



St Gerard's Primary School

NEWSLETTER

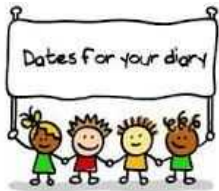


Term 4, Week 4

www.sgdandenongnth.catholic.edu.au

03 97917553

1 November 2019



Monday, 4 November
SCHOOL CLOSURE

Tuesday, 5 November
SCHOOL CLOSURE

Wednesday, 6 November

- Swimming
- Homework Club (last for 2019)

REMINDER

Swimming lessons commence next Wednesday. Please ensure you have returned the permission form otherwise your child will be unable to attend.



**MONDAY,
4 NOVEMBER &
TUESDAY,
5 NOVEMBER**



A PRAYER FOR ALL SAINTS DAY

God, source of all holiness,
you have enriched Your church
with many gifts in the saints.
direct, O Lord, our actions
by Your holy inspirations,
and carry them on
by Your gracious assistance,
that every prayer
and work of ours
may always begin with You
and through You
be happily ended.
Amen.

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Dear Families,

As mentioned previously, there was a variety of opportunities offered for our students to be a part of this week to enhance their learning and I feel they were all very successful.

We started with **Italian Day on Monday** which involved a special assembly and parade, various Italian based activities, a performance by *Spectacular Spettacolo* and an Italian lunch of pizza and gelato. I would like to thank the students and staff for entering into the spirit of the day and in particular Signora Harris for all her organisation in making the day fantastico!

Our second **2020 Prep** Orientation Session saw our new students continue to work together and experience school life. Their families were informed about how we teach Religious Education and Mathematics through conversations with Mrs Stack and Ms Sonno. The two remaining sessions are on **Tuesday mornings from 9.30am – 10.30am on November 12 and 19**. We have a **limited number of places available** for Prep next year so if there are any families that have not enrolled their child please contact the office as soon as possible.

Maths Rocks on Wednesday saw our school focus on mathematical problems which required applying various mathematical strategies, persistence and collaboration. It was wonderful to see the variety of ways students went about solving these challenges. It was **great to see families come along** and see the mathematical thinking that took place. Thank you to Ms Sonno for leading and co-ordinating this event.

Our **Prep and Year 1/2 Excursion** to Healesville Sanctuary yesterday provided a wonderful link to the work being done in their Inquiry Unit. From all reports the most popular exhibitions were the reptiles, the bird show featuring eagles and other birds of prey and feeding the emus. Thank you to the parents that came with these classes. As I have stated before, we **always welcome volunteers** to support our students in their learning.



1/2 B at Healesville Sanctuary

A reminder that **all volunteers** must have a current Working With Children Check (**WWCC**), have read and signed our **Safeguarding Children Code of Conduct** and have attended a **Volunteers Induction Session** in order to work with our children. If you require any information or have questions about any of these requirements please contact the office or myself. This is part of our ongoing commitment to child safety.

Today is **All Saints Day** and as a school we celebrated mass with the parish community. This feast day is dedicated to the saints of the Church, which are those that have attained heaven. The parish is also recognising this day with a **'Dress up as your favourite Saint'** event after the 10.30am Mass this coming Sunday 3rd November.

I had the pleasure of having hot chips with our **'Give Me 5' raffle winners**. I am always pleased that there are so many tickets in the draw as children receive tickets when they are seen living our Give Me 5 principles.

We have a **school closure day next Monday 4th November** and the **Melbourne Cup Public Holiday** is next **Tuesday 5th November**.

Finally, a reminder that **Swimming starts next Wednesday 6th November for all year levels**.

God Bless.

