

ST GERARD'S PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER



TERM 3 - WEEK 6

18th August, 2023



*Commemorating the Feast of the Assumption with Our Lady's Gifted Statue,
Generously Presented by the Legion of Mary*



Last Tuesday we celebrated the feast called The Assumption of Mary into heaven. This is a day that we remember when Mary, the mother of Jesus, was taken into heaven, body and soul, after she died. At Mass, Fr Shanthaiah spoke to the children about the example of Mary, her faith and her strength. Encourage your children in their devotion to the Blessed Mother, the first disciple of Jesus.

Heavenly Father,

May Mary's example of unwavering faith and complete surrender inspire us. Bless the Legion of Mary for their generous donation of the statue that now graces our school. May it serve as a constant reminder of Mary's presence in our lives and her intercession on our journey.

Mother Mary, guide us with your gentle love. Just as you were raised to heavenly glory, lift our hearts towards the divine promise, and may our actions reflect the compassion and devotion you embodied.

In your name we pray,

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,

We have encountered a week of real 'Winter Weather' with the mornings being particularly cold. Despite the low temperatures we have continued to provide our children (and families) with a variety of learning experiences.

On **Tuesday** we celebrated the **Feast of the Assumption** by attending the parish 9.15am mass. This celebration highlights once again the pivotal role Mary played in Jesus' life, the Church and in our faith.

Some of our **Student Leader run clubs** started this week with children being able to draw and play Soccer together at lunchtimes with both clubs having large numbers participating. These clubs were initiated by some of our student leaders and it is wonderful to see our students providing opportunities for their peers.

Wednesday saw our Prep children celebrate their first **100 Days of School**. While Wednesday was the highlight of this celebration, the children had been working on **activities involving 100** throughout the week. We hope their next 100 days of school are just as exciting and full of learning.

On **Thursday** our **Prep and Year 1/2** classes were part of an incursion '**Recycling Rules**' which the Greater Dandenong Council provided. These sessions enhanced the learning that is happening this term in the area of **Sustainability**. It is always great to have groups in the local area come and give information and practical suggestions on how we can look after our environment.

Our '**Mathematics through Games**' **Family Workshop** that was held last night (**Thursday**) was very well attended and provided families with insights into how Mathematics is currently being taught. It also gave families some ideas on how they can support their children in this vital area of the curriculum. The '**goodie bags**' that all families received were a big hit and we hope that they will be used regularly in homes.

Our **Pupil Free Day today (Friday)** saw our staff involved in **Professional Learning in the area of Mathematics**. These days are important as they allow our staff to increase their understanding and skills to provide better learning opportunities for our children.

Next week we celebrate **Book Week** with activities planned throughout the week with **Friday being our Dress up Day**. **Families are more than welcome to come to the PAC on Friday at 9.00am for our parade**. Also, **every morning next week we will have before school reading in the Library from 8.15am**.

Lastly, please save the date of Friday 1 September as we will be having a **Father's Day/ Father Figures breakfast**. More information will follow next week.

God bless.

Paul COWAN
PRINCIPAL

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION



Class Mass

This term, both students and staff are encouraged to participate in designing a Class Mass, and families will have the opportunity to attend. It would be wonderful to have a large turnout of families joining us for this special occasion.

Year 5/6O:

Thursday 31st August, 10:00am

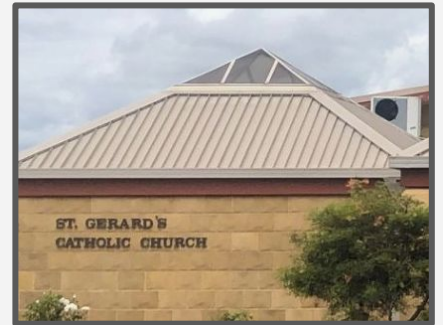
Parish Mass

Year 5/6T & Prep:

Year 1/2 Level:

