Dear Parents and Carers

Ash Wednesday Mass—An hour is a fair time to spend in church, but I am very proud to reflect on yesterday’s very positive behaviour, demonstrated by Years 1-6 students at Mass for distribution of ashes. A number of adults commented to me about the children’s reverence. Our students are not perfect but they know how to behave on important occasions and attendance at Mass is an important occasion. I am very proud of our students. I hope you all have a meaningful Lent this year.

Nut Aware School—St Jude’s is a ‘nut aware’ school. We do what we can to ensure the health and safety of our students and encourage and remind students to not bring nut products to school. Teachers talk about this in their classes and we keep an eye out when the children are eating. If you have not let the school know of your child’s allergy to nuts, then now is a good time to let your child’s teacher know as well as the front office.

Annual School Fete—Thank you to Kerry Argall, Nicky Bourke and Sylvia Gallagher who have accepted the challenge of leading our fete committee this year. Planning is under way and I am looking forward to another fantastic fete. Many notes will be sent out asking for your help in all sorts of ways and I encourage you to get involved for Saturday 19 March.

School Community Council—The next Community Council meeting will be held on Tuesday 16 February. Please send your nomination via email to Peter and myself at peter.galvin@cg.catholic.edu.au and sylvgallagher@gmail.com. I recommend you consider nominating yourself for these positions as they are a great way to give back to this fantastic school and community.

I would like to welcome Susan Rowell as Treasurer this year, taking over from Kerry Velloza. Thank you Kerry for your hard work as Treasurer over the past year. Julie Ford is 1 year into a 2 year term as Vice Chair, and will retain the position for the next 12 months. Donna Rousch has been the Secretary for over two terms and has done a fantastic job. Thank you Donna for your hard work. It is volunteers like Donna that make this school the great community school it is.

Sylvia Gallagher, Community Council Chair

Trash and Treasure at The Shed—Thanks to the families who dropped off their pre-loved goods to the shed at the end of January. There was a great response which means we have a lot of goods to sell at the fete. The T and T at our fetes are always one of the biggest money spinners. A big thank you must go to Allan Mathew for his time and organisational skills in looking after this aspect of our fete.

Interviews—All parents are encouraged to make a time to meet with their child’s teacher in the next week or so. Parents who attended Tuesday’s Parent Information Night began to make appointments. Timesheets are available outside each classroom for parents to make an appointment. These appointments are a valuable opportunity for parents to share information/insights into their child that you believe is valuable detail for the teacher to know. It is not an opportunity for teachers to report on progress since school commenced.

Best wishes

Peter Galvin
Principal
Sports Days for 2016 are Wednesday and Friday. Don’t forget to wear your sports uniform!

Years 5 and 6 Camp—Camp in 2016 will come upon us very quickly this year. Each year our Years 5 and 6 students go on camp at the start of the year. Our camp this year is early (week 6) so no doubt there will be a mad push for forms to be sent out shortly and then chased up so all is right to go for March 7-9. The venue is Birrigai near Tharwa. Having camp early in the year will encourage and allow opportunities for the students to get to know their classmates in a relaxed and enjoyable format. It will be a good opportunity for team building. It is also a good opportunity for staff to understand and learn about the students in their class and help to build positive relationships for the year.

Fete Date 2016—As most of us know, the fete is the Community Council’s biggest fundraiser each year and its success depends upon the efforts of many. Our fete will be on SATURDAY 19 MARCH. To run a fete is a big deal, so please consider where you might be able to assist. Class groups should nominate early if they have a desire to organise and run a particular stall – get in early! Please keep your eye out for further information and assist where you can. It is a great day and a lovely opportunity to contribute and get to know all of the fantastic members of our school community.

Medical Action Plans—If your child has a medical action plan for allergies and/or asthma, could you please ensure the front office has an up to date copy.

Skoolbag—Please subscribe to Skoolbag! Skoolbag keeps you up to date with the latest information from school. The school uses SKOOLBAG as one way of communicating with you, the parents and carers. We encourage you to download the app appropriate for your device and install it onto your phone or tablet. You can view the school calendar for upcoming events, record sick notes and other absences for your child, and importantly, subscribe for alerts relevant to the grade your child or children are in. Instructions for downloading the app are located on the Skoolbag tab on the school website. Once downloaded you must also configure the app to receive alerts. You may choose to receive alerts for all grades and classes, or just those grades that are relevant to your children. You can subscribe to various alert grades by tapping on “more” then “setup” in the app. Alternatively, you can provide an email address to receive alerts that way. Please go to the school website, click the Skoolbag tab for more information.

