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

**Staff Commissioning Masses:** During the Parish Mass last Saturday night the school staff were commissioned in their service to our school. Next week staff will be commissioned at a regional Mass to be celebrated at Star of the Sea, Rockingham. The commissioning services remind staff that together we are working for the benefit of our students. As educators we are ever mindful of the very important role parents play in the education of their children. As the Second Vatican Council put it: the role of parents “is of such importance that it is almost impossible to provide an adequate substitute.” The Staff have committed themselves in their particular responsibilities in the lives of our students, but are under no illusion that their efforts can replace those of parents.

**Parent/Teacher Information Meetings:** These will be run on one night, being Monday 22nd February. The evening will start at 5.30pm in the hall with an address by myself; all parents are requested to attend. Class information meetings will follow.

- 5.30-6.00pm - Principal’s Address - Hall
- 6.00-6.30pm - PP, Year 2, Year 5 and Year 6
- 6.30-7.00pm - Year 3, Year 4 and Year 1

Kindy will be conducting their meeting on Thursday 18th February at 2pm.

**P&F Meeting:** I look forward to seeing and meeting as many parents as possible at the first P&F meeting for the year, this Friday 12th February at 9.30am.

**Lent:** We celebrated Ash Wednesday this week, marking the beginning of Lent. Fr Daniel led us in celebrating a beautiful Mass. He reminded us, Lent is a time for prayer, fasting and charity.

Lent is an opportunity to extend goodwill to all people, as a means to get closer to God. Instead of focusing on ‘giving something up’ this Lent, try to think about how you can make this world better by looking to Jesus as the perfect model. Smile at all people, be slow to anger, hold a door open, make the bed, wash the dishes, tidy up after yourself, say “thank you” often and with intent.

**Social Media Reminder:** Please be advised the only official school Facebook pages are the St Vincent’s School Facebook page and the St Vincent’s Parents and Friends Committee Facebook page. No other Facebook pages represent our school.

As a school seeking to Make Jesus Real (MJR) in our midst, I respectfully remind everyone to recognise and respect the dignity of each person. This means if you have an issue with the school, you are asked to directly seek the staff member concerned, rather than raise it in a public forum where the issue cannot be resolved.

Always refrain from making negative comments about students, parents, staff and community members in a public forum, instead act as you would wish others to act towards you and your family.

We are fortunate at St Vincent’s School to have committed and dedicated staff and community members, all who hold the best interests of every student at heart. Let us all work together to build upon this by Making Jesus Real in our school community.

God Bless ... **Karmela Messineo** ... Principal

---

**Thought for the Week:**

“Before you assume, learn the facts. Before you judge, understand why. Before you hurt someone, feel. Before you speak, think.” (Unknown)

---

**2016**

**If you judge people, you have no time to love them.**

*Mother Teresa*

---

**Coming Home:**

- Perth’s Child magazine
- Project Compassion boxes
- Grasshopper Soccer flyer
- Dental Screening letter
**P&F News – Term 1 Week 2 2016**

**P&F MEETING TOMORROW FRIDAY 12th FEBRUARY at 9.30am (after assembly):** Please join us for our first meeting of the year. Morning tea is provided and children are most welcome as we have toys to keep them happy. Everyone who attends the meeting on Friday will receive a raffle ticket to go into the draw to win a Lush gift pack. So bring a friend and pop along for a cuppa and a laugh. Don’t be shy, and we hope to see you there. Kindy families: we would love to have you there too. Please feel free to pop up around 9am/9.15am to the hall. Children are most welcome.

**SCHOOL BANKING:** Our school banking will resume next Wednesday 16th February from 8.10am - 8.30am sharp. We ask you have all deposit slips completed, which will fasten the process. We are still looking for 3 volunteers to assist on banking mornings to take monies and stamp deposit books (quick and easy job to learn on the spot). If we have enough volunteers we can have a roster system making it fair for everyone. This allows for our volunteer mums or dads to get their own children to class. If you are not signed up for school banking please drop in to see one of the ladies on the Wednesday mornings. If you wish to volunteer, please see one of our friendly ladies in the office for a volunteer form.

