
- Their peripheral vision is still developing.
- Their injuries tend to be more severe because of their small size.
- They are easily distracted and can move out into danger in a flash without warning.

We all have a duty of care.

Parents are the key training providers of road safety education for young children and are responsible for teaching them road safety skills and knowledge especially around schools. For this reason, it is important that parents model safe behaviour at all times and consider their children’s limitations.

How you behave in road safety is the way your child will learn. Please lead by example.

What can you do to keep your children safe?

- Allow yourself sufficient time to drop off/pick up your child. Avoid last minute rush.
- Whenever possible, park a street or two away and walk your child to school.
- Start road safety awareness early – establish road safety practices and routines at a young age.
- Consider walking or cycling to and from school where possible. Walking to school has many benefits such as helping students to concentrate at school, lessens traffic congestion which means less noise and air pollution. By walking you are helping yourself and the broader environment.
- When out walking, practise the “Stop, Look, Listen and Think” rule every time you cross the road.
- Demonstrate and explain what your children need to look and listen for in traffic. Then have them demonstrate back to you.
- Children aged up to 10 years should always be supervised near traffic.
- Children aged up to eight years should always hold an adult’s hand when crossing the road or walking near traffic.
- If you must drive into the school zone, always drop off and pick up your children on the school side of the road making sure they use the footpath-side door.
- Their safety is literally in your hands.

Drivers should be familiar with the following signs commonly found around schools.

NO PARKING signs allow drivers to park for up to two minutes. The driver must stay within three metres of the parked vehicle.

The two minutes/three metres rule allows drivers to park briefly when dropping off or picking up older children. If you need to walk younger children into school, leaving your vehicle unattended, you must park legally elsewhere. Preferably park a street or two away.

BUS ZONE OR BUS STOP must be kept clear at all times. It is illegal to stop or park near a bus stop or in a bus zone unless you are driving a bus.

NO STOPPING zones must be kept clear at all times. Signs are installed at locations such as intersections, pedestrian crossings and school zones to allow critical lines of vision for both pedestrians and drivers.

A continuous yellow line is a road marking which runs parallel to the kerb. Where you see a continuous yellow line or a no stopping sign you are not permitted to stop or park in these zones at any time. Even if you are only stopping to let someone out of the car, and regardless of whether you leave the engine running and stay in the car. A No Stopping sign or Yellow Line means absolutely no stopping.
Football Family Pass Competition
Fremantle Dockers

Cost: A one off $20 payment for entry into the FREMANTLE draw for each home game of the season.

Weekly Prize: Family pass (2 adults and 3 children) to Patersons Stadium

Draws will take place in the week prior to the game and winners will be notified. Winners can collect their tickets at the office. The tickets are transferable and your number will be placed back in the draw enabling you to win on more than one occasion.

Multiple tickets can be purchased. Tickets can be bought and added to the draw at any time during the season. If you also wish to be in the West Coast raffle, a separate ticket needs to be purchased.

There are 11 Fremantle games this season. The first home game is FREMANTLE vs Gold Coast Suns on Sunday 29th March.

Complete the registration form below and place together with your payment in the marked boxes at the school office.

________________________
Fremantle Footy Raffle

Please register (Name) _______________________________ for

______ tickets @ $20.00 each for the Fremantle Dockers home game raffle.
This will enable me to be entered into all the Fremantle Dockers draws.

Signature: __________________________ Phone __________________________

Amount Enclosed $ _______________

Office Use Only

Number allocated _______________
Football Family Pass Competition
West Coast Eagles Draw

Cost: A one off $20 payment for entry into the WEST COAST draw for each home game of the season.

Weekly Prize: Family pass (2 adults and 2 children) to Patersons Stadium

Draws will take place in the week prior to the game and winners will be notified. Winners can collect their tickets at the office. The tickets are transferable and your number will be placed back in the draw enabling you to win on more than one occasion.

Multiple tickets can be purchased. Tickets can be bought and added to the draw at any time during the season. If you also wish to be in the Fremantle raffle, a separate ticket needs to be purchased.

There are 11 West Coast games this season. The first home game is WEST COAST vs Western Bulldogs on Sunday 23rd March.

Complete the registration form below and place together with your payment in the marked boxes at the school office.

________________________________________________________________________________________

West Coast Raffle

Please register (Name) _________________________________ for _____ tickets @ $20.00 each for the West Coast Eagles home game raffles draws. This will enable me to be entered into all the West Coast Eagle draws.

Signature: ____________________________ Phone ____________________________

Amount Enclosed $ _____________

Office Use Only

Number allocated ___________