Dear Families,

Band Solo night is one of my favourite events each year. It is an opportunity for each child to shine and to perform a song they have learnt during the year. We have many talented children at St Martin’s and the Choir and Band Program is another opportunity for children to extend themselves in music. Please find attached the Program for the running order.

Our Band Captains – Gabby Bragge and Sebastian Wasko - will also be finishing their roles this year as they move to high school. They have carried out their duties as Band Captains very well and been wonderful role models to the younger band members – thank you.
Our Band Committee has also worked very hard to assist the band this year. Thanks go to Leanne Schramm, Jo Callea and Susanne Bragge.

We are very fortunate to have a Band Conductor and instrumental teacher of the calibre of Janella Fyfe, who maintains the very high standard of our Band program.

Mrs Melinda Forster, Creative Arts Teacher, conducts the school choir at lunch times on Fridays. Thank you Mrs Forster and Janella Fyfe for offering these opportunities to our children and the many chances to perform during the year.

Principal’s Award for Strength and Gentleness

Last week five Principal’s Award for Strength and Gentleness were given out.

Taylor Schramm (Year 5) – for outstanding listening in debating training.
Grace Ianni, Olivia Howell, Holly Calleia and Sophia Chick (Year 4) also received a Principal’s Award for Strength and Gentleness – for showing initiative and ability to perfect and perform Christmas carols to entertain the parents before the Christmas Concert. Congratulations for your outstanding work.
Advent Liturgies
I look forward to having you join us for our Liturgy for the first week of Advent, celebrated in the Church on Monday morning 28 November.

Remember to register for the Bare Creek Trail Run.
All children who participate will be eligible to wear mufti clothes on Tuesday 29 November. It is a PE day so remember to wear runners (of any colour!) and mufti clothes that are suitable to participate in PE classes (this could include gymnastics – weather permitting). Remember to mention St Martin’s when you log on to join. http://www.barecreektrailrun.com/

See you on Sunday for an early morning run or walk in the bush.

Helen Leigh
Principal
Congratulations to our Year 6 Debating Team on a very successful season.

CURRICULUM NEWS

Extending Mathematical Understanding Program 2017: The Catholic Schools Office is again asked schools to undertake the EMU program next year. This means using the Mathematical Assessment Interview at the start of the year to indicate student ability levels. We will again be conducting these assessments at the end of the second week of school, thereby allowing the students to get back into their normal school routines. We will also continue to support the most vulnerable students next year through the provision of intervention sessions.

The MAI tests for Years 1-6 will be held on 9-10 February and these days will be Pupil Free Days for Years 1-6.

Kindergarten Best Start assessments are on 30 – 31 January (bookable session – more information to follow before the end of term)
Kindergarten will attend school on Thursday 9th February and have a Pupil Free Day on Friday 10th February.

We will again be using the “School Interviews” online booking system. This system will allow you to make your choices for all your children at times that suit you. More information will be sent out to you in the coming weeks.

Years 3-6 Surf Education Day: The Years 3-6 Surf Education Day will be held on Wednesday 30th November at Freshwater Beach.

K-2 Water Safety Day: The annual K-2 Water Safety Day will be held on Wednesday 7th December.

Great Debate: The annual St Martin’s School Great Debate will be held on Thursday 8th December. At this debate, the current Year 6 debaters challenge the up-and-coming Year 5 debaters.

Formal Assembly: The next formal assembly will be held on Thursday, 1st December at 2:40pm. Family and friends are most welcome to attend.

Christopher Biefeld
Assistant Principal

Learning excellence in a caring community
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This weekend marks the beginning of Advent, a special time during our Church Year. Please remember to join us each Monday at 9am in the church for our Advent Liturgy.

**ADVENT**

The word Advent is from the Latin adventus for "coming" and is associated with the four weeks of preparation for Christmas. Advent always contains four Sundays, beginning on the Sunday nearest the feast of St. Andrew the Apostle, (November 30) and continuing until December 24. It blends together a penitential spirit, very similar to Lent, a liturgical theme of preparation for the Second and Final Coming of the Lord, called the Parousia, and a joyful theme of getting ready for the Bethlehem event.

Since the 900s Advent has been considered the beginning of the Church year. This does not mean that Advent is the most important time of the year. Easter has always had this honor.

The traditional color of Advent is purple or violet which symbolizes the penitential spirit. Religious traditions associated with Advent express all these themes.

View the following short clip reminding us about Advent:  
*What is Advent?*  
https://youtu.be/QSsMq6UXw0  
(Resources courtesy of [http://www.resourcemelb.catholic.edu.au](http://www.resourcemelb.catholic.edu.au))

Stayed tuned for more news about Advent next week!

