FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Parents and Friends of St Vincent’s,

Many thanks to the parents who took time out yesterday to welcome prospective parents to our amazing St Vincent’s community. A special mention also goes to our Year 6 students who led school tours and shared their passion and knowledge of our school with much enthusiasm. The Catholic Schools’ Enrolment Period commenced on Monday 7 May and runs to Friday 25 May. Although Open Day is over we are always available to take prospective parents through the school during this time. Enrolment Packs are now available from the Front Office. If you have a younger child who is commencing school in 2019 please submit an application form, or if you have friends at preschool, childcare, at your workplace... please mention St Vincent’s as a great option for their Primary school years.

Tomorrow morning, a breakfast will be held for all mums, grandmothers and families. Invitations have been published in past newsletters and the breakfast is being organised by members of our School Community Council. It will begin at 7:45am and be served in the school hall (heaters will be on). I look forward to sharing breakfast and the amazing art our children have worked on to share with their mums. Following breakfast all children will have an opportunity to shop at our Mother’s Day Stall. All gifts only $5. If you can please stay for Assembly, we will extend a blessing on all our mums.

Best wishes to Lisa Harris who is taking some very well deserved Long Service Leave. Lisa will be back at school next Tuesday.

To all our marvellous mum’s, my wish for you on Sunday is to enjoy the Bliss of spending time with your children and if you’re lucky enough your own mum too.

That is my plan for the day.

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

Lina Vigliotta

lina.vigliotta@cg.catholic.edu.au

Vinnie’s Wellbeing Newsletter

Going to print and distribution next week is the very first edition of our Vinnie’s Wellbeing newsletter. This printed newsletter for families gives updates on themes from our Social Emotional program: KidsMatter, a launch of our NEW Canteen menu, an introduction to your class coordinators for 2018 plus much more.
FROM THE ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been lovely meeting potential families who visited our school yesterday for Open Day. I am proud to be part of the St Vincent’s community as both staff member and parent and enjoy the enrolment period time. Our best form of marketing is word of mouth, so if you know of anyone who is looking to enrol their child for next year, let them know about St Vincent’s!

NAPLAN

Please find attached with this week’s newsletter important information regarding NAPLAN, which will take place next week for our students in Years 3 & 5. All of the tests are done here at the school and are considered as just another part of the curriculum. NAPLAN cannot be studied for and students are not expected to do so. The best way you can help your child prepare for NAPLAN is to let them know that it is just a routine part of their school program, and urge them to do the best they can on the day. For more information about NAPLAN 2018 go to https://www.nap.edu.au/

The timetable is as follows:
- Tuesday 15 May – Writing
- Wednesday 16 May – Reading
- Thursday 17 May – Language Conventions (Spelling, Grammar and Punctuation)
- Monday 21 May - Numeracy

All children in Year 3 & 5 MUST bring headphones for NAPLAN.

Social Media Training

Yesterday I attended a training course on the use of Social Media as a school. St Vincent’s now has its own Facebook page, which is different to the School Council page. We understand there may be some questions surrounding the privacy and sharing of information but I’d like to reassure you there will be not be any photos of students or posting of students’ names until we receive parental permission. We invite you to like the page and share it with your family, friends and colleagues.

Math Olympiad and Math Games Challenge teams

I am pleased to announce the following students will participate in the APSMO Math Olympiad or Math Games Challenge this year:

George, Daniel, Sharadda, Linh & Sean’Hope (Year 6), Ava, Annabelle, Janani, Taneisha & Indiana (Year 5), Mia, Amalija, Peter, William T, Alice & Eliza (Year 4), Jacob D, Rushil, Jasmin & Sienna (Year 3).

If there are any parents who have a background in Mathematics and would like to assist with the coaching of these teams in the lead up to their monthly competition, I would love to hear from you!! The first Olympiad and Games competition will take place on Wednesday, 23 May.

