

ST GERARD'S PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER



TERM 3 - WEEK 2

21st July, 2023



Sowing Seeds of Greatness: Watch the Children Flourish! 🌱 Matthew 13:24-43

This Week's Give Me 5 Value: Be Your Best



Sometimes it may seem to children that they can have very little effect in changing the world.

They may think they are too small to accomplish anything in building up God's kingdom.

In this Sunday's Gospel, just as the tiny mustard seed grows into a mighty tree, all the small efforts that any of us make in being kind, loving, gentle and sharing what we have with others, makes the kingdom present in our world.

Encourage your children in their efforts to be kingdom builders this week.



@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 are well and truly into Term 3 and Winter!

On Tuesday we had our **3 Way Conversations**. These meetings allowed for our **families, students and teachers to come together to celebrate the successes** identified in our Semester 1 Reports and **set learning goals** for the second half of the year. If you were unable to attend on Tuesday please contact your child's classroom teacher to arrange a time either online or face-to-face.

Our **first Open Day for Term 3 is next Tuesday 25 July, followed by 2 more on Wednesday 9 August and Thursday 31 August**. If you know families who are looking for a school in 2024 they are more than welcome to come on one of those days from 9.15am - 5.00pm at a time that suits them or they can contact the School Office on 9791 7553 or email: principal@sgdandenongnth.catholic.edu.au to arrange a meeting and school tour with myself.

We will be recognising and celebrating our **Grandparents and Special Friends next Wednesday 26 July**, which is the **Feast of St Anne and Joachim**. People who are '*grandparent figures*' in the lives of our children are invited to join us at school from **9.00am - 10.30 am**. We will all gather in the PAC and then there will be time to visit classrooms and look at all that St Gerard's has to offer. **We look forward to welcoming, acknowledging and thanking these very special people.**

Another important date for your diary is our '**Mathematics through Games**' **Family Workshop from 6.00pm - 7.00 pm on Thursday 17 August**. This will be a wonderful night and provide families with an insight into how Mathematics is currently taught. I look forward to seeing you all there.

The following day, **Friday 18 August is a Pupil Free Day** when our staff will be involved in Professional Learning. These days are important as they allow our staff to increase their understanding and skills to provide better learning opportunities for our children. Information is contained in this newsletter regarding OSHC for the day. If there is enough interest a full day program will be offered.

I am again asking families in cars to reduce traffic congestion in the laneway and McNab Court. **Families that arrive before 3.25pm are asked to park in the carpark. Joining the drop off/ pick up line, particularly near the pedestrian crossing, creates a backlog of cars and prevents families from parking in the car park, which causes issues.**

Another aspect of this is to be mindful of our **procedures at the end of the school day**. There are **designated pick up areas for our students and pedestrian pathways**. It can be busy at the end of the day, especially when it is cold and raining, however we **need families walking home or to their cars to use the pedestrian pathways**. I thank you in advance for your cooperation.

As mentioned last week, our **2022 Annual Report to the School Community (ARSC)** has been uploaded to our website and a copy is housed in the foyer. If any families would like a copy of this report please contact the School Office.

Lastly, a further reminder to those families who have children with a **Medical Management Plan**. If there are changes to any aspect of the plan, please **contact the School Office**. It is vital that the **information we have at school is current**.

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 3/4A:

Thursday 27th July, 10:00am

Year 5/6O:

Thursday 31st August, 10:00am

Parish Mass

Year 5/6T & Prep:
1/2 Level:

Thursday 7th September, 9:15am

Wednesday 13th September, 9:15am



Reconciliation

Year 5/6O

Thursday, 3rd August at 10:15am

Year 5/6T

Thursday, 10th August at 10:15am

Year 3/4A

Thursday, 17th August at 10:15am

Year 3/4S

Thursday, 24th August at 10:15am

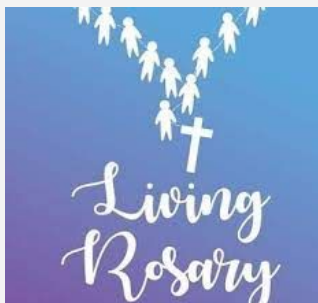
Whole School Mass

Families are invited to join us at the following Parish Masses:

Tuesday, 8th August: Mary of the Cross at 9:15am

Tuesday, 15th August: Feast of the Assumption at 9:15am

We look forward to having you celebrate with us for these special Feast Days.



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

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 Savanah on 0437 668 352.

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

Altar Servers

Altar Server training will resume from the 20th July for existing altar servers and any 'new recruits' wishing to help our parish celebrate Mass.

Time: 5:30p - 6:30pm

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

RELIGIOUS CELEBRATION

Grandparents'/Special Persons' Day

On the Feast of Sts Anne and Joachim, July 26th, we have a special program scheduled from 9:00AM to 10:30AM to celebrate Grandparents/Special Person's Day. The event will commence with a Paraliturg, followed by opportunities for Grandparents/Special Person to visit classrooms. We extend a warm welcome to Grandparents and Special Persons to join us for this occasion.



