FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Parents and Friends of St Vincent’s,

Welcome back to the start of another exciting year of learning! Yes it did seem to be a longer than usual Summer break. It was delightful to see your children’s smiles on Monday morning and it was clearly evident that everyone had a well-rested break with lots of stories to share. We also welcomed 14 new families and 16 new students to St Vincent’s. I hope you are able to connect with these new families at the Meet and Greet Welcome BBQ on Tuesday February 20. We are blessed to be a small school. The size and structure of our school allows for each child to be treated as a special individual and is a place where lasting friendships are established.

The teachers have embraced the new year with tremendous enthusiasm. Over the latter part of the holiday period they worked hard to ensure that classrooms were ready to start the new school year. Last week all staff attended four days of Professional Development giving us competencies in current First Aid practices, Learning Technologies and Restorative Practices.

This week the students are currently learning about our 8 Learning Dispositions in their classrooms and how they can help our children adopt thinking and learning habits to help them become more confident, independent and ultimately more successful.

A full staff list is included in this newsletter. We welcome teacher-librarian Rachel Donnelly and class teacher (1 Blue and Year 6) John Jennings. A reminder that teachers can be contacted using their email address: first name.surname @ cg.catholic.edu.au.

Thankyou for ensuring your children have commenced school wearing the correct school uniform.

On your behalf I thank Suzie Morris for organising the Clothing Pool to be open during the holidays... much appreciated Suzie.

A special welcome to our new Parish Priest Fr Simon Falk. On Sunday Archbishop Christopher Prowse inducted Fr Simon as the Parish Priest of the Parish of St Matthew and St Vincent de Paul, Belconnen South. The Archbishop described Simon as ‘the heartbeat of Jesus amongst us’ and we look forward to journeying with Fr Simon into the coming years.

I ask that you keep Lynne Hellyer (3 Blue class teacher) and her family in your prayers. Lynne’s dear mum passed away on January 22nd. A number of staff were able to attend the celebration of Audrey’s life – she was an amazing lady.

I wish you and your families a happy association with St Vincent’s this year.

May God bless you and your families

Lina Vigliotta

lina.vigliotta@cg.catholic.edu.au
**DROP OFF AND PICK UP ARRANGEMENTS**

A reminder that when dropping off and collecting your children using the drive through line parents must remain in their car. The children are able to safely cross the pedestrian crossing. In the event that cars are parked and left unattended then our children are put in a potentially unsafe position when they exit or enter their car. As you may imagine parking in the drop off line causes a queue up and the safety of our children is consistently of the highest priority.

**CALENDAR**

The Term 1 Family calendar is attached to this newsletter and can also be found on the homepage of the school website www.svdp.act.edu.au. Please refer to it often as it is updated regularly. Meet and Greet, opening school Mass, Swimming Carnival and the Catholic school’s soccer carnival are just a few of the highlights this term.

**WORKING WITH VULNERABLE PEOPLE LEGISLATION**

Any parent who volunteers to work in classrooms, sporting teams, Learning Support, coaching, driving children to excursions, reading, canteen, uniform shop, etc. must download (accesscanberra.gov.au) and complete the Working With Vulnerable People paperwork and take it along with proof of identity to a Canberra Connect Office. As with your driver’s license renewal, your photo will be taken and a card sent to you within two weeks. There is no fee for volunteers. If you intend offering your services in any way this year, we ask that you comply with the legislative requirements. We thank you most sincerely for your time and willingness to support our community.

**WELCOME NEW FAMILIES**

We welcome a number of new families to our school community. They are: Baker, Divas, Mendis, Miriam Obily, Mowbray, Okolie, Pejcinovic, Ranse, Sanguineti, Maguire, Pandey, Jamtsho, Carpenter and Reed.

On behalf of the entire school community, I would like to welcome all of our new families and wish them many happy years here at St Vincent’s. We welcome the gifts they bring to the school.

**ST VINCENT’S SKOOLBAG APP**

At St Vincent’s, we have our own “Skoolbag App” as an alternative method of communication with the parent body. We ask parents to install our Skoolbag – St Vincent’s App.

