On behalf of the staff I would like to wish you and your family a Happy and Holy Easter. May you experience the joy of Jesus’ resurrection.

Term One ends this Friday, March 27 at 3.20pm and Term Two will commence on Monday April 13 at 8.45am.

A reminder that the children are required to wear Winter School Uniform in Terms 2 and 3.

Uniform can be purchased from Noone Imagewear, 283 Lower Heidelberg Road, Ivanhoe East ☏ 9499 1439.
RE News - Elizabeth Williamson, Education in Faith Leader

‘Not all of us can do great things. But we can do small things with great love.’
(Mother Teresa)

Holy Week Celebration
On Friday March 27th (the last day of the term) we will be celebrating Holy Week remembering the last few days of Jesus’ life. You are most welcome to join us for this commencing at 12.00 in the lower playground.

Every child is invited to bring a piece of palm, olive branch or other piece of greenery for the Palm Procession.

Holy Week and Easter Celebrations
St John’s Heidelberg

Holy Thursday April 2nd
7:30pm Mass of the Lord’s Supper and Washing of the Feet followed by Adoration. Evening Prayer at 10:00pm

Good Friday April 3rd
11:00am Stations of the Cross in the church and school grounds
3:00pm Solemn Liturgy of the Lord’s Passion at the Our Lady of Mercy College Gym (on Yarra Street)

Holy Saturday April 4th
9:00 am Morning Prayer
8:00 pm Easter Vigil

Easter Sunday April 5th
8:30am Mass
10:30am Mass

Class Masses Term 1
When attending your child’s class mass we ask that you sit beside your child within the class group. The class will be seated in the first two or three seats on both sides of the church. Ideally it would be best if you met the class at 9.00a.m. outside the church prior to mass. All masses are at 9.15a.m.

| Thursday March 26th | Prep N and PV |

These mass dates and times are correct at time of publication. Sometimes unforeseen circumstances occur to change these dates/times.

Anointing Mass
This Thursday Year 6C will attend the parish Anointing Mass. Following the mass the children will host a luncheon for those who attended the mass.

Keep It Simple Food Day
If your child is still to bring a donation towards Keep It Simple Food Day we would appreciate if it could be sent to school as soon as possible. Thank you.

Project Compassion Boxes
Project Compassion boxes can be returned to school in the first week of next term.

Easter Eggs
We are asking again this year that if you were thinking of giving your child’s teacher an Easter egg, would you please do so when we return from holidays after Easter. Thank you for your cooperation in this matter so that we can celebrate with your child the church seasons of Lent and Easter.

Are you buying slavery-free Easter chocolate???
Did you know that much of the chocolate available in Australia comes from cocoa beans picked by children, many of whom have been trafficked or forced to work in exploitative conditions?

The International Labour Rights Forum (ILRF) estimates that there are 500,000 – 1,500,000 children working in the cocoa sector in West Africa.

WANT SLAVERY-FREE EASTER CHOCOLATE?
Look for these certification labels:

Project Compassion Boxes

Easter Raffle Reminder

For a chance to win, all Raffle Tickets must be returned by Thursday March 26
Harmony Day at St Johns
We celebrated Harmony Day last Friday. Harmony Day is when we take a stand against bullying and make new friends. It also symbolises that everyone fits in so we wore coloured clothes as a symbol of this...we all looked super cute.

We made friendship chains that we hung round the oval to remind us that we should be a buddy, not a bully. We read books about friendship and bullying and discussed how it makes us feel. We did the 5 finger test to show how we can make others feel valued and loved and wrote these on hand prints to remind us on our Friendship Trees. Friendship is like a flower that blossoms and continues to do so if you encounter a bully!

Next year we would like to strive to have the whole school community to take part in the day as it was a very special day for those who participated. It was a day we thoroughly enjoyed. We can't wait to celebrate Harmony Day again.

It would be great if every day felt like this, how can we make this happen? Are you up to the challenge?

By Siobhan K, Grace L, Grace L, Jett B & Jakson H 4C

Second Hand Uniform Stall - Update
Thank you to Gaby Hermans, Adriana Houston & Emma Doyle for your help running our first Second Hand Uniform Stall of the year.
Thank you also to the Warren family for donating some display racks.
If you have any questions regarding Second Hand Uniform, please speak with the coordinator, Gaby Hermans.

