Dear Families,

Last Sunday was the Fifth Sunday of Lent and in John’s Gospel we heard Jesus say ‘unless a wheat grain falls on the ground and dies, it remains only a single grain; but if it dies, it yields a rich harvest.’ Jesus was speaking about his own life, but he was also speaking to those around him and those of us who read his words today. Jesus wants us to let go of what we want and to respond from the heart to others. When we are prepared to do things to make a difference in the lives of others then the ‘harvest’ that will be gathered from those actions will be great indeed! What do you need to ‘let go of’ in your life to really flourish and ‘produce a harvest’?

**Holy Week Liturgies @ St Mark’s** - Our teachers and students are busy preparing for our Holy Week Liturgies which will be held in Week 9. I encourage families to attend these liturgies to reinforce the message of Easter and the hope it brings us. All details of dates and times are included in the calendar below.

Last Thursday we received a lovely letter from a parent of one of last year’s Gr6 students. The letter was to thank their daughter’s Gr 5 & 6 teacher for all her “hard work and dedication” in preparing their daughter “for her work load and most of all for preparing her for year 7”. The family had their first parent teacher interviews at the new school with all their daughter’s teachers. “We were so overwhelmed with every teachers response on how organised and well prepared she is and that she has settled so well into year 7. They all asked what school she came from and that’s a credit to you for all your hard work and dedication to your students”. It’s lovely to receive feedback such as this as it reinforces the benefits to children when families and schools work in partnership.

**Enhancing Catholic School Identity (ECSI) Surveys** – as outlined in the Newsletter last week all families have been invited to participate in the ECSI survey which will assist us in better understanding how our Catholic Identity is expressed in work and practice here at St Mark’s Catholic Parish Primary School, Fawkner.

Parents are asked to complete the survey online; it may take you up to an hour to do so. 5/6 Students and all Staff will complete the survey at school.

Thank you for your consideration of this request and for your anticipated participation. All details will be sent home with the eldest in each family today.

**Change over from Summer to Winter Uniform** – As our School Photos are being held on Thursday May 3rd (Week 3 of Term 2), all students need to be wearing Winter Uniform by the week beginning Monday April 30th. This will allow a two week transition period at the beginning of Term 2.

**St Mark’s Chickens & Rabbits** – Thank you to the families who have offered to care for our chickens and rabbits over the holidays. If you would like to help out, please leave your name at the office and I will be in touch to explain the procedure. Thank you.

**2019 Prep Enrolments** – If you have a child who will be starting school next year can you please collect an Enrolment Form from the Office. We need these returned as soon as possible so we know how many places we have for new families who wish to enrol.
2018 Sacrament Dates

Reconciliation - Grade 3: **Wednesday 5th September at 7.00pm in St Mark’s Church**
First Eucharist - Grade 4: **Sunday 3rd of June at 10.30am in St Mark’s Church**
Confirmation - Grade 6: **Sunday 29th of July at 10.30am in St Mark’s Church**

**Farewell** – Sadly, last Friday we said farewell to JJ (LA1) and Natasha (LA3). We thank JJ and Natasha for sharing the gift of themselves with the St Mark’s community in their short time here. We wish them and their family every blessing as they embark on this next phase of their lives. May the Holy Spirit watch over them and continue to guide them in all they do.

