During Lent we have been collecting money for donations towards Project Compassion. Our Social Justice leaders have worked hard to encourage the children to support this worthy cause which supports the poorest of the poor. In total our school community has raised **$760.45** this is enough money to provide marketing skills training for 100 people for a year in Papua New Guinea and a bicycle for a young person to travel to school and work in Cambodia. Thank-you for your donations.

To find out more about Caritas and how your donations will help those in need go to [www.caritas.org.au/projectcompassion](http://www.caritas.org.au/projectcompassion)

The following reflection is from the Caritas Stations of the Cross:

Jesus turned to his Father in heaven for comfort and support. He was fully aware of what was going to happen to him and chose to spend time praying to his Father. He asked his friends to stay with him and keep watch. Instead, they fell asleep and abandoned him in his hour of need.

We ask you, Lord, for strength and guidance to become people of witness. To remember that the way you love us is the way we should love one another.

Help us to stand in solidarity with our sisters and brothers and never to abandon them.

Holy Spirit, empower us to remember that, however small a drop in the ocean our actions are, the ocean would be less because of that missing drop. (Mother Theresa)

Today our school joined together in observing the Stations of the Cross. The children behaved with reverence and prayerfulness. Many thanks to Julie Stanley who has been busily making new costumes for our biblical role plays and to Jeanette Pearson who kindly donated a collection of costumes to the school. Many of these costumes have been used in our Stations of the Cross enactment.
Dear Parents

Our school has commenced a partnership with Moonee Valley Council to develop a ‘Green Travel Plan’ which is aimed at improved traffic safety, parking management and encouraging walking and cycling to school. The Better Moves Around Schools program will attempt to address many of the ongoing issues the school has continually brought to the communities attention. The project requires support and input from parents and children if we are going to improve the current situation. The first step in the process is to conduct two parent workshops on Wednesday 24th April at 8.45am and 3.00pm to seek feedback that can then be used in the establishment of our Green Travel Plan. Interested parents are invited to join in either of these two discussion groups that will be looking at the nature of our current situation and possible solutions. We remain committed to a safe environment in and around the school and will continue seek your cooperation as the adults responsible for getting your family to and from school, only when everyone begins to put safety before convenience will this problem be resolved.

CLOSURE DAY REMINDER
All families are reminded the Monday 15th April is a pupil free day.

WELCOME
A warm welcome is extended to Alyce McConnell and Mong Hang Cao from Australia Catholic University, both Pre Services Teachers will be working in year Two Blue and Gold throughout the year on Wednesday and Thursday as part of their training.

COOK BOOKS
Copies of our school cookbook “Food Safari – a legacy of recipes” are available to be purchased for $25 from the school office at any stage. This is an excellent publication that could be used a family resource or as a great birthday gift with a real individual touch for anyone that loves cooking.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS
St Vincent de Paul School will participate in a dramatization of the Stations of the Cross on Thursday 28th March. This event forms an integral part of the children’s preparation for Easter by experiencing the events of Holy Week. All families are invited to walk through the stations which will be set up around the school grounds. In order for this to run smoothly, we will have a special timetable for that day as follows:

- 9-10:30 – Classes as normal
- 10:30-11 - Recess
- 11:15-12:15 – Stations of the Cross
- 12:45 – Drawing of the Easter raffle in the hall
- 1:30 – End of term dismissal

THANK YOU
Thanks to the team of helpers who participated in our working bee on the 16th March, your attendance and assistance was much appreciated.

REMINDER
Supervision of the children in the junior yard commences at 8.30am and concludes at the end of the day 3.45pm. Children needing supervision outside these times should access the Before and After Care Programs. Parents are also reminded that playground equipment is not to be used by children before and after school as a safety measure considering the large number of children in this space during these times. Your support with these reminders is greatly appreciated.
EASTER CEREMONIES

March 23rd/24th  Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord
Masses at 6.00 pm & 8.30 am & 10.30 am
Palm blessed at each Mass. Please also bring some palm.

