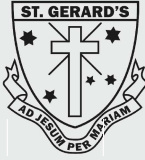


ST GERARD'S PRIMARY SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER



TERM 2 - WEEK 7

31 May, 2024



Year 5 & 6 Students After a Fun-Filled Camp Adventure

Heavenly Father,

We ask for Your blessing upon our students who are receiving the sacraments of Confirmation and First Communion this weekend.

May they feel Your presence and grace as they take these important steps in their faith journey. Fill them with the Holy Spirit, guiding and strengthening them in their commitment to live as disciples of Christ.

Grant them the courage to live out their faith with love and compassion, and may they always feel the support of our school community and their families. We pray that this sacred moment deepens their relationship with You and brings them closer to Your everlasting love.

Amen



@st.gerards3175

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71 Gladstone Road, Dandenong North 3175



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

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Dear Families,


This week has seen some milestone moments for some of our children in their faith and educational experiences.

Our **Year 6** children had their **Confirmation Reflection Day on Monday** and were visited by **Bishop Tony Ireland on Tuesday** as part of the final preparation for their **Confirmation which they will celebrate this Saturday 1 June**.

Our **Year 4** children had their **Eucharist Reflection Day on Thursday** and will receive their **First Communion this Sunday 2 June**. Please keep all these children and their families in your thoughts and prayers as they undertake these important steps in their faith journeys.

I would like to **acknowledge and thank Mrs Stack for her leadership and coordination of our Sacramental Programs and Mrs O'Brien, Mrs Te, Ms Sonno, Mrs Lewis and Mrs Govic for the classroom preparation and Reflection Days they conducted**. As a school it is always a privilege to be part of these preparations and celebrations in partnership with our families and the parish.

There was plenty of excitement on Wednesday morning as our **Year 5/6** children set off on their **school Camp**. This year we went to CYC Adanac which is located in Yarra Junction. Over the 3 days the children took part in a wide variety of activities including Archery, Hut Building, Aqua Pondering, Photo Hunt, Canoeing, Flying Fox, Low Ropes and Camp Cooking as well as a visit to Healesville Sanctuary on the way home. A fantastic time was had by everyone that went and I would like to **commend our children for the way they participated in activities, worked together and supported each other**. I would also like to **thank Mrs O'Brien, Mrs Jolly, Mr Milne (Rob) and Mrs S for the care and encouragement they provided and in giving up their own family time to create memorable experiences for our senior students**.

Looking to **next week**, we have our whole school **Italian Day next Thursday 6 June**, with a range of activities planned to enhance our Italian Program. Information was sent out via  **operoo** about this special day. Also, next Friday we will have our **Confirmation and First Communion Assembly on Friday 7 June at 2.45pm in the PAC**. Families are more than welcome to come and hear the children's reflections and congratulate them.

Finally, a reminder to **families that arrive before 3.25pm 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**. **The safety of our students and their families is always our first priority and we want to make the end of the day as safe as possible**.

Thank you for your ongoing support and God bless

Paul Cowan
PRINCIPAL



Religious Education



Religious Education



Children reflected on their spiritual journey during the First Communion reflection day.



Religious Education

Sacrament Dates, 2024

First Communion: (Grade 4)

First Communion: Sunday 2nd June, 10:30am
First Communion Assembly: Friday 7th June, 2:50pm

Confirmation: (Grade 6)

Confirmation: Saturday 1st June, 5:30pm (conferred by Bishop Ireland)
Confirmation Assembly: Friday 7th June, 2:50pm

Whole School Masses:

Friday 7th June The Most Sacred Heart of Jesus at 9:15

Other Important Dates:

Refugee Week: 16th to 22nd June
Refugee Week Paraliturgy: Friday 21st June, 2:50



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

St Vincent De Paul Winter Appeal:

We aim to pack our food cart to capacity once again for the St. Vincent De Paul Winter appeal. Beginning in week two, our Social Justice and Spirituality Leaders will collect food items until the Feast of the Sacred Heart of Jesus. The class that contributes the most items will enjoy a casual dress day as a reward.

Camp 2024



Camp 2024



Camp 2024



Religious Education



Altar service practice will take place every Thursday evening at 5:30 pm in St. Gerard's Church. To be eligible for service, individuals must have completed their First Communion. This provides a wonderful opportunity for young members of the Church to participate in the liturgy and take on the responsibilities associated with altar service. For any inquiries regarding altar service practice or eligibility, please feel free to contact the parish office at 97924422.

An Invitation to Bring Mary Home

An Invitation to Bring Mary Home: A Week of Family Spiritual Connection

We extend an invitation to families to bring the Our Lady statue into their homes for a week, enhancing their family prayer experience. A brochure containing instructions for engaging in rosary prayer, along with sets of rosary beads, will be provided. If you are interested in taking the Our Lady statue home, please let Mrs. Stack know.



Wellbeing



Facts from the Be You website

What's resilience?

Resilience refers to the ability to manage everyday stressors and challenges.

Resilience enables people to shift back along the mental health continuum towards good mental health. A child or young person's ability to be resilient can depend upon many things and can change depending upon their situation. Importantly, specific situations or events that one child or young person may find challenging, another may not. Learn more about how you can help [build resilience in children](#).