God bless
Peter Wilson, Principal

**FRIDAY ASSEMBLY - 9.00 A.M. – HARMONY DAY (LA10)**

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<th>2018</th>
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<td><strong>MARCH</strong></td>
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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
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<tr>
<td>Friday 1st</td>
<td>1st Eucharist Retreat Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday 1st</td>
<td>12.30pm 5/6 Interschool Sport – Round 7 – Away v Glenroy Central PS</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sunday 3rd</td>
<td>10.30am Celebration of 1st Eucharist @ St Mark’s</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday 8th</td>
<td>12.30pm 5/6 Interschool Sport – Round 8 – Away v Oak Park PS</td>
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<td>Monday 11th</td>
<td>Queen’s Birthday Public Holiday</td>
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<td>Wednesday 13th</td>
<td>Yr4 Mercy Explore Day</td>
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<td>Friday 15th</td>
<td>12.30pm 5/6 Interschool Sport – Round 9 – Home v Westbreen PS</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday 22nd</td>
<td>12.30pm 5/6 Interschool Sport – Round 10 – Home v Corpus Christi, Glenroy</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday 22nd</td>
<td>Semester 1 Reports go home today</td>
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<td>Monday 25th</td>
<td>3.45-5.00pm Student Led Learning Conferences</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday 26th</td>
<td>12.00pm Student Dismissed – Aftercare available, bookings essential</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday 26th</td>
<td>12.15-8.00pm Student Led Learning Conferences</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday 28th</td>
<td>3.30pm Final day for students – students dismissed at 3.30pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday 29th</td>
<td>6.00-8.00pm St Mark’s Family Disco</td>
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<td>Fri 29th</td>
<td>Staff Faith Development Day</td>
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At our school closure yesterday, we worked with three other schools in our zone: Holy Name, Reservoir; St Oliver’s Pascoe Vale and St Margaret Mary, North Brunswick as Collective, on deepening our understanding of Evidence Based Learning. The Evidence Based Learning framework is based on the research undertaken by John Hattie, currently at University of Melbourne, and his team into school practices which have a big impact in children's learning. The research shows that when teachers and schools work together, which is called collective teacher efficacy the effect size is 1.57, which equals over 2 years improvement in learning.

“When teachers believe that together, they are capable of developing students’ critical thinking skills, creativity, and mastery of complex content, it happens! Collective teacher efficacy is teachers shared belief that through their collective action, they can positively influence student outcomes.”

Teachers deepened their understanding about making of the Framework which included:
- **Learning Intentions and Success Criteria** this makes learning visible to students so that students know what they are learning, they know what it looks like when they have mastered it and what their next learning will be.
- **Teacher Mindframes**, which are teacher self-belief about their own teaching.
- **Learning Dispositions** for students which are a way of thinking which guides an individual’s behaviour and response to experiences and learning.

Maria Mercuri
Deputy Principal

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**RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS**

**School Holy Week Celebrations:**

You are warmly invited to come and join us in our school’s celebration of Holy Week. All liturgies will be held in the school hall.

- **Palm Sunday**- Mon 26th March 9.00-9.30, led by LA1 & LA9
- **Holy Thursday**- Thurs 29th March 9.00-9.30, led by LA4 & 5
- **Good Friday**- Thurs 29th March 9.30-10.00, led by LA2&3

On Monday 16th April at 9.00am (first day of Term 2) LA10 will lead us in a liturgy about the Resurrection of Jesus on Easter Sunday.

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**St Mark’s Saints Club News!**

Fundraiser for Project Compassion—St. Mark’s CoinTrail.

Next Wednesday 28th March the Saints Club are organising a St. Mark’s Coin Trail. Why are we doing this? We are doing this for the people who are less fortunate than us. We would like everyone to bring in a coin/s donation. (silver or gold coins will be fine). The Saints Club students will be getting all involved. The most generous LA will get a certificate for bringing in the most money and supporting those that are less fortunate than us.

Thank you Saints Club members and everyone!
Outreach to the Wider Community
We are selling ‘Easter Lambs’ to support the work of the Friends of Missions Association. They are available in white and brown chocolate and are on sale at the school or parish office. Cost: $10 each.

Our local St Vinnies are in need of the following foods for the needy in our local community— tea, coffee, cereal, breakfast spreads, canned food and pasta sauce.

You can leave your food donations in the office foyer or in the basket in the foyer of the church. We thank you for your ongoing generosity!

Mass at St Patrick’s Cathedral
Last Friday our School Captains/Vice Captains and House Colour Captains/Vice Captains went to the Annual Schools’ Mass at St Patrick’s Cathedral as part of Catholic Education Week celebrations. We would like to thank all our leaders for representing our school so proudly and responsibly throughout the day.

Read some of the students’ reflections about the day!

