

St Gerard's Primary School

NEWSLETTER

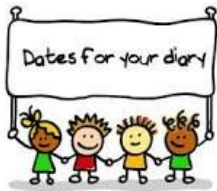


Term 4 Week 2

www.sgdandenongnth.catholic.edu.au

03 97917553

16 October 2020



Link for this week's
Talent Quest: [Talent Quest](#)

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Wishing those students
who celebrated birthdays
this week.

- Ainsley - 1/2B



The uniform shop will be
open Monday mornings
between 8:30 – 10:00 am.
Access will only be available
through the OSHC building.

REMINDER

UPCOMING SCHOOL
CLOSURE DAYS

Friday, 23 Oct. - public holiday
Monday, 2 Nov. - school closure
Tuesday, 3 Nov. - public holiday

St Gerard Majella Award

The **St Gerard Majella Award** is the most celebrated award that is presented to our students. Students who received this award on our feast day show that they are consistently emulating the virtues of St Gerard. The recipients of this award goes to:

Katalina - Prep	Alessia - 3/4L
Ariana - 1/2B	Anamika - 5/6O
Dhanya - 1/2FP	William - 5/6VT
Kevan - 3/4S	



Winners St Gerard Majella Talent Quest

Congratulations to all the contestants of the St Gerard Majella Remote Talent Quest. The talent that our students produce never ceases to amaze. We could hear the cheers and clapping all the way down the corridor as children in the whole school watched the talent quest in unison.

Hosting our remote talent show was a fantastic way to bring our families together for an afternoon of entertainment to rejoice in our feast day. Our children took the opportunity to compete with and applaud one another.

Congratulations to the following winners:

Prep Category - Sophia
Year 1/2 Category - Adina
Year 3/4 Category - Trevor
Year 5/6 Category - Sandhriya, Anamika,
Naysa, Divyanjali and Biyamaria

Family Category - Chelsea
(1/2B) and Wryan
Overall Winner - Trevor 3/4S



Principal - Mr Paul Cowan

principal@sgdandenongnth.catholic.edu.au
71 Gladstone Road, Dandenong North 3175

MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Families,

What a fantastic week it has been having our students back on site!

It was wonderful to see the smiles on our students faces and the energy and enthusiasm they have returned to school with. Although they were wearing masks, I could also sense the smiles on their parents faces! As I mentioned last week, our focus at the moment is to **ensure the wellbeing of our children**. To foster this, we are providing opportunities to **re-establish relationships and re-set routines**. Our **Literacy, Mathematics and Religious Education** programs, structures and procedures are also back in place to **continue the learning of our children**. During this time of transition, **your child may experience some challenges**, if you have any concerns please contact your child's classroom teacher or myself.

A big thank you to our families for your **cooperation with our before and after school arrangements**. This has been very smooth and is keeping us all safe. I am asking for families to **use the Pedestrian Crossing and the path along the side of the Church when walking children to their cars**. This will help to keep a safe distance between pedestrians and cars.

The health and safety of our students, staff and families is our first priority at St Gerard's. Parents of children who have **cold or flu-like symptoms, a cough, sore throat or fever are encouraged to seek medical advice**. With this in mind it is vital that **if your child is unwell they must stay at home**. **If you 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.**

Today (Friday) we celebrate the **Feast Day of our patron St Gerard**. It is important as a faith community to reflect on and be inspired by the life of our patron. He faced many challenges in his life but always maintained his faith and trust in God. A quote from St Gerard which particularly resonates with me is ***'I see in my neighbour the person of Jesus Christ'***. This is certainly something I see present in our school on a daily basis through the interactions of our community.

While some of the usual activities associated with this significant day are not possible this year, our **children (and some families) have shared their gifts and talents** through our **St Gerard's Talent Quest**. It was fantastic to see our students perform a wide range of acts with confidence and skill. We certainly have some very talented people as part of our school. Well done to all our performers and congratulations to our winners. A huge thank you to **Mrs Stack, our School Captains and the Social Justice Team** for all their hard work in bringing this event to us.

I would also like to acknowledge the children that received our **St Gerard Majella Awards** for displaying the virtues of our patron. There are always plenty of students who would be worthy winners, so to be recognised is quite an achievement.

Prep Enrolments for 2021 are continuing to come in. 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**, however we are **getting enquiries from new families** so it is important that we know how many places are required.

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**. If you have a **current Health Care Card you are entitled to a reduction**. Our families have **chosen a Catholic education** for their children and in the current economic climate **we all need to support each other**.

Finally, a reminder that **next Friday 23 October is a public holiday so there is no school on this day**.

God bless.

Paul Cowan - Principal

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS

Mission Walk Around Australia

In term 4, students are challenged to get fit and raise funds for Catholic Missions by using a map of Australia to track the distance they have covered when they walk (run, hop, skip, walk backwards, whatever) around the walking track that Rob has made for us on the oval. Students will be timetabled to walk around the track, 15 minutes a day for the whole term. The Mission Walk Around Australia will become our main fundraising event for Mission Month.

Carols Evening

Due to the COVID-19 restrictions, our Carols Event will be held remotely this year. We hope to distribute a Vimeo link to our Christmas event for families on Friday 11th December. More information will be available soon.