BIRTHDAYS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>March 25</th>
<th>March 27</th>
<th>March 28</th>
<th>March 29</th>
<th>March 31</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Amelia B PN</td>
<td>Darcy M 5/6B</td>
<td>Benedict F PV</td>
<td>Massimo F 5/6S</td>
<td>Alessio C 4C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 2</td>
<td>April 5</td>
<td>April 8</td>
<td>April 9</td>
<td>April 11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Julian M 5/6B</td>
<td>Ella B 2P</td>
<td>Josh H 5/6B</td>
<td>Petria S 4F</td>
<td>Taylah G 4C</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Sustainability News
If you are able to look after our chooks over the holidays, please fill in the slip below and return it to school by Thursday 25th March.

REPLY SLIP - Chicken and Garden Area.
We would like to look after the chickens and garden during the holidays

Name of family: ...........................................................................................................................................................
Child's grade: ............................................................................................................................................................
Phone contact: ............................................................................................................................................................
Email: ...........................................................................................................................................................................

To ensure that the keys to the gates can be passed on between the families taking care of the chickens, I will need to pass on contact details. Please indicate if you do NOT wish for your details to be shared between the helping families.

I.................................................. do not give permission for my contact details to be shared with the helping families.

Signed..........................................

By: Siobhan K, Grace L, Grace L, Jett B & Jakson H 4C
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Class</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Hamish R</td>
<td>PN</td>
<td>For always staying focussed and working quietly to finish his tasks. Well done Mariah!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ruby B</td>
<td>PN</td>
<td>For always being alert during whole class discussions and being ready to answer questions and offer opinions. Well done Ruby!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zara V</td>
<td>PV</td>
<td>For your wonderful skills in Dance Lessons. Can't wait to see you dance at the ball!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rafael P</td>
<td>PV</td>
<td>For being a good listener and following instructions carefully. Keep up the super effort!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Harvey R</td>
<td>1L</td>
<td>For making excellent connections with our text ‘My Place’. Thank you for sharing lots of great thinking with the class.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aimee M</td>
<td>1L</td>
<td>For always being attentive and contributing great ideas to discussions, and for your warmth and beautiful smile.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oliver L</td>
<td>1T</td>
<td>For his great mathematical skills he applied to solving place value problems.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jack L</td>
<td>2D</td>
<td>For all the work you put into your Bali journal. We loved you sharing your holiday with us.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Isabelle V</td>
<td>2D</td>
<td>For your hard work on your Inquiry timeline. You gathered your information and sorted it on your timeline. It looks fabulous! Well done!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maya T</td>
<td>2P</td>
<td>For the way you participate in THRASS. Your spelling strategies and understanding of our language is developing everyday. Well done and keep it up!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mackenzie B</td>
<td>2P</td>
<td>For consistently leading by example. Your enthusiasm and care during group tasks are highly valued by your peers and teachers.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ava T</td>
<td>3P</td>
<td>For reading an extensive piece of information so beautifully during assembly. You will make a wonderful speaker Ava.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jonas P</td>
<td>3P</td>
<td>For sharing your understanding about narrative texts because of the love you have for reading.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Michael Z</td>
<td>3W</td>
<td>For your contributions to literacy and Inquiry discussions. Keep up your wonderful thinking Michael!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gemma M</td>
<td>3W</td>
<td>For your hard working and co-operative first term in Year 3. Well done!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grace M</td>
<td>4C</td>
<td>For her great reading about the 3 levels of government. You are a great comprehender Grace—well done!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anna V</td>
<td>4C</td>
<td>For her continued improvement with her counting by 3’s and 6’s - well done Anna!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Isabella C</td>
<td>4F</td>
<td>For her wonderful work during our ‘time’ unit. You have really tried hard and improved so much. Well done Bella!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alicia N</td>
<td>4F</td>
<td>For having a strong sense of character and being very patient</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Max G</td>
<td>5/6B</td>
<td>For always trying to put his best foot forward in everything he does and taking his leadership role seriously. Well done Max!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alannah F</td>
<td>5/6B</td>
<td>For going to great lengths to be super organised and ready to learn. Way to go Alannah</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Edward C</td>
<td>5/6C</td>
<td>For demonstrating critical and reflective thinking about the author’s intention in the book ‘Tower to the Sun’. Keep up the great work that you do Edward</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zainat H</td>
<td>5/6C</td>
<td>For your focus during writer’s workshop. It’s so impressive to see you working towards your writing goals.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eliza B</td>
<td>5/6S</td>
<td>For always producing your best work. You complete tasks with such quality that it astounds me. Your organisation and willingness to go beyond what is expected will get you far.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ban F</td>
<td>5/6S</td>
<td>For consistently participating in class discussions. Your input is always valuable and welcome. It is great to have such a deep thinker among us.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**PARENT REPS**