The excursion to Saint Patrick’s Cathedral was fun. After the mass there was a concert and everybody played games together and sang songs (Chiara)

What a great day we had with all the children- getting along, playing together and having a great time. We visited St Patrick’s Cathedral and had Mass. Then we went to a concert with students singing and dancing on stage. What a wonderful day we all had! (Soraya)

The Mass was a wonderful and beautiful ceremony. By Andrew- Kind regards to you

Our Captains and Vice Captains went on an excursion to St Patrick's Cathedral Mass. 200+ schools attended the Mass. We saw Bishop Terence Curtin who is going to celebrate our Confirmation this year. By Ava and Princess

On Friday, the student leaders (Captains and Vice-Captains) went to St Patrick’s Cathedral to celebrate St Patrick’s Day. Maya and Tahlia held the St Mark’s banner. We saw many Bishops and Archbishops including, Bishop Terry Curtin & Archbishop Denis J Hart DD. After that we walked to Treasury Garden to a St Patrick's concert and danced, sung and played games. It was such a fun and an enjoyable excursion. Maya & Tahlia.

In St Patrick's Cathedral there were 250 schools. After Mass we went to the St Patrick's Concert. My friends and I played 40/40 home base and we had so much fun. Anthony
Last Friday the Captains went to St Patrick's Cathedral to take part in the St Patrick’s Mass. At the Mass we got booklets so we could keep up with Bishops. After the Mass we took photos with a few Bishops. Then we went to the park, watched a concert and played lots of fun games. **Dean and Assaad**

Hello my name is **Rhianne**, and I’m known for being Red House Captain. I’m going to be sharing what we did on Friday. First, we went to Saint Patrick’s Cathedral and there was lots of singing. Then we took some photos with the Archbishop and went to the park. There was a concert and then we played 40/40 home base, it was fun! Then we caught the train back to school.

**Ms. Dot Mash**
**RE Leader**

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**Student Wellbeing News**

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**Harmony Day**
This Friday 21st March 2018, is Harmony Day. St Mark’s values the diversity in our own community and therefore place great emphasis on celebrating and reflecting on this special day. The choir will sing the Harmony Day Song at assembly which starts at 8:50am. You are most welcome to come along and see them perform. We ask everyone to wear a touch of **orange** to show support of this day.

The children will then split up into Cross Age and Family Groups where they will work with others to decorate a piece of bunting with information about their family and background. Please talk to them about their heritage, the national flag or outline of their country, drawings of their family etc so that they are prepared with ideas for their decorations.

If you would like to explore Harmony Day as a family, please visit the website for ideas and activities. [https://www.harmony.gov.au/](https://www.harmony.gov.au/)

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**Seasons for Growth**
Next term we will be offering the Seasons for Growth program for children dealing with change and loss. This program is facilitated in small groups and is based on research that highlights the importance of social support and the need to practise new skills to cope effectively with change and loss. There will be a **parent information session** this Friday afternoon in the Family Lounge at 3pm for those wanting to know more about the program. An **expression of interest form and information brochure** will also accompany this newsletter today for those who feel their children will benefit from the program. If you have any further questions about Seasons for Growth, please contact me at the school.

**Christine Reed**
**Student Wellbeing Leader.**
Woolworths Earn & Learn THANK YOU
14,160 points.

Your wonderful support in 2017 has earned our school POINTS. With these points we purchased
Lego motor/batteries,
Wooden Marble Run
Children's hammer.

These resources will be used in the classroom for some investigative learning. We will have some photos
in the coming week.
Once again THANK YOU for your generous support.
Maria Mercuri
Deputy Principal

STUDENT OF THE WEEK AWARDS

LA1  Cruz
LA2  Jordan
LA3  Migui
LA4  Abrar
LA5  Tiana
LA9  Luca
LA10 Leigh and Tahu

COMMUNITY NEWS

TWO LITTLE FIGS CAKES AND EVENTS

Two Little Figs Cakes and Events are running a fund raiser.
Available for purchase are Cupcakes, chocolate/vanilla in a box of 12 for $40.00
3 Vanilla decorated cookies with chocolates are $10.00 each box
Kourabiedes (traditional Greek crescent biscuits with almonds and icing sugar) $22.00 kilo
Gift sets are also available.

