

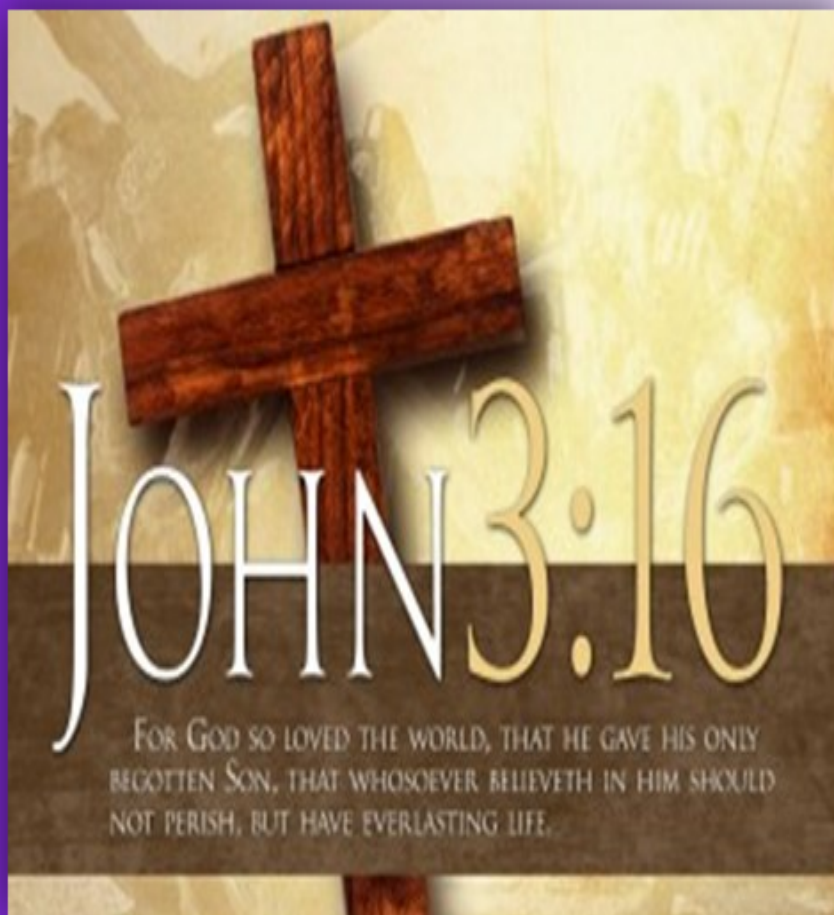
St Ita's Newsletter

FAITH - WISDOM - KNOWLEDGE

50 Victoria Street, Drouin 3818

Phone 03 5625 4222 Fax 03 5625 4330

Email : principal@stidrouin.catholic.edu.au Web site: <http://www3.stidrouin.catholic.edu.au>



We believe in God the Father, who made the whole world.

We believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God, who was born and lived among us, who died on the cross for us, and rose from the dead.

We believe in the Holy Spirit who brings life and love to us all.

We believe that the Church is one family, and that one day we will share everlasting life with God in heaven.

Amen.

IMPORTANT DATES this week:

TONIGHT Wednesday 7th—Family Picnic on the oval—5.30pm

TONIGHT Wednesday 7th— School Advisory Board AGM—Staffroom—7pm

Sunday 11th—P&F Morning tea @ Mass—St Ita's Church - 10.30am

Monday 12th—Labour Day Public Holiday, school closed

Wednesday 14th—Sacrament of Reconciliation—St Ita's Church –7pm

Principal's message:

HOW TO BE BETTER CONNECTED TO OUR SCHOOL

I would like to personally thank all our parents who took the time to respond to the recent survey asking ***"How can parents be more connected to St Ita's."*** These surveys were sent home on yellow paper with a return slip as well as being delivered online via Survey Monkey. We had a response of approx. 20% of school families.

Much of the feedback we received was very positive in terms of things that we do well. In relation to the areas that we could improve on, the feedback was again useful and I will outline and respond to these below.

