Dear Parent/s and Guardian/s,

At our opening mass Fr Aju's homily focused on the opportunities we have in life to make choices. He reminded the students that they have the right to say yes to those things that are life affirming and building and no to the things that are negative and superficial. This free will is an amazing gift. Often we feel trapped and that we have no choices in life but this is untrue. We always have the choice about how we act on our feelings. Our behaviour is the result of a choice. We can engage in activities and 'make the most' of every task or roll our eyes and claim things are boring. During the holidays I had this conversation with a young person in our house explaining that we cannot have things constantly supplied to make things 'fun', instead that they had to make the decision to engage and delve into all games and activities (even chores) and make them fun by being in the moment. Our students are very engaged and energetic at present but we know as the year moves along and the days become shorter and colder that once again our joy in life can be lessened. Let’s keep reminding ourselves that we can say yes to being positive, yes to being honest, yes to working hard, yes to pushing ourselves, yes to being resilient and no to those things that make us selfish and resistant to change.

A.B.C’s: Our school’s motto of ‘Love In Action’ can be demonstrated across our school by implementing our ABC’s. These are Acting responsibly, Being respectful and Caring for one another.

Each week at our Friday Assembly, 3 students from each area Junior, Middle and Senior are selected for the ABC award as they are demonstrating these qualities.

Here are our first recipients for this year. Samuel Johnson, Ryan Treacy, Annabel Gammon. Pictured right.

An interview with Ada Hill & Kade Jarvis by Phoebe Hinds from the Specialist Team, with some of our Grade 5/6 students on our ABC’s.

**Name:** Ada Hill  (pictured right)
**Age:** 12
**What does ABC stand for?** Act responsibly be respectful and care for one and other
**Who is someone that shows respect in your class?** Aliarna wright
**How do you show that you care for others?** You look out for people that surround you

**Name:** Kade Jarvis
**Age:** 11
**What does ABC stand for?** Acting Responsibly, Being Respectful and Caring for one and other
**Who is someone that shows respect in your class?** Jack Whiteman
**How do you show that you care for others?** Helping others
**Give an example of how you can be responsible at our school?** Looking after the preps and make sure they do the right thing.

**Cyber Safety:** While it is important for children to experience technology, a great tip for keeping children safe from cyber bullying is to have access to your child's passwords and to keep an eye on what they are doing whilst on the internet. Some families have a policy that Internet access must only be used in the kitchen or lounge room areas where parents can easily observe what their child is doing, rather than behind closed doors. It is also a good idea to ask your child what they are doing on the Internet, as sometimes live chats can be misinterpreted or become a place for cyber bullying.

**SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS FOR 2017:** Chair: Jacinta Johnson, Secretary: John Wilson Committee: Kerryl Battersby, Roz Giles, Rebecca Meadley, P & F rep: Claire Aeschlelminn (spelling check), Staff rep: Margaret Gatehouse.
PARENTS AND FRIENDS NEWS

Any comments or questions or to be added to our emailing list: email: stlaurencepandf@gmail.com

President: Jo Denbrok joannedenbrok77@hotmail.com
Canteen: Deb: 0400 140 449
Second Hand Uniform: Krista 0409 585 080
OR Rachel on 0408 624 062
President: Jo Denbrok Vice President: Belinda Isted
Treasurer: Di Marinou Secretary: Melissa Denbrok

2017 TERM DATES
Term 1: 1 Feb—31 March
Term 2: 18 April - 30 June
Term 3: 17 July - 22 September
Term 4: 9 October - 20 Dec for students TBC & 22 Dec for staff

SUPPORTING OUR SCHOOL COMMUNITY

BAKERS DELIGHT SCHOOL REWARDS: EASY FUNDRAISING. When you buy your bread and baked goods at Bakers Delight mention that you would like your points to go to St Laurence’s Primary School. A portion of your purchase goes to the school. At the end of the term, all unused points are donated to the school.

Don’t forget about Michael’s Supa IGA Community Rewards program. Have you changed your old white tag to the new black ones? To support our school community simply present your black tag during checkout OR you can donate your points to the school. See in store or contact the office for more information.

As the program is solely reliant on the number of active tags to generate the funds, the question is, how many supporting families do we have? In other words if the majority of our school community families are not using the program, we are missing a great opportunity.

