Dear Parent/s and Guardian/s,

2ND CHANGE OF DATE FOR THE 3-6 HOUSE ATHLETICS: The new date will now be Wednesday 16th March. This change has been out of our control and we apologise for any inconvenience.

SWIMMING SPORTS: Tomorrow, Thursday, 11th will see our house swimming sports for the 3-6’s at Korumburra. We still need a few volunteer parents to help during the day. If you are available to assist, please contact the office as soon as possible. Your help will be very much appreciated.

3-6 SWIMMING CLOTHES: For students on Levels 4, 5, 6,+ 7 will need to bring clothes for their lessons as per your note.

2015 SCHOOL YEAR BOOK DVD’s: For the families who requested DVD’s they are ready to be collected from the office. They are $5 each. There is a number of extra copies for those who didn’t request one last year and would like a copy.

No School for Preps:
Wednesday 17th Feb
Wednesday 24th Feb
Preps attend every day onwards from 1st March.

It was lovely to see so many families attend Fish’n’Chip Night last Friday. This annual event is always a fantastic start to the school year with all families coming together for a relaxed evening. Thank you all for your support.

2016 is a Year of Mercy.

Pope Francis has called us all to celebrate a special Jubilee Year of Mercy during 2016. This is a special time to remember that Jesus asked us to love God and each other. This is how we receive and give mercy.

The way of Mercy has four steps...
1. Sorrow—“I’m sorry for…”
2. Empathy—“It was wrong because…”
3. Promise—I’m the future I will…”
4. Mercy—“Please forgive me.”

We’ve all heard someone say “I’m sorry” and we can tell that the person doesn’t really mean it. The Way of Mercy helps us to restore our relationship and it helps us to be better friends of God. It works much better than only saying “I’m sorry”.

NO DOGS ON SCHOOL GROUNDS

It is policy of St Laurence’s that there are to be NO dogs in/on the school grounds even if on a lead. Assistance dogs accepted.

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. It is not acceptable to have these items in school bags or in class.
Any comments or questions or to be added to our emailing list: email: stlaurencepandf@gmail.com

President: Jo Denbrok  Vice President: Mel Neill
Treasurer: Bec Meadley  Secretary: Kylie Wright

First P & F meeting for the year: 7PM TONIGHT, 10th February in the staffroom after the iPad meeting.
We have a great year ahead of us, so come along, share your ideas & get involved, meet new people. We’d love to have you on board. See you there. Feel free to contact me via our email address above if you have any queries—Jo.

P & F
Tuesday Ice-creams/Slushies

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

TERM 1 ROSTER IS ON THE BACK OF THIS NEWSLETTER

ICY POLES
FRIDAY LUNCH TIMES
TERM 4
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 which are donated by the staff, each Friday in Term 1.

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2015 Money raised $900. WOW! Fantastic.

BUS ARRANGEMENT

Bus Arrangement forms need to be returned. A reminder that if your child WILL NOT be on the bus you must call the school before 2:30pm to let us know. We can then cross them off the bus list for that afternoon.

2016 TERM DATES

Term 1: 27 January (Staff) - 24 March
Term 2: 11 April - 24 June
Term 3: 11 July - 16 September
Term 4: 3 October - 20 December (Tues)

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 year we receive a cheque that goes to the P & F to buy resources for our 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. The number of tags that have contributed to our school is 45. We have 136 families at school, so jump in and get on board this fantastic program.

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.

SPECIAL: BAG AND HAT COMBO: $50

2nd HAND UNIFORM SHOP

We have a selection of 2nd hand uniforms for sale at school.
Please call Krista on 0409 585 080 OR Rachel on 0408 624 062

SICK CHILDREN

CHILDREN DO NOT LEARN WHEN THEY ARE UNWELL. OUT OF RESPECT FOR STAFF AND STUDENTS, PLEASE KEEP YOUR CHILDREN HOME FROM SCHOOL IF THEY ARE UNWELL. IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT CHILDREN ARE KEPT HOME FOR 24 TO 48 HOURS AFTER GASTRO ILLNESS.
ALL FAMILY WORKSHOPS WILL BE HELD IN THE
SCHOOL CONFERENCE CENTRE AT 7 pm.

Confirmation
Confirmation Family Workshop - Wed, March 9
Retreat – Thurs, April 14 during the school day
Confirmation will be on Sat. April 16 at 7 pm at St Laurence’s, Leongatha.

Bishop Patrick will be conferring the Sacrament of Confirmation.

First Eucharist
First Eucharist Family Workshop - Wed, April 20th. Second week of Term 3. Please note the change of date from original note.
First Eucharist will be offered at masses in Leongatha on the weekend of 28/29 May.