Important Dates for Term 4

All Saints Day	Sunday, 1 st November
All Souls Day	Monday, 2 nd November
Remembrance Day	Wednesday, 11 th November
Year 6 Reflection Day	Thursday, 19 th November
Advent Assembly at 2:30	Friday, 27 th November
First Sunday of Advent	Sunday 29 th November
Recording of Christmas Event (TBC)	Tuesday, 8 th December
Christmas Event (remote)	Friday, 11 th December

WELLBEING NEWS



Why is SEL important for learning?

Research shows that children and young people's learning is influenced by a range of social and emotional factors.

Children and young people with social and emotional learning skills have better academic outcomes, as well as improved physical health and a better quality of life. How well individuals do in their learning community is affected by things such as how:

- confident they feel about their abilities
- effectively they're able to manage their own behaviour
- well they can concentrate and organise themselves
- effectively they can solve problems
- positively they can get on with educators and their peers
- effectively they consider others' needs
- well they can understand and accept responsibilities.

Therefore, SEL and success within the learning community go hand in hand.



Many of our students created a Spoonville character at home and brought it to school on the first day back. Our Spoonville Characters are a reminder of the special time that we spent with our families during remote learning. Have a look at some of the newest members of our Spoonville Family.



WELLBEING NEWS CONT'D



CORONAVIRUS THE TRANSITION BACK

Special Report

Please click [here](#) to access the video by Dr Michael Carr-Gregg which shares helpful information about transitioning back to school.



Further Supports

If you or someone you know needs support:



In the event of an emergency, or if someone is at immediate risk of harm



1800 55 1800



1800 015 188



Working together to end men's family violence
Men's Referral Service - 1300 766 491



9413 6500



1800 319 355



<https://www.thelookout.org.au>

Covid has been a trying time for most families. Here are the contact details of some organisations that may offer assistance if you or someone you know requires support.

OTHER NEWS

Travelling to St John's has never been easier

St John's runs five Private Buses to assist parents in transporting their children to and from school including the suburbs of Lyndhurst / Lynbrook / Cranbourne East / Cranbourne North / Narre Warren South / Hampton Park / Noble Park / Keysborough & Endeavour Hills. The College is also very well located to take advantage of extensive public transport options.

For detailed maps of the College's private bus routes, visit the college website at: <https://www.sjrc.vic.edu.au/enrolment/transport-2/>

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

St John's Regional College offers a high quality academic, social, and vocational education that provides students with a broad range of opportunities to discover their passion. Our affordable all-inclusive fee structure has been purposefully designed to cater to all families in the south east suburbs of Melbourne.

Current Masterplan refurbishments have added a range of elite sporting facilities and a new STEM centre for 2021 to enhance the study of Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths.

Limited opportunities are available for enrolments for 2021 and 2022 and I invite you to join us for a virtual tour on the dates provided in this brochure. In these difficult times I extend to all our best wishes to stay safe and the encouragement to continue to look out for those who need a helping hand.

Tim Hogan Principal

ST JOHN'S REGIONAL COLLEGE HAS LIMITED VACANCIES AVAILABLE FOR ENROLMENTS COMMENCING IN 2021 & 2022

All enrolment enquiries should be directed to our College Registrar, Ms Symone Goodwin.

Telephone (03) 8793 2000 Email stjohns@sjrc.vic.edu.au

Enrolment forms are available from Reception or can be downloaded at: www.sjrc.vic.edu.au/enrolment/enrolment-policies

Address 5-11 Caroline Street
Lockwood Bag 5040 MDC1
Dandenong, VIC 3175

Telephone (03) 8793 2000

Fax (03) 8794 5481

Email stjohns@sjrc.vic.edu.au

www.sjrc.vic.edu.au



Dear Families,

We are celebrating Book Week at St Gerard's from 26 to 30 October 2020. The theme this year is *Curious Creatures Wild Minds*.

Below is information about the various activities that will happen at St Gerard's during Book Week to highlight literacy. We have a different but exciting Book Week planned this year!

Tuesday, 27 October - Friday 5 November

Lamont Book Fair

Time
8.45 - 9.15 am
3.15 - 4.00 pm

The trolleys will be set up in the Library and students will be able to purchase books. They will also be provided with a wish list and payment details for contactless payment. Due to current health restrictions, families will not be able to come into the Library to purchase items.

Tuesday, 27 October - Book Week Dress up and Activity day

'Book Week' Dress Up Class Parade- Come dressed as your favourite book character or as a curious creature!

Individual class parades will occur in the quadrangle over the course of the day due to COVID restrictions!

Thursday, 29 October

Book Read by guest reader over the school PA system.

Friday, 30 October: Remote Book Week assembly

We would like to share our Book Week activities with our wonderful and supportive families.

Book Week is a celebration of books and reading. We thank you for your continued support in this area of the children's learning.

Yours sincerely,

Judy Peres (Literacy Leader)





RICHMOND



FOOTY COLOURS DAY

WHEN:

Thursday, 22 October

WHAT TO WEAR:

Come dressed in your favourite footy colours!!!!!!

FOOTY PARADE:

Due to COVID restrictions, individual class parades will occur in the quadrangle over the course of the day.

FOOTBALL KICKING COMPETITION:

This will take place over the course of the day in class groups.