Thursday 7th September, 9:15am

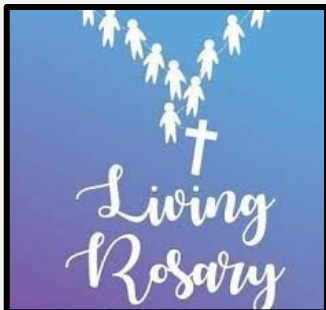
Wednesday 13th September, 9:15am



Reconciliation

Year 3/4S

Thursday, 24th August at 10:15am



Whole School Living Rosary

In celebration of the feast day of The Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary on the 8th September, the entire school will come together for the Living Rosary. This beautiful gathering will take place at 10am, and we extend an invitation to all families to join us in prayer.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION



Living Rosary Invitation

THE FEAST DAY OF THE
NATIVITY OF THE BLESSED
VIRGIN MARY
8TH SEPTEMBER, 2023
10:00AM
ST GERARD'S SCHOOL,
PERFORMING ARTS CENTRE

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

St Gerard's Talent Quest Auditions

Early next term, as part of our celebrations for our Feast Day and raising awareness for Mission Month, we will be holding our annual Talent Quest. Children will need to audition for this event in the last week of term if they wish to participate.

PARISH NEWS



The Junior Legion of Mary Meetings are held every Monday at St Gerard's school term from 4:15pm – 5:15 pm in The Library Room (brown building in the car park of St. Gerard's Primary School).

Legion of Mary Contact: Kereena Lopez 0435 554 175 and Jacqueline Savannah on 0437 668 352.

Application forms are available to collect from the foyer of the Church.

Altar Servers

Altar Server training will resume for existing altar servers and any 'new recruits' wishing to help our parish celebrate Mass.

Time: 5:30pm - 6:30pm

For more information contact St Gerard's Parish Office 9792 4422 or Mrs Stack 9791 7553

PARISH NEWS

Junior Legion of Mary

Dear Parents,

The Legion of Mary runs a Junior Legion of Mary praesidium (branch) at St. Gerard's Catholic Church, North Dandenong once a week after school during school term. Meetings last for one hour per week. All possible care will be taken while your child is with us.

Children are taught to:

- Pray the Rosary
- Be helpful at home
- Do works of service such as a Book Barrow

They are trained to be good Catholics by reaching out to others. One way they do this is by visiting a local nursing home during the school holidays, where they interact with the residents. Children are also guided to take part in parish events such as the Public Square Rosary in October.



This group will enable your child to grow spiritually and also learn to be an active apostolic worker in the Parish. All activities will be supervised by adult legionaries who hold Working with Children permits.

If you would like your child/children to join this group, please complete the application form below and return it to Kereena or Cecilia. For more information please phone a contact below.

Meeting Day:	Every MONDAY of St Gerard's school term	
Time:	4:15 PM TO 5:15 PM STARTING JULY 10 TH	
Place:	LIBRARY ROOM of St. Gerard's	
Legion of Mary Contact:	Kereena Lopez	0435 554 175
Legion of Mary Contact:	Cecilia Donald	0402 716 101



✂

Parent or guardian to complete: (All information provided is confidential.)

Child's Name:		Grade:	
Address:			
Any health issues?		Date of Birth:	

I (Parent/guardian) give permission for my child
(name)
to attend the Junior Legion of Mary at St. Gerard's Catholic Church, North Dandenong (in the Church foyer).

Signature..... Date.....

Name of First Contact Person			
Address			
Phone No.			
Second Contact for child	Name:	Phone No:	

