

St Gerard's Primary School

NEWSLETTER



Term 3 Week 8

www.sgdandenongnth.catholic.edu.au

03 97917553

3 September 2021

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Wishing the following student(s)/staff who celebrated their birthday this week a very happy birthday!

- Oscar - 1/2F

Stay at home,
be safe,
be healthy.

Current restrictions see the students continue online learning for the remainder of Term 3



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



God our Father, we give you thanks and praise for fathers young and old.

We pray for young fathers, newly embracing their vocation; may they find courage and perseverance to balance work, family and faith in joy and sacrifice.
We pray for fathers around the world whose children are lost or suffering; may they know that the God of compassion walks with them in their sorrow.

We pray for men who are not fathers but still mentor and guide us with fatherly love and advice.

We remember fathers, grandfathers and great grandfathers who are no longer with us but who live forever in our memory and nourish us with their love. Amen.

MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear families,

The onset of Spring and a taste of warmer weather was certainly welcomed this week.

While the announcement last Wednesday that **we would not be returning to school this term** wasn't unexpected, it was still greeted with some disappointment. This does however create some certainty and allows us to plan the next 2 weeks of Remote Learning and **finish the term on a positive note**.

Please stay connected with us. I encourage families to contact the school via Seesaw, email or phone if we can help in any way. I appreciate that this can be a challenging time in many ways for families and my thoughts and prayers are with our school community.

Our **Give Me 5 focus** for this week was to **Be Cooperative**. This is particularly important for all of us at the moment not only in our learning but in all aspects of life. Being cooperative has a positive impact on those around us and ourselves.

As I mentioned last week, the **2021 NAPLAN results** were released this week. Families of Year 3 and 5 students have had their results posted out to them. If those families have not received them by next Monday please contact the Office. As well as individual reports, the school obtains information about **trends and growth over time**. This information is useful as it helps us to plan future professional development for our staff which then impacts on student learning. After having an initial look at this data, our school has performed well which is a credit to our students, their families and our staff.

This week we had our **School Review** which is conducted every 4 years. This involves us reflecting on key areas of education, collecting evidence, analysing data and auditing our policies and procedures. A part of this process involves an independent School Reviewer who would normally spend a few days at our school. As is the way with COVID-19 **this was conducted online via Google Meetings**. The next stage in this process is that we receive feedback from the Reviewer and then start to formulate our next School Improvement Plan for 2022 - 2025.

Finally, I would like to wish all our fathers and significant males a happy **Father's Day** for this coming Sunday. The love, support and guidance of a father is lifelong and the positive impact they can have should never be underestimated.

It is truly a blessing to be a father.

Please continue to stay safe.

God bless.

Paul Cowan

Principal

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS

Further Postponement of First Communion and Confirmation

We regret to inform you that due to a further extension to the existing lockdown, First Communion and Confirmation Masses have been postponed once again. We apologize for any disappointment to your families and thank you for your understanding. Stay tuned for the newly chosen dates which will be sometime in term 4.

St Gerard's Talent Quest Auditions

We traditionally celebrate our Feast Day by hosting a talent quest. This year, due to possible restrictions, our talent quest will be held remotely a second year in a row.

The divisions will be as follows:

- Prep
- Junior School
- Middle School
- Senior School
- Family Acts

Challenge: film yourself doing one of your special talents; singing, acting/storytelling, dancing (cultural dance is a favourite), gymnastics, magic, slam poetry or stand up comedy. Acts should be 1-3 minutes long. Bonus points when you involve other St Gerard's students, include costumes/props or interesting backdrops. Respond by uploading your video onto the Talent Quest Activity on Seesaw.

Items that pass the auditions will automatically be entered into our Digital Talent Quest to be viewed at 2:30 on Friday 15th October (Saturday 16th is our actual Feast Day)





What is help-seeking?

Help-seeking is a positive coping strategy.