For orders or further information please contact Connie on 0417 346 035

Free Pop-up Art Workshop during the Easter School Holidays. At this workshop we will be making
puppets from recycled materials. This workshop is a great way for families to connect with each other and
with other families

Wednesday 4th April 10.00 am – 12.00 pm
Major Road Community House
95 Major Road, Fawkner
Registrations are essential
Contact: Gabrielle Macdonald on 0438 849 234
gmacdonald@mcm.org.au
21st March (Wed): 11:00am – Parish Anointing Mass. 
Followed by a light lunch in the Hope Cafe. 
NO 9:00am Mass.

25th March (Sun): Palm Sunday – Holy Week Begins.

27th March (Tue): 11:00am – Mass of the Holy Oils (Chrism) 
at St. Patrick’s Cathedral. All welcome!

29th March: Maundy Thursday. NO 9:00am Mass. 
7:00pm: Mass of the Lord’s Supper. 
(Triple Celebration) 
❖ Institution of Eucharist. 
❖ Institution of Priesthood. 
❖ Call to Service. 
Adoration at the Altar of Repose until Midnight.

30th March: Good Friday, NO 9:00am Mass. 
10:00am: Divine Mercy Novena Followed by Stations of the Cross. 
3:00pm: Good Friday Afternoon Service. 
❖ Passion of our Lord. 
❖ Veneration of the Holy Cross. 
❖ Holy Communion.

31st March: Holy Saturday. 
9:00am: Divine Mercy Novena. NO 9:00am Mass. 
7:30pm: Easter Vigil of the Resurrection of the Lord.

1st April: EASTER SUNDAY. 
9:00am: English/Italian Mass. 
10:30am: Divine Mercy Novena followed by 
Easter Sunday Mass. 
PLEASE NOTE: NO 6:00pm Mass.

Alleluia! Jesus Christ is Risen! 
He is the Saviour of the world. Alleluia!

2nd April (Mon) – 7th April (Sat): 9:00am Divine Mercy Novena followed by Mass. 
8th April: Divine Mercy Sunday. 
9:00am: English/Italian Mass. 
10:30am: Sunday Mass. 
2:00pm: Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament. 
Rosary & Confessions. 
2:45pm: Chaplet of Divine Mercy.
3:00pm: Divine Mercy Solemn Mass. 
PLEASE NOTE: NO 6:00pm Mass.

"There is nothing more man needs than Divine Mercy – that love which is 
benevolent, which is compassionate, which raises man above his weakness 
to the infinite heights to the holiness of God." (St. Pope John Paul II).
PARISH NEWS

SUNDAY SCHOOL: During the 10:30 am Mass all children are invited to an exciting time exploring the teaching of Jesus. Parents, please bring your children.

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<th>Week Day Mass Times</th>
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<td>9:00 am</td>
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<td>9:00 am + 7:00 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Daily Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament</td>
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<td>8:15 – 9:00 am</td>
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<td>8:15 am - 7:00 pm</td>
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<td>10:30 am</td>
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<td>First Sunday of the Month</td>
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<td>5:30 pm</td>
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Sacrament of Reconciliation

| 9:30 am + 5:30 pm | Saturday |
| Or feel free to phone Fr Colin |

Every Tuesday of the Month

| 7:00 pm           | Legion of Mary meeting |

Every Wednesday of the Month

| 7:30 pm           | Bible Study           |

First Wednesday of the Month

| 7:00 pm           | Baptism Preparation Meeting |

Every Thursday of the Month

| 6:00 – 8:00 pm    | Hope Café             |

Religious Education (State Schools)

Classes for State Primary and Secondary School children at Hope Café. Contact the Parish office

| 5:00 pm           | Wednesday             |

Parish Advisory Committee

P Wilson; G Caruana; T Robbins; V Jerome; L Pegorin; L Rahme and M Odíchó

Hall Hire Enquiries - Parish Office 9359 3111
Dear Parents

On Tuesday, May 8 at 2.30 p.m. we will be offering an opportunity for parents of Year 3-6 students to come along to school to take part in a Maths Workshop. This is a chance for parents to hear about how they can help their children with Maths at home. There will be some discussion around Mental Computation skills, Fractions, MTQ topics, NAPLAN and Measurement.

