Dear Parents and Friends of St Vincent’s,

There is no doubt in my mind that the best schools for the development of good character are families, the children’s first educators, and where children are nurtured in loving and caring homes, they are getting the best possible start in life. I believe just as strongly that the best schools must play a key role in reinforcing this development of good character. The very best still lay great stress upon the development of character among their students and many of these schools are among the highest performers on international league tables. By emphasizing, praising and rewarding good character traits including hard work, kindness and courage, schools help children come to understand the behaviours to be emulated. This work carries much more weight when younger students can see the older ones holding positions of responsibility, and teachers themselves modelling these behaviours.

Every day I walk into school I ponder our school values so beautifully represented in the mosaic tiles in the school’s front foyer. They certainly make me stop and wonder as I ask myself “Are we being successful in growing these values in our children... in ourselves?”. Please stop and take the time to view their symbolism when you are visiting us next time.

Next Friday we will stand united with our community to celebrate the eighth National Day of Action against Bullying and Violence. Information later in this newsletter tells of St Vincent’s participation in this Nationally recognised day.

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

Lina Vigliotta
linavigliotta@cg.catholic.edu.au
Next Friday March 16, Australian schools will stand united in their communities to celebrate the eighth National Day of Action against Bullying and Violence. It is Australia’s key anti-bullying event for schools and St Vincent’s is very proud to be part of this program. St Vincent’s will have a number of activities happening next week.

What is bullying?
The national definition of bullying for Australian schools says:

Bullying is an **ongoing** misuse of power in relationships through **repeated** verbal, physical and/or social behaviour that causes physical and/or psychological harm. It can involve an individual or a group misusing their power over one or more persons. Bullying can happen in person or online, and it can be obvious (overt) or hidden (covert).

Bullying of any form or for any reason can have long-term effects on those involved, including bystanders.

Single incidents and conflict or fights between equals, whether in person or online, are not defined as bullying.

The national definition of bullying for Australian schools was developed by the Safe and Supportive School Communities Working Group. This national group includes all state, territory and federal education departments, as well as national Catholic and independent schooling representatives. The definition of bullying has been developed as part of the National Safe Schools Framework and can be found on the Australian Government's Student Wellbeing Hub at

https://studentwellbeinghub.edu.au/glossary#

BULLYING IS NOT OK...EVERYONE HAS THE RIGHT TO FEEL SAFE!
The National Day is a positive day of action, bringing school communities together to help find workable solutions that address bullying and violence.
You may wish to visit the following website with your children: https://bullyingnoway.gov.au/forkids
CONFIDENCE IN CATHOLIC EDUCATION PARENT SURVEY

Dear Parents,

Catholic Education shares with Catholic school parents a deep commitment to providing your children with high quality academic and faith-filled education, and the safest possible school experience.

To inform the work of Catholic Education has engaged accredited, leading Australian researcher body, JWS Research, to help us understand parent and staff views on current child safety and protection policies and approaches and what may be required to strengthen Catholic Education in this important area.

The research project is aiming to reach all parents in the Archdiocese through a survey below.

Your views will help Catholic Education to enhance its schools and meet the needs of the children in our school communities. Your participation is very much appreciated.

https://www.questionpro.com/t/ANt0VZbgko

ST VINCENT’S SPORT

Dates for your Diary

School Cross Country Carnival- Monday, 19 March commencing at 9:30am

Belconnen Zone Swimming- Tuesday, 27 March
(Permission notes and program will be handed to students this Friday)

School Athletics Carnival- Wednesday, 4 April

Catholic Schools Soccer Carnival- Sunday, 8 April

CANTEEN NEWS

Wednesday, 21 March is Harmony Day and St Vincent’s will be celebrating with a Fun Food Day.

An order form will be coming home tomorrow and orders must be in by next Friday, 16 March.
FROM THE ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

Dear Parents and friends,

Shell Questacon Science Circus
Last Friday all students in K – 6 were treated to a free visit by the Shell Questacon Science Circus team. The purpose of the visit was to assist ANU science graduates perfect their presentations of science, before they go out to towns and schools across regional Australia. We feel very fortunate that we are able to host the Questacon Science Circus each year.

Clean Up Australia Day
It was very pleasing to see the students from St Vincent’s take pride in their community, by cleaning up around the school grounds for Clean Up Australia Day. We were very lucky that there wasn’t too much rubbish for us to clean up. The students at our school are very good at putting their waste and recyclables into the right bins!

Tips for Reading and Writing
Quite often I can be found reading through educational journal articles, blogs, tweets and posts. I came across these two pictures the other day and they had quite an impact on me (you may have to zoom in to read them) The teachers at St Vincent’s are committed to creating a community of successful readers and writers! We commit 20 minutes a day to both reading and writing.

