

RE NEWS

HARMONY DAY:

Harmony Day (21 March) celebrates Australia's cultural diversity. It's about inclusiveness, respect and a sense of belonging for everyone. On Friday 20th March our school is going to celebrate Harmony Day by the children dressing up in either traditional cultural dress or by wearing the casual clothes in the colours of their ancestor's country. The children will also be asked to bring along some cultural traditional food they can share with a friend at lunch time. After lunch the children will be participating in a variety of activities to celebrate Harmony Day. More details will be sent home next week.

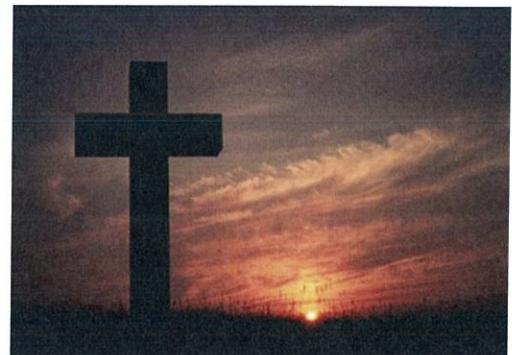
SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Over the past 4 weeks the Year 3 children have been learning about Reconciliation and the story of Zacchaeus. Next Thursday 12th March the following children will be receiving the Sacrament of Reconciliation for the first time. Please keep them in your prayers.

Lucas Andreou	Nicholas Axiak	Emily Bannon	Jana Blom
Jayda Borg	Alexander Chhun	Olivia Crouch	Ryan Danzo
Noah Dawson	Samuel De La Fuente	Thomas Dempsey	Charlie Fasham
Sophie Ferrarotto	Sienna Gillon	Joshua Grunberg	Ryan Haskins
Grace Hong	Crystal Hui	Dashell Johnson	Lucas Kendall
Scarlett Kitts	Mia Kydas	Chrisitan Lam	Isobel Lawson
Bianca Le	Antoinette Madafferri	Bennett Martin	Zoe McDonnell
Lewis McGaw	Campbell Newham	Vincent Nguyen	Georgie O'Brien
William Oliver	Viven Owens	Jude Price	Dante Quenette
Dorian Quenette	Aleisha Rodwell	Katia Romero	Talia Samachetty
Joshua Schultz-Brotto	Jessica Tran	Hayley Trinh	Hudson Turner
Ethan Wainwright	Brandan Whyte	Ava Woods	Jack Harris
Ethan Nguyen	Eva Salopek-Malkoc	Levi Michael Bocitor	Tyler Giustiniano
Shayla McLean	Mia Castello		

EASTER LITURGY

To celebrate Easter and for the children to gain a greater understanding of the events leading up to Jesus' resurrection, the children will be performing the Stations of the Cross, but through Mary's eyes. Each grade will present a Station of the Cross. The Easter Liturgy will be taking place on Friday 27th March at 11:40am in the Undercover area. All parents are welcome to attend.



St Mark's District Swimming Team- 2015

Congratulations to the St Mark's Swim Team who performed extremely well at the recent Mordialloc District Swim Carnival on 25th March. We had a reasonable start with the relay teams all finishing in the top 5 out of 11, with our Under 10 girls and 12 boys performing the best with a closely fought battle with Parkdale P.S., both eventually finishing 2nd.

In the individual events we had many great performances. Firstly we had two first place getters on the day, which was Madison Sinclair in the Under 11 50m freestyle, and Kyle Stutz in the Under 10, 50m backstroke. We also had several close second placings, with Eleni Kourtis and Anais Takahashi in the breaststroke and backstroke, hopefully these children can work even harder in the next year to elevate them to first position. Special mention must also go to all children who completed the 50m butterfly, as for children of these young ages it certainly is an amazing feat. Butterfly swimmers were boys: Cooper Goonewardene, Justin Xuereb and Kyle Stutz, and the girls; Holly McCormick, Georgie O'Brien and Taylor Owens.

We'd also like to congratulate all of the new team members this year, with many new children deciding to put up their hand and try for the team this year. Hopefully we have many other children who weren't in the team this year working hard to make our team stronger next year, particularly those children who just missed out this year. This year's team members were:

Annie Davies, Breanna Hill, Sienna Pasitchnyj, Emily Bannon, Bianca Anderson, Charli Benton, Holly McCormick, Georgie O'Brien, Alannah Dingli, Nicola Adams, Taylor Owens, Riley Blampied, Oliver Beaufort, Josh Peacock, Jack Lalor, Lachie Dance, Cody Goonewardene, Jackson Dance and Riley Snell. This means we had 19 new team members this year out of 32 members of our team. (Wow!) May these children keep working hard to improve St Mark's standing next year.

Finally in the overall results we kept our standard from last year.

