FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Parents and Friends of St Vincent’s,

The World Peace Bell is a United Nations Peace Symbol.

There was a resounding message of peace and unity at the official opening of the Canberra Rotary World Peace Bell last Friday as our very own Vinnie’s Voices choir led by Mrs Marzano echoed out over Lake Burley Griffin.

A number of parents joined me on the morning standing proudly as two of our students read an uplifting poem and rang the bell for peace that our school children compassionately raised money for in support of the project.

The symbolic World Peace Bell is one of twenty-three around the globe, cast from the coins of the United Nations, serving as a constant reminder that war and violence is never the answer.

There is no doubt that the bell will become an iconic part of Lennox Gardens, as peace continues to ring out across Canberra.

If there is to be peace in the World,
There must be peace between Nations.

If there is to be peace between Nations,
There must be peace in the Cities.

If there is to be peace in the Cities,
There must be peace between Neighbours.

If there is to be peace between Neighbours,
There must be peace in the home.

If there is to be peace in the home,
There must be peace in the Heart!
This week the Archdiocesan Principals’ retreat is scheduled for Wednesday through to Friday. All 57 Archdiocesan Principals will meet with Catholic Education system leaders on Wednesday to discuss this year’s CE strategic plan, procedures and policies. Thursday and Friday will be an opportunity for principals to be nourished spiritually while we are led in a spiritual retreat. I ask for your prayers during this time and I thank Lisa Harris and the Leadership Team for leading the school during my absence.

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

Lina Vigliotta

lina.vigliotta@cg.catholic.edu.au

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CHILDREN’S CROSSING ALERT

Dear Mum and Dad,

I am sure you would agree that mornings are very busy for us. I need your help to keep me safe when you drop me off at school in the morning before school. When I leave the car could you check that I use the crossing every time and not walk through the carpark. If you’re watching me I’ll know I’m doing the right thing.

I really want to get to school safely, have fun with my friends and then come home to lots of cuddles with you.

Signed

Me x

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CANBERRA SHOW PRIZE WINNERS

Congratulations to the Georgiadis family who were award winners at this year’s Canberra Show.

First Prize to Sofia for her Lemon Butter, Leon for his award winning freshly laid chicken eggs, Louise for her Easter Cake and Maria for her cake decorating skills. So much talent of the culinary kind!

Congratulations also to the Dann family.

Jack collected the prize for the best Zucchini and Chloe a commendation for her tomatoes.

Yum!
Dear Families and Friends,

What a fabulous first couple of weeks we have had here at school! Can you believe in 4 weeks we have settled in our new Kindergarten class, held a meet and greet BBQ, an opening school Mass, Swimming Carnival, Y6 Leadership Breakfast, First Aid training for Y5, MyBody/MyLife program, sang at the Peace Bell opening…. the list goes on! Lunchtime clubs are in full swing; with Code Club, MakerSpace, Lunchtime Lego and Block Building an option for inside play at lunchtime. Our school is well and truly alive, it’s a great place to be!

ICAS

If you would like your child to participate in one or more of these competitions, please complete the registration form that was attached to last week’s newsletter and is available on the Skoolbag App. Entries must be returned by Friday, 16 March, 2018; with the exact amount of money, in an envelope, with your child’s name on it to the Front Office.

Books for Classrooms

Earlier this week I met with all the teachers to talk about how the Literacy Block is going in the classrooms. One of the discussion points was about offering ‘Good Fit Books’ to the students. Thank you to the families who have donated books to this year’s book flood. In order to keep the classrooms collections up to date, we will call for any new or pre-loved books each year. If you would like to donate some books but you are unsure of what titles are needed, please come and see me and I can show you a list, in the meantime here are some suggestions:

- Morris Gleitzman’s - Once Series
- Tui Sutherland’s Wings of Fire Series – Books 9 & 10
- The Legend of Sleepy Hollow
- Will Mabbit’s – Mable Jones series
- I am the Ice Worm – Maryann Easley
- Boy in the Tower – Polly Ho-Yen

Of course authors such as David Walliams, Andy Griffiths, J.K.Rowling, Enid Blyton, Rick Riordan continue to be popular with our students at the moment.

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

AWARDS

We congratulate the following recipients of this week’s awards

- KINDER YELLOW: Hugo P, Jacinta R
- YEAR 1 BLUE: James G, Olivia S, Aurelia R
- YEAR 2 YELLOW: Daniel O, Lily R
- YEAR 3 BLUE: Rebecca H, Monica H, Siddhak A
- YEAR 4 YELLOW: Juno P, Mia K, Eliza B
- YEAR 5 BLUE: Janani B, Charlie H
- YEAR 6 YELLOW: Sophie H, Queenie P
- YEAR 6 BLUE: Shubnoor K, Linh T

BIRTHDAYS

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

Lenten Reflection
In Pope Francis’ 2018 Lenten message, we are reminded that Lent is a time of conversion. A time when we are summoned to come back to the Lord in all aspects of our life. Pope Francis calls us to focus on prayer, almsgiving and fasting. As a school community we have many opportunities for prayer and through our work with Project Compassion we are seeking to respond to the call for almsgiving. This week, Mrs Vigliotta has been sharing with the staff and students some practical and inspiring thoughts from Pope Francis on fasting and I have included them below. May we all seek some opportunities to apply some or all of these in our daily lives throughout Lent and beyond.