Paul Cowan

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS

Whole School Masses:

Friday, 1 November: All Saints' Day
Saturday, 2 November: All Souls' Day
Friday, 13 December: End of year Mass at 12:00

Level Masses:

Years Prep and 5/6: Thursday, 28 November at 9:15
Years 1/2: Thursday, 21 November at 9:15
Years 3/4: Thursday, 5 December at 9:15

Important Dates for Term 4

Friday, 1 November: All Saints Day
Saturday, 2 November: All Souls Day and Fr. A's Birthday
Monday, 11 November: Remembrance Day, one minute silence
Wednesday, 20 November: Year 6 Reflection Day
Thursday, 21 November: Whole School Living Rosary, 11:45 (The Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary Feast Day)
Friday, 29 November: Advent Assembly at 2:30
Tuesday, 10 December: Christmas Carols Evening
Thursday, 12 December: Choir Christmas Carols Excursion
Friday, 13 December: End of year Mass, 12 noon
Tuesday, 17 December: Year 6 final assembly, 2pm and Graduation, 7pm

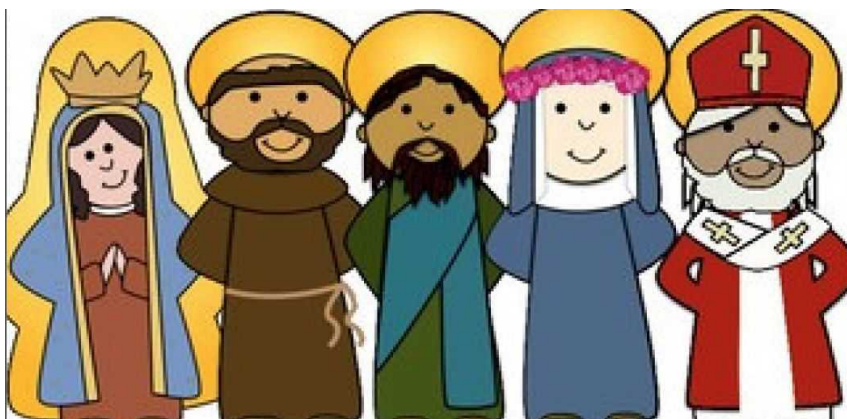
Altar boy training

Altar boy training is in the Church from 5pm to 6:30 pm every Thursday evening. Please contact Mrs Stack if you are interested in joining our dedicated team of Altar Servers.

Remembrance Day 2019 Tokens/Poppies

As Remembrance Day is nearing, our local RSL has approached St Gerards seeking assistance in the sale of REMEMBRANCE DAY tokens at \$1:00 each and poppies at \$2:00 each (or by donation).

Proceeds from this appeal are used in the welfare work carried out by the RSL for ex-servicemen, women and their families who are in necessitous situation.



ALL SAINTS DAY CELEBRATIONS

It's that time of year to DRESS UP as your favourite Saint and join us for a fun filled day!!!

WHEN Sunday, 3 November
10:30 am Mass
WHERE St Gerard's Parish Church

A BBQ lunch will follow Mass with fun activities and prizes for the best dressed. The event finishing at 4:00 pm.

WE HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE.



Merry Christmas

Please Support

St Gerard's Mini Vinnies' Christmas Appeal



Donations of the following
items for the homeless:

- * new underwear
- * new socks
- * new towels
- * new toiletries

May we all enjoy a Merry Christmas

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Whole School Classroom Reward System

We now have a whole school class reward system. Students who display the expectations present on the school Matrix will be rewarded with a raffle ticket from their classroom teacher. Once a month the raffle tickets from each class will be collected and drawn during Monday assembly.

The raffle tickets were drawn on the 28th of September and the following lucky winners got to have hot chips with Mr Cowan on Friday 1st November:



- Ruach Kuoth (5/60)
- Kevaan (1/2B)
- Chelsea (Prep C)
- Matthew Gerges (5/60)
- Jacob (1/2FP)
- Eva (3/4S)
- Abigail (3/4S)



Kitchen Garden - 1/2 B



This week 1/2FP enjoyed their Garden to Kitchen lesson. The students practised the skills of weeding, pruning and harvesting in the garden. They then enjoyed preparing and eating delicious carbonara pasta, savoury scones and herb butter! Ask them to make it for you at home. Once again a huge thank you to our amazing, dedicated mums who volunteer their precious time every Friday. Next week 5/6O will participate in their Garden to Kitchen lesson. If you would like to assist during the Garden to Kitchen block please contact Anna Munro or Nicole Fernandez. We would love for you to join in!