March 26th     Mass at 7.30 am (Chrism Mass in the Cathedral at 11.00 am)
Rite of Penance at 7.00 pm in the Church

March 28th     Thursday of the Lord's Supper
Mass at 7.00 pm
Followed by adoration at the Altar of Repose 10.30 pm

March 29th     Friday of the Passion of the Lord
Stations of the Cross at 10.00 am
Celebration of the Passion of the Lord at 3.00 pm
(Today is a day of fast and abstinence from eating meat.)

March 30th     Easter Vigil of the Resurrection of the Lord
Mass at 6.00 pm

March 31st     Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord
Masses at 8.30 am & 10.30 am

SEASONS

Seasons is a peer support program for children and young people who are experiencing grief and loss in their lives. This loss may be a result of illness, death, separation, divorce and/or disability. The Seasons program aims to promote healthy and meaningful adaptation to loss and change through skilled facilitation and creative opportunities for learning and growth.

Seasons will commence in Term two so please complete the form below and send it back to school (Attention: Natalie Bishop) by Friday 22nd March if you feel your child or children may benefit from being involved in the Seasons program. If you have any queries, please feel free to contact me.

Yours sincerely,

Natalie Bishop

I ...........................................(parent/caregiver) would be pleased if my child / children
........................................... in Year ................... was/were given the opportunity to be involved in the
2013 Seasons program beginning in Term 2.
Principal  
Mr John Grant  
St Vincent de Paul Primary,  
92-114 Woodland St  
STRATHMORE 3041  
Victoria  
23 March 2013

Dear John

Re: 2012 Christmas Gifts and Toys – The Giving Tree

On behalf of the members of the Strathmore Conference of St Vincent de Paul Society, I would like to express our heartfelt gratitude to the children of St Vincent de Paul Primary School, their families, staff and co-ordinator, for the toys and gifts donated under the auspices of the 'The Giving Tree'.

The toys and gifts provided such joy to our client families in the area, that many were brought to tears at the thought that someone was thinking of them during the Christmas period and for the relief of parents knowing that they had toys for their children at Christmas. The experience ignited goodwill and the gifts of hope and love.

Any donations that were excess to our needs were offered to other Conferences in the Broadmeadows Region to distribute to families and households in need.

The members of the Strathmore Conference would like me to convey their deepest gratitude for the generosity of your school community and for your continued support of the work of the St Vincent de Paul Society.

Yours sincerely

Karol Hill  
President, Strathmore Conference
YEAR SIX CAMP

Day 2
The best part of today for me was raft building because my team won and it was really fun playing in the slimy water. I enjoyed falling of the raft and tipping over peoples canoes, it was really fun.
Anastasia Hruszowski

Day 3
I like orienteering because we had to go find the clues using a map and you had to use the coordinates to lead you to the right spot. Rock climbing was fun, I wish it had of gone for longer. I really enjoyed camp and I wish that we didn't have to leave.
Tayissa Moravski
SPORTS NEWS

SVPD SWIM TEAM
Congratulations to Lucy Bush-Butler, Bianca Sprague (Year 6), Josh Sullivan (Year 5) and Matthew Egan (Year 4) for reaching the Western Zone Swimming Finals recently. A great effort!
Special congratulations must go to Josh for finishing in 2nd place in his Butterfly Final.

YEAR 5 INTER SCHOOL GALA DAYS
Recently the Year 5 students competed in around robin format against 8 other schools in our district in the sports of Softball, Cricket, Short Tennis and Volleyball. The event was held over 2 days and the students combined well in the four teams to compete at a high level.
Well done Year 5’s, it was great to see good teamwork and sportsmanship throughout all our games.

CROSS COUNTRY
The school trials for Cross Country will be held on the 1st Friday in term 2, Friday the 19th April. This event is for students in Year 4 – 6 who would like to participate. Enjoy a few practice runs over the holidays!

RUGBY
Holiday Clinic: The Melbourne Storm is running a FREE Rugby League Clinic on Tuesday the 9th April from 10.00am – 11.30am as AJ Davis Reserve, Fullarton Road, Niddrie. All Primary school age students are welcome. Phone James on 0448 890 013 to register.

