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

Welcome: Welcome to 2016, the new school year has started in fine fashion. This year promises to be an exciting one with all staff and students working hard to achieve their very best throughout the year. From the moment I stepped into the St Vincent’s School Community I felt welcome and I’m looking forward to sharing the next phase of our school’s journey with you.

Welcome back to all returning staff, students and families. Welcome to Kindy and new families to other classes in our school. I trust our returning families will make you feel welcome. Welcome to our new staff members: Miss Emily Newman (PE), Mrs Kim-Maree Messineo (Library), Mrs Jenny Forrest (Year 2 Gold), Mrs Debbie Bull (Kindy Gold) and Mrs Grace Walsh (Office). Welcome back to Mrs Leanne Holcombe (Year 4 Green) and Mrs Amanda Neri (Library and Year 3 Green), both returning from maternity leave. Welcome back to Father Daniel and Father Marlon.

Parent Information Night: The Parent information Night for PP through to Year 6 is scheduled for Monday 22nd February starting at 6pm. All parents are asked to meet in the hall before going to their children’s classes. The Parent information Night is an important part of our school culture; it serves to provide an opportunity for expectations to be clarified and goals set for the current year. The Parent information Night also helps build relationship between the class teacher/s and parents. Please make an effort to attend; I look forward to seeing you there.

Parent Handbook: The Parent Handbook will be uploaded to the school website. I encourage you to peruse through it, as it will inform you of important things related to our school.

Term Planner: The Term Planner has gone home this week. Please check the upcoming dates on the newsletter as things may change from time to time.

Letter from the Director of Catholic Education WA: The Director of Catholic Education WA, Mr Tim McDonald, has written a letter to welcome new and returning parents and caregivers to the Catholic Education System for 2016, a copy of which has been sent home today

Ash Wednesday: Next Wednesday our school will observe Ash Wednesday. Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of Lent. It is a time when people who are sorry for their wrongdoings are marked with the sign of the cross, from blessed ashes, on their forehead. This reminds people of their mortality and sorrow for sins, as well as the desire and will to make changes in their lives and seek forgiveness. Ash Wednesday is traditionally a time of fasting and prayer. Lent is a time to think about life and death. As well as reflect on the choices we make and the directions we take. 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.

Forms: Please find enclosed the following forms, they all must be returned by the end of next week:
- “Full Family details” Form – Please check the details, make changes and send back to school as soon as possible; no later than next week. Even if there are no changes, the form MUST be returned to the SCHOOL OFFICE.
- Photo Permission Form – One per family to be returned to the CLASS TEACHER.
- “Student Use Of information and Communication Technology” Form – One per child (Kindy – Year 6) to be returned to the CLASS TEACHER.

Please keep in your prayers Mr Graham Howard, husband of Mrs Moira Howard. Mr Howard is recovering from recent heart surgery.

We extend our congratulations to Gavin Poole and his wife, Clare, on the safe arrival of their son, Joshua.

I’m looking forward to a great year at St Vincent’s School, with you all.

God Bless … Karmela Messineo – Principal

ST VINCENT’S VIEW

VISION STATEMENT
The school is Catholic and therefore the vision is based on the Gospel Values.
Our motto is SPIRIT, PEACE & WISDOM and we try to encompass this in all that we do.

PO Box 22, Kwinana WA 6966
Telephone: 9419 2631/Fax: 9419 5991
Email: admin@stvincents.wa.edu.au
Web Address: stvincents.wa.edu.au

Web Address: stvincents.wa.edu.au

Thought for the Week:
It’s not so much the journey that’s important, as is the way that we treat those we encounter and those around us, on the way (Jeremy Aldana)

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

Coming Home:
• Canteen Help Roster
• Family Details Sheet
• OSHClub Newsletter
See more on Page 4:
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

ARRIVING AT SCHOOL & LATE PROCEDURES: Welcome back everyone! There have been a couple of changes to the procedure when arriving late to school so please read the following information carefully.

As you are aware, classroom doors are opened at 8:30am and your children are expected to be inside, settled and ready to begin class by 8:40am. During this time the classroom teacher will be marking the children present on their classroom register. Previously, all children who arrived at school after 8:40am would need to go to the front office to be signed in and receive a late notice, however, this is no longer the case.

If your child/ren arrives between 8:40am – 9am they do not need to visit the front office. You are to walk them directly to their classroom and the teacher will mark them on the register as tardy. This will hopefully alleviate the traffic jam in the front office during this morning period. If they arrive after 9am, you must follow the old procedure of visiting the front office to sign in and collect a late note for the classroom teacher.

MORNING DUTY SUPERVISION: Two teachers begin supervision at 8:20am. One is situated in the area out the front of the library to supervise Year 1 & 2 students and the other on the lower grassed area (behind the library) for Years 3, 4, 5 & 6. It is expected that all students are seated in their respective areas until classroom doors open. Pre Primary students are to wait on the library grassed area with their bags until the Pre Primary gates are opened.

The children will be briefed about these new procedures in their classrooms and at assembly with the hope it will become routine as soon as possible.

