Dear Parents,

Here we are in the first week of Advent on our journey to celebrating the birth of Jesus. Tonight we gather as a community for carols to help us focus on the true meaning of Christmas. Please have children at the church by 5.50 so we can be ready to start at 6.00pm. Could you please ensure that the children wear black shoes tonight.

The Christmas tree is in the foyer as the collection point for our gifts for St Vinnies to distribute. There are only 14 tags for buying gifts for children but St Vinnies have a strong need for the food and Christmas celebration items so please consider purchasing these items and placing under the tree.

Jianna Yu has been the Mandarin teacher at Ss Peter & Paul’s since 1998. Jianna teaches at three schools and is wanting to slow down next year and reduce her workload. So Jianna will be finishing at our school with her last lessons on Friday 13th. Mandarin will continue next year. We are just about to appoint a teacher so I can give you more details in next week’s newsletter.

Reminder: Helpers morning tea Thursday Dec 12th at 10.45am. This is also a time that parents can say farewell to Sandra Hoyne.

I thank Jianna and Sandra for their dedication to their teaching and care of our students.

On Monday we welcomed two students who are visiting with us until the end of the year. Isabel (Rm 9) and Jacob (Rm 4) are home in Australia from Singapore for Christmas.

I would also like to welcome two ACU students teachers Rochelle Berg (Rm 12) and Wan Tzu (Elsa) (Rm 14).

Have a good week

Maria McIntyre

God of life, our hearts desire the warmth of your love and our minds are searching for the light of your Word.

Increase our longing for Christ our Saviour and give us the strength to grow in love, that the dawn of his coming may find us rejoicing in his presence and welcoming the light of his truth.

We ask this in the name of Jesus the Lord.

Amen
5 minute parent survey for your chance to win an iPad!

Ride2School program has partnered with Monash University to conduct research into riding and walking to school. As part of this research parents of primary school students are being surveyed to understand the views of a broad cross-section of parents. Your responses will help us better understand the concerns of parents of school aged children across Victoria. We are keen to hear from all parents, whether your children are driven, walk, or cycle to school.

For your chance to win an iPad, simply complete the following 5 minute survey by 24 December 2013: [https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/R2Sparent](https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/R2Sparent)

The winner will be notified by email and announced on the Ride2School website in January 2014.

OUT OF SCHOOL HOURS CARE NEWS

Hi All,

With the end of the year quickly creeping up on us there are a few reminders.

- There are still quite a few families that haven’t informed me of the days you required next year. I need to know ASAP so I know what spots I have available. You can send through your days via email—sspposhp@gmail.com
- Invitations to our Christmas Party are being sent home, please let me know if you don’t receive yours. I would really appreciate if you RSVP either way for catering purposes.
- Final accounts will be sent out by the end of the week. It would be appreciated if all accounts are settled before the end of the term.
- Vacation care bookings are open. A typo error was made on the day it went to print and the amendment is as follows: Kids Cucina is TUESDAY 14 January, Mexican Madness is TUESDAY 21 January. Apologies for the inconvenience.

Have a great week.
Stacey & the OSHC Team

Reminder!!!!!!!!!!
There are lots of unclaimed Plates and Platters at the school reception. Please call in and pick up ASAP. Thankyou.

Lost
Sports Hoodie Size 10 labelled Ella Garniss. Can you please see check if it was picked up by accident.

Children’s Church
This Sunday 8th December at the 9.00am Mass with Sister Lyn, our Pastoral Associate

Children Participation in Christmas Eve Mass.
Christmas Eve Mass, Tuesday 24th December, will be at 7.00pm at Ss Peter and Paul Church.
We would like to have children from the school and parish involved in reading, singing, music.
If you would like your child(ren) involved please, contact Sr Lyn at the parish Office - 98421480 or leave a message at the school office.
Blessings
Sr Lyn

ASSEMBLY PRESENTATION
MONDAY 9th DECEMBER, 2013
ROOM 4 & 5

Achieving Together in Faith
**P&F MEETING**

The final P&F Meeting is an informal dinner scheduled for Weds 4th Dec – We have booked at Groove Train in Doncaster for a 7:30pm start.