Happy birthday wishes to:
Esther S, Sam S, Amber V, Jessica C, Kirana D, Ema P and Georgia M

Happy Birthday to Owen B, Joseph G and Ferghus C

Year 4 Dinner—A year 4 parents dinner is being organised for Saturday 27 February, 7.30pm, Meating Room, Cooleman Court. Please put this in your diaries and contact the year 4 parent reps for further details, Emma Fulton and Therese Scarano.

ELC News

The ELC children are continuing to settle in well. They are making new friends and are already growing in confidence in their new environment. This week they have all been learning about preparing for Easter, making pancakes for Shrove Tuesday and receiving Ashes on Ash Wednesday. During this hot weather our Water Days have been lots of fun and a great way to cool off. The Joeys had a visit from Marley the Labrador and talked about looking after one another (and Marley). The Wombats had their first music session with Ms Shanahan and the Echidnas have been working on their self-portraits. All the classes are continuing their focus on ‘belonging’ and it has been nice to see some lovely family photos – please remember to send yours in.

Email addresses—By now ELC families should have received several emails including Fee Statements. If you have not received these please check that we have your correct email address. Some email providers (including Hotmail) automatically block bulk emails. Adding the ELC email address to your contacts can sometimes help.

Community Council Meeting—The St Jude’s Community Council AGM will be held on Tuesday 16 Feb at 7:30pm in the school library. ELC parents are very welcome.

Parent Teacher Interviews—Will be held at the ELC in week 3, from 15 February. Booking sheets will be available next week.

Michelle Parkes
Director
Ash Wednesday Mass—Yesterday we celebrated the beginning of Lent with a whole school Ash Wednesday Mass. Thank you to Claire Maguire, Josh Hedditch and Sarah Chant for altar serving and to the Year 5 and 6 students who did the readings— you read very clearly and confidently.

Lent has traditionally been a time where we give up something for Lent, just as Jesus did for 40 days in the desert. We have been talking to your children about doing other things during Lent such as praying and helping others. Praying can be such things as Mass attendance, family prayer, reading the bible or making the Stations of the Cross. Helping others can be such things as paying special attention to someone who is poor, sick or elderly. Self-denial can come in many forms such as not eating meat or desserts, giving up entertainment to spend time with the family. Project Compassion is a major means of expressing our self-denial in Australia.

Prayer cloths—Thank you to Heather Lloyd, Claire O’Brien and Claire Cimbora who have kindly donated their time to make prayer cloths for the classes. Your efforts are very much appreciated.

Dates to remember:
∞ Thursday 18 February Year 3 class Mass
∞ Thursday 25 February Kinder/Year 4 class Mass
∞ Thursday 3 March 5/6 class Mass
∞ Thursday 10 March Year 2 class Mass
∞ Friday 18 March Palm Sunday liturgy led by Kinder

Year of Mercy—Our focus at St Jude’s this year is on the Year of Mercy. In simple terms we explain to the students that mercy is love in action. This quote from Micah sums mercy up perfectly.

God Bless

‘Act justly, love mercy, walk humbly’

Susan Chant
Religious Education Co-ordinator

BEST WISHES FROM THE MEMBERS OF THE PARISH
Everyone at St Jude and St John Vianney Parish would like to wish parents, students and staff a happy and successful school year. Whether this is your first school year ever or you’re a veteran at the school, a new year is always an exciting time with so much to look forward to. Many of us know your feelings well as past parents or students, and we hope you’ll love being a part of your school community as much as we did. We’ll be praying for God’s blessings on you. Thanks, Leigh Schneider

Sports News
We are looking forward to our Swimming Carnival on Wednesday 24 February for our students in Years 1-6. Your child should have already brought home their note with all of the details. Please send in the permission form as soon as possible if you haven’t already done so. If you are available to assist on the day, please indicate this on the permission form.

You don’t have to stay at the pool all day—a couple of hours would be fantastic!

Weet-bix Triathlon at the AIS is on Sunday 14 February. Entries for this event have closed. Good luck to all the St Jude’s students participating.

Sports Clinics—Year 2 are currently participating in a Netball clinic for 3 weeks. Starting in week 2 and finishing in week 5. The students will not be participating in the clinic in week 4 due to the swimming carnival.