NEW WEBSITE & DIGITAL ABSENTEE NOTE: Our new school website is now live!!! Please take a moment to check it out and explore. There are some areas that remain under construction, however, it is looking fantastic and should become your first point of call for anything St Vincent’s. One particular feature to look out for is the digital absentee note. This allows you to fill out your child/ren’s absent form online and it will be sent directly to their classroom teacher. It is extremely easy to use and thank you to the parents that have already started using this function.

The site can be found at [www.stvictents.wa.edu.au](http://www.stvictents.wa.edu.au). Steve Blake (Assistant Principal)

RECOMMENDATION  
Staff Commissioning Mass – 6th February: On Saturday evening, the staff of St Vincent’s School will attend the 6pm Mass to make their commitment to our school and parish community. This will also be an opportunity to welcome new and returning staff members to our community. Following the Mass, the staff, members of the P&F and the school board will be invited to share a light supper together in the Lesser Hall. The St Vincent’s staff look forward to seeing many families at Mass on Saturday.

Ash Wednesday – 10th February: The observance of Ash Wednesday is the most popular weekday celebration in the Catholic Church’s liturgical year. During the celebration, children and adults process to the altar to receive ashes on their forehead in the shape of a cross. Ash Wednesday is also a day when people discover how many Catholics there are in their community. This can nurture in children a greater sense of religious community. And because receiving the ashes is a sign of humility and contrition, children will also see how many people recognise the need for repentance.

The Ash Wednesday Ritual: Ash Wednesday is always the first Wednesday of the Lenten season and marks the beginning of Lent. It is a day of abstinence and prayer. The distribution of blessed ashes is typically done before the altar and, depending on the custom of the parish, people will hear the distributor say, “Turn away from sin and be faithful to the Gospel” or “Remember, man, you are dust and to dust you will return.” The atmosphere in the Church is quiet and the observance solemn. People reflect on how quickly human life can pass. All are reminded of the need for repentance.

Children and Preparing for Lent: Ash Wednesday begins a wonderful season of reflection and preparation. Receiving the ashes as a member of the church community helps children recognise that they are an important part of the Catholic community and are united with the Church in its Lenten preparation. [www.loyolapress.com](http://www.loyolapress.com).

Ash Wednesday Mass – 10th February: Next Wednesday, all classes from Year 1 to 6 will join together for Mass in the Church to observe the first day of Lent. The Lenten season extends over a forty-six day period, beginning on Ash Wednesday and ending on the eve of Easter. The six Sundays in Lent are not actually a part of Lent and therefore the Lenten season itself is forty days. Parents and friends are more than welcome to attend the Mass, which will commence at 9am in the school Church. Father Daniel will visit the Kindy and Pre-Primary classes in their classrooms after Mass to talk about Ash Wednesday and the children will receive their cross of ashes in class.

ADMIN  
Personal information collected from pupils is regularly disclosed to their parents or guardians. On occasions information such as academic and sporting achievements, pupil activities and other news is published in school newsletters, magazines, local newspapers and on our website. If you do not wish to have your child’s name or photograph published in these mediums, then this request needs to be put to the Principal, in writing.
**Coming Up**

**Term 1 2016**

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<tr>
<th>February</th>
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<tr>
<td>Mon 1</td>
<td>PP - Year 6 students commence</td>
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<td>Tues 2</td>
<td>KG students commence</td>
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<td>Fri 5</td>
<td>Prayer Assembly: Kirsty Liturgical Singing after Assembly Y5 - Church - 10am</td>
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<td>Sat 6</td>
<td><strong>School Commissioning Mass 6pm</strong> <em>(and Supper)</em></td>
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<td>Mon 8</td>
<td>Prayer Assembly: Year 6</td>
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<td>Tues 9</td>
<td>Shrove Tuesday</td>
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<td>Wed 10</td>
<td>Ash Wednesday</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Whole School Mass 9am <em>(KG Ashes)</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>Fri 12</td>
<td>Prayer Assembly: Year 6</td>
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<td>Faction Buddies 2.10pm</td>
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**Canteen:** The Canteen is open every Monday, Wednesday and Friday. New menu will be sent out next week. Lisa.

**Uniform Shop** is open 8.35 -9am Mondays and 2.30 – 3.15pm Wednesdays. Eftpos is available.

**P&F (Cont’d):**

**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. Please stay tuned for some changes regarding year group Facebook pages and class representatives. If you do wish to publish a post to the page could you please just send us a quick private message to let us know what it is you are posting as we may be able to post on your behalf. Requests for uniform buy/sell/swap are okay to post automatically.

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**P&F News**

**P and F News – Term 1 Week 1 2016**

Welcome back Families of St Vincent’s.

**P&F Meeting Friday 12th February** at 9.30am (after assembly): Another year ahead brings with it a fun and full calendar for the P&F. So we would love to have as many of you on board with us as possible. Coming along to meetings is the perfect way to hear about what we have planned, be involved with votes and discussions, voice your own ideas and concerns, and be a part of helping our little school community grow. As our meetings are sometimes held on a Friday we do invite Kindy parents along too. Children are most welcome and 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.

