Your support of Project Compassion offers hope to the millions of families who fight for justice, peace and survival every single day. Ditosa lives in a children’s centre in Mozambique. Her parents died when she was young. At the centre children learn about computers, carpentry and handicrafts; receive help with homework; grow vegetables to eat and sell, learn about health, nutrition and hygiene as part of their ongoing education. Caritas work closely with the centre to implement these sustainable programs for the local community.

This morning we gathered to hear the Sunday gospel and learn about Ditosa. The message of the Gospel is a key one for the season of Lent; to be disciplined and stay true to your faith. We are called to pray, fast and give alms through the season. Project compassion is a simple way we can share with others by giving.

This week’s value is sharing.

Dear Parents and Students,

Switch On to Road Safety

At last Friday’s assembly I spoke at length about the importance of road safety, especially around school at drop off and pick up times. Please remember these key things when picking up/dropping off your child at school.

- Always use the crossing on Dixon Street.
- Do not park in the no standing zone either side of the crossing.
- Always use the pedestrian lights when crossing the highway.
- Do not allow your child to cross the road from between parked cars because they can’t be seen.

Over the coming weeks there will be a renewed focus on these things to ensure the safety of all children at and around St. Patrick’s.

This week we conclude the swimming program with lessons today and tomorrow and the carnival on Friday. The swimming program is just one of the extra curricular activities we have at St. Patrick’s that allows the children to challenge themselves physically and develop their skills. The carnival is always a fun day for the school community and I look forward to seeing many of you there to cheer the children on. Please note there will be no assembly this Friday due to the swimming carnival.

Last week the families of children involved in the parish sacramental program met to commence preparing for the sacrament of Reconciliation. Please pray for Lila, Jack, Seb and Chloe and their families as they begin their preparations.

This year it would be great to see more families access the newsletter electronically either by email or from the school website. In an effort to achieve this, we will run a newsletter delivery survey in the next two newsletters clarifying how you will be accessing the newsletter this year. All surveys are due back by Friday 22nd February.

Thank-you to the families and staff who attended our beginning year gathering on Friday evening. I’m sure everyone who attended would agree it was a terrific evening.

Have a great week,

Nick.
EDUCATION MAINTENANCE ALLOWANCE

EMA application forms are available from the school office and are to be lodged at school by 28th February 2013.

PARENTS AND FRIENDS ASSOCIATION

P & F Meeting will be held on Wednesday 20th February at 7.30pm
All Welcome.

READING WITH MY CHILD

Parent workshops will be held on Wednesday 27th February at 9.00am and 7.00pm.
More information to follow.

STUDENT AWARDS AND ACHIEVEMENTS

Congratulations to the following students who received the Principal award for Inclusion:

Mitchell S, Maggie M, Leyla B, Emily N, Ruby-Angelica H-T, Ebony L and Caitlyn G.

Class Award:
- Year Prep/One: Jackson A for always doing his best.
- Year 1/2: Rohan W for an amazing effort and improvement in swimming.
- Year 2/3: Lachlan T for being a hard working and consistent student.
- Year 4/5: Paddy H for great progress in swimming.
- Year 5/6: Flynn T for being a valued class member and helping out when needed.

SPORT NEWS

Congratulations to Amber Ross who competed at the Victorian Athletic Championships in Melbourne recently.
1st - Discuss & Shot-put
2nd - Javelin
Well done Amber!

Happy Birthday to:
Rohan W and Ella-Rose S.

WANTED—GUITAR

Does anybody have a three quarter nylon string guitar that they would like to sell.

If so, please contact Anita.

PARISH NEWS

WEEKEND MASS TIMES
Saturday 5.30pm: St Mary’s Cathedral
Sunday 9.30am: St Mary’s Cathedral
Sunday 11.00am: St Patrick’s Briagolong
Sunday 6.00pm: St Mary’s Cathedral

Sacraments 2013
- Reconciliation, First Communion, Confirmation
  Parent/Child Workshop: Thursday 28th February 4.00pm & 6.00pm
  Parent/Child Workshop: Thursday 14th March 6.30pm
- First Reconciliation: Stratford: Wednesday 20th March 7.00pm

NEWSLETTER DELIVERY

Please select
- Email
- Hardcopy
- Download from website

Email Address:

Family Name: