



St Gerard's Primary School

NEWSLETTER

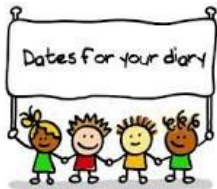


Term 2 Week 5

www.sgdandenongnth.catholic.edu.au

03 97917553

15 May 2020



School Assembly Link

Link to our assembly for this week:
[15 May School Assembly](#)

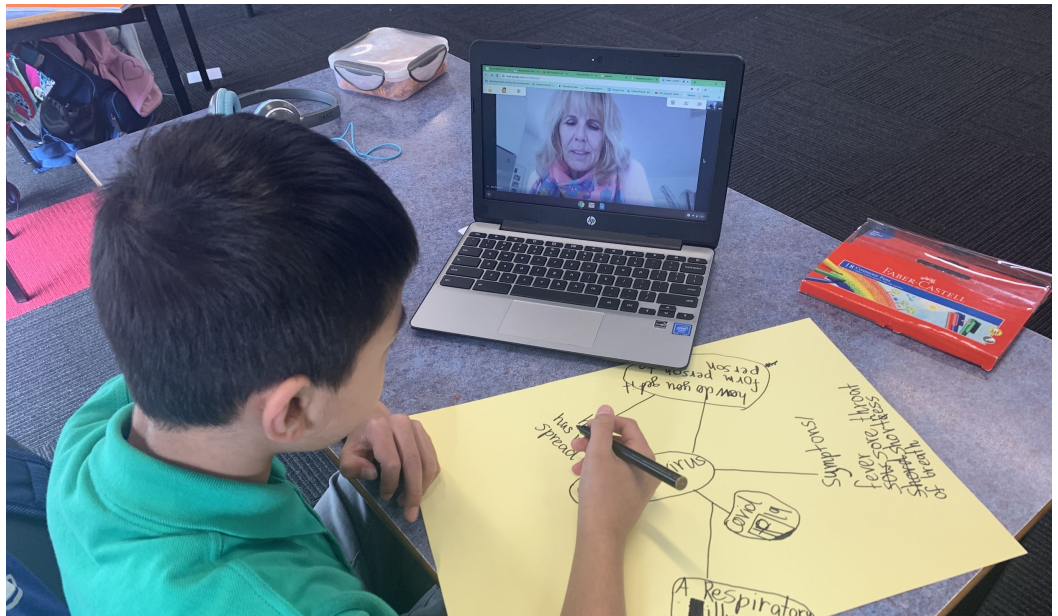
HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Wishing the following students a happy birthday for this week:

- Kevan Fernando - 3/4S

We hope you have a great day!!!

CONGRATULATIONS
STEVE



LEARNING SUPPORT OFFICER DAY



Our Learning Support Officers at St. Gerard's Primary School community, work tirelessly with so much love and compassion towards each and every student. They truly are committed to their role.

They can wipe away a tear and bring on a smile to the faces of our children. Like buzzing bees we have seen them run to help anyone who may need their help. Ready to act for those last minute calls to save the day. An urgent run to the toilets, help with reading, run programs and other activities or a trip to the sick bay is always accompanied with a smile.

They are there to support us parents through good and bad times. They really are the silver lining to every passing cloud.

We love our Learning support team at St. Gerard's Primary School and we are truly blessed to have Allyson, Ann, Anna, Colleen, Veronica and Zorica care and love for our children.

The Collom Family

Principal - Mr Paul Cowan
Parish Priest - Father Dean Mathieson
principal@sgdandenongnth.catholic.edu.au
71 Gladstone Road, Dandenong North 3175

MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Families,

Welcome to the end of Week 5. The announcements made by the State Government on Monday and Tuesday gave us **answers to questions we have had around life in general and specifically schools.**

As was stated, **Prep, Year 1 and Year 2 students will return to school on Tuesday 26 May.** Our **Year 3 - 6 children** will come back two weeks later on **Tuesday 9 June.** This is exciting news and I am very much looking forward to welcoming our students back. A school without students has no heart. This return to school will be a transition and we will need to have some procedures in place to keep everyone safe. **Please find included in this Newsletter the latest information that was sent out to all families on Wednesday 13 May. When I receive more details I will pass them onto you as soon as possible.**

If you do have any questions or concerns please contact myself via email:

pcowan@sgdandenongnth.catholic.edu.au , phone 9791 7553 or send me a message via SeeSaw.

