Dear parents, children and friends

Making Jesus Real
The following children were chosen by students and teachers for displaying how their actions were real God moments in our day.
Gannon T (3R), Matthew T (3R), Israel A (2R), Charlie C (4G), Allegra L (4G), Amie S (2R), Flynn B (4G), Janae F (2R).

Netball
We need Year 2 & 3s for Netball. Year 2’s have to turn 8 by the end of 2015.
Please come along after school on Wednesday and see the lovely parents who run our St Jerome’s Netball teams.

Please consider helping us as a canteen volunteer. Many hands make light work and your children would LOVE to see you helping out.

Prayer for Lent Jesus, you spent forty days in the hot, dusty desert to get ready to do your Father’s work. Help us to get ready for Easter during the forty days of Lent. Help us to forgive others, to say ‘sorry’ and to make peace with everybody. Help us to say ‘yes’ to others so that we can follow you more closely. In this time of Lent give us generous hearts to become better people, more helpful people, more loving people. Amen

I will be away on Long Service Leave for the next two weeks. We are having a family wedding and I am looking forward to some special times with overseas and interstate relatives.

During my absence Carol Hoare will be Acting Principal.

Helen O’Toole
Principal

Over the next page I have attached some information on NAPLAN and further into the newsletter Mrs Letizia has provided some tips in preparing your child for NAPLAN.
This week, the 2014 NAPLAN results for all Australian schools are available for viewing on the MySchool website. ([www.myschool.edu.au](http://www.myschool.edu.au))

These are the results from tests done in early May last year. Each school is given the results in mid-October of the test year. This delay in reporting limits the possibility of the tests being used as a diagnostic tool at the individual student level.

However, at the school level, the tests are used to identify broad strengths/weaknesses of cohorts which may be used for internal planning and improvement.

We are pleased that there are improving trends particularly in Year 5 and especially in Persuasive Writing across both year levels. We know that genuine progress is being made by all students and we refrain from highlighting specific improvement in one year as the tests measure general trends which can easily change from year to year. We had previously identified Mathematics as an area that needs attention and we are working with Dr Paul Swan with eight other schools in a project called PANL (Principals as Numeracy Leaders) to assist in establishing best teaching practices. Our new Mathematics textbooks used in Years 2 to 6 are based upon Singapore’s excellent curriculum that emphasizes consolidation of a skill before moving on, plus a strong emphasis on problem solving.

The fact that school-level NAPLAN results are published on the public MySchool website means the tests become largely about the public ranking/perception and competition between schools.

Arguably what we are seeing is that the individual student and his or her learning needs are becoming secondary to the pressure of “showing good results” at the school level. If you would like to read more in depth discussion of the merits and negatives regarding NAPLAN go to [http://www.literacyeducators.com.au/naplan/naplan-articles/](http://www.literacyeducators.com.au/naplan/naplan-articles/) The Sydney university articles are particularly pertinent.

Teachers are caught between a rock and hard place here. From speaking to other principals and parents, I’ve heard many inspiring stories of how teachers across this country are still trying to foster critical thinking and creativity despite the pressures of NAPLAN.

Arguably, no standardised test can beat the professional knowledge a teacher has of her individual students’ needs. Plus we know that the best performing country in educational results, Finland, does not use any NAPLAN type tests nor do they set homework, only reading. We will continue to ensure that every single student here reaches their full potential.
Design a Poster Competition - Winners

Congratulations to the following students whose prize winning posters were selected to remind children to respect the toilet environment. These posters will be laminated and displayed in the new toilets.

1st Prize
Luke T – 3B
Illysia B – 2 B

2nd Prize
Kirra H – 3 G
Amara B – 4 G

Special Mention
Aiden S – 3 B

St Jerome’s Student Council at the Halogen Leadership Conference at the Perth Convention Centre

Marc M asking Mike Martin a question at the conference.
St Jerome’s Student Leadership Team for Semester 1, 2015

Student Councillors:


Sports Captains:

John XXIII
Jade D & Hudson K

De Vialar
Hannah F & Jake H

Salvado
Tahlia G & Jack R

McCormack
Emily D & Luke R
Religious Education News

Caritas - Project Compassion
For most of us, it’s almost impossible to imagine what it would be like to live from day-to-day without enough food to eat. But for Mariama and her family, it’s a reality they confront daily.

