Dear Parents,
This Sunday is the first Sunday of Advent. We are reminded by the Church that the season of Advent is a time of expectancy – we are to prepare with joy in our hearts for the coming of Christ.

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Oscar and Samantha Graduation
Last Friday Mr Rose, Mrs Cox and I had the pleasure of attending the Oscar and Samantha graduation ceremony. It was marvellous to see so many mums and dads in the MPR for this ceremony. The Oscar and Samantha transition program has been run by volunteers for 10 years. It is a wonderful program that helps our new Kindergarten children transition to “big school” through craft, music, reading, tours, activities and fun! I do not know of another school that runs such a comprehensive transition program every year. On behalf of the parents of the 2014 Kindergarten students my heartfelt thanks to the organisers and presenters of the program.

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Parent Thank You Morning Tea
On November 19 it was the staff’s opportunity to spoil parents and friends at the Parents Thank You Morning Tea. This was an opportunity for the staff to say a heartfelt thank you to all the volunteers who contribute to our school in so many ways. St. John Vianney’s would not be the school it is without the help and support of the parent community.

Once again, thank you!

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Class Placement
When making a decision as to which class students are going to be placed in for the following year teachers spend hours attempting to achieve an evenly balanced class grouping. Teachers use criteria such as behavioural needs, relationship considerations, special needs, ability ranges and gender mix. Students being with their best friend(s) may not be the optimum learning group placement. The final decision on class placement rests with the Principal.

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Term 4 Raffle
Details of our Term 4 raffle have gone home with great prizes and incentives on offer. Please support this major fundraising initiative as all
raised will be used to purchase classroom pinboards. Extra books of raffle tickets are available in the office. **Raffle drawn Monday 16th December 2013.**

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**Senior and Junior Choirs**
Mrs Stanley, our Music teacher, is offering parents and friends the opportunity to be entertained by the Junior and Senior Choirs. Both choirs will perform on **Wednesday 4th December at 2.15pm** in the Multi-Purpose Room. All welcome!

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**Uniform Changeover**
The beginning of the 2014 school year will mark the end of two year changeover period for our new uniform. All students should be in the new uniform in 2014. Thank you.

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**Drop Off Zone**
Please note that the kerb in front of the school is a drop off zone between 8.00am – 9.30am. When using this zone please be considerate of other drivers and move off promptly when you have dropped off your children. This will allow other parents to drop their children off safely too. Parking is permitted in the afternoon.

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**Family Reflection:**

> God of power and mercy, open our hearts in welcome. 
Remove the things that hinder us from receiving Christ with joy, 
so that we may share his wisdom and become 
one with him when he comes in glory, 
for he lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, 
one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

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**God Bless**

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**Mr Glenn Patchell**
**Principal**

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**SCHOOL HATS ~ $11.00**
*(available at the school office)*

Please remind your children about the importance of wearing their hat at school. The weather is warming up and we are reminding students that they must wear their hats in the playground at all times. Our school policy is that those students who don’t wear hats in the playground will be asked to move to shaded areas.

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SCHOOL BAGS ~ $37.00

St John Vianney’s Parish School now has a school bag with our school crest on the front.

Utility Pack

Product Description:
- 420 Denier Nylon with PVC backing
- 1000 Denier Kodra Base
- Dual drawstring side pouches for water bottles/umbrellas etc
- Internal moveable divider
- Zippered pocket on inside of flap
- Detachable waist strap
- Heavily padded shoulder straps and back for maximum comfort

Size: 30cmW x 40cmH x 19cmD approx. 23L capacity

These bags have a lifetime manufacturing warranty

We encourage all our new kindergarten students for 2014 to purchase the school bag.

If you were thinking of purchasing a new school bag for your child/children, these bags come with a lifetime manufacturing warranty. Please feel free to take a look at a sample bag on display in the office.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS

ADVENT

This Sunday commences the season of Advent and a new liturgical year in the Roman Catholic Church. The word Advent derives from the Latin word ‘adventus’/’advenio’ meaning “coming” and so, refers to the coming of Christ at Christmas.

We also wait and prepare with anticipation for Christ’s second coming at the end of time.