Another great aspect of the announcements was with regard to **our Church being open and Masses.** The Church is **open from 11.30am until 5.30pm with a limit of 10 people at a time.** To attend Mass it is **essential that you register your name through this link:**

<https://calendly.com/saintgerardparish/mass-at-st-gerard-s> or by speaking to the volunteer who is collecting details at the entrance of the Church. **Please only book once per individual for the week ahead.**

The focus this week from our **Give Me 5** principles was **Be Cooperative.** This is an important life skill which has **big benefits to others and ourselves** when working to achieve a goal, complete a task or overcome a challenge. Being with our families the way we are at the moment this is particularly important and there are plenty of opportunities to demonstrate this behaviour.

This is the first week with our adjusted weekly assignment of learning tasks. I hope that it has had a positive impact on families. A reminder that tasks for Monday and Tuesday will be uploaded on SeeSaw at 8.45am on Monday morning and these will be due on Wednesday morning. **Wednesdays will now be dedicated to Specialist (Italian, The Arts and P.E.) learning.** Tasks for Thursday and Friday will be uploaded on Thursday morning at 8.45am and will be due on Friday afternoon. **We feel this will provide opportunities for a refocus mid week and the possibility of catching up on tasks that may not have been completed.**

As always, **please do not hesitate to contact us if you require any assistance with regard to your child's learning or family support in general.**

As I have said each week of this term (and at the end of Term 1), our families have **chosen a Catholic education** for their children. In the current economic climate, we all need to support each other. If your **family is experiencing challenges** with regard to **school fees** please contact the School Office or myself **pcowan@sgdandenongnth.catholic.edu.au** **so we can work through this together.** A reminder that if you have a **current Health Care Card** you are entitled to a reduction.

Thank you to the families that have contacted us about **Prep enrolments for 2021.** If you have a child who will be starting school next year please contact the office or myself. **Existing families are our first category for enrolments.** We are **getting enquiries from new families** so it is important that we know how many places are required for current families.

Lastly, tomorrow (Saturday) is **Learning Support Officer Day.** I would like to acknowledge our wonderful LSO's for all the work they do in supporting our children. **The work of Mrs Cowled (Ann), Mrs Jolly (Colleen), Mrs Joseph (Allyson), Mrs Stephenson (Veronica), Mrs Zelic (Zorica) and Mrs Munro (Anna) is varied and the care and dedication they demonstrate is truly inspiring.** From all of us at St Gerard's thank you.

Stay safe and God Bless.
Paul Cowan - Principal

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS

Meditation and Assemblies during Remote Learning:

An attempt to replicate meditation that we normally have on a Monday Morning and Assembly we normally have on a Friday afternoon will happen through remote learning. Please look out for the Seesaw messages as they come through.

Sacraments

All sacraments have been postponed due to COVID 19 until further notice.

Important Dates:

Our Lady Help of Christians:	Monday 25th May
National Sorry Day:	Tuesday 26th May
National Sorry Day Assembly:	Friday 29th May @ 2:30 (led remotely by Social Justice Team remotely)
Refugee Week Assembly:	Friday 12th June @ 2:30 (Lead remotely by Social Justice team)
Refugee Week:	Refugee Week 14th to 20th June 2020
Sacred Heart of Jesus Assembly:	Friday 19th June @ 2:30 (led remotely by Liturgy Captains)

Feast of the Sacred Heart of Jesus Winter Appeal

I have spoken to James Tudehope, from St Vincent de Paul, St. Gerard's Parish who has informed me that they have replaced the soup van for making hampers to give away due to COVID 19. Several local St Vincent de Paul groups have merged and are working out of our hall to make up these hampers.

James sounded concerned for the vulnerable populations during this pandemic. He said that our families can still help the needy by donating non perishable items. These items can be dropped into our school foyer during school hours throughout term 2.

Seasons

The Seasons program, which offers children a safe space to come together and share their experiences of change and loss will be postponed until further notice.

