



St Gerard's Primary School

NEWSLETTER

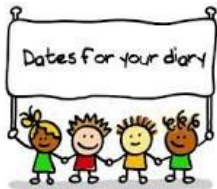


Term 4 Week 4

www.sgdandenongnth.catholic.edu.au

03 97917553

30 October 2020



Book Week Assembly Link
[Book Week Assembly](#)

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Apologies to the following children who were left off the birthday wishes last week -

- Tiffany - 3/4L
- Dhanya - 1/2 F&P
- John - 3/4L



The uniform shop will be open Monday mornings between 8:30 – 10:00 am. Access will only be available through the OSHC building.

REMINDER

UPCOMING SCHOOL CLOSURE DAYS

Monday, 2 Nov. - school closure
Tuesday, 3 Nov. - public holiday

All Saints Day



All Souls Day

November begins with a double feast in remembrance of those who have died. On Sunday we celebrate the Feast of all Saints. Many members of our own families have died and are now with God. We pray for them on Monday, 2nd, All Soul's Day. On both of these days, we are reminded of all who have lived as faithful Christians. They encourage us to grow in our own faith. Our Christian faith tells us that one day, we will all be reunited with God in heaven because we share in the resurrection of Jesus. This belief is known as the "Communion of Saints."

All through the month, we offer prayers to remember the dead and to thank God for their lives.

MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Families,

It is wonderful to be back into the mode of on-site learning and I would like to congratulate our students on the way they have transitioned back to school. While we have had to make some changes to what we have done in the past, we are still able to offer a variety of learning opportunities. An example of this was our celebration of **Book Week**. It was wonderful to see our school full of *Curious Creatures* and book characters on Tuesday. Classroom activities and class parades took place as well as the sharing of a picture story book via multi-media. Book Week is a timely reminder of the importance and joy reading can bring. Thank you to everyone that embraced these activities. Please take the time to look at our **Book Week Assembly that has been sent out via Seesaw**.

Today (Friday) is **World Teachers Day**. It was wonderful to see students arriving this morning with tokens of appreciation for their teachers. Please be assured that our teachers were humbled by them. Our staff continue to work to provide the best learning opportunities for our students and **I want to thank them for their dedication and commitment** particularly during Remote Learning.

While there has been an easing of restrictions in the wider community, **the health and safety of our students, staff and families is our first priority** at St Gerard's. Therefore, I am reminding parents of children who have **cold or flu-like symptoms, a cough, sore throat or fever are encouraged to seek medical advice**. With this in mind it is vital that **if your child is unwell they must stay at home**.

Our families continued **cooperation with our before and after school arrangements is greatly appreciated** and is keeping us all safe. I am asking for families to **use the Pedestrian Crossing and the path along the side of the Church when walking children to their cars**. This will help to keep a safe distance between pedestrians and cars.

Our families have **chosen a Catholic education** for their children and in the current challenging economic climate **we all need to support each other**. 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**.

Finally, a reminder that school is closed next Monday 2 November for a pupil free day and Tuesday 3 November for the Melbourne Cup Public Holiday.

God bless.

Paul Cowan - Principal

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS

Mission Walk Around Australia

In term 4, students are challenged to get fit and raise funds for Catholic Missions by using a map of Australia to track the distance they have covered when they walk (run, hop, skip, walk backwards, whatever) around the walking track that Rob has made for us on the oval. Students will be timetabled to walk around the track, 15 minutes a day for the whole term. The Mission Walk Around Australia will become our main fundraising event for Mission Month.

Carols Evening

Due to the COVID-19 restrictions, our Carols Event will be held remotely this year. We hope to distribute a Vimeo link to our Christmas event for families on Friday 11th December. More information will be available soon.

Important Dates for Term 4

All Saints Day	Sunday, 1 st November
All Souls Day	Monday, 2 nd November
Remembrance Day	Wednesday, 11 th November
Year 6 Reflection Day	Thursday, 19 th November
Advent Assembly at 2:30	Friday, 27 th November
First Sunday of Advent	Sunday 29 th November
Christmas Event (remote)	Friday, 11 th December

WELLBEING NEWS



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:

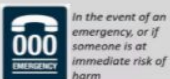
- physical responses (for example, heart rate, breathing and hormone levels)
- feelings
- thoughts and judgements associated with feelings
- action signals (for example, a desire to approach, escape or fight).

