Dear Parents and Friends of St Brendan’s,

National Day of Action Against Bullying and Violence – Friday March 21st

The National Day of Action against Bullying and Violence is held annually on the third Friday of March. It is an opportunity for the whole school community to ‘take a stand together’ against bullying and violence.

The day is an initiative of the Safe and Supportive School Communities Working Group made up of all Australian education authorities. It is managed by the Queensland Government on behalf of Australia’s government, Catholic and independent school communities.

At St Brendan’s the teachers will teach a series of lessons this week to open up discussion and bring about a greater awareness about the issue of bullying. These lessons will teach the children about:

- The issue of bullying – what it is and what it isn’t
- The role of the ‘bystander’ in bullying
- Who can help us if we are being bullied
- How we can help others if we think they are being bullied

At assembly on Thursday, some of the Year 5/6 students will present some of their learning around the issue of bullying.

On Friday morning at 8:45 am, the children will assemble on the playground and they will ‘take a stand against bullying’. Parents are most welcome to attend.

Working Bee

A working bee will be held at St Brendan’s on Sunday 30th March from 9:00 AM till 2:00PM. We are holding the working bee over this extended time period so that it provides more scope for parents to come and help us. We hope to see as many parents as possible at school to help us attend to some of the jobs that cannot be covered by our lawn mowing contractor. We hope to attend to such tasks as:

- Cleaning up the nature strip at the front of the school
- Trimming the plants on the roundabout to give drivers a clearer view of parents and children walking to their cars
- Spread new sand in the sandpit
- Spread ‘soft fall’ mulch under the playground equipment
- General sweeping, raking, leaf blowing around garden beds and paths

Whether you can spend an hour or perhaps a little longer, we would love to see you and your children at school.
Assembly
This week at assembly, we look forward to the children from 1/2H presenting some of their work to us. Please join us if you can at 8:45 in the multi-purpose room. The Principal’s Award for next week is ‘Showing Support for others’.

Year 5/6 Camp.
The excitement is building in the Year 5/6 classrooms as the children prepare for their ‘Urban Adventure’ that will take place next week. The children will travel to Melbourne and experience some of the iconic places Melbourne has to offer. They will visit the Eureka Sky Deck, the MCG, the Queen Victoria Market and have an Italian dinner in Lygon Street as part of their three days away. This camping experience provides the children with significant learning opportunities. We look forward to hearing of their adventures when they return to school.

SRC Meeting
The first SRC meeting will be held this week on Wednesday March 19th at 1:15pm.
At this meeting, the class representatives will share some good news stories from their classrooms. The children will also discuss any challenges that may be arising on the playground and work together with Mrs Sullivan and Mrs Carr to try to solve them. The children will also decide on a whole school fun day where we can raise funds to support a worthy cause.

Easter Raffle
Our annual Easter Raffle tickets have gone home today with the eldest child. On Thursday, 27th March will be a Casual Clothes Day for our Easter Raffle. For the privilege of wearing casual clothes the children are asked to bring in an item for our Easter Raffle. This is a very popular and worthwhile fundraiser, so please support it. The raffle will be drawn after assembly on Thursday, 3rd April.

Have a great week.

Sue Carr

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Casual Clothes Day

On Thursday, 27th March we will be having a Casual Clothes Day for our Easter Raffle. Please bring along something to put in our Easter hampers
**R.E. NEWS**

Dear Parents & Friends,

Catholic primary and secondary schools in the Archdiocese of Melbourne, proud of their Catholic tradition, celebrate Catholic Education Week each year. **In 2014 Catholic Education Week will be celebrated between 15 – March 23, 2014. The theme will be ....**

Catholic Education Week
Entrust yourselves to God
and dare to dream

During this week we also celebrate St Patrick's Day on March 17 which is an annual observance that is popular in Australia. This event serves as a tribute to Ireland and one of its patron saints, St. Patrick. **Many Australians come together on St Patrick's Day to celebrate Irish culture and remember the life and achievements of St. Patrick’s. He died on March 17 in or around the Year 493. He worked as a missionary in Ireland and it is believed that he banished “snakes” from the country although the term may have referred to pagan Druids or worshippers.**

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**2nd Week of Lent**

**Project Compassion**, Week 2, brings you the story of Deng.

For Deng in South Sudan, the cycle of poverty and disability was made worse with the civil war, which led him and his family to flee their village and live in the bush for many years. Deng and his family are rebuilding their lives through their participation in a Caritas Australia food security program.