Stay Connected: Mass Online

During the COVID 19 pandemic, Mass online is available from our new parish website:

<https://www.saintgerardparish.com>.

Church Re-opening

The Church is open from 11.30am until 5.30pm with a limit of 10 people at a time.

Fr Dean is putting on extra Masses for the next little while.

The current Mass times are as follows:

Monday – 9.15 am & 10.45am
Tuesday – 9.15am & 6.00pm
Wednesday - 9.15 am & 10.45am
Thursday - 9.15am & 6.00pm
Friday - 9.15 am & 10.45am
Saturday – 9.15am & 5.30pm
Sunday – 10.30am & 5.30pm

To attend Mass it is essential that you register your name through the link provided below or by speaking to the volunteer who is collecting details at the entrance of the Church.

<https://calendly.com/saintgerardparish/mass-at-st-gerard-s>

Please only book once per individual for the week ahead.



How much exercise do children and young people need?

The [Australian 24-Hour Movement Guidelines](#) outline the following recommendations for children and young people:

- **Infants** (birth to one year): 30 minutes of supervised interactive floor-based play including tummy time, reaching and grasping, pushing and pulling and crawling.
- **Toddlers** (1-2 years): at least 180 minutes a day, including energetic play such as running and jumping.
- **Pre-schoolers** (3-5 years): at least 180 minutes a day of which 60 minutes is energetic play such as running, jumping and kicking and throwing.
- **Children** (5-12 years) and young people (13-17 years): at least 60 minutes of moderate to vigorous intensity physical activity every day.

The percentage of children meeting current guidelines is:

- 61% of two to five-year-olds
- 26% of five to 12-year-olds
- 7.9% of 13 to 17-year-olds.



Give Me 5 News!



This week the whole school focus of four Give Me 5 principles was **'Be Cooperative'**.



Levi and Ariana were being cooperative by helping each other build Lego jets.



I'm being cooperative at home by helping my dad with cooking and helping my mum with hanging the clothes and cleaning the floor after dinner. 😊 Dhanya 1/2FP



Today Alessia and I were being cooperative by Alessia passing the ball to me and then me having a shot for a goal. 1/2FP and 3/4L



Lemilo was being cooperative by helping his mum make cupcakes



Ethan from 1/2FP shared a photo of himself being cooperative at home by folding the clothes. Well done Ethan!



Being Co-operative means helping my brother with learning his numbers. I am teaching him to take turns.



Lachlan was being cooperative by following his mum's directions to put the apples and carrots into the fridge. 1/2FP

Next week will be focusing on our Give Me 5 principle **'Be Respectful'**. Please discuss with your child what **being respectful** looks like at home. If you have examples of your child being respectful at home please take a photo and it will be shared in next week's newsletter. Please forward your photos to Mrs Fernandez at fernandez@sgdandenongnth.catholic.edu.au.

OTHER SCHOOL NEWS

ST GERARD'S SCHOOL

71 Gladstone Road,
Dandenong North Vic 3175
Phone: 9791 7553
Fax: 9793 7633



13 May, 2020

Returning to School

Dear Families,

Thank you for all your support during these past few weeks of remote learning. Following advice from the Chief Health Officer, the Victorian Government and the Catholic Education Commission of Victoria Ltd (CECV) have advised that **schools can begin a staged return to onsite schooling.**

- In the **first stage**, students in **Prep, Year 1 and Year 2**, will return to school from **Tuesday, 26 May**.

To support all school staff to prepare for this transition, **Monday 25 May will be a student-free day.**

- In the **second stage** of our return to onsite schooling, **Years 3 - 6** will return to school from **Tuesday, 9 June**.

For those students who cannot be supervised at home and vulnerable children, the **existing model of onsite schooling will remain in place** during the two-week period from Tuesday 26 May to Tuesday 9 June. **All other students** in those year levels will continue learning from home until their year levels return date.

Once a year level has returned, all students will be expected to attend school as normal. This means if you choose to keep your child/children home after their year level has returned to onsite schooling, we can no longer support their learning from home. **This does not apply to children who need to be absent for health or medical reasons.** For families in this situation, please contact myself via email:

principal@sgdandenongnth.catholic.edu.au or phone: 9791 7553 so we can make an appropriate plan. This same approach is being taken by all Catholic and government schools in Victoria.

