Dear Columba Families,

March is shaping up to be one of the busiest and most exciting months of the school year. We were obliged to complete our own athletics trials last week to fit in with the competition scheduled at the district level later in the month. Add to this, Reconciliation preparation for our Grade Three children, the iPad Rollout and the upcoming Fete and it is hardly surprising that we feel that our feet never touch the ground! I’m sure you feel the same way too!

In the staffroom in the last few days we have been discussing the excellent leadership qualities displayed by all the senior students this year. Their care and concern for each other on the playground and courtesy and respect towards others has been outstanding. This was very evident during our sports day last Thursday and was particularly remarked upon by Fr Peter after Mass on Tuesday. We are very proud of our Senior Students, of course we expect nothing less from the children at Columba!

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**Lent**

A time to consider the giving up of what we are for what we may become!

**Reconciliation**

Please keep the following students in your prayers as they prepare for Reconciliation:

Diesel Ashe, Jessica Bow, Phoebe Bracken, Brodie Brasier, Hayden Callinan, Matilda Cunningham, Erina Evleens, Jasmine Gallasch, Cohen Gilbert, Sam Grummsich, Meredith Hatley-Smith, Samuel Hughes, Nathan King, Matilda McKenna, Peter Metz, Robbie Nooy, Brianna O’Connor, Elish Pepping, Nathan Pisa, Alice-Ann Simon, Cody Templeton, Aaron Wlazly and Lily-Anne Wouters.

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**WEEKEND MASS TIMES:**

- **St Joseph’s, Iona**: Sunday 11am
- **Holy Family, Maryknoll**: 2nd Sunday 8am
- **St James, Nar Nar Goon**: Saturday 6pm
- **St John’s, Koo Wee Rup**: Sunday 9.30am
- **St Mary’s, Lang Lang**: 3rd Sunday 8am

**Reconciliation**: Refer to Parish Office
Congratulations to Ally, Riley O., Alex S. & Riley P. who have been selected as school leaders for the next fortnight. I am sure they will set a great example for all our School Leaders to follow. Thank you to Hayley, Maddy, Mitch & Kale who were excellent School Leaders and set a great example for all students to follow.

Assembly

The next Assembly is scheduled for Friday 11th March at 2:30 pm. The Prayer will be lead by students from Grade 5/6 H. Please come along and help celebrate the achievements of the students. All families are welcome to attend each Assembly.

Sport at Columba

Yesterday 18 students competed in the Division Swimming Sports at the Drouin outdoor pool. Congratulations to Hugh Waterman, Pandora Frake, Adeline Wilson, Michala Doherty and the girls 12/13 freestyle relay team (Riley Pullin, Jemma Collins, Madeline A’herne and Adeline Wilson) who have all made it through to the Gippsland Regional Championships which are to be held at the Sale outdoor pool on the 17th of March.

Congratulations to all the Columba swimmers who competed on the day and all gave it their best. You all did very well on such a hot day. A big thank you to Ms Websdale and Chris and the parent helpers who all looked after us on the day.

Madeline A’herne
Columba Sports Captain

If you made a payment towards your school fees by direct credit through the Bendigo Bank to Columba’s bank account on the 26th of February and have not received a receipt, please call at the school office or telephone 5629 5933 as soon as possible.

Thankyou.
Upcoming Excursions:

Thursday 9th March
Tarago Athletics Competition
Geoff Watt Track
(Athletics Team)

Upcoming Incursion:

Thursday 9th March
Cyber Safety talk
(Grade 3 & 4)

UNIFORM ORDERING
2016

Bulk order periods-
Winter Uniform – late term 1 – early term 2 delivery
Summer Uniform – late term 3 – early term 4 delivery

Order forms will be sent home and payment can be made at time of delivery (credit cards accepted at these times only)

Other orders-
Orders are accepted throughout the year (subject to stock availability) by returning your order form and payment (no credit cards) to the office.
Orders are now packaged every Friday and sent home with your child. Orders are unable to be filled by office staff due to the move up to the parent room in the new building.
I will now be available in the parent room on Friday mornings between 8.30 – 9am for any fittings or queries.

Order forms are available on the skoolbag app or at the office. Payment methods are cash/chq/efr
Any queries please call or text 0407 194300.

For sizes outside the range on the order form please contact me as these are often available.