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

AWARDS

We congratulate the following recipients of this week’s awards

KINDER YELLOW: Simon H, Athena M
YEAR 1 BLUE: Jewel J, Olivia R, Olivia S
YEAR 2 YELLOW: William T, Bhoomika P
YEAR 3 BLUE: Hunter H, Sienna R
YEAR 4 YELLOW: Amalija R, Tahlia T, Jitshen P
YEAR 5 BLUE: Laroux C, Lual C, Josh N
YEAR 6 YELLOW: Sharadda S, Amelia G
YEAR 6 BLUE: Sasha S, Sakthi P

BIRTHDAYS

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

Hugo P, Jacob D
Mini Vinnies @ St Vincent’s

We were very excited this week to begin the recruitment drive for our 2018 Mini Vinnies group. Mini Vinnies is a program of the St Vincent de Paul Society which exists in many primary schools.

The Mini Vinnies program creates awareness among young students about social justice issues that exist around them, whether that is in their community or beyond. It reinforces the mission of St Vincent de Paul and instils in them the opportunity to be compassionate and run simple, yet effective initiatives with their school peers so together they can make a difference.

Our Mini Vinnies program is open for students from Years 3-6. We had 50 enthusiastic students attend the information session and take home packs to discuss the program with their family. It is not too late for your child to join – please direct them to me and I will give them all the necessary information and forms.

About Mini Vinnies

What does a Mini Vinnies Group do?
The actions of a Mini Vinnies group generally involve three components:

‘See’
Education and Awareness. ‘Seeing’ means becoming aware of some of the community’s social ills and knowing that whilst there are many beautiful things in this world, it can always be made a little better by good works.

‘Think’
Formation. ‘Thinking’ means forming a Mini Vinnies group and through that group participating in spiritual activities, personal development and discussions.

‘Do’
Community Service and Fundraising. ‘Doing’ is an opportunity for children to do something about the issues they have seen, thought about, and discussed.

(Mini Vinnies Kit, Youth Team and the Community and Corporate Relations Team of the St Vincent de Paul Society NSW, 2009)

Important Dates - Term 2

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Confirmation Dates</th>
<th>Prayer Celebration Dates</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Parent/Child Info Night - Wednesday, 16 May (6:30pm)</td>
<td>Jesus Stills the Storm - 4 Yellow - 25 May</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Commitment Mass - Sunday, 20 May (10am)</td>
<td>Do Not Worry - 3 Blue - 8 June</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Retreat - Wednesday, 27 June (9am - 3pm)</td>
<td>The Promise of the Holy Spirit - 2 Yellow - 29 June</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prayer Night - Wednesday, 27 June (6pm)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Confirmation - Wednesday, 28 June (6pm)</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Peace and best wishes,
Luke Maher, Religious Education Coordinator

CANTEEN

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

This week’s Special is: Nachos (not GF)-$4.00
Chicken and Sweet Corn Noodle-$1.00

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>CLASS 9.30am-2.00pm</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>11 May 2018</td>
<td>Year 4 Yellow</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18 May 2018</td>
<td>Year 5 Blue</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**WALK SAFELY TO SCHOOL DAY**

**WE’RE TAKING IT IN OUR STRIDE ON FRIDAY 18 MAY 2018**

Well it’s that time of year again when our school seriously starts talking about walking! Walk Safely to School Day asks that we all consider our transport habits and try to incorporate more walking as part of a healthy, active way to get around. And although walking all the way to school isn’t realistic for many of us, it’s quite easy to figure out how you can build a walk into your family’s daily routine.

You can teach your child the healthy habit of walking more by:

- Walking with them the whole way to school
- If they get the bus walk past your usual stop and get on at the next stop
- If you have to drive, park the car a few blocks away from the school and walk the rest of the way.

Regular exercise like walking with your child not only helps them (and you!) beat chronic problems like obesity, heart disease, behavioural and mental health issues and diabetes. It also gives you a great opportunity to teach your child safe ways to behave around roads and traffic.