Mariama’s mother tries to support the family by selling vegetables on the side of the road. But her tiny, inconsistent income often means the family doesn’t have enough money to buy food. As a result, Mariama’s young daughter, Fati, is often sick and recently became malnourished.

Thankfully, Mariama found lifesaving help at a Nutrition Centre run by Caritas Australia’s local partners in Niger CAFOD (UK Caritas) and CADEV (Caritas Niger). The Nutrition Centre cares for malnourished children like Fati, and provides them with medical care, nutritional supplements and essential food so they can recover from malnutrition.

“Those who come to the Centre are mostly the poorest of the poor,” says Sr Francesca, a staff member at the Nutrition Centre.

The program of food and care that Fati is currently receiving at the Nutrition Centre has given the young girl a second chance at life. As Fati recovers physically, Mariama is strengthening her spirit and sense of hope with the help of counselling received through the Nutrition Centre. Mariama has also taken a sewing course that means she will be able to earn an income and secure a better future for them both. Mariama is filled with hope and gratitude.

“I am very happy,” she says. “I would like to say a big thank you to Australian people for all their support to the Nutrition Centre.”

Classes at St Jerome’s are raising money by bringing in 5 cent and 10 cent pieces. Please support them by donating your 5 and 10 cent coins to your child to bring in to school

Confirmation Parent Faith Formation
A reminder that this is being held on Wednesday 18 March, 7pm – 8.15pm and it is an expectation that parents/guardians attend.

Crazy Hair Day for the Leukaemia Foundation - Thursday 12 March
There will be a crazy hair day next Thursday 12 March to raise money for the Leukaemia Foundation. Children are asked to bring along a gold coin donation per family for participating. It is not a free dress day.

Children's Mass Sunday 22 March at 10am
The Parish will again be holding a children's mass on Sunday 22 March at 10am. All families are encouraged and welcome to attend.

Children wishing to participate in the children's mass are asked to fill in the form below and return to school as soon as possible.

Child's Name ........................................ Class .........
Reader:
Offertory procession:
Dramatisation of the Gospel:
Children's liturgy:

Parish News
Commitment Weekend for all Sacraments in 2015
Please be reminded that the weekend of 14 & 15 March is the Commitment Weekend for all Sacraments. Candidates who are receiving their first Sacraments, and their parents, are required to attend any of the weekend Masses and make their Commitment Prayer with Father during Holy Mass. Please come early to register at the foyer before Mass. The Commitment Form will be distributed at Mass. Parents, please help your child to understand the commitment undertaken, and return the completed form during Mass at the following weekend.

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

Out of School Activities on School Premises.
Play 4 Life is a private company offering a variety of programs for children on school premises. These programs are conducted out of school hours often using school facilities. Whereas the school supports and encourages children to participate in physical activities, it is the responsibility of parents to liaise with the company about collecting children from classrooms both before and after the sessions, if they themselves are not available to be there.
Canteen News
Phone Number 9499 9510
Roster 2015

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Roster</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday 9 March</td>
<td>Kylie Langan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday 16 March</td>
<td>Help Needed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday 10 March</td>
<td>Natasha Thedens &amp; Help Needed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday 17 March</td>
<td>Natalie Paatsch &amp; Help Needed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday 11 March</td>
<td>Susan Cattalini</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday 18 March</td>
<td>Diana Bucat &amp; Sandra Ratta</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday 12 March</td>
<td>Yvonne Polleni</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday 19 March</td>
<td>Lisa McElroy &amp; Help Needed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday 13 March</td>
<td>Sandy Powell &amp; Catriona Bisset</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday 20 March</td>
<td>Gail Del Bianco &amp; Fran Pizzo</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**We still need more canteen volunteers, as not one person answered my plea last fortnight, which was very sad. Please consider helping, you will have fun, and your child will love you for it.** Help needed especially **Monday, Tuesday and Thursday.**

Kindergarten Enrolments for 2016
Interviews for Kindergarten 2016 will be happening soon. If your child was born between 1 July, 2011 and 30 June 2012 they are eligible for Kindergarten in 2016. Parents of children with siblings are urged to ensure their applications have been submitted to avoid disappointment.

