

Thursday
30th October
2008



CHRIST IS ALL

NEWSLETTER

33 Aberdeen St, Geelong Vic 3220

Phone: (03) 5221 5221

Fax: (03) 5229 9400

Email: admin@stjohns.edu.au

Principal: Gary Jewson

Head of School: Brian Schultz

Registered School Number. 1617

ABN - 98 973 678 779

Dates to Remember

NOVEMBER	Friday 14 th	Prep Orientation for 2009 2.30 – 3.30pm in St John's school hall
	Friday 21 st	Report Writing Day NO SCHOOL / KINDER as usual
DECEMBER	Friday 5 th	Talent Quest final- St John's School Hall 2pm all welcome
	Monday 8 th	St John's grade 6 Graduation Celebration and Dinner- Dromoland
	Wed 10 th	Last Day Term 4 2008 for 4/5 Kindergarten students
	Thursday 11 th	Last Day Term 4 2008 for School students
	Thursday 11 th	Closing Service Barrabool Hills Baptist Church 7pm
JANUARY 2009	Friday 30 th	4/5 year old Kindergarten Orientation
PLEASE NOTE DATE CHANGE for FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL 2009:		
FEBRUARY 2009	Monday 2 nd	First Day School Term 1 2009 (pls see Head of School's section below)
	Monday 2 nd	3 year old Kindergarten Orientation
	Tuesday 3 rd	First Day 4/5 year old Kindergarten
	Monday 9 th	First Day 3 year old Kindergarten



In our Prayers

We ask that you pray this week for all the teachers that you know...tomorrow Friday 31st October is **World Teachers Day**. We thank God for the dedication, patience, and love that our teachers show to their students...and we ask for their continued commitment in helping everyone grow closer to God ☺

Devotional Thoughts

Matthew 5:16 – *In the same way your light must shine before people, so that they will see the good things you do and praise your heavenly Father.*

As you know we travelled to Vanuatu in September to complete further work on the Melanie Jewson Memorial Chapel. The two weeks there was exceptionally productive and now the chapel is painted and in use which is fantastic. We are deeply thankful to those who have supported us and the project to get it to this stage. Our prayer is:

- that the chapel will be a source of 'light' for the Vila Central Hospital and for the people of Port Vila;
- that the **Melanie Jewson Memorial Chapel** will be a place of a blessing to the ill, the suffering, the grieving, the sad, the lonely and anyone who visits it and that they may find real comfort and your special peace within its walls.

The finished chapel!

The first worship service on Sunday 12th Oct

From the GLC Principal, Gary Jewson

We now officially have the keys to the College and have already held a number of meetings there. On Saturday we are holding an Open Day for enrolled parents to come to the school, meet the teachers and other students and have some fun with a few activities. We are still looking for enrolments and would be keen to hear from anyone who is still interested in being a foundation family at Geelong Lutheran College – remember you only have one chance to be a foundation student!

On Sunday the members from the Lutheran Churches are invited to Geelong Lutheran College for morning tea and to have a look over the facilities. We have also planned a general day on Nov 15 from 10:00 am until 2:00pm. We would love to see you out at the College on that day and show you the new facilities.

Take Care and God Bless - **“See you next year in Mt Duneed!”**

Gary Jewson (Principal GLC)

Email: admin@geelonglutherancollege.net

Web: www.geelonglutherancollege.net

IMPORTANT INFORMATION FROM THE ASSOCIATION OF INDEPENDENT SCHOOLS OF VICTORIA (AISV)

Federal parliament has been debating funding arrangements for the next four years for independent schools. The Schools Assistance Bill has been passed in the House of Representatives and has gone to the Senate, which has sent the Bill to a Senate Inquiry.

Background

Before the last federal election, the Labor Party committed to maintain the current SES funding model for non-government schools for the next four years. This was in response to pressure from parents at independent schools.

While the funding level is to be maintained for the next four years, new arrangements will impose additional conditions that will:

- Require all schools to teach a national curriculum – with no guarantee that alternative curricula can be maintained
 - Require schools to report all funding sources – with the real prospect that community investment in a school will be penalised with lower funding, returning schools to the ERI days rewarding creative accounting
 - Empower the Education Minister to deny a school funding when it has a qualified audit.
- These changes represent significant risks to the future of independent schooling in Victoria. They threaten our independence and autonomy and our ability to offer the curriculum that best suits our parents and students and may result in lower government funding and higher fees.

