**Our Vision**

St Munchin’s Catholic School aspires to reflect the life and love of Christ for His people.

**Our Mission**

In the tradition of Eucharistic sharing, St Munchin’s Catholic School community aims to reflect the life and love of Christ for His people. The school community works together to provide pastoral care for each person and to nurture the development of the whole child.

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**Term 1 Dates for your Diary**

**Week 1**
- Tuesday 2 February First Day Back for Students
- Friday 5 February Whole School Mass – 9.00am

**Week 2**
- Wednesday 10 February
  - Ash Wednesday – Whole School Mass – 9.00am
- Thursday 11 February Incursion with Greg Mitchell
- Friday 12 February Incursion with Greg Mitchell

**Week 3**
- Tuesday 16 February
  - Regional Mass – St Mary’s Cathedral – 4.30pm
- Friday 19 February Yr 5 Class Mass – 9.00am

**Week 4**
- Monday 22 February Whole School Testing
  - St Norbert College Visit to Yr 4 – 2.00pm
  - Parent Teacher Information Evening – 6.30pm
- Friday 26 February Morning Assembly – Yr 6

**Week 5**
- Monday 29 February Junior Swimming Carnival
- Friday 4 March Yr 4 Class Mass – 9.00am

**Week 6**
- Monday 7 March Labour Day
- Tuesday 8 March Yr 6 Excursion Woodman Point
- Friday 11 March Yr 2 Assembly 2.20pm

**Week 7**
- Monday 14 March
  - Lumen Christi College Visit to Yr 4s - 9.30am
- Wednesday 16 March
  - St Brigid’s & Mazenod Colleges Visit to Yr 4s 9.00am
- Thursday 17 March
  - Faction Swimming Carnival Yrs 4-6
- Friday 18 March
  - Palm Sunday Re-enactment Yr 3

**Week 8**
- Monday 21 March Harmony Day
- Wednesday 23 March Last Supper Re-enactment Yr 4
- Thursday 24 March Stations Re-enactment Yr 6
- Friday 25 March Good Friday
- Monday 28 March Easter Monday

**Week 9**
- Tuesday 29 March Easter Tuesday
- Wednesday 30 March
  - Interschool Swimming Carnival
  - Saturday / Sunday 2 / 3 April
  - Enrolment Weekend for Sacraments

**Week 10**
- Tuesday 5 April Parent Teacher Interviews
- Friday 8 April Whole School Mass – 9.00am

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Dear Parents, Carers and Friends

How quickly time is passing and we are already at the midpoint of the first term. The students and teachers continue to work diligently with pleasing outcomes in a variety of learning areas. The support we receive from our families is very much appreciated and necessary, as the school and home are an extension to family. If you were unable to attend the parent information night and have not yet arranged an appointment with your child’s class teacher, then I urge you to do so in the next couple of weeks. The teachers will contact you to arrange an appointment if they have not heard from you in the next two weeks. It is important that parents and carers are aware of the expectations and class routines and procedures in order to support the students and the teachers throughout the year.

God of infinite love,
I thank you for the reminders of your love that pass my eyes each day
and your call that we be more patient, gentle and compassionate with others.
Here in the middle of Lent,
I turn to you to…..
Please soften my heart.
Help me to let go of judging others, so I may be the face of your merciful love
I ask you this, in Jesus' name.

Amen

St Munchin’s Catholic School  PO Box 172 Gosnells 6990  www.stmunchins.wa.edu.au
**Kindergarten Enrolments for (4 Year Old) 2017**
The enrolment process for kindergarten places for 2017 will begin in May with formal interviews with the Principal. Parents and caregivers who have a child turning 4 years of age as at 1 July 2012 are asked to collect an enrolment package from the office as soon as possible. You will then be contacted by the office to make an appointment to arrange an interview with the Principal. If you are aware of new families with their first child starting kindergarten in 2017 please inform them to contact the school office on 92347555 to have an enrolment package sent out to them.

**3 Year Old Kindy**
We still have the capacity to run this program for one day each week, but unfortunately we have insufficient numbers at this stage. Children can enter the program as soon as they turn 3 any time during the year. Currently we have 4 children enrolled and we need at least 10 to recommence the program. As the school has to self-fund the program to pay for the teacher, teacher assistant and resources the cost is $75 dollars per day and no rebate is available. The program is run by a four year trained and extremely experienced teacher.

**Health Care Card**
Parents wishing to apply for a Health Care Card discount for this year's school fees are required to meet with the Principal. Please call 9234 7555 or email admin@stmunchins.wa.edu.au to arrange an appointment. Appointments must be made this term and a current Health Care Card brought to the interview with the Principal. In the absence of a current Health Care Card full fees will be charged.

**Newsletter and Emails as Communication from School**
As stated in the last newsletter the school newsletter will be printed and distributed every second week as a step in sustainability and conserving our environment by saving paper and less printing. The school newsletter is posted on the school website as well.

A large percentage of our messages and advertisement fliers will be sent to you via email which most of our families have. If you have not informed the school of your email address, please contact the office to leave your email address for the school data base.