Pre-Kindergarten Enrolments for 2016
Interviews for Pre-Kindergarten next year will take place later this year. If your child was born between 1 July 2012 and 30 June 2013 your child will be able to join the program once they turn three.

Application forms are available from the front office at the school.
For any enquiries please contact:
St Jerome’s Primary School
38 Troode Street, Munster
Email: admin@stjeromes.wa.edu.au
Website: www.stjeromes.wa.edu.au
Phone: 9499 9500

Congratulations
Congratulations to Patrick T who attends Cockburn Little Athletics and attained his personal best in the triple jump (8.48m) and came in at 3rd place.

Uniform Shop
Opening Times

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<th>Day</th>
<th>Opening Times</th>
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<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>8.15am to 3.30pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>8.15am to 3.30pm</td>
</tr>
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School Fees
Fee Payments
A reminder that school fees are due on the 13.3.15 and prompt payment of accounts is appreciated.

If paying the annual amount fees must be paid in full and received no later than Friday 13.3.15 to ensure that you receive the benefit of the 5% discount.

If paying the term one amount, fees must be paid by the 13.3.15.

If paying by direct debit, please submit your forms as soon as possible to ensure that repayments to your account commence in March. Please be mindful of the start date and allow 3 business days to process your request. Also please bear in mind that if you are calculating your repayment amount, that the discount is not included in your figures.

If paying outside these arrangements (i.e. by BPAY on a regular basis etc.), please ensure that you submit your variation in writing as a courtesy to advise your repayment intentions. The amount, method and expected payment date is to be included in this advice and is to be supplied at the commencement of every year.

Concession Cards
It is the responsibility of concession card holders to provide the school with updated copies as they are received. Failure to do so will result in the discount being removed. Once a concession card is received, discounts will only be applied as of the next terms fees and no refunds are possible. Thank you.

ICAS Entries (Year 3 – 6)
An information note was sent home this week to all children in Year 3 – 6 regarding ICAS Testing. Should you child wish to be involved please ensure the entry form is completed and returned to the office by Monday 16 March. Payments must be made by EFTPOS or Cheque.
Preparing your Child for NAPLAN

During the second week of May Australian children in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 will take part in the National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN). This year the testing will take place on Tuesday 12th, Wednesday 13th and Thursday 14th May. We would ask that if you have a child in Year 3 or 5 that you avoid taking any holidays during this time. It is important that students take part in this assessment. The stated purpose of this testing program is to gain an overall picture of educational attainment levels. NAPLAN is structured so that a student is plotted at a point in time along a continuum but then can also be tracked along this same continuum as the student progresses through their schooling.

NAPLAN is not a test that children can prepare for in the same way they might prepare for an end of term test. NAPLAN tests skills that develop and improve over time. These are skills that should be continuously developed throughout the year and not just in the lead-up to NAPLAN.

The best way to get your child ready for NAPLAN is to continue to develop literacy and numeracy skills. Your child’s teacher will be able to give you advice on how to help encourage development of these skills at home.

You’ve probably heard a number of different viewpoints expressed about NAPLAN. One view commonly put forward is that the NAPLAN tests put undue pressure on children to perform in test situations. If so, then perhaps the best approach for parents and teachers is to help them handle the pressure rather than avoid it. The most resilient children are those who rise to meet rather than retreat from the challenges presented to them. Perhaps it’s best to view the NAPLAN tests as good learning experiences rather than dreaded pressure tests.

Children take their cues from their parents about how to handle many situations. Optimistic parents create optimistic kids, just as anxious parents can create anxious kids. As a parent it helps your child, if you take a positive view of the NAPLAN tests. It’s better to see them as learning opportunities for kids as well as opportunities for them to overcome any anxieties or nerves that these tests may bring on.

