HOLIDAYS: Children are now on term break. Wishing all our families a safe and happy holiday period. Children return on Tuesday 14th April.

HOLY WEEK-EASTER: ‘Let the risen Jesus enter your life, welcome him as a friend, with trust: he is life! If up till now you have kept him at a distance, step forward. He will receive you with open arms. If you have been indifferent, take a risk: you won’t be disappointed. If following him seems difficult, don’t be afraid, trust him, be confident that he is close to you, he is with you and he will give you the peace you are looking for and the strength to live as he would have you do’ Pope Francis Easter blessings to all our families.

You are encouraged to join in the Parish celebrations of this most holy season of the Church’s year. Our first Assembly on Tuesday 14th April at 9.15 will celebrate our entry into the Easter Season. Parents are welcome.

WINTER UNIFORM: Children can change into the winter uniform over the first three weeks of term. All children should be in full winter uniform by Monday 4th May. Please see the website (in the enrolment section) for details of the uniform requirements. Children can continue to wear our original uniform, only changing to the new uniform as they need items replaced.

PIP NEWS: Two fundraisers are happening at the moment. Have you looked at the ENTERTAINMENT BOOK? Many families find this a good way to save money on outings. Every book that is purchased earns funds for the school. Also, we have a WALKATHON early in the term. Information is attached. Your support of this fun way of fundraising would be really appreciated.

GROUND DEVELOPMENT: The shelters in the drop off/pick up area and sensory garden should be completed during the holidays. Next term will see full planting of our vegetable boxes. Yr 1s have planted some flowering plants in the first box! The orchard area is about to be developed—look for the posts and fencing over the coming term.

Chrissy has been appointed Environmental Educator with one day a week being devoted to programming and working with students and parents/volunteers. We welcome Tarryn back to school—she will work with the Yr 1 team to allow for Chrissy’s additional role.

PARISH NEWS: The Combined Catholic Parish RAFFLE 2015: Many thanks to the families who have returned money and/or books. All books need to be returned—during the holidays you could drop them at the church at weekend masses.

Lisa Morris will replace Nicole for this time and then continue in a part time basis providing learning support in Yr 3-6 for term 2. Lisa has been working at the school over the last couple of weeks and is looking forward to this role with our community. Welcome Lisa.
WORKING BEE:
Saturday April 11th at 8.000am—11.00am
The jobs will be about getting the school ready for the beginning of Term 2—we look forward to our parents supporting this activity on the last Saturday of the holidays.

COMMUNITY NEWS: NAB AFL Auskick is once again kicking off in the local area. If your child is interested in giving Australian Football a go, then head to www.aflauskick.com.au to find your nearest centre. Register and pay online before 19th April to receive 4 FREE tickets to an AFL game in the 2015 season!

VOLUNTEER TRAINING & PMP INFORMATION & TRAINING: This will run on Friday, 17th April from 9am-11am. Please note, if you have already completed the Volunteer Training but would like to support the PMP program, you will only need to attend from 9am to 9.45am. Please see Emily, Andrea or Lucas if you have any questions.

PRESENTATION of YR 6 LEADERSHIP BADGES: This will take place at our first Assembly for term 2. Parents are welcome to join us. Tuesday 14th April 9.15-9.45am.

SPONSOR & CANDIDATE MASS: This is being held on Wednesday, April 22nd at 7.30pm. Please see the note that has been sent home today with this newsletter.

No 8 St Francis of Assisi

SENIOR STUDENTS REPORTS
St. Patrick’s Day

On Tuesday the 17th of March, ten year 6 students were chosen to celebrate St. Patricks Day by attending a mass at the St. Patricks Cathedral. We were amazed at how many schools and students were there. The Archbishop of Melbourne, Denis Hart, put on a great mass for all of us. We knew most of the songs that they sang at the mass so we all joined in. We were able to receive Eucharist by a special minister. When we were listening to the mass, we were all moved by what the Archbishop was saying, about what St. Patrick had done in his life and how he wanted to followed in Jesus’ way and became a bishop in his country and preached the word to others. At the end we all had questions that we couldn’t answer. After the mass, we walked to the Catholic Leadership Centre to look at an art exhibition. Different students from different grades and schools made the artworks. We found the level of talent in the artworks incredible. We all voted for our favourite artworks in two categories. Overall, we all learnt something and had a great day in the City of Melbourne we hope that the people that go next year will have a great time and enjoy it like we did.

By Alex Trieu and Loredana Marshall
5/6 Camp

On Wednesday the 18th of March, the 5/6's went on camp (Camp Rumbug). When we arrived, we were all ready to start the day of activities right after lunch. All the year fives and sixes got off the bus and went to find their luggage. Once everyone got their bags we got to go and find our cabins. Once we were introduced to the staff, we headed out for lunch (packed by our parents). We all sat in the dining room eating our lunch and talking to friends beside us. Then we got about ten minutes to get ready and we headed off to our activities. The year 5/6’s were split into groups to do their activities. Everyone got dirty and muddy by the end of the day. There were tons of activities such as; giant swing, mud run, abseiling, low ropes, team challenge, canoeing, orienteering and initiatives. We all enjoyed many breakfasts, lunches and dinners together. On Thursday night, we all got to watch a movie and have snacks. On this camp we learned how to work as a team, helping each other out and collaborating with each other. In the end everyone had a great time!

By: Stef Nave & Ann Manamel

CONGRATULATIONS to the students who attended Camp Rumbug last week. Your respect for camp staff, your working together on activities and your engagement for the three days was fantastic. Well done everyone! A huge thanks to Susan, Nicole, Chris, Marita, Jackie, Alayne, Red, Matt and Jack for your effort in making the camp an enjoyable experience for everyone.

GRIP Leadership Day

On Wednesday the 12th of March the year 6’s went to the GRIP leadership conference in the city where we learnt about what it means to be a leader. When we arrived, there were schools from all over Victoria that were there to listen to the GRIP leadership conference. Two people from each school were chosen to sit up the front and participate in some of the activities. There were stories, videos and movies that were there to help us with making the right choices. We also got to participate in some of the activities that had to do with dancing. Some of the things that we learnt is you don’t need a badge to be a leader at all and to be a leader it not about the age its about the right choices you make, you also have to be respectful and listen to others.

By Alek Dongrin & Abuni Basioni