Woolworths Earn and Learn program gives Schools and Early Learning Centres around Australia the chance to earn new education resources.

Make a difference for your school!

- Simply shop at Woolworths and you will receive one Woolworths Earn and Learn Sticker for every $10 spent*. Excludes tobacco, liquor and gift cards.
- Stick the Woolworths Sticker onto the Woolworths Earn and Learn Sticker Sheet or send to school for them to stick it to a Sticker Sheet.
- Place stickers and/or Sticker sheet into a special marked Collection Box at your local Woolworths store or school.
- Your generosity will enable us to get some great new equipment and resources for Maths, English, Science and some fantastic fun supplies for Arts & Craft, Sport and our library.

Decorate a Gumboot Competition

In celebration of the up and coming Book Week, Saturday 22nd August through to and including Friday, August 28th, all children are invited to take part and BOOT UP!

* Find an old Gumboot
* Paint and decorate as creatively as you can
* Add lots of extras to your creation

START PLANNING NOW!!!!!!!

Boots are due into the Library by Monday 17th August, 2015 ready for judging.

Winners will be announced on Monday, August 24th.

Local Artist Sue Longbottom will judge the boots. One winner will be chosen from each year level. The lucky winners will be able to choose a free book from our Book Fair being held during Book Week.

PUT YOUR BEST BOOT FORWARD!
Dear Parents, Friends, Staff and Students of St Columba’s,

Welcome back for term 3! We had a great first week with children returning from their holiday’s with bright smiles and positive attitudes. Thank you to all of our staff for your flexibility and the amazing work that you do well above and beyond requirements.

This term is already shaping up to be exciting and very busy! We have book week to look forward to, Assemblies and Masses, Grandparents day, much staff training, not to mention our school performance of ‘Alice in Wonderland!’ Students also have ample opportunity to ‘reach out’ to our community through Mini-Vinnies and Mission Corps. We also have some exciting building and maintenance projects beginning to gain momentum. It is truly marvellous to be part of such a vibrant and supportive school community.

We wish our basketball team well tomorrow as they represent our school in the SYP SAPSASA competition in Minlaton. I know that they will perform to the best of their abilities and most importantly conduct themselves with grace and respect.

You may have noticed through our school portal that our school leaders have been producing daily announcements through our school radio infrastructure. You are most welcome to click on the ‘Spreaker’ link (play button) on our school portal webpage to listen into our daily announcements. We are always looking to improve on communication strategies. We have been experimenting with SMS this week to complement our existing social media and more traditional communication strategies. If you have any comments or suggestions please feel welcome to communicate that back to us!

I wish you all a wonderful term full of learning.

A reflection from Pope Francis:

In Material Things or Jesus?

Today, it would be good for all of us to ask ourselves sincerely: In whom do we place our trust? In ourselves, in material things, or in Jesus? We all have the temptation often to put ourselves at the centre, to believe that we are the axis of the universe, to believe that we alone build our lives or to think that our life can only be happy if built on possessions, money, or power. But we all know that it is not so.
Certainly, possessions, money and power can give a momentary thrill, the illusion of being happy, but they end up possessing us and making us always want to have more, never satisfied. And we end up "full," but not nourished, and it is very sad to see young people “full,” but weak. Young people must be strong, nourished by the faith and not filled with other things! “Put on Christ” in your life, place your trust in him and you will never be disappointed!

Address, World Youth Day, July 25, 2013

Reflection: What fills you up? What desires do you have that ought to be fulfilled by God instead of something else? Take time in the quiet of your heart to place your trust in God and him alone.

Todd Murfitt
Principal

This Newsletter and more can be found at our school website! www.scms.catholic.edu.au
You can also follow us on twitter: @scmsyorketown
Dear Parents and Caregivers,

Welcome to term three! I hope you all had a wonderful break and managed to endure the cold and wet weather for some fun school holiday activities. I look forward to catching up with you over the coming days and hear all about the holidays. This term is going to be exciting for not only students but their teachers. Firstly, we have our school concert scheduled for Wednesday of week 10. The students have already been working hard to learn lines and practice songs so our school production of Alice in Wonderland will be spectacular. As well as this, scheduled excursions have also been set up for the JP and MP classes with trips to Adelaide over the term. We have some 6/7 girls competing in Knock Out Basketball this week along with our Tournament of the Minds team competing later this term. These are just a few of the many activities scheduled for the term.