PSSA South Weston Trials—There are a number of trials for these sports: Boys AFL, boys and girls cricket and boys and girls softball. If you are interested in trialling for these sports and you don’t have a note please see Mr O’Brien.

If your child has participated in a sporting event, and you would like him/her to be acknowledged for their efforts, please send me an email via office.stjudes@cg.catholic.edu.au

Tim O’Brien
Sports Co-ordinator
**Library classes for 2016:**

ELC – All classes are on Wednesday this year  
Tues – Kinder, Year 3 and Year 5/6S  
Wed – ELC & Year 1 and Year 5/6SC  
Thursday – Year 2, Year 4 and Year 5H

All children at the ELC have been to visit the Library now and borrowed books - just wonderful! If parents of children in Joeys & Echidnas (or any other parents) would like their children to change their books more often they are very welcome to drop into the Library after school to do so (Tues – Fri).

Lifeline Book Fair is on at EPIC this weekend.

Happy reading!

Verna Comley  
Librarian

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**Mulleygrub Café**

**Masterchef — Friday**

The Lilley family will be making Chocolate Fudge  
Ingredients are: Dark chocolate and condensed milk.

**Welcome back!**

I’d like to begin by thanking all the willing Masterchefs for returning their notes so quickly. We look forward to your tasty treats!

Our local Baker’s Delight has a point system that our school can benefit from. When you purchase anything from Baker’s Delight, ask to have the points put on St Jude’s account. These points can then be used towards ordering bread for our Mulleygrub Cafe fundraisers. Every little bit helps.

Below is a table of the days the canteen is open, who has volunteered and where help is needed. Please if you could spare any time at all, particularly Thursdays and Fridays it would be greatly appreciated. The crucial time is from 9 am to 11 am. Children are welcome. Why not give it a go! Come for a complimentary coffee and a chance to meet new people.

Please note that changes have been made to the menu. Some items have increased in price and new items have been added. There are two items that didn’t quite make it to the menu. They are bottled water $1 and plain milk $1.

Kim Hekimian  
Canteen Manager

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**CANTEEN ROSTER**

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**Wednesday 2 March**  
**Thursday 3 March**  
**Friday 4 March**

| Scott H          | Jo W             |
| Help needed      | Help needed      |

**Wednesday 9 March**  
**Thursday 10 March**  
**Friday 11 March**

| Scott H          | Help needed      |
| Help needed      | Help needed      |
Mulleyduds—Uniform Shop

Mulleyduds welcomes you all to the new school year!

Mulleyduds is OPEN from 3.00-3.30pm on the following days:
  Friday February 12 (Week 2)
  February 19 (Week 3)
    March 4 (Week 5)
    March 18 (Week 7)
    April 1 (Week 9)

A reminder that we gratefully accept donations of second hand uniforms which can be left at the front office. We will have all second hand uniforms for sale at very reasonable prices on our opening dates.

I hope to catch you in the shop.

Susana Lloyd (Mum of Rosie KC, Jacob 2L, Caleb 5/6S)

ACTION SCHOOL BUS SERVICES

All school bus services are now available on the ACTION website for parents and students to begin planning their journeys. We ask that parents and students familiarise themselves with the most suitable route, times and stop locations. School bus services are available to school students only however, parents with young children may apply to travel on these services for a few weeks to help their child get used to bus travel.

We are urging parents and students to check MyWay cards and top up if required. MyWay cards can be topped up automatically using the handy autoload service, online, over the phone via the ACTION information line (13 17 10) or in person with a MyWay recharge agent.

New bus fares came into effect on 2 January 2016. Single trip concessions cash fares will remain $2.30 and MyWay fares are now $1.13.

Parents and students can find more information at action.act.gov.au or by calling 13 17 10.
It sounds like reading to me!

An information session about helping your child learn to read.

Tuesday 23 February 2016
St Jude’s Library - 7.00-8.00pm

Dear Parents

The early years of school is always an exciting time—whether it comes full of hope or slight trepidation. As a kinder parent I remember how daunting the whole school process was for my child – let alone me!

My biggest fear was trying to teach my own kids to read. Scary! So, it is with this in mind, that I offer this talk to you.

The reading talk:

- Reassures you as a parent who needs to guide their child whilst reading
- Provides strategies you need when reading to your child and listening to your child read
- Discusses issues surrounding children and their reading avoidance
- Teaches a variety of simple techniques to assist you and your child.

