Dear families

Welcome back to the start of the 2016 school year. I hope that you have all managed to have some wonderful times with family and friends. A very warm welcome to our new Prep students who started school last Thursday. They have settled into school quickly and were seen sitting beautifully on the floor listening to their teacher within a few minutes of arriving on their first day. Congratulations to all of the parents who prepared their children so well for this big step. Welcome also to the many new students and their families, across Year 1-6 who began school last Friday; I know that the children in your class will have made you feel very welcome. You have come from a range of different schools but I am sure that you will soon find a special place within our school community. A warm welcome to you all.

In previous years we have had Getting to Know You Interviews at the beginning of the year. This year our process for Parent Teacher Interviews has changed slightly. These interviews will now be timetabled towards the end of term 1 and will provide an opportunity for you and your child’s teacher to discuss their successes and challenges and map out their future learning. Please know that you are able to contact your child’s teacher as soon as you have a query and do not need to wait for these formal times. The sooner you and your child’s teacher can discuss any issue or concern, the quicker we can work out the best way of addressing it. Prep students and their families will meet with the Prep teachers during interviews timetabled on the next few Wednesdays.

Parents of Prep students will have received a letter with the time of your interview. If you did not receive this please contact your child’s teacher regarding your interview time. Please remember to bring your Prep child along to these meetings.

This year we also have several new staff joining our school community. Welcome to Miss Kristie Browning, our new Wellbeing Leader; Ms Kylie Hoey, who will teach Year 5; Ms Bianca Ignarro, our new LoTE teacher; Mr Blake Pitman, who will teach Year 4 and Ms Caitlin Walker, who will also teach Year 4. We look forward to getting to know you all and hope that your time at St. Catherine of Siena will be a rewarding one. Anyone who has visited the office will have seen Ms Genevieve Drew at the front desk. Tina Hogan left us at the end of last year and so Genevieve will be in the office and able to assist you with any queries you may have. Genevieve is a wonderful addition to our office team.

We have several anaphylactic students who are allergic to a variety of food products; many of these are related to nut products. For these children this is a serious medical condition and requires constant vigilance and prompt action if an anaphylactic reaction occurs. Current advice is that a nut ban is not a recommended action and we do not ban nuts and nut products from school, however we do ask that all parents consider the extreme medical needs of these students when preparing snacks and lunches for their children, or when providing small treats to celebrate birthdays. If you are able to provide nut free alternatives for your children we ask that you do so.

As I informed you at the end of last year our first school closure day will be on Thursday 3rd March. This day is being run by an outside facilitator and the school will be closed for all students on this day.

This year the newsletter will go out on a Friday. In this way we can acknowledge the events of the week as they have occurred and flag upcoming events for the following week.

Have a great week everyone.

Carmel Marantelli
PRINCIPAL

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**SCHOOL FEES**

Fees for 2016 will be **$1200** per family plus the Curriculum Fee of **$300** per child. The Curriculum Fee is due now so we ask that you finalise this as soon as possible. Statements detailing opening balances and yearly fees will go out within the coming weeks.
Some reminders as we start the year:

School Uniform
All children are required to wear their summer uniform this term. The uniform shop will be open on a Monday and Wednesday from 8:30 - 9:00. The uniform shop is located in the left hand portable on the edge of the asphalt area. All children are expected to be in correct school uniform at all times. Presentation in the correct uniform, with clean shoes and tidy hair expresses pride in our school and upholds the standard of our school. A note is required if a child is out of school uniform. Long Hair must be tied up with a school scrunchie, dark hair tie and/or yellow or blue ribbon should be used. Children are not to wear nail polish to school or wear jewellery, with the exception of plain sleepers.

Hats
All children are required to wear a school hat in Terms 1 & 4 whilst outside during recess, sport or other activities. Students without a hat will be required to stay inside at the first aid area. Hats can be purchased from the uniform shop.