However, our time here and now is also a time of Christ’s coming. He comes to us in many ways but especially through the Sacrament of Holy Communion.

Advent is more than just a preparation for the celebrations and festivities of Christmas. It is our time to be awake, to be ready—for Christ comes to us in unexpected ways. Are we ready to receive Him into our lives and make Him part of everything we do? How are we preparing ourselves and our families to celebrate our Saviour’s birth? These are important questions for us to ponder and hopefully respond to in action.

May this season of Advent be a time for all of us to prepare ourselves spiritually to welcome our Lord into our hearts. Spend time reading and reflecting on the Readings for this season and embracing the message contained in them. Attend Mass, take time to be reconciled with God by going to Confession, take time to pray—alone and with your family. It is in these ways that we prepare ourselves and wait with joyful hope for the coming of our Saviour, Jesus Christ.

Georgie Cox

REC
ADVENT ASSEMBLY
FRIDAY 29TH NOVEMBER 9.30am
Multi-Purpose Room
Year 3 invites you
to join our school community in prayer
as we commence the Advent Season

CHRISTMAS ASSEMBLY
Monday 16th December
9.30am
Led by Year 2

NEWSLETTER DATES

Wednesday 11 December
Please look for the newsletter on this day. The eldest child in each family will be responsible for
taking it home.

SCHOOL FEES
Thank you to all the families who have finalised their school fee account for 2013.
Just a reminder that all fees were payable by the end of Term 3, if you still have outstanding school
fees, and you have not made any arrangements, please contact Mrs. Fletcher.

Resource and Technology Fees for 2014 were due for payment on 11 November as we need to
purchase resources for the students, if you haven’t received your statement please contact Mrs.
Caguin or Mrs. Fletcher at the office. In readiness for the 2014 school year, we ask that these
accounts be settled as soon as possible. Thank you for your continued support.
## TERM 4 CALENDAR

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>28th November</td>
<td>9.15am Parish Mass Yrs. 3-6</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>29th November</td>
<td>9.30am Advent Assembly ~ Year 3</td>
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<td>2.00pm P&amp;F Meeting</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>4th December</td>
<td>10.00am Kokoda Memorial Garden Opening</td>
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<td>2.15pm Junior &amp; Senior Choir Performance</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>5th December</td>
<td>9.15am Parish Mass Yrs. 3-6</td>
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<td>Friday</td>
<td>6th December</td>
<td>11.45am Student of Term &amp; Fr. O’Neill Clear Speaking Awards</td>
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<td>K-6 Semester 2 Reports go home</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>Games Afternoon</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>Hot Dogs &amp; Ice Blocks ~ P&amp;F</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>11th December</td>
<td>10.00am Premier’s Reading Challenge Assembly</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>12th December</td>
<td>9.15am Parish Mass Yrs. 3-6</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>13th December</td>
<td>9.30am Year 6 Graduation</td>
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<td>Monday</td>
<td>16th December</td>
<td>9.30am Christmas Assembly ~ Year 2</td>
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<td>2.00pm Change over afternoon</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>Raffle Drawn</td>
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<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>17th December</td>
<td>Year 6 Vision Valley</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>18th December</td>
<td>LAST DAY OF TERM FOR ALL STUDENTS</td>
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<td>Thursday</td>
<td>19th December</td>
<td>STAFF DEVELOPMENT DAY</td>
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<td>Friday</td>
<td>20th December</td>
<td>STAFF DEVELOPMENT DAY</td>
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## 2014 DATES

- **Tuesday 28 January**: Staff Development Day  Mathematics Assessment Interviews
- **Wednesday 29 January**: Staff Development Day  Mathematics Assessment Interviews
  
  **Mathematics Assessment Interviews are for students in Years 1-6 2014**

  **Information about booking a Mathematics Assessment Interview for your child will be sent home shortly.**

- **Thursday 30 January**: Students in Years 1-6 return
- **Friday 31 January**: Primary (Years 3-6) Swimming Carnival
- **Monday 3 February**: Kindergarten begin
MERIT CERTIFICATES
Congratulations to the following students:

