



# St Gerard's Primary School

# NEWSLETTER

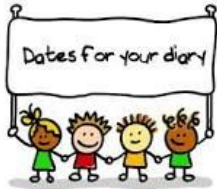


Term 2 Week 11

[www.sgdandenongnth.catholic.edu.au](http://www.sgdandenongnth.catholic.edu.au)

03 97917553

26 June 2020



## HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Wishing the following students a happy birthday for this week:

- Lemilo - 1/2F&P
- Ruach Kuoth - 5/6O
- Alina - 1/2F&P
- Azalea - Prep C

We hope you have a great day!!!



**TERM 3 COMMENCES**  
**Monday, 13 July**

### School Prayer

God, our Father, as members of the Parish Community of St Gerard's we praise you for your love.

May we grow stronger in faith and hope, and may our love for each other, become deeper in our daily lives. Grant this through your Son, and our brother, Jesus Christ,

AMEN

Thank you to our families for your generosity during our campaign to support those who need a hand up, some who have been impacted by COVID-19. Thank you to our Social Justice team and our friends in our Parish from St Vincent de Paul for your support.



### 'Anyone who welcomes you, welcomes me.'

In the readings this Sunday, Jesus asks us to welcome people. Hospitality is an art form and our readings demonstrate just how Christ like this human virtue is. Jesus makes a point; that in welcoming people, we welcome Jesus himself.

In our current climate, we might ask ourselves, what price are we prepared to pay to be more welcoming to others so that we can build a more fair and equitable world, in context of refugees, black lives matter and this current pandemic?

For the apostles, losing their life for their faith was a genuine prospect. Today, not many of us have to be afraid of being killed for our religion but our current circumstances challenge us. If we neglect to follow Jesus because we're too scared of what others might think, then we are not wholly living our lives in Christ.

# MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Families,

One of the unique aspects of working in education is that no two days are ever the same. This has never been more accurate than this term! It has certainly been unique with staff, students and families all having to adapt and adjust in all aspects of our lives. While this has been challenging, I feel it has helped us to focus on what is essential as a school - **the learning of our children**. I would like to once again thank all families, students and staff for their efforts and support throughout Remote Learning and our return to school. **Not only has learning continued but we have kept our school and the wider community safe.**

**Semester One reports** were sent home yesterday (Thursday) and while they **look different due to Remote Learning**, they still give information on what has been taught and student achievements. Please take the time to **read and discuss them with your child(ren) making sure to celebrate the successes and set goals** for Semester Two. I would like to congratulate all our children for their hard work throughout the first half of the year. We will provide the opportunity for you to **discuss the report and your child's learning early in Term Three**.

If you have a child who will be starting school next year please contact the office or myself as **Prep enrolments for 2021 are open**. 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 for current families.

**School Fee Statements** were sent out last week. If your **family is experiencing challenges** with regard to **school fees** please contact the School Office or myself [pcowan@sgdandenongnth.catholic.edu.au](mailto: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**.

Thank you to the families that completed the **optional Remote Learning Survey** which was **organised by Catholic Education Melbourne (CEM)** and Dr Simon Breakspear from *Agile Schools*. The survey will assist with further developments in education at both a system and school level.

Our efforts in **supporting our St Vincent de Paul** branch was again outstanding. Giving those in need a *'hand up'* rather than a *'hand out'* helps to retain the dignity of people needing assistance. Supporting others is a key aspect of our faith and we are really living this out. ***'Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.'*** Matthew 25:40.

Up until today (Friday 26 June), I have not received any new advice or direction on school arrangements. Therefore **all processes and procedures we currently have in place will continue in Term Three**. As you can appreciate, circumstances can change quickly and **if there are any changes I will inform our school community as soon as possible via Seesaw, email and text**.

Lastly, I would like to wish **everyone a very happy, safe and healthy holiday** and I look forward to seeing everyone back for the **start of Term Three on Monday 13 July**.

God Bless.

Paul Cowan - Principal

# RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS

## Sacraments

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

## St Vincent de Paul Food Drive Thank You

Thanks for all your help with our school-wide food drive to support our parish St Vincent de Paul Society helping many families who are in need, some affected by COVID-19. In the space of 2 weeks, our school managed to fill up the cage which normally takes us about 6 weeks to do. The classes that brought in the most food items are:

1st - 5/6O  
2nd - 3/4S  
3rd - 1/2B

Year 5/6O win a casual dress day for bringing in the most food items.