- Fast from hurting words and say kind words.
- Fast from anger and be filled with patience.
- Fast from pessimism and be filled with hope.
- Fast from worries and have trust in God.
- Fast from complaints and contemplate simplicity.
- Fast from pressures and be prayerful.
- Fast from bitterness and fill your hearts with joy.
- Fast from selfishness and be compassionate to others.
- Fast from grudges and be reconciled.
- Fast from words and be silent so you can listen.

Whole School Focus
Our first class led Prayer Celebration will be held next week on Friday at 9am in the Church. Year 6 Yellow will be exploring the place of silence, simplicity and stillness in our lives.

| Week 5 - 9 Mar | 6 Yellow - Seeking Silence, Simplicity and Stillness |

Holy Week Reflections
A reminder that we will be gathering together each day of Holy Week at **12pm** for an opportunity for prayer and reflection. All family members and members of the community are invited to join us on these days. Information will be provided in the Week 7 Newsletter about venues for each of the reflections.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Mon 26 Mar</th>
<th>Tues 27 Mar</th>
<th>Wed 28 Mar</th>
<th>Thurs 29 Mar</th>
<th>Tues 3 April</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>K and Yr 6 Palm Sunday</td>
<td>Yr 3 The Last Supper</td>
<td>Yr 4 The Garden</td>
<td>Yr 5 The Stations of the Cross</td>
<td>Yr 1 &amp; 2 The Resurrection</td>
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Peace and best wishes,
Luke Maher
Religious Education Coordinator

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**Canteen**
This week’s Special is: Lenten Special-Fish & Salad-$4.00

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>CLASS 9.30am-2.00pm</th>
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<tr>
<td>2 March 2018</td>
<td>Year 5 Blue</td>
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<tr>
<td>9 March 2018</td>
<td>Year 6 Yellow</td>
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</tbody>
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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 for information about Canberra’s newest and most exciting Irish dance school.

Classes are in Gungahlin on Mondays, Weston Creek on Wednesdays and West Belconnen on Saturday mornings.

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

FROM THE PARISH
OF ST MATTHEW AND ST VINCENT DE PAUL

EASTER MASS TIMES

The Easter Triduum will be celebrated at St Matthew’s Church:

Holy Thursday - 29 March  Mass of the Lord’s Supper at 7.30pm

Good Friday -30 March  Celebration of the Passion of the Lord at 3.00pm

Holy Saturday-31 March  Easter Vigil at 7.00pm

Easter Sunday Masses-St Matthew’s Church at 8.30am and St Vincent de Paul’s Church at 10.00am

Stations of the Cross on Good Friday-St Vincent de Paul’s Church at 11.00am
**2018 Fundraising Kick Off Meetings**

Do you have ideas for how we can raise (or spend) money in the community? If so, we love to hear from you!

We're meeting twice over the next few days to brainstorm ideas and talk about what's worked (and not worked) in the past.

Friday Mar 2 2:15 - 3:15 PM  
Monday Mar 5 3:15 - 4:00 PM  
Location: Undercover area at rear  
You can sign up using this link (so I know you're coming) https://doodle.com/poll/argvebw3takeh3ak or you can just show up.  
Hope to see you there,  
Amanda Phillips

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**ITALIAN LANGUAGE CLASSES**

The Italian Language Schools offers a great opportunity for your child to consolidate and practise the Italian they learn at school. Our teachers are native Italians passionate about sharing the Italian language and culture with children.  
When? Saturday 1.30pm – 4pm  
Where? Yarralumla Primary School Loftus Street Yarralumla  
Cost? $160 per child per term (sibling discount apply)  
Please visit https://italianlanguageschool.org.au for more information or contact us at italianlanguageschool@gmail.com.

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**ALE APPRECIATION NIGHT**

Do you want to show off to your friends, family and colleagues about your new found knowledge of beer?  
Back for its 4th year is the St Vincent’s Ale Appreciation Night.  
Parents and friends are invited to come along and be educated about the history and science behind a selection of ales. The evening will be hosted by our local brewer extraordinaire Mr Charlie Newton. (This is a not for profit event)  
**When:** Friday, 23 March at 7:00pm  
**Where:** St Vincent’s  
**Cost:** $30 - Includes pizza and beer tastings  
**RSVP:** hamish.meagher@cg.catholic.edu.au