



# NEWSLETTER

5th October 2023

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**OFFICE HOURS: 8:30am - 4:00pm**

## **IMPORTANT DATES**

**Tuesday  
10th October  
Lightning  
Premiership  
@ JPC  
Senior  
Students**

**Friday  
13th October  
Grandparent's  
Special  
Person's  
Day**

**18th-20th  
October  
3/4 camp  
Phillip Island**

**Canteen  
Open every  
Monday &  
Friday**

**Uniform Shop  
Monday  
2.30pm  
School Hall  
Foyer**

**Secondhand  
Uniform Shop  
Contact Office**

**Nude Food  
Every day**

**St Jude's  
Sustainability  
Ceres Hub  
Link**

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to our last term of 2023! This term promises to be an exciting one here at St Jude's. We have officially moved into the new Junior Building, the excitement on Monday was brilliant. If you haven't had the opportunity to have a look at this amazing space please feel free to walk through at drop off time. We will have an official opening ceremony on Monday 30th October with Bishop Tony Ireland blessing the building. More information will be communicated in the coming days regarding this event.

As you are aware, I was recently given the incredible opportunity to embark on an amazing journey with twelve of my fellow Peninsula Principals. As part of this journey, we completed the last 116 kilometres of the Camino de Santiago, an ancient pilgrimage route in Spain that leads to the shrine of the apostle James in the cathedral of Santiago de Compostela in Galicia in northwestern Spain. This journey is not just a walk, it's a transformative experience that challenges the body, mind and soul.

### **The Physical Challenge:**

During our week-long pilgrimage we experienced varied, and at times, quite rugged terrain, many hills and long hours on the trail. We learnt quickly the importance of setting out for our day's walk early to beat the heat of the day. With the first two days proving quite a physical challenge, we were also reminded each time we faced another seemingly endless hill, of the importance of determination and persistence. I am pleased to report that, with a measure of determination, I successfully completed the required kms each day and proudly made it to each target destination.



### The Emotional Journey:

The Camino is as much a journey within as it is a physical trek. Participants experience a wide range of emotions along the way, from moments of solitude and self-reflection to joyful encounters with fellow pilgrims.

We shared stories and laughter with people from all walks of life, forming unique and treasured memories. Within our own group, deep and lasting connections were made as we shared our stories and supported one another along the way.

### The Spiritual Awakening:

The Camino de Santiago is known for its profound spiritual significance. Since the discovery of the burial site of St James the Apostle in the 9th century, travellers from around the world have made this sacred journey. Today it also provides pilgrims with the amazing opportunity to visit historic churches, monasteries, and sacred sites along the route. For our pilgrim group, daily prayer and reflection became a very important part of this journey.

In our shared prayer experiences, we regularly reflected on the God-incidences we had experienced each day. The question “Where did I see God today?” is a question that held special significance for me, and it is one that I will take with me well beyond the end of my journey on the Camino.

Walking the Camino was a transformative experience that challenged me physically, emotionally, and spiritually. It reminded me of the value of perseverance, the importance of human connection and the beauty of reflection and self-discovery. I am profoundly grateful for this opportunity and the support of all in our school community.

I look forward to continuing to share the insights I gained during my Camino pilgrimage with staff and students at St Jude’s and hope they too can benefit from the experience.



## Term Dates

I have included a list of important dates. Please note that we will have two school closure days this term leading up to the Melbourne Cup Day. Friday 3/11 staff will be involved in professional development and Monday 6/11 there will also not be school with staff using this time for assessment and reporting.

|                             |   |
|-----------------------------|---|
| Friday 13th October         | Grandparent's Day   |
| 18th October - 20th October | Year 3/4 Camp to Phillip Island   |
| 30th October                | Official Opening of the Junior Building 12pm                                |
| 30th October                | Celebration Day for the Feast of St Jude - Kaboom Sports 1.30pm-3pm         |
| 30/10 - 2/11                | Book Fair   |
| Wednesday 1/11              | Specialist Showcase 2.30pm - 4.15pm   |
| Friday 3/11                 | School Closure - (Staff working on Learning & Teaching initiatives)         |
| Monday 6/11                 | School Closure - (Reporting & Assessment Day)                               |
| 10/11, 17/11, 24/11 & 1/12  | 2024 Prep Orientation   |
| 15/11 & 16/11               | School Review   |
| Thursday 7/12               | Christmas Concert - Time TBC  |
| Tuesday 12/12               | Whole School Transition Afternoon (2024 Classes)                            |
| Thursday 14/12              | Year 6 Dinner & Graduation. Dinner for Students & Staff 5pm, Graduation 7pm |
| Friday 15/12                | Final Day for all students  |
| Tuesday 19/12               | Final Day for staff   |

## 2024 Planning

As we are in Term 4 it is time to plan for 2024. If you are not requiring a place for your child/children next year could you please email me ASAP.

[mosullivan@sjlangwarrin.catholic.edu.au](mailto:mosullivan@sjlangwarrin.catholic.edu.au)

If you have a request on educational grounds for class placement next year please also email me.