WELLBEING



Growing a mentally healthy generation



What is resilience?

From the 'Be You' Website

Resilience enables people to shift back along the [mental health continuum](#) towards good mental health. It's not static but is something that can change over time due to experiences and circumstance.

Resilience is particularly important for children and young people

A child or young person's ability to be resilient can depend upon many things, particularly their relative balance of risk and protective factors. Depending upon their situation, a child or young person's resilience may vary. Importantly, specific situations or events that one child or young person may find challenging, another may not.

The transition from being a child to an adolescent to a young adult occurs over a relatively short period of time. Rapid changes in physical, psychological and social development can present numerous challenges. Children and young people who are more resilient are better able to stay on track with the biological, psychological and social demands of growing up and moving through early childhood into adolescence and beyond.

Being resilient is associated with better academic performance and school behaviour and, over the longer term, fewer mental health issues and greater life opportunities (including employment and relationships). Individual resilience (as well as family and community resilience) is something that can be fostered and developed over time.




WELLBEING



This week the Give Me Five focus was to 'Be Cooperative in the Learning Areas'.

The teachers were looking for students who were being positive in the classroom by following directions, moving safely, staying on task, sharing with others and helping others. These students were rewarded with a raffle ticket.

Next week our whole school will be focusing on being our best in the learning areas and playground.

St. Gerard's Give Me 5 Whole School Matrix				
Principle	Learning Areas	Corridors	Toilets	Playground/Sandpit
Be Respectful	Speak appropriately and use manners Care for property Take turns Whole body listening Greet people by name	Speak appropriately and use manners Care for property <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Keep the area neat and tidy 	Speak appropriately and use manners <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Give other users their privacy Care for property <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Keep toilets tidy and flush Wash hands	Speak appropriately and use manners Care for property <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Place rubbish in the bin Keep sand in the sandpit and bark in the garden Include others Respect everyone's views and space
Be Co-operative	Follow Directions Move safely Stay on task Share with others and help each other	Follow Directions Move safely <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Walk on the left hand side of the corridor to exit and the left hand side to enter 	Follow Directions Move safely Wait for your partner	Follow Directions Move safely Play fairly <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Accept rules Take turns Share and use equipment safely
Be Your Best	Keep hands, feet and objects to yourself Ask for help	Keep hands, feet and objects to yourself Only enter the area with permission	Keep hands, feet and objects to yourself Report problems to a teacher	Keep hands, feet and objects to yourself Try to solve your problems
Be Positive	Never give up			Encourage others
Be Spirit filled	Treat others as you would like to be treated. Pray daily and during meditation	Treat others as you would like to be treated.	Treat others as you would like to be treated.	Treat others as you would like to be treated. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Say sorry and forgive others Be kind

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 NOTES

St Gerard's YLVOSHC

Program Information

Service Phone Number: 0402 192 685



Prices

Before School Care

(Permanent) \$15.00

(Casual) \$20.00

After Max CCS: \$2.89

After School Care

(Permanent) \$20.00

(Casual) \$25.00

After Max CCS: \$3.16

Pupil Free Day and Vacation Care

(Permanent) \$65.00

(Casual): \$72.50

After Max CCS: \$6.50



OPERATING TIMES

Before School Care

Hours:

6:45am – 8:45am

After School Care

Hours:

3:30pm – 6:30pm

Pupil Free Days:

7:00am – 6:00pm

Vacation Care:

7:00am – 6:00pm

* MAX CCS REBATE FIGURES ARE PROVIDED AS
APPROXIMATES AND MAY VARY

YLV.COM.AU

IMPORTANT DATES



St John's
REGIONAL COLLEGE

ACADEMIC

SCHOLARSHIPS FOR 2025



**20 scholarships now available
for the 2025 academic year.**

Register for a College Tour



5-11 Caroline St, Dandenong VIC 3175, (03)8793 2000, www.sjrc.vic.edu.au



St John's
REGIONAL COLLEGE

Online Enrolment Information Evening

and

Launch of the 2025 Academic Scholarships



If you are seeking more information or intending on enrolling your child at St John's Regional College for 2024, 2025 or 2026 please come along to an assisted enrolment session.

**Wednesday 9 August
7.00pm - 7.45pm**



Register here

5-11 Caroline St, Dandenong VIC 3175, (03)8793 2000, www.sjrc.vic.edu.au

Happy BIRTHDAY



Happy Birthday to all who had celebrated and will celebrate their birthdays this week.

- Elijah Yr 4
- Rachel Yr 5

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

- Springvale Indoor Sports - School Holiday Program
- Springvale Snow Fest
- Greater Dandenong School Students Photo Competition
- Ukraine Support Fund

Market Stall

Our first garden market stall for Term 3 will be held next Thursday 27th July at 3:20pm in the church car park.

We will be selling eggs, oranges, mandarins, broad beans and rosemary.

A big thank you to our beautiful students who work in the garden on a daily basis!

Get in quick to pick up a bargain!



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.