*Linda Harper & Isabella  
Tudehope gratefully  
accepting our food  
donations*



## 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.

## Mass Times & Bookings

The restriction of up to 20 people for Masses will remain in place for the next few weeks. It was hoped that we would have up to 50, but sadly that won't be the case for now.

So we will essentially be using the same booking system for Masses that has been in place at St Gerard's for the last few weeks. Mass times are as follows.

Tuesday - 9.15am & 6.00pm  
Wednesday - 9.15am & 10.45am  
Thursday - 9.15am & 6.00pm  
Friday - 9.15am & 10.45am  
Saturday - 9.15am & 5.30pm  
Sunday - 8:30am (from 28 June), 10.30am & 5.30pm

The link to book for Mass is [HERE](#)

# LITERACY NEWS



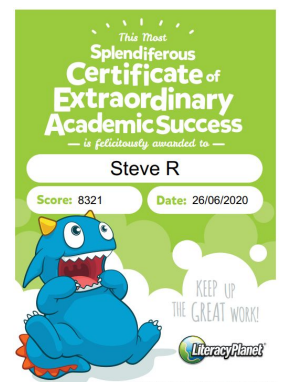
## **CONGRATULATIONS!!**

The Year Three students and Year Four students finished in the top 50 schools for Word Mania. Both came 47th in the region.

**WHAT A FANTASTIC ACHIEVEMENT!!**



**Trevor Fernando has been awarded the 3/4S Literacy Planet Tremendous Term 2 Super Star achieving a fantastic score of 12548!!**



**Steve Robin has been awarded the 3/4 Literacy Planet Tremendous Term 2 Super Star achieving an amazing score of 8321!!**





## What is self-management?

Self-management is learning about your own feelings and emotions, understanding how and why they happen, recognising them (and those of others), and developing effective ways of managing them.

### Emotions include several components:

- physical responses (for example, heart rate, breathing and hormone levels)
- feelings
- thoughts and judgements associated with feelings
- action signals (for example, a desire to approach, escape or fight).

### Learning to self-management

This is a critical way that a child or young person learns to cope with the world. When children and young people learn to self-manage their emotions, they feel more confident, capable and in control. They have stronger relationships, are more able to pay attention, learn new things and can cope better with the normal stresses and disappointments of daily life. Developing skills for self-managing a range of emotions is so important for children and young people's emotional wellbeing.

## Whole School Classroom Reward System

Students who display the expectations present on the school Matrix will be rewarded with a raffle ticket from their classroom teacher. Every month the raffle tickets from each class is collected and drawn during assembly. The raffle tickets were drawn on 22 June and the following lucky winners will get to have hot chips with Mr Cowan:

1. Sajin (Prep)
2. Elijah (1/2)
3. Isaiah (3/4)
4. Sachleen (3/4)
5. Shaun (Prep)
6. Anton (3/4)



A big congratulations to the following students who have displayed the Give Me 5 Principles in the classroom and playground. These students received the Principal's Award for their behaviour.



**Prep C** - Well done to Malakai, Nevyn, Katalina, Sajin and Sophia!!



**1/2 B** - well done to Elijah, Edwin, Marcus, Jake and Chelsea!



**1/2 FP** - Well done to Jerome, Gabriel, Emmanuel, Lachlan and Adina!



## Wristband Rewards!!

A big congratulations to 5/6O for achieving 50 wristbands! They decided to have a casual dress day as a reward for their whole class. Keep up the fantastic work!!!



# WELLBEING NEWS CONT'D

## Matrix Lesson - Being Respectful

This week in our SEL lesson we revised the expectations for 'Being Respectful' in the learning areas. To 'Be Respectful' in the learning areas we need to speak appropriately and use manners, care for property, take turns, show whole body listening and greet people by their name. The students in 1/2 practised being respectful while playing a game of snakes and ladders.



## OTHER SCHOOL



For those parents who are using Flexibuzz, especially to inform the school of student absences, please be advised that this platform will no longer be available from June 30, 2020. Please check our website as it will soon have a Student Absence tab. In the meantime, please ensure you phone the school on 97917553, send a message via Seesaw or email to [hcox@sgdandenongnth.catholic.edu.au](mailto:hcox@sgdandenongnth.catholic.edu.au)

## OSHC NEWS



OSHC would like to advise that St Mary's Primary School will be running a holiday program if families require it. Please contact Sue on 0402192685 for information.

**Enjoy the School holidays!**  
**Stay safe, stay happy, stay healthy!**  
**We look forward to seeing the students**  
**on Monday, 13 July.**