ADVENT WEEK 3: GENEROSITY OF SPIRIT

John’s words to the crowd, the tax collectors and the soldiers are about adopting a spirit of generosity and a generosity of spirit. A generosity of spirit can be expressed simply in the attitude with which we approach other people: a positive, joy-filled and generous attitude will often turn around a difficult situation. As we approach the Christmas season, there is a need for practical actions of generosity as well. Those in need can approach Christmas with sadness rather than joy. It can be the hardest time of year for struggling families. Being generous can make all the difference!

Thankyou for your contributions to our Giving Tree. Over the last weeks it has been beautifully decorated as children have brought in their donations for St Vincent de Paul. Tomorrow is the last day for this gift giving. Donations of non-perishable food and Christmas table decorations are appreciated.

PRAYERS for the SICK: We continue to pray for Arn (mother of Eddie Yr 4 & grandmother of Zo’Arn Yr 2), Edmond (who lives in Poland and is grandfather of Pola Yr 3 & Hannah Prep), Dora (Mirjana’s mother), Dean, (grandfather of Josh Yr 2 & Alannah Yr 3) and Tarryn McRae who are ill at this time.

LAST DAY OF TERM
Wednesday 16th Dec 3.20pm.

END of YEAR EVENTS

YR 6 GRADUATION is being held at St Francis TONIGHT at 7pm. We congratulate our senior students as they celebrate this milestone and prepare to transition to Secondary College.

END of YEAR MASS & VOLUNTEER THANKYOU is being celebrated tomorrow. We have so many blessings to give thanks for as we come to the end of our 4th year as a school community. We also farewell a number of families from our community as well as Alayne (PE teacher). All families are invited to join us for the 9.15am mass followed by morning tea and a special thank you to all the volunteers who have supported us across this year.

WRITTEN REPORTS will be sent home on Monday 14th December. Remember that these will contain the progression points only. This information tells you the amount of progress your child has made since the last written report and how their standard of work compares with the expected standard. Staff are available to explain the reports if required. They should reflect your recent parent-student-teacher conversation.

STUDENTS RETURN to SCHOOL
Monday 1st February

SCHOOL FEES: All school fee payments should now be finalised. If you have not already done so and have not contacted the office, please finalise payment by next Wednesday 16th December. Thank you.
CELEBRATION OF DANCE
What a wonderful night of celebration! The community participation was overwhelming and the highly positive feedback from so many families is greatly appreciated. Our students shone in the way they performed!!! Many thanks to the staff who worked with them to prepare for this event.

STUDENTS LEAVING IN 2015
Students have school accounts to use digital tools for their learning. These logins allow them to store their digital work. To allow us to keep space on our network and drives we need to archive and delete all unneeded accounts. Students will have access to their accounts until the end of January. Please make sure if your child/ren would like a copy of their work that they download it before the end of January. If you have any questions about this please don’t hesitate to email Susan smillard@sfatarneit.catholic.edu.au

PARISH NEWS:
Dear Parishioners,
Thank you for your support to the Thanksgiving Programme.
As 2015 draws to a close we ask you to remember the annual commitment to the Stewardship Programme.
All receipts for 2015 are found inside the new 2016 Envelope Boxes which will be given to your children.
Please ensure that all contributions for 2015 are updated before you leave school for balancing our records.
Once again, Thank you for your support to this Programme which allows us to continue in our ministry and keep the parish viable.
May God bless you and your families this Christmas and throughout the coming year.
Go Gently,
Fr Jude Pirotta, mssp
Parish Priest

SJA CHRISTMAS TIMETABLE: Please see the attached flyer with all the details of the Christmas ceremonies in St James’ Parish.

THOMAS CARR SECOND HAND UNIFORM SHOP: A special opening on Thursday 21st January 9.30-12.30 Please note we only accept cash and cheque (no EFTPOS available). For all enquiries please contact the P&F on 0491 115 115 or parentsandfriends@thomascarr.vic.edu.au

GIANT PANDAS:
Thank you for your kind contributions!
Last week we spoke to the Year 2’s about giant Pandas. They purchased some of the activity books that we had created. With the sale of the booklets so far we have raised $51.05. We plan to send the money that we raised with your help to the Adelaide Zoo. It is one of the only zoos in Australia that has Pandas.
Andrea & Claire

Make me a channel of your peace;
Where there is sadness, let me bring joy .

No 39 St Francis of Assisi