

ST GERARD'S PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER



TERM 2 - WEEK 5

26th MAY, 2023

National Sorry Day

26th May

Artwork in this resource was created by Zachary Bennett-Brook in partnership with Twin

Young hearts unite in prayer and hope at a Sorry Day Paraliturgy today.

National Sorry Day

26 May

Today at our National Sorry Day Paraliturgy, we remembered and recognised the people of the Stolen Generation and all those who were directly or indirectly affected by this terrible time in our history.

Through our celebration today, we were reminded that God's dream for humanity is one of justice and equality, of compassion and understanding, of forgiveness and mercy, to be shared by all peoples on earth. We pray that we walk together in a spirit of reconciliation and unity.



@st.gerards3175

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<https://www.facebook.com/stgerardsps>

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Dear families,

As we come to the end of Week 5 it is hard to believe that we are more than half way through Term Two.

Our **Wednesday morning 'Before School Reading' in the Library from 8.15am continues to be well attended.** This is a great way for our students and their families to come and read together and is a positive way to start the day, particularly when it is wet, cold and windy outside! There is a standing invitation to all our children and their families to come along.

As a school we celebrated the **Feast of Mary Help of Christians** on Wednesday by attending the parish 9.15am Mass. It was once again lovely to be able to come together with our parish family to share our faith. I would like to acknowledge the **children for their attentiveness, reverence and participation.** This is a significant feast day for Australia as Mary is the Patroness of our country. In addition, our school emblem contains the Latin phrase **'AD JESUM PER MARIAM'** which translates as **'To Jesus Through Mary'**. Mary's unwavering faith in God can be a source of inspiration and comfort for us as we travel through life.

Our **new SRC (Student Representative Council) members** met on Thursday for the first time. I congratulate these students on being elected to this role by their peers. When the people you work closely with each day recognise your gifts and talents it is always a wonderful complement. We look forward to the contribution they will make to our school through their 'student voice'.

Today (Friday) is **National Sorry Day** and as a school we marked this significant event in our country's history with a special **Assembly.** Awareness of this day is vital for our country and our students as we move towards reconciliation with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

Looking to next week, we have our **second Open Day for Term 2 next Wednesday 31 May** and a third one on Thursday 15 June. If you know families who are looking for a school in 2024 they are more than welcome to come on one of these 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 at another time.

We also have **Italian Day next Friday 2 June** which will be a wonderful opportunity to celebrate the learning of our children and the culture of Italy. Families are more than welcome to come to our **Assembly at 2.45pm in the PAC to see our Italian Day parade.** It promises to be a molto bene day!

God bless.

Paul COWAN
PRINCIPAL

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Sacrament Dates, 2023

First Communion: (Grade 4)

First Communion Reflection Day:	Thursday 8th June (children may wear casual clothes)
First Communion:	Sunday 11th June, 10:30am
First Communion Assembly:	Friday 16th June, 2:50pm

Whole School Mass:

Friday	24 th June	Sacred Heart of Jesus at 9:15 (Parish Mass, Adoration available throughout the day)
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St Vincent De Paul Winter Appeal:

Our goal is to fill our food cart to the brim once more for the St Vincent De Paul Winter appeal. Starting from week two, the Social Justice and Spirituality Leaders will gather food items, and the collection will end on the Feast of the Sacred Heart of Jesus. The class that donates the most items will earn a casual dress day.

Vinnie's

WINTER APPEAL



'I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me. Whatever you did for one of the least of mine, you did for me.' Mathew 25

WELLBEING



Growing a mentally healthy generation



Look after yourself

Make time to look after yourself so you're in a better position to support those around you. Children and young people's emotions can be affected by how adults are feeling.

Try to maintain your routines, know your limits, debrief with trusted family or friends and try to do things you enjoy to manage your stress levels.

The Be You website provides information on [wellbeing tools](#) and how to practise [mindfulness](#), which can help with stress management.

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 right 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 Accept rules
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

WELLBEING



A big congratulation 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.