TERM 4 KITCHEN GARDEN TIMETABLE

Week	Class
Week 5- 8/11	5/6O
Week 6- 15/11	5/6VT
Week 7- 22/11	Prep C
Week 8- 29/11	Christmas cooking- Grades 3-6 (9:00- 2:00)Class timetable TBC
Week 9- 6/11	Christmas cooking- Grades P-2 (9:00-1:00)Class timetable TBC
Week 10- 13/11	No class due to End of Year Mass



Facts from the Be You website

What is play?

Play can be pretending, learning a new skill, dressing up, being active or being quiet.

Play can involve other children or be alone. Adults can join in if they're invited – in fact, young children often love to play with close adults. Children decide what to play and how to play. Play is their time to be free and enjoy. It's their language, their work and their relaxation.

It's for all children, of all ages from birth on, and of all abilities.

Unstructured, free play is the best type for young children

This is play that just happens, depending on what takes the child's interest at the time. It isn't planned and lets children use their imagination and move at their own pace. Examples of unstructured play might be:

- creative play alone or with others, including artistic or musical games
- imaginary games (for example, making cubby houses with boxes or blankets, dressing up, playing make-believe)
- exploring new or favourite play spaces like cupboards, backyards, parks, playgrounds and so on.

You can be part of a child's unstructured play – or not

Sometimes all you'll need to do is point them in the right direction – say, towards the jumble of dress-ups and toys on the floor, or to the table with crayons and paper.

Sometimes you might need to be a bit more active – for example, “How about we play dress-ups? What do you want to be today?”

Structured play is different.

It's more organised and happens at a fixed time or in a set space, and is often led by a grown-up. Examples of structured play include:

- swimming lessons – you might see these as important lessons for your child, but they might just think they're fun
- storytelling groups for toddlers and preschoolers at the local library
- dance, music or drama classes for children of all ages
- family board or card games
- organised team sports for older children, like basketball, netball and football.



Celebrating Italian Day!

Pizza Making



Italian Dancing



Mask Making

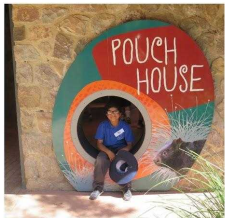




Grade Prep, 1 and 2 Healesville Excursion

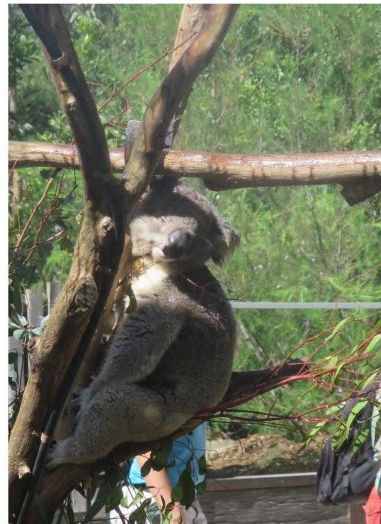


A great day at Healesville Sanctuary



If you have not yet visited Healesville Sanctuary I recommend you visit it. I would score it 10/10
Priscilla Awow 1/2FP

Animals of Healesville Sanctuary



The highlight of the day was the show 'Spirits of the Sky'. We had to meet at the bottom of the mountain. We learned lots about Australian birds like the kite, the vulture, the long billed corella. Did you know that corellas can imitate humans?

Jacob Appan 1/2 FP



SCHOOL & COMMUNITY NEWS!

We now have a school and community notice area in the 1/2 gathering space. Thank you to Affet Ferens for her great idea and assisting Mrs Fernandez in setting up this space. Parents please take a minute to have a look at the events happening both within the school and in the local community. If you would like to advertise your own business please leave details with the front office.

PARENT VOLUNTEERS

All parent volunteers **MUST** HAVE:

- Current Working With Children Check (WWCC)
- Read and signed our Safeguarding Children Code of Conduct
- Attended a Volunteer Induction Session



ST GERARD'S

SCHOOL DISCO

Tuesday 12th NOVEMBER
5 – 7pm in the PAC

Disco run by Little and Trivial Events
For all current Prep – Year 6 St Gerard's Students
\$3.00 per student
Water provided