WELLBEING



Growing a mentally
healthy generation



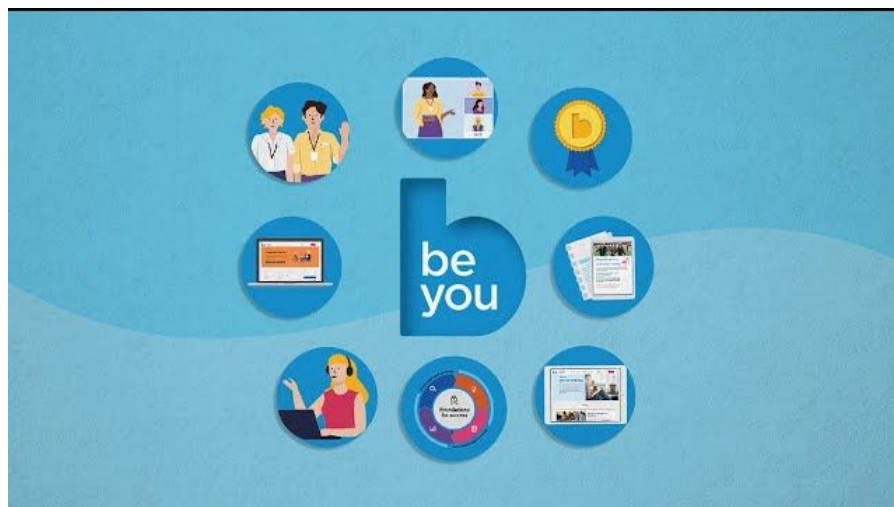
Why is SEL important for learning?

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.



WELLBEING



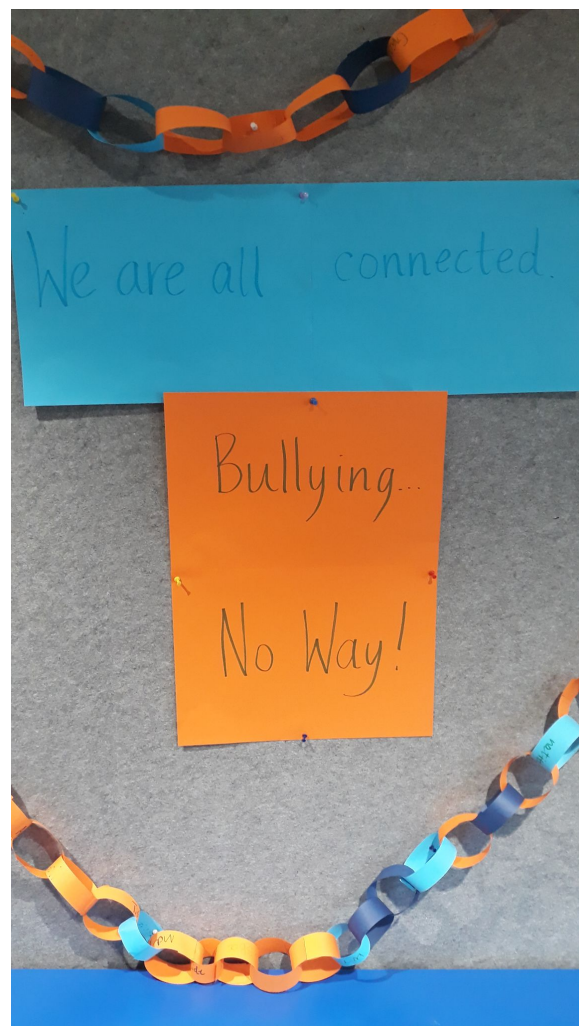
On Thursday 17th August St Gerard's participated in the National Day of Action against Bullying and Violence.

All students were encouraged to wear a touch of orange.

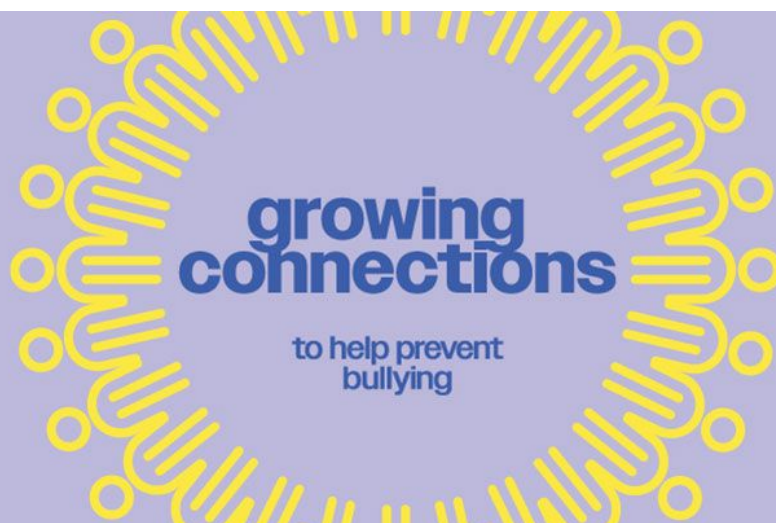
Each class participated in a lesson which focused on anti-bullying strategies.



