Dear Parents,

The swimming carnivals held on Wednesday last week for the juniors and yesterday for the seniors were a great success. I would like to take this opportunity to thank the many parents for their assistance and for their continued support. Special thanks are also extended to the teachers for their generous amount of time and effort placed into these events. The teamwork shown on the day enabled the carnivals to run smoothly. The students need to be congratulated for their wonderful participation and behaviour on the day. They did themselves, their parents, teachers and the school proud! Each and every competitor gave of their best and the improvement and courage to “have a go” was a true reflection of an all round team effort.

I would particularly like to thank Mr Yorke, Mrs D’Alessandro, and Miss D’Agnone and our wonderful parent helpers for their commitment to early morning training sessions and for the gourmet breakfasts provided. A huge thanks to Mr Yorke once again for his superb organisation of the carnival. We look forward to our students representing St Patrick’s at the Interschool Carnival on Wednesday 6th April.

On Thursday 17th March the school will be celebrating St Patrick’s Day as a community with a Mass at 9.00am in the Basilica. We would welcome all parents, grandparents and friends to join us in the celebration of our Parish and School Patron Saint.

Following the Mass, the students will view “Zootopia” (classified PG) at the Millennium Cinemas with the teachers.

The cost of the movie and lunch has been subsidised by the school and Parents & Friends to make it more affordable.

Please send money and return slips by Monday 14th March at the latest. Please note that each child needs to return a slip for catering purposes. Notes will be available at the front office if needed.

Our Year Three parents have been inspired by the work of Caritas and are planning a “Pasta Day for Project Compassion,” which will take place on Thursday 24th March.

Students will be able to order fresh home cooked pasta for $5 and all the proceeds will be going to Project Compassion. It is wonderful that we will have the opportunity to help change some people’s lives as, for example, $80 raised could provide potting soil and seeds, so that children with intellectual disabilities can enjoy gardening activities in Laos. Just $570 could provide two days of training for health centre staff so they can share new knowledge about childhood nutrition with local communities in Cambodia.

Every dollar raised helps, so look out for the Pasta Day flyer and order form, which will be going home with your child soon.

Bernadette Higgins
Assistant Principal
School Fees
The 2016 school fee statement was sent home with your eldest child today. With the fee statement you will also find forms for setting up payment plans from a credit card account, or direct debits from your savings account. Please consider using either of these options.

You will also have received a copy of your family’s details that we have on our data base. Please check that these details are still current, particularly contact phone numbers and email addresses, and return this form with any alterations.

We apologise that the fees are being issued later than usual, but please endeavour to have the first term portion of your fees paid off by the beginning of the second term.

Scholastic Book Club
Book Club catalogues are going home this week. If you would like to order any items for your children, please do so prior to Friday the 18th March. Also, a big “thank you” to Mrs Emilia Pinzone, who has once again volunteered to coordinate Book Club.

School Banking
Thank you, also, to Mrs Maria Acquaro, who will be visiting us each Thursday for school banking. If you would like your child to be involved, please call by on a Thursday morning before school and Mrs Acquaro will be more than happy to assist.

Canteen
Please consider volunteering to help out in the canteen. If you can help, please contact administration staff either by email (admin@stpatsfremantle.wa.edu.au) or by telephone on 9335 5215.

Mrs Miller is continuing to come up with great new healthy treats for recess. Fruit kebabs have proven to be a popular treat for some of the children.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Volunteer</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Friday 11th March</td>
<td>Need a volunteer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday 16th March</td>
<td>Isabelle Cadman</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday 18th March</td>
<td>Rachel Pillinger</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday 23rd March</td>
<td>Need a volunteer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday 25th March</td>
<td>Good Friday (no school)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**Interschool Cricket**
The Year 6 Cricket Carnival last week was a successful day for all who attended. A big thank you must go out to Paola Deering-Ridley and Christina Gatti for helping coach on the day. I would like to congratulate all the teams for showing great team spirit and sportsmanship on the day. A special thanks must go out to the Year 5 girls for assisting in making up the Year 6 numbers— you girls were awesome!

