ORTHODOX EASTER: Wishing our Orthodox families the peace and joy of Easter as you celebrate this great festival this Sunday.

PREP 2014 ENROLMENTS If you have a child who turns 5 by 30th April 2014 it is time to begin the enrolment process. Please collect an information pack from the school office as soon as possible. The pack will contain an Enrolment Form and details for arranging an interview time.

UNIFORM: All children must be in winter uniform by Monday 6th May.

BUNNINGS BBQ (Hoppers Crossing): Saturday 4th May 9.00am-4.00pm. Many thanks to those who have volunteered for the roster. Bunnings has Mother’s Day activities on Saturday—so come along & buy a sausage while you’re there!

MOTHERS’ DAY STALL: Wednesday 8th May. Gifts range from $1.50 - $5 will be available. Children will need to bring their money on Wednesday in order to buy a gift from the Mother’s Day stall. The stall will run from 9.15am to 12.00pm. If you are able to help out with the Mother’s Day Stall, please see Lucy.

PREPS IN PYJAMAS: This is a Prep faith workshop night for Prep parents with their children. A letter will follow next week with further details. Date of our first Preps in PJ’s in on Thursday, May 23 at 6.30pm.

NAPLAN: This is a national assessment program for Yr 3 & Yr 5 students. It provides a snap shot of a child’s performance in Literacy & Numeracy against the national standard for children at these year levels. It also provides valuable information to the school about the various components of the literacy & numeracy programs that are being offered and over time will provide valuable trend data—this will take four to five years as we are a new school with small groups of students in Yr 3 & 5. Yr 3 & Yr 5 Parents are strongly encouraged to have their children at school on Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday 14th, 15th, 16th of May to participate in the assessment tasks.
SPORTING NEWS:  
On 9th May some of our senior students will compete in the Inter-school Cross Country Racing. The event will take place at Presidents Park and be from 12.00 until 2.00 pm. We wish all our competitors well and know they will be doing their best.

INFORMATION EVENING FOR THOMAS CARR COLLEGE:  
On Monday 27th May there will be an information meeting for families of students in Yrs 4/5/6 to assist you in the process of considering a secondary college for your child. Venue: St James school hall @ 7.30 pm. The meeting will focus on Transition and Enrolment information. A letter with details of the meeting will be sent home to students in these year levels tomorrow.

EXCURSIONS/INCURSIONS:  
Sovereign Hill: On Monday and Tuesday 22nd-23rd of April, the Yr 3-6’s went to Sovereign Hill. We visited the education centre where we learnt about the Gold Rush and how it started. We also went on the mine tour and learnt that water was the most dangerous thing for mining. Thediggers had to have a miner’s license to find gold or they would be charged. We had so much fun. Kathan Dave (Yr 5), Ruby Fernando (Yr 3) & Kynan Wiggins (Yr 4)

History Box Incursion: The Year 1 and 2’s had a great time on Monday looking at toys and games throughout history. They had the opportunity to play with toys of the ancients, wooden toys from the Goldfields to Lego, Barbie, Mr Potato head and many many more. The children even got to make their own Indigenous game called Ngaka Ngaka

SEASONS: GRIEF & LOSS:  
Seasons is a peer support program developed to help children and young people cope with the grief and feelings of loss resulting from separation, divorce or death. It provides the opportunity for children to share their story and support each other in a safe environment, facilitated by a trained counsellor. It is a 10 week program and will be offered at St. James for primary school age children over terms 2 & 3. Sessions will be held from 3.30pm-4.15pm on the following Thursdays: 16/5, 23/5, 30/5, 6/6, 20/6, 27/6, 18/7, 25/7, 1/8 & 8/8. Program costs $10 per session—paid up front or each session. If you believe your child could benefit from participating in the Seasons peer support program, please contact Karen George, Counsellor with Catholic Care on 0417 274 249. she will be happy to tell you more about the program.

Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults  
The Rite of Christian initiation of Adults (RCIA) is a program for anyone interested in becoming a Catholic, receiving the Sacraments or exploring the Catholic faith. Our season of inquiry has now begun. If you or anyone you know is interested, please come along on Fridays at 7pm in the Parish Office. The invitation is also extended to any Catholics who may want to become more informed about the various aspects of our Faith. For more details please ring Chris on 9742 4000.

DATES TO REMEMBER:  
4-5 May: Reconciliation Presentation masses  
4 May: Bunnings Fundraiser  
8 May: Mothers’ Day stall  
9 May: Opening & Blessing of new spaces  
14 May: NAPLAN Testing  
16 May: Sacrament of First Reconciliation  
21 May: PIP meeting 2pm & 7.30pm  
26 May: National Sorry Day  
27 May: Information evening for TCC at St James school hall at 7.30pm  
29 May: School Photo Day  
30 May: Eucharist Workshop @ 7.30pm @SFA