**P&F FACEBOOK PAGE:** While your first option for all relevant school information and news is the weekly newsletter, if you are on Facebook, please look us up and follow our page which is St Vincent’s Parents and Friends Committee. Here we keep you updated on events and information you may need to know. It is also a great instant form of communication for us if you wish to send us a private message. You can also find St Vincent’s Primary School Facebook page too. These two pages are the only pages that have been approved to represent St Vincent’s Primary School. We ask you respect people’s privacy and follow the correct procedures if you have any concerns or issues with parents, staff, or school. We appreciate your co-operation.

**UPCOMING EVENTS:** Welcome Family Night and Easter Raffle.

Thank you for your continued support.

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

---

**Did you know that...?**
- Year 4’s created an art explosion yesterday?
- We probably excreted 60 litres of sweat yesterday?
- 441 icy poles will be eaten today?
- Arabella means “God’s altar”? 
- Kindy had a visit from Fr Marlon on Wednesday to receive the ashes. They all lined up beautifully!

---

**CANTEEN:** The Canteen is open every Monday, Wednesday and Friday.

New menu have 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.**
RELIGION

Project Compassion: With today’s newsletter each family has received a Project Compassion box as we begin the Season of Lent. Lent is a time to prepare for Easter through prayer, almsgiving and fasting. During Lent we encourage your child and family to donate to Project Compassion. As we prepare for Easter it is an important time to teach our children to give aims to help those in need. Instead of buying an ice-cream at the shops your child may decide to donate the cost of the ice-cream to their Project Compassion box. Caritas Australia’s annual Lenten fundraising and awareness-raising appeal brings thousands of Australians together in solidarity with the world’s poor to help end poverty, promote justice and uphold dignity for all people. Thank you for your generosity.

Sacramental Dates 2016:
Holy Communion (Year 4) – Sunday 12th June at 11:30am
Confirmation (Year 6) – Saturday 20th August at 6m
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.

Faction Buddies: Tomorrow students from PP to Year 6 will join together in their factions to create Valentine’s Day cards for a younger or older member of their faction. During Faction Buddies the children will learn about St. Valentine and exchange cards and messages of love and friendship with one another. Let us take a moment this Valentine’s Day to open our hearts and connect to all people through love. When we recognise and acknowledge that everyone we meet has a place in their hearts that wants only to love and be loved, we can begin to be a powerful force for transformation in our own lives and the lives of others.

ADMIN

Arriving at School and Late Procedures: Thank you for reading last week’s newsletter and following the new procedures when arriving at school. Can you please make a conscious effort to have your child/ren to their classroom at 8:30am. This is an organisational time where children prepare themselves for the day and is even used as an extra working time in the middle/upper primary. If your child/ren constantly arrives later they miss out on this essential time. This will be further discussed at our Parent Information Night in Week 4.

New Website and Digital Absentee Note: Thank you to the parents who have been using the digital absentee note function on our new school website. Remember, if your child is unwell, go onto the website and notify the teacher directly using this new function instead of phoning the school and having to provide a note at a later date.

The site can be found at www.stvincents.wa.edu.au. Steve Blake - Assistant Principal.

SPORT

Swimming Lessons: Swimming Lessons Year 3-6: Swimming lessons commence next week for Year 3-6 students. These lessons will be held at Kwinana Recquatic Centre and will run over a two-week period. Students must remember all the essentials (bathers, goggles, towel, change of underwear and thongs/sandals to wear to the pool) labelled with the child’s name where possible. If your child is unable to swim on a particular day please provide a written note that must be handed to your child’s class teacher prior to the lesson.

Lesson Times
Year 5 12:20 – 01:00
Year 4 & 6 01:05 – 01:45
Year 3 & 6 01:50 – 02:30

Due to increased numbers, Year 6 will be split and attend lessons at different times. All children will get changed into their school uniform when arriving back at school.
COMMUNITY EVENTS

In 2017 the following scholarships may be offered at IONA PRESENTATION COLLEGE:
Sr Alacoste Gittins Academic Scholarship - a minimum of two (2) academic scholarships will be awarded to incoming Year 7 students.
Sr John Jones Academic Scholarship - a minimum of one (1) academic scholarship will be awarded to a student entering Yr 10.
Sr Joan Evans General Excellence Scholarship - a minimum of one (1) scholarship will be awarded to an incoming Year 7 student, who is the daughter/stepdaughter/granddaughter of a Past Pupil.