Concerns in detail

- The National Curriculum has not yet been written and there is no guarantee for schools that they will be able to continue their current teaching and learning programme or provide a modified or alternative curriculum beyond 2011.
- The future of International Baccalaureate (IB), Steiner, Montessori and other teaching and learning programs is not assured.
- Reporting on all funding sources may be the first move towards the old funding model where government funding was conditional on school assets and fees.
- Schools and parents will be penalised if benefactors and parents are deterred from contributing to, and investing in school facilities and resources.
- Reporting of all funding sources is irrelevant to parents deciding the best school for their child. Independent schools are not opposed to transparency that improves student education.

Action being taken

- Our school is supporting The Association of Independent Schools of Victoria is raising these concerns with strong representations to all stakeholders and the wider community on behalf of Member Schools.
- AISV will present a submission to the upcoming Senate Inquiry examining the funding arrangements in the proposed legislation and will appear at the public hearing.
- AISV is working with boards and management of Member Schools and other key stakeholders to ensure the principles of independent schooling are preserved in the new arrangements.

What parents can do

We ask that all parents make contact with their local federal member and Senators to raise their concerns about these proposed changes, and make the following points:

- Independent schools can only have a strong future if all political parties recognise and support the sacrifice made by parents to support independent schooling – this is not a partisan political issue.
- The government must remove the funding conditions prescribing a curriculum, requiring public reporting of all funding sources and adding to the grounds for funding to schools to be delayed or refused which are unrelated to a school's financial state.

Or write letters to:

- Your Federal MPs
 - Senators Fielding and Xenophon
 - Minister Gillard
 - Senator Marshall (Chair of the Senate Inquiry)
- Addresses and email or fax details are below.

Suggested questions for parents to raise:

1. Topic – Curriculum

- a) Will my children be able to continue the educational program we have chosen for them in their best interests?
- b) What happens if my children's educational/religious/cultural needs are different from other students?
- c) How will our family's educational needs and our religious/cultural values be met if we lose our right to choose what we know is best for us?
- d) Why is it necessary to threaten my right to choose what is best for my children?

2. Topic – Funding

- a) Will the federal and state governments reduce funding for my school by the amount we parents pay in fees and voluntary contributions?
- b) Will the amount I pay in fees become public knowledge for all to know?
- c) Will I be able to keep confidential the philanthropic support that I provide to my school?
- d) How will it help the federal and state government to know how much I personally contribute to education through fees and other financial support from my after-tax income?

Senator Steve Fielding, 255 Blackburn Road, Mt Waverley VIC 3149 Email: senator.fielding@aph.gov.au	Senator Nick Xenophon 212 Grenfell Street Adelaide SA 5000 Fax: (08) 8232 3744
The Hon Julia Gillard Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Education PO Box 6022 House of Representatives Parliament House, Canberra ACT 2600 Julia.Gillard.MP@aph.gov.au	Senator Gavin Marshall Chair, Standing Committee on Education, Employment and Workplace Relations 376 Victoria Street North Melbourne, VIC 3051 Senator.marshall@aph.gov.au

Take Care and God Bless

Gary Jewson (Principal GLC)

Email: admin@geelonglutherancollege.net

Web: www.geelonglutherancollege.net

Notes from the Head of School

This week we have had the pleasure of having two **work experience students from Sacred Heart** working in the level two area. From November 17 we have **three 2nd Year BEd pre-service teachers from Australian Catholic University** working at St John's. These three teachers are incorporating the Lutheran Studies strand in their studies.

During the last holidays **Mrs Jane Hollett coordinated the installation of the interactive whiteboards** into the remaining classrooms in level two, three and four. Money raised from the fete contributed to the cost of purchasing and installing these whiteboards. The Level 1's will have their whiteboards installed during the redevelopment of their area next year. Staff are currently involved in interactive whiteboard workshops over the next few weeks. We would like to thank Mrs Hollett for all her time and effort during this time.

Tomorrow is World Teacher's Day. On this day we celebrate teachers across continents, in all countries, in towns and in villages and the central role they play in efforts to achieve quality education for all children. We acknowledge and thank teachers for their continued efforts sometimes in difficult circumstances around the world. St John's teachers are a vital element in ensuring our school students continue to achieve excellent learning outcomes and go on to succeed in all walks of life.

Help us celebrate our teachers. We encourage everyone to take this opportunity to thank their teacher and their children's teachers.