It’s also worth remembering that many children don’t stress over these tests. The vast majority take them in their stride, wondering what all the fuss is about. Whether your child stresses or take them in his/her stride here are some tips to help prepare your child for the NAPLAN tests:

1. Take your cues from your child: If your child doesn’t worry about them then neither should you. Be careful not to create a problem that doesn’t exist by incessantly talking about, or worse, worrying about the test.

2. Focus on doing their best & trying hard: Choose your words carefully when you speak with your child. As with all their learning activities place your focus squarely on effort rather than results. The only pressure on children should be to try hard rather than to do well.

3. Listen to any concerns they have: If your child confesses to some nerves then validate their feelings, rather than shut them down with a ‘get over it’ response. “Yes, sometimes tests can be a little scary, but they get easier every time you take them.” Use this as an opportunity to develop some emotional smarts, which starts with recognising how kids feel.

4. Give them some relaxation ideas: Anxious or nervous children will benefit from some simple relaxation strategies. Taking some deep breaths, changing their thinking and exercising the morning of the test are some simple ways to help kids get some feeling of control.

5. Help them retain their perspective: One way to help children who become excessively anxious about an event is to ask what’s the worst thing that could happen? Okay, they may not do as well as they would like but the sun will stay rise tomorrow, if they don’t do as well as they’d like. Keeping perspective is a life skill that we all need to practise.

A positive, caring parent attitude is one of the best gifts you can give a child when they are apprehensive or nervous about approaching any different situation whether it’s going on school camp, joining a new club or sitting a NAPLAN test.

Angie Letizia
AP Admin & Curr.

MAD VOLUNTEERS PROVIDING READING SUPPORT - Can You Help?

Would you like to become a MAD volunteer and help support our students in the area of Reading? One of the ways our volunteers support students is through Repeated or Timed reading. ‘Research has shown that students who read and reread passages orally as they receive guidance and/or feedback become better readers. Repeated oral reading substantially improves word recognition, speed, and accuracy as well as fluency. To a lesser, but still considerable extent, repeated oral reading also improves reading comprehension.’ (National Institute for Literacy - The Partnership for Reading). Simple, repetitive tasks with our children go a long way to improving their reading skills.

If you would like further information about the MAD Program please contact Joanna Roper (roper.joanna@cathednet.wa.edu.au) or pop in to the Discovery Room.
Community News

SETON
CATHOLIC COLLEGE
Merchant Road, Samson

OPEN DAY
3.40 pm - 6.30 pm Wednesday 11 March 2015
Prospective students and parents, together with interested members of the public are invited to visit the College and view its wide range of resources and new facilities. The College is highly regarded for its Academic and Pastoral Care Program and the encouragement students receive to strive for excellence.
Guided tours of the campus will leave the administration block at 10 minute intervals, commencing at 3.40pm. Final tour commences at 6.00pm, Tour duration is approx. 1 hour.
APPLICATIONS FOR ENROLMENT are now being accepted for:
- Year 7, 2016 - Music Scholarships
- Year 7, 2016 - Aboriginal Scholarships
ACADEMIC SCHOLARSHIPS are awarded to the top four students in Year 7 based on Semester 1 performance.
Tel. 9314 1816  Website: www.seton.wa.edu.au

SETON
CATHOLIC COLLEGE
25TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION
Friday 13 March 2015
REUNION – 9am to 1pm
For Ex Students and Staff of St Joseph’s, De Vialar, St Brendan’s & Seton College

ANNIVERSARY MASS 9am
Welcome to celebrate with our Students and Staff

MORNING TEA 10.30am
To be held amidst our Archival Exhibition

TOURS OF SETON from 11am
Enjoy a Trip down Memory Lane? What’s new?

INTERNATIONAL FOOD & CULTURAL FESTIVAL
– 5pm to 9pm
Open to the Community to enjoy a huge range of food and drink on sale, Archival Displays, Entertainment and Activities for all ages - Bungee Trampolines, Storm, Rock Bands, Bear Tent and lots more.
Come straight from work - eat, relax and enjoy a great Family Night Out.