**Junior Swimming Carnival**
I would like to thank all the parent and Year 6 helpers for making this year’s Junior Swimming Carnival a huge success. The aim of the carnival was for all the students to be exposed to water play in a fun and safe environment. All the students that attended the day participated and had an absolute ball.

*Mr Yorke (Sports Coordinator)*

See “Events” on the St Pat’s website for photos of the Junior Swimming Carnival. Senior photos will be uploaded shortly.

See over the page for results from the Senior Swimming Carnival.
Senior Swimming Carnival

The Senior Faction Swimming Carnival on Wednesday 9th was a huge success. Well done to all the swimmers who took part and challenged themselves—you should be proud of your efforts.

In the lead up to the carnival most of the students in Years 4, 5 and 6 took part in morning swimming training. The swimming training sessions are designed to get students confident in their swimming ability and build their swimming strength and endurance. I would like to thank Miss D’Agnone, Mrs D’Alessandro, all the wonderful parents for assisting with the coaching and all the parents, particularly Mrs Berardis, for helping prepare a delicious healthy breakfast for all the children after every session.

The day of the carnival wouldn't have been a success without the help of all the wonderful parents who volunteered their time. An event such as this requires a number of helpers doing their specially assigned role. Thank you to all the scorers, place judges, place marshals, house marshals, announcers, starters, assistant starters and photographers—your time and efforts are very much appreciated.

Well done to De Vialar for winning the carnival, you pulled together early and took a comfortable lead. The individual champion results are below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Champion Boy</th>
<th>Runner Up</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Kale</td>
<td>Torin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Cai</td>
<td>Jakeb</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Samuel</td>
<td>Ziggy</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Champion Girl</th>
<th>Runner Up</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Sasha</td>
<td>Coco</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Matilde</td>
<td>Ceilidh</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Amelia</td>
<td>Sophia</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Faction Points</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>First</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gold (De Vialar)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>352 Points</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Students in the Interschool Swimming Carnival will receive a note inviting them to attend morning swimming training.
At school, at home and in the community we can put these lessons to good use to create an environment which supports growth and risk taking in our children. A wonderful example of this is our before school, swimming training and girls only cricket training sessions which have been a huge success with as many as 50 students turning up for morning swimming training and 21 young ladies turning up for cricket. We have received great support from parents and siblings in training children and preparing breakfast, which has been outstanding. This support makes the organising staff feel their efforts are appreciated. Well done to everyone involved.

LENT is a time to try and be a BETTER PERSON. Being an example of Jesus to people you come in contact with each day.

One of our main aims in MJR for this year is How are we growing as a person in 2016? What sort of personal skills do our students need to have by the end of the year?

One way to be a better person is by being friendlier and using more eye contact. Welcoming staff and parents with a greeting and using people’s names are other ways. Encourage children to use eye contact with younger students and a high five, wave and smile.

Another challenge for your children is for them to get out of their comfort zone with friends and try to make new friends.

John Ryan
Principal

CELEBRATE
ST PATRICK’S DAY 2016
WITH OUR EXTENDED FREMANTLE CATHOLIC COMMUNITY

TO ALL FAMILIES (PRE-K TO 6) OF ST PATRICK’S SCHOOL AND BASILICA COMMUNITY

You are invited to attend a special St Patrick’s Day Mass in the Basilica at 5pm 13 March 2016

This will be followed by a SHARED MEAL
In the Basilica Parish Hall
BYO drinks and a plate/platter to share.
Coffee and Tea provided

Enjoy some toe-tapping Irish music during the celebration

Don’t forget our annual Green Dress-Up Competition with prizes for best dressed.
Categories include… Greenest, Most Irish, Funniest Leprechaun.

Plan now to attend this wonderful celebration of our Patron, Saint Patrick, with all the groups within the Fremantle Catholic Community who bear his name.

We look forward to seeing you there
For more information, please call Philippa Colgan on
0431 929 739 or at pacolgan@hotmail.com
Top 3 Social Skills for Children to Develop

Children who are able to form friendships when they start school are happier at school and also learn better.

More significantly, positive friendships have long-term implications for social and, indirectly, academic success.

