Dear Parents, Friends and Students of St Vincent’s School,

Swimming Lessons: We are in the midst of swimming lessons. Whilst this time significantly impacts upon the teaching and learning timetable, many things can be learnt by our students as they participate in the swimming programme. Through swimming lessons the students learn basic survival skills around water and further develop; their listening and organisational skills, as well as building upon their stamina, perseverance and resiliency. Please help your child by labelling everything thus avoiding loss of items and consequent stress.

Parent/Teacher Information Meetings: Please make every effort to attend the Parent/Teacher Information Meetings next Monday 22nd February. Everyone is asked to meet in the hall at 5.30pm. I will be sharing my expectations, hopes and dreams for the school. The class meetings will follow. These meetings are very important towards ensuring the lines of communication are open between staff and families. If you are unable to make the meetings, please see your class teacher directly.

5.30-6.00 – Principal’s address in the Hall
6.00-6.30 – PP, Year 2, Year 5 and Year 6
6.30-7.00 – Year 3, Year 4 and Year 1

P&F Family Day: The P&F will be hosting a Family Fun Sundowner on Friday 1st of April. Further information is in the flyer that has gone home with this newsletter. Please highlight the date, I hope to see and meet as many families as possible at this event. This is a great opportunity for families and staff to gather together in an informal and fun setting.

Making Jesus Real – MJR: Hopefully you’ve noticed your children looking at you when they speak, as well as noting they are using people’s names when addressing them. This is a part of MJR. When we look someone in the eye and we use their name, we acknowledge them as being important. As soon as we acknowledge the importance of someone, we are less likely to want to continue with a poor choice that may hurt the other person.
Have you ever been smiled at by a stranger? Did you initially think it was strange? It’s a bit of an indictment upon the times we are in, where we are suspicious of everyone and everything. At St Vincent’s I challenge everyone, be they student, staff, family or community members, to be the positive difference in our world. Greet everyone you come across with a smile, look them in the eye and say hello. Watch the response from the other person and note how you feel as you leave the school grounds.

Reflection by Peter Mitchell (Mitch) - MJR: Positive Attitude – Your attitude to life and to people is similar to a motor in a car. If you have a good motor it will take you places in life. If your motor is in neutral (don’t care) or reverse (negative attitude) you won’t go far. There are people in your life (home, school, your interests, music, drama, sports etc.) who provide good examples of how a positive attitude to life takes you places. If you wish to have a positive attitude to life, hang out with positive people. If on the other hand you hang around with moaners and groaners (at times we all moan and groan), you will be dragged down by that negative attitude to people and life.

Staffing: We look forward to welcoming Mrs Moira Howard back to school next week and sincerely thank Mrs Grace Walsh for helping us in the school office these past four weeks.

Congratulations: to Miss Emily Newman, our Phys. Ed. Teacher, on her recent engagement to Adam. We wish Miss Newman and Adam every happiness.

God Bless …  Karmela Messineo … Principal
Spirit – Peace - Wisdom

Thought for the Week:
A strong positive mental attitude will create more miracles than any wonder drug (Patricia Neal)

2016
If you judge people, you have no time to love them.
Mother Teresa

Coming Home:
- P&F Volunteer Form
- P&F Family Fun Night Flyer
- PP – Y2 Swimming lesson notes
**CANTEN**: The Canteen is open every Monday, Wednesday and Friday.
New menu has been sent out and copies are available from the School Office. Lisa.

**UNIFORM SHOP** is open 8.35 –9am Mondays and 2.30 – 3.15pm Wednesdays Eftpos is available.

**SCHOOL FEE STATEMENTS** have been emailed out to parents. If you have not received your statement please contact the School Office as a matter of urgency. Thank you.

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**P and F News – Term 1 Week 3 2016**

Welcome Family Fun Night: The P&F wish to invite all of our families and staff to come along on Friday the 1st April from 5pm to 6.30pm to the P&F Family Fun night. Pack a picnic, bring your whole family and enjoy a night of relaxed fun for everyone. We will have carnival games (gold coin donation), fairy floss (gold coin donation), lucky dips, small canteen selling drinks, lollies, and icy-poles, raffles, and more. All proceeds from the night will be donated to the Farmers of Waroona, who sadly have suffered so much from the fires. Please come along from 5pm and head to the oval. We hope to see you there to enjoy a fun night. Please note that no alcohol may be consumed on school grounds. Thank you so much.