- ❑ Foundation B- Ryan
- ❑ 1/2FW- Prophet
- ❑ 1/2L- Malakai
- ❑ 3/4S- Bhanuri
- ❑ 3/4A- Mila
- ❑ 5/6T- Ainsley
- ❑ 5/6O- Emilia



WELLBEING

Give Me 5 News

Students who display the expectations present on the school Matrix are rewarded with a raffle ticket from their classroom teacher. Once a month the raffle tickets from each class are collected and drawn during Fridays assembly.

The raffle tickets were drawn on the 19th May 2023 and the lucky winners were:

1. *Katalina*
2. *Joanne*
3. *Adina*
4. *Blessed*
5. *Kai*
6. *Gurnishaan*



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.

The Term 2 SRC reps attended their first meeting on Thursday 25th May.

A big congratulation to our new SRC Reps:

Foundation B- Gift and Jacob

1/2FW- Evelyn and Natalie

1/2L- Joram and Izabella

3/4S- Dhanya and Anjanna

3/4A- Francis and Sophia

5/6-T- Taavish and Elana

5/6O- Rachel and Indiana

Student Representative Council

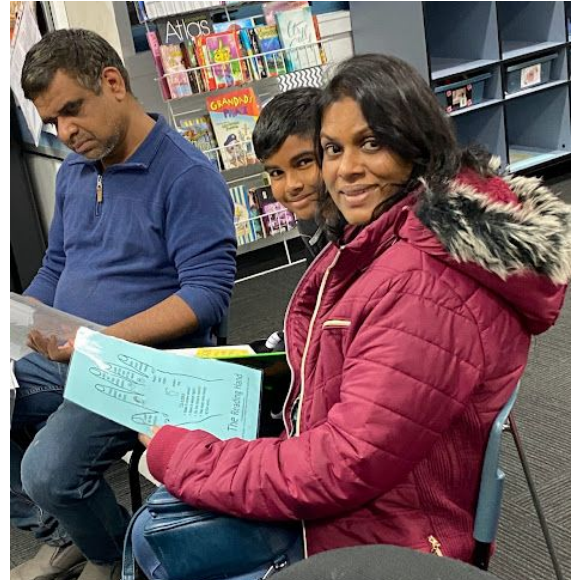
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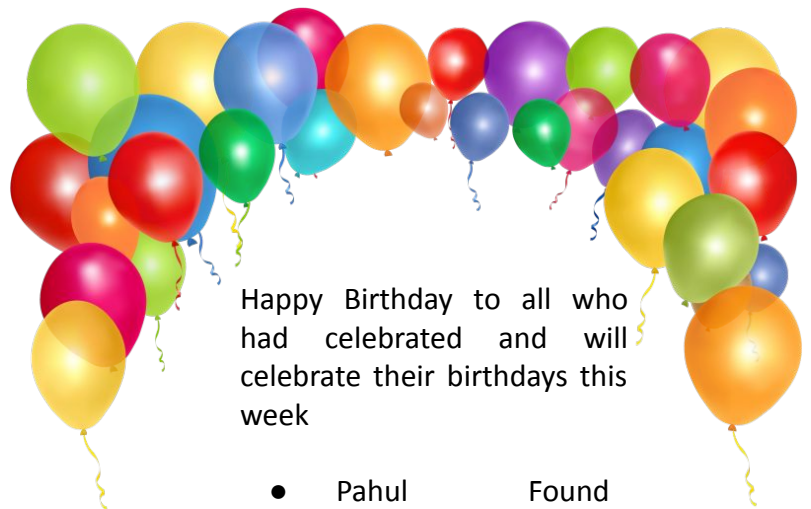
SENIOR YR LITERACY NIGHT



SENIOR YR LITERACY NIGHT



IMPORTANT DATES



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

- Pahul Found
- Gi'on Yr 2
- Anastasia Yr 3



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
- Syndal Softball Club
- Noble Park Junior football Club (AFL)
- Netball Dandenong
- Ukraine Support Fund
- Swimland Swim Club
- Noble Park Auskick Centre (AFL)



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.