This week on Thursday the 30th of July at 9.10am, the UP class will be celebrating NAIDOC week with a Liturgy in the Hall. Normally NAIDOC week is celebrated during the second week of July but as we were on school holidays we will be celebrating it later. NAIDOC week has an important message to share to generations young and old and everyone is welcome to attend. As well as this, we have Saint Mary MacKillop Day in week three. We will be running a whole school Mass in the Church on Thursday the 6th of August at 9.15am. As part of this special day the students can order a sausage and bread for lunch at a cost of $2.00 with all money raised on the day going to the Mary MacKillop Foundation. This Foundation provides relief to the disadvantaged in Australia through empowerment and education.

At times, we all have become annoyed or angry with someone we love/care about or also a person that we dislike. We can sometimes forget about the bigger picture of life. Pope Francis touched on this when speaking to a large group of people in Saint Peters Square in September, 2013. I would like to leave you with his wise words of wisdom and challenge you to be merciful also.

“Jesus calls us all to follow this path: “Be merciful, even as your Father is merciful” (Luke 6:36). I now ask of you one thing. In silence, let’s all think.....everyone think of a person with whom we are annoyed, with whom we are angry, someone we do not like. Let us think of that person in silence, at this moment, let us pray for this person and let us become merciful with this person. – Pope Francis

God Bless

Annette Diassinas

APRIM

Kids Matter Contact Numbers:
Beyond Blue: 1300 224 636
Lifeline: 13 11 14
Kids Help Line: 1800 551 800
important dates

thursday, july 30th  
Upper Primary Liturgy

tuesday, august 4th  
Ready- Set- Go 9.30 to 10.30am

wednesday, august 5th  
School Board meeting starting at 7pm

thursday, august 6th  
Junior Primary Mass

tuesday, august 8th  
Ready- Set- Go 9.30 to 10.30am

thursday, august 13th  
Middle Primary Assembly

tuesday, august 18th  
Ready- Set- Go 9.30 to 10.30am

thursday, august 20th  
Junior Primary Assembly

tuesday, august 25th  
Ready- Set- Go 9.30 to 10.30am

thursday, august 27th  
Upper Primary Mass

tuesday, sept 1st  
Ready- Set- Go 9.30 to 10.30am

thursday, sept 3rd  
Upper Primary Assembly

wednesday, sep 9th  
School Board meeting starting at 7pm

thursday, sept 10th  
Middle Primary Mass

thursday, sept 17th  
Middle Primary Assembly

wednesday, september 23rd  
School Concert starting at 7 pm

tuesday, october 20th  
Shopping Night & proposed Fashion Parade at School.

students of the week

James - Congratulations on your efforts and enthusiasm during Literacy lessons.

Archie— you are using all of your problem solving skills exceptionally well in a variety of learning areas. Keep up the great work!

Brodie— Congratulations! You are becoming a more focused and enthusiastic learner. Keep up the great work!

Seth for excellent work with your Times Tables. Well done.

Ben you are a great leader with fabulous initiative. Keep up the great work.