**FAMILY MASS K-6**

All families and friends are invited to attend  

Parish Family Mass on Sunday 4th December at 8:30am.

All families are encouraged to join us at this Parish celebration but particularly the Year 5 students as we will have a special blessing for their new Kindy buddies during this Mass.

From this week’s Parish Bulletin:

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**Wednesday 30th November**

*The Parish Office is closed on Wednesday & Thursday due to Christmas travel.*

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**Saturday 10th December**

*Outdoor Mass & Christmas Carols*  
OGC School Grounds.

Bring along your own picnic food and drink, or feast on the food available for purchase.

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**Welcome**

**CHILD FRIENDLY LITURGY FOR FAMILIES**

If you have a child who can be challenging in church, this may be just the thing for you -  
**SATURDAY 3RD DECEMBER AT 3PM**

We will have a special “child-friendly liturgy” for families which will include music, inclusive prayer, Christmas songs and Christmas stories. The liturgy will only take 30 minutes and children will feel very comfortable in the Church as this will be a relaxing liturgy.

Flyers for this liturgy are at the back of the Church. Please RSVP Fran pastoral@ffcp.org.au or phone the Parish Office 9431.5097.

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**http://www.ffcp.org.au/parishnews/parish-bulletin**

*Learning excellence in a caring community*  
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PASTORAL CARE NEWS:

PBL

Positive Behaviours for Learning
A reminder that our three school rules are:
- Care for Learning
- Care for Self and Others
- Care for the Environment
Please take the time to discuss the school rules with your children this week.
This fortnight's focus is:
- Be Fair and Inclusive

Families matter

https://www.kidsmatter.edu.au/families

https://healthyfamilies.beyondblue.org.au/home

Have a hope-filled week,
Pip Smith (Acting REC)
Thank you to the families who have returned all of their overdue library books. Next week is the last week students will be borrowing for the year. Students with overdue books will not be permitted to borrow unless all of their overdue books are returned. Reminder slips will be sent home next week. Please have a good search at home. If you are unable to find them please sign the slip and return it to the library.

The class who return all of their books by the end of term will be treated to ice-blocks. Thank you for your support.

Angie Debien
Teacher Librarian

Issue 8 of Book Club was sent home to all students this week.

Orders and payment is due by Monday 5th December using the LOOP (Linked Online Ordering and Payment) system as detailed in the scholastic brochure. No cash or paperwork should be returned to the school office for bookclub purchases. We are working to ensure that purchases are sent home with students by 12 December - latest. Parents who select the "gift order" option will be notified by Bec Russell when their supplied items are available for collection from the school office. Please forward any questions to Bec Russell Becandruess@hotmail.com

Please bring your banking this Thursday and remember that next Thursday 1st December is the last day for ordering Rewards for this year.

Happy birthday to the following children who are celebrating their birthdays this week and in the next week:

November
25  Amber Shallvey  Year 5
27  Sophia Chick  Year 4
28  Georgia Cosgrove  Year 6
29  Jarryd Haines  Year 6

Diary Dates

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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Events</th>
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| November 23 | 5.00pm Training Band Solo Night  
6.00pm Training Band Solo Night |
| 24 | 9.15am Mass (Year 6)  
10.00am Police Youth Liaison Officers talk to Years 4-6  
2.00pm Reconciliation (Year 4)  
7-8pm K/1 (2017) Planning night |
| 27 | P&F Bare Creek Trail Run |
| 28 | First Week in Advent Liturgy (Year 4) |
| 29 | 3.15pm Manly Utd |
| 30 | Years 3-6 Surf Ed (Freshwater Beach) |
| December 1 | 9.15am Mass (Year 5)  
2.30pm Awards Assembly  
School Banking Rewards Ordering Deadline  
6.00-7.15pm K/1 2017 Books B4 Bedtime |
| 2 | Year 6 Italian Day Excursion |
| 4 | 8.30am Family Mass (K-6) |
| 5 | Second Week in Advent Liturgy (Year 5)  
Christmas Hampers Due Please |
| 7 | K-2 Water Safety Day |
| 8 | 9-11.30am The Great Debate  
9.15am Mass (Year 4)  
2.00pm Reconciliation (Year 3) |
| 12 | Last Before School Chess  
Third Week in Advent Liturgy (Year 6)  
5.00pm Year 6 Graduation Mass  
7.00-9.00pm Year 6 Graduation Forestville RSL |
| 13 | Year 6 Reflection Day |
| 14 | K-6 Cake Celebration for Year 6  
Catholic Care OSHC Christmas Party |
| 15 | Last Day of School Banking  
PBL Reward Day (wear clothes in the colour of your house if in winning house) |
| 16 | 11.30am Strength and Gentleness Mass  
Last day of Term for Students |
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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
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<tr>
<td>January</td>
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<td>27</td>
<td>Staff Development Day – Pupil Free Day</td>
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<td>30</td>
<td>First day of School Years 1-6</td>
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<td>Kindy Best Start Assessments</td>
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<tr>
<td>31</td>
<td>Kindy Best Start Assessments</td>
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<td>February</td>
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<td>1</td>
<td>First day of School Kindergarten</td>
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<td>9</td>
<td>MAI Assessments Years 1-6 – Pupil Free Day for Years 1-6 ONLY</td>
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<td>10</td>
<td>Staff Development Day &amp; MAI Assessments Yrs 1-6 Pupil Free Day ALL STUDENTS</td>
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### St Martin’s Playgroup