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.

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



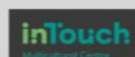
1800 55 1800



1800 015 188



Working together to end men's family violence
Men's Referral Service - 1300 766 491



9413 6500



1800 319 355



NATIONAL SEXUAL ASSAULT, DOMESTIC FAMILY VIOLENCE COUNSELLING SERVICE



<https://www.thelookout.org.au>



Dr Michael Carr-Gregg
SchoolTV - Child and Adolescent Psychologist

Please click [here](#) to access the video by Dr Michael Carr-Gregg which shares helpful information about transitioning back to school.



**CORONAVIRUS
THE TRANSITION BACK**

Special Report

Covid has been a trying time for most families. Here are the contact details of some organisations that may offer assistance if you or someone you know requires

Walk Around Australia

In term 4 students are challenged to get fit by using a map of Australia to track the distance they have covered when they walk around the walking track.

Classes are timetabled to walk around the track for 15 minutes per day.

Have a look at the red sticker dots below to see how far we have walked so far!!



Gardening Lesson

This week 3/4S enjoyed their Gardening lesson.

The students learned about the following concepts in the garden this week:

- composting
- worm farming
- planting seedlings
- harvesting (how to carefully harvest mulberries)
- weeding
- how to look after chickens
- ways to fix broody chickens

Have a look at some of the fun we had in the garden today!

Ride to School Day

A big thank you to all of the families who participated the Ride to School day on Friday 30th October.

Thank you to Aswin and Levi who helped out on the day.

Well done to:

1st place– 1/2B– (53%)

2nd place– 5/6VT(43%)

3rd place– Prep C (37%)



WELLBEING NEWS CONT'D



St Gerard's would like to offer parents 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 \$5 per dozen.

All proceeds from the sale of the eggs will go towards purchasing food for our feathered friends.

Please email Nicole Fernandez if you would like to purchase some eggs.



OTHER SCHOOL NEWS



THE FUTURE IS BRIGHT
ENROL NOW



Transition to Secondary School

Dear Parents and Carers

On behalf of St John's Regional College, I want to welcome back all students to Term 4 and express our thanks to all students, parents and carers for your continued resilience and support throughout this year. I know remote and flexible learning has not always been easy, but through our collective efforts, our students in Catholic schools have continued to make valuable progress in their learning.

Term 4 is important for every student, and our teachers will strive to deliver high-quality learning and ensure that every student is supported in their wellbeing, learning and transition needs.

Transition

During this term we will be focusing on the successful transition of Grade 6 students into the St John's community. Our Transition Co-ordinator Ms Julie Millar has already been in touch with students and families coming to St John's in 2021 regarding our Orientation Program on Wednesday 9 December.

We know some families are worried that their child may have to repeat a year due to the disruptions of coronavirus (COVID-19). There is little evidence to support the benefits of repeating a year to catch up. At St John's we will use teaching strategies that draw on the best evidence available to help students meet their learning needs.

Enrolment opportunities for Year 7 2021 and 2022 are still available and I encourage parents to contact our registrar Ms Symone Goodwin on 8793 2000 to enquire about enrolments for 2021 and ensure your child has a smooth transition to secondary school.

As the 2020 school year draws to a close the St John's Regional College community is moving forward full of hope. As we commence the construction of a new \$5m STEM facility at St Johns we envisage the future possibilities for learning, incorporating some of the lessons learnt in COVID lockdown. Developing skills in the areas of problem solving, communication, technology use, creativity and teamwork have never been more important as we have watched our world face and resolve the challenges of this pandemic.

Our school has shown it can be flexible and adaptable in responding to the challenges of 2020 and we will continue to meet student needs as we look towards the end of this school year and ahead to 2021.