KINDERTHREN
Maximus Konstantinoff
Therese Park
Angelina Tadros
Cadence Autagavaia
Mounir Abou-Yaghi
Blake Norris
Ailasa Assa
Vallen Payne
Grace Chandler
Jaeda Liao
Joseph Piquero
Sienna Tecala

YEAR 1
Zac Payne
Lauren De Luca
Andrew Lovering
Shayna Fernando
Abinav Chennupati
Noah Coupe
Anastasia Prokhorov
Liam Robertson
Lincoln Nunez
Nikolai Quimpo
Amelia Esposito
Justin Franswah

YEAR 2
Atra Tokhman
Samuel Gutierrez
Keith Sarol
Jake Sta-Maria
Amira Tokhman
Leia Pattoo
Kimrena Joe
Reese Nunez
Faustina Park
Paulo Ibanez
Mia Chevelle Crescini
Jayden Turner

YEAR 3
Alexis Mitchell
Rafter Santos
Nirvana Prasad
Charlize Tahimic
Kirolos Philips
Clare Park
Steven German
Roslyn Langi
Zara Lobo
Hannah Bolton
Jonathan Buttigieg
Egieneille Timpoc

YEAR 4
Andreas Kaskanotis
Brennan Filippi
April Mercieca
Baskoro Tokhman
Oscar Camage
Aryan Patel
April Mercieca
Samson Tessema
Emily Shaw
Evelina Dobys
Luke Haber
Jacob Bayada

YEAR 5
Shaun Muinoi
Yasmina Mekhail
Caitlin Burns
Louisa Dib
Ashlyn Philip
Jennifer Davetawalu
Monalisa Rafiq
Felicity Xuereb
Sophie Bompat
Ben Matchett
Ignatius Toleafoa-Piliae
Allyssa Perez

YEAR 6
Nataliya Tamanika
Adam Camage
Cajun Amai-Vij
Jasmine Almonte
Earlwin Daloran
Irene Baik
Ara Mae Arciaga,
James Diaz
Ivy Perez
Tanya Lobo
Julian Esposito
Angelique Abella
ANAPHYLAXIS
A LIFE THREATENING ALLERGY
Throughout our school we have several children with life threatening allergies to various forms of food. This is a serious issue the school must address and we have implemented various management strategies to cater for these children.

In order for our school to continue to be allergy aware we ask that you consider not including nuts, eggs, yoghurt or foods cooked in peanut oil as part of your child’s recess or lunch.

Thank you for considering the special health needs of these children.

COMMUNICATION ~ Staff value communication with parents and welcome the opportunity to meet. If you wish to meet with a staff member please make an appointment through the office for a mutually convenient time.

SUPERVISION ~ Morning supervision from 8.30 am. I ask you to ensure that your child is not at school before 8.30 am as there is NO supervision before this time. School finishes at 3.00pm and children should be picked up promptly. Afternoon supervision in the amphitheatre finishes at 3.30pm.

MOBILE TELEPHONES ~ We request that no mobile phones be brought to school. If your child needs it for safety reasons e.g. walks home alone, please send a note to the classroom teacher. In such circumstances the phone will be handed to the teacher in the morning and returned at 3.00pm.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS, PHONE NUMBERS, EMERGENCY CONTACT
Please complete a form, available at the school office. It is vital that our records are kept up to date in case of any emergencies or sickness regarding your child.

MEDICATION ~ Medication can not be given at school, except on Doctor’s written advice stating the reason, time dosage etc. together with the completed school forms. For further information, please contact the school.

VISITORS
Under the Child Protection Act any visitors to our school or parents helping with reading, etc. are required to sign the visitor’s book on arrival and when leaving the school. The visitor’s book is located in the school office.
**P& F NEWS**

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<th><strong>DATE</strong></th>
<th><strong>TIME</strong></th>
<th><strong>EVENT</strong></th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>29/11</td>
<td>2pm</td>
<td>P&amp;F Meeting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>06/12</td>
<td>11am-2pm</td>
<td>Games Day: Hot Dog &amp; Iceblock Stall</td>
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</tbody>
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**Oscar & Samantha Transition Playgroup for Kindy 2014 – Presentation Day 22/11**

We had so many parents and grandparents in attendance - it was a wonderful community celebration of these young children preparing to start Kindergarten in 2014. Thank you all for coming and bringing some beautiful food for morning tea. We had some leftover fruit which was eagerly devoured by infants students and staff enjoyed the fresh cakes. With the remaining packaged food and drink we have donated this to the school's Vinnies Hamper appeal - your donations will be enjoyed in other households more needy than ours this Christmas. Thank you for your generosity!

