FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Parents and Friends of St Vincent’s,

‘Begin with the end in mind’  Steven Covey

From a principal’s perspective it is always reassuring when things are going relatively smoothly and all components of the engine that runs the school is humming along. This has been pretty much the case during the first week or so back at school – the children appear to be happy, the teachers are focused and positive and I am receiving affirming messages from numbers of parents to whom I speak. While we appear to be travelling smoothly at this early stage of the year, I often reflect on how can we be sure that we are indeed headed in the right direction and not stuck on a roundabout? We need to have a clear vision of where we intend to go, how we intend to get there and exactly what we intend to achieve. This is the case for each individual teacher with his or her class of students and collectively for all of us within the St Vincent’s community in our aspirations for what type of school we desire and what qualities and values we would like to see expressed by our children.

During our Staff Development week before the students returned, we spoke about the importance of having a vision for the work we do here at St Vincent’s. We began to break open learning dispositions for our students. Dispositions which empower them to transform not only attitude about the work but the quality of work as well. We revisited the goals we set in our Annual Improvement Plan (which families can access from our school website) and aligned practice to our staff mission.

Last year we spent considerable time on co-creating our School Vision: “An inclusive Christ-centred community providing educational excellence and opportunities.” We see this Vision as being critical to us. Through this community, St Vincent’s staff, in partnership with parents and the parish, will grow well integrated children who are inspired through their Catholic Education to understand their role in contributing to a better world and be confident in their ability to make a positive difference. I trust our school vision reflects your own. A vision that holds true for parents, the child’s first educators.

Wishing everyone a great week and thanking you for your ongoing support and encouragement.

Lina Vigliotta
lina.vigliotta@cg.catholic.edu.au
Please join us tomorrow evening for our Meet and Greet evening. Classrooms will be open between 5.30 and 6pm. Parents will have an opportunity to meet their child’s teacher for the year and receive a class information pack. Just after 6pm, we will gather under the shelter for staff introductions. We are also having a BBQ sausage sandwich for parents and children. If you are able to assist on the BBQ, please contact the Front Office.

2017 CLASS COORDINATOR

The class coordinator is a vital part of the school’s community and was set up to enhance and build communication links between the school, the parents and individual classes.

In their role they do some fantastic things for many of our families. As we know, throughout life we all have some ups and downs and may need a little extra support. We help support families through whatever life throws at us, even the joys of a new addition to the family. The class coordinators help with building networks within the class; organise social gatherings; provide care meals for families in times of crisis and spoiling the class teacher on their birthday with a card/cake. Being a class coordinator is a great way to meet other families, be involved in the school and does not require immense amounts of your time. Teachers are highly appreciative of your help and are looking for 2 parent representatives from each class for 2017.

If you are interested in taking on the role as your child’s class rep, please fill in the slip below and return to your class by next Friday, 17 February.

CLASS COORDINATORS 2017

I would like to be a Parent Contact representative for my child’s class in 2017

Parent Name: ____________________________________________________________

Child’s Name: ___________________________ Child’s Class: _______________________

Contact Phone (H) __________________ (W) __________________ (M) ________________

Email Address: ____________________________________________________________
As the attendance rolls are now electronic, it is essential that if you are late you MUST sign your child in at the Front Office before they go to their classroom. If you arrive after the starting time of 8.50am, they will be marked absent unless signed in at the office. If your child is late, you will need to escort them to the Front Office to complete a late slip. Arriving late to class obviously disrupts the class, so it would be appreciated if every effort could be made to arrive at school no later 8.50am. Children are expected to attend all school activities, on time. Regular attendance helps your child: develop skills needed to access the world of work and other opportunities; learn the importance of punctuality and routines; make and keep friendships.

On Wednesday, our Year 5 students participated in First Aid Skills Training with trainer Suzie from St John’s Ambulance. Teachers received a high commendation about their participation in the training but also about the way the children encouraged and supported each other through the session. Commencing next week students will commence their duties (on a roster basis) as Mediation Mates during play times. There is a high level of enthusiasm to carry out this role in our school. In this role students will be wearing an orange fluoro vest and assist students in a number of ways (eg: finding a friend for a lonely child, refereeing a game, monitoring safe play on the climbing equipment...) I know they take this responsibility seriously and are very much looking forward to the start date of next Monday.

We are excited to be able to continue our Club4Kids program this year. It will continue to provide our 4 year old preschool students with an opportunity to come to St Vincent’s for a morning where they will have experiences to wonder, explore and investigate their world. We are very excited about this program, and we are sure that many 4 year olds and under will be too. The flier is attached to this newsletter and I encourage our families to share this with their neighbours.