Communication:

One of the areas we have really worked hard to improve in our school is communication; however, the survey showed that there are some parents who still feel that it could be better. Some of the avenues we use for communication are; Electronic School Newsletter, (Hard copy of newsletter to those who require it), Electronic notice board, Whole school assemblies, Skoolbag App and Class Dojo and daily briefing delivered by our school captains and vice captains. Please check in with your child's teacher if you need any support setting these communication tools up so you can access them. If you have made contact with your child's teacher via an email or phone call and you have not had a response within 24 hours please feel free to contact me direct. If emails are sent to teachers over the weekend, the response would be expected on Monday during school hours.

Times for parents to meet with staff of a morning

All St Ita's teaching staff are at school and available to parents between 8.30am - 8.50am each day. If you need more time with your child's teacher, you can make an appointment after school or a time suitable, however please be aware that on Monday and Wednesday afternoons from 3.50pm staff are in planning meetings or professional learning sessions.

Parent helpers in the Classroom

At St Ita's we actively promote parents being involved as classroom helpers however, this needs to be done in line with the Child Safety / Confidentiality Act. All parent helpers need to have a working with children check and complete a parent helper induction course, which are, ran by Leonie Treller each term. One of the challenges with parent helpers in the class is that we cannot cater for younger siblings and some parents have expressed their disappointment with this however it is the standard that has been set under the Child safety act and we are expected to follow this.

Term Calendar

It was suggested that we put a term calendar within the newsletter and send out a hard copy each term. This is a great idea and very doable however we do not always get specific dates a term in advance so we would need to add events as they come to us.

Open Classrooms

It is a great way to highlight children's learning and we can certainly schedule these open sessions each term. All parents attending would need to have a working with children's check and sign a code of conduct, which is again a part of the Child Safety Act expectations on all schools.

No playgroup this year

Playgroup is a fantastic initiative and is a great opportunity for kinder children to transition into our school however the reality for this year is that we do not have a spare classroom to run the program out of. Our new school build will offer us new options in 2019 however, primarily our classrooms have to be there for our students and our school population is currently at capacity.

After school care

After school care is a hot topic at the moment and is something, we are currently exploring at St Ita's. The challenge with after school care is now that the CEO Sale employs us; all groups running after school care have to tick off many boxes in terms of accountability, liability and capacity to do their job properly and in line with the child safety act and standards.

Most importantly

If you have any issues or concerns in relation to your child's academic, spiritual, social, emotional or physical development your first point of call is always your child's teacher. This can be done a number of ways via an email, a phone call or face-to-face meeting. This is a key component in building a healthy Teacher / Parent partnership. If after meeting with your child's teacher and you still feel a need to speak with me, I will happily make myself available to meet with you via an appointment through Helen or Claire via the School Admin.

Principal's message:

Enhancing Catholic School Identity (ECSI) Survey.

I am inviting parents to participate in the Enhancing Catholic School Identity (ECSI survey) which will be sent home today with all students. This survey will assist us in better understanding how our Catholic Identity is expressed in work and practice here at St Ita's. All the details required to do the survey are attached to the sheet sent home with students.

The Catholic University in Leuven has been commissioned by the Catholic Education Commission of Victoria Ltd (CECV) to design a process and tools, based on sound research, to accomplish the goal of understanding our current Catholic identity and where the school community might like to see it in the future.

The online survey gathers responses from students in Years 5 and 6, all staff, and parents. The survey is a key element in this process and whilst not compulsory I write to request your participation as the more data we get the better picture it paints for us as a school.

You are asked to complete the survey online; it may take you up to an hour to do so. Whilst the language in the survey can be a little confronting, we ask that you try not to get caught up in the questions and simply respond intuitively. Keeping a record of your individual User code and Password will allow you to complete the survey over two or more sessions.

The survey is only available through the project website; please refer to the '*Instructions for Adults Completing Surveys*' which will be sent home with your child and your responses to this survey are completely anonymous.

If you have any questions, please contact me through the school Admin. Thank you for your consideration of this request and for your anticipated participation.