The Oscar & Samantha program relies on many older students to volunteer their time each Friday morning - and Presentation Day was no exception! We would like to thank the following students for helping to get us organised for each session so that we could start on time and have lots of activities laid out for students on arrival: **Owen DeLuca, Evelina Dobysh, Gabrielle Gutierrez, Luke Haber, Nathan Haber, Shawn Hendrickson, Maxwell Hogan, Thomas Hogan, Blake Norris, Jayden Norris, Fritz Serrano & Alysha Sinclair**.

Thank you also to the many parents who helped along the way in a variety of roles: **Caroline Bayada, Vanessa Crysanthou, Janelle DeLuca, Megan Haber, Tina Hendrickson, Linda Hogan, Courtney Meehan, Lisa Muinoi, Sheena Norris, Fran Nourdine, Ryan Paul & Narelle Sinclair**.

The feedback from the parents at the conclusion of the program was very positive and reinforces that the effort of the volunteers is highly valued by parents and students alike!

We can't wait to catch up with our new little friends on February 3rd. As one parent observed during our last morning, these children are now so ready to start school, it won't be a "Tea & Tissues" morning for parents, it'll be "Champagne & Canapes!" We hope the excitement continues to build over the Christmas break.

**School Banking – Every Thursday**

Tomorrow is your last chance to enter the Commonwealth Dollarmites treasure hunt on the Savings Adventure Island. All children who make two (2) or more deposits between 21 October and 30 November are automatically in the running to win.

**Treasure Chest Prizes:**
- 60 x Apple IPod touch 16GB
- 100 x Adventure DVD Pack including Despicable Me, Despicable Me 2 and HOP

You need to make your second deposit in tomorrow’s banking to enter the competition – so please be sure to fill out your deposit slips now.

**Year 6 memento bears & balls**

The Memento Bears and Balls have been ordered and should arrive early next week. We will distribute them to students as soon as they are shipped. We hope the students really enjoy collecting signatures and keep these mementos as a special reminder of the great friendships they have formed at SJV.
Games Day 6th December – Canteen Special
The P&F will be hosting our last Canteen Special of the year! Back by popular demand, we will be selling Hot Dogs and Ice Blocks which will need to be pre-ordered.
Order forms will be sent home tomorrow. Please return these orders no later than Wednesday December 4. Hot Dogs = $2.50. Iceblocks = $1.00.
All money raised from this day will go towards the cost of the bus hire for the Year 6 Vision Valley excursion.

Staying In Touch
Join the “SJV Parents & Friends” page on Facebook. There are lots of events coming up in the led up to Christmas break so stay in touch with all of the events on our Facebook page. It’s great to see our new families for Kindergarten 2014 joining our page already!

Next P & F Meeting – Friday 29th November
It’s our last meeting for the year! Come along and hear from Mr. Patchell all of the exciting events planned for the end of year and help us set goals for 2014. All welcome.

Linda Hogan
P & F Secretary

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COMMUNITY NEWS

SMOOSH Before and After School Care
Are you working, studying or need casual care for your kids?
SMOOSH can Help!

We offer: * Peace of Mind, Qualified, caring staff;
A fun and safe environment; *Great activities; Healthy Snacks
*Casual & full time places at Reasonable rates
Child Care Benefit, Fee Rebate
*Drop off & pick up available from St John Vianney’s School.
Conveniently located at Marayong South Public School –access
Via McClean St (Marayong) or Tuggerah Place (Woodcroft)

Morning session: 7 am to 9am Afternoon session: 3pm to 6pm
SMOOSH is now taking enrolments for 2014
Call Lynda on 0415 231 509