

St Gerard's Primary School

NEWSLETTER

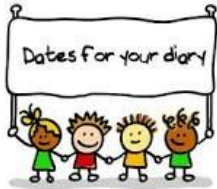


Term 4 Week 7

www.sgdandenongnth.catholic.edu.au

03 97917553

28 August 2020



Link for this week's
assembly: [28 August](#)

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Wishing those students
who celebrated birthdays
this week.

- Akash - 1/2FP
- Francis - 1/2B



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,

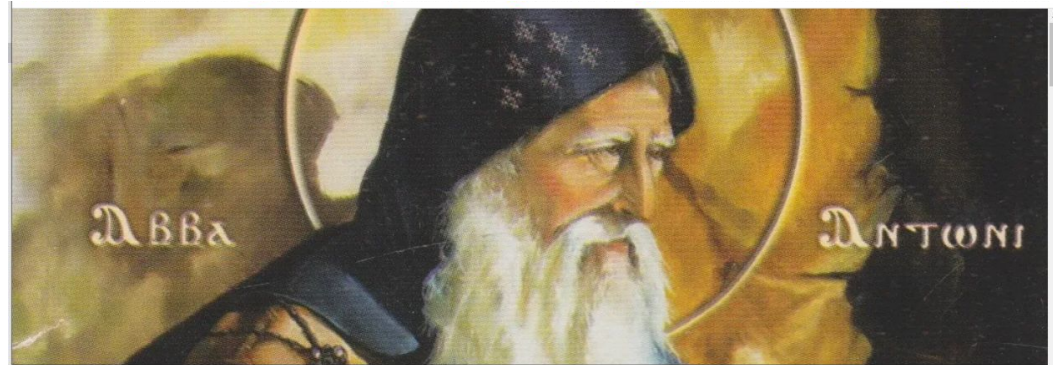
AMEN

Dear Friends,

We join with our brothers and sisters from the Maronite community here at St Gerard's and the entire Lebanese community in praying for the people of Beirut.



Eli Jaoude, School Captain, praying for the people in Lebanon



St Anthony the Great, well-loved saint in Lebanon

May the beauty of the gardens of Lebanon be restored.

May the peace shattered in Beirut be renewed.

May your children taken from this world by the blasts in Beirut,
be welcomed mercifully into your embrace.

And, may their loved ones who remain be comforted by all the
world's peoples.

In God's good name we pray. Amen.

St. Maroun, pray for us.

St. Anthony the Great, pray for us.

St Gerard, pray for us.

Principal - Mr Paul Cowan

principal@sgdandenongnth.catholic.edu.au
71 Gladstone Road, Dandenong North 3175

MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Families,

We find ourselves at the end of Week 7 with another week full of learning opportunities completed. As I have stated a few times over the course of the term **'every day of remote learning counts'**. Looking at the quality of work being submitted and from talking to staff this is a message that has been heard and acted upon. So once again **a big congratulations to our students, families and staff for continuing to support the learning of our students.**

Our **Give Me 5 focus** for this week was **Be Respectful**, in particular to animals and nature. Our faith requires us to not only respect but protect God's creations. We have been given a hint of warmer weather which provides us with the opportunity to get outdoors a little more and experience and recognise nature. Those of us with pets also appreciate the positive impact they can have on our wellbeing.

We received the news last Friday that **Father Shanthaiah Marneni MSFS** has been appointed as our new **Parish Priest**. Father is due to start in the parish on **16 September**, which is the last Wednesday of this term. As soon as I have more details I will share them with you. We will also be looking at ways we can welcome Father to our school community.

As mentioned last week, Mrs Fernandez conducted **Student Wellbeing sessions for parents**. The purpose of these sessions was to help parents monitor the wellbeing of their children. The link to the **video that was presented and the contact details of organisations** that can offer support are contained in this newsletter. **I strongly encourage families to use these resources if they have concerns about any member of their family.**

Enrolments for Prep in 2021 are filling fast. If you have a child who will be starting school next year please contact the office or myself. **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.