Your donation to Project Compassion can help individuals like Deng to rebuild their lives post-conflict.

[www.caritas.org.au](http://www.caritas.org.au)
SCHOOL PHOTO DAY

SCHOOLPIX will be visiting us on MONDAY, 31ST MARCH

PHOTO DAY TIPS:

Dress: Clean and tidy full Summer school uniform.

Hair: Neat and tidy for the Boys and for the Girls hair must be tied back and neat.

Orders: Complete your order form and return to school prior to photography day (or as directed by school staff)

Pre-orders: To pre-order online, take your personal Order and ID Numbers found on your order form and go to www.schoolpix.com.au. All orders placed online will receive a free 20cm x 25cm black and white portrait print.

Dear Parents,

Due to a technical glitch, there was an error in the previous instructions for My Classes. These should be helpful.

Many of our students use the “My Classes” page on our website which has the facility to give students access from any terminal, at school or at home. They can access activities, information and links to assist their learning.

The Italian page is regularly modified and updated to reflect the work we are doing at school. The children can access song lyrics, number sheets, responses to questions, poems for the poetry competition, worksheets that we have used in class and links to good educational websites where the students can practise Italian.

They can even listen to songs we are learning and have recorded in class. You can also take a visual trip around Italy, Un Giro d’Italia, via a powerpoint show with wonderful scenes of Italy.

The Links to some excellent websites on this page provide access to hundreds of activities for the students who wish to consolidate and extend themselves beyond the work we do at school.

To access this page:

Log onto: www.sbsomerville.catholic.edu.au/myclasses

1. Students must enter their school username and password.
   For Preps, use room11 for username and password.
2. In Class Summary, scroll down to “ITALIANO” and click.
3. Check each window to find the resources or activities you are searching for.

Please remember your Hot Cross Buns order, we require them back to the school by Wednesday, 26th March for delivery on the last day of school term.
Yes I am able to participate in the Working Bee

Name: ____________________________
Class: ____________________________
WANTED – CLEANER/HANDYMAN AT ST. MARY’S SCHOOL HASTINGS.

Mr. Fred Arena will be taking Long Service Leave from Monday, 21st April until Friday, 15th August. We are seeking a replacement Cleaner/Handyman for this period.

If you are interested, please ring the school office on 5979 1959 for a role description.

Written applications, stating relevant experience are to be forwarded by Friday, 21st March to:

Mr. Richard Mucha
 Principal

Moonlit Sanctuary Summer School Holidays
Young Ranger Program

Environmental Activities, Native Animal Care,
Fun and Games during April 2014.

Monday 7th, Wednesday 9th, Friday 11th April
Monday 14th, Tuesday 15th, Wednesday 16th, April

Cost: $45.00 per day, or $120 for 3 days.
Bookings essential - suitable 7-14 years.
Hours: 10AM – 4PM

Wear closed-toe shoes and long pants and remember your hat.
Lunches: BYO or available for $7.50

Moonlit Sanctuary
550 Tyabb-Tooradin Rd, Pearcedale
Ph. 5978-7935
Web: www.moonlit-sanctuary.com

Open daily between 10am and 5pm

Looking for under 14’s girls basketball players
Playing on a team at Somerville Stadium every Tuesday with a few girls from St Brendan’s grade 5 and 6 as well as a few girls from year 7 Padua.

Please contact Christine on 0419 891 112 if you are interested.

Do you have a child in year 4, 5 or 6?

Have you missed out on thousands of dollars?

ACT NOW! DEADLINE JUNE 2014

In 2001, the Government introduced the ‘First Child Tax Offset’ and surprisingly many Australians did not know about it and have NOT claimed any benefits.

If you have ANY child that was born between 1 July 2006 and 30 June 2007 you may be eligible to receive up to $12,500 of reimbursable.

The government has a 30 June 2014 deadline on this entitlement, so please email childtax@twelvete.com.au today to receive more information.

TwelveCharteredAccountants
www.twelve.com.au

Your Family Tax Specialist

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Friday 21 March 2014