SCHOOL BOARD AGM TONIGHT

Our St Ita's School Advisory Board AGM will be held TONIGHT, Wednesday 7th March starting at 7.00pm in the St Ita's staffroom. Nomination forms are available from the office for anyone wishing to be part of this important advisory committee that does such a great job supporting our wonderful school.

P&F MORNING TEA THIS SUNDAY

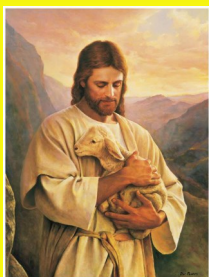
St Ita's Parents and Friends are requiring assistance from our school families to provide a plate for morning tea after Mass in St Ita's Church this Sunday 11th March at approximately 11.30am for all Parishoners. If you are able to assist with catering: biscuits, slice, cake etc, please advise Janet Amey via email or text otherwise please just bring your items to the table in the foyer of the Church from 10am on Sunday 11th March. School Liturgy captains are welcome to assist on the morning if they are available. Email: J.amey@outlook.com. Text: 0417 593 924. Thank you for your support.



FOUNDATION STUDENTS COMMENCE ON WEDNESDAY

A reminder to all Foundation parents that next week, **Wednesday 14th March**, Foundation Students will commence Wednesday classes for the remainder of the year.

IMPORTANT NOTICES



SACRAMENT of RECONCILIATION

DIARY REMINDER

THE SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

The Sacrament of Reconciliation, will be celebrated on:

Wednesday 14th March at 7:00pm in St Ita's Church, Drouin. OR

Thursday 15th March at 7:00pm in St Joseph's Church, Warragul.

Please keep these children & families in your prayers as they continue their faith journey. **Could parents please drop any outstanding forms, baptism certificates, pictures or fees off at St Joseph's Parish Office, 19 Connor Street, Warragul. Thank you.**

All Enquiries: Thérèse p:5623 1642 or email sacraments@warragulparish.org.au (Tue, Wed, Thur)

OUTDOOR PAINT REQUIRED— OLD or NEW & PLASTIC LIDS

As part of Grade 2's Integrated Studies this year we will be working in our school veggie garden.



- We would greatly appreciate If any parents have some **outdoor paint** they no longer need so we can brighten up the veggie patch area. **It needs to be paint for wood or tin.**

- We will also be collecting any coloured **plastic lids** and bottle tops of all sizes & colours (from milk & juice containers or laundry detergents & Nappysan etc).

As long as they are plastic please keep for us.

We are hoping to collect all **different colours &**



sizes to create some fence art around the school veggie patch. Please wash them and send them along to the Grade Two rooms near the oval gate, or hand them into your class teacher who can pass them onto us. Thank you for your help, Leonie Treller, Mandy Buttner & Liz Schellekens.

PARENT INDUCTION & WORKING WITH CHILDRENS CHECK

As teachers we really encourage and value any parents to assist in the classrooms, on excursions or for various sporting activities. To be able to assist, we do require all parents & volunteers to participate in a short parent induction session at school and a 'working with childrens' check is also required. The parent induction session only takes 10 minutes and we will be running 2 sessions this week on:

Thursday 8th March @ 3.30 pm or Friday 9th March @ 08.30am

These sessions are conducted by Leonie Treller in the Grade 2 classroom portable near the Drouin Rec Reserve gate. If these session times do not suit, please chat or email with Leonie to arrange an alternative time. Email: LTreller@stidrouin.catholic.edu.au.

Once you have these 2 pre-requisites, please make contact with your child's classroom teacher for ways in which you can assist.



EASTER EGG FOR A FREE DRESS DAY

The P&F committee are inviting all students to bring along an Easter egg or Easter gift in exchange for a free dress day on **Tuesday 27th March**. The Easter eggs will then be made into Hampers and raffled off on the last day of term, Thursday 29th March. Tickets are \$1 each and a booklet was sent home to all families yesterday to sell. Please return by Tuesday 27th March.

IMPORTANT NOTICES



JOIN THE CHOIR

St. Joseph's Chorale invites all school students (Grade 2 and above) who are interested in learning to sing choral music. We sing once a month at St. Joseph's 7pm Saturday evening Mass, and other musical development opportunities exist, including the formation of a chamber choir (from term 2) and a yearly Christmas concert. If you are interested, **please call Jenn on 0430 131 445** or drop in at one of our practices on Friday at St. Joseph's Church, Warragul starting with afternoon tea at 3:30pm.