________________________________________________________________

P & F
Tuesday Ice-creams/Slushies
Starting 7th February

SLUSHIES $1
CHOC COATED ICE-CREAMS $1
YOGHURT ICE-CREAMS $1
ZOOPER DOOPERS – 50c
ICYPOLES – 50c

HELPERS NEEDED FOR TERM 1 ROSTER: Deb is looking for helpers to go on the Roster for this term please. No preparation needed for this roster, you just need to sell them. You can call her on 0400 140 449.

GRADE 6 T SHIRT ORDERS

T Shirts have been ordered. Delivery is expected within 1–2 weeks. Payment is due now and is $35-50 per T Shirt.

Dear Lord,

I want to thank you for the precious gift of love you have given to the world and to me.
Thank you for blessing me every day with this love and the power and strength that I get from you every single day. Without your love for me I can’t be… I can’t function… I can’t even breathe… because I need your love to sustain me. It’s like food and medicine for my soul Lord.

AMEN

ICY POLES
FRIDAY LUNCH TIMES
TERM 1

50 cents
To be sold at the kitchen window

As part of our School Social Justice Mission, grade 6 leaders will be selling icy poles donated by the staff each Friday in Term 1. All proceeds will go to CARITAS.

SUNHATS

In Term 1, St Laurence’s blue school sunhats are to be worn. Hats are available from the school office.

“No hat, No play”

Cricket Style $10-00
Please note that it is not acceptable to have a frayed hat or have graffiti on hats.

2nd HAND UNIFORM SHOP

We have a selection of 2nd hand uniforms for sale at school. Please call Krista on 0409 585 080 OR

SPEcial: BAG AND HAT COMBO: $50
ALL FAMILIES SHOULD NOW BE ON TIQBIZ. IF YOU HAVE NOT DOWNLOADED THIS SCHOOL APP PLEASE DO SO AS SOON AS POSSIBLE - NEED HELP WITH THE APP? PLEASE CALL THE SCHOOL FOR ASSISTANCE. SUITS SMART PHONE, COMPUTER, TABLET, IPHONE. www.tiqbiz.com

From tiqbiz your can submit absences, access school interviews, access newsletters and notifications and calander dates. Need to contact the office, speak to a teacher, have a query, change bus afternoon bus ? You can do all this from tiqbiz.

School Fee Schedule 2017

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>School Fees</td>
<td>$1070</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Building Levy</td>
<td>$200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Levies</td>
<td>$250</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Excur/Camp/Sport Levy Junior</td>
<td>$130</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Excur/Camp/Sport Levy Middle</td>
<td>$205</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Excur/Camp/Sport Levy Senior</td>
<td>$380</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Please note: Camp fees have been included in your school fees account.

TIQBIZ

Parish / School Evening Fete
Friday, 17th March 5-7:30pm.
We are asking for donations of blocks of chocolate and 1 or 2 litres softdrinks for stall games. These can be dropped of at any-time to the office.
A CareMonkey notice will be sent home shortly asking all families for their help in running stalls/setting up etc. Please look out for this before the end of the week.
DIARY DATES
Please check regularly for date changes.

FEBRUARY

DUE NOW GRADE 6 T SHIRT PAYMENT
$35-50 EACH

Thursday 16th
3-6 Swimming
Friday 17th
3-6 House Swimming Sports
School Fee payment option forms to be returned
Monday 20th
3-6 Swimming
Tuesday 21st
3-6 Swimming
Wednesday 22nd
No Preps—Prep Testing please see your time allocation on CareMonkey
Thursday 23rd
3-6 Swimming
Friday 24th
District Swimming
Tuesday 28th
Second Fete Meeting
Updated Asthma Management Plans to be in.