WELLBEING



WELLBEING



SCRIPT

NAME:	ROLE:
KANWER	Bully
MEZIN	Defend Victim
MARCUS	VICTIM

SCRIPT:

DAY 1

MARCUS: (PLAYING/READING) **KANWER:**

(APPROACHES MARCUS)

KANWER: (PUSHES MARCUS, THEN TEASES)

MARCUS: (MARCUS CRIES THEN RUNS AWAY)

KANWER: (LAUGHS AND TEASES CONTINUOUSLY)

DAY 2

MARCUS: (PLAYING/READING)

KANWER: (TEASES MARCUS)

MARCUS: (RUNS AWAY)

DAY 3

MARCUS: (KEEPS LOOK OUT FOR KANWER)

KANWER: (FINDS MARCUS THEN STARTS TEASING)

MARCUS: (WALKS AWAY FIND MEZIN)

MEZIN: (MEZIN SAYS TO MARCUS "STOP IT DON'T LIKE IT")

MARCUS: (MARCUS APPROACHES KANWER AND

KANWER: STARTS TO TEASE ONCE AGAIN,

MARCUS: (SAYS STOP IT I DON'T LIKE IT.

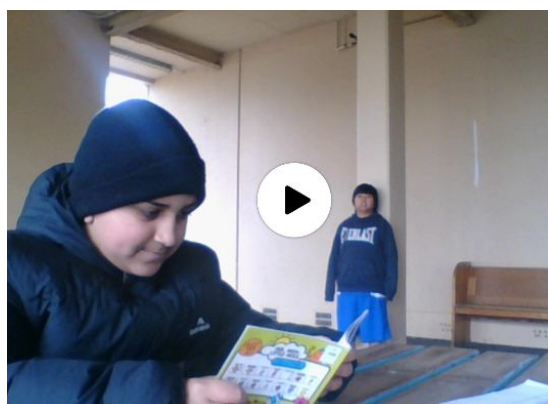
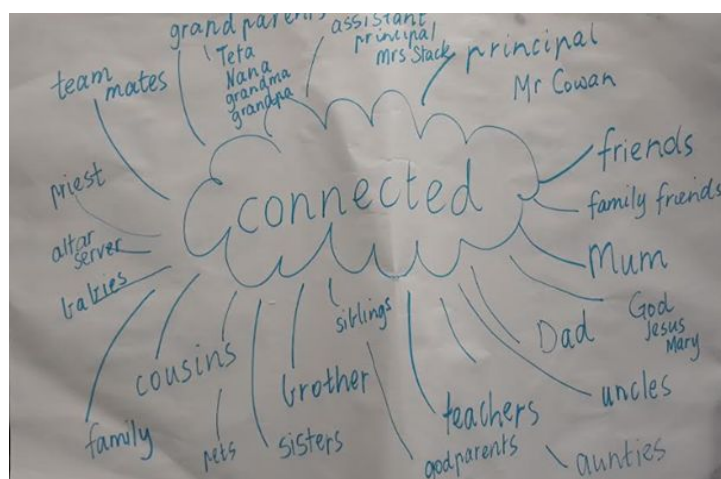
KANWER: (RUNS AWAY)

MEZIN: (BYSTANDER) TILL DAY 3)

CREDITS

MEZIN: writer

MEZIN Executive producer.



