

ST GERARD'S PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER



TERM 1 - WEEK 10

06TH APRIL, 2023



Students solemnly reenact the powerful scene of Mary's sorrow and Jesus' sacrifice during The Passion, reminding us of the ultimate act of love that changed the world.



Dear Lord,

As we enter Holy Week, we come to you with open hearts and minds, ready to reflect on the profound significance of this sacred time. We ask for your guidance and blessings as we seek to deepen our understanding of your sacrifice and your love for us.

Help us to remember the ultimate sacrifice that you made for us on the cross, and to find strength and hope in your resurrection. May we be inspired by your example of love, compassion, and forgiveness, and strive to live our lives in accordance with your teachings.

We pray for our St Gerard's community during this Holy Week, that we may find solace and peace in your divine presence. May our minds be open to new insights and understanding, and may our hearts be filled with gratitude for your unending grace and mercy.

May the message of Holy Week continue to inspire and uplift us, both now and in the days to come. We offer this prayer in your holy name,

Amen.



@st.gerards3175

Principal - Mr Paul Cowan
principal@sgdandenongnth.catholic.edu.au
71 Gladstone Road, Dandenong North 3175



<https://www.facebook.com/stgerardsps>

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Dear families,

This is our final Newsletter for Term 1 which has been eventful and successful. I would like to take this opportunity to thank and congratulate our families, children and staff for their enthusiasm and support over the past 10 weeks.

When reflecting on the term there has been a wide variety of opportunities to enhance the learning of our children.

We started the year with **Give Me 5 Week** which gave our children and staff the chance to establish routines and build relationships. Our **Give Me 5 Family Night** was well attended (despite the weather) and was our first chance to gather as a school community in 2023.

3 Way Conversations allowed for families, students and teachers to come together to support the learning of our children and **Before School Reading** on a Wednesday morning has been popular with children and their families. Our Year 3 and 5 children took part in the annual **NAPLAN** Assessment tasks and gave their best efforts.

Our **Beginning of the Year Mass** saw us welcome our Prep children and present our Year 6 Leaders with their badges. As a school we attended the parish **Ash Wednesday Mass** to start the Season of Lent. Our Year 3 children celebrated the **Sacrament of Reconciliation** for the first time and our Year 6 children have started to **prepare for Confirmation** through a Family Workshop.

The 3 week **Auskick Program** was attended by over half our school and helped to develop both AFL and social skills. Our **Whole School Athletics** saw our sporting skills and school spirit on display and we launched our House Teams of Red, Blue and Green. **Walk/ Ride to School days** got us starting the day in an active manner and **Basketball clinics** for our Year 3 - 6 children have made an impact and lunchtimes.

We had some very enthusiastic salespeople (students) who conducted our **Market Garden Stalls** and our **Student School Captains, Vice-Captains and Spirituality Leaders represented our school at the St Patrick's Day Mass** as part of Catholic Education Week. **Harmony Day** was a wonderful celebration of the wide variety of cultures we have at St Gerard's and this diversity is one of the key elements that makes our school so special.

Our **whole school presentation of The Passion** was a wonderful way to conclude the term. This presentation identified the significant events of Holy Week and allowed our school community to come together as we look to celebrate Easter. **I would like to acknowledge and thank our students, staff and in particular Mrs Stack for making this such a prayerful and reflective experience for all those people that attended.**

In staffing news, I am pleased to announce that **Mrs Shantelle Theodore will be returning from maternity leave in Week 2 of next term.** Shantelle will be working on Tuesdays and Thursdays and will be taking our Visual Art lessons. I would like to thank Mrs Michelle Benson who has taken these classes in Term 1. Michelle will continue in her role as our Intervention Teacher. With the departure of Ms Rachel Thoms, I am happy to announce that **Mrs Josie Ferraro** will be working in our **Office 5 days a week.** As you would be aware, Josie is a current staff member and is very familiar with our school.

Lastly, a reminder that **Term 2 commences on Monday 24 April.**

Have a Happy and Holy Easter and a fantastic holiday.