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

AWARDS
We congratulate the following recipients of this weeks awards

KINDER YELLOW: Trinity M, Vernitus O
YEAR 1 BLUE: Isabella T, Ashni S, Luke I
YEAR 2 YELLOW: Kalari B, William T
YEAR 3 BLUE: Dakota C, Rushil F
YEAR 4 YELLOW: Alice H, William T, Amalija R
YEAR 5 BLUE: Bob S, Chloe D
YEAR 6 YELLOW: Charlotte N, Ella K
YEAR 6 BLUE: Sabrina T, Ella R

Due to the Prayer Celebration these awards will be held over to Tuesday’s morning assembly.

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

‘Be still, and know that I am God!
I am exalted among the nations,
I am exalted in the earth.’
(Psalm 46:10)

Sacramental News
An information note has been sent home to our classes who would have been or are involved in sacramental programs this year. This note outlined some adjustments that will be made this year in readiness for a new sacramental program in 2019 that will be administered and celebrated as the one parish of St Matthew’s and St Vincent’s Parish, South Belconnen. This year children in Year 3 and Year 6 will have the opportunity to prepare for and celebrate the sacraments of First Eucharist and Confirmation if they have been baptised in the Catholic Church. Confirmation will be at the end of Term 2 and First Eucharist at the end of Term 3. Dates for Information Sessions and enrolment for these programs was on the note that was sent home yesterday. If you have any questions, please don’t hesitate to contact me.

Whole School Focus
Our first class led Prayer Celebration will be held tomorrow 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.

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<tr>
<th>Mon 26 March</th>
<th>Tues 27 March</th>
<th>Wed 28 March</th>
<th>Thurs 29 March</th>
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<td>K and Yr 6</td>
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<td>Palm Sunday</td>
<td>The Last Supper</td>
<td>The Garden</td>
<td>The Stations of</td>
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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: Lenten Special-Fish & Salad-$4.00

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<th>DATE</th>
<th>CLASS 9.30am-2.00pm</th>
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<tr>
<td>9 March 2018</td>
<td>Year 6 Yellow</td>
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<tr>
<td>16 March 2018</td>
<td>Year 6 Blue</td>
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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

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

ST VINCENT’S SCHOOL PHOTOS

This year’s school photos are scheduled for the morning of TUESDAY, 3 APRIL.

All children will need to wear their summer school uniform on the day.

The photo envelopes went home this week and all children must return them either before the photo day or on the day. Please have a look in your child’s bag if you haven’t received it.

Again this year, families have the option of having a family sibling photo. Forms for these photos are available from the Front Office. Please note that these need to be paid to the school separately and cash or credit card are the only forms of payment accepted.

If you are a split family and require an extra envelope, please contact the Front Office.

Thank you
DARAMALAN COLLEGE
Warmly invites all families to attend its OPEN EVENING on Tuesday, 27 March 2018

With tours from 5:00—6:30pm

Year 7, 2018
Information Sessions 4:45—7:00pm
Enrolment Application forms will be available on the night or they can be obtained from the College
enrolments@daramalan.act.edu.au

ST FRANCIS XAVIER COLLEGE

Information Evening, 14 May 2018
Guided Tours starting at 5pm and Information session at 6.30pm

Expo Day Thursday, 3 April 2018
Open Day Friday, 18 May 9am—2:30pm

2019 Enrolment Forms are available on the website https://www.sfx.act.edu.au/
Contact 6258 1055 or school.office@sfx.act.edu.au

MERICI COLLEGE

Open Day Wednesday, 9 May 2018 from 2pm—4pm and
5.30pm-7.30pm (includes Year 7, 2019 Information Session)

Be a Merici Girl for a Day—experience a typical day at Merici College
Wednesday, 2 May or Friday, 4 May

Additional School Tour and Principal’s Address - Saturday, 5 May 2018 at 9.30am

Visit www.merici.college for all enrolment enquiries and online registrations for
Be a Merici Girl for a Day and School Tours. Contact 6243 4100 or principal.merici@merici.act.edu.au

HILL SPORTS ACADEMY

14 Purdure Street Belconnen

JUNIOR AND CADETS JUDO
AGES - 5 years to 10 years - ALL LEVELS
Monday to Friday = 4pm - 5pm

SENIOR BOYS AND GIRLS
AGES - 10 years to 16 years - ALL LEVELS
Monday to Thursday = 5pm - 6pm

TERM PRICE 1 CLASS/WEEK UNLIMITED
1st Child = $140 = $200
2nd Child = $120 = $380

TERM 1
Term 1 begins on Monday 5th February.
First class is free for new starters. Classes are taught by State and National representatives.

Call Chloe Hill on 0422 201 378 to arrange your child’s free trial session.