Today students in Years 5 & 6 took part in a Cyber safety “Think-U-Know” presentation with Constable Tim Merchant from ACT Policing. Our students are quick to take up developments in technology and are often the first to know when something new comes along. Therefore, the aim of the session is to make students aware of their responsibilities to be safe online. The 5/6 students enjoyed the presentation, participated in discussions and asked sensible questions to require clarification.

We look forward to seeing many of you at the Parent Cyber safety session next Wednesday, 15 February at 5.30pm.
‘You are Called…’
Jesus said to them, “Come with me, and I will teach you to catch people.” At once they left their nets and went with him.
(Matthew 4:19-20)

Tomorrow morning, we will have our first Prayer Celebration for the year. It will be held in the Church and will begin at 9:00am. We hope you can join us for this short prayer which will introduce our focus for the year.

**Prayer Celebrations for Term 1**
The Prayer Celebrations for 2017 will use scripture to help us understand how the call to discipleship heard and acted upon by the apostles is relevant for us today. Our celebrations will be prayerful opportunities to make connections with scripture passages that share foundational messages of discipleship.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Term 1</th>
<th>Intro – ‘You are Called’</th>
<th>Staff</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Week 2</td>
<td>2017 Opening Mass (Tuesday)</td>
<td>Whole School Mass</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 5</td>
<td>Ash Wednesday</td>
<td>Whole School Mass</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 6</td>
<td>Jesus Calls the First Disciples</td>
<td>6 Blue</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 10</td>
<td>Holy Week Prayer</td>
<td>Whole School</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Beginning of Year School Mass**
Our Beginning of Year School Mass will be celebrated on Tuesday, 14 February at 9:30am. We warmly invite all parents, family and community members to join us this celebration.

Peace and best wishes,
Luke Maher
Religious Education Coordinator

**AWARDS**
We congratulate the following recipients of this weeks awards

- **KINDER YELLOW**: Amon K, Leo K
- **YEAR 1 BLUE**: Dud C, Lily R
- **YEAR 2 YELLOW**: Samuel W, Scarlett C
- **YEAR 3/4 BLUE**: Chloe D, Charlie H
- **YEAR 3/4 YELLOW**: Ayen A, Jude K
- **YEAR 5 BLUE**: Flynn R, Aniketh B
- **YEAR 5 YELLOW**: Amelia C, Sean’Hope C
- **YEAR 6 BLUE**: Lucca P, Maria G

Due to the Prayer Celebration, these awards will be handed out on **Monday, 13 February 2017**.

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

Riley B, Menard L, Emily M
FROM THE ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

Our school is fantastic because.........................

Last week, the teachers and students all came together to 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.

Our classrooms are fantastic because…..
- We listen to each other
- We have good teachers
- It is a place where you can meet new people
- We care about each other
- We make friends
- We can make choices about our day
- We have a Calming Space
- We learn new things

Our playground is safe because…..
- We have teachers on duty
- There is shade and we wear our hats
- We have safe equipment
- We follow the rules
- There are boundaries as to where we can go
- We are kind to each other and we use kind words
- It is a friendly environment and we look after each other.

To the students of St Vincent’s….
- We believe in you
- We know you are capable
- We are here to help you grow
- We want you to make mistakes
- We will listen to you
- We love how unique you are
- We will have fun together
- We will never give up on you
- You will succeed
- You are loved
- You are important
- You are respected

As much as we try to reinforce positive behaviour strategies, unfortunately classroom and playground incidents do occur. Please rest assured that the staff at St Vincent’s take these incidents seriously and will take a number of steps to ensure there is follow up. If there is an incident at school, usually the first point of call for students is the classroom teacher or the teacher out on duty. The seriousness of the behaviour, determines what action needs to be taken and we always action the behaviour not the child.

For minor incidents such as going out of bounds, unsafe play, calling out in the classroom, disrespecting other people’s opinions or property; students will be given a verbal awareness of their behaviour by the teacher and a rule reminder. Parents are not usually contacted in this instance but may be, if these types of behaviours continue.

For serious incidents such as, but not limited to, bullying behaviour, using hands-on (kicking, punching, pinching, pushing to the ground), misuse of internet or refusal to comply. Students will be asked to have some time out, usually 1 minute per year of age. A member of the leadership team will be alerted, a ‘Restorative Justice’ session will take place between students involved followed by communication with parents of students involved. Consequences for serious one-off playground incidents is time off the playground.

If you are concerned about an incident that has occurred at school, your first point of contact is your child’s classroom teacher. If you would like to read the Student Welfare and Behaviour Management policy, it can be found on the St Vincent’s webpage http://svdp.act.edu.au/srcfiles/Student-Welfare-and-Behaviour-Management-Policy.pdf

With best wishes,
Lisa Harris
lisa.harris@cg.catholic.edu.au

Restorative Questions
1. What happened?
2. What were you thinking at the time?
3. What have you thought about since?
4. Who has been affected by what you have done?
5. In what way?
6. What do you think you need to do to make things right?