Remember, Active Kids are Healthy Kids so get planning your own Walk Safely to School Day journey for Friday 18 May 2018!

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**ST VINCENT’S SPORT**

**Dates for your Diary**

**Belconnen PSSA Cross Country Carnival - Thursday 31st May 2018**

Notes for Belconnen PSSA Cross Country will be given to the top five place getters in each age group this Friday.

**ACT School Sport**—During the year various sports will be conducting trials, I will advertise these as they come up.

The ACT School Sport web address is [https://www.schoolsportact.asn.au/](https://www.schoolsportact.asn.au/) if you would like to register your child for trials.

**Trials (please check school sports website for more details and registration)**

- Boys 12/U Touch Football Trials
- Boys 12&U Belconnen Soccer Trials
- ACT 12/U Boys Soccer
- Boys 12/U Belconnen Touch trials
- ACT 12/U Boys Basketball
- Girls 12/U Belconnen Netball
- Boys 12/U Belconnen Australian Football
- Boys and Girls 12/U Belconnen Hockey trials

**Athletics Carnival**—Ribbons for the Athletics Carnival will be handed out this Friday at morning Assembly.

**Swimming**—Congratulations to Mia K and Indiana P who competed in the ACT Swimming Championships on Monday. A wonderful achievement to compete against all the best swimmers in ACT.

Angela Luchetti, Health and Wellbeing Lead Teacher

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**St Joseph’s Primary School**

**Early Learning Centre**

Belonging, being & becoming

- Play based learning
- Talented and caring educators
- Seamless transition into school
- Before and after school care
- Supporting all needs
- Holistic approaches

Experience the joy and wonder of our Early Learning Centre

**OPEN DAYS**

Wednesday 9 May 2018 9.00am – 11.00am & 5.00 – 6.30pm

Wednesday 15 May 9.00 – 11.00am

[62772990 | director.edbj@bg.catholic.edu.au |](62772990 | director.edbj@bg.catholic.edu.au |)

[| 62772990 | director.edbj@bg.catholic.edu.au |](| 62772990 | director.edbj@bg.catholic.edu.au |)

[| 62772990 | director.edbj@bg.catholic.edu.au |](| 62772990 | director.edbj@bg.catholic.edu.au |)
NAPLAN Online – information for parents and carers

Why do students do NAPLAN tests?

The National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) assesses literacy and numeracy skills that are essential for every child to progress through school and life.

Students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 participate in the annual NAPLAN tests in reading, writing, conventions of language (spelling, grammar and punctuation) and numeracy.

The tests provide parents and schools with an understanding of how individual students are performing at the time of the tests. NAPLAN tests are just one aspect of a school’s assessment and reporting process; they do not replace ongoing assessments made by teachers about student performance.

NAPLAN tests also provide schools, education authorities and governments with information about how education programs are working and whether young Australians are meeting important educational outcomes in literacy and numeracy.

What will be tested?

NAPLAN assesses literacy and numeracy skills that students are learning through their regular school curriculum. All government and non-government education authorities have contributed to the development of NAPLAN materials.

In 2018, for the first time, some students will sit NAPLAN online. To get an idea of what the tests look like, visit the public demonstration site at nap.edu.au/online-assessment/public-demonstration-site

NAPLAN Online will not be a test of keyboard skills. There are variations in how fast and well a student can type – just as there are variations in how fast and well a student can write by hand. Year 3 students will continue to complete the writing test on paper.

How can I help my child prepare for NAPLAN?

Help your child prepare for NAPLAN by reassuring them that the tests are just one part of their school program, and by reminding them on the day to simply try their best. Teachers will ensure students are familiar with the types of questions in the tests and will provide appropriate support and guidance. Ensuring students are familiar with using devices, typing on them and navigating through programs are a part of student learning and a requirement of the Australian Curriculum from the first year at school.

ACARA does not recommend the use of services by coaching providers or excessive preparation. NAPLAN is not about passing or failing, but about assessing learning progress.