WELLBEING

The Student Representative Council (SRC) is made up of a group of students who want to help other students by presenting ideas which are of benefit to all students. The SRC also informs its peers of any important information which affects the student body.

This week the SRC leaders held lunch time fun clubs. On Monday they began drawing club and on Wednesday the students were invited to participate in a soccer clinic.

A big thank you to our school leaders and SRC reps for organising these activities.



Soccer Games for Kids

Hi Mrs Fernandez,

Hello I'm John Audy, and I'm part of the well-being leaders, I would like to officially announce that there will be a soccer club every **Wednesday** during the second play. It is important people who join the club get extra fit and healthy. We will be playing warm up games.

If you choose to listen you might even earn a silver wristband. Hope you see you there!

'The drawing club was a hit. Students from year foundation to 5 came to colour. It was so crowded people had to sit all over the place!

I asked everyone about what they wanted to colour about and everyone had so many ideas. I hope everybody comes to the

future drawing clubs and I also hope that everyone had a great time.'

By Elana Sunny- SRC leader

WELLBEING

St Gerard's Primary School

Thursday 24th August

Sushi Day!

Order fresh and healthy sushi handrolls and rice paper rolls for lunch and help raise funds for our school!

\$7.50 TWIN PACKS

(2 rolls of the same type)

Avocado Handroll V GF DF EF

Crispy Chicken Handroll DF

Tuna Handroll GF DF

Spicy Prawn Handroll GF DF

Chicken Rice Paper Roll GF DF EF

- SOY SAUCE INCLUDED WITH SUSHI HANDROLLS -

Order online: www.sushi.net.au

Orders must be placed by 10am Wednesday 23rd August.

Sorry no late orders accepted.

PayPal transaction fees/charges apply. NB: You do **not** require a PayPal account, most credit/debit cards accepted. Detailed instructions for ordering, and detailed ingredients list available from your school.



sushi@school

www.sushi.net.au

WELLBEING



HOW TO MAKE YOUR SUSHI ORDER

Order online: www.sushi.net.au

Scroll to: 'Order Now – Find Your School'

Start typing your school's name in the search box and select your school

Click: 'Go'

On your school's page, scroll down to Step 1 and complete your child's details. Enter your child's full name and find their class in the dropdown menu. In Step 2 make your selections and click 'Add selected items to cart'

*****TO ADD ADDITIONAL CHILDREN CLICK 'ADD ANOTHER CHILD' BEFORE PROCEEDING TO CHECKOUT*****

In the checkout Cart: check your order carefully. Don't forget to 'Update Cart' if you make changes and before you select 'Proceed to checkout'.

Complete your billing details and double check your order one last time.

Payments are made via the Paypal portal – they give the option to pay via your PayPal account if you have one, or 'pay with a card'. The latter takes you to 'Check out as a guest' and asks for all the relevant and standard details required when paying by credit/debit for online purchases.

Please note: A small handling/transaction fee is applied by PayPal at the time of payment; orders cannot be changed once payment is made, only cancelled and resubmitted; we are unable to accept orders manually or after the cut off time.



BOOK WEEK



Dear Families,

This year Book Week at St Gerard's is being celebrated from 21st – 25th August.

The theme for Book Week 2023 is '**Read Grow Inspire**'.