Elisha for an excellent oral presentation.

prayer:

Lord Jesus,
I ask you to open my eyes as you did with the blind man, so that I may really see.
Tune my ears
as you did with the man who was deaf and dumb,
so that I may really hear
what you are saying to me.
May the many experiences of my senses
remind me to be aware of others
and all that is around me.
May all that I experience
lead me closer to you.

amen

parents and friends term calendar

Week No | Date & Day | EVENT | Committee Contact
--- | --- | --- | ---
Wk 2 | Tuesday 28th of July | TASTY TUESDAY | Jo, Jackie, Michelle T & Kathleen
Wk 3 | Thursday 6th of August | TRADING Table | Committee Members
Wk 4 | | | 
Wk 5 | | | 
Wk 6 | Wednesday 26th of August | Committee Meeting 9.15am | 
Wk 7 | Friday 4th of September | FATHER’S DAY Stall | Kath & Jackie
Wk 8 | 13th - 20th September | Facebook Online Auction | Kath
Wk 9 | 23rd Sept. | SCHOOL Performance (7pm) | Running Raffle
| | | Lollies, Popcorn drinks for sale. | 
| | | All Committee members (from 6pm) | 
Wk 10 | | | 

Dear Parents,

Welcome to Term 3!

As my thoughts inevitably turn to the year’s achievements so far, I remember the energy with which the Upper Primary Class embraced the challenge of this year along with me from the very start. It was a positive beginning as it set the tone for a productive semester that saw them take on many challenges including the one of developing a clearer idea of what it means to work as a team with understanding, compassion and ultimately forgiveness.

Such reflection also takes me to the news still needing to be passed on to you about Term 2 which presented us with many opportunities to explore numerous experiences through learning. In fact, towards the end of the term we went to Warooka Primary School for the Carbonkids Sustainable Futures Workshop. CSIRO Food and Nutrition scientist Malcolm Riley was there to discuss with the students issues around “feeding a hungry planet”. A crop scientist ran a potting activity with the students and there was also the opportunity to do a number of experiments that helped students come to terms with the various concepts involved in living more sustainably. The aim was to provide students with sufficient opportunity to share thoughts and ideas about how to action sustainability measures across our school and wider community, in addition to those already in place, in a long term, developmental manner. The day did much to reinforce the work that we already do in class and gave all of us the stimulus to continue in that vein. The potting task’s experiment set up on the day is still in progress, with visual and written documentation of the barley growing taking place on a regular basis.

Last week the Upper Primary Class was involved in the National School Tree Day. The Yorke Peninsula Council supplied the trees, the planting of which took place on G.B. Sherriff Road Yorketown. It was a great day which once again reinforced the importance of the science studies we have been doing in class on the effects of deforestation, rising water tables and soil salinity.

Thus far the year’s journey has been satisfying. I look forward to all aspects of the multifaceted work that we are here to do and, even if it is natural to think of the academic aspect first of all, as I have mentioned in the past the “You Can Do It 5 Keys To Success” have been an integral part of our days, helping to establish foundations in Persistence, Organisation, Getting Along, Confidence and Resilience. Such qualities and values are fundamental to the students’ wellbeing and their ability to tap into their true potential, which leads to commitment to producing one’s personal best. As a focus for this aspect of our work, the students have been writing Role Plays for each one of the Keys and presenting them to the school at Upper Primary led Assemblies. It has been very rewarding to observe their creativity, the ease with which they perform on stage and their ability to pitch their messages so that all members of the school can benefit from the Role Plays’ messages. There are 3 more Role Plays to be presented to the school at Upper Primary led Assemblies over Terms 3 and 4. On the subject of our assemblies, I would like to add that they are a great opportunity to showcase student activities. Some of our highlights have also been the dances which a number of the Upper Primary students have choreographed and performed. We look forward to seeing you at those assemblies.
Equally rewarding has been our RE work which is a fundamental avenue through which we become more aware of our connectedness and the positiveness that can result from it. Such a connectedness to each other, to ourselves and to all aspects of the physical world around us is vitally important as it supports well-being and helps build the bridges that promote understanding based on Christian values, some of which are love, compassion and respect. May we be forever vigilant and look for the opportunities to affirm this through our daily contact with the younger members of our community.

The 6/7 Young Environmental Leaders will continue their sustainability project for this year which involves the efficient collection of refuse and recycling material and includes a composting area [newly built by parents during our recent working-bee].

I have appreciated your support as parents so far and look forward to more of the same, especially in relation to the flow of communication and homework. The latter is a vital aspect of our school life and will continue to be important this term given that, over and above our normal academic commitments, we are preparing for the school play, “Alice In Wonderland “.

