We know that it’s about two thousand years since Jesus was born. There have been lots of changes, but everything Jesus taught and gave us then, still lives on today. This is why we celebrate Advent, the four weeks before Christmas. It is the time when we prepare and remember the birth of Jesus.

I recall, and I am sure you will too, the last four weeks before my children’s birth. It was a time of waiting, expectation and preparation, but by far, the strongest feelings were of Hope, Peace, Joy and Love. I find Advent a good time to reflect on my parenting and my personal journey and see if I am truly ‘daring to step out and make a difference, just like Jesus.’

Gr 6 Leaders 2017
Last week 30 Gr 5 students made their SRC speeches to their peers. As I listened to them, I thought that we can all be proud of how articulate, positive thinking, mature and insightful these young ladies and gentlemen are. They were in Gr 1 when I came to Stella Maris and I can say with confidence that you, the parents, and all staff have worked together to make sure each child has thrived. I congratulate all of the students for being prepared to have what we call ‘A red hot go’ at being on the SRC. Next year the other Gr 6 leadership positions will be decided. Here are some of the sentiments expressed by the students:

‘I am inspired by the Gr 6 leaders and would like others to be inspired by me.’

“We’re all different, but that’s the best thing about us. We all treat a situation differently, we all feel differently. I feel that no matter who you are, the world should hear your voice.”

“I started Stella when I was 4 years old in Kindy. It has been like a family to me. My Stella family is very important to me. I would like a chance to help our Stella family to be respectful to each other and safe while having fun learning.”

“I think that an important part of being on the SRC is to follow in the footsteps of Jesus.”

“I believe in embracing our differences, as they are the things that make us unique.”
Dare To Step Out And Make A Difference
Just Like Jesus

GIVING TREE
Stepping out and making a difference just like ...

JESUS

During the season of ADVENT bring along a new, unused gift, wrapped with a label stating gender and age for whom it is suitable. These will then be presented to St Vinnies at the end of the term to distribute to the less fortunate members of our community. Christmas is a time of; caring, thoughtfulness, honesty, humility, compassion, LOVE, understanding, giving, forgiveness, kindness, sharing, peace.

WE ARE RESPECTFUL  WE ARE SAFE  WE ARE RESPONSIBLE
Cambodia 5cent Appeal
The Grade 2 classes have been collecting 5cent pieces for a cause very close to my heart. While travelling in Cambodia a couple of years ago I realized the difference we can truly make in lives of others. This year the Grade 2 Appeal money will be used to fund at least 2 water pumps for rural villages, rice to feed these people for a number of months and school supplies for 2 Non Government schools. Photo’s will be put up next year to show how the villages are progressing and what we have used the money for.
Any donations can be left at the Stella office or given to the Grade 2 teachers. Thankyou Mrs Beskin-Clark & Grade 2

Basketball State Championships
Congratulations to our Gr 5/6 Girls and Gr 3/4 boys basketball teams. They were both runners up in the State final on last weekend in Launceston. A huge thank you to the parents who coached these teams.

Library Borrowing
Can all students please return their library books by next Friday, 3rd December.

Book Club
Book Club issue 8 is due back tomorrow Thursday 24th November. We are unable to accept any late orders due to the short time frame till end of term. Next year book club will be online orders only – download Scholastic Loop app and follow the easy steps. Bonuses will be offered from time to time through the online system. If ever books are required to be collected at the office, please contact the office after you have placed the order.

Nell and Ella, two of our SRC – members leading us in our School Wide Positive Behaviour Support by reminding us what the focus of the week is.
A SPECIAL VOLUNTEER INVITATION

Dear Parents/Grandparents who have volunteered in any capacity during the year.

You are invited to attend an Afternoon Tea
ON: Monday 5th December 2016
WHERE: Stella Staffroom
TIME: 2.00 pm

We would like to express our appreciation for all the voluntary time given by you and thank you for your ongoing support of Stella Maris Catholic Primary School.

RSVP: To the School Office by Monday, 28th November 2016
See how our community construction from Grandparent’s Day has been re-modelled, re-used, re-cycled.