Emmanuel
CATHOLIC COLLEGE
Educating Tomorrow’s Leaders, Today

OPEN DAY
19 March 2015
Please contact the College to register your attendance.
We offer two tours 9:10am-10:40am & 4:20pm-6pm.
Accepting Academic Scholarship applications for Year 7, 2016 & 2017. 2017 interviews have now commenced.
www.emmanuel.wa.edu.au
9414 4054
marketing@emmanuel.wa.edu.au

CBC Fremantle
Today’s boys...tomorrow’s gentlemen
CBC Fremantle invites you to attend our
Open Day on Tuesday 17 March 2015
Tours commence at 2.00pm and 4.00pm and provide a unique opportunity to see the College and meet some of the staff and students.
To register visit the College website and click on the Events Quick Link.
Enquiries: events@cbcfremantle.wa.edu.au
51 Ellen Street, Fremantle WA 6160
www.cbcfremantle.wa.edu.au
CALLING ALL YEAR TWO AND YEAR THREE GIRLS.

DO YOU TURN 8 THIS YEAR?

YOU CAN PLAY NETBALL THIS YEAR.

St Jerome’s Netball Club 2015
Winter Netball Registration Form

We are seeking all existing players and inviting new players to join our Netball Club.

If your daughter is interested in being part of a team then please fill in the form and return to school ASAP. (Netball Box in the front office)

Player’s Name: ..............................................................................................................
Previous Grade/Team: ......................
DOB: ..............................................
School Year: ..........................................

Parent/s Details:
Name: ..............................................................................................................
Address: ..............................................................................................................
Phone: ..............................................................................................................
Email: ..............................................................................................................

To make every club successful we require volunteers to take on various roles within the club. Please tick if you are interested in:

- Coaching
- Team Manager
- Fundraising
- General Committee/Social

Club Fee Schedule:

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<tr>
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<th>Price</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Players Registration</td>
<td>$200 per child (This includes umpiring charges)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Netball Skirt</td>
<td>$45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Netball Top</td>
<td>$45</td>
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Full registration and uniform orders must be paid for in full ASAP.

Any queries please contact Kylie 0417 993 216, or Di 0412 519 929.
St Jerome’s P&F Community Event

**FAMILY MOVIE NIGHT**

**FRIDAY 20TH MARCH**

- Entry from 5.30pm
- Movie Starts 7.00pm

**Bring Your Own Blankets or Beanbags**
And Enjoy a Family Night Out

Popcorn, Drinks, Icecream, Tea/Coffee and Glow Products on Sale on the Night

**Tickets only $10 Each!**
Ticket Price Includes: Movie, Choice of Sausage Sizzle/Hamburger and a Drink

Please place correct money and form in an envelope and place in the P&F box in the school office by Friday 13th March

Parent Name: ____________________________
Contact Number/Email: ____________________________
Number of Tickets Required: ____________________________
Full Name and Class of Eldest Child: ____________________________
Please indicate your food preferences below:

- Sausage Sizzle Number Required: _________
- Hamburger Number Required: _________
Easter Raffle

Drawn Thursday April 2\textsuperscript{nd}

100’s of chocolate prizes to be won!

TICKETS $1 EACH or 6 for $5

*Please write your child’s name and class on each ticket purchased (tickets attached)*

*Please place tickets and correct money to the raffle box in the school office by Friday 27 March.*

For the raffle to be the success it is every year, we would greatly appreciate each family to donate one of the suggested items:

- Easter egg/chocolate
- Easter bag
- Easter colouring book
- Easter Activity

In the past we have been able to make 10 or more prizes for each class, so everyone has a great chance of winning!

*Please kindly place your raffle donations in the P&F boxes in each classroom by Friday 27 March.*
<table>
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<tr>
<th>St Jerome’s Primary School Easter Raffle 2015</th>
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<td>Please write your Child’s name and class on all tickets sold and return ticket stub and money to the raffle box in the school office by Friday 27th March.</td>
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| Child’s Name: ____________________________ |
| Class: _________________________________ |

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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Child’s Name: ____________________________ |
| Class: _________________________________ |

| Additional tickets available from the school office |
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 Port Adelaide on Sunday 5th April.