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

NO LUNCH ORDERS ON FRIDAY, 17 FEBRUARY DUE TO THE SWIMMING CARNIVAL

The canteen will only be open at recess for Kinder and Year 1.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>CLASS 9.30am-2.00pm</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>10 February 2017</td>
<td>Year 3/4 Blue</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17 February 2017</td>
<td>Recess only for Kinder and Year 1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
FOUND
A Garmin vivofit has been found in the carpark. If you have lost one, please contact the Front Office. Thank you

COMMUNITY NOTICEBOARD

BRINGING UP GREAT KIDS
Parents and Carers of children aged 2-10 years are invited to BRINGING UP GREAT KIDS a parenting program developed by the Australian Childhood Foundation which will be presented by CatholicCare commencing MONDAY 20TH FEBRUARY 2017 from 6-9pm at 57 Hicks Street, Red Hill. The course is 3 hours per week over a 3 week period.

Bookings are essential please contact 1800 068 698 free call

WOULD YOU LIKE TO PLAY SOCCER THIS YEAR?
Belsouth Registrations for 2017 are now open. Information and how to register can be found on the website: Belsouthfootball.club

Please contact Lynne Hellyer for more information if needed.

LIBRARY NEWS
We have lots of new library books and they all need to be covered. Everything you need will be supplied.

If you are able to assist with covering some books please send me an email susan.ashmore@cg.catholic.edu.au or come and see me in the Library.

Thank you for your support of our Library
Susan Ashmore
Teacher/Librarian
The Dollarmites are bringing the future to your school.

Since 1931, CommBank’s School Banking program has been offering engaging ways for Australian children to learn the value of saving and develop lifelong money skills.

For our 2017 theme, a futuristic adventure is in store. Students will join the new-look Dollarmites as Future Savers, making their way towards the Savings Hover Park—a fantastic playground up in the clouds of a hi-tech metropolis.

Encouraging savings habits with great rewards
School Banking will continue to reward children who demonstrate regular savings behaviour, and this year we’re introducing an exciting new range of reward items. Two are released every term, and available in Term 1 are the Cyber Handball and Colour Change Markers. Your child can redeem one of these reward items, while stocks last, after making 10 School Banking deposits.

Visit commbank.com.au/schoolbanking to download and print this year’s Rewards Card. On our website you’ll also find a fun activity sheet and a Savings Tracker your child can use to keep track of their School Banking deposits throughout the year.

Dedicated savers get a chance to win a trip to Tokyo Disneyland
The Future Savers Grand Prize competition will take one lucky student on a family trip to Tokyo, Japan. Up to two adults and three children will get tickets to explore Tokyo Disneyland and Tokyo DisneySea, including the futuristic Tomorrowland attractions. This prize includes:

- Return economy airfares from the winner’s nearest capital city to Tokyo, Japan
- Five nights’ accommodation at the Sheraton Grande Tokyo Bay Hotel
- Three-day Magic Pass to Tokyo Disneyland and Tokyo DisneySea
- AU$1,000 spending money

To enter, your child simply has to make 15 or more School Banking deposits before the end of Term 3, 2017. This will automatically enter them into the competition for a chance to win.

For more information, visit commbank.com.au/schoolbanking
Wondering what to do on your Wednesday off preschool?

St Vincent’s Primary School ARANDA invites all children aged 0 – 4 and their parents to...

**Club 4 Kids Playgroup**

**every Wednesday**

9.30 -11am

Opportunities to wonder, explore and investigate our world!

Free sessions...bring a snack and drink.

Parents must stay, younger siblings welcome.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Activity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>15 February</td>
<td>Rumble, tumble, roll...Gym fun</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>22 February</td>
<td>Jurassic dinosaur dig</td>
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<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>8 March</td>
<td>Disney dress up day</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Sabbath Week</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>22 March</td>
<td>Reptile Zoo comes to school</td>
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<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>29 March</td>
<td>Explore with Science</td>
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<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>5 April</td>
<td>Easter bonnet parade and Easter egg hunt</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Booking is easy! Go to [svdp.act.edu.au](http://svdp.act.edu.au) and click on the Club4Kids link or scan the QR code

1. Select the date range from 15 February to 5 April 2017
2. Select ‘Club 4 Kids’ from the dropdown menu and then click Search
3. Click the enable multi-booking button to book into more than one activity
4. Click the Book button and enter your contact details.
5. A confirmation email will be sent to you and the school once your booking is complete.

*All children in area* are welcome!

*Area includes Aranda, Macquarie, Cook, Bruce, Belconnen and all existing families*

Coordinator: Jacinta Putt  
Contact: 6251 2442