Will my child sit NAPLAN on paper or online?

Your child will sit the NAPLAN online tests in 2018.

However, children in some other schools across Australia will sit the NAPLAN paper tests this year. Federal, state and territory education ministers have agreed that NAPLAN will move online over the next two to three years. State and territory education authorities will determine when their schools move online.

NAPLAN Online uses an adaptive test design, which presents questions that better match student achievement levels and provide more precise results for teachers and schools. As students are presented with questions that test the same range of difficulty, regardless of whether they complete the test online or on paper, results for both formats will be reported on the same NAPLAN assessment scale.

To find out more about NAPLAN Online, visit nap.edu.au/online-assessment
Participation in NAPLAN

All students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 are expected to participate in the annual NAPLAN tests.

Students with disability may qualify for adjustments that reflect the support normally provided for classroom assessments. Where applicable, you should first discuss the use of any disability adjustments for your child with your child’s teacher.

A formal exemption may be granted for a student with significant intellectual disability and/or significant coexisting conditions, or for a student who has recently arrived in Australia and has a non-English speaking background.

Your school principal and your local test administration authority can give you more information on NAPLAN Online disability adjustments or the process required to gain a formal exemption.

What if my child is absent from school on test days?

Where possible, schools may arrange for individual students who are absent at the time of testing to complete missed tests at another time during the school’s test schedule. Individual students are not permitted to sit NAPLAN online tests after Friday 25 May 2018.

How is my child’s performance measured?

Individual student performance is shown on a national achievement scale for each test. A result at the national minimum standard indicates that the student has demonstrated the basic literacy and numeracy skills needed to participate fully in that year level. The performance of individual students can be compared to the average performance of all students in Australia.

A NAPLAN report will be issued by your school later in the year. If you do not receive a report, you should contact your school.

How are NAPLAN test results used?

- Students and parents may use individual results to discuss progress with teachers.
- Teachers use results to help them better identify students who require greater challenges or additional support.
- Schools use results to identify strengths and weaknesses in teaching programs and to set goals in literacy and numeracy.
- School systems use results to review programs and support offered to schools.
- The community can see average school NAPLAN results at myschool.edu.au

Where can I get more information?

For more information about NAPLAN:

- contact your child’s school
- contact your local test administration authority at nap.edu.au/TAA
- visit nap.edu.au

For information about how personal information for NAPLAN will be handled by ACARA, visit nap.edu.au/naplanprivacy

NAPLAN Online 2018 tests timetable

The test window for NAPLAN Online is extended from three days provided for the paper test to nine days to give schools more flexibility in scheduling and accommodate schools that may have fewer devices. The NAPLAN Online test window starts on Tuesday 15 May and finishes on Friday 25 May.

The online tests must be taken in the following order:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Test</th>
<th>Duration</th>
<th>Order</th>
<th>Details</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Writing</td>
<td>Year 3: 40 min.</td>
<td>To be completed in the first two days</td>
<td>Year 3 students do a paper-based writing test</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Year 5: 40 min.</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Year 7: 40 min.</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Year 9: 40 min.</td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reading</td>
<td>Year 3: 45 min.</td>
<td>To be completed before the conventions of language test</td>
<td>Students read a range of informative, imaginative and persuasive texts</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Year 5: 50 min.</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Year 7: 65 min.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Year 9: 65 min.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conventions of language</td>
<td>Year 3: 40 min.</td>
<td>To be completed after the reading test</td>
<td>This test includes spelling, grammar and punctuation</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Year 5: 45 min.</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Year 7: 45 min.</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Year 9: 45 min.</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Numeracy</td>
<td>Year 3: 45 min.</td>
<td>To be completed after the conventions of language test</td>
<td>This test includes number and algebra; measurement and geometry; and statistics and probability</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Year 5: 50 min.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Year 7: 60 min</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Year 9: 60 min</td>
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FOR NAPLAN NEXT WEEK....

DON'T FORGET YOUR HEADPHONES