A child or young person who is resilient might:

- be optimistic
- use positive self-talk for encouragement
- have a positive sense of self
- identify and express their feelings and thoughts
- not hide away from strong feelings
- have helpful, age-appropriate strategies to manage their emotions when upset
- rearrange their plans to work around an unexpected situation
- have a sense of agency or responsibility
- keep on trying if something doesn't work out and use their judgment about when to stop
- hold a sense of purpose or hope for the future
- actively ask for help if they need it
- feel a sense of attachment to family, their learning community and to learning.

Wellbeing

Walk or Ride To School

Thursday, 6th June 2024



Thursday, 6th June is a Ride to School Day. Students are encouraged to walk or ride to school from home or from a nearby drop off point. If your child doesn't normally walk to school, you could do this together.

Students who ride are given a sticker and the class who has the most students riding or walking get to keep our Ride to School trophy in their classroom for that month.

Students can ride bikes, skateboards or scooters.

They must wear a helmet at all times.

Upon arrival at school, students must hop off their bike or scooter and lock up their bike or scooter in our bike parking area (in front of the Performing Arts Centre).

IMPORTANT DATES / NOTES



ENROL IN KEYBOARD LESSONS IN TERM 2

Excel Music is currently accepting new enrolments for their keyboard lessons commencing in Term Two 2024. These lessons are held during school time at a cost of \$15.00.

To enroll your child, please obtain an enrolment form from the school office or email music@excelmusic.com.au.

Please note that if your child is already enrolled in our music lessons, you do not need to complete another form. To cancel lessons, please contact Excel Music via the above.

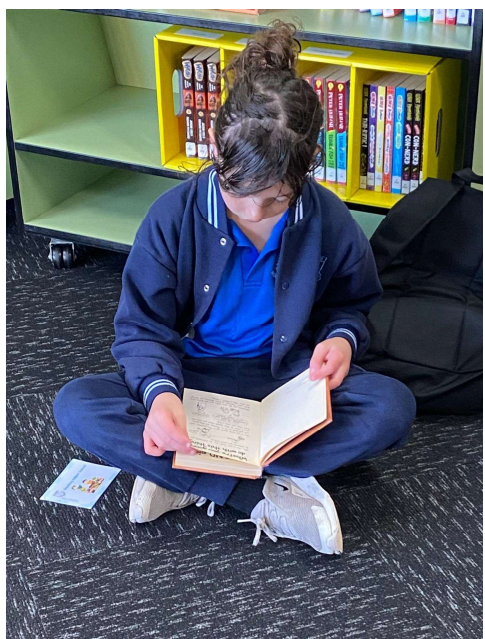
Enrol now!

June

- 1st Confirmation at 5:30pm
- 2nd First Communion at 10:30am
- 5th Before School Reading in the library from 8.30am
- 5th Rosary in the Church at 11:05am
- 6th Italian Day
- 6th Ride/ Walk to School Day
- 7th Confirmation and First Communion Assembly in the PAC
- **10th King's Birthday Public Holiday**
- 12th Before School Reading in the library from 8.30am
- 19th Before School Reading in the library from 8.30am
- 26th Before School Reading in the library from 8.30am
- 27th Subway Lunch
- **28th End of Term 2 - school finishes at 3.30pm**

Reading before School

Every Wednesday morning 8:30am



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 **AFTER** contacting AGS 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



A reminder to families that arrive before 3.25pm 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.

IMPORTANT DATES / NOTES

Medical Plans And Asthma Plans

Just a reminder to parents to provide the school with updated medical and asthma plans for 2024. If your child has asthma or requires other medications please supply ventolin, spacer and medications on the first day back to the school office.

All medications will be stored in individually labelled bags in the school office.

Pick-up From After-School

Parents are asked to please be prompt when picking up your child/ren after-school. If a ride is not here when school concludes, the student may be sent to aftercare instead of the office. Please remember school aftercare does have a cost involved and time will begin accruing at the end of the school day. If a student's ride has run into an unexpected delay, please call the main office to let them know.

St Gerard's YLVOSHC

Program Information

Service Phone Number: 0402 192 685



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

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

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

YLV.COM.AU

**IMPORTANT
NOTICE**

OSHC

We kindly request that if you have booked your child for after school care and they are unable to attend due to illness or any other reason, please notify us immediately. Your timely notification allows us to effectively manage and allocate our staff to ensure all children receive the best care possible.

24 Hr notice is required to avoid charges.

Please do not text on weekends. This is not monitored regularly over the weekend.

Please do not bring sick children to before and after school care so we can respect and keep other children safe.

Additionally, for safety reasons, please do not arrive or drop your children off before 6:45 am. Our staff will not be available to supervise children before this time.

Thank you for your cooperation and understanding. Marina from YLV

Important Information



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

- Gi'on Yr 3
- Anastasia Yr 4
- Blessed Yr 2
- Nevyn Yr 4



- *Every Day Counts* - Primary School Attendance Information
- Ukraine Support Fund
- Springvale Indoor Sports - Indoor Soccer
- Auskick (AFL)
- North Dandenong Masala Junior Football Club (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 **\$7** 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.