Congratulations to Miss Smith  

Last weekend Miss Smith celebrated her marriage with Barney. By all accounts, they had a lovely day celebrating with family and friends. We were able to share in the celebrations by making a ‘guard of honour’ as Miss Smith left the school.  

We wish Miss Smith and Barney a long and happy life together.

Parenting Ideas Magazine
Follow the link to Parenting Ideas Magazine  

School Council Elections
Nominations are now called for members of our School Council. Details for this process are outlined in last weeks newsletter. 

Nomination forms are available from the school office. Please be advised that nominations close today at 4pm.

There are currently 6 vacancies for parent representatives.

Excursions/Incursions—Term 1, 2014
A forecast of excursion/ incursion costs for Term 1 are:
Whole School Cross Country Fun Run—$2
Grade 5/6 Summer Lightning Premiership (selected students) - $5
Grade 3/4 camp—approx. $145
Grade 5/6 camp—approx. $270

Scienceworks Excursion grade 1/2—$20 (March 17)
Non-payment of costs means that the school must meet the shortfall. This reduces the monies available for resources for all students.
School Council
Last week School Council had their February meeting. Items discussed include:
- recognition of the contribution of retiring Councillors
- success of the actions taken to revive our oval
- fundraising priorities for 2014.
Fundraising activities this year will be directed towards the purchase of:
- a ride on mower to maintain the oval ($3500)
- replacing the vinyl in the Prep corridor ($3300)
- replacing the school phone system in order to improve security and efficient communication ($12,000)
All families are urged to support fundraising activities during the year.

Save the Date
Trivia Night—Saturday May 31
The organising team for the Trivia Night will be meeting on Friday, February 28 at 2:00 in the MPR kitchen. Please come along and join the team if you are keen to be part of this fun, productive team.

M~M2014—Breakfast
Our school community has been asked to provide a cooked breakfast to the M~M2014 (see overleaf). This will require us to cook sausages in bread and egg and bacon rolls on the morning of May 10. All proceeds from the sale of these items will go towards our fundraising projects.
Please watch the newsletter for updates.
See more details about M~M2014 on the reverse of this newsletter.

Icy Poles for Sale
The Junior School Committee will have icy poles for sale on Friday.
Bring along $1 for a refreshing icy pole.

Working Bee - Saturday March 15
Jobs include painting, oiling the deck in Dave’s courtyard, ongoing maintenance of the oval and veggie patch.
Job lists will be displayed in the week before the working bee.
How can you help out?
NAB Partnership

Our recent partnership with NAB presents an opportunity for anyone associated with the school to help raise funds. NAB will donate 0.4% of any loan amount to Newtown Primary School. Did you know that the NAB has the lowest standard variable rate of the 4 big banks over the past 4 years? Just mention Newtown Primary when negotiating the loan. Three loans have now been taken out using this opportunity generating approximately $2,500 for our school.

A note from the Chaplain

For most of us the year is already at full flight. We know the school we’ll be attending, where we will be living and what job we will be working. But as the dust settles from the whirlwind that most of us experience through December/January, let’s not lose sight of our resolutions for the year and the positive changes we wanted to make in our lives in 2014. As part of what I do at Newtown PS, I’m working with the year 6’s to focus on a specific aspect of themselves that they want to improve this year. Whether it be a better attitude, improving communication, to better conflict resolution skills and being more courageous. I believe there is something in all of us that can use a tune up, so be bold and challenge yourself in 2014!

Aaron Butters, Chaplain, Newtown Primary School

National Ride2School Day

Wednesday 19 March 2014 marks the eighth National Ride2School Day, where over 250,000 Australian children, just like yours, will ride and walk to school. It is a day about celebrating riding and walking and encouraging everyone to give it a go! Not only is riding and walking a fun way to get to school, but it also contributes to your children’s daily physical activity needs. Although some of you live far away, or have conflicting commitments that makes it difficult to ride and walk every day, even going by bike or foot for part of the way, or on some of the days is still great! Be part of the fun and pop National Ride to School Day in your calendar now.

We will be participating in the day with two key groups of parents riding or walking to school from two local starting points. We need parent volunteers to make this a safe and enjoyable event. If you are able to participate (walk or ride) please see Mr McKinnis or pass on a note to your child’s classroom teacher.

For more information visit ride2school.com.au

Jarrod McKinnis

Sacred Heart College Open Day

Tuesday 25 March 2014

Option 1 - Tour 1: 3.45 - 4.45pm followed by information session 5 - 5.30pm
Option 2 - Tour 2: 5.30 - 6.30pm followed by information session 7 - 7.30pm

For more information, please contact our Registrar, Judy Smith on 5222 0490

Closing date for Year 7 2015 enrolments is Friday 23 May 2014.

OUT OF SCHOOL HOURS CARE provided by SCHOOL SUPPORT SERVICES

Bookings can be made on 0488 662 783
What is M~M?

M~M is a biennial pilgrimage from Mountain top to river Mouth, creating a contemporary songline across the municipality of Geelong, Victoria, Australia. It starts late afternoon on Friday 9th May 2014 at You Yangs Big Rock and finishes on Saturday 10th May 2014 at dusk at the mouth of the Barwon River the next day.

M~M2014 invites people of all ages and abilities to walk one or more stages of an 85 kilometre pathway. An M~M2014 passport, ordered on registration, is stamped at each of the 12 Resting Stations along the way.

Alternatively, you can watch the procession of walkers on the big screen at Geelong’s Waterfront, and experience artist led activations - short performances, exhibitions, extreme arts and extreme sports as the city comes alive with Geelong After Dark on Friday evening from 5pm.

M~M2014 is time to walk the land. It is an ideal workplace relay, and an opportunity for competitive walkers to achieve all 85kms in 24 hours. Funds raised will go to the Karingal Foundation to propagate provenance-specific indigenous plants for the M~M pathway.

What Arts are involved?

The journey will be a platform for many artworks. Elders from many cultural traditions will gather at You Yangs Big Rock to mark the beginning of the journey, which sets off at dusk. The theme for M~M 2014 is Fire on Water, and an ephemeral sculptural Canoe, inspired by Wadawurrung tradition and containing fire and water, will be carried by relay teams for the entire pilgrimage. It will be flanked in a procession by 12 specially crafted Ward Flags featuring emblems of each of Council’s 12 Municipal Wards, a symbol of all communities of Geelong coming together as one. Lantern workshops will be available for those walking night-time stages of M~M to carry their own light. The Connecting Memory smart phone app will provide walkers with access to a route map embedded with stories, films, music and images specific to each location along the M~M pathway, helping walkers explore the layers of Geelong’s secret histories and fascinating people. After traversing the northern nightscape, Canoe will arrive in Central Geelong’s Steampacket Gardens where it will be ceremonially welcomed as the culminating Geelong After Dark event. The journey will continue on the next day after a shared breakfast through the Bellarine Peninsula for a sunset celebration at the Barwon Heads river mouth.

More questions?

For more information contact 03 5272 4703 or mouthtomountain@geelongcity.vic.gov.au.