**Scholastic Book Club**

Issue #8 should be here soon, no orders have been requested to be held at the office so all will be sent home through classroom mail, if you did have a Christmas present you do not wish delivered this way, please urgently advise the office!

In addition to this, we are pleased to announce that Book Club has donated 2 book pack prizes for every classroom for the Christmas Raffle, that’s 18 prizes in total. Every student will be entered into their classroom draw with a chance of winning one of these summer reading packs!

**TOY CATALOGUE FUNDRAISERS**

Spare copies of catalogues from Educational Experience, Parent Direct and Chalk are available at the office. There are great toys and more on offer and the school earns 20% commission to support fabulous resources we can enjoy in 2014 and beyond.

**CHRISTMAS RAFFLE**

Tickets out TOMORROW – prizes include A Tupperware hamper, Food Hampers, Kitchenware hampers and more!

Don’t forget – Christmas shopping you do at Rebel Sport can earn us money for equipment through your season pass. We’ve added basketballs and practice nets with your kind support of this program.

**Toy World** Forest Hill and Good Guys

Nunawading purchases connected to the school can also help us fundraise – ask in store.

**Veggie Smugglers**

are now available and will only be available for a few short weeks, with stocks disappearing quickly.

The Veggie Smugglers cookbooks (only $30 each) are full of healthy meals that the whole family will love.

- Delicious and easy recipes
- Solve fussy eating and food rejection
- Stop cooking multiple meals
- Practical sections for quick meals, preparing ahead and freezing


For more information speak to Kim Bedford (Lucy – Rm 3) – kimpbedford@gmail.com or 0402 041 585. See flyer sent home last week or the office.

**School Calendar 2014**

Colouring competition theme is - Family. Students may interpret this theme as they wish. Final entries accepted until play lunch tomorrow morning. A Junior school collage of 4 to 6 entries will be selected along with a senior and middle school winner. Students will choose their favourites at the end of this week allowing collation before year end. Helpers to collate on Wednesday 11th Dec – 4 people take about 3 hours to complete the task. Leave your name at the office if you can help.

**ICY POLES ARE IN STOCK!**

Along with the return of warm weather are stocks of Icy Poles. Icy Poles remain 50c each. Students must buy and eat their Icy Pole before heading to the playground. We have a new committee in place and congratulate the out-going students on a magnificent year!
Online curfew call for kids
Screen time overload

NATASHA BITA

Tech-sawy kids now spend more time online or watching TV than they do at school and should be put on a "media diet" of two hours a day, paediatricians warned yesterday. Doctors have been advised to start grilling parents about their kids' online habits to prevent obesity, bullying and health and developmental problems. Australian paediatricians are backing new guidance issued by the American Academy of Paediatrics, which urges parents to impose a "curfew" for smartphones, and discourage babies and toddlers from watching any television. Australian Medical Association president Steve Hambleton said children were growing obese because they spend too much time in front of screens. Dr Hambleton urged parents to ban televisions and the internet from kids' bedrooms.

The new US guide says the average eight to 10-year-old spends almost eight hours a day with media, while teenagers spend up to 11 hours a day online or watching TV. "Young people now spend more time with media than they do in school," it says. "It is the leading activity for children and teenagers, other than sleeping." The guide advises GPs to ask parents during kids' health check-ups how much time their children spend in front of screens, and whether they have a TV, computer, tablet or smartphone in their rooms. And it suggests kids be placed on a "media diet" of two hours a day.

The lead author of the US guide, Professor Victor Strasburger, said children should not be allowed to watch the internet alone in their rooms. "Keep technology out of the bedroom," he said. "You cannot control what kids are seeing or how much time they spend online if they are wired in their bedrooms." The Paediatric and Child Health Division of the Royal Australasian College of Physicians yesterday backed the new US advice. Its president-elect, Dr Nicki Murdock, said when children were using computers or watching TV they were not going outside, running around and riding their bikes.

natasha.bita@news.com.au

Please note Ss Peter & Paul's School does not endorse any of the advertisements in the publication.