URGENT: FAMILY MEALS REQUIRED



We are seeking the urgent assistance of generous cooks within our school community to help provide some hearty family cooked meals for our food bank freezer. These meals are kept in our school freezer and are distributed to all families within our school community that may be experiencing some temporary family stress to help provide a little comfort and convenience when it may be needed. (eg casseroles, pasta dishes, sausage rolls, soup, rice, lasagne, cake etc). Plastic and foil containers are available from the school office if required to fill with your cooked meal. Please label with a list of ingredients and the date that it was cooked. If at any time you are in need or know of someone in need, please contact the school office and we will do our best to help out. All information is handled sensitively and confidentially.

CAR PARK

An important reminder to all parents entering the school by car. The top car park is a 'staff only' car park and we ask parents not to park in areas that are not marked as car parks as it blocks our car line and increases the wait for before and after school pick up. Parents who need to visit Admin or see class teachers are asked to use the Church Car Park or the Drouin Rec Car park. We ask all parents to adhere to the 8km speed zone within the school for the safety of all our children.

COLES—SPORTS FOR SCHOOLS Vouchers

Please collect and bring any Coles Sports for Schools vouchers to school and drop in the box at the school office or in the **St Ita's box** at Coles Drouin Supermarket. The more we collect the more sports equipment we can claim. Thank you for your support.



LIBRARY NEWS



by Mrs Catherine McKenna

We have had a great start to the term in the library. Students have the opportunity to borrow books for class and home. They use their own shelf marker while browsing the shelves. They have time for independent and shared reading and the grade 3/4s are learning how to search our library catalogue on the internet to look for books of interest.

Book Club Issue 2
is out now.

Orders can be made online through the Scholastic Book Club Loop app or through the Book Club brochure.

Orders are due in by :

Wednesday 14th
March



PIC•COLLAGE

SPORTS NEWS *by Mr Carroll*



Congratulations to SIDATH DE ABREW Grade 5/6W

CRICKET SPORT STAR OF THE WEEK

Sid was selected to play in the U12 Interleague cricket team organised by the Warragul & District Cricket Association . They played 2 matches and won both. One team consisted of players from the Pakenham & Berwick areas and the other team of players from Inverloch, Leongatha & Wonthaggi. Well done Sid!

ACTIVE APRIL

Premier's Active April encourages all Victorians to do 30 minutes of physical activity a day during April. It's free, it's fun and it's part of the Victorian Government's commitment to get more people active and healthy.

Now featuring a mobile app for iOS and Android, you can log daily activity and track your progress on the go throughout the month. Plus, you can create and join teams, compare the progress of team members and win awesome prizes! You can also explore the all-new My Local to discover local offers, events and facilities available throughout Victoria. Just by registering every participant gets discounts and passes like some of these* 10 free passes to a participating YMCA or local government recreation facility. 15% off at Sportsmart in store and online, one hour free tennis court hire at Melbourne Park or Albert Reserve, a 2 for 1 ticket offer to SEA LIFE Melbourne Aquarium, a 2 for 1 ticket offer to Legoland Discovery Centre Melbourne, 20% discount for Netball Victoria school holiday clinics.

Register today at : activeapril.vic.gov.au. *Terms and conditions for all prizes and offers apply.

A poster for Marist-Sion College Year 7 2019 Information Event. It features a photo of a smiling male student in a school uniform. The text reads: 'Marist-Sion College Year 7 2019 Information Event March 7, 2018 4.15pm - 7.00pm'. At the bottom, it says 'For enrolment enquiries please call our Enrolment Officer on 5623 5944' and 'Marist-Sion College www.mscw.vic.edu.au' with the school crest.