**How do I install the App?** – Full instructions can be found at the end of this newsletter. In order to receive information relative to your child’s grade you will need to set up push notifications.

**What does it do?**

This school mobile App provides the school with an easy way to tell parents everything they need to know about school news, newsletters, events calendar.
Please come and meet the staff on Tuesday 20 February 5.30 – 8pm.

Principal: Lina Vigliotta
Assistant Principal: Lisa Harris
REC: Luke Maher
Office Manager: Nicole Watson

Kinder Yellow: Kylie-anne Swan
Year 1 Blue: Natalie Currie/John Jennings
Year 2 Yellow: Hamish Meagher
Year 3 Blue: Lynne Hellyer/Sonia Mattiske
Year 4 Yellow: Angela Luchetti/Lisa Harris
Year 5 Blue: Anna Zaja
Year 6 Blue: Sam Beattie
Year 6 Yellow: Luke Maher/John Jennings

Teacher/Librarian: Rachel Donnelly
Italian/Music: Anna Marzano
Classroom Support Teacher: Rita Evans
Classroom Support Assistant: Donna-Lea Collins/Jacinta Putt
Canteen Manager: Bronwyn Smith

ST VINCENT’S SCHOOL DAY

8.30am: Morning Supervision
8.50am: Morning Assembly
9.00am: Morning Session
10.55am: Supervised Eating
11.10am: Recess Play
11.40am: Middle Session
1.10pm: Supervised Eating
1.25pm: Lunch Play
1.55pm: Afternoon Session
3.10pm: End of School day
3.30pm: After School duty ends
Welcome to St Vincent’s!

1 Blue
2 Yellow
3 Blue
4 Yellow
5 Blue
6 Blue
6 Yellow
Kinder Yellow
FROM THE ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

Dear Parents and Friends,

What a brilliant start it has been to the 2018 school year! So many smiling faces, everyone seems happy to be here and the school is buzzing with excitement as people in our community share their summer holiday happenings. It’s great to be back and I look forward to catching up with many of you over the coming weeks.

As always, at the beginning of the school year, classes establish their responsibilities and routines. We came together as a whole school on Monday to reflect and talk about how we can be safe and responsible at school. The students were invited to contribute to this discussion that focused mainly on classroom and playground expectations. I was delighted to hear the responses from students across all classes and I thought I’d share these with you in today’s newsletter.

It’s time for another Book Flood!!

We always welcome book donations to the school to update our classroom libraries and I think it’s time for another St Vincent’s book flood!!! Think back to the Book Castle from last year. This year we are looking for collections of books that are part of a series or by the same author. Authors such as David Walliams, Anh Do, J.K. Rowling, Enid Blyton and Andy Griffiths continue to be extremely popular. Titles such as Little Women, The Narnia Chronicles, Oliver Twist, Anne of Green Gables and The Magic Faraway Tree are making a comeback too! Female protagonist Mystery books are being enjoyed by the girls in years 3 – 6, Scarlet and Ivy by Sophie Cleverly as well as the Murder Most Unladylike Series by Robin Stevens are hot reads at the moment. Hey Jack, Zac Power, EJ Spy School and Billie B Brown are in hot demand with our younger readers and of course Roald Dahl can be found in all classrooms! If you have titles such as these that are no longer being read in your homes, please feel free to drop them down to the school. Any books that are not deemed suitable for the classroom are donated to the Lifeline Book Fair.

With best wishes always, Lisa Harris

AWARDS

We congratulate the following recipients of this weeks awards

KINDER YELLOW: Annabel R, Peter James F
YEAR 1 BLUE: Emily M, Megan M
YEAR 2 YELLOW: Bhoomika P, Harriet B
YEAR 3 BLUE: Jacob R, Deywa J
YEAR 4 YELLOW: Jude K, Jack C
YEAR 5 BLUE: Celina G, Annabelle R
YEAR 6 YELLOW: Sarah C, Tom T
YEAR 6 BLUE: Nate C, Sabrina T

BIRTHDAYS

Happy Birthday to the following students celebrating their birthday over the coming week:

Rohan H, Emily M
Welcome back to school for 2018! I hope all of our wonderful families have had an opportunity for some rest and the chance to reflect on the joy and peace of the Christmas season.