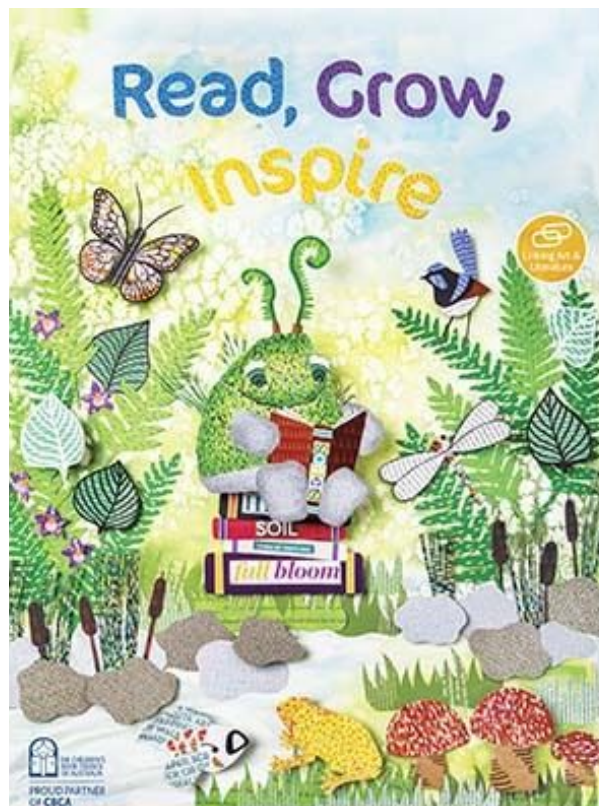
We have a very exciting Book Week planned this year!



Some of the activities during the week include:

- **Monday 21st to Friday 25th August - Reading with a parent**
All students are encouraged to come in from 8.15 to 8.30 to read a book in our school library.
- **Friday 25th August - Book Week Dress up and Activity day**
 - Whole School Assembly at 9.15 am which includes the whole school parade
 - Students are encouraged to come dressed as their favourite book character
- **Friday 25th August - Book Read by guest reader over the school's PA system.**
- **Lamont Book Fair 29th Aug - 5th Sept Lamont Book Fair:** The trolleys will be set up in the Library and parents and students will be able to purchase books between 8.45 and 9.15 am and also from 3.15 pm - 3.45 pm.

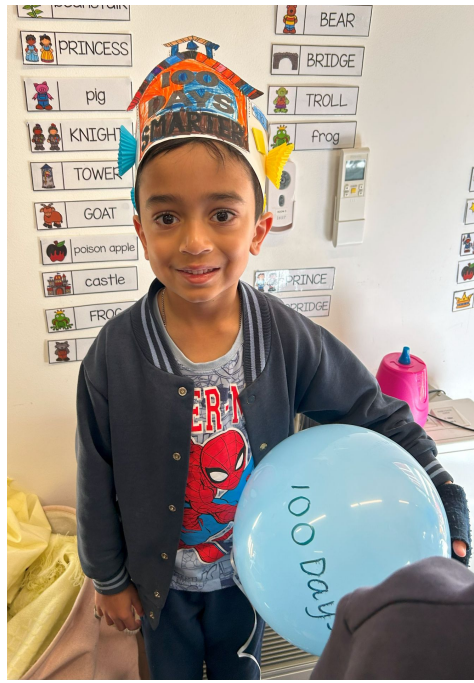
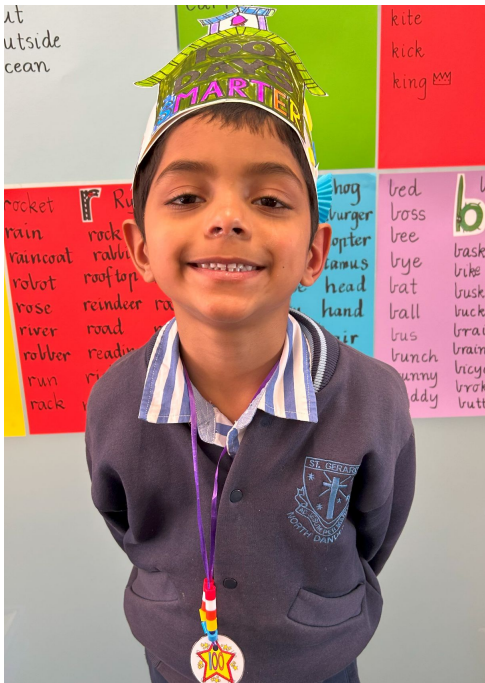
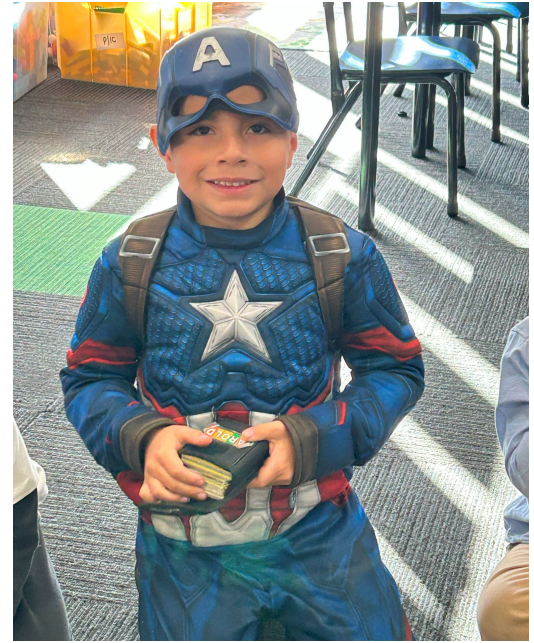
Book Week is the annual celebration of books for young people and the joy of reading and writing. We encourage you to come along and be part of your child's learning journey.