Mrs Wood is expecting her second baby in December and will be taking leave from Monday 17th November. We wish Sally, Matt and Connor all the best and God's richest blessings at this exciting time. Mrs Jill Mayes will be teaching in JW until the end of the year.

Starting date for students in 2009 for St John's and the new Lutheran College will be February 2nd. Staff will commence on January 27th.

Allocation of Students to Classes

In the next few weeks the teachers will be deliberating on class allocations for next year. This is a stressful time for teachers and I feel it may be valuable to share with you again the Allocation Procedure so there is no confusion about the process we follow.

When making decisions as to which class a student will go into, quite a number of factors are taken into consideration. Following are some of the main considerations, not necessarily in priority order:

- *Gender balance where possible*
- *Balance of level of achievement*
- *Teaching style/learning style compatibility*
- *Number of years with a particular teacher*
- *Special student concerns and needs (learning needs, behavioural challenges etc)*
- *Teachers of previous siblings*
- *Student friendships*
- *Dynamics of various student relationships*
- *Special circumstances that we may be aware of*

We do expect parents to support the teachers' deliberations and decision making in this area.

We discourage parents from making specific requests for certain teachers or student friendship groups etc. There may however be very special circumstances where a parent wishes to inform the school of special factors that they believe the School may need to take into consideration when deciding upon class allocations. *In these situations, this information must be forwarded in writing to me no later than **Thursday 20th November**, even if previous discussions have taken place. Only written preference will be considered, however I must stress that placement in a preferred class cannot be guaranteed.*

Note that there will be staff changes for next year and they will be announced as soon as the applications close, interviews and appointments are made.

Some parents may feel this is a little unnecessary. However the process of allocating students is a complex and sensitive one. We have no desire to offend parents, yet at times it has been impossible to meet requests without compromising other important considerations.

We strive to portray each teacher to the students in a positive light. They have individual talents, strengths, personalities and styles. This helps provide students with a grounding that will prepare them for their transition through Primary School to Secondary School. We encourage you to reinforce this positive approach with your children at home.

We appreciate the intimate involvement of our parents with the School and we appreciate the positive, supportive relationships many of our parents have developed with teachers. We need to reaffirm a procedure for allocating students to classes that is in the best interests of the students and the school as a whole.

With God's Blessings

-Brian Schultz: Head of School- St John's

-A Christian community striving for excellence-

Our Newsletter is posted onto the Internet regularly so if you are looking for information about our school, please remember to visit our Webpage at www.stjohns.edu.au

St John's School Magazines

**Each family will receive 1 School Magazine as part of their 2008 levies
If you would like to order more copies, please use the order form on the
back page of this newsletter...**

Parenting Tip

Further ways to show children you care...

- Share their excitement
 - Follow them when they lead
 - Contact them to say hello
 - Give them space when they need it
 - Discuss their dreams and nightmares
 - Be relaxed
 - Answer their questions
 - Create a tradition with them and keep it
 - Send them a letter, email or a postcard
 - Notice when they're absent
 - Hide surprises for them to find
 - Contribute to their collections
 - Laugh at their jokes
 - Kneel, squat, or sit so you're at their eye level
 - Tell them how terrific they are
- (taken from *150 ways to show kids you care...*)

Jon Taylor, Pastoral Care Coordinator



Art News

Art Award for this week goes to **Taylah - (JW)**

who worked exceptionally well with clay this week...with a broken arm! 😊

-Mrs Troeth; Art Teacher-

Uniform Shop

St John's second hand
Uniform Shop

Tuesday 3.15 – 3.45pm

Friday 8.45 - 9.15 am

Words from the Library...😊



- **Magazines needed Please...** National Geographic, K-Zone, Football, etc
- Don't forget **Talk Books** on Thursday lunchtimes...
- **Please Note the new Library Opening Hours:**

Monday and Thursday 1.30 – 2.00

Tuesday and Wednesday 1.15 – 2.00

-Mrs Lytzki; Librarian

SCHOLASTIC BOOK CLUB

Orders and
payment due
back at school by
Friday 14th Nov



Performing Arts News

Talent Quest Friday 5th December 2pm in the school Hall

Practises are continuing from last week until Friday the 21st November. There will also be private auditions starting Monday 19th November. Please note the following dates:

Audition Dates: Monday 10th Nov **Level 4** Tuesday 11th Nov **Level 2**
Wednesday 12th Nov **Level 3** Thursday 13th Nov **Level 1**

Talent Quest Final: Friday December 5th 2pm at St John's School Hall

Rules: 6 people per group
You may only take part in one group
5 minute audition time
No costumes in auditions
3 Acts will be selected from each level

Contact: Please contact the Arts Captains for any questions:
Michael -, Poppy -, Olivia ---, Melanie -



Music News

Music Award for last week went to **the JG class** who worked so well in music- Lovely Manners 😊

Music Award for this week goes to **the MD class** for a great performance with 'Living with the Rhythm' 😊

A Big thankyou for the parents and children who attended the St Luke's Uniting Church Hymn/Song Festival on Sunday 19th October.