If your **family is experiencing challenges** with regard to **school fees** please contact the School Office or myself 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.**

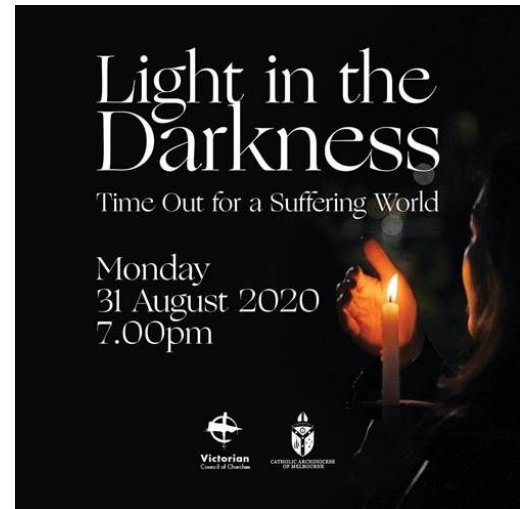
Lastly, if you have any concerns about your child(ren)'s learning, please contact their classroom teacher or myself.

Stay safe and God bless.
Paul Cowan - Principal

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS

Light in the darkness:

Time Out for a Suffering World. At 7pm on Monday 31 August, you are invited to light a candle, stand in your front garden and spend some time in silence and prayer to remember all those who have lost their lives to Covid-19 or to violence this year. As the first night of spring begins, let us look to the future with prayer and hope.



St Gerard's Talent Quest Auditions:

Early next term, as part of our celebrations for our Feast Day we will be holding our annual Talent Quest. This year our Talent Quest may be presented remotely. Children will need to audition for this event in the last week of term, which is likely to be conducted remotely.

Sacraments, 2020

All Sacraments for 2020 will be rescheduled due to COVID-19 to a date to be advised.

WELLBEING NEWS



WHAT DO WE MEAN BY DIGITAL MENTAL HEALTH?

Digital mental health refers to services delivered via digital platforms online, mobile or via the phone.

It also encompasses the use of social media and online support communities, which allows people to connect with others who are going through similar experiences or who share their interests.

Digital mental health services can be accessed in a confidential way – allowing children and young people to reach out for support when they may not be able to access support in the learning environment or broader community.

Online support services have been shown to support children and young people's learning, development, social networks, mental health and wellbeing. It can also provide access to opportunities to connect with others, and gain support, through the development of new skill sets to complement and build on their existing social and emotional competencies.

There are a range of online sites, services and supports available specifically for young people. The Be You [Wellbeing Tools for Students](#) is your essential guide to the online tools and other resources that will best support children and young people in taking care of their own mental health.

Wednesday 9 September

Webinar: Managing the Coronacoaster

In this live webinar for parents, adolescent and child psychologist, [Dr Michael Carr-Gregg](#) shares his tips on managing parent wellbeing and building resilience.

[Use this link to join this live session from 7.00pm](#) (using passcode 607251) or set your reminder [here](#).

WELLBEING NEWS CONT'D

CRAZY Hair Day

On Tuesday 25th August we celebrated 'Crazy Hair/Hat Day!' Have a look at some of the creative hairstyles and hats!



Give Me 5 News!

This week the whole school focus was 'Be Respectful'. The Prep-2 students created their own 'respectful flowers' and handed them out to family members who displayed respectful behaviours at home.

Congratulations to all of the family members who received a respectful flower this week, keep up the great work!



Garden to Kitchen News



Cook a meal with your family, write a short description of what you made and send photos of yourself and your family cooking together. Email your photos to [Mrs Fernandez](#)



A big thank you to all of the parents who attended the Student Wellbeing meeting this Thursday.

During this meeting we addressed the **wellbeing of our children** during the pandemic.

Please click [here](#) to access the video by Dr Michael Carr-Gregg which was presented during this meeting.

Please click [here](#) to access the Student Wellbeing Checklist.

Fancy Dress Day – check the mail in your fanciest clothes

On Tuesday 1st September we will be having 'Fancy Dress Day!' Take a photo of yourself wearing a fancy dress costume or your fanciest clothes while you check the mailbox.

Take a photo and send it to your teacher on Seesaw. Mums, dads, brothers, sisters and grandparents are invited to join in the fun too! We would love to see how creative your family can be!



ART NEWS

PREP - 2 ART

This week the Pre - 2's had to recreate their Crazy Hair styles.



Further Supports

If you or someone you know needs support:



In the event of an emergency, or if someone is at immediate risk of harm