**Student Assessments**
Over the past few weeks all classes have been participating in a number of assessments particularly in the Literacy and Numeracy Learning areas to ascertain student developmental levels so that we can cater for the learning needs of the individual students. Some of these assessments are whole class assessments but many are one to one individual assessments by class teachers. Class teachers are released to conduct the testing and our well known relief teachers continue the teachers daily program whilst the testing is underway. This testing is almost complete and we have obtained extensive information for our student profiles to assist all teachers in future planning and whole school priorities in Numeracy and Literacy.

**Road Safety in and around the School Grounds**
The safety of our students and indeed all community members is a high priority at St Munchin’s School. As I am regularly on duty in the car park and kiss and drive areas, I am astounded at the lack of respect that many people have for road rules, the use of kiss and drive and speeding in the car parks. It is important that parents, carers and visitors do their part in ensuring that we are all safe when using any of the above areas. Some pointers that will help…

Be responsible
- Observe parking restrictions (read the signs)
- Be aware
- Use Kiss and Drive appropriately
- Always be aware of children
- Reverse park into car bays
- Ensure you are not parked over two bays
- Do not park across school entry and exit points
- Do not block driveways
- Do not park in Disabled bay unless you have an ACROD permit
- Don’t dive more than 8 km per hour in car parks.
- Observe the 40km/hr school zones
- Be courteous, polite and patient

Accessing [www.stmunchins.wa.edu.au](http://www.stmunchins.wa.edu.au) and the ‘My Internet’ Desktop and ‘My Classes’ pages from home……….
Senior Swimming Carnival Years 4-7
This carnival will take place on Thursday 17th March (St Patrick’s Day) at Aqualife Victoria Park. The carnival will commence at 9.30 am and conclude by 2.15pm. Students will travel to the carnival by bus from school. At the end of the carnival students may go home with their parents but a note must be given to class teachers before leaving for the carnival. If parents are wanting another parent to bring their child/ren home a note must be given to teachers stating the name of the parent bringing the child home.
Mr Marino has sent a separate detailed letter outlining all the information concerning the Yr 4-6 Swimming Carnival.

Easter Celebrations
As we approach Easter the classes re-enact the events of Holy Week during beginning Friday 18th March. The Year 3 classes will re-enact Palm Sunday and this will take place at assembly time at 8.50am. On Wednesday 23rd March Year 4 will re-enact The Last Supper and on Thursday 24th March Year 6 will re-enact The Stations of the Cross. We do hope that many of our community members can join us on these occasions to reflect on the true meaning of Easter.

OSHC during Easter Break
OUT OF SCHOOL HOURS CARE will close for Easter break from Thursday 24th and will reopen on Wednesday 30th March.

Article for the Week
This article by Michael Grose provides wonderful ideas and tips on how to encourage and boost confidence in children. Happy reading!!

Wishing you all a safe and blessed week!

Kind regards
Rob Romeo, Principal

Project Compassion boxes – Please keep encouraging your children to contribute coins to their project compassion boxes to help those in the world who are most in need. Below are some ideas to help your children understand why we donate to our project compassion appeal.

Teaching Kids About Giving. Leading Kids to be generous
Many of us think about giving—to our families and friends, but also to help charitable organisations. Many of us give privately, and neglect to talk about or finances with our kids. But through your example, and with lessons throughout their childhood years, you can teach your children to give to others; and to feel great about doing it.

Understanding Need
For many Australians, it’s difficult to understand what it’s like to truly be poor. This is most true for our children, who eat three meals plus snacks every day, have their own bedrooms, and have enough clothes to put on a clean outfit every day. They often receive money (allowances) for no work at all and have little or no concept of how much work it takes to earn a living.

One of the first lessons in teaching kids about giving is for them to understand poverty. Consider trying ways to help your children learn how to empathise with others, such as:

- Skip a meal. Talk about how they feel and ask them to imagine going a whole day, or even days, without anything to eat.
- Volunteer at a shelter for families or a charitable organisation like St Vincent de Paul. Talk about the challenges the families are going through and compare that with your own lives. How would it feel to be without a home?
- Watch documentaries of relief operations in other countries—especially ones showing children. What do these children need? What would it be like not to have it? What can we do to help? Visit Caritas [http://www.caritas.org.au/projectcompassion/schools](http://www.caritas.org.au/projectcompassion/schools) or CAFOD [http://cafod.org.uk/Education/Primary-schools](http://cafod.org.uk/Education/Primary-schools) to see how others around the world live.

Take time to discuss the many things you are fortunate enough to have, and show genuine appreciation for them.

Taken from The Learning Community
Junior Primary Swimming
Monday 29 February 2016

Year 6 Excursion at Woodman Point Tuesday 8 March 2016

Schools Wish List Competition
Thank you to all who helped cut and complete the entry forms last Tuesday. We’ll need your help again next Tuesday. Please bring a pair of scissors with you!

Easter Egg Raffle Tickets & Donations
Thank you for your continued support with donations and purchasing of the tickets! Please continue to give your Easter Egg donations and raffle tickets to your class teacher. Donations need to be handed in by 18th March, as do the tickets. The Raffle will be drawn on Tuesday 29th March.