The **McDonalds lunch** is being held on MONDAY 3rd November. The children are very excited and looking forward to this for a very long time. A BIG thankyou to the parent helpers on the day assisting with the handing out of lunches and organising the drinks.

-Mrs Schulze; Music Teacher-

MS Readathon

This year the students from St John's joined in the **MS Readathon** raising **\$2065.95** to help change the lives of people suffering from Multiple Sclerosis. Participating students have received personal Reading Rewards and a Thank You Certificate. Congratulations to all participating students:

Isabella -	Alexander -	Jonathan -	Adam -
Carmel--	Danielle -	Nathan -	Skye -
Rachel -	Michael -	Caitlin -	Tegen -
Abigail -	Xanthia -	Sabrina -	Liam -
Catherine -	Rebekah -	Luke -	Sinead -
Pierre -	Claudia -	Lydia -	Dominic -

*Next year's
READATHON
is being
organized
soon... All
students
should think
about
participating
next year...*

Canteen

Sausage Sizzle / Donut Day

Next Thursday 6th November

Order forms coming home tomorrow, to be returned by **Monday 3rd November**

Thank you to **Julie** - and **Annette** - - for helping this week ☺

Thank you so much for those who have offered to help in the canteen this term. Please check the roster and come to the school office if you are able to help- thank you

Canteen Roster 2008

Term 4	11.00am – 1.30pm	Notes
Tuesday 4 th November	Angela -	
Thursday 6 th November	Christine - 10-2pm / Julie - 9-12.45	Sausage Sizzle/ Donut Day
Tuesday 11 th November	HELPER NEEDED PLEASE	
Thursday 13 th November	Fiona -	
Tuesday 18 th November	Robyn -	
Thursday 20 th November	HELPER NEEDED PLEASE	
Tuesday 25 th November	Sylvia -	
Thursday 27 th November	Annette - -	
Tuesday 2 nd December	HELPER NEEDED PLEASE	
Thursday 4 th December	Christine -	
Tuesday 9 th December	HELPER NEEDED PLEASE	
Thursday 11 th December	HELPER NEEDED PLEASE	Last Day School 2008!

Noticeboard (outside near carpet area)

- Asthma Friendly Schools Program Newsletter Asthma & Eczema/ Athsma triggers articles
- Living Green- Sustainable Living Expo details Milo Cricket details
- Interchange Information Evening (Gateways) COGG Triple P Positive Parenting Program details
- COGG Parenting Young Adolescents details

Kindergarten News

The children have been very busy exploring the learning theme of TRANSPORT. They have made aeroplanes and ships for our special wall mural.

The highlight of the past week was our wonderful excursion to Narana Creations.

The children loved the didgeridoo, the face painting, dancing, and of course throwing the boomerangs!!

A big thank-you to all our kind parents who assisted us on the day.

Our **toy party** was a great success. Due to the support of so many parents, our staff were able to choose some excellent new toys for the children, including a hospital clinic, game, puzzle, home corner food, and totem soccer. Thank-you all once again!!

Susann French and Susan -

student's page...1

Joke:

What did the banana sitting in the sun say to the other banana sitting in the sun?

"I don't know about you but I'm starting to peel!"

(from Mrs Lyn Lytzki)

HOT TIP: Sunscreen...Be Smart!

birthdays

Chelsea -	MB	1 st Nov	Nathan -	K3yo	4 th Nov
Harvey -	PS	2 nd Nov	Jessica -	K3yo	4 th Nov
Joshua -	SF	3 rd Nov	Samantha -	MD	5 th Nov
Ethan -	PS	4 th Nov	Brielle -	JG	6 th Nov
Adam -	MB	4 th Nov			

sports awards

Jemma -	Parkes	For always doing her best in sport
Ryan -	Higgins	For always being enthusiastic
Danielle -	Higgins	For being a good sport
Rebecca -	Deakin	For always being kind in the playground
Joshua -	Deakin	For using the sports equipment well

...sports news

NETBALL

The **St John's Shooting Stars** no news this week...