MARCH SCHOOL SPORTS CALENDAR

- Monday 5th—
Friday 9th March

Grade 5/6 Swimming
Lessons

- Thursday 15th
March

Regional swimming, Sale

- Friday 23rd March
Senior Athletics Sports
Day (Gr 3-6)

PRIVATE MUSIC LESSONS & PERFORMANCE NIGHT

'Performance Night' for all students

Date: Wednesday 28th March 2018

Where: Longwarry Hall

Time: 7pm till Late

Snacks & Beverages served



*Please RSVP to Meg on 0419 291 081
by the 20th March 2018*

**ENROLMENTS NOW OPEN
AT ST ITAS FOR TERM 2!**



\$30 Per Lesson

*SINGING LESSONS

*GUITAR LESSONS

\$20 per lesson

*DRUM LESSONS

CONTACT MEG: 0419 291 081

EMAIL: megdohertymusic@gmail.com



DROUIN 1ST SCOUTS Fundraiser



Car Wash & BBQ

Saturday March 17, 9am – 12pm

**Where: Drouin Scout Hall,
2 Victoria St, Drouin**

**\$10 per car (includes wash, sausage & tea/coffee)
Sausages & tea/coffee also available separately**



ST MARY'S NEWBOROUGH 60TH ANNIVERSARY

WHEN

**Supper Dance- Friday 16th March
Mass and open school- Sunday 18th
March 2018**

WHERE

**Dance- Yallourn Golf Club
Mass—St Mary's 9.00am
Newborough**

**Tickets: \$25.00 for Supper dance please contact
principal @stmnewbor.catholic.edu.au**



Junior Competition 2018

The Drouin Junior Badminton Club is seeking new players to join
(Ages 6 to 17).

Fees: \$100 for the season
(incl. training, tournaments, membership & insurance)

Bring: A racquet if you have one, drink bottle;
Clean rubber soled shoes to play in
(please don't play in the shoes you wear in, it helps to protect our courts)

Training: Monday's 5:00 to 6:30pm from 12th March 2018
Drouin Badminton Club Hall: Sinclair Street Drouin
(opposite the Drouin Outdoor Swimming Pool)

Games: Friday's 7pm (Season starts after Easter)
Games played at Drouin, Ellinbank, Labertouche and Warragul
Registration open now, free come and try out

ALL LEVELS & ABILITIES WELCOME



For more info contact: Sandra Morgan 0421584201 (coach)
Or Darlene Fankhauser 0409 678 129



Warragul United MiniRoos

Season starts - April 21



9am Saturday March 17th

Geoff Watt Track

**Ages 4-9
wusminirooms@hotmail.com**

ST ITA'S SCHOOL CALENDAR

TERM 1—2018

MARCH

Wednesday 7th	Marist Year 7 Information event—4.15pm.
Wednesday 7th	Family BYO Picnic on the oval— 5.30pm-6.30pm.
Wednesday 7th	School Board AGM—7pm.
Thursday 8th	Grade 5-6 swimming lessons.
Friday 9th	Grade 5-6 swimming lessons.
Sunday 11th	P&F Morning tea @ Mass—St Ita's Church 10.30am.
Monday 12th	Labour Day Public Holiday, no school.
Tuesday 13th	P&F meeting—staff room 7pm.
Wednesday 14th	Foundation students commence Wednesday classes
Wednesday 14th	First Reconciliation—St Ita's Church 7pm.
Thursday 15th	Whole school Mass—9.30am.
Thursday 15th	Regional swimming @ Sale.
Friday 16th	School hall assembly 2.45pm
Friday 23rd	Senior Athletics Sports Day
Tuesday 27th	Lunch Treats day
Tuesday 27th	P&F fundraiser—An Easter egg for a free dress day. Return raffle tickets.
Thursday 29th	Holy Thursday. Whole school liturgy.
Thursday 29th	End of term 1.
Friday 30th	Good Friday.
Sunday 1st April	Easter Sunday.



WEEKEND MASS TIMES

Warragul : Saturday night 7:00 p.m. & Sunday morning 9:00 a.m.

Drouin : Sunday Morning 10:30 a.m. Neerim South : Saturday evening 5:30 p.m.

Parish Contact Details: St Joseph's—Warragul Phone 5623 1642 Fax 5622 3659

Email: secretary@warragulparish.org.au