Dear Families,

We have achieved many things since the beginning of the year including assessments for each child, introduction of Mathletics and Reading Eggs, participation in Swimming Sports, preparation for the Fete and the Sacrament of Confirmation and I have only mentioned the highlights! The life of our school community continues to thrive and grow but without the support and hard work of staff, parents and the wider community we couldn’t achieve as much as we do.

At times the busyness of life can overwhelm us, so sometimes we need to stop and reflect on our own wellbeing. On Tuesday at our Spirituality Inservice the staff were encouraged to stop and consider the following ideas.

To more fully nurture our Inner life:
• Rejoice and be glad
• Create moments of quiet and calm
• Be conscious of how significant you really are
• Nurture relationships that are important to you
• Keep in contact with God
• Shift the focus from yourself to others
• Interact, collaborate, celebrate
• Nourish yourself spiritually
• Try to keep a balance in your life
• Be an optimist

“Authentic spirituality is not so much about our search for God but God’s search for us.”

Jesus Christ, the Bearer of the Water of Life

Twilight Fete
Friday 15th March
3:00pm—8:00 pm
School finishes at 1:00 pm to allow for set-up.

Fireworks

This year as a special treat a Fireworks display will be the finale of the Fete! The Fireworks will commence after 7:45 pm at the conclusion of the Raffle Draw. We would be very grateful if Bunyip residents could advise neighbors and friends of the Fireworks, especially those with animals and pets.
Our Amazing Students

The Swimming Squad has experienced exceptional success this year with the following students competing at the Regional Championships in Sale.

Congratulations and well done to:

**Boys Under 11 Relay Team**
- Lachlan Brown
- Ethan Brown
- Jake Stewart
- Will Papley

**Boys Under 11 Free-style**
- Jake Stewart

**Boys Under 11 Breast-Stroke**
- Leon Varrasso

*Also*

Congratulations to our cricketing stars, Xavier, Dylan, Matt N., Matt B., Liam, Will P. and Jake who were invited to attend the Victorian School Cricket squad try-outs last Friday.

Congratulations Birkett Family

The Birkett family are certainly amazing artists! Last week all three won places in a national art competition with Ryan taking 1st prize, Lauren 3rd prize and Caitlin 4th prize. The prizes are being presented in Thailand this week and their beautiful art pieces will now be entered into an International competition. Congratulations and well done Ryan, Lauren & Caitlin!

School House Sports

**Friday 22nd March**
9:00 am—2:30 pm

The Columba House Sports take place next **Friday, 22nd March.** Students may wear their team colours or sports uniform, whichever is most convenient for families.

The House Captains for 2013 are:

**GREEN**
- Caitlin Marson
- Georgia King

**RED**
- Dylan Gallasch
- Olivia Wilson

**GOLD**
- Wade Harris
- Finn Hower

Bron will send home a note of request shortly asking for assistance on the day. Parents are invited to come along to support their child/children and to help out with the various events.

Lunch is available for students on the day. Please fill in the attached form and return to school no later than Tuesday 19th March.

Scenes from the School Sports 2012
Please write down in your diaries; **Tuesday, 26th March**!
On this evening, Michael Grose will speak to parents from the three Parishes in Partnership Schools. Michael will share his expertise on parenting, giving insights into bringing up resilient and confident primary and secondary children.

This event is not to be missed and staff from all three schools will also attend. As educators, we want to emphasise the importance of preparing children to become well adjusted and confident young people!

**Michael Grose: St James Hall, Tuesday 26th March at 7:00 pm.**

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**Classroom Contact Parents**

We are still looking for volunteers to become the Classroom Contact Parents for 2013. Classroom Contact Parents assist teachers to prepare for class events as well as organising classroom helpers. Teachers find Class Contacts extremely helpful and an effective way of sharing information with families.

If you would like to be a Class Contact Parent please speak to the appropriate teacher.

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**School Leaders**

Congratulations to Wade, Jason, Georgia & Jaimie 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 to Matt Bow, Dylan, Lilly and Olivia who did a marvelous job as school leaders during the past fortnight.