Tracey Puncheon

PLEASE MAKE SURE UNIFORM IS CLEARLY NAMED

Do not put a limit on anything, the more you dream the farther you get!
Michael Phelps
Class Contact Parent

Each year we ask one parent to volunteer to be a class contact who assists the class teacher to organise events and activities for the classroom. We really want to expand this role in 2016 because it is such a great opportunity to involve parents in learning and communicate class activities across the entire community.

If you would like to volunteer as the class contact parent please contact the class teacher.

We have planned a morning tea on Tuesday, 15 March for Class Contact Parents with the hopes of having all class contacts together to discuss and share ideas about the role.

We already have Class Contact Parents for Grade 1/2 CH & Prep and would be keen to fill this position in our other grades.

School Board Vacancy

There is now a vacancy on the School Board which would need to be filled at least until the Annual General Meeting in May. This is a great opportunity to come along to see how the School Board operates and make a contribution to the school community. Please contact the office if you are interested in finding out more.

Bingo Coordinator

This year we are searching for a volunteer to become the new Bingo Co-ordinator! Kate Herman-Ashe is stepping aside after several successful and fun-filled years as co-ordinator. The Bingo crew always have a terrific time, with lots of stories to tell after each night. Columba is responsible for the Nar Nar Goon Bingo three times a year and it is a great fundraiser for the Parents & Friends. Please contact the office if you would like to help!

Bingo dates for 2016 are:
April 7th
August 11th
December 8th

Play Group

Thursday Mornings
9.00am - 11.00am
All Welcome!

This year Rose Ahrens will conduct a two hour program at Playgroup catering for all pre-school ages. Please tell family and friends about the exciting development at Playgroup, everyone is welcome to come along.

The Playgroup would love a playpen for the little ones during playgroup sessions. If you no longer have use for your playpen and are willing to donate it to the Playgroup, please contact Rose Ahrens or the school office.
The count down is on and all the students are very much looking forward to the Fete in two weeks!

This Year’s Fete promises to be bigger than ever:

- Petting Zoo
- EFT-POS machine for Silent Auction
- The Columba Beauty Salon with haircuts, nails polished & hair-braiding
- Fairy Floss machine
- Devonshire Teas

Thank you to all our very understanding families who have been inundated with requests in the past few weeks as we prepare for the big day!

If you have not yet returned your ‘Help Needed’ Form, please do so as quickly as possible. We will shortly be in contact to see how you can assist at the big event. The success of the Fete really relies on the assistance of every family.

We also need volunteers to distribute flyers in the local area, if you would like a little exercise please contact the office!

Coming home tomorrow:-
- Filled Baskets

Coming home soon: -
- Confirmation of times and duties for helpers.
- Final Fete Update

Raffle Tickets due back now!!

Next Fete Meeting:
Tuesday 15 March at 2:30 pm.

SILENT AUCTION

Many thanks to the following businesses who have donated to our Silent Auction. Don’t forget to ask friends and family if they would like to contribute. We always receive amazing items for the Auction from our community!

Target
Victoria Racing Club
Melbourne Museum
Warragul Cinemas
Ace Airport Parking
Woolworths, Warragul
Brewsters Garfield
Puffing Billy
Parnassus
Bunyip Pharmacy

Village Cinemas
Biddy Martha’s
Phillip Island Parks
Garfield Golf Club
Fighting Fit, Pakenham
Garfield Country Meats
Miss Frankie’s Garfield
Luna Park
Herald Sun
Warragul Sporting & Social Club

SILVIC News
Columba School Twilight Fete
Friday 18 March
3:00 pm—8:00 pm

In 2014 we established a sponsorship plan for the Fireworks and Rides at the Fete. This year we would like to extend Sponsorship opportunities as a means of offsetting the cost of the rides and fireworks. Both Rides and Fireworks are immensely popular and attract many people to our Fete. Because of the positive flow on effects from the Fireworks, the Fete committee has voted to have them again this year, weather permitting and permit approved!

PREMIUM SPONSORSHIP $500
- Name, logo, business information included in the school newsletter until the end of Term Three (14 editions)
- Name etc included on colouring competition sheet
- Name etc included on the Sponsor’s Board
- Name etc included on signs around the Fete
- Name etc included on Fete Flyer, distributed within the local area

GOLD SPONSORSHIP $300
- Name, logo, business information included in the school newsletter until the end of Term Two (8 editions)
- Name etc included on the Sponsor’s Board
- Name etc included on signs around the Fete
- Name etc included on Fete Flyer, distributed within local area

SILVER SPONSORSHIP $100
- Name, logo, business information included in the school newsletter until the end of Term One (3 editions)
- Name etc included on the Sponsor’s Board
- Name etc included on signs around the Fete

Please contact the office if you are interested in Sponsoring the Fireworks and/or Rides or alternatively pass this information on to family and friends.

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Please contact the office if you are interested in Sponsoring the Fireworks and/or Rides or alternatively pass this information on to family and friends.
Hayden – I found out that dieticians help football players know how to eat healthily to do their best in their training. They love vegetables and they drink lots of water.

Cohen – I learnt to kick better than I can usually, and I kicked a ball really high. I might play basketball and football now.

Jack – Best fun ever! I really enjoyed learning defensive tackle. I hope we do it again next year.

Macey – The football players need to be fit, by eating lots of vegetables and need to drink lots of water to keep hydrated.

Brodie – Football players aren’t allowed to eat Subway because it has too much bad fat in it.

Hayley – I enjoyed the handball and I learnt a lot when we had Question Time with the players. I learnt how many games the players have won.

Hayden – I found out that dieticians help football players know how to eat healthily to do their best in their training.

Abbey – I really enjoyed kicking the football. I got 5 goals!

Carlie – I learnt how to do a Speccy and that footballers need to eat healthy foods so they can run around properly on the field. They love vegetables and they drink lots of water.

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2016 Parish Sacramental Program
Thank you to all the families who attended the Reconciliation workshop last week. We hope you found it informative and supportive, of all you do at home and at school. To finalise details for the actual Sacrament of Reconciliation, could you please advise Sr Cathy if your child will not be making their First Reconciliation at St Joseph’s, Iona on Thursday 28th April beginning at 7pm. The alternative dates are; Tuesday 19th April at St James, NarNarGoon or Wednesday 20th April at St John’s KooWeeRup. Sr Cathy can be contacted on: MOB: 0459 427 062 or by email: cathy.dean@sosj.org.au

Easter Timetable 2016

Stations of the Cross and Reconciliation
St John’s Kooweerup – Friday Feb 19th 7 to 8 pm
St Josephs Iona – Friday Feb 26th
St James Nar Nar Goon – Friday March 4th 7 to 8 pm

Tenebrae Services (to be followed by Reconciliation)
St Johns Kooweerup – Wednesday March 23rd 7.30 pm
St Josephs Iona – Wednesday March 23rd 7.30 pm
Holy Family Maryknoll – Tuesday March 22nd 7.30 pm

Holy Thursday March 24th  Mass of the Lord’s Supper
St James Nar Nar Goon – 7.30 pm
St Johns Kooweerup – 7.30 pm

Good Friday March 25th  Stations of the Cross
Maryknoll 10.00am
Kooweerup 11.00am

Solemn Liturgy of the Passion
St Johns Kooweerup – 3.00 pm
St Josephs Iona – 3.00 pm

Holy Saturday Vigil March 26th
St Johns Kooweerup – 7.30 pm
St Josephs Iona – 7.30 pm

Easter Sunday March 27th
St Marys Lang Lang – 9.00 am
Holy Family Maryknoll – 9.00 am
St James Nar Nar Goon – 11.00 am

(Please note there will be NO Mass at Iona on Easter Sunday)

It would be very much appreciated if there were children willing to assist with Altar serving at the Easter Masses. Please contact the Parish office or Sr Cathy, Thank you.
We are now in Week 3 of Lent and now is a good chance to review how our Lenten journey, is progressing. Perhaps the following stories may inspire you to continue with your prayers, good deeds and donations. Project Compassion is an extraordinary, ongoing demonstration of the faith, love and generosity of caring supporters, all in the name of justice and peace and is generously supported by Columba families.

The following stories demonstrate how education, training and sharing knowledge empowers individuals and communities to transform their futures and create lasting change.

**Week 3: Papua New Guinea**

Generational poverty has led to many challenges in Dominic’s community in Papua New Guinea, including gender inequality, alcohol abuse and violence. Since receiving training in the Caritas Australia supported Community Conversations program, Dominic has learnt communication and problem solving skills to lead his community towards a more peaceful, prosperous future.

**Week 4: Australia**

First Australian Evangeline lives in a remote community that faces many ongoing challenges. She had a limited vision for her future until three years ago, when she started working at the Djilpin Arts Ghunmarn Culture Centre, a community-owned venture supported by Caritas Australia. Today Evangeline is flourishing, with new skills and a passion for the preservation and promotion of her Aboriginal culture.