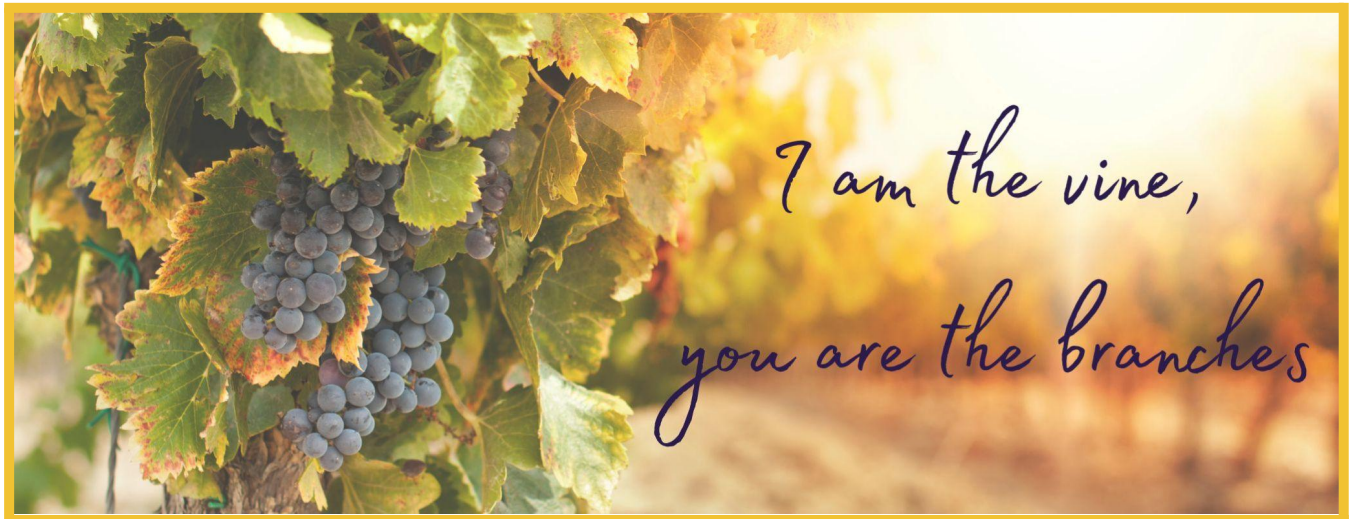
## Car Park

I would like to thank parents for adjusting to the changes in the car park. For those who drive to the pick up area in the afternoon you have hopefully noticed a white line before turning around the garden bed at the end of the drive. We are asking the first car each afternoon to stop here and wait until 3:15pm to drive to the gate. This allows Father and parishioners to exit the car park if required. Thanks for your understanding with this.

## Hair

A reminder that **all** children with hair sitting below their shoulders will need to tie their hair up whilst at school. This does include students with mullets. This will be enforced from Monday.

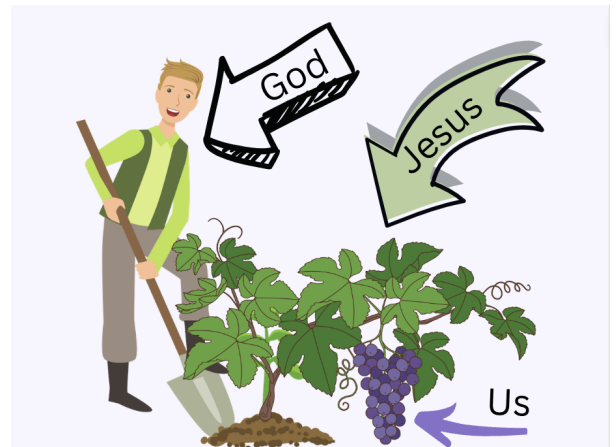
Yours Sincerely,  
Marita.



This weekend we hear about the parable of the vineyard from Matthew's Gospel. Jesus tries to explain the importance of looking after and tending to the harvest that is produced. In a way, this parable can be linked beautifully to John's Gospel passage about how Jesus is the vine and we are the branches. In this passage he explains that his Father is the gardener who has created all of the vines, that He is the vine, the heart and soul of God's garden, and we are the branches, the growth that is connected to and produced from the vine.

This week our Year Four Students will complete their final preparation for their first Eucharist and will hear about this passage as an explanation for the importance of Eucharist in our lives. For us to remain connected to Jesus and to bear fruit we are invited to the Eucharist. It is a freely given gift from God for us to receive over and over again. How beautiful!

For me, I like to explain this idea a little further with a different analogy. I like to think of us all as a bucket with holes. When we go to Church our invisible bucket is filled through the Eucharist. Over the week, due to the holes, our bucket is emptied as we act as the heart and hands of Jesus in our world. At the end of the week, our bucket is again emptied and it becomes harder to act like Jesus which is why we are invited back to share the Eucharist once again. This analogy is such a great visual for myself and I know that if I miss a Mass or two I can personally find it hard to feel nourished. This week I encourage you to have a chat to your family about how the vine (Jesus) is a part of your lives.



- *I wonder how you feel connected to the vine?*
- *I wonder what fruit comes from your branches and how you use this to make our world a kinder place?*
- *I wonder where your bucket is nourished from?*
- *I wonder what you do to refill your bucket when it empties?*

Finally this week, I ask you to please pray for our students who are receiving the gift of Jesus through the Eucharist for the first time next weekend. It's sure to be a very special celebration for them all.

God Bless,  
Lauren



# ST JUDE'S SPORTS REPORT



## NORTHERN PENINSULA DIVISIONAL ATHLETICS DAY

Congratulations to all 18 students who participated at the Northern Peninsula Divisional Athletics Day yesterday! All students should be extremely proud of participating at this stage.

Congratulations to the following students for progressing to the South Metro Regional Athletics day in the following events:

Gypsy Joksimovic: Girls 9/10 100m & 1500m

Lily Jerez: Girls 12/13 Shot Put

Beau Oxley: Boys 9/10 1500m

Riek Muot: Boys 9/10 Hurdles

Jeremie Jorgensen: Boys 9/10 High Jump

# RUNNING CLUB RETURNS

I am excited to announce that Running Club will return tomorrow morning!

All students are welcome from 8:00am-8:30am.

Please meet in front of the school gym.

This program is a great opportunity for students to be physically active and start their day with some exercise!



**MILAN GRECO**