Thank you to all those parents who offered to be a Parent Class Representative. We are looking for one more volunteer for 5/6C. If you are able to help, please return this slip to the school office as soon as possible.

Name: ..............................................................................................................................................
Hi everyone,

Last week we got up to some amazing activities at OSHClub! We did some fantastic space paintings by flicking paint onto black pieces of paper with a toothbrush to look like lots of little stars, we used balloons to make some homemade bouncy balls and we cooked up some yummy scones and pizza scrolls!

I’m also very pleased to announce that Jill has been given the position of permanent assistant at the program! Jill has been the acting assistant since the beginning of the year and she’s been a great addition to the team!

Please be aware that as our numbers are increasing significantly (particularly on Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays) it is becoming more important for parents to book their children in online or to give more notice for an on the day booking. This gives us enough time to ensure we are adequately staffed and able to provide a quality program for you and your children.

If your child/ren are absent from school or other arrangements are made for them, could you please let us know that they will not be attending afterschool care. On the day cancelations/bookings must be made with a phone call or text to the program number on 0401 333 932.

You will not be able to make online bookings or cancelations on the day. Online bookings or cancelations can be made up until midnight the night before.

We hope to see you at OSHClub!

Enjoy the rest of your week 😊

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**NEXT WEEKS ACTIVITY**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<th>Wednesday</th>
<th>Thursday</th>
<th>Friday</th>
<th>Monday</th>
<th>Tuesday</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Before Care</strong></td>
<td>Easter Bunny Ears</td>
<td>Pom Pom Easter Chickens</td>
<td>Beaded Easter Eggs</td>
<td>SCHOOL HOLIDAYS</td>
<td>SCHOOL HOLIDAYS</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Activities</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>After Care</strong></td>
<td>Easter Egg Prints</td>
<td>Dyed Easter Eggs</td>
<td>Stained Glass Easter Eggs</td>
<td>SCHOOL HOLIDAYS</td>
<td>SCHOOL HOLIDAYS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Activities</strong></td>
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</table>

**Parent Information**

OSH program phone: 0401 333 932  
Coordinator: Trent Harkom  
Assistant: Recruiting  
OSHClub Head Office: 03 8564 9000

All families must be enrolled to attend the program, remember this is Free!! Please create an account online at [www.oshclub.com.au](http://www.oshclub.com.au) all bookings and cancellations can also be managed via your online account. For on the day bookings please contact the Coordinator direct at the program.
Father Mario’s Sermon

22 March 2015 (Fifth Sunday of Lent, Year B)
Jeremiah 31:31-34; Psalm 50:3-4,12-15; Hebrews 5:7-9; John 12:20-33.

Anyone who loves his life loses it; anyone who hates his life in this world will keep it for eternal life!

Next Sunday we start Holy Week with the celebration of Jesus’ entry into Jerusalem, where he will suffer and die. This mystery of living and dying is very much at the centre of the Easter mystery; the grain of wheat has to let go of its life in order to be able to give new life.

The first reading from the prophet Jeremiah is a good introduction to the theme of this Sunday’s readings: God will make a new – and final – covenant with us, his people. In the Old Testament covenants between God and his people are always signed with blood, blood that is the symbol of life. The distance between God and us is so great that it can only be bridged when life is given up. In the Old Testament the blood of animals symbolised this life given up, animal sacrifices were constantly offered in the Temple to remind the people of this need.

At the beginning of his gospel John reminds us that Jesus is the Lamb of God who will take away the sin of the world (Jn 1:29). Now as we get closer to the climax of John’s gospel (this gospel passage is only a few pages before the passion and death of Jesus) we realise that this Lamb will now be sacrificed. In fact Jesus offers himself up twice: firstly at the Last Supper and then on the cross.