**Tears and Tissues Morning Tea:** Thank you to the mums and dads who popped up to our tears and tissues morning tea on Tuesday morning. It was lovely to see some new faces and get a chance to have a chat to you all. We hope everyone is settling in to their new school year and we welcome all of our new families who joined us this year. Look forward to sharing more events and time with you all.

**School Banking:** Our school banking will resume in the next week or two however we do need at least four 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. Banking is open on a Wednesday morning from 8.15am to 8.30am. This allows for our volunteer mums or dads to get their own children to class. Unfortunately without the volunteers we will have to do school banking only once a month instead of weekly. If you are not signed up for school banking please drop in to see one of the ladies on the Wednesday mornings. Please check newsletter next week for starting date. If you wish to volunteer please see one of our friendly ladies in the office for a volunteer form.

**Fete:** As most of you may have read or heard by now, it is with a heavy heart that a decision has been made to cancel the Fete for 2016. Many factors came in to play when this decision was being made but quite simply without sponsorship we cannot run an event such as the fete. The behind the scenes work that goes in to organising the initial part of finding sponsorship has just not been successful for us in the last few months. So many letters and calls and we have had little to no response. This has been very disheartening to the committee who have worked hard in previous years to put on such a well-loved event for our entire community. For now we must refocus our energies on other fundraising opportunities and we hope to have all of your much appreciated support. We hope to have another fete in the next year or two and come back bigger and better than ever.

**Upcoming Events:** Welcome Family Night.

President Tamara Nzima
Vice President Katie Sullivan
Secretary Katie Waudby
Treasurer Jane Frank
Pastoral Care Michelle Barjaktarevic
Did you know that…?

- Year 5 GO have managed to achieve a whopping 210 class dojos in the first 3 days of school?
- Liam Howard, a former student, was awarded the Premier’s Active Citizen Award for Community Service 2016 (under 25) by the Rockingham City Council? (see photo)
- Miss Newman worked at St Patrick’s in Katanning?
- Mr Holbrook and some keen gardeners reaped the rewards of their planting late last year? (see photo)

FOUND: Pink and white galah in the Kindy area.

COMMUNITY EVENTS

Relationships Australia have Parenting Courses in February and March 2016. Subjects include Making Stepfamilies Work, Parent/Teen Connection, Parent/Child Connection, Virtual Parenting Programme, Dads Raising Girls, Mums Raising Boys, Successful Single Parenting and much more. Courses are held at Kwinana, Gosnells, West Leederville, Fremantle and Midland. Visit their website www.relationshipswa.org.au for these and much more information or ring 6164 0200 to enrol in any of the courses.

St Vincent’s Netball Club
Registration Days are as follows:
- Thursday 11th Feb, 2.45-3.15 at St Vincent’s PS
- Thursday 18th Feb, 2.45-3.15 at St Vincent’s PS
- Saturday 20th Feb, 10.00-1.00 at Mike Barnett Stadium

Registering does not guarantee your place in a team. Teams are determined according to how many coaches we have.

Fees are $120, 50% to be paid on registration, the rest by April 1st.
Dresses are $100, $50 to be paid when ordered, the rest when order is ready.
Game and umpire fee this season is $7 per game, this is due to an increase in badged umpires within the club. Badged umpires get paid more.
Game fee and Umpire fees are $105. This can be paid in advance at registration.
If you are applying for Kidsport, this needs to be done ASAP. Go to your local council and apply, then give form to Tanya Halliday to invoice.
Season starts April 2nd and finishes August 27th. Runs for 15 weeks. Any queries contact Tanya 0414 886 792.

Looking for Soul Food? The Centre for Faith Enrichment is offering two short online courses in Term One. (1) Encountering Jesus Anew in the Year of Mercy: Tuesdays 16th February – 8th March, 12pm-1pm, $20; (2) Dive Deeper: Exploring Faith: Tuesdays 23rd February – 8th March, 8pm-8.30pm, $15. For more information or to register, visit www.cfe.org.au or call 9241 5221. These courses are a great opportunity to explore matters of the soul in a relaxed and friendly way, with no exams or assignments! ALL welcome!

BASKETBALL FUN DAY for boys born 03 – 06. Kwinana Recquatic on 20th February 2016 2pm – 3pm (byo ball). For more information contact saintsbasketball@hotmail.com.

EMMANUEL CATHOLIC COLLEGE are holding an OPEN DAY on 17th March 2016. Please contact the College to register your attendance. They offer 2 tours – 9.10am – 10.40am and 4.20pm – 6pm. Enrolment places are filling fast for 2017. Interviews for 2018 have now commenced. Accepting online Academic & Music Scholarship Applications for Year 7 2017 and 2018. Gifted and Talented Program, Emmanuel Netball Academy, Emmanuel Kings Football Academy, Performing Arts & Sports Centre now open. For further information and bookings contact the Registrar on 9414 4055 or email enrolments@emmanuel.wa.edu.au.