As a Catholic faith community, we ensure that the principles of Catholic Social Justice Teaching are articulated and enacted in the daily life of our school community and are animated by the Gospel teaching.

**In Term 1 the focus is on the Principle of Preferential Option for the Poor.** What is Justice for the poor? Caring for the poor is everyone’s responsibility. Preferential care should be shown to poor and vulnerable people, whose needs and rights are given special attention in God’s eyes. At Caritas Australia, the programs aim to reach the poorest and most marginalised people, which often requires greater effort to reach more remote regions.

Thank you for your continued support because together we can empower the world’s poorest people with the opportunity to learn, grow and create change. Keep in mind you can donate through School boxes, by visiting www.caritas.org.au/projectcompassion or phoning 1800 024 413.

Leonie Hester
R.E.I
CLEAN UP AUSTRALIA DAY

Scientists Predict More Plastic than Fish in the Oceans by 2050!!

Ellen MacArthur Foundation 2013

“Right now, one garbage truck of plastic is dumped into the ocean every minute... If no action is taken this is expected to increase to two per minute by 2030 and four per minute by 2050.

In a business as usual scenario, the ocean is expected to contain one ton of plastic for every three tons of fish by 2025 and by 2050 more plastics than fish (by weight)!!”

The Plastic Bag Free Bunyip steering committee in conjunction with the Bunyip & District Community Bank Branch and the Bunyip IGA are planning a two-fold event on Clean Up Australia Day (Sunday March 6th).

- We are hoping to completely free Bunyip of plastic shopping bags for just 2 hours (from 10am-12noon) on Sunday March 6th.

  On that day we will be down at the IGA handing out free fabric bags to shoppers who do not have their own reusable bags, or would like an extra bag for their shopping.

  Many of the local traders have also agreed to participate in this activity so make sure you BYO bag or come down to the IGA and pick one up wherever you plan to shop in Bunyip on Clean Up Australia Day!!

- We have also registered with Clean Up Australia to participate in the nation-wide effort to clean up our towns. If you would like to help between 10am and noon on Sunday 6th March please register at the IGA between 9:30 and 10am...and BYO gloves!!

DON’T BE A DAG
BRING YOUR FABRIC BAG!
**March**
- **Friday 4**
  - Lucky Bottle Day—Superhero & Fairytale Theme
- **Wednesday 9**
  - No Preps
- **Wednesday 9**
  - School Board 5:00 pm Staffroom
- **Thursday 10**
  - Tarago Athletics
- **Thursday 10**
  - iPad Rollout Evening (Grade 3 students)
- **Friday 11**
  - Assembly Prayer: Grade 5/6H
- **Monday 14**
  - Labour Day Public Holiday
- **Tuesday 15**
  - Fete Meeting (2.30)
- **Wednesday 16**
  - First Wednesday for Preps
- **Friday 18**
  - **Columba Twilight Fete**
- **Wednesday 23**
  - Opening & Blessing of the new building
- **Thursday 24**
  - Final day of term (1:00 pm finish)

**April**
- **Monday 11**
  - Term Two Begins
- **Wednesday 13**
  - School Board
- **Thursday 14**
  - Family Life (Grades 1 & 2)
- **Friday 15**
  - Parents & Friends Meeting
- **Sunday 17**
  - Commitment Mass for Confirmation
- **Thursday 21**
  - Family Life (Grades 3 & 4)
- **Friday 22**
  - Assembly Prayer: Grade 5/6/K
- **Monday 25**
  - ANZAC Day (School Closure)
- **Thursday 28**
  - **Sacrament of Reconciliation**
- **Friday 29**
  - School Closure (School Renew)

**May**
- **Monday 2**
  - School Closure (Spirituality)
- **Wednesday 4**
  - Mother’s Day Breakfast
- **Wednesday 4**
  - Mother’s Day Stall
- **Thursday 5**
  - School Photos
- **Thursday 5**
  - Family Life (Grade 5 & 6)
- **Friday 6**
  - Assembly

**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.

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

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**Tan Bark Roster**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>5th/6th March</th>
<th>McAuley Family</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>12th/13th March</td>
<td>Morgan Family</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19th/20th March</td>
<td>Gallasch Family</td>
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With kindest regards,

Jan Gubbins
Principal