At the Last Supper we see Jesus taking up the cup with wine and declaring: “this is my blood, the blood of the new and eternal covenant, poured out for you and for many.” Then we see Jesus dying on the cross. He is the Lamb who is sacrificed to seal the covenant of God’s love for us all. After Christ’s death we no longer need to go to the Temple to offer animal sacrifices that were only a symbol of the one true sacrifice that had to come. Now we gather at the altar to participate in this sacrifice of the cross as we drink the blood of the Lamb sacrificed for us.

At the first Passover meal, before the Jews left Egypt, they were instructed to smear the blood of the lamb on the doorposts and lintel of the house they were gathered in, as a sign on their participation in the Passover meal. When sacrifices were offered at the Temple, people were sprinkled with blood from the animal that was being offered in sacrifice. Our drinking from the cup today shows our willingness to participate fully in the sacrifice offered on the cross.

To participate in the Eucharist, becoming part of this covenant of love, is a challenging prospect for us all; just as Jesus gave his life for us, so too we are required to give our life to God in return. In the gospel passage Jesus warns us that if we are too attached to our life to be able to offer it to God, then we will not be able to participate in the new life God can offer us. To hate one’s life means be ready to let go of it. If I am too attached to my way of life then I cannot let God take control of my life. In this sense we link back to the message we heard at the beginning of Lent: repent and accept the Good News!

These last few days before the celebration of Easter challenge us once again to focus our whole life on Christ. He offers us this covenant relationship between God and us, sealed by his death on the cross. We participate fully in this covenant when we die through our Baptism. On Easter Sunday we renew our Baptism and re-commit ourselves to this journey of love. Am I ready to offer my life in order to fully take on the values offered by Christ?

Fr Mario
ST JOHN’S CATHOLIC PARISH  
52 Yarra Street  
HEIDELBERG

PARISH PRAYER

Heavenly Father, we the parishioners of St John's are grateful for all we have received from the men, women and children of our past. Help us to cherish and maintain our parish heritage. Most of all, enable us to be people who welcome the stranger, the needy, the sick and the lonely. Like St John, our patron saint, may we be people who love others, as your Son Jesus, asked us to do. We make this prayer, through Christ our Lord. Amen.

21st / 22nd March 2015 - 5th Sunday in Lent Yr B

Dear parishioners, visitors and friends,

This is the last week before we start the special celebrations of the Passion, Death and Resurrection of our Lord. From this Sunday, the images in our church will be covered, so we can better focus on the events we are celebrating.

I strongly encourage you to make time for yourselves to be present and participate fully in these celebrations. Starting next Sunday with the celebration of Jesus’ solemn entry into Jerusalem, the place where he was going to die; then the three days of Easter, celebrating the Lord’s Last Supper on Holy Thursday (7:30pm); his passion and death on Good Friday (3:00pm at the OLMC gym); and keeping the Vigil of the Resurrection on Holy Saturday (8:00pm). On Easter Sunday we celebrate Jesus’ victory over death.

Holy Thursday is a time when we pray in adoration in front of the blessed Sacrament of the Eucharist. Adoration will be at the parish hall until late. Friday morning we will walk the Stations of the Cross at 11:00am and Saturday morning we meet for morning prayers at 9:00am.

Easter is the time when we renew our own Baptismal commitment. We do this by renewing our Baptism vows on the Easter Vigil and Easter Sunday.

Coming to the Sacrament of Reconciliation is also a very important part in our preparation, as we take the opportunity to ask pardon for our sins and promise to start afresh. Reconciliation will be offered on Monday 30 March.

I wish you all a very Holy celebration.

Fr Mario

St Vincent de Paul Society

The St Vincent de Paul Society was started by a group of young men in Paris in 1833. It was started to give these men a real and practical way of living out their faith. Today members of the Society continue to live out their faith by supporting those who need help. Please come and see how you can help at 7:00pm on Monday 20th of April in the parish house meeting room.

