Dear Parents,

Today we are sending home a note about permission for photographs/video to be taken of children here at school. These notes must be returned by this Friday, 20th February. If you have any concerns about this note, please contact the office and we can discuss it with you.

A note inviting parents to join our Parent Interest Groups will also be going home this week. Each of these groups make a tremendous contribution to our school and your assistance with one or more of these groups would be greatly appreciated.

Last night our Year 1 teachers led an information evening for Year 1 parents on how we help children with their reading. The aim was to help parents understand how we help children in reading so they can better understand and therefore better support their children. Thank you to the teachers for this effective evening and to the parents who attended.

Thank you also to those parents who attended our Mathletics and Reading Eggs Information session last Wednesday.

A note went home to each family last week regarding our Welcome BBQ. This free event is always a very enjoyable evening and I hope you can come along to meet other school families. Please send your response note back to school by Friday.

Recently we have been informed that legally we need to re-word how we communicate our concerns for the children who may have allergies related to nuts. Although we can’t guarantee that we are a ‘nut-free’ school, we do however stress that we do everything possible to protect children. We have a number of children in our school who have allergies. Some of these can be life-threatening, so we strongly request your support as parents to help endeavour to keep our school nut-free. We also encourage parents to spend time explaining to your children who do have allergies the precautions they need to take for their own protection. We also ask for updates of medical conditions every year for our records. I encourage every parent of a child with a serious allergy to also make a point of speaking to your child’s teacher and updating them of any medical plans, even if you have sent in documentation to the office. It is important to have clear processes in place for our teachers to follow. Your support in this matter is greatly appreciated.

Have a great week, Bede.

*The function of education is to teach one to think intensively and to think critically. Intelligence plus character - that is the goal of true education.*

*Martin Luther King Jr.*
STUDENT BANKING

Wednesday is student banking day. Application packs for new accounts are available from the office.

RE NEWS

This week the season of Lent begins with Ash Wednesday, which also marks the beginning of the annual Caritas Australia Project Compassion appeal. This year’s Project Compassion stories focus on the ways in which Caritas Australia is working around the world to empower vulnerable people to establish sustainable food sources and develop income streams for life.

Your donations to Project Compassion allow Caritas Australia, the Catholic Agency for International Aid and Development, to work towards a more just and fair world, where the basic human right for food is met and sustained.

Each family will receive a Project Compassion box and/or can order a set of leaflets for their donations. You can also donate online via the website at www.caritas.org.au/projectcompassion.

The story in last Sunday’s Gospel is a striking witness to the compassion of Jesus. A man suffering from leprosy summons up the courage to throw himself at the feet of Jesus. Looking into the face of Jesus, he is emboldened to say: ‘If you want to, you can cure me.’ It is an act of faith. Moved by deep compassion, Jesus reaches out his hand, touches the sick man and utters the penetrating words, ‘Of course, I want to. Be cured!’

Project Compassion offers us a way to follow in the footsteps of Jesus. It is our opportunity to be drawn out of our comfort and complacency, to look with the heart and to respond with compassion in a practical way for our brothers and sisters who are in need, both in Australia and in distant lands.

ST ANNE’S CANTEEN

A new canteen menu was sent home to each family last week. Spare copies are available from the office.

GARDEN POTS WANTED

We are fortunate to have some very generous parents in our school who are already thinking ahead to the school fete and are preparing some plants for sale.

We are therefore looking for donations of unwanted plastic pots that we can re-use. Please send any donations into the office thank you!

MEETINGS:

School Board
Wed. 25th February, 5.30pm in the staffroom

CANTEEN ROSTER

This week -

Wed. 18 Feb - Nikki Summerfield, Robyn Frohling
Thu. 19 Feb - Sophie Scolyer
Fri. 20 Feb - Kate Benson, Paula Molnar

Next week -

Wed, 25 Feb - Mel Healy
Thu, 26 Feb - Kylie Miller
Fri, 27 Feb - Kelly Blair, Jason O'Keefe, Michelle Aldrich

This week’s
Friday Feature Food is...

Mini Quiche

Our delicious muffin-sized quiches will include- egg, bacon, cheese and spring onions. $1.50 each

Quiches must be ordered on Friday on a paper- bag, they will be served at the second break.

Does your child ever order a drink or cold/icy snack from the tuckshop?

If so, please remind them that these items need to be collected by them from the tuckshop. These items are not delivered to classrooms with other food items so they can remain cold and/or not melt before the children are ready to eat them.

Please do NOT send nuts or nut products to school.
MEDICAL/CONTACT INFORMATION UPDATE

Last week each child took home a copy of the information we have here at school regarding their home address, medical conditions (if any) and the details of their emergency contacts.

Please carefully check this information upon receipt. If there are any additions or alterations required, please write these details on the forms provided and return them in a sealed envelope labelled “Contact Update”. Please ensure that forms are returned by this Friday, 20th February. Thank you to all the families who have already returned their updated forms.

If all of the information is correct, there is no need to return the form.

Yr 3-6 SWIMMING CARNIVAL

A big congratulation to all children who participated in our Swimming Carnival. A fantastic day was enjoyed by all and it was marvellous to see the children displaying team spirit and encouraging each other.

Well done to McAuley House (Gold) who were our overall winners for the third year in a row! Mercy House (Blue) placed 2nd, Flanagan (Green) 3rd and Bongiorno (Red) in 4th place.

Our overall Age Champions were:

- **Junior Boy**: Sam Webb (Flanagan)
- **Junior Girl**: Lani Wall (McAuley)
- **11 Year Boy**: Brady Marshall (Mercy)
- **11 Year Girl**: Mackenzy Muller (McAuley)
- **Senior Boy**: Charlie White (McAuley)
- **Senior Girl**: Evie Wall (McAuley)

This was a great effort, well done!

Thank you to all the parents and grandparents who helped out on this day. We greatly appreciate your support.

SENDING MONEY TO SCHOOL

If you are sending money in to school, it would be appreciated if you could send in the correct money. It is becoming increasingly difficult to supply change as our EFTPOS facilities are being used more often. Thank you.

UNIFORM SHOP

Our opening hours are -

**Tuesday, 8.30-8.45am**
**Friday, 3-3.30pm.**

DEANERY SWIM CARNIVAL

Yesterday the School had 36 students participate at the Deanery Swimming Carnival here in Albury. The students all participated and represented the school extremely well. We had a number of exceptional individual efforts throughout the day with three of the six age champions coming from our school. Lani - Jnr Girl Age Champion, Charlie - Snr Boy Age Champion and Mackenzy -11 Yr Girl Age Champion. Mackenzy also broke two Deanery records throughout the day.

A big thank you also to all of the parents that assisted on the day.

A huge Congratulations to all of our swimmers.

Mr Gaynor