Friendships skills are generally developmental, but they don’t develop in isolation. Kids acquire these skills when they play with their siblings and interact with children and adults outside their family.

Parents can help kids develop important social competencies by teaching them sociable behaviours at home, being good role models and providing opportunities for kids to play with each other in a variety of situations.

Here are 3 important social skills to help children to develop:

1. Ask for what you want
Help children ask for what they want. It means they don’t throw tantrums, whinge, and sulk or expect parents to guess what’s on their minds. While we need to be patient with toddlers, we need also to give older children the chance and opportunity to ask for what they want. Sometimes we need to ignore shrugs and grunts and expect them to articulate their wishes. This is the basis of civil behaviour, as well as a basic human skill.

2. Sharing
Sharing is a basic social skill. Developmentally, very young children like to keep their possessions to themselves. As they get older and move into Pre School and beyond the notion of sharing becomes a pre-requisite for playing with and forming relationships with others. Other children like to play and be with those who share their time, possessions and space with them. Sharing is the start of empathy as it shows sensitivity to other people’s feelings.

3. Holding a conversation
Holding conversations with others is a lifetime friendship skill. Conversations require self-disclosure, which can be challenging for some children. Good conversationalists give of themselves, but also take an interest in the person they are talking to. Many children forget that good conversations are two-way events, and tend to focus solely on themselves.

Children within conversations need to learn to ask good or interesting questions; to take turns when speaking and to show you are listening by making eye contact and not interrupting.

As parents we often focus on the development of children’s academic skills and quite easily neglect the development of important social skills, which contribute so much to children’s happiness and wellbeing.

The above information was sourced from Michael Grose ‘ParentingIdeas’
Boy first term has been full of activities for the children and again another busy fortnight with early morning swim training and Milo Cricket. Thanks again to all the parents that again helped out.

Don’t forget to like us on Facebook, “St Pats Fremantle Parents and Friends”. Thanks to all the new likes we have received over the last fortnight. This is another great communication tool for us and so would love all of you who are on Facebook to join our page.

March is a busy month especially with Easter at the end so please make sure to lock in the following dates.

**Term 1 P&F Meeting**
P&F Meeting will be held on **Tuesday 22nd March at 7pm** in the Staff Room. We would love as many of you to attend as possible, so please pop this date into your diaries.

**Year 3 Pasta Day for Project Compassion.**
The year 3 class will be holding a Pasta Day for lunch on Thursday 24th March to raise money for Project Compassion. Forms will be sent home soon to place an order.

**Upcoming Social Activities**

**St Patrick’s Day Celebration (School)** – Notes have been sent out and a reminder for you all to get the notes back for the School’s St Patrick’s Day Celebrations on Thursday 17th March. If you are able to help the P&F by volunteering your time to assist with the making of the children’s lunch, please fill in the forms and send back to the office.

**St Patrick’s Day Celebration (Parish)** – On Sunday 13th March the Parish will be hosting a St Patrick’s Day Mass and Celebration in the Parish Hall. Please see attached flyer with all the details.

**Pre Primary P&F Fundraiser** - The Pre Primary Class are running an Easter Raffle and tickets are on sale before school, at assemblies or you can purchase at the front office. The hampers are on display in the front office and the raffle will be drawn on Thursday 24th March.

The Pre Primary Class will also be holding a cake stall on Thursday 24th March at recess and so we ask that you allow your children to bring along a few dollars so they can purchase a treat at the stall.

**School Disco** – The school disco will be held on Friday 1st April in the Parish Hall. Pre Primary to Year 3 will be held from 4.30pm – 5.30pm. Dinner will be served to all children at 5.30pm. Year 4 to Year 6 will run from 6.15pm to 7.30pm. Notes will be handed out next week.

*Peta Evans*

*P&F President, on behalf of the P&F Exec Committee*
Pre Primary
Easter Fundraiser
Cake Stall & Raffle
Recess on Thurs, 24th March

- Cakes will cost $1 to $2 each
- Raffle tickets $1 each for the chance to win 1st, 2nd, or 3rd delicious Easter Hampers, which will be on show in the school office/reception.