Help-seeking could mean asking for assistance with day-to-day events such as learning experiences, and relationships (e.g. negotiating with peers on a task or managing anxious feelings).

It could also mean seeking help for developmental queries or general health matters, including mental health. Examples include speech and language delays or behavioural challenges.

Help may come in many shapes and forms. It could come from within the learning community or from external agencies, resources and organisations.

It may occur through daily interactions and conversations between educators, children and young people, and families. Other good sources of information and support are brochures, fact sheets, reputable websites, family, friends and health professionals.

Support may be focused on the children and young people, their families or the school, or a combination of both. The goal in providing support is to find the best possible pathway to maintain or improve the wellbeing of children and their families.

Why is help-seeking important?

Seeking help is important because it can foster children and young people's mental health and wellbeing.

There are a range of influences and experiences – both positive and negative – that impact on an individual's mental health. These influences and experiences are known as risk and protective factors.

Being able to ask for help can act as a protective factor because help-seeking can lead to accessing resources that support mental health and wellbeing.

When children and young people view help-seeking positively, it builds a sense of agency and confidence that they can influence their world and receive help if needed.

Children and young people who have a positive experience of help-seeking are empowered to access available supports in future.

Getting help when needed may buffer the impact of risk factors that challenge a person's mental health and wellbeing.

The earlier individuals can access support, the better. Issues that aren't addressed can become more difficult to manage, continuing to affect the child or young person as they grow.

FAMILY COOKING

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 at

nfernandez@sgdandenongnth.catholic.edu.au.



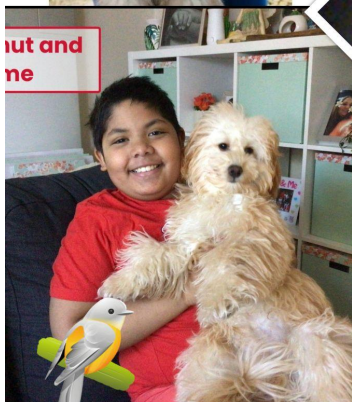
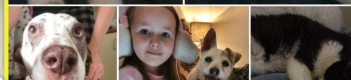
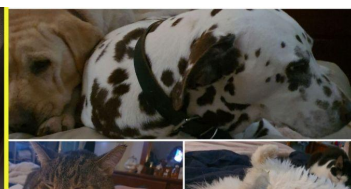
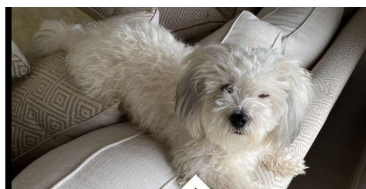
GIVE ME FIVE NEWS

Next week we will be focusing on 'Being Cooperative at Home and School'. Please take a photo of your family being their best at home and email your photo to Mrs Fernandez at

nfernandez@sgdandenongnth.catholic.edu.au.

Build a Fort Day!

On Tuesday 7th September you have a challenge to design and build your own indoor or outdoor fort! Be as creative as you can and see how many family members you can fit into your fort. Take a photo of your fort and upload it to Seesaw.



Pet Day!

VISUAL ARTS NEWS



Visual Arts

This week the junior classes have been decorating facemasks using digital technology to colour in and add emojis. While the Year 3 - 6's have been making their own digital avatars.

Visual



OTHER NEWS



Level	Colouring Competition	Dress Up-Student	Writing Competition	Book Week Scavenger Hunt
Prep	Dhanvin Ranganath	Evelyn Burdo	Elaine Ebin	
1/2FP		Jerome Gnanasuresh	Chelsea Vilorio	
1/2L		Mila Roberts (Individual) Dhanya (Family Dress Up)	Sophia Fernando	
3/4C		Kanwer Walia	Jacob Appan	
3/4S		Karen Skaf	Krystn Santosh & Emmanuel Jaison a tie!	
5/6VT		Trevor Fernando	Alessia Trovarelli	Aswin
5/6O		Petro Ferens	Dominique Perumal	Jaskirat Walia

