A message from the Principal

At Monday’s assembly Grade 3 / 4 M shared this Sunday’s Gospel, the story of the Lost Son (Prodigal Son). It is a wonderful story of forgiveness and helps us put things into perspective in our lives. The story explains how the son asks for his inheritance (which back then was an insult) and wastes it in the city. When he came home and asked for forgiveness his father was not angry, but overjoyed that his son had returned home. When Jesus taught parables his aim was to shock the listeners and in this case the audience would have expected the son to be turned away or punished because he treated his family with such disrespect. In a way, Jesus asks the adults a very simple question in this story—what is more important money or family? For Children, it is a simpler message and is so important to their everyday lives; God will always forgive them and we should always forgive each other. Thank you to Grade 3 / 4 M for reminding us about the importance of forgiveness in our lives.

Grade Prep/One Haesler also highlighted another important event in Lent with a very successful cake stall. The children and their families were very busy making cakes and slices to raise over $350 for Project Compassion; it is Caritas Australia’s annual Lenten fundraiser. This appeal raises awareness and helps bring thousands of Australians together in solidarity with the world’s poor to help end poverty, promote justice and uphold dignity. I sincerely thank all our families and staff for their generous support of this cause during Lent.

Peter McKenna

Lent Reflection

God of Hope, Open our eyes
To the dignity of every person, each one a sister or brother, throughout the world.
Help us see that we are one.
Then, if we are one, when I see you, I see myself.
When you are sad, I feel your sadness
When you are poor, I too am poor,
When you want a fair chance, I want this for you.
When you are different, I celebrate our diversity.
This Lent, help me to see that there is enough of everything
That there is enough for everyone
Enough food, enough land, enough time, enough of the world’s resources,
Help us to continue to share more openly, more freely, more justly.
Renew our commitment to seek justice and fairness for all this Lent.
Parent Teacher Meetings
Thank you to the many families who attended our parent/teacher meetings this week. These interviews at the beginning of each year are important in helping to build a profile of your child’s needs. In many cases your child will have a new teacher for the year and it is vital that communication is established between school and home.

Harmony Day Breakfast
Our next school breakfast will be our Harmony Day Breakfast, to be held on Wednesday 16th March at 8:00am in the hall. All donations raised will go towards the Caritas Project Compassion Appeal. Families can bring an item or costume to share that represents their cultural heritage.

Breakfast event Co-ordinator
Our Breakfast event is run monthly and is an extra-curricular activity run by our parents. We would like to thank Amie Cook our Breakfast event Co-ordinator for all her valuable assistance with running our breakfast each month. Amie has done a wonderful job and has decided that it is time to allow someone else to take on the role. We are looking for a new Co-ordinator to commence in April. Duties will include shopping, hall set up and clean up after the breakfast. Please contact Mrs Huffer or Mr McKenna if you are interested in the role.

St Kieran’s Care Group
Thank you to those parents/grandparents who have volunteered to be a member of our Care Group.

Tutor Available for Maths & Literacy
Tutor available for after school tutoring. Reliable and reasonable rates. WWCC. If interested please contact Amber on 0400246908.

Parents and Friends News
Hot Cross Buns
Hot Cross Bun order forms have gone home on Monday. Please try and return the forms by Tuesday 15th March so orders can be processed. Hot cross bun can be picked up from school on Wednesday 23rd March.

Easter Raffle
Tickets will be distributed for the Parent & Friends’ Easter Raffle next week. There are 4 great quality chocolate prizes to be won. The raffle will be drawn on the last day of term.

Health and Wellbeing team
Our first Health and Wellbeing team meeting for 2016 will be held on Tuesday 15th March at 1:45pm in the staff room. We are looking for a parent representative to be part of our team. The team will look at the Achievement Program and how we can implement many of the program’s initiatives at St Kieran’s. The team consists of Mr Peter McKenna, Mrs Monica Huffer and our student representatives - Ben Bialy, Lachlan Grant, Caige Effenberg and Will Luke. Please contact Mrs Huffer or Mr McKenna if you are interested in being part of the team.

Principal Award
Congratulations to Madelyn Ransley for receiving the Principal’s award at assembly this week. Madelyn received the award for being so determined to improve in all areas of learning. She never ever gives up!
Latrobe Community Health Service Moe Community Fun Day

Last Friday, our Yr3/4 children attended the Latrobe Community Health Service Moe Community Fun Day. They enjoyed various health and physical wellbeing activities including an obstacle course, information on healthy eating and drinking and the correct way to brush their teeth. St Kieran’s was chosen to attend the Fun Day as our school is participating in the Victorian Government Healthy Together Achievement Program, an initiative aimed at improving student health and wellbeing. Here are some of the excellent writing samples that were completed when the students returned to school.

Today we went to the Latrobe Community Health Centre. We saw red arrows on the treasure hunt. We went to the obstacle course. We went to the fruit and vegetable and we went to the dentist. We went to the petting zoo. I got a balloon but I didn’t want mine any more so I gave it back to the lady. We saw Sportacus and we did some actions to the ABC and it was fun at the Latrobe Community Health Centre.

By Mia Luke

On Friday the 26th of February, all the 3/4s from St Kieran’s went on an excursion to the community fun day. When we arrived we began the fun day by doing an obstacle course. Then we had a sausage and watched Sportacus teach us to eat healthy things. Lastly we walked back to school and enjoyed the rest of lunch. It was a lovely hot day.

By Angus Vella.

Last Friday class 3/4M and 3/4 VE went to the Moe Community Fun Day. We went for the relaunch of the community health centre. First we did the treasure hunt. There were stations to find. There were A, B, C, D & E. Then we went to get a sausage and Sportacus from Lazy Town was on stage. Lastly we went back to school, it took about 10 minutes to walk. On the way back we were hoping that they wouldn’t call to go to paddock because we thought we’d miss out because we had show-bags but we got to go to paddock. The day was fantastic. I was really tired when we got back from the Community Fun Day.

By Bayden Heusmann

On Friday 3/4M and 3/4VE went to the community fun day. We split into groups. I was in the first group. There were letters A,B,C and E to find. I went to A first and it was a bit like yoga. Then we had a sausage and watched Sportacus on stage. He told us to eat good food. It was fun at the community fun day.

By Miro Kaka
**District & Division Swimming Success**

Thank you to all our parents who helped make the Moe District Swimming a great day for the children. Thank you in particular to Natalie Effenberg for her excellent coordination and a lot of 'behind the scenes' work. Everyone was so proud of our swimmers for their determination, sense of fun and sportsmanship.

Congratulations to the following swimmers who won through to compete at the Division Championships yesterday:

- Ben Vincent (Breastroke) was placed 4th
- Kyle Warner (backstroke) finished 5th.
- Caige Effenberg, Will Luke, Kyle Warner and Jake Davis finished a close 4th in the 12 year old relay. What an outstanding achievement from all the boys!

**St Kilda Football Clinic**

Students from Grade One & Two had a great morning last week learning football skills from the Saints' players. Children asked questions, practised skills and received autographs from the players. Mr Hassett and Mr Butler also enjoyed spending time with their favourite team.

**St Kieran’s Athletics Carnival**

The school athletics carnival is to be held on **Friday 15th April 2016** at Joe Carmody Track Newborough. We look forward to a day of athletic fun. Your child(ren) will receive a permission letter on Monday for you to sign and return to school by Wednesday 23rd March 2016. Any parents who can assist with the running of the athletic events are more than welcome to join us. Please let Mrs Effenberg know ASAP.