Canteen
Once again our canteen will be run by Mrs Karen Honey who also runs the CRC canteen. The canteen will be open on a Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday and be open at both recess and lunchtime on these days. A new 2016 menu will be sent home to all families.

Punctuality
All students are required to be at school prior to the first bell. Being at school before the bell is important as it enables your child to develop social relationships with others and ensures they are at school for the commencement of the school day and learning activities.

Attendance
If your child is unwell it is important that they stay at home to recover and are not sent to school where others may then become sick as well. If your child is sick, it is a legal requirement that a note is given to their teacher, once they return to school, stating the reason for the absence.

School Visitors
When visiting the school all parents must enter through the office, sign the visitors register and receive a Visitors Lanyard which must be worn throughout your visit. This register is used in an emergency to determine who is in the school so it is vital that you do not enter the school through any other doors.

Before School
Supervision of the yard before school does not commence until 8:30am. It is important that children are not dropped off and left at school prior to this as they will be unsupervised in the yard. The adventure playground is out of bounds to all students both before and after school.

After School Supervision
There are four teachers on duty after school, at the yellow seats, entrance gate, park gate and pedestrian crossing. Children are to wait for parents on the asphalt area which is supervised by teaching staff. Children are not to wait in the office between 3.15 and 3.30 pm as this area is very busy at this time and office staff are unable to supervise children while they wait. Any child who has not been collected by 3.30 pm will be brought into the office by duty staff and parents will be called. Children not picked up by 3.45 pm will be taken to OSHClub by a staff member and signed in. Parents will then need to collect their child from OSHClub. Parents are responsible for fees charged by OSHClub. Children who attend After School Care Programs offsite wait at the yellow seats for their bus to arrive.

Parking
There is no parking in the school grounds either before or after school. The drop off zone will continue to operate at the front of the school each morning before school. This area will be supervised each morning between 8:30 and 9:00 am.
Dear Parent / Guardian

Welcome back to another school year. Bookclub has gone out to all children today with an attached note explaining the due date and procedures for ordering should you wish to do so.

Thank You
Theresa Maskell
Book Club Co-ordinator

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2016 Specialist Timetable

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Sport</th>
<th>Performing Arts</th>
<th>Art</th>
<th>LoTE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>6R 6U 6T 5Q</td>
<td>6U 6T 5S 6R 5Q</td>
<td>6T 6R 5Q 4O 3J 3L</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>4N 4P 3J 2/3M</td>
<td>4P 4O 2/3M 3J 4P 5Q 5S 4N</td>
<td>4O 4N 3L 3J 4P 4P 6U</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>1E 2K 3L 2I</td>
<td>1H 3J 2I 1F 2I 2K 2/3M</td>
<td>1F 2I 2K 6T 6R</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>Prep B Prep D Prep C 1H 1F</td>
<td>Prep D Prep C Prep B 1F 1E</td>
<td>Prep C Prep B Prep D 1E 1H</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

For Sport and Performing Arts, all children need to wear their Sport Uniform. Runners are only to be worn on Sport and Performing Arts days.

For Art, all children need to wear an art smock. This needs to be waterproof so that paint etc. does not damage children’s uniforms.

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CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to the following children who all received an award at assembly today. You have all worked hard to settle back into school quickly and I am sure that you will continue to try your best each week.

1E - Jessica Ishak
1F - Jaxson Cowan
1H - Ned Michael
2I - Yom Ajieth
2K - Victoria Solomon
2/3M - Keely-Shae Clarke
3J - Rita Hussein
3L - Kaiden Vanguardia
4N - Bailey Gallagher
4O - Wel Majok
4P - Ricky Atkins
5Q - Ella Gallagher
5S - Khallea Vanguardia
6R - Awaak Mayan-Tong
6T - Heather Petelo-Sauvao
6U - Hayley Spence

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St Catherine of Siena Swimming Sport Trials

The Melton Schools swimming carnival is on Wednesday, February 24th. Students who wish to trial for this carnival will need to attend the swimming trial on Thursday Feb 11th.