Our students’ opportunities for learning are endless; some come relatively easily whilst others can be challenging. May I suggest that we remember what it felt like to learn something for the first time; inevitably some of those experiences had elements of discomfort incorporated within them, yet the subsequent experience of success had equally strong elements of joy and satisfaction. It is important that we encourage our young learners to work through that which is both new and, hopefully, challenging enough to take the student to the next level of growth. Therefore, it is with this spirit that I look forward to working with our students in all learning areas so that they may build the strong foundations that underpin their subsequent middle-school learning.

My very best wishes to you and your families.
Australian Parents Council

Transformative Education - An education worth having is...

Hon Christopher Pyne MP
Minister for Education & Training

Nicholas Gruen
Prominent Australian economist and commentator on innovation

Parents, principals and teachers are welcome to join us for these two presentations and a conversation

Friday 21 August 2015
1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.
Sage Hotel Adelaide
208 South Terrace
Free Admission

To be followed by afternoon tea.
From 3:30 - 4:30 p.m., APC President, Caz Bosch, will present Parent Engagement in Australia: A power for transformation

To register your attendance call Sonia on 03 6334 8886 or 0477 880 223, or email admin@austparents.edu.au

Proudly supported by The Federation of Catholic School Parent Communities
Cultural diversity: Suggestions for families

Parenting across cultures has particular challenges. Sometimes children and their parents or carers have different ideas about how to balance the values and expectations of two cultures. When children have a sense of belonging to both cultures it supports positive mental health and wellbeing. The following suggestions may assist you and your children to achieve a positive sense of belonging in both cultures.

Celebrate your own culture
Developing a positive sense of cultural identity supports children’s self-esteem and their sense of belonging. By telling stories and sharing customs you can help children to connect with their cultural heritage. It is important to talk to children in ways that are appropriate for their age and interests. Knowing and taking pride in their own heritage can help children feel comfortable and secure with their identity.

Build social networks
Friendships and social networks are important both for children and for families, helping them to feel part of the community. Making connections with local people is important for feeling welcomed and building a sense of belonging in Australian society. Your connections may be with your own cultural group or you may prefer to build your connections with another cultural group. Your child’s school can be a great meeting point for parents and carers where long-term friendships develop.

Get to know your child’s school
Becoming involved in your child’s school is a great way for families to feel connected to their community. There are often opportunities to participate in school events which may help you to get to know your child’s school and the school community. Forming relationships with school staff can also help you to feel like you belong. For instance, having a good relationship with your child’s teachers will allow you to ask questions about your child’s progress, and share your cultural background with them. When families and teaching staff develop relationships, they are more likely to understand each other’s perspectives, talk through concerns and support children together.
Learn about parenting in Australia

Some parenting practices may be quite different in different cultures. Finding out about parenting practices and expectations in Australia, including things like legal requirements of parents and supports available, can help you work out the best ways to manage problems that may arise. Many families from culturally diverse backgrounds find that blending the best parenting ideas and practices from both cultures is very helpful.

Be flexible

Children can feel confused when the values and behaviours expected at home seem to be different from what happens with their friends. It is helpful to be flexible when deciding on rules and expectations so you can take into account any difficulties your children may be facing. Listening to your children and talking openly about the concerns they may have regarding different expectations for school and home means that solutions can be found through understanding and compromise.

Be patient

Adjusting to a new life after migration has lots of challenges for both families and children. Establishing a secure and caring home environment helps to provide children with a sense of stability. Finding people who understand you and can support you as you settle in is really important. It is also often very important to access the help that is available through government agencies, community organisations and English language programs.

Seek support

Getting help in your own language can be especially important at times of stress or when dealing with complex issues. Many community organisations around Australia provide specific support and advice from a cultural perspective. Some organisations offer regular meetings or short courses to help with parenting or other family issues.

This resource is part of a range of KidsMatter Primary information sheets for families and school staff. View them all online at www.kidsmatter.edu.au