October is World Mission Month and this coming Sunday is Mission Sunday. The theme this year is Restore Hope Share Grace. Catholic Mission is the only international Catholic Organisation which has specially dedicated works solely for children. It assists millions with schooling and broader life education, shelter and accommodation, medicine and health care, protection from abuse, human-trafficking and providing catechesis and religious education. Children’s Mission is part of Catholic Mission’s work for children and encompasses 160 countries. More information on the work of Catholic Missions and Mission Sunday can be found at http://www.catholicmission.org.au/world-mission-month

Next week, on Tuesday 23rd October school will be closed to allow all staff to participate in a professional development day. Staff from the Catholic Education Office will be onsite to facilitate this day and work with us. Both the school and Out of School Hours Care will be closed on this day.

A reminder that all students are expected to wear their full school summer uniform this term. This week will be a transition period for children whose parents may still need to purchase summer uniform items. From next week all children are expected to be in their full summer uniform. Hats are an essential part of the uniform in Term 4 and all children must have a hat on when outside at recess and lunch, during physical education sessions as well as class activities held outside. The rule of No Hat No Play applies and children without hats will be asked to move to a supervised area inside. Hats are also available from the uniform shop so please ensure all children have a labelled hat to wear. The uniform shop is open on Mondays and Wednesdays from 8:30 - 9:00am.

The end of the year is fast approaching and over the coming weeks staff will commence the placement of students into their class groupings for the 2013 school year. When placing students in classes teachers take many things into consideration, this knowledge is based upon the observations, discussions and achievements of each student in light of conversations with parents throughout the year. This is a difficult and time consuming task and a lot of thought goes into the process, ensuring that the final grouping is one that best meets the needs of all. If you have any information which will inform this process or concerns please put these in writing and have them to me no later than Wednesday 24th October. While all requests will be considered, there is no guarantee that they will be granted.

Best wishes for a great week.

Carmel Marantelli
PRINCIPAL
Over recent weeks the Catholic Education Office has released information to update parents on the funding of Catholic schools. The release of NAPLAN results for 2012 provides us with an opportunity to reflect on the performance of Catholic schools. This is the focus of this week’s insert.

**Catholic students achieve more with less funding**

On average, it costs the government 20 per cent less to have a student educated in a Catholic school. Even with school fees, it still costs less to teach students in a Catholic school.

In a faith-filled environment, Catholic schools instil discipline and have high expectations of their students. Our school aspires to develop well-rounded learners who achieve their best and who are committed to action for justice and the common good.

In all areas, a higher percentage of Catholic students have achieved at or above the National Minimum Standard for the National Assessment Program — Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) testing, compared to the Victorian average. Even in our most disadvantaged communities, students in Catholic schools are more likely to study at university after they finish school.

According to financial data from schools in Australia, Catholic schools also save the Australian taxpayer $2.2 billion each year.

Catholic school funding must keep pace with rising government school costs. Our school cannot afford to have its funding frozen. Any funding freeze would really be a cut. A funding freeze would be unfair because our school already saves the government money.

For more information about school funding, please visit [www.ceomelb.catholic.edu.au/funding](http://www.ceomelb.catholic.edu.au/funding).

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**Uniform Shop News**

The uniform shop is now selling blue sunglasses. These come in medium and large and come with a Cancer Council endorsement.

Sunglasses cost $10 a pair.

Term 1 & 4 is hat Season. Our School policy at St Catherine of Siena is NO HAT NO PLAY.

The Uniform Shop is open every Monday and Wednesday from 8.30am-9.00am

- Legionnaire $8 - One size
- Bucket Hat $12 - S / M / L / XL
- Safety Slouch Hat $15 - S / M / L

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**BOOK CLUB**

Book club brochures went home yesterday. Orders need to be in by Friday, October 26,

No late orders will be accepted.