Kind regards

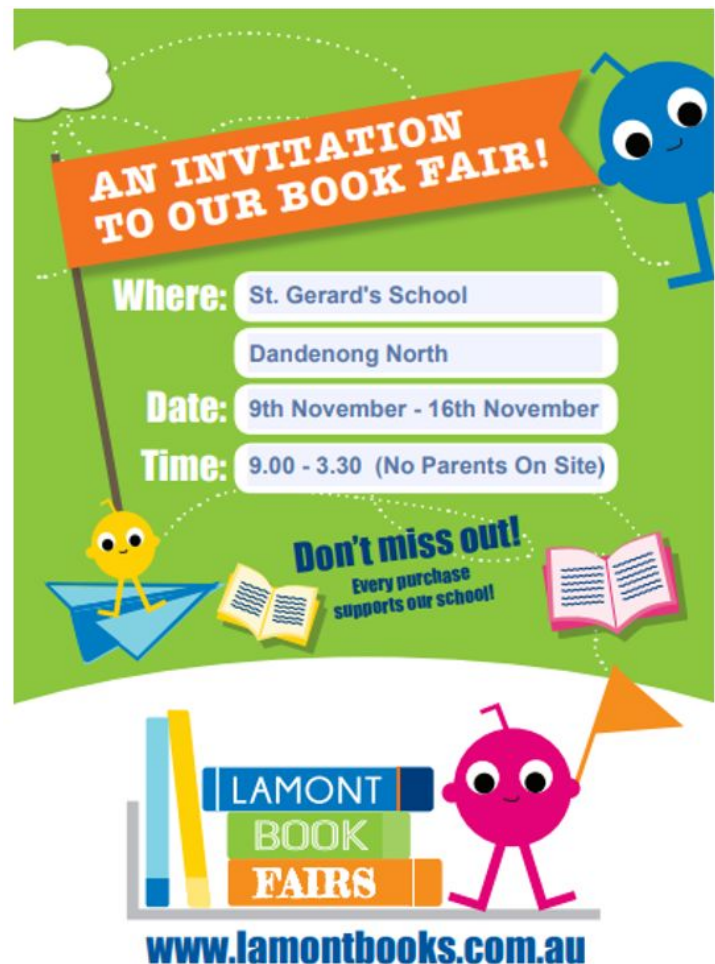


Tim Hogan
Principal, St John's Regional College
B Comm, Grad Dip Ed, Grad Dip Student Welfare,
Cert Theo, MEDL



Photo Day

Wednesday, 11 November



NBN Technicians will be working onsite on Wednesday, 4 November. This may cause some disruptions to our phone system.

BOOK WEEK 2020

CURIOUS CREATURES

WINNERS!!

BOOK WEEK

CURIOUS CREATURES

BOOK WEEK 2020

2020!

Curious Creatures

Book Week 2020

OSHC NEWS



Dear Parents,

Welcome back!

Youth Leadership Victoria is committed to the safety, wellbeing and protection of all children in our care.

We have implemented strict infection prevention and control measures to reduce the risk of spreading infections, guided by the Health and Education Departments.

- Children who are unwell and showing symptoms of COVID or have been directed to isolate are not to attend the service
- Each child will have their temperature checked upon arrival. If a fever of 37.7 Celsius is detected entry will be refused and the school notified.
- Social distancing of staff
- Regular cleaning of all surfaces
- Regular washing hands
- Hand sanitiser available near all "high touch areas"
- All staff have received additional training in infection control and supporting children through a pandemic
- All adults are to wear masks when picking and dropping children at the door
- Staff are to wear masks when travelling to work
- All parents/guardians are to sign children in and out at the table placed outside the service door.

Primary school students are not required to wear masks while they are at school even if they are 12 years of age. They should, however, wear their mask when walking to and from school.

Students of any age who wish to wear a mask are most welcome to do this. All staff must wear a mask on the yard and walking around the school, but this is not required during indoor time.

Change to bookings

We understand your needs may have changed since Stage 3 and 4 restrictions were introduced. Please confirm your booking via our website www.ylv.com.au, SkoolBag or your Lead Educator. Families will not be charged for absences for the remainder of Term 4.

We can't wait to see all your smiling faces

NO OSHC!

OSHC WILL NOT BE OPERATING ON MONDAY, 2 NOVEMBER DUE TO SCHOOL CLOSURE.