Volunteer for your P&F: Throughout the year we will hold a number of events and busy bees that we welcome everyone to come along and volunteer some of their time. Events include discos, stalls, busy bees, breakfasts and more. We welcome and appreciate your time even if it 10 minutes to 2 hours. Many hands make light work and we could not do what we do without your help. A note will come home today explaining how you can be on our volunteer call roster. While all request for volunteers are put in our newsletter, on our notice board, and on our Facebook pages, we will sometimes need volunteers at short notice and it can prove difficult to get the call for help out there. Volunteering is a fun way to get involved and to make new friends and have a laugh. We look forward to meeting you through the year.

School Banking: School banking is on Wednesday morning from 8.10am-8.30am sharp. Please make certain you complete deposit slips in full including child's name, student number, and banking amount. The volunteers are not able to complete on your child's behalf unfortunately, so to avoid disappointment please complete. There are some special rewards this year for our super savers so keep an eye out. Every time your child makes a deposit they go into the draw to win a prize. We will soon have a sign up day where parents can come and register their child for school banking. We will keep you posted on the date.

UPCOMING EVENTS: Welcome Family Night, Easter Raffle, P&F Meeting.

Thank you for your continued support.

President Tamara Nzima
Vice President Katie Sullivan
Secretary Katie Waudby
Treasurer Jane Frank
Pastoral Care Michelle Barjaktarevic
MERIT AWARDS

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<th>Category</th>
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<td>PP</td>
<td>Jon Thomas</td>
<td>Gabriel Castro</td>
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<td>PP Green</td>
<td>Daniel Kelly</td>
<td>Solomon McAndrew</td>
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<td>Year 1</td>
<td>Moana Chabanis</td>
<td>Danica Loquellano</td>
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<td>Year 1 Gold</td>
<td>Natalie Palaca</td>
<td>Aurora Cinquina</td>
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<td>Year 2</td>
<td>Jasper Sercombe</td>
<td>Ruby Fitzgerald</td>
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<td>Year 2 Green</td>
<td>Javen Heremia</td>
<td>Nicola Roche</td>
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<td>Year 3</td>
<td>Amara Palentinos-Cruz</td>
<td>Elijah Dizon</td>
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<td>Year 3 Gold</td>
<td>Leilah Martin</td>
<td>Jenesis Sta Ana</td>
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<td>Year 4</td>
<td>Seth Rozenboom</td>
<td>Samantha Halligan</td>
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<td>Owen Irks</td>
<td>Jeremy Clowry</td>
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<td>Year 5</td>
<td>David Roche</td>
<td>Joshlyn Sta Ana</td>
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<td>Year 6</td>
<td>Troy Bombara</td>
<td>Sandra Kurubone</td>
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RADICAL READERS: Year 5 Green: Seth Green, Mia Strasser

RELIGION

Project Compassion:
Last week, each family in our school community received a Project Compassion box to raise money for Caritas Australia during their annual Lenten Appeal. You are welcome to return your families Project Compassion box to the school office at any time and all donations are to be handed in by the end of the term. If you would like another Project Compassion box please ask one of our friendly staff at the office. We thank you for your generosity.

A Life Changing story

Doney's story - Malawi
Doney is a quiet and humble woman, but thanks to an innovative program supported by Caritas Australia, she’s creating big changes in her life and in her village. Malawi in East Africa is one of the poorest countries in the world. Most people rely on farming small plots of land to produce food to feed their families. But many, like Doney and her family, have often gone months without enough food to eat.

Yet, when Caritas Australia and the local Caritas, CADECOM (the Catholic Development Commission in Malawi), began working in Doney’s remote village, they saw beyond the community’s challenges. Together they identified the community’s strengths, and each family created their vision for a healthier, more sustainable future. These days, the people of Doney’s village have access to clean drinking water, flourishing crops and are building their knowledge to create a better future. “My life has been transformed,” smiles Doney.