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 ________________
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 Carlton on Friday 10th April.

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 _____________
Swimming Carnival Years 4-6  
Friday 13 March 2015  
Aqua Jetty, Warnbro

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>EVENT NUMBER</th>
<th>APPROX. TIME</th>
<th>EVENT</th>
<th>DISTANCE</th>
<th>DIVISION</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>-</td>
<td>10.00am</td>
<td>Faction Banner Parade and Welcoming Address</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>10.10am</td>
<td>Year 5 Girls Freestyle</td>
<td>100m</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
<td>Year 5 Boys Freestyle</td>
<td>100m</td>
<td>A</td>
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<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
<td>Year 6 Girls Freestyle</td>
<td>100m</td>
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<td>Year 6 Boys Freestyle</td>
<td>100m</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>10.20am</td>
<td>Year 4 Girls BACKSTROKE</td>
<td>50m</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td></td>
<td>Year 4 Boys BACKSTROKE</td>
<td>50m</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7-9</td>
<td></td>
<td>Year 4 Girls BACKSTROKE</td>
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***Please be aware times are only approximate***
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</tbody>
</table>

***Please be aware times are only approximate***

- Novelty events will be held in the indoor 25m pool at 11-11.45am.
- All students are expected to be **present during the presentations** including those going home with their parents.
- Students who are going home with parents straight from Aqua Jetty must give their **class teacher a note** prior to the carnival.
- Spectators, please remember that staff and parent helpers do the very best they can on these occasions. It is both distressing and a poor example to the students when parents argue and take issue with the judges. Students need to be able to understand that a **judge or umpire’s decision is final**.
- Students are **not permitted to sit with their parents** during the carnival. This is to ensure all students are accounted for at all times. Spectators must also remain in the designated area.
Swimming Carnival – Important Information for Parents

On Friday 13th March we will hold our annual swimming carnival at Aqua Jetty in Warnbro. A program of events has been included in this newsletter (please be aware minor changes may still need to be made). This is a compulsory event for all students in year 4-6. At the trials in week 4 each child chose what strokes they would like to compete in. All students and parents are able to view which races the children are competing in on the main notice board under the circus tent, on the side of the 1 Blue classroom. Children who are not able to swim 25m will participate in novelty events in the indoor pool.

While we encourage parents and other family members to join us at the carnival and support the students, please remember that staff and parent helpers do the very best they can on these occasions. It is both distressing and a poor example to the students when parents argue and take issue with the judges. It is the role of parents on these days to model the importance of positive and acceptable behaviours in sport and recreation to build stronger, healthier and happier communities. Students need to be able to understand that a judge or umpire’s decision is final.

THE BUSES WILL DEPART AT 9AM SHARP! Students need to be in class when doors open at 8.30am. Students need to arrive at school ready to swim, this means they must be in their bathers with their sports uniform on top and can wear thongs. We recommend that you ensure all clothing is clearly labelled. It is not necessary for students to use their usual school bag at the carnival as long as the bag they do bring is labelled.

Parents, please be aware that shade and seating for spectators at Aqua Jetty is limited. In previous years the swimming club at Aqua Jetty have hired out their shade tents but they no longer do so. We must prioritise our school shade tents for the students. Please consider bringing your own chair and umbrella. We also ask that parents do not try to sit in the bays with the students.

As we are at a water venue, safety and duty of care is paramount. Students are not permitted to sit with their parents or be collected by parents and then allowed to play on the playgrounds or in the other pools. If teachers are chasing students for an event it puts everyone under unnecessary pressure. To make this a successful day, all students must stay in their bays. Students are not permitted to purchase items form the canteen and will not be permitted near the canteen area.

The carnival is a great day for the students and is often an occasion where some children find they have a huge reservoir of stamina and courage often surpassing all previous efforts in the water. For others, it is an opportunity to excel and build on their existing talents. All round, it is a school experience that all children should be exposed to. If your child is absent on the day please provide a written explanation to their class teacher. Don’t forget to bring your bathers to participate in the Golden Flipper Race, where parents verse teachers and students in a 4x50m relay!

Thank you
Mrs Kalat