To support the **health and wellbeing of all students and staff**, our school will continue an **enhanced cleaning routine and will encourage frequent handwashing.**

If your child is ill or is feeling unwell, they must not attend school. They must remain at home and seek medical advice.

While the **Chief Health Officer has advised that students will not be required to maintain physical distancing at school**, there will be a number of **important changes to our school operations**, consistent with health advice to all schools that will be made available in coming days. These will apply until further notice. I will provide more details about our local school context as soon as possible, but it is important to note that changes will include:

- adjusted arrangements for drop-off and pick-up, to minimise congestion
- restrictions on access to the school site for anyone other than immediate school staff and students
- the way we conduct parent-teacher meetings and interviews

I understand that some families may feel anxious about this move back to classroom teaching and learning. I can assure you that this decision has been taken on the basis of the best health advice available to our state.

More information about the return to school and coronavirus (COVID-19) can be found on the CECV website, which will continue to be updated: www.cecvcatholic.edu.au/Coronavirus-information-for-parents.

Thank you for your continued support and patience during this time. We look forward to welcoming students back to the classroom.

God Bless.
Paul Cowan Principal

OTHER SCHOOL NEWS



Thank you to our wonderful LSO's!!



OUR COLLEGE

St John's Regional College is a Catholic Co-Educational secondary school that welcomes and celebrates the diversity of cultures, gifts and talents, which enriches the school and marks its unique identity. Our College Motto "Courage Reaches for the Stars" inspires all to work hard to be the best they can be.

OPEN EVENTS TERM 2

Due to the Coronavirus our Open Events have been rescheduled as an online event. Parents wishing to take a virtual tour of our facilities and meet the Principal in an online forum should make a booking through <https://www.trybooking.com/BALBU> for the following dates this term:

May 14 9 am

June 25 6 pm

YEAR 7 Enrolments in 2021 and 2022

Year 7 in 2021 and 2022 applications for current Grade 5 & 6 Students are OPEN

All families considering an enrolment should complete and submit an enrolment application form. This application should be returned with all requested documentation to the College Registrar.

Enrolment Applications

Enrolment Application Forms can be downloaded at: www.sjrc.vic.edu or by contacting the College Registrar, Ms Symone Goodwin at stjohns@sjrc.vic.edu.au or call the College on 8793 2000



VIRTUAL

SCHOOL TOURS

Explore the difference a Nazareth education provides

Join us virtually via zoom video conferencing to experience Nazareth College. You will hear from our Principal, Mr Sam Cosentino, as well as have the opportunity to ask questions and discuss important aspects of the College with key members of our staff.

26 MAY	28 MAY	3 JUNE
Tuesday 10am	Thursday 2pm	Wednesday 12pm

Register at

<http://www.nazareth.vic.edu.au/enrolments/virtual-school-tours/>

- 1. Virtual School Tours Link to Register:**
<http://www.nazareth.vic.edu.au/enrolments/virtual-school-tours/>
- 2. 360 Interactive experience:**
<http://www.nazareth.vic.edu.au/enrolments/360-interactive-experience/>



Dear Families

Thank you for your support during these past few weeks of uncertainty.

We have been advised that schools can begin a phased return to onsite schooling.

In the first stage, students in Prep, Year 1 and Year 2 will return to school from Tuesday 26th May.

In the second stage, all other levels will return to school on Tuesday 9th June.

For students who cannot be supervised at home and vulnerable children, the existing model of on-site schooling will remain in place from Tuesday 26th May to Tuesday 9th June.

To support school staff to prepare for this transition, Monday 25th May will be a Student Free Day.

Please advise us if you will need on-site supervision for your child/ren

**THE CHILD CARE RELIEF PACKAGE WILL BE IN PLACE UNTIL THE
28TH JUNE**

all previous bookings have been ceased

Please book your child/ren in our Before or After School Care Programs through our Website www.ylv.com.au

We wish you and your families a smooth transition back to on-site learning

for all inquiries please email admin@ylv.com.au

Kind regards,

THE YLV OSHC TEAM