Please register your interest in this aspect of your child’s learning by returning the cut off slip below.

Marcia Smith
Maths Leader

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MATHS WORKSHOP
YEAR 3 - 6

I would like to participate in the Maths Parent Workshop on Tuesday May 8 at 2.30-3.30p.m.

My name is ________________________________

My child’s name is __________________________  My child is in LA_____

My phone number is _________________

Signed ________________________________
Pascoe Vale Girls College invites prospective students and parents to attend our Open Day on Monday 23rd April, 2018.

Information Sessions followed by tours of the College will be held at the following times:

Morning: 9.00am – 10.30am  
Afternoon: 4.00pm – 5.30pm  
Evening: 7.00pm – 8.00pm

Parents and children only need to attend one session. There is no need to register attendance.

APPLICATIONS NOW OPEN: YEAR 7 SEAL PROGRAM 2019

The SEAL Program provides differentiated teaching and learning that meets the needs of gifted and talented learners. The Program provides stimulating learning experiences that challenge, extend, and develop the gifts of students by offering acceleration and enrichment. SEAL students will study a faster paced curriculum and have the opportunity to study concepts in greater depth. There is a greater emphasis on higher order thinking and learning skills and independent learning and research. The SEAL program is suited to students who are capable of studying curriculum at a faster pace, have a strong passion for learning, are capable of working independently, enjoy intellectual challenges and have superior problem solving abilities.

Visit the College website for further information and to apply for the SEAL program:  
www.pvgc.vic.edu.au

If you are unable to attend our Open Day sessions, the College also conducts tours with the Principal throughout the year. Bookings can be made by contacting the College on 93062544 or online through the College website at www.pvgc.vic.edu.au
Register your free account today

From time to time, plans can change last minute – this can be very stressful on parents. And that’s why we encourage all families to register for an account, even if you do not plan on using the program yet.

Registration is as easy as 1, 2, 3 and best of all, it’s free!

Why you should register for an account:

1. You can quickly book into the program whenever you need
2. You will have all the information that you need to help ensure that your children have a safe and enjoyable time in the program
3. You will receive a full information pack about the program

Visit us in program

If you have any questions on how to register for an account, feel free to drop by our program and ask our friendly team. You can also contact our Customer Care Team on 1300 105 343 – available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

Program Details

To find out more about our program, view fees and to register visit www.campaustralia.com.au

We look forward to seeing you and your family soon.

From the Team at Camp Australia

visit www.campaustralia.com.au
The school holidays are fast approaching - are you ready? We are! We will have heaps of activities, with something for every child.

Feature theme days these school holidays include:

**Home Tweet Home**
It'll be a hoot when we build our very own bird mobiles, feeders or houses.

**Gearing up For The Games**
Design and decorate your own sports jersey and get ready to wear it for the any sporting occasion.

**Games On!**
Are you ready for a day full of exciting games that put your skills to the test? We are!

**Plate Creations**
We're opening our minds and getting creative by painting our own magnificent mindfulness plates.

**Book Into A Holiday Club Program**
To discover more about a Holiday Club program at a school near you and to book visit: www.campaustralia.com.au/holidayclub

We look forward to seeing you and your family soon.

From the Team at Camp Australia.
INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC PROGRAM FOR SCHOOLS

Want to learn Keyboard or Guitar???
YES PLEASE!!

ABC Music offers music lessons during school hours every Tuesday during the school term at St Mark’s PS!!

ENROL FROM APRIL 1st www.abcmusicgroup.com.au/enrol-now/ to secure your spot for Term 2 Keyboard or Guitar lessons.

Group lessons are $138 per term.

For more information please contact the ABC office via email: info@abcmusicgroup.com.au or call 9427 8049

Guitars are available for rent or purchase through our website.

Follow us on social media for news and updates.  
facebook Instagram LinkedIn @abcmusicgroup