Please Remember in your prayers

Newly Baptised: Eloise Barnes, Alessia Brewer, Justin Brewer, Oscar Stojanovski. The Sick: Bernice Clifford, Geraldine Gannon, Bev Wales, Liam Hall (Foot), M J McCann, Carmen Flores, Margaret Turnbull, Umberto & Angela Selva. Anniversaries: Greg Seymour

Recently Deceased: Karl Kubicki.

Names on the Sick List remain for six weeks, unless otherwise advised. Please submit any items for the newsletter, including sick, recently deceased and anniversaries, by Thursday morning latest. Thank you.
Gold Coin Collection: this week at all Masses.

Stations of the Cross: every Friday in Lent 7.30pm.

Easter Hamper Raffle: in aid of our parish charities. Tickets are on sale after all Masses. One ticket for $2, three for $5 and seven for $10.

Mass with the sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick: As we prepare for Easter, we will celebrate the Anointing of the Sick on Thursday 26th March at 11:00am. All who are sick and elderly are invited to participate. If you need transport to get to this celebration, please inform Sr Loreto or Fr Mario. Mass will be followed by lunch at St Monica.

Palm Sunday 29th March - Saturday 6:00pm Mass and Sunday 10:30am Mass start with the procession commemorating Jesus’ solemn entry into Jerusalem. For this celebration we meet in front of the parish house garages and process to the church along Yarra Street. Parishioners are invited to bring with them palm and olive branches or any other suitable greenery. It would be greatly appreciated if you could bring some extra pieces for parishioners who do not have access to suitable greenery.

Sacrament of Reconciliation: On Monday 30th March we gather at 7:30pm for the celebration of the Sacrament of Reconciliation. We start together with a gospel reading and a reflection, followed by individual confession. This will be the last opportunity for Reconciliation before Easter.

Project Compassion - Food For Life: Please pick up a copy of each week's story from the porch. This week we remember people in Peru.

Understanding Change, Loss and Grief Seminar: will be held on Thursday 23 April from 6:00 to 9:00pm at the parish house meeting room. This seminar is free and includes a workbook (a fee of $20 is normally charged.) To book please contact Julie Jensen on 0411 241005 or julie@changesinbetween.com

Free Individual Counselling: Contact Julie Jensen on 0411 241 005 or julie@changesinbetween.com

HOLY WEEK AND EASTER CELEBRATIONS

Palm Sunday: Saturday 28 March, 6:00pm Blessing of the palms in front of parish house garages followed by procession and Mass; Sunday 29 March, 8:30am Mass; 10:30am Blessing of the palms in front of parish house garages followed by procession and Mass; 5:00pm Mass.

Holy Thursday 2 April, 7:30pm: Mass of the Lord’s Supper and Washing of the Feet followed by Adoration. Evening Prayer at 10:00pm. Adoration continues after Evening Prayer.

Good Friday 3 April, 11:00am: Stations of the Cross in the church and school grounds; 3:00pm: Solemn Liturgy of the Lord’s Passion at the OLMC Gym.

Holy Saturday 4 April, 9:00am: Morning Prayer; 8:00pm: Easter Vigil.

Easter Sunday 5 April, Masses at 8:30am and 10:30am Mass.

(Please Note: No evening Mass on Easter Sunday.)

Working Bee: Last Saturday we had our first working bee to help maintain our parish gardens, under the guidance of Rodney Van Oirschot. Thank you to the parishioners who participated and others who sent apologies. Our next working bee will be on Saturday 18th April between 8:00am and 9:00am. All welcome to join.

Project Compassion: Boxes and envelopes with your contributions for Caritas Australia, can be brought to church starting Holy Thursday and on the Sundays of Easter. Thank you for your generosity.

Collections: The collection taken on Holy Thursday will be given the parish charity. The collection on Good Friday supports the Church in the Holy Land.

Easter Offering Envelopes: will be available on Easter Sunday. Money contributed to the Easter Offering (and collections to priests support) goes to support priests in our parish, sick and retired priests, priests in poorer parishes and the ministry of the Archbishop. Thank you for your generosity.
GET READY FOR THE BEAUTIFUL AUTUMN WEATHER
Available from the 20th March until the 20th April

COMPLIMENTARY EYEBROW WAX WITH ALL WAXING
CLASSIC MANICURE AND PEDICURE PACKAGE
$55.00
(normally $60.00)
Gift vouchers and other packages are also available