MARCH

Friday 3rd
3-6 Division Swimming
World Prayer Day Parish Mass 9.30 in church
Wednesday 8th
School Photos
Monday 13th
NO SCHOOL Public Holiday
Tuesday 14th
3rd Fete Meeting
Thursday 16th
3-6 Regional Swimming
Friday 17th
Parish/School Evening Fete
Friday 24th
3-6 Athletics House Sports
Friday 31st
Last Day of term 1

CSEF (CAMPS SPORT EXCURSION FUNDING)
To be eligible for the fund, a parent or legal guardian of a student attending a registered Government or non-government Victorian primary or secondary school must:
- on the first day of Term one
  Be an eligible beneficiary within the meaning of the State Concessions Act 2004, that is, be a holder of Veterans Affairs Gold Card or be an eligible Centrelink Health Care Card (HCC) or Pensioner Concession Card (PCC) holder, OR
  Be a temporary foster parent, and; Submit an application to the school by the due date. * A special consideration eligibility category also exists. For more information, see: www.education.vic.gov.au/csef

Parents who receive a Carer Allowance on behalf of a child, or any other benefit or allowance not income tested by Centrelink, are not eligible for the CSEF unless they also comply with one of (a) or (b) above.

Eligibility Date
For concession card holders CSEF eligibility will be subject to the parent/legal guardian’s concession card being successfully validated with Centrelink on the first day of either term one (27 January 2016) or term two (11 April 2016).

Closing Date
Application close by 28 February 2016, so that payments can be made from March 2016. However schools can accept parent applications up until 03 June 2016.

CSEF payment amount
The CSEF is an annual payment to the school to be used towards camps, sports and/or excursion expenses for the benefit of the eligible student.
- Primary school student rate: $125 per year.
- Secondary school student rate: $225 per year.

The CSEF is paid directly to your child’s school and will be allocated by the school towards camps, sports and/or excursion costs for your child.

APPLICATION FORMS ARE AVAILABLE FROM THE SCHOOL OFFICE.

BELL TIMES

Students need to be at school BEFORE the 8:50 bell

8:50—10:50 Morning Session
10:50—11:30 Recess (inc. 10mins supervised eating)
11:30—1:30 Middle Session
1:30—2:10 Lunch (inc. 10 mins supervised eating)

PHONES, TABLETS, IPADS
If your child needs to bring a phone or tablet/ipad to school, it must be handed in at the beginning of the day and collected at the end of the day.

St Laurence’s, Leongatha—St Kevin’s Meeniyan—St Joseph’s, Mirboo North—St Andrew’s Tarwin Lower & St Joseph’s, Korumburra—St Vincent’s, Loch

Parish Priests Father Aju Varghese - Father Jeneesh Jose - Parish Secretary: Anne Hemming
ST LAURENCE NETBALL CLUB invites you to our NETBALL REGISTRATION and UNIFORM FITTING afternoon for LDNA 2016 Season on FRIDAY 24th FEBRUARY, between 4 pm – 6pm, at Leongatha Netball Club Rooms. All welcome, juniors from age 8 & above (under 11 age section) to age 17 & under, and senior sections A, B & C. Boys are welcomed up to the age of 15. New players welcomed.

For enquiries and further information please contact: Angelique Dunlieve 0438 166 124
E: stlaurencenc@gmail.com


BASEBALL: The South Gippsland Miners are holding a come and try day February 24 before the start of our season in April 2017 and we need players of all ages! From U10 to 60 plus, baseball is for everybody, guys and girls!

FREE DENTAL TREATMENT Available to ALL CHILDREN

Bass Coast Health Dental Clinic
Graham Street
Wonthaggi Vic 3995

PH: (03) 5671 3268

Health Care/Pension Card
Holders
No Health Care Card

Children Dental Benefits Scheme accepted.

Clinic Times:
Monday – Thursday 8.15am – 4.00pm
Friday 8.15am – 1.00pm

REMINDER REGARDING BUS PASSES

The bus network is for students to get into and home from school from outlying areas. It is not a public bus service. We have direction from the bus co-ordinator that passes ARE NOT to be issued for such things as sporting activities, music lessons, parties, sleepovers.

It is a requirement that you need a pass in an emergency ONLY, ideally 48hrs is required. Asking for passes outside of this criteria puts pressure on the office staff when requests are rejected.
ASSEMBLY AWARDS WEEK 2

First day of school and our prep buddies

Clancy Smart, Raph Jefferis, Will Berry, Angus O'Loughlin, Zara Borg, Georgia Hamilton, Eamon Reardon, Montana Kranen, Brad Cocksedge, Lacey McRae, John O’Hare

MUSIC DANCE DRAMA FOR PREPS

Nya Manavalan, Indie Cameron, Lara Landry, Samuel Johnson, Gemma Meadley, Escher McRae