Please note the Swimming Carnival is being held in the same week as the Yr 5/6 camp. It is on the third day of camp for Year fives and the first day of camp for Year sixes. Please consider this before you decide if you want your child to participate.

Swimming trials for the carnival will be held for children in age groups 9/10, 11, 12/13. Students can trial for the freestyle, breaststroke, backstroke and butterfly. Children must be able to swim 50m without stopping. Parents will need to take their child to the pool, stay to supervise them and then take them to school afterwards.

Where: Melton Waves Leisure Centre, Coburns Road.
When: Trials held Thursday, February 11 at 7.30am.
Cost: Entry fee of $5.20

Mark Sage
Physical Education Teacher

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Scholastic Book Club

Dear Parent / Guardian

Welcome back to another school year. Bookclub has gone out to all children today with an attached note explaining the due date and procedures for ordering should you wish to do so.

Thank You
Theresa Maskell
Book Club Co-ordinator
Hello families

We would like to wish you all a warm welcome back to Term 1 of 2016 and hope you all had an amazing break. We are excited to see some familiar faces from last year in their new grades, as well as some new children joining the program.

If you are interested in enrolling your child/ren into OSHclub, please come in and see the staff, we are more than happy to show you around and go through what is involved in the program. We will be doing themed weeks throughout the term, this way the children will have a diverse range of activities to participate in.

Activities will involve arts and crafts, sports, group games, cooking and much, much more.

This week is all about group activities and meeting and greeting others.

Just a reminder that it is Term 1, therefore all children must bring a hat to OSHClub so they can play outside. We have a ‘No Hat, No Outside Play’ policy. We do provide sunscreen for the children, if your child has an allergy to certain sun creams please inform the coordinator at your program.

If you have any suggestions or feedback for the program, we would love to hear them.

Have a fantastic week.

Allison and Cindy
Parents who have put an Application Form to enroll their child into Catholic Regional College Melton for year 7 in 2017 are asked to contact the Parish Office on 9743 6515 to make an appointment with Father Michael. These appointments must be completed before February 12th 2016.

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**Catholic Regional College: Year 7 2017**

Parents who have put an Application Form to enroll their child into Catholic Regional College Melton for year 7 in 2017 are asked to contact the Parish Office on 9743 6515 to make an appointment with Father Michael. **These appointments must be completed before February 12th 2016.**

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**Parish Of Melton Office**

10 Unit Street, Melton
Tel: 9743 6515, Fax: 9747 8603
Email: stdoms@bigpond.net.au
Office Open: Tuesday-Friday 10am-4pm

**Mass Times - St Catherine of Siena**

Wednesday: 9.15am  
Saturday Evenings: 6.00pm  
Sunday Mornings: 9.00am & 11.00am

**Reconciliation**

Saturday: 5.30pm - 5.45pm

**Mass Times - St Dominic’s**

Tuesday Evening: 7.00pm  
Thurs - Friday: 9.15am  
Sunday: 5pm

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**WORLDWIDE MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER WEEKEND**

*Invest in your most precious asset......Your Marriage!*

Forget life’s tensions and interruptions and rekindle the closeness, intimacy, love and romance that brought you together. Recharge your relationship batteries and explore the precious nature of your marriage, allowing you both to share your feelings, hopes and dreams with each other in ways that normal, daily living tends to inhibit.

There is no group sharing. Couples and a priest present the weekend. It is based around Catholic values but couples of all faiths are welcome.

2016 Melbourne weekend dates : 8-10 April, 17-19 June, 19-21 Aug, 11-13 Nov

Starts at 7pm on Friday and ends at 5pm Sunday. Accommodation and all meals provided.

For information and bookings contact Marianne and Marcel on (03) 9733 0997 or email at the following

vicbookings@wwme.org.au

Website: www.wwme.org.au