MINI LEAGUE
The North West Wolver Rugby League Club is offering a Mini League (4 year – 10 years) come and try 10 week clinic starting on Monday 6th May 2013. Contact: northwestwolves@hotmail.com for more information.

STRATHMORE NORTH AUSKICK
Strathmore north Auskick is commencing its annual football clinic for primary school students on 23rd March 2013.
All children are welcome to join. We especially extend an invitation to children in grades 4, 5 and 6 to join our program. Most importantly, we welcome as many girls as possible to join the clinic.

Registrations and payment to be made online. Backpacks will be distributed on Saturday 6th April upon sighting of receipt of payment.

For registration go to: www.aflauskick.com.au and follow the prompts.

Where: Oval at rear of Oak Park Swimming Pool

When: Saturday morning from 9.00am to 10.30am

Contact: Greg Golding 0400 297 898 or Ross Manunzio 0411 857 190
EASTER MATHS FUN!

Enjoy some Easter themed math's puzzles for the holidays. We will be back with more puzzles in term 2. Have a great Easter break!

Raymond and James – Math’s Leaders

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Easter Egg Patterns

Instructions: Which egg will continue the pattern?

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

Happy Easter from www.math-drills.com

Cut out the eggs below and paste them into the correct space.
Easter Four In A Row Addition

a game for 2 players

Each player uses a different colored egg. Players take turns to roll 2 dice, add the numbers and cover that number on the board with an egg. The first player to create a line of 4 of their eggs — vertically, horizontally or diagonally — is the winner.
WATER SKIING REPORT

Hello my name is Anabel Robinson, and I am very pleased to have been chosen to represent NSW in the Waterski Show Nationals in Perth next month, along with my two older sisters Molly and Lily.

We have been training very hard every weekend on Lake Mulwala and also at the Mulwala Water Ski Park and the Ovens River.

I am very excited and looking forward to competing against the other team’s representing their States which are Victoria and Western Australia. I wish our team all the best for the Nationals.
CALENDAR 2013 - ST VINCENT DE PAUL

TERM 1

MARCH

28th END OF TERM ONE (STUDENTS DISMISSED AT 1.30PM)

APRIL

15th PLEASE NOTE CHANGE OF DATE - TERM TWO BEGINS - SCHOOL CLOSURE DAY
16th PLEASE NOTE CHANGE OF DATE - STUDENT RETURN
19th Cross Country
24th Mass - Year Three
24th Parish Education Board Meeting – 7.30 (Staffroom)
25th ANZAC DAY
26th Assembly – Year Two

MAY

1st District Cross Country
2nd Mass – Year Two
3rd Confirmation Parent Meeting
4th Commitment Mass Confirmation
5th Commitment Mass Confirmation
8th Mass – Year One
10th Mothers Day Breakfast
12th Assembly – Year Three
13th Mothers Day
15th Mass – Year Prep
17th Parish Education Board Meeting – 7.30 (Staffroom)
22nd Mass – Year Six
24th Assembly – Year One
25th Mass – Year Five
31st Confirmation

JUNE

1st Confirmation
5th Mass – Year Four
7th Assembly – Year Prep
10th Queen's Birthday
12th Mass – Year Three
19th Mass – Year Two
21st Parish Education Board Meeting – 7.30 (Staffroom)
26th Assembly – Year Six
28th Mass – Year One
28th END OF TERM TWO (STUDENT DISMISSED AT 1.30PM)

JULY

15th TERM TWO BEGINS
24th Mass – Year Prep
26th Assembly – Year Five
31st Mass – Year Six

AUGUST

1st Communion Parent Meeting
3rd Commitment Mass 1st Communion
4th Commitment Mass 1st Communion
12th Year Five Camp
14th Year Five Camp Return
31st 1st Communion

SEPTEMBER

1st 1st Communion
4th Fathers Day
7th Mass – Year Four
8th 1st Communion
20th END OF TERM THREE (STUDENTS DISMISSED AT 1.30PM)