The **Supremes** play Grovedale Tiger Kittens at 4.00pm on Monday 3rd November

St John's Sharks Basketball

The boys had a tough battle this week playing the very experienced Mini Monkeys. The final score was 50-2 to the Mini Monkeys. They tried their hardest and never gave up - **well done boys for persevering**. Next week is the last grading game and then hopefully they will be competing against teams of like ability.



fundraiser

Pink Ribbon Day- was this Monday 27th October 2008, but if you would still like to buy a pin or wristband, they will be at the office Reception desk for a few more days...Please consider supporting research into breast cancer by buying one of these items. ☺

guide dogs

don't forget the Guide Dog's container at the school office if you would like to place a donation

st paul's lutheran church youth group

- ✳ Welcome to Term 4 Youth Group. The Youth Group remains divided into 2 separate groups: **Junior and Intermediate**. Both are held on the same night at the same time. The two groups share some activities, with older children doing activities more suited to their age group.
- ✳ **Youth Group will be held on different Friday Nights for this term only (due to Geelong Show Day holiday) and will not follow the usual fortnightly timetable.**
- ✳ For fourth term, the children will be busy with new fun activities and we encourage all children to please come along, dressed in older clothing that parents don't mind their children getting dirty with paint and glue.
- ✳ **The Youth Group starts at 6.45pm SHARP for the first week only, and finishes at around 8.30pm. The starting and finishing times are then 15 minutes later in line with Daylight Savings.**

DATES TO REMEMBER:

Friday 31st October

Youth Group starts are 7.00pm SHARP

TOMORROW

Friday 14th November

Youth Group starts are 7.00pm SHARP

Friday 28th November

Youth Group starts are 7.00pm SHARP

Friday 5th December

Christmas Break-Up...Venue and time TBA

Take care, and God bless....

Werner - (Youth Coordinator) 5241 5131/ 0427 526611

Geelong Lutheran Churches Sunday Worship Services

St John's, 165 Yarra St., Geelong

Worship with HC* 9.00am
Sunday School (*Every 1st and 3rd Sunday of the month*) 9.45am

Holy Trinity: Mollers Lane, Leopold

Worship with HC* 11.00am

St Paul's: 307 Torquay Rd. Grovedale

Worship with HC* (*Every 1st, 2nd & 4th Sunday of the month*) 9.30am
Worship without HC* (*Every 3rd & 5th Sunday of the month*)
Sunday School: 10.00am

St David's, 905 Anglesea Rd., Freshwater Creek

Worship with HC* (*Every 3rd Sunday of the month*) 2.30pm

Our Redeemer: 60 Ballarat Rd. Geelong North

Worship with HC* (*Every 2nd & 4th Sunday of the month*) 9.30am
Worship without HC* (*Every 1st, 3rd & 5th Sunday of the month*) 9.30am

Lutheran Worship at the Uniting Church, Lara

Worship with HC (Every 3rd Sunday of the month) 11.30am

Note: HC= Holy Communion*

**Please Note- friends from all Lutheran Church congregations in the Geelong region
are invited to morning tea to share at the site of the
Geelong Lutheran College, Burvilles Rd, Mt Duneed...
Sunday November 2nd (this weekend) from 11am – 1pm
You are most welcome...**

LOST

Sports Jumpers x 2 size 6 belonging to **Jerusha** - name clearly on one jumper.

LOST

Alexander Evans has also lost his jumper two weeks ago (before camp. It is marked with the name **A. -**.
Please check your jumper labels. If found please place in Lost Property Box near Library.

SCHOOL MAGAZINE 2008

Please note that this year
each family will receive 1 School Magazine as part of their 2008 levies.

If you want to order any extra Magazines for your family (limited quantities available, \$10.00 each), please fill in the form below and return to the school office by Wednesday 12th November 2008.

Student's Surname.....	Student's Surname.....
Christian Name.....	Christian Name.....
Class/ Kinder Group.....	Class/ Kinder Group.....
Teacher.....	Teacher.....
SCHOOL MAGAZINE 2008	SCHOOL MAGAZINE 2008

Please return order and money to school by Wednesday 12th November 2008

SEXUAL ABUSE TOLL FREE NUMBER 1800 644 628



Please note

If anyone has an item they need to put into the newsletter, please email it directly by Wednesday to nitschkec@stjohns.edu.au