Dear Parents and Friends of St Paul’s,

Confirmation – Well the big day has nearly arrived. Tomorrow night our candidates receive the Holy Spirit through the Sacrament of Confirmation. Yesterday we were privileged to have a visit from Archbishop Denis Hart who spent quality time with the children from both Grade 5 and 6 discussing the key elements of the Sacrament and the Ceremony. Please keep our children and their families in your prayers.

Parent/Teacher Interviews and Reports – Just a reminder to families who may have not put in their interview time forms – if you need another form they are available from the ladies in the office. Times are filling fast and if you do not receive your first preference, I will do my best to find the closest possible time. Your interview time will be sent home next Wednesday and reports will be sent home on Monday June 25th.

Funding Response from Stephen Elder – Last week a number of parents wrote to Mr Thompson our Federal Member for Wills, in regards to the Funding of Catholic Schools. I have been informed that many parents have received the same reply from Mr Thompson. I forwarded this information onto Mr Stephen Elder, the Director of the Melbourne Catholic Education Office and he responded with the following information:
1. It is important to note that Mr Thompson didn’t answer the actual questions that were put to him.
2. While funding for the Catholic system will increase, the individual outcomes for schools are still unknown.
3. We still do not know if the indexation arrangements proposed by the government will keep pace with the real costs of education. These include teacher salaries, which are expected to increase in future years.
4. The Australian Government’s uncosted changes to red-tape risk the independence of school leaders to make decisions for their school communities through the centralised control of schools through Canberra.

5. For Catholic school parents, it may mean student fees will have to rise substantially to pay for any cost increase. The problem is we still do not know ‘the devil in the detail’. Usually our Head Office has received indication of the funding for the system very early in the preceding year and individual schools would be well aware of the main financial income stream (ie Grants for 2014). At this stage there is not one piece of information forthcoming. I will keep you informed with as much detail as possible. We have fought long and hard to achieve the gains we have made in recent years in the Government funding we receive and we should not want our Catholic Schools and System further disadvantaged due to shifting of available funding to all schools.

Inside Dismissal – With the bleaker weather we will probably have quite a few inside ‘pick-up’ over the next month or so. Please remember to use the side gate to enter and exit the school in the evening even if it is raining. We need to keep this area as quiet as possible and traffic free as the office ladies are still working at this time.

Interschool Sport – Last week’s match was postponed due to the bad weather. We will organize another match date with St Matthew’s before the end of this term or early in term three. A note will be sent home to advise of the date.

Annual Community Report - Each year we complete a review report on the functioning of the school. The 2012 report will be released next week in the newsletter. Over the following eight weeks a small section of the report will be included. As well we will place the full report on our school website and three hard copies will be available for parents to take home to read overnight. A borrowing system will be set up in the office if you wish to take a hard copy.

Cats have a bye and looked like they were ready for a rest last week. Great effort by socceroos and noticed that the Vixens had a loss last weekend. They are still on track for the finals.

Hope the side you support or play for has a great game.

All the best, Paul
Confirmation Reflection

Breathe in me O Holy Spirit,
That my thoughts may all be holy,

Act in me, O Holy Spirit,
That my work, too, may be holy,

Draw my heart, O Holy Spirit,
That I love but what is holy.

Strengthen me, O Holy Spirit,
To defend all that is holy,

Guard me, then, O Holy Spirit,
That I always may be holy.

St Augustine
The children in Years 1 and 2 have been discussing and learning about the process of getting our food produce from the farms to the markets where it is then sold to us. As part of their Art classes the children created an outstanding piece of work which reflected that process. The work was completed over two sessions wherein the children used paint and collage to create a truck transporting scene. Fabric, felt, different types of paper and beads were used in their creation. A very special thank you from all the 1’s and 2’s to Leon Collia (Eluisa 1/2M and Filippo Prep C) for his very generous donation of the timber dowel which was used for the trucks and tractors. The wooden 3D finish just helped make their work look that extra bit special. Sensational work 1/2’s!!!

Signora Adele

Decorative Religious Candles

- Candles can be made for all occasions
- Personal requests for images, photos or inscriptions can be placed as a burnt image ($10 extra)
- Prices vary between $20—$50
- Orders can be made by phoning Leanne on 0418 395 147
- All proceeds will be sent to Redemptoris Mater Seminary, Sydney.
- Samples of candles are on display at the office.
Holiday Activities you can do with your kids.

Websites with loads of quick fun ideas:

- http://www.littlemonkeyapps.com/
- http://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/ks1/
- http://www.crayola.com/
- http://splash.abc.net.au/early-primary
- http://www.littlemelbourne.com.au/ Fantasitic site that has all weather and free things to do!!

Places to visit:

- Melbourne Arts Centre
- Melbourne Recital Centre: Kids on Tour: Round and round Monet’s Garden
- Heide Museum of Modern Art: Kids and Families Activities, Picnic in the amazing grounds, go look at the vege garden,
- Melbourne Museum: New winter program
- Scienceworks: winter school holiday program
- Collingwood Childrens Farm
- Fitzroy Gardens / Royal Melbourne Gardens: dogs allowed except Children’s Garden
- Melbourne or Weeribee Zoo: Wild nights program.
- Federation Square School Holiday Program
- Queen Victoria Markets: Free Holiday Programs, safe fun activities
- Local Libraries normally hold holiday activities and it’s a nice place for quiet reading time.

Harbourtown: Winter Wonderland Circus Spectacular

ACMI- Kids' Flicks Smart films for smart kids: Fun-filled Kids' Flicks program.
Marine and Freshwater Discovery Centre Queenscliff: Winter by the Sea Holiday Program
Coburg Library

Healthy lunchboxes for kids
11.30 am, Monday 17 June, Glenroy Library

Healthy lunches and snacks are important for children and help with concentration and learning. Dietitian Julie Lew from Merri Community Health has some great healthy lunch suggestions. This talk follows storytime, which is at 10.30 am. A healthy snack will be provided.

Register online: morelandcitylibraries.eventbrite.com.au or phone 9353 4000

RockBody Fitness
BoxFit

BoxFit is a new and exciting group fitness class that will be held in the multipurpose room on Tuesday mornings from 9.15am—10.15. BoxFit is a mixture of boxing and circuit class and is guaranteed to kick start your morning and burn off all that unwanted weight.

For enquiries contact
Raluca : 0414 144 971
Email: ralucalazarescu20@gmail.com
Cost: $10

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