School	Aggregate Position	Aggregate Score	Handicap Position	Handicap Score
Parkdale P.S.	1	393	5	226
St Patrick's PS	2	352	2	390
ST Mark's PS	3	311	7	188
Mentone Park	4	294	3	330
Mentone PS	5	284	6	205
Dingley PS	6	226	4	235
St John Vianney's	7	215	1	417

Last year we also came third in the aggregate position, however this year our handicap position went from 5th last year to 7th, which was a result of a very tight competition for overall points this year. Our goal now is to improve our team position next year! Well done to all our children and let's keep up the hard effort for next year.

COMPLETE TEAM LIST 2015

U 9/10 Girls	U 9/10 Boys	Under 11 Girls	Under 11 Boys	Under 12 Girls	Under 12 Boys
Aspen Chamberlain	Kyle Stutz	Madison Sinclair (Team Vice-Captain)	Hunter Hains (Team Vice-Captain)	Eleni Kourtis (Team Captain)	Josh Peacock (Team Captain)
Sienna Pasitchnyj	Justin Xuereb	Sienna Quinn	Luke Groves	Anais Takahashi	Patrick O'Brien
Emily Bannon	Riley Snell	Annie Davies	Riley Blampied	Alannah Dingli	Cooper Goonwardene
Bianca Anderson	Cody Goonewardene	Breanna Hill	Oliver Beaufort	Nicola Adams	Lochie Benton
Charli Benton	Jackson Dance		Sean Hong	Taylor Owens	Jack Lalor
Holly McCormick					Lachie Dance
Georgie O'Brien					



Our team photos at the end of a hard days competition, but an enjoyable day!

Written by Swim Captains and Vice-Captains: Eleni Kourtis, Madison Sinclair, Josh Peacock and Hunter Hains.



Good Luck- Weetbix Tryathlon -8th March

Good luck to several children who are competing this week in a Tryathlon. It's not too late to register (website: try.weetbix.com.au). Hoping to see more competitors than our 4 from last year. Please advise Mr Snell if you are participating in this event by email.

Upcoming Events Alert-Beware!!!

Weekly- Wheely Wednesdays!!! Encouraging as many children at ST Mark's to be doing active travel to school. Well done to all children who made an effort this week, with the best efforts being 3/4MC. Keep it up children!!!

Wheely Wednesday	13 th March	20 th March	Difference	GOAL
Walk to school	99	72	-27	135
Ride to school	65	72	+7	135
Driven to school	277	277	0	180
% walk ride	37	34	-3%	60%

Ride2School Day- **Friday 13th March**- encouraging all children to ride, walk & scooter to school.

House Cross Country- Friday 17th April.

First Week Term 2- House Cross Country Competition on **Friday 17th April** from 9am-11am at school grounds for all children from Foundation to Year 6. (Parents most welcome and **Helpers Required**).

Please contact Mr Snell at school or email him at vsnell@smdingley.catholic.edu.au if you are able to help for this event.

Urgent- Helpers Required- Summer and Winter Sports!!!

Term 1 Summer Sports & Term 2 Winter Sport requires many coaches/ team managers to assist in helping our teams compete in Year 5-6 winter sport. The sports are :

Summer: Kanga Cricket, Softball, Newcomb Ball and Rounders; and for Winter: Netball, Football, Soccer, Volleyball and t-ball. Even if you don't have expertise in any of these sports, if you'd just like to spend Friday from 9-11am with your children, then this is the time for you.

Please contact Mr Snell at school or email him at vsnell@smdingley.catholic.edu.au

Year 6 Children's visit by ST Kilda Football Club- Friday 20th Feb.

Last Friday the Year 6 children were fortunate enough to have 5 St Kilda players and officials visit the school. Sean Dempstar (player), Hugh Goddard (player), Tim Membrey (player), Maverick Wheller (player) and Luke Dunstan (Player). The visit was exciting as the children were able to participate in some activities with the players, however the most important part of the visit was the information they imparted on the children about how they managed to get where they are today. In particular the focus was talked around goal setting. This is often happening on the school front with children and we encourage you to reinforce this with the children on the home front, encourage them to also have goals for at home, and to assess on a regular basis whether they have achieved their goals. Some examples might be as simple as packing their bags each morning/ evening, or some more extensive goals of how they might organize their time for the week (homework/ sport training/ reading/ house chores), or even long term goals of what sporting team/ job they want to achieve!

Below are some pictures from the day:



Discussions by the players about goal setting and then showing kids how to kick goals on the oval.



Luke Dunstan showing off some of his tricks and Hugh Goddard being interviewed for Channel 9 news.

An extremely exciting afternoon!!! Good luck this year Saints!!!

Running Club

As of next week for the rest of the term we will be having running club for the Years 3-6 in the mornings on Tuesday and Thursday. Starting time: 8:15am on the oval. If it's not your sport day please bring along your runners.