First Reconciliation
Reconciliation Family Workshop - Wed, Oct 12
Retreat at MMCRC - TBC
First Reconciliation will be on Wed, Nov. 23 at 7pm in Leongatha.

Please note that it is an expectation that a family member attend the family workshop. In the event you are unable to get a family representative to attend in your absence, it is your responsibility to call Father Aju (5662 2020) to put in your apology.

HELP NEEDED: We are asking families to help our parish sell raffle tickets. Tickets are in books of 10 and are $2 each. If you are able to sell some tickets or wish to purchase tickets please see us in the office.

St Laurence’s will receive $1-50 for every ticket we sell. We were allocated 50 books, so potentially we can receive $750.

Results of the raffle will appear in the Age, Herald Sun and Geelong Advertiser newspapers on the Tuesday following the draw under “Public Notices” classification. Winner will be contacted on the night. For those not contactable on the night, will be called the next day. You will also be notified by mail. Prizes are aimed to be delivered within seven working days of the draw. All of this makes it important that your name and address appear on the ticket stub.

We ask that any tickets taken to sell for the school be returned by the last day of term one please. After this time ticket will be available for from the parish office.

Drawn May 27th at the Angels Parish Offices in Geelong. Victorian Commission for Gambling Regulation Permit No 11119/15.

ABSENCES FOR BUS TRAVELLERS

All bus travellers are on a checklist which teachers will take out during bus supervision. If your child is NOT travelling on their bus as usual, please let the office know. This will avoid teacher waiting / looking for children on their bus travel lists. Please make contact with the school prior to 2:30pm if your child will not be on the bus on their regular day/s. PLEASE RETURN BUS ARRANGEMENT FORMS TO THE OFFICE ASAP for bus list amendments. (This DOES NOT apply to town buses as they are not part of the network).

The Brumley Street shuttle bus that travels from St Laurence’s to the Secondary School needs to leave NO LATER than 3:22pm. Therefore, children are asked to make their way to the Brumley St gate as soon as possible after the bell. Please talk to your children regarding this.

MEDICATION

If your child requires medication at anytime during the year, you must fill in the official medical form which are available from the office foyer. All efforts will be made to meet medication times.

STUDENT ABSENCES

If your child is absent from school at any time, including being late or withdrawing from school early—the appropriate form needs to be filled in. Each family was provided with 3 forms for home. You may copy more of these or are available from the school foyer next to the sign/out book.

Please note that this form does not take the place of the sign in/out book. A parent or guardian must sign in late children or early withdrawal of children (forms maybe written when signing children in or out).

THE COMBINED CATHOLIC PARISHES
RAFFLE 2016

3 FABULOUS TOYOTA CARS TO BE WON!!!

BUY YOUR TICKETS TODAY!
FROM THE SCHOOL OFFICE
RAFFLE DRAWN 27th MAY 2016

Victorian Commission for Gambling Regulation Permit No 11119/15
Ticket sales close Thursday 5th May 2016

1st Prize:
Corolla Ascent Sports

2nd & 3rd Prizes:
Yaris 1.3l Auto hatch

4th Prize:
Coles / Myer Gift Card @ $1000

5th Prize:
Coles / Myer Gift Card @ $1000

6th Prize to 14th Prize:
Coles/Myers Gift vouchers @ $500

$2 PER TICKET

Proudly supported & sponsored by

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STREET
CSEF eligibility
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, or;
  - on the first day of Term two;

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 29 February 2016, so that payments can be made from March 2016. However schools can accept parent applications up until 03 June 2016.

Payment amounts

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.

OGILVY STREET BUS ZONES:
REMINDER— It has come to our attention that some parents are using Ogilvy Street to pick up children after school or drop off children in the morning. Some parents are pulling in just after the bus zone and blocking buses in.

We remind you that from 8:15am—9:30am and 3:00pm—4:00pm is FOR BUSES ONLY. Please do not use Ogilvy Street for drop off or pick up during these times.

The speed limit for school zones along Ogilvy and Brumley & Horn Streets is 40 kms.

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CANTEEN ROSTER – SLUSHIES 2016

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>FEB</th>
<th>16th FEB - Rachel Cameron, Bree Fennell, Carolyn Patterson.</th>
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<td>23rd FEB - Marlene Dyke, Deb Gannon, Carolyn Patterson.</td>
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<tr>
<th>MARCH</th>
<th>1st MAR - Rachel Cameron, Di Marinou, Carolyn Patterson.</th>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>8th MAR - Susie Bowler, Deb Gannon, Sian Pickergill.</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>15th MAR - Marlene Dyke, Bree Fennell, Kylie Box.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>22nd MAR - Tona O’Connor, Di Marinou, Carolyn Patterson.</td>
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Thank-you in advance for every-ones help. If any-one cannot make their slushie duty please call Deb Carmody on 0400140449.