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**CRC MELTON ~ YEAR 7 2013 ACADEMIC TESTING**

Parents are reminded that the academic testing for students in Grade 6 attending Yr. 7 at Catholic Regional College, Melton in 2013 will be held on Saturday, 20 October at the College. Students will be required at the College from 9.30am until 10.45am. Casual clothes to be worn and students do not need to bring any pencils, pens, rulers etc.– these will be supplied on the day.

Children are asked to take a small snack and a drink.
ANNIVERSARY CALENDER

An Anniversary calendar book is now available in the school office. This is for our school community to have their loved ones prayed for at Mass on their Anniversary. To register your loved ones just ask at reception for the book and this will then be collated with the parish register.

MARY MACKILLOP MUSEUM
OPEN DAY
WHEN: SATURDAY 20 OCTOBER 2012
WHERE: Mary MacKillop Heritage Centre
362 Albert Street
East Melbourne VIC 3002
Contact: 9926 9300
Prayer in the chapel, Tour of Museum, Visit gift shop,
Light refreshments available

Djerriwarrh Festival

The Djerriwarrh Festival will take place on Saturday 10\textsuperscript{th} November 2012. The theme will be Rock and Rollers, Punks and Hippies. So you may like to think about if your children are interested in participating in this event.
Sharni O’Leary

CDF STUDENT BANKING

Thursdays are student banking day.
Deposit books are to be handed in to class or the Office by 9.00am on banking day. Encourage your child to save by opening up a CDF Banking account.

Application forms are available from the Office

SCHOOL DENTAL SERVICE

Djerriwarrh Health Services operates a public school dental service, which is currently located at Melton Health, 195-209 Barries Rd, Melton West.
Children from pre-school age to Grade 6 are eligible for service.
The service is FREE for children who are eligible for concession, or a co-payment fee of $30 is payable for those who are not eligible.
Bookings can be made on the Referral and Appointment Hotline number - 9747 7609
Holiday and Festival Asthma Trigger Warning

The upcoming holiday season and festivities planned during Term 4 and throughout the summer holidays may mean that your child is exposed to new triggers for their asthma. It is important for parents and carers, and children themselves, to be aware of changes to their environment and the activities that may impact on their asthma.

Christmas trees, both real and artificial could be triggers for people with asthma. Artificial trees may be quite dusty after being stored away, while both real and artificial trees may harbour mould. It is important to ensure that artificial trees are cleaned appropriately and that care is taken to select real trees that do not produce wind-born pollen. All tree and other decorations should cleaned and free from dust and mould when used at home.

Scented candles, room deodorisers and air fresheners may also trigger asthma in those susceptible to perfumes, and care should be taken when purchasing these and other scented items at home.

Lastly, the added pressures of the year drawing to a close can cause stress and anxiety for many people, potentially triggering asthma attacks. It is important to consider ways that the whole family can enjoy the holidays and feel safe happy and comfortable.

Happy Holidays from The Asthma Foundation of Victoria.

For further information, please contact the Asthma Foundation of Victoria on 1800 645 130 or email schools@asthma.org.au

TRIVIA NIGHT

Hosted by
Knights of the Southern Cross &
St Dominic’s Primary School
Will be held on Friday 19th October at 7.30pm in the Worship Centre.
Cost is $15 per person or $25 per couple.
All enquiries to Michael Laffin on 0417 522 864 or the Parish Office 9743 6515.

TOPIC: HOW TO HELP YOUR CHILD SUCCEED AT SCHOOL
Presenter: Andrew Fuller
Ages: Primary and Secondary
Whether your child is in Year 12 or just starting out, the skills and knowledge that you will gain from attending this session will help you to have a positive impact on your child’s life. It will also save you hours of useless arguing about things that don’t make a difference to academic outcomes.

When: Wednesday October 24
Where: St Agnes– Hightett (Ref Mel map no. 77b8
Contact: Shirley O’Sullivan– 9464 5225
Monday—Thursday During School hours