Dear Columba Families;

On Sunday we celebrated the beginning of the first week of Advent. Advent is a time for preparation and joyful anticipation of Christmas. In amongst the busyness and haste of our daily lives, my hope is that we all experience the peace, fellowship and goodwill that should be the most important part of our preparation for Christmas.

Lord Jesus,  
We wait in hope.  
We, who are busy, seek quiet spaces  
to hear your voice each day.  
We wait in hope.  
We who are anxious over many things,  
look forward to you coming amongst us.  
We wait in hope.  
We are your people, walking in darkness,  
yet waiting for your light.  
We wait in hope.

Based on a prayer by Henry Nouwen

School Christmas Carols
Tuesday 10th December at 6:30 pm
Learning Centre

(Programme attached)
The Columba Christmas Stall will be held on Thursday 12th December in the Staffroom. Students can select from a variety of gifts for the whole family with prices ranging from $2—$10.

Assembly

The final Assembly is scheduled for Friday 13th December at 2:30pm. The Prayer will be lead by students from both Prep and Prep/One. Please come along and help celebrate the achievements of the students. All families are welcome to attend each Assembly.

End of Year Mass

Tuesday 17th December (11:30 am)
At Iona

A permission form is attached to the newsletter. (One note per family)
Please come along to help us celebrate a wonderful year.

Cyber-safety

Just a reminder to parents, especially over the holidays, to be extremely vigilant when their children are using messaging Apps such as KIK. These Apps, whilst a fantastic form of communication, also have the capacity to enable people with criminal agendas to befriend the unsuspecting and allow them to send inappropriate messages and images.

www.cybersmart.gov.au is an excellent resource for both parents and children with advice and information about social networking and online friends.

New Students in 2014

We welcome

Prep:
Janessa Addamo, Zoe Brunt, Macy Cornell,
Lucas Dijkstra, Chase Doherty, Tegan Eeltink,
Levi Fisher, Cody Fry, Hannah Gration,
Aude Grigglestone, Darcy Grimstead,
Amelie Ioannou, Kai Kelsey, Braiden Lee,
Albert McCauley, Lachlan McDonagh,
Sophie Millis, Chloe Monckton, Dean O’Farrell,
Deanna Pilikidis, April Polderman, Tristan Pope,
Jack Puncheon, Zoe Rathbone, Kashya Saunders,
Alishia Smith, Olivia Stanford, Noah van der Veer &
Sammy Wouters

Grade One:
Eilish Pepping
Erin Waterman

Grade Two:
Lincoln Morehu
Phoebe Pepping
Jack Waterman

Grade Three:
Artur Donaldson
Olivia Morehu
Hugh Waterman

Grade Four:
Daniel Pepping
Ebony Elliott

Grade Six:
Zali Elliott
Jamieson Raymond-Smith

School Bank
Friendly reminder that the School Bank operates on: Thursdays
Congratulations to Jake, Vanessa, Xavier and Shainia who have been selected as school leaders for the next fortnight. I am sure they will set a great example for all our students to follow. Well done and thank you to David, Natalia, Leon and Lauren who worked hard as school leaders in the past two weeks.

Lice
Unfortunately we have had several reported cases of Lice in the Junior Grades over the past few weeks. As a justice issue to other students and to avoid further cases, we encourage you to regularly check your child/children’s hair and also ensure that long hair is tied back.

Bunyip Community Carols
Bunyip Community Carols, Friday 13th December at 8:00 pm at the Bunyip Reserve.

Columba will be again represented by a massed children’s choir, representing all grades in the school. Rose Ahrens will conduct the choir and we thank her for so readily giving her time. Please keep this night free!

LAST DAY FOR CANTEEN WILL BE MONDAY 16TH DECEMBER

A sincere thank you to Kim Delosa and Jacky A’Herne for their terrific organisation and running of the Canteen each Monday, judging by the number of lunch orders each week we have had a bumper year in the Canteen! On behalf of Jacky & Kim we would also like to acknowledge and thank all those many helpers who have volunteered in the Canteen, great job everyone!

Please note:
Stocks are running low in the Canteen and therefore some items may be substituted in the last two weeks of school.

Special Menu
Monday 16th December
Sausage in bread $1.00
Ice-cream spider $1.50
Jam Donut $1.50

REMEMBER TO LOOK UP AT THE STARS, NOT DOWN AT YOUR FEET.
**Calendar of Events**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>December</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sunday 8</td>
<td>Graduation Mass</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday 9</td>
<td>Prep &amp; One Excursion to Warragul</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday 9</td>
<td><strong>Swimming Sports</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday 10</td>
<td>School Christmas Carols</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday 13</td>
<td>Grade 6 Excursion</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday 13</td>
<td>Bunyip Community Carols</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday 13</td>
<td>Assembly Payer: Prep &amp; Prep/One</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday 16</td>
<td>Class Transition Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday 16</td>
<td>Reports &amp; Learning Journals sent home</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday 17</td>
<td><strong>End of Year Mass - Iona (11:30 am)</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday 18</td>
<td>Last day of Term 1:00 pm finish</td>
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**Sick Bay Linen**

- 6th Dec: Tynan Family
- 13th Dec: Gooden Family
- 18th Dec: Miller Family

**Tan Bark**

- 7th/8th Dec: Hatherall Family
- 14th/15th Dec: J&D Smith Family
- Before 1st Term: Reid Family

**GOAL:** To ensure there is a consistent and even coverage of Tan Bark throughout the adventure playground.

**You will need to bring a rake with you.** This task can be completed anytime between 3:30pm Friday and 8:00am Monday.

With kindest regards,

Jan Gubbins  
Principal

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**School Crossing Closure!**

Much to our dismay the Cardinia Shire Council informed us last week that the Crossing in front of the school would be closed in favour of a Crossing further down Hope St towards the railway line.

I have included the letter from the Council’s Senior Traffic Engineer detailing the proposed changes for your information.

At the School Board meeting last night a decision was made to express our deep concern over the removal of the school crossing.

Attached is a letter of protest which you are encouraged to sign and return to school by Monday 9th December.

We will present all letters on behalf of our school community to local government officials, Vic Roads and the Cardinia Shire Council in the hopes that common sense will prevail.

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**Victorian Primary Interschool Equestrian Challenge 2013**

Cassidy Fry attended the above event, proudly representing Columba. Cassidy and her pony ‘Charlie’ placed 1st in the Pleasure Mount, 2nd in the Best Presented and 3rd in the Rider 8yrs and under. Together they had a wonderful day and hopefully next year we may be able to field a team from Columba to attend.

Marilyn Fry

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**Rosters**

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**Website**

Please make sure you have a look at the school website which can be accessed at:

[http://www.bunyip.catholic.edu.au](http://www.bunyip.catholic.edu.au)
Carols

Programme for Tuesday 10th December 2013

Learning Centre 6:30 pm

Prep
Away in the Manger

Prep & Prep/One
Jingle Bells

Prep/One
The Empty Crib

Grade Six Awards

Surprise Performance

Presentations to departing families

One
Jingle Bell Rock

One & Two
Joy to the World

Two
Rockin Around the Christmas Tree

Graduation Gifts

Guitar Performance

Staff Gifts

Three
Drummer Boy

Three, Four & Five (all)
Aussie Jingle Bells

Four/Five
Do You Hear What I Hear

Five/Six
Santa Claus Is Coming to Town

Six
Graduation Song

Finale: We wish you a Merry Christmas

Please note: Only two seats per family, Columba students do not need a seat & toddlers on laps please!