PUBLIC HOLIDAY MONDAY: Please note that there is NO SCHOOL for children or staff on Monday 10th March due to the Labour Day holiday. Wishing everyone a very happy long weekend.

ST CLARE’S PS
There was a wonderful celebration on Sunday as we ‘broke ground’ at the site of our new primary school site.

Catholic Education Week: 'Entrust Yourselves to God and Dare to Dream'
This week will be marked by a display in the foyer of the Church; our parent engagement session on Monday 17th March and attendance of some student leaders at the St Patrick’s cathedral mass for schools on Thursday 20th March.

Lent: The 40 days of Lent is the opportunity for us to journey together towards Easter. We renew our relationship with Jesus as we take more time to pray, to give of our time for others and to help those in need. Today children have brought home a Project Compassion Box and small donations can really help to support communities around the world. Go to the website www.caritas.org.au for more information.

Year 1’s have shared some reflections about Ash Wednesday mass. See attached sheet with this newsletter.

SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION on May 18. A letter with all the important information about preparation for this sacrament will be sent home tomorrow.

We pray for Matthew Cutajar (father of Isabella—Prep Danielle) who is critically ill and for Tarryn McRae. May they be blessed with the peace & strength of the Holy Spirit and find support from the love of family and school/parish community.

ENROLMENTS for 2015: Any family not already attending one of the parish schools who is seeking enrolment for next year is invited to the Parish Enrolment Information session on Tuesday 11th March @ 7.30pm at St James Church 336 Derrimut Rd, Hoppers Crossing Children do not need to attend.

VOLUNTEER TRAINING for Parents & Friends of St Francis: There will be two opportunities for participating in the volunteer training. Wednesday 12th March 2pm–3:30pm or Monday 17th March 9:15am—10:45. Please register your interest by returning the form that has been sent home. You are not required to attend this session if you have previously completed the volunteer training session with Emily in 2012 or 2013.

PARENT VOLUNTEERS NEEDED Thursday, March 13 from 5.30—6.30 Please bring along a rake.
We need to clear up stones and rocks from the area where our children play soccer and play with their cars and trucks. If you are able to spend an hour with us next Thursday, this would surely get the job done easily and quickly. Please email: info@sfatarneit.catholic.edu.au if you are able to offer your help.

REMINDER: We welcome parents into our learning spaces. We ask that as you enter the spaces at the end of the day when the dismissal music is playing, could you please wait quietly and patiently as the teachers conclude the day with important messages and prayer.
SCHOOL OFFICE NOTICES:
Curriculum Levy: This levy should now have been paid. Please contact the office immediately if you are having difficulty with this.

School Fees: First instalment of $450 is due on Friday 21 March.

2/3 INQUIRY:
As part of year 2/3’s Inquiry Unit on “Celebrating Difference” students will be participating in a cultural experience incursion (focusing on Aboriginal, French and Japanese cultures) on MONDAY MARCH 24. We are looking for parent volunteers to help with the various activities planned. If you are interested in helping out if there is a parent who works for an airline please email: tlawless@sfatarneit.catholic.edu.au

ASIAN PERSPECTIVES & LOTE:
Over the next 5 weeks students will be immersed in various cultural experiences. Students will work in mixed groups from P-6 every Tuesday from 11.40—12.40. They will explore aspects unique to specific cultures – India, China, Italy, the Philippines and East Africa. Photos of the intercultural experiences will be on the school website. We ask that you encourage your child to share what they have learnt about these cultures with you.

Hot Cross Buns FUNDRAISER:
Don’t forget to put in your orders. Check family & friends for sales.

COMBINED PARISH RAFFLE:
This raffle is a major fundraiser for our parish. There are 3 cars, & Coles/Myer Gift Cards to be won. Any support you can give by buying &/or selling these raffle tickets is greatly appreciated.

YR 6 LEADERSHIP:
The formal presentation of Yr 6 leadership badges to all Yr 6 students will take place at Assembly on Tuesday 11th March. This will be a simple ceremony but parents are most welcome to be present at 8.55-9.15am.

PREPS start full time school next week. After Monday’s public holiday they are due to attend school five days a week—including WEDNESDAYS.

CAMP AUSTRALIA PROGRAM will be offered as usual on the last day of term. There will be no school for children on Friday 4th April. However, if you require care for your child/ren on this day please book a place on line or with Zeyna.

MSJ Jubilee Mass
MSJ celebrates 50 years of empowering women of the west. All past students and staff are invited to a Celebratory Jubilee Mass at St Patrick’s Cathedral in East Melbourne on Friday 28th March at 11am, celebrated with Archbishop Denis Hart.

TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT: When children are moving in/out of cars parked in the street ensure they do so using the curb side door. This is safe practice which children should use at all times.

SHROVE TUESDAY: On Shrove Tuesday the Preps & Year 1’s enjoyed delicious pancakes prepared by our wonderful volunteers. The aroma of pancakes filled the school and the students enjoyed writing about pancakes.

DATES TO REMEMBER:
10th Mar: Labour Day holiday
11th Mar: Parish Enrolment Information meeting
12th Mar: Preps at school full time
13th Mar: Soccer ground clean up
17th Mar: Parent Evening 5.00-7.30pm
  Feast of St Patrick
  Hot Cross Bun orders due
  Volunteer Training session
20th Mar: Mass for schools at St Patrick’s
21st Mar: Parents & Leaders morning tea 9am
25th Mar: PIP 2.30pm – 7.30pm
27th Mar: School Photos
  Sponsor /Candidate Mass 7.30pm
28th Mar: School Tours

MSJ Jubilee Mass