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**Fete Rides proudly sponsored by:**

Bracken Electrical

Bunyip Swim School
**Assembly**

The next Assembly is scheduled for Friday 19th April at **2:30 pm**. (First Week of Term 2) The Prayer will be lead by students from Grade Prep/One. Please come along and help celebrate the achievements of the students. All families are welcome to attend each Assembly.

**Classroom Helpers**

At Columba we value the assistance of parents in the classroom and on excursions. If you would like to help in the classroom on a regular or casual basis or if you would like to attend excursions you are asked to attend a ‘Parent as Helpers’ workshop.

This will be held on **Tuesday the 19th of March at 9:15 am**. If you attended this session in previous years you do not need to attend again. **Unfortunately parents cannot assist in classrooms or on excursions unless they have attended one of these sessions.** If you cannot make this date please let me know and I will organize another workshop at a mutually convenient time.

Please let the school office know if you are coming along by this Friday so that we appropriately cater for numbers. At our **Parents as Helpers Meeting** we will also discuss the requirements of the ‘Working with Children Check’ which is also a pre-requisite for volunteering at School.

**School Banking**

We are looking for a parent to volunteer to assist with the Student School Bank Program in Term Two.

The Dollarmite (Commonwealth Banking Program) enables senior students to gain experience in managing finances and involves them in real-life maths activities.

Please contact the office if you are interested!

The bank operates one day a week and usually takes about half an hour.

**CAR PARK**

Many, many thanks to our wonderful parents who are following the new car-parking protocols. Both the Car Park and the Pick-up Zone have improved greatly and are running very smoothly and with a minimum of fuss!

One further reminder that the Disabled Carpark should be left vacant for those cars displaying a disabled sticker.

**Mr Howells!**

Many congratulations to Mr Howells who received a Dean’s Award last night as part of his study at university. Daniel sets a terrific example as an enthusiastic and motivated learner and we are delighted in his achievement.

**Enrolments 2014**

The process for Enrolments at Columba for 2014 will be slightly different from previous years.

We ask Columba Families with a Prep to enrol in 2014 to collect an Enrolment Form from the Office and return it to school by the end of Term One. This process will enable us to decide how many places remain for new families and allow us to make decisions for the future development of school facilities.

General Enrolments will then open on April 15th and school tours for new families and school families will be organised after this date.
Many thanks to Kellie Smith for our wonderful promotional poster!
### Calendar of Events

#### March
- **Friday 15**: School Twilight Fete
- **Tuesday 19**: Confirmation Workshop 7 pm (Nar Nar Goon)
- **Friday 22**: School House Sports
- **Sunday 24**: Palm Sunday (Holy Week begins)
- **Tuesday 26**: Michael Grose (Parent Night) Nar Nar Goon
- **Thursday 28**: Holy Thursday liturgy
- **Thursday 28**: End of Term (1:00 pm finish)

#### April
- **Monday 15**: Term Two begins
- **Monday 15**: Enrolments for new families for 2014 begin
- **Thursday 18**: Confirmation Reflection Day
- **Friday 19**: Parents & friends Meeting
- **Sunday 21**: Sacrament of Confirmation
- **Monday 22**: Grade 5 & 6 Camp (Forest Edge)
- **Thursday 25**: ANZAC Day
- **Friday 26**: PIP’s Summer Sports
- **Friday 26**: Newsletter

We pray for the following students who have committed to preparing for the Sacrament of Confirmation:

Liam Bow, Matthew Bow, Stephanie Evans, Dylan Gallasch, Wade Harris, Lilly Hatley-Smith, Finn Hower, Kassy Interlandi, Caitlin Marson, Jason Pisa, Jaimie Pullin and Olivia Wilson.

### Rosters

#### Sick Bay Linen
- **15th March**: Papley Family
- **22nd March**: Kinder Family

#### Tan Bark
- **16th/17th March**: Marson Family
- **23rd/24th March**: Andrews Family

With kindest regards,

Jan Gubbins
Principal

### Website

Please make sure you have a look at the school website which can be accessed at:
http://www.bunyip.catholic.edu.au