We have another exciting year ahead at St Vincent’s and we have enjoyed being back together this week.

Whole School Focus

In 2017, as part of our Faith and Spirituality Formation the staff at St Vincent’s took part in a retreat to focus on the place of prayer in our personal and professional lives. This retreat, ‘Prayer — Rest and Action’ gave us an opportunity to reacquaint ourselves with the practice of Christian Meditation. In response, Christian Meditation became a focal point of prayer for staff, students and parents.

In 2018, our whole school theme, ‘Be Still and Know’ will help students, teachers and families to further explore the place of ‘Stillness, Silence and Simplicity’ in their prayer life.

The Prayer Celebrations for 2018 will use scripture to help us understand how trusting in and resting with God through prayer and meditation is an important part of our daily experience. Throughout the scriptures the followers of Jesus are constantly reminded to ‘not be afraid’ to ‘trust in God’. In the same way, the aim of our Prayer Celebrations will be to provide the students and our community with their own opportunities to sit and rest with God. Our celebrations will make connections with scripture passages that share foundational messages of trust and faith in God.

“The Lord speaks to us through the Scriptures and in our prayer. Let us learn to keep silence before him, as we meditate upon the Gospel.” (Pope Francis)

Ash Wednesday

The season of Lent will begin next week with Ash Wednesday. We will be holding a whole school Ash Wednesday Liturgy in the Hall at 9:00am next Wednesday. We invite all members of the St Vincent’s Community to join us as we mark the beginning of our Lenten journey.

Peace and best wishes,
Luke Maher
Religious Education Coordinator

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**Canteen**

Order your children’s lunches online – www.flexischools.com.au

**This week’s Special is:** Mexican Vege Salad-$4.00

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>CLASS 9.30am-2.00pm</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9 February 2018</td>
<td>Year 2 Yellow</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16 February 2018</td>
<td>Year 3 Blue</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Welcome to 2018 in our St Vincent’s Library. I am so excited to be joining this community and look forward to meeting all of the students over the next fortnight.

The library is a very busy place and there are always opportunities for parents to assist during school hours or from home.

We currently have some new literature waiting to be covered so that it can make its way to the shelves. If there is anyone who would be able to spend some time contacting new books at school or from home please come and see me before or after school on Wednesday, Thursday or Friday.

I look forward to getting to know you and your families over the coming year.

Rachel Donnelly
Teacher Librarian

Violin Lesson

Every Monday @ St. Vincent’s Primary

You will need; Violin, Bow, and your Passion towards Music!

Contact: Hanna Yu
Phone 0490-416-402
Email: Violinist.HannaYu@Gmail.com

SPORTS NEWS

Swimming Carnival
When: Wednesday, 14 February 2018
Where: Big Splash Jamison Pool
Time: 10:00am-2:00pm
Cost: $3.00 for adults

Children are to bring morning tea, lunch, fluids, hats and sunscreen in a bag or school bag.

Permission notes and event nominations must be in this Friday.

Catholic Schools Soccer Carnival

Permission notes for this carnival will go out next week. This is a well-organised fun day and it would be great to get a few teams representing our school.
Do you want your child to be part of a community that is dedicated to fun, fitness, friendship and inclusivity? If so, you should try Beattie Bowman Irish Dance!

Visit the website [www.bbirishdance.com.au](http://www.bbirishdance.com.au) for information about Canberra’s newest and most exciting Irish dance school. Classes are in Gungahlin on Mondays, Weston Creek on Wednesdays and St Vincent’s school hall on Saturday mornings.

We look forward to welcoming your family into our dance community!

Come play AFL with the Belconnen Cats in 2018

Registration now open

Develop skills, coordination, teamwork, and have fun with your mates.
For age groups 5 to 16 yrs


BELSOUTH

Online registrations are now open
Belsouth cater for all ages from 5yrs to adults
Get Fit
Have fun
Make friends
Go online and register today at belsouthfootball.club
Or join us at the Belconnen Soccer Club Hawker on Saturday 10 February
Information day between 11am and 1pm
**Coles Sports for Schools Race is On**

Start collecting from 7 February 2018. Every $10 you spend at Coles, you will receive one voucher. Bring the vouchers to school and place them in the collection box in the Front Office. St Vincents will then be able to tally the vouchers and order new sports gear such as Sherrin, Kookaburra and Steeden.

