LENT  As we begin this season of Lent we are called to show more strongly the love of Jesus. Project Compassion is one way in which we can show a spirit of love and generosity to those in great need. Each family will be take home a Project Compassion box so that you can have the opportunity to contribute to this important appeal. Go to the following link to find out about how your money supports others in Australia and the world: http://www.caritas.org.au/projectcompassion.

We pray for all those who are ill especially Joan, Paul, Roger Olenik and Arn Raj. Lesley, grandmother of Corey and Lachlan-Joel who suffered a mild stroke and is recovering. We continue to pray for Anna, great grandmother of Leah who is in palliative care.

YEAR 5/6 Parent Information session is being held tonight Thursday, 11th February @ 7.00pm.
Parents are strongly encouraged to attend this meeting with their Yr 5/6 child.
Year Level expectations/opportunities and camp information will be shared at this meeting.
Let’s start the year with shared understandings!

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT: We had a staff workshop this week to update everyone on our procedures for reducing risk factors and managing emergency situations. This was facilitated by Dynamiq—our EM consultants. Today all children and staff participated in a practice drill. We will have another next week and then occasionally throughout the year. Hopefully all families received their SMS test message on Friday. If you didn’t then please contact the school office to update your mobile phone details. Please note that only one call goes to each family. In the case of emergency, children will be cared for and individual contact will be made with any parent who does not receive the SMS message.

SACRAMENT OF PENCEANCE: We would like to inform parents that preparation for this sacrament will take place in term 4, 2016 and celebrated in Term 1, 2017, when students are in Year 4. This decision was made so that students could receive the sacrament during the Season of Lent. More information about children’s preparation will be provided later in the year. We have charged Year 3 parents levies for this sacrament as preparation will begin in the latter part of this year.
SACRAMENTS OF EUCHARIST and CONFIRMATION: Please see the flyer which was sent home today with important information about these sacraments. Parents of Year 4 students receiving the Sacrament of First Eucharist must book online for the parent workshop sessions and First Eucharist mass preferences.

COUNSELLING SERVICE: We have recently begun a relationship with Next Door Psychology who specialise in family and children's mental health issues. We are looking at a psychologist being available for students and families on each Friday beginning in two weeks time. The service will run from the Wominjeka room (our meeting room off the foyer). If you wish to use this service, please talk with Arthur regarding the process for starting the use of this service.

CAMPS, SPORTS & EXCURSION FUND(CSEF): This fund is to assist eligible families to cover the costs of camps, sports and excursions/incursions held through school. If you hold a valid means-tested concession card you may be eligible for CSEF. The annual CSEF amount per eligible student is $125. If you are eligible, please contact the school office to obtain a CSEF application form. This form will need to be completed and returned to the school office as soon as possible.

YR 6 PARENTS
Thomas Carr College
Enrolments for Year 7, 2017 are being taken now and close at the end of February 2016. Please contact the Registrar Mrs Lucy Banks on 8734 2409 if you have any questions. An enrolment pack can be obtained from the Administration Office at the College, 35 Thomas Carr Drive, Tarneit.

THOMAS CARR COLLEGE: 20 YEARS
In 2016 Thomas Carr College celebrates its 20th anniversary. The Eucharistic celebration on Wednesday 27th January with the staff of the College together with the staff of the three primary schools of the St James’ parish was a wonderful way to commence a year of commemorations and celebrations for the Thomas Carr community.

We wish the College a truly memorable and blessed year as they continue to grow, develop and let their light shine.

INSTALLATION OF PLAY EQUIPMENT is scheduled for Monday through to Thursday next week. This is next to the rotunda. People using this area are asked to be mindful of the works in progress.

REMEMBER TO PREP PARENTS: Full time commences Monday 7th March. Until this date Preps do not attend school on Wednesdays.

TERM 1 SCHOOL CALENDAR is attached to today’s newsletter.

SCHOOL CHOR: SingForJoy
SFA choir has certainly grown in numbers since our Year 3 students have joined us. We nearly have a 100 students from Years 3 – 6 participating! All students in the choir show great enthusiasm and energy! The choir rehearses once a week for half of lunch time. They help to lead our school celebrations and make them a positive experience for everyone.

TERM OVERVIEWS will be sent home tomorrow.