Paul Cowan
PRINCIPAL



RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

The Passion



RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

The Passion



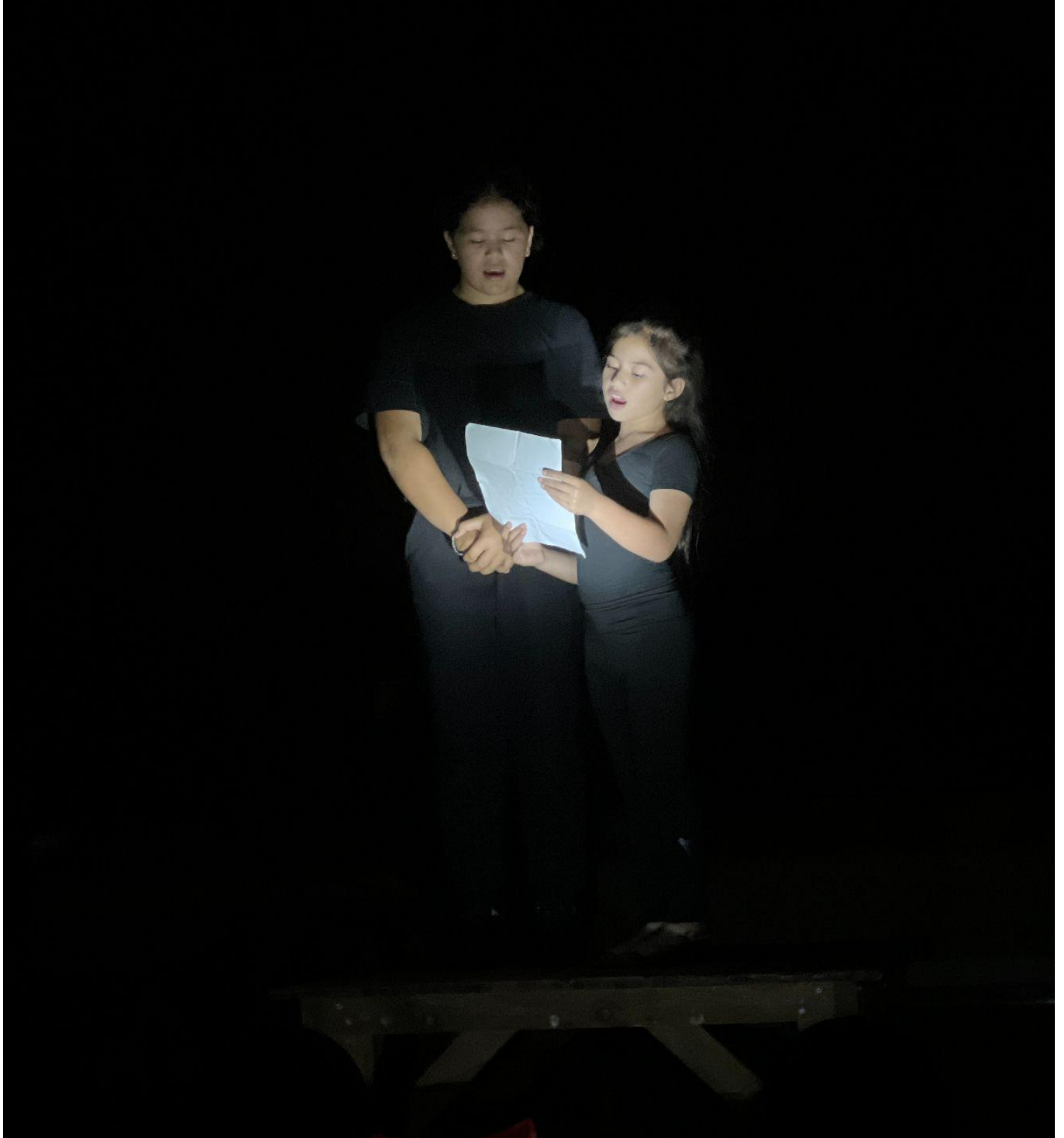
RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

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The Passion



Sacrament Dates, 2023

Confirmation: (Grade 6)

Most Rev. Anthony J. Ireland Visit:
Confirmation:

Tuesday 2nd May, 9:30am
Saturday 13th May, 5:30pm

First Communion: (Grade 4)

First Communion Family Workshop:
First Communion:

Thursday 27th April, 7pm
Sunday 11th June, 10:30am

Please note the following changes in relation to uniform purchases for St Gerard's Primary School:

Uniforms can now be purchased in the following ways:

Option 1 - Online Order

Access to our Online Ordering System

1. www.aplusschoolwear.com.au
2. Go to **SHOP ONLINE NOW** (red box)
3. Select your school
4. Uniform listing with images will appear.

Select items you are wishing to purchase:

Style
Size
Colour
Quantity
Add items to bag

5. Once all items are added to bag, proceed to checkout.
6. Select delivery options
 - a. Pick up from school (free) in comments section please enter your child's name and class
 - b. Pick up from A Plus Schoolwear (free)
 - c. Postal address (delivery charges will apply)
7. Either checkout as guest, returning customer or create a new account.

Orders placed by Sunday will be delivered to the school the following Thursday

Option 2 - Fill out the order form and leave it at the school office.

Orders received by Friday will be delivered to the school the following Thursday

RETURNS

Can be given to the school office and will be either exchanged or refunded by A Plus School wear.

Should you have any queries regarding the above, please contact A Plus Schoolwear

9354 8345 or email angie@agsprints.com.au