Dear Families,

Our joyful congratulations are being extended to 4VT students who will be celebrating their First Eucharist on Saturday 2nd May at 6pm and Sunday 3rd May at 10am. Special thanks to the parents, Fr Michael, class teachers (Neesha and Sandra) and Religious Education leaders (Sandra and Marita) for supporting these children on their Faith Journey.

Leading Languages
Last year the school commenced a three year project on Leading Languages. One of the goals of this project is to educate parents about the benefits of language learning. St Martin’s is fortunate to have Dr Andrea Truckenbrodt presenting to staff at the afternoon meeting and parents at a Parent Information Evening on Tuesday 16th June at 7pm in the GECCO.

Understanding language teaching and learning in the 21st Century
Dr Andrea Truckenbrodt will be presenting a session on what quality language teaching looks like in the 21st century. Perhaps you've heard of AIM (teaching with gestures) or CLIL (teaching language through other content areas) or you want to know more about languages and the Australian Curriculum or the role of technology in language learning. During her talk, Andrea will address questions such as:

- does it matter what language my child learns?
- when's the best time to learn another language?
- should my child learn a language if they're struggling with literacy or have specialised learning needs?
- why learn another language when everyone else is learning English?

You have the opportunity to ask other questions you may have in relation to language teaching and learning. You are welcome to email any questions you have to Trish Stewart (principal@smrosanna.catholic.edu.au) who will pass them on to Andrea.

Andrea will talk about how learning to communicate in another language actually improves your understanding of your first language, your skill as a communicator and your intercultural capacity. She will argue that as global 21st century citizens we need to understand our own culture and learn to interact sensitively and effectively with people of different linguistic and cultural backgrounds. Finally, since one of Andrea's passions is literacy, her talk contains numerous examples of how literacy teaching is an integral part of quality language teaching.

Sketch drawings
Fr Michael is looking for assistance from a volunteer parent or family member who can help him by doing some sketch drawings. These sketches are not in replacement of architect’s plans. If you can assist please contact Fr Michael, phone 94574275.

Student Mobile Phones
Current school policy for the use of electronic devices brought from home by students is that they are placed in a bag with their name attached and passed into the care of the office on arrival at school and retrieved back from the office at the end of the school day.

**Women for the World:**
**Lunch Friday, 8 May 2015 at The Royal Melbourne Yacht Club, St Kilda**
Attached to the newsletter is information about a lunch to support the marginalised in the world. Hopefully some of the women connected to our school as parent/grandparent/aunty or friend can attend this event.

**Pupil Free Date for Term 3**
We are waiting to hear confirmation from our presenter for Friday 14th August for staff professional development day on Scripture; it depends on the presenter’s university commitments. Once date is confirmed, it will be added to the school calendar.

**Big THANKS to;**
**Penni** and PFA committee for organising a fabulous Lapathon.

Parents who assisted with Lapathon.

Parade College students for organising tabloid sports for all students on Lapathon day.

Ella, Genevieve, Will, Campbell, Macka and Declan for playing the trumpet and trombone, for the Last Post (Genevieve) and Advance Australia Fair (Genevieve, Will, Campbell, Macka, Declan and Ella) at our ANZAC day assembly.

Garth, father of Jocelyn, Genevieve and Isobel, for leading us with Ode and the Our Father and Jeff, father of Thomas and Rylee, for explaining his medals at our ANZAC Day assembly. Garth and Jeff represented Simpson Army Barracks and came in full uniform.

Jo, literacy leader, for organising book collection for Vanuatu.

**Food Allergy Week**
This week is organised by Allergy & Anaphylaxis Australia will be held from 17-23 May 2015.

Food Allergy Week is an important initiative that aims to increase awareness of food allergy in the community in an effort to promote understanding and help protect those at risk, whilst allowing them to have a good quality of life.

A key focus of the week is to provide schools with the information required to teach all students about the importance of understanding of food allergies and to ensure that best practice allergy management plans are in place.
The theme for Food Allergy Week is **Be Aware. Show You Care.**

**Be Aware** - Australia has one of the highest incidences of food allergy in the world, which is growing at alarming rates. In fact, one in 10 babies born in Australia today will develop a food allergy.

**Happy Mother’s Day**

*Wishing all the St Martin’s mums a special day on Mother’s Day. Thanks to Alison, Cath, Carla, Kate and Kelly for coordinating the Night for Mothers and to Veronica and Anne-Marie for organising the Mother’s Day stall for the students. A mother’s love is like the ocean it reaches far and wide. Mums always hold a treasured space in our hearts and minds.*

*Regards,*  
*Trish Stewart, Principal*