There are also a number of Music Scholarships on offer at Iona Presentation College. Scholarships are awarded for both Musical Excellence and Musical Aptitude. When a scholarship is awarded for Musical Aptitude, the instrument to be learnt will be designated by the Head of Music. Beginner students are also encouraged to apply for a Music Scholarship.
Please visit http://www.iona.edu.au/enrolments/scholarships/ to find out more and to apply online.

SUE'S FAMILY DAY CARE currently has vacancies on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday for children up to 4 years of age. Based in Parmelia and fully qualified and registered with Bright Futures Day Care Scheme. Please call Sue on 0417 831 962 to discuss your Day Care requirements.

Rotary Club of Kwinana Swimarathon: The Rotary Club of Kwinana will be participating in the 2016 Rotary Global Swimarathon by holding its own Swimarathon at the Kwinana Recquatic Centre on Sunday 21 February 2016. The purpose of this event is to raise funds for Rotary International’s End Polio Now campaign. The world is nearly polio-free thanks to the efforts of Rotary and its partners over the last thirty years. The Swimarathon is open to all members of the public, and so an invitation is extended to all parishioners and friends of St Vincent’s Parish to participate, either as a swimmer or spectator. The event will involve participants consecutively swimming laps of the pool between 11.30 am to 12.30 pm. There will be an allocated lane for junior swimmers who may require parental assistance. Following the Swimarathon, there will be a free sausage sizzle for participants and other members of the public. The cost of participating in the event will be $10 for adults, and $5 for persons aged 16 years and under. Registration will commence at 11am. The Swimarathon can be supported online by visiting the following website: https://www.mycase.com.au/page/118064/rotary-club-of-kwinana-swimarathon. Donations are tax-deductible, with all funds going directly to End Polio Now. For further enquiries, contact Genevieve Carr (0448 170 601) or Bob Thompson (9439 2447).

Mini Enviro-Fest and Movie Night – Saturday 20th February 2016: A Mini Enviro-fest will be held starting at 5:30pm before the regular Outdoor Movie Night at Chisham Square. There will be a workshop run by Junkadelic, making and playing instruments from recycled materials, the “Recycle Right” trailer will be there as well as “Critters up close” with some native Australian animals. After the festival there will be an outdoor movie showing of WALL-E from 7.40 pm to 9.30pm.

If you are involved in a local environmental community group and would like to have a stall at the festival to recruit new members there is still time to get involved. We will provide a marquee you just need to turn up with whatever materials you need (we may also be able to assist with some material costs). For more information contact sarah.mccabe@kwinana.wa.gov.au or 9439 0243.

Clean up Australia Day - Sunday 6th March 2016: Clean up Australia Day is on again and you are invited to get involved. Contact the City's Bushcare officer on 9439 0418 for further information or visit http://www.cleanupaustraliaday.org.au/.

Living Smart: It has just been confirmed that another Living Smart Sustainable Living course will run. This popular course will likely run on Thursday evenings from the 28th April to the 9th June at the Wellard Community Centre. If you are interested in attending let Sarah know on 9439 0243. Check out http://livingsmart.org.au/ if you want to find out more about the course. Previous participants describe it as life changing!

Community Waste Grants Funding: The Community Waste Grants Funding is open again for community groups who would like to implement waste management projects. The City is ineligible to apply but if you have any ideas for projects feel free to contact Sarah on 9439 0243. Projects previously funded include:

- Establishment of community managed gardens for recycling organic waste producing compost and eggs, and improving awareness of waste management practices at home.
- Helping markets transition to becoming plastic carry bag free, with stallholders and shoppers encouraged to use recyclable bags, baskets and trolleys.
- Holding waste education workshops catering for non-English speaking migrants to help them implement waste management changes. This was reinforced with home visits.
- Increasing collection points for cans and other materials, with clearer signage in regional areas to make recycling easier for rural residents.

The Authority will consider grant applications up to $20,000 per project. All the relevant documents relating to the CGS, including application forms and guidelines are available at the website: wasteauthority.wa.gov.au/programs/grants/community-grants-scheme/.