100 days of Foundation



100 days of Foundation



Mathematics Night



Mathematics Night



FACT SHEET FOR PARENTS, GUARDIANS AND CARERS

WHAT IS THE NCCD?

The Nationally Consistent Collection of Data on School Students with Disability (NCCD) takes place every year.

The NCCD is a collection that counts:

- the number of school students receiving an adjustment or 'help' due to disability
- the level of adjustment they are receiving to access education on the same basis as other students.

Students are counted in the NCCD if they receive ongoing adjustments at school due to disability. This 'help' allows them to access education on the same basis as a child without disability. The NCCD uses the definition of disability in the [Disability Discrimination Act 1992](#).

Schools provide this information to education authorities.

Go to *What is a reasonable adjustment?* below to learn about adjustments.

WHY IS THIS DATA BEING COLLECTED?

All schools in Australia must collect information about students with disability.

The NCCD:

- ensures that the information collected is transparent, consistent and reliable
- provides better information that improves understanding of students with disability
- allows parents, guardians, carers, teachers, principals, education authorities and government to better support students with disability.

Student with disability loading

Funding from the Australian Government for students with disability is based on the NCCD through the student with disability loading.

Students with disability who are counted in the top three levels of the NCCD (extensive, substantial and supplementary) attract the loading. Funding is based on a per-student amount at each of the three levels of additional support. The amount of the loading reflects the level of support students with disability need to participate fully in school, with higher funding for those who need higher levels of support.

Australian Government recurrent school funding is provided as a lump sum to school authorities including state and territory governments, which can then distribute the funding to their member schools according to their own needs-based arrangements.

The Government expects schools and school systems to consider their funding from all sources (ie Australian Government, state and territory and private) and prioritise their spending to meet the educational needs of all of their students, including students with disability.

WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS OF THE NCCD FOR STUDENTS?

The information collected by the NCCD helps teachers, principals, education authorities and governments to better support students with disability at school.

The NCCD encourages schools to review their learning and support systems and processes. This helps schools to continually improve education outcomes for all students.

WHAT MUST SCHOOLS DO FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITY?

All students have the right to a quality learning experience at school.

Students with disability must be able to take part in education without discrimination and on the same basis as other students. To ensure this, schools must make reasonable adjustments if needed for students with disability. Educators, students, parents, guardians, carers and others (eg health professionals) must work together to ensure that students with disability can take part in education.

The *Disability Discrimination Act 1992* and the *Disability Standards for Education 2005* describe schools' responsibilities.

WHAT IS A REASONABLE ADJUSTMENT?

An adjustment is an action to help a student with disability take part in education on the same basis as other students.

Adjustments can be made across the whole school (eg ramps into school buildings). They can be in the classroom (eg adapting teaching methods). They can also be for individual student need (eg providing personal care support).

The school assesses the needs of each student with disability. The school provides adjustments in consultation with the student and/or their parents, guardians and carers.