You are very welcome to come and play at

**St Martin’s Playgroup**

Mondays from 9am – 10am

147 Prahran Avenue
Davidson 2085

This informal playtime will be held in our new playground (weather permitting). Bring a snack for your child if you wish and we will make you a tea or coffee.

Tel: 9452 2022 for more information – otherwise just turn up!

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**Holiday Care Bookings - Glenaeon OOSH Services**


Holiday Care Dec 2016 & Jan 2017 The upcoming Holiday Care will be run from Mon 12th Dec 2016 to Thur 22nd Dec 2016 and Mon 16th Jan 2017 to Fri 27th Jan 2017

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**P&F News and Request for Helpers!**
Dear St Martin’s Community,

The big day is almost upon us and I hope your running shoes are laced and ready to go. This coming Sunday 27th Nov is the Bare Creek Fun run. For each person that enters this event and nominates St Martin’s as the referring school some of the entry money comes back to the school. This is a great way of getting your friends and families out for a day on the trails while also providing a benefit back to the school. Helen has some great ideas for where the P&F can contribute to the school over the next year and this would be a nice way to build our ability to contribute to all our kids’ education experience.

If you are not able to run and still want to help out on the day I am looking for up to 6 helpers for the morning. There will be a variety of roles to help the race organiser out with. Please contact me at smd.pfexec@gmail.com if you are free for the morning.

Remember that we will have St Martin’s trophies for fastest student in the 2km, 6km and 10km events as well as the fastest parent/teacher in the 6km and 10km. Hope to see you on the morning.

Scott Howells
P&F President

A massive Thank You to the following parent helpers for Pizza Tuckmufti. I can never do it without you and this term went very smoothly and only took 20 minutes with the help from these lovely parents. I apologize if I missed anybody. Josie Baker

Kylie Petersen
Samantha Moss
Dominique D'Alessandro
Jane Gallo
Scott Howells
Paul Chick
Lucy Hayden
Linda Howell
Shiho Tozer
Michelle Hrnjak
Thanks to all volunteered so far in 2017 – its greatly appreciated!

For those still thinking that they might like to help or are in a position that they can help, there’s still time!

We are still in need of volunteers for the following roles. If you can help please complete and return form to school office asap – or email Lisa Arcus at smd.pfexec@gmail.com

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class Parent</th>
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<td>Kindy</td>
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<td>Year 1</td>
<td>Nominations received</td>
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<td>Year 2</td>
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<td>Year 6</td>
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Without volunteers especially for the social events, we are unable to run some of our most loved functions!
The more the merrier for these - let us know if you can help! You may even want to team up with a few mates.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Kids Social Events</th>
<th>Involves helping out with events such as M Factor</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Parent’s Social Event</td>
<td>Involves helping out with events such as Trivia Night</td>
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</table>

Name: ____________________________
Email: ___________________________
Phone Number: ____________________

Years that my children will be in in 2017: □ K □ 1 □ 2 □ 3 □ 4 □ 5 □ 6

Copies of the Minutes from the AGM are available at the office please enquire if you would like a copy.
You’re invited!

Help us celebrate the festive season at the OSHC annual Christmas party! We have Leo Bonne, a French mime and entertainer to dazzle and amaze!

When: Wednesday 14th Dec, 3pm – 5.30pm
Where: The school hall

Dress for the occasion and have some fun. Program cost for the afternoon is $28.00 per child. Parents are welcome to join in the fun so little ones can enjoy also*

Places are limited so please let us know if you can make it!
To reserve your spot, text 0409 877 663 or email davidson.oshc@dbb.org.au

*This only applies to a child under the age of 5 who is not booked into the service for the afternoon but still wishes to participate in the festivities. They are more than welcome as long as they are supervised by an adult/guardian at all times. We cannot accept responsibility for any persons who are injured if they are not registered with us for that afternoon.