Dear Families

The school year is fast approaching and there are many parents, grandparents and family members who have contributed to the many programs and events we have celebrated and shared this year. On Thursday 20th December Fr Michael will celebrate our end of year Mass at 9:15am, at which we give thanks for all of the events and achievements of the 2012 year and thanks to all who have contributed. After this Mass staff will gather for morning tea with parents and visitors. We would love to have you share this special Mass with us. If you have been involved in any way, e.g. with the Parents and Friends, Student Banking, hearing children read, working in the classroom, covering books, helping in the Discovery Centre, accompanying children on excursions, helping with Father’s Day/Mother’s Day Stalls, doing jobs around the school or helping in any way at all, please join us. If you are able to attend please return the invitation enclosed in this newsletter.

This season of Advent begins this Sunday, 2nd December. Each Monday morning we will hold an Advent Paraliturgy at 8:50am in the hall, you are all most welcome to join us in this Advent liturgy as we prepare to celebrate the birth of Christ. At this liturgy the relevant candles of the Advent Wreath will be lit. We will also add symbols to the Jesse Tree which is a representation of the ancestors of Jesus. Thank you to the Preps and Year 5/6JL and the Year 1’s and Year 4’s who prepared and lead the first two liturgies.

A reminder to all parents to be vigilant in the drop off zone in the morning. Parents please insist that your children exit the car from the passenger side and not the drivers side.

Booklists have gone out to all students earlier this week. If you are returning these to school please return them by 6th December as we are required to send them on to the supplier so that books are available prior to the 2012 school year.

Best wishes for a great week.

Carmel Marantelli
PRINCIPAL
School Fees

2012 School Fees should now have been paid in full. Your outstanding Fees are now **overdue** and need to be paid **ASAP**. **Re-enrolment** letters will be sent home families with outstanding fees within the next few days. Families will be asked to pay their outstanding School Fees **prior** to your child or children returning to St. Catherine of Siena in 2013.

**CHRISTMAS APPEAL**

The Knights of the Southern Cross & St Vincent De Paul Annual Christmas appeal for non perishable goods in now open. Please consider making Christmas a little more enjoyable for those less fortunate. Donations of goods may be placed in the collection box in the foyer.

**Library News**

Library will be closing Nov 30th for 2012
Students are requested to return all Library books.
Please Check at home and in your class tubs.

Thank you
Mrs Maskell
Library Teacher

**ST CATHERINE OF SIENA - CHRISTMAS RAFFLE**

$1 each / $10 per book

As part of our Christmas Raffle Fundraiser students are invited to participate in our end of year **CHRISTMAS DRESS UP**

**DAY on Friday 7th December**

(Students are required to wear their full school uniform accompanied by Christmas accessories eg: Christmas t-shirts, socks, hats, headbands, ribbons – tinsel, earrings)

We would like to ask all families to help contribute by donating to our Christmas Raffle with the following categories

**PREP:** Non Perishable Festive Foods

**YEAR 1:** Stationary & Christmas Decorations

**YEAR 2:** Art and Craft

**YEAR 3:** Car Care Products and Accessories

**YEAR 4:** Garden Supplies

**YEAR 5 & 6:** Books / Toys

Items can be brought to school up until the Christmas Dress Up Day (Friday 7th December)

All raffle tickets and money are to be returned to school (in a clearly marked envelope) by Thursday 13th December.

The raffle will be drawn at St Catherine of Siena End Of Year School Concert on Monday 17th December.

Raffle tickets will be sent home later this week.

**THANKYOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT**

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

- **Tuesday, December 4th**  Prep Orientation 9.30am – 10.45am
- **Thursday, December 6th**  Basket ball Tournament
- **Friday, December 7th**  Christmas Dress up Day for raffle donations
- **Thursday, December 13th**  Year 6 Big Day Out
- **Monday, December 17th**  Christmas Concert, 7pm
- **Wednesday, December 19th**  Year 6 Graduation 7pm
- **Thursday, December 20th**  End of year Mass, 9:15am
- **Thursday, December 20th**  Students Last Day, 1.00pm

**Advent Paraliturgy**

These will be held at 8:50 in the hall.
You are all most welcome to join us.
Monday December 3rd, Hosted by 5/6MNP
Jesse Tree decorated By 2QS

Monday December 10, Hosted by 3UV
Jesse Tree decorated By 2/3RT

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**Student Scholarships 2012-13**

- Some scholarships require applicants to be in financial need. Parents/guardians receiving Education Maintenance Allowance, the Family Tax Benefit or students receiving the Youth Allowance meet this requirement.
- The closing date for applications is **30 January 2013**.
- The principal must verify the student’s 2012 end-of-year results for the application to be valid.

**CANTEEN ROSTER**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Names</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Friday, Nov 30</td>
<td>Samantha Aneer</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Shirley Dobson</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Sonya Cutajar</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Catherine Lennon</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday, December 3</td>
<td>HELP NEEDED</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday, December 4</td>
<td>HELP NEEDED</td>
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</tbody>
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**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 HELPERS INVITATION**

Throughout the year, the staff and I have been very appreciative of the support you have given us. You have assisted us throughout the year on excursions, in classrooms, through PEP, student banking, canteen, by being involved in fundraising and on the Parents and Friends committee and supporting school events such as the art show, grandparents day and student expos. To show our appreciation we invite you to join us on December 20th for our End of Year Thanksgiving Mass and then join us for light refreshments afterwards. To assist us with catering for this event please complete the invitation below and return this to the office by Thursday 13th December.

**Parent Helpers - Morning Tea Reply Slip**

*I will be attending the Morning Tea on Thursday 20th December after the 9:15am End of Year Thanksgiving Mass.*

Parent/Guardian Name: ____________________________________________

Child’s Name: ________________________________________________

Class: _______________
The Knights of the Southern Cross will be selling ‘shaped’ 6 feet tall [1.8 metres] Christmas trees again this year.

Orders and enquires to Mick Laffin on 0417 522 864 or Lawrence Camenzuli on 0425 744 767.

The cost will be $50.00 delivered or $40.00 picked up from St Dominic’s between 11am - midday on December 1.

Payment is required on ordering.

LOURDES DAY MASS 2012
Saturday December 1st at 10.30am
St Patrick’s Cathedral, Melbourne
Principal Celebrant will be
Most Reverend Denis Hart DD, Archbishop of Melbourne
A blessing of the sick will follow the celebration of the liturgy with water brought from the spring of Lourdes

Australian Catholic University
Transition from Primary School to Secondary School, How Will I cope?
Date: Wednesday, January 23 2013
Time: 9.30am-12pm
Location: Acu Melbourne Psychology and Counselling Clinic 5th Floor, 17 Young Street (Daniel Mannix Building) Fitzroy 3065
Fee: $20.00 Per Student– Payment made on the Day Note: Morning Tea Provided
Contact: Ms Gwen Opai
Call: 9953 3006 or Email: melbournepsychologyclinic@acu.edu.au