We pray for each of the children who received the sacrament of Confirmation with Bishop Vincent Long and Fr. Barry yesterday.

May the gifts of the Holy Spirit be with each and every one of them as they continue their journey of faith.

May Jesus watch over them as He watched over his disciples at Pentecost.

Congratulations to all those confirmed on Sunday.....

A big week at St. Theresa’s
NAPLAN is a series of government administered tests that are compulsory for all schools. Children in grade 3 & 5 participate in these tests.

Children are tested in READING, WRITING, LANGUAGE CONVENTIONS (SPELLING / PUNCTUATION) AND NUMERACY.

In the past the NAPLAN tests have attempted to compare the academic results of children in schools across Australia by administering the same test to all children. This has not been a very accurate way of measuring progress as each state in Australia has had a different curriculum and therefore studied different things at different times. Over the next few years a new Australia wide curriculum is being introduced which will bring a little more consistency into the testing that is administered.

Parents receive a copy of their child’s results later in the year and they are given different forms of information in these results. Basically, parents receive an indication of where their child is compared to other children in the same grade level across Australia and also an indication of where they are expected to be at this stage of their education.

Parents should keep in mind that these tests are just a single snapshot on a day and are only one of many different testing tools used in schools. Some children perform well in these formal test conditions and others find it difficult even though they might be quite good in a given area. It is always important to read these results alongside other available information. Classroom teachers are very skilled at assessing your child and we carry out ongoing assessments which you are welcome to discuss with your child's teacher throughout the term.

If you would like some more detailed information about these tests, please make the time to contact us and discuss this. Marie looks after the testing process at our school and is well able to spend some time with you if needed. Classroom teachers can also help you with this.

This year the testing will be held from Tuesday May 14th – Thursday May 16th.

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**Grade 5/6 Camp.**

Last week the grade 5/6 children went to Anglesea Recreation Camp. The camp was a great success and all children joined in the many challenging activities with great excitement and enthusiasm.

Every child needs to be congratulated for their ability to challenge themselves to try things that they have not done before. We had a great time surfing and canoeing as well as riding mountain bikes and riding the giant swing which is 18 metres above the ground and very scary.... We had some great screamers!

We all thank the 4 parents who joined us for camp. Ryan Blake, Michelle Bant, Toby Wright and Mick Bleszcz who joined in all the activities and their enthusiasm helped to ensure that the camp ran smoothly and safely for all. Congratulations to Erin and Tenielle-Marie who organized the camp for the children and to Angie who also joined us.
Family Week

Family Week is coming up next week. Family week is an opportunity for us to stop and think about the importance of our families in our lives. Family Week runs from May 6th – 12th. The whole school will join together at a family mass on Friday May 10th in the church to celebrate the importance of families and to celebrate Mothers’ Day at the same time.

We are asking every family to provide a family photo that means something to your family for a display board that we are putting together for the week. Please send along a photo with your name clearly on the back so we can return it to you. There will be lots more information in next week’s newsletter regarding Family Week.

Reading Month

May is reading month. You will be hearing lots about Reading Month over the coming weeks. We will be highlighting the importance of reading even more over this time and you will be invited to join us for some of the events along the way. The whole school will be reading at the same time each day during May to help highlight this important activity and Rob will be roving the grades reading stories as he goes… stay tuned!

Can you help?????

We still need 4 more helpers to help out with the Market fresh incursion day. Please let Marie know if you are able to help out with this. This activity is on Tuesday May 7th from 9-1.00pm.

Fundraising

Any donations to the Mothers’ Day stall would be great. Please drop these at the office if you can help out.

Our next meeting of the fundraising group is on Wednesday this week at 7.00pm. We are looking for more parents to join this group. Please consider coming along to this. We are sure you will find it an enjoyable meeting to be at with many other parents to meet.

2014 Enrolments

Enrolments for 2014 open next Monday, May 6th. Enrolment forms will be available from the office and on our Web site.

If you have a child who is starting next year please don’t forget to complete an enrolment as places may fill quickly.

There is an information meeting for NEW families on Wednesday May 15th at 7.30pm to let interested families find out a little more about our school.

An evening with Maria Forde

The parish is organizing another evening with Maria Forde on Thursday May 16th. The last one of these we had was very successful and Maria provided some fantastic insights into faith as well as some wonderful entertainment through her music. Why not join us?

Kinda Kinder

Kinda Kinder continues this week on Tuesday morning from 9-10.00am. Why not bring a friend along to this great play group activity each week. This is open to any family in the area with young pre-school children.
Student awards from assembly.

Grade Prep / One Alison

Srimathi Jayaramanrani for a fabulous diary entry with lovely handwriting.
Jasmine Needelkovski for a terrific job at reading for Alison. A great improvement!

Grade prep / one Kathryn

Emilia Pereira for doing a fabulous job with her reading.
Heath Lehan for knowing all his Gold words and doing so well with his reading.

Grade prep / one Larissa / Jen

Khanh Huynh-Vu for his fantastic efforts in reading and learning most of the 100 most used words.
Lucas O’Neil for being an excellent helper and friend in our classroom.

Grade 2/3 Mary / Sharon

Luca Mezzavilla for working so hard on a wonderful piece of persuasive writing on how everyone should learn to cook.
Jet Loi Quach for a real effort in using his prayer time to connect with God in a peaceful manner and for showing respect to others in the class.

Grade 2/3 Dorianna

Peter Alatsas for really listening and applying himself to classroom tasks over the past few weeks.
Charlotte Nelson for always completing tasks to a high standard and her lovely recount writing.

Grade 4 Aaron

Robert Desmond for making big improvements in his PowerPoint presentations.
Emily Merlino for her excellent presentation on “Blue Heelers”.

Tuckshop helpers

There is a tear off slip for any parents who would like to help in the Tuckshop at lunchtimes for 30 minutes. Please fill this in if you are interested in helping out.

Tuckshop Roster

Name______________________________     Child’s grade _________________________

I would like to be included on the Tuckshop roster.
My best day is ____________________________

I would like to be included (weekly) (fortnightly) (monthly) or whenever there is a gap in the roster.
( Please circle one option.)