6th February, 2015

Welcome back to the New Year.

Dates for your Diary

Dates for the 2015 Term

Term 1  Wed 29th Jan– Thurs 26th Mar
(Easter 3rd – 6th April.)
Term 2  13th April – 26th June
Term 3  13th July – 18th September
Term 4  5th October – Thurs 17th December

Monday 8th February – Preps start full days with Wednesdays off till start of March.
Tuesday 17th February – Pancake Tuesday
Wednesday 18th February – Ash Wednesday
Thursday 5th March – St Kieran’s Day

Any adult wanting to help in the classrooms or attend any school excursions MUST have a Working with Children’s check. This is a legal obligation that St Kieran’s must commit to. To gain a WWC you can do this on line: www.workingwithchildren.vic.gov.au/home/applications, The only cost would be is for a passport size photo. Please do not feel discriminated against if your help is refused. We are following Catholic Education Department rules.

If your child has asthma, anaphylaxis or any other medical condition it is important to ensure we have all that information. It is a legal requirement for those children with Asthma, Anaypalaxis, allergies, or other major conditions to have a plan which is signed by you doctor.

For Information about what is happening during the week check out the white Board near the Tuckshop. Also any notices of Interest will be put up on the windows nearby. We will try and keep this up to date.

If at anytime you have any worries or concerns about your child’s education please come and see me.
Thank you.

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- **8th**: Playground 9am
- **9th**: Preps Day Off
- **10th**: Shrove Tuesday - Pancake Day
- **11th**: P&F Meeting 2pm
- **12th**: School Breakfast 8am
- **13th**: Ash Wednesday
- **14th**: Preps Day Off
- **15th**: Playground 9am
- **16th**: St Kieran’s Day
- **17th**: Preps start full time
- **18th**: St Kieran’s Day
Parents and Friends News

Our first P&F meeting will be held on Wednesday 18th February at 2pm in the Staff Room. Please come along and have a cuppa with other mums and dads.

Tuckshop

A note has gone out asking for helpers in the tuckshop. If you could spare a couple of hours once a week, once a fortnight, once a month or once a term it will be greatly appreciated. New helpers will be shown how to work in the tuckshop.

School Breakfast team

Our first School Breakfast for the year will be on Wednesday 18th February at 8am. Remember children must attend with an adult.

Our monthly school breakfast event has been a great success over the past few years operating as a parent run extra-curriculum activity. We thank Shirley Weir for all her assistance with organising the breakfast last year. We are now seeking a new Coordinator and team members to form a new breakfast team. This will involve setting up the hall, shopping for the breakfast and clean up afterwards. Please see Monica Huffer if you are able to assist.

For Your Interest

Whether their kids are just starting kindergarten or entering the final year of high school, there are many good reasons for parents to volunteer at school. It’s a great way to show your kids that you take an interest in their education, and it sends a positive message that you consider school a worthwhile cause. Many schools now have to raise their own funds for activities and supplies that once were considered basic necessities and parent volunteers are essential to organizing and chaperoning these fundraising events and other school activities.

Reasons to Get Involved

Parent volunteers offer a huge resource and support base for the school community while showing their kids the importance of participating in the larger community. Not only will the school reap the benefits of your involvement — you will, too. By interacting with teachers, administrators, and other parents on a regular basis, you’ll gain a firsthand understanding of your child’s daily activities. You’ll also tap into trends and fads of school life that can help you communicate with your kids as they grow and change (all without intruding on their privacy or personal space). –

(from Free Kids Health Advice)

Around our School

We have many groups that help out at St Kieran’s and are always looking for new helpers. If you could help with any of these groups it would be wonderful for the school. We are in need of extra helpers.

School Advisory Board - Members of the School Advisory Board form part of discussions that assist the Principal in school policy and the decision making process.

Our current board members are:

Principal - Jo Johnson
St Kieran’s Parish Priest - Fr. Harry Dyer
Board Chairperson - Samantha Luke
Parent representatives - Ward Cook
Parent representative - Paul Walsh
Ex-parent representative - Greta Fletcher
Parents & Friends
The Parents and Friends Association organises fundraising and social events. It meets monthly in the Staff room and the dates of the meetings are published in the school newsletter. You do not have to be a committee member to attend the meetings. Some of the activities already held have included: Father’s Day and School concert raffles, school disco, shopping trip fundraiser, sausage sizzle/out of uniform day and cake stalls.

Tuck Shop
The school tuck shop operates Thursdays and Fridays. It relies heavily upon volunteers for it to operate effectively. It is crucial that we have plenty of assistance with maintaining its operations. Monday Munchies are when fruit and Vegies are cut up and offered to the children free of charge. There are also special events day where a one of menu is offered such as Footy day – pies and hot dogs, sausage sizzle days etc.

St Kieran’s Playgroup is held in the hall every Monday morning between 9:00am to 11:30am. The Playgroup is a Community Playgroup and member of Playgroup Victoria, which covers all insurance needs. All pre-school children are most welcome. Contact: Michelle Guthrie, Playgroup Coordinator or have a look at the Facebook page: ’St Kieran’s Playgroup’.

Thank you for your help
A sincere thank you is extended to the following families for watering our school vegie garden for three day ‘shifts’ over the Christmas holidays: Williams/Vlasveld; Dorling/Heusmann; Hitchins; MacGregor; Stewart; Walsh (Jo & Paddy); Vella; Murphy; Demagistris; Weir; Morey/Boyes. Our beans, silver beets, leeks, zucchinis, and tomatoes are still looking great and our passionfruit are going to be mouth-watering thanks to your commitment!

Our New Preps have settled in very well

Back to School Prayer
Father of all mercies
We ask that you would bless the youngest and littlest of learners, the most helpless and powerless of persons, with Your infinite and loving mercy, granting them the strength to learn, concentrate, and act appropriately towards their teachers and fellow students. We also ask that You would watch over them, at home and at school and grant them proper direction so that they may learn of Your wonderful virtues.

We ask this in the name of Your Son, Jesus Christ. Amen