Dear Families,

In this Saturday’s Age there will be an article about both St Alipius School and St Patrick’s College two schools which have been impacted by past abuses and how we respond today to ensure that the children in our communities are safe.

As the Royal Commission returns to Ballarat next week it is expected that there will be a renewed focus on St Alipius Parish and the St Alipius School where significant abuse of children occurred before it closed in the 1970’s.

We fully support the work of the Royal Commission and although it is painful to hear the name of our much loved community associated with such atrocities, we are committed to promoting justice and healing for those who have been hurt.

The most important contribution that we can make to this situation is to do all in our power to ensure that the children in our community are safe.

We commit to educating children about their right to be safe and practices that will keep them safe. We commit to ensuring that children are listened to and believed and that they have the language to tell people when they don’t feel safe.

You will notice ribbons on our fence and on fences around Ballarat. Some people see these as a focus on the past. I see them as a focus on the future – on our children as we promise to always listen to them and to protect their innocence.

At times like these I find that the thing that helps me most is to pray knowing that God’s love is greater than any evil.

Next Wednesday between 5.30 and 8pm people will gather in St Alipius Church for a time of prayer and reflection. Please join us.

Regards, Eileen
Students from Prep-6 have been learning about Fixed and Growth Mindsets and the impact that this has on their learning. Mindset is a simple idea discovered by world-renowned psychologist Carol Dweck in decades of research on achievement and success. We know that developing a Growth Mindset creates motivation, increases productivity and has significant benefits on student learning.

Here is a short clip explaining what some of our 5/6 students know about Growth Mindsets and learning.

8 tips for promoting a growth mindset in kids:

1. **Help children understand that the brain works like a muscle** that can only grow through hard work, determination, and lots and lots of practise.
2. **Don’t tell students they are smart, gifted, or talented**, since this implies that they were born with the knowledge, and does not encourage effort and growth.
3. Let children know when they demonstrate a **growth mindset**.
4. **Praise the process**. It's effort, hard work, and practise that allow children to achieve their true potential.
5. **Don’t praise the results**. Test scores and rigid ways of measuring learning and knowledge limit the growth that would otherwise be tapped.
6. **Embrace failures and missteps**. Children sometimes learn the most when they fail. Let them know that mistakes are a big part of the learning process. There is nothing like the feeling of struggling through a very difficult problem, only to finally break through and solve it! The harder the problem, the more satisfying it is to find the solution.
7. **Encourage participation and collaborative group learning**. Children learn best when they are immersed in a topic and allowed to discuss and advance with their peers.
8. **Encourage competency-based learning**. Get kids excited about subject matter by explaining why it is important and how it will help them in the future. The goal should never be to get the ‘correct’ answer, but to understand the topic at a fundamental, deep level, and want to learn more.
Music Specialist Groups

Here is the timetable for all music specialist groups happening this year. Please see Adam if you have any questions. Arigatou!

Monday 11:15am Taiko (Year 5 & 6 max. 11), 2:00pm Choir (Open to all year 2-6)
Tuesday 11:15am Djembe (Year 3-6 max. 11), 2:00pm Ukulele (P-6 Open to all with own ukulele)
Thursday 11:15am Recorder (Year 3-6 with own recorder)
Friday 11:15am Guitar Club (Must be having guitar lessons currently)

Second Hand Uniform Shop

The second hand uniform shop has been a great success but we now need to restock again.

Do you have any out grown pieces of uniform at home in the wardrobe?

We are looking for all sizes and all pieces of the uniform, dresses, shorts, jumpers etc.

If it is in good condition and clean, please come into the office and get a price tag.

Where possible any labels of children’s names, if they can be removed that would be a great help to the new owners.

The shop will be opening on the first Tuesday of each month from 2.45pm to 3.45pm. The first will be Tuesday March 1st.

We thank Erin Kanoa who has worked very hard at getting the shop up and running again and who will continue be donating her time to help make this a great success.

Congratulations to Sam, Harry, Lachie and Cooper who represented St Alipius yesterday at the Ballarat Schools Tennis Competition.
Hot Lunches – Thursday’s
Students will need to place their order into the class message bag by each Thursday morning.

Please put your child’s name on brown paper bag with child’s class and have the correct money.
No staples, glue and or sticky tape is needed on the bag.

Icy poles will be available during summer for 50cents.

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<tr>
<td>Pie/Sausage Roll (Full Size)</td>
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<td>Party Pastie</td>
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<td>Sauce</td>
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St Alipius 2016 Golf Classic

Bring all your family and friends along for a day of fun and leisure at Mt Xavier Golf Course.

Event: Ambrose Golf Event (Teams of Four) / Teams event - All rules will be explained on the day - No official handicap required

Date: Sunday 20th March 2016 / Time: Shotgun Start at 11:00 am
Cost: $25 per Player

Why: All proceeds will benefit the Children of St Alipius with funding to improve technology capabilities and playground equipment

BBQ Brunch before tee off from 10:00am & Drinks available on Course

Team Registrations need to be confirmed by Monday 14th March to either:

Glenn McKenzie: glenn_mckenzie@bigpond.com / 0408 524 994
Roxanne Leed: rleed@saballarat.catholic.edu.au or through the school office.

Novelty events Longest Drive, Nearest the Pin Competition & Punters Hole

Golf Team Details: Team Name ___________________ Paid: Yes / No

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<th>Player</th>
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