We encourage parents to attend this talk. It really does help to understand the strategies teachers are using with your children so you can support their reading development.

This talk will be held on Tuesday 23 February at 7.00pm in the library and we would be delighted if parents were able to attend. Some of you may choose to hear the talk for the second time and others may come for their first. Parents from all grades are welcome.

Karen Western
Learning Support Teacher

__________________________________________________________________________________

I will be attending the talk about reading on Tuesday 23 February 2016 in the school library.

Name________________________________________ Child’s class___________

Signature_________________________________________

It sounds like reading to me!

Helping your child learn to read.

I will be attending the talk about reading on Tuesday 23 February 2016 in the school library.

Name________________________________________ Child’s class___________

Signature_________________________________________
St Jude's 'Spirit' Fete 2016

The 2016 St Jude’s ‘Spirit’ Fete is being held on Saturday 19th March, 10.00am - 2.00pm. Our school fete is the biggest fundraiser for the school each year and its success depends upon the efforts of many and the generous support from local businesses and the local community.

As the main fundraiser for the school we hope you will all help in any way that you can. The key thing we need is volunteers as well as any donations you can make. As a first step, could you please let us know if you are interested in running a stall or if you would like to coordinate the same stall as last year. Once we have the final stalls confirmed we will look at doing the online volunteer sign up register again.

You will notice in the coming weeks your children will be bringing home some plastic slips for donations for the Tombola stall. It would be good if you could fill these plastic zip lock bags with some items valued around $5 that are suitable for children or adults. Some ideas include bouncy balls, matchbox cars, bubble blowers, stationary items, small lego bags, jams or chutney and lollies.

As those of you who have already volunteered for the fete know the value your children place on your involvement in their school. The fete is a great opportunity for all families to get involved in a fantastic event that brings pride to our children and our community.

We understand that everyone is busy but would be grateful for any time you can make to volunteer on the day. Thank you to those who have already contacted us and volunteered, if you haven’t done so yet can you please get in contact with the fete committee organisers or please get in contact with your year coordinators.

Information on ways that you can help will come out in the next couple of weeks so watch this space.

We look forward to your responses and look forward to seeing you on Friday at the St Jude’s Welcome BBQ.

Thanks
Fete Committee Organisers
Nicky Bourke, Sylvia Gallagher & Kerri Argall
stjudesfete2016@gmail.com

FETE MATE is back!

Fete Mate had so much fun at last year’s fete that he/she is back again this year. Fete Mate is such a good mate, fete mate will even shout you lunch, a drink and other fun stuff on fete day. Look out for more information and order forms in the coming weeks.

Volunteers, Volunteers, Volunteers
Parents and Carers are invited to Bringing Up Great Kids—a parenting program developed by the Australian Childhood Foundation for Parents and Carers of children aged 2—10 years.

This course will give you insights and skills needed to:

- Promote positive and nurturing relationships between parents and children
- Explore the management of stress in your parenting role
- Encourage the development of your child’s positive self-identity
- Develop the ability to contain strong emotion and to think through the responses to your child, rather than give ‘knee-jerk’ reactions
- Overcome some of the obstacles that are getting in the way of being the kind of parent you would like to be
- Create opportunities for positive exchanges with your children.

The course is offered 3 hours per week over a 4 week period.

DATES: 24th Feb, 2nd, 9th & 16th March
TIME: 6pm—9pm
VENUE: 57 Hicks Street, Red Hill
FEE: $100 (Concessions available)
Fee includes light supper & course materials

Bookings Essential
Contact
6162 6100
The Journey THROUGH ADOLESCENCE

The Program is called The Resourceful Adolescent Program for Parents (RAP – P). This program is suitable for parents and carers of children attending primary school years 5 & 6 and secondary school students attending years 7—12.

RAP – P will help you:

- Help your teenager to develop a healthy self-esteem
- Help your teenager to gain independence while still feeling safe and part of the family
- Manage your stress so you can do your best job as a parent
- Prevent and manage conflict with you teenager
- Promote harmony in your family

The course is offered 3 hours per week over a 3 week period.

DATES: 23rd, 30th March & 6th April
TIME: 6pm—9pm
VENUE: 57 Hicks Street, Red Hill
FEE: $80 (Concessions available)
Fee includes light supper & course materials

Bookings Essential
Contact
6162 6100