Sacramental Dates 2016:
Holy Communion (Year 4) – Sunday 12th June at 11:30am
Confirmation (Year 6) – Saturday 20th August at 6pm
Reconciliation (Year 3) – Tuesday 15th November at 6pm

Holy Communion Enrolment Meeting – Tuesday 8th March: The Holy Communion Enrolment Meeting will be held on Tuesday 8th March from 3:30pm in the School Hall. It is important that a parent attends this meeting as an outline of this term’s Sacramental Program for Holy Communion will be explained and notes for enrolment will be distributed. The first Holy Communion class will be on Tuesday 15th March from 3:30 - 4:15 pm.

Holy Communion Commitment Masses – Saturday 12th or Sunday 13th March: Year 4 parents please note that the Holy Communion Commitment Masses will be held on the weekend of Saturday 12th (6pm Mass) and Sunday 13th March (9:30am Mass). It is essential that all preparing communicants attend one of the Masses with their parents and hand in their enrolment form at the Mass.

ADMIN

NAPLAN Parent Information: Yesterday, parents of children in Years 3 and 5 received an information flyer about the NAPLAN testing period for 2016. The National Assessment Program in Literacy and Numeracy will take place for these students on the 10th, 11th and 12th of May (Week 3 Term 2). Please read this information carefully and if you have any questions or concerns don’t hesitate to ask your child’s class teacher.

Notes that need returning: At the beginning of the year, two important notes went home to families regarding photo permission and ICT usage at St Vincent’s. If you have not yet done so, could you please return them to your child’s classroom teacher as soon as possible. If you are in need of a copy of either note, they both can be found in the front office or on the St Vincent’s website.
COMMUNITY EVENTS

DARIUS WELLS LIBRARY & RESOURCE CENTRE COURSES AND ACTIVITIES:

Monday After School Activities
22 February – Make your own play snow
29 February – Paper Mosaic
14 March – Ocean in a Bottle
21 March – Clothespin People
4 April – Bookmark Making
3.30 pm – 4.30pm – 6 to 12 year olds in the David Nelson Art and Design Room.  $3 per session, to be paid at registration.  Registration required for each individual session.  For more information telephone 9236 4320.

Photography Course:  In this course you’ll learn the basics of using a DSLR, including using manual settings correctly and how to use your focus and zoom to get the most vibrant photos.  Develop your skills and learn the techniques to become creative with your camera.  Daniel Chan is the Facilitator and the course is run on Thursday 178th and 25th February from 6pm to 9pm for Adults in the John Slinger IT Training Room at a cost of $30.  Registration is required.  Bring your own camera or use one of ours.  Please bring your manual.  Creche available.  Bookings essential, fees apply.

Also: Homework Club, Adult Drawing Courses, Creative Writing (Poetry), Interior Design and Decoration, Information Technology Courses, Community Programs, Relationships Australia Programs, Library Activities, and many more.  Registration forms available at Darius Wells Library & Resource Centre or online at www.kwinana.gov.au or telephone 9236 4320.

Summer Outdoor Movie Series:  Enjoy FREE entertainment this Saturday night, 20th February, at a screening of WALL-E.  Movie begins at 7.30pm.  Free popcorn for the kids! Bring your picnic and a blanket.  You are welcome to bring chairs but will be seated in a designated area.

Mini Enviro-fest : Saturday 20th February from 5.30pm to 7.30pm.  Chisham Square.  Meet some native Australian animals, Giant wetland and waste board games, find out what the City does to protect our environment, find out how to get involved.

Did you know that…?
- Did you know ...Mrs Walsh is Mrs Holcombe’s mum?
- This week we’ve been greeting people with a ‘thumbs up’?
- Last week we greeted people with a ‘high five’?
- We have made the top 10 schools in WA for the Super Saver banking with the Commonwealth Bank?
- Year 5’s played Reggae rhythms with 3 parts?
- Year 4’s are learning syncopated rhythms?
- Year 3-6 are having an awesome time at their swimming lessons?  Perfect time to be in the water.