Schools must make reasonable adjustments if needed. The *Disability Standards for Education 2005* define 'reasonable adjustment' as an adjustment that balances the interests of all parties affected.

WHO IS INCLUDED IN THE NCCD?

The definition of disability for the NCCD is based on the broad definition under the *Disability Discrimination Act 1992*.

The following students are examples of those who may be included in the NCCD if they need monitoring and adjustments:

- students with learning difficulties (such as dyslexia)
- students with chronic health conditions (such as epilepsy or diabetes).

WHO COLLECTS INFORMATION FOR THE NCCD?

Schools identify which students will be counted in the NCCD. They base their decisions on the following:

- adjustments provided for the student (after consultation with the student and/or their parents, guardians and carers)
- the school team's observations and professional judgements
- any medical or other professional diagnoses
- other relevant information.

School principals must ensure that information for the NCCD is accurate.

WHAT INFORMATION IS COLLECTED?

A student is counted in the NCCD if they receive reasonable adjustments at school due to disability.

Each year, schools collect the following information about the student, including:

- their year of schooling
- the level of adjustment received
- the broad type of disability.

For students who have more than one disability, the school uses professional judgement to choose one category of disability. They choose the category that most affects the student's access to education and for which adjustments are being provided.

A high level summary of the NCCD data is available to all Australian state and territory governments to improve policies and programs for students with disability.

HOW IS THIS DATA USED?

The NCCD data informs funding and work by schools and sectors. It ensures that support for students with disability becomes routine in the day-to-day practice of schools. The NCCD also supports students in the following ways.

- The NCCD helps schools better understand their legislative obligations and the Disability Standards for Education 2005.
- Schools focus on the individual adjustments that support students with disability. This encourages them to reflect on students' needs and to better support students.
- The NCCD facilitates a collaborative and coordinated approach to supporting students with disability. It also encourages improvements in school documentation.
- The NCCD improves communication about students' needs between schools, parents, guardians, carers and the community.

The Australian Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Authority (ACARA) annually publishes high-level, non-identifying NCCD data.

WHEN DOES THE NCCD TAKE PLACE?

The NCCD takes place in August each year.

IS THE NCCD COMPULSORY?

Yes. All schools must collect and submit information each year for the NCCD. This is detailed in the *Australian Education Regulation 2013*. For more information, ask your school principal or the relevant education authority.

HOW IS STUDENTS' PRIVACY PROTECTED?

Protecting the privacy and confidentiality of all students is an essential part of the NCCD.

Data is collected within each school. Personal details, such as student names or student identifiers, are not provided to federal education authorities. Learn more about privacy in the [Public information notice](#).

FURTHER INFORMATION

Contact your school if you have questions about the NCCD. You can also visit the [NCCD Portal](#).

There is also a free [e-learning resource](#) about the *Disability Discrimination Act 1992* and *Disability Standards for Education 2005*.

This document must be attributed as *Fact sheet for parents, guardians and carers*.

IMPORTANT DATES



St John's

REGIONAL COLLEGE



**DISCOVER YOUR
CHILD'S PATHWAY**

OPEN MORNING
Saturday 2 September 2023 10am

Come along and discover the opportunities and pathways to unlock your child's potential. Join us for a College tour. Discover what St John's has to offer and find out about the new 2025 Academic Scholarship Program.

Register today at
www.sjrc.vic.edu.au
or scan the QR Code



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

COMMUNITY NOTICEBOARD

- Diamond Dancers - Recreation and Competitive Dancing
- Springvale Indoor Sports - School Holiday Program
- Ukraine Support Fund

Chicken Eggs For Sale

- St Gerard's would like to offer families the opportunity to purchase delicious organic eggs laid by our resident flock of chickens.
- You can purchase these eggs from the school office at a cost of \$6 per dozen.
- All proceeds from the sale of the eggs will go towards purchasing food for our feathered friends.
- Please message [Nicole Fernandez](#) via Seesaw if you would like to purchase some eggs.