**START COLLECTING AND SUPPORTING NOW**

Thank you for your support

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**Gregory Academy of Irish Dance**

Our classes cater for fun and fitness, performance and competition, solo and team dancing in a friendly, caring, family orientated and safe environment for all skills levels and all ages - toddlers (3+), primary school-age children, pre-teens, teenagers and adults - its never too late to start!

Enrolments open now and taken any time throughout the year!

**BRING A FRIEND & RECEIVE $20 OFF EACH for TERM 1!**

**Aranda Studio - just a hop, skip and jump across the oval! A perfect after school activity for all ages.**

- **Tuesday**
  - Little O's - 4pm - 4:30pm
  - Beginners - 4pm - 4:45pm
  - Adults - 7pm

- **Thursday**
  - Little O's - 4pm - 4:30pm
  - Beginners - 4pm - 4:45pm

- **Saturday**
  - Little O's and Beginners - 10am - 10:45am

**Oungahlin - our brand new class location for 2018!**

- **Saturday**
  - Little O's - 10:30am - 11am
  - Beginners - 10:45am - 11:30am

"We are excited to discover the Gregory Academy. The strength and athleticism of the dancers along with their mental focus and precision in the detailed steps is inspiring to watch. These are all great skills to develop in anyone and we are thrilled to have our daughter exposed to these qualities through this form of dance."

The Goode Family - one of our newest dance families.

Contact us today to find out more information by emailing gregoryacademy@outlook.com or call

- Liz (ADCRG) - 0419 225 195
- Jackie (TCRG) - 0408 232 402
- Megan (TCRG) - 0421 654 420

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**Bringing Up Great Kids**

Parents and Carers are invited to Bringing Up Great Kids—a parenting program developed by the Australian Childhood Foundation for Parents and Carers of children aged 2 – 13 years.

This course will give you insights and skills needed to:

- Promote positive and nurturing relationships between parents and children
- Explore the management of stress in your parenting role
- Encourage the development of your child’s positive self-identity
- Develop the ability to contain strong emotion and to think through the responses to your child rather than give “reactive” reactions
- Overcome some of the obstacles that are getting in the way of being the kind of parent you would like to be
- Create opportunities for positive exchanges with your children.

The course is offered 3 hours per week for a 6 - week period.

**DATES:** Mondays, 19 February – 5 March

**TIME:** 6PM – 9PM

**VENUE:** 57 Hicks Street, Red Hill

**FEE:** $100 (Concessions available)

Fee includes light supper & course materials

**Bookings Essential**

**Contact 1800 068 698**
Skoolbag is a mobile App for your school to communicate directly to both parents and students. It works through both smart phones and smart devices (such as iPads and Android Tablets). Ideal for:

- School, free push notification alerts
- School events
- School newsletters
- School documents
- School RS feeds

**Skoolbag delivers school notices directly to parents and students**

### HOW TO INSTALL SKOOLBAG ON YOUR SMARTPHONE

#### iPhone and iPad Users

1. Click the ‘App Store’ icon on your Apple Device.
2. Type your school name in the search, using suburb name will help.
3. If iPhone, you will see your school appear, click “free then “install”.
4. If iPad, change the drop list to “iPhone Apps, your school will be visible, click “free” then “install”.
5. When installed click “open”.
6. Select “OK” to receive push notifications, when asked.
7. Click the “More” button on the bottom right of the App then “setup”
8. Toggle on the Push Categories that are applicable for you.

#### Android Users

You must first have signed up with a Google Account before installing the App.

1. Click the “Play Store” button on your Android Device.
2. Click the magnifying glass icon at the top and type in your school name, using suburb name will help.
3. Click the school name when it appears in the search.
4. Click the “install” button.
5. Click “Accept” for various permissions (please note, we do not modify any of your personal data on your device).
6. Click “open” when installed.
7. Click the “more” button on the bottom right of the App, then “setup”.
8. Toggle on the Push Categories that are applicable for you.

Find out more at www.skoolbag.com.au