



# St Gerard's Primary School

# NEWSLETTER

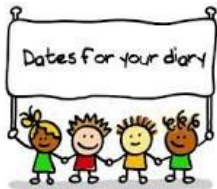


Term 2 Week 8

[www.sgdandenongnth.catholic.edu.au](http://www.sgdandenongnth.catholic.edu.au)

03 97917553

5 June 2020



## School Assembly Link

Link to our assembly for this week:  
[5 June 2020](#)

# HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Wishing the following students a happy birthday for this week:

- Biyamaria - 5/60
- Eli Jaoude - 5/60

We hope you have a great day!!!

CONGRATULATIONS  
JOSHYNA



## In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, Amen.

This Sunday, we reflect on the mystery of the Holy Trinity. Our God is one, yet also three. In Sunday's Gospel we hear the well-known verse, John 3:16.

***'God sent his Son so that through him the world might be saved'***

This verse tells of God's great love in sending us his only Son. Indeed, God's love for His Son is so profound as to become the third Person in the Trinity, the Holy Spirit.

At times we have an inclination to favour one of the Persons in the Trinity over the others in prayer. Personally my prayers have a tendency to be directed towards the Holy Spirit, and only sometimes do I pray to God the Father or to Jesus. Maybe during this time it would be good to pray to God in another Person of the Trinity, or to reflect upon the three-yet-one nature of our God.

***God, we praise you:  
Father all powerful,  
Chris our Lord and saviour,  
Spirit of Love.***

***You call us to share in your life and love;  
one God, three persons.  
Amen.***

# MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Families,

Welcome to the last day of Remote Learning.

We are all very excited to be welcoming back our **Year 3, 4, 5 and 6 students next Tuesday 9 June**. I would like to again thank our families for their support in continuing the learning of our children. It is often said that educating children is a **partnership** between the **family, the child and the school**. This has never been more evident than throughout this term.

**Information was sent out via email and Seesaw earlier this week** to ensure the smooth return of our Year 3 - 6's. That information is also contained in this Newsletter. I encourage **our whole school community** to make sure they are aware of our new processes and procedures.

**I suggest that families talk to their children about where they will be picked up from after school** as this will help to avoid confusion. **Please refer to the map which is part of the information.**

With **our new before and after school arrangements**. 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.

**The health and safety of our students, staff and families is our first priority** at St Gerard's. **If you do have any questions or concerns please contact myself via email: [pcowan@sgdandenongnth.catholic.edu.au](mailto:pcowan@sgdandenongnth.catholic.edu.au) , phone 9791 7553 or send me a message via SeeSaw.**

Thank you to the families that have contacted us about **Prep enrolments for 2021**. 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**. We are **getting enquiries from new families** so it is important that we know how many places are required for current families.

A reminder that if your **family is experiencing challenges** with regard to **school fees** please contact the School Office or myself [pcowan@sgdandenongnth.catholic.edu.au](mailto: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.

Finally, with the **'St Gerard's Family'** back together, we will be focussing on **re-establishing our routines and relationships**. We will also be working on our **Semester One reports** which will be sent home in the last week of term. While these reports will look different to previous ones, they will still give information on what has been taught and student achievements.

More information about these reports will follow in the coming weeks.

Stay safe and God Bless.

Paul Cowan - Principal

# RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS

## **Meditation and Assemblies during Remote Learning:**

An attempt to replicate meditation that we normally have on a Monday Morning and Assembly we normally have on a Friday afternoon will happen through remote learning. Please look out for the Seesaw messages as they come through.

## **Sacraments**

All sacraments have been postponed due to COVID 19 until further notice.

## **Important Dates:**

Refugee Week Assembly:	Friday 12th June @ 2:30 (Lead remotely by Social Justice team)
Refugee Week:	Refugee Week 14th to 20th June 2020
Sacred Heart of Jesus Assembly:	Friday 19th June @ 2:30 (led remotely by Liturgy Captains)

## **Support those impacted by COVID-19**

Once again we'll aim to have our food cart to be filled to the brim for the St Vincent de Paul Society who are collecting food in these tough times, compacted by the effects of COVID-19. Your donation will help reduce hunger and minimize a major stress for families. Our social justice leaders will coordinate a food collection from week nine and the collection will finish at the end of the term. The class that brings in the most items will win a casual dress day. Please donate to this worthwhile appeal.

## **Seasons**

The Seasons program, which offers children a safe space to come together and share their experiences of change and loss will be postponed until further notice.

## **Stay Connected: Mass Online**

During the COVID 19 pandemic, Mass online is available from our new parish website:

<https://www.saintgerardparish.com>.

## **Booking for Mass**

From Monday 1st June we will have an increased limit of **20 people** to attend Mass.

The booking period is for Monday 8th to Sunday 14th June. Please be mindful that some people still haven't had the opportunity to attend Mass in the last few weeks. Even with the additional Masses we are still only able to accommodate less than a quarter of our parishioners each week. It is important that for each person a separate booking is made as we are required to collect the details of all attending.

You can book a place for an upcoming Mass [HERE](#)

## **Mass Times**

Tuesday - 9:15am, 6pm  
Wednesday - 9:15am, 10:45am  
Thursday - 9:15am, 6pm  
Friday - 9:15am, 10:45am  
Saturday - 9:15am, 5:30pm  
Sunday - 10:30am, 5:30pm





## What is SEL?

A sense of self, emotional skills and social skills are at the core of SEL.

### Sense of self

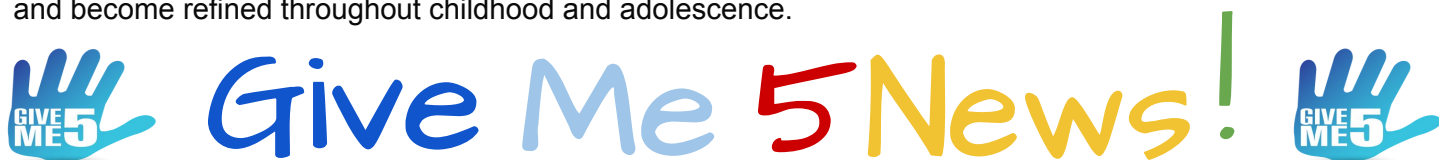
Ideally, this involves feeling good about themselves and what they can do. As children and young people experience success in their efforts to interact with others and explore their world, they develop self-confidence and see themselves as capable. This motivates them to continue engaging in new experiences and feel optimistic about the future.

### Emotional skills

Emotional skills include recognising, expressing, understanding and managing a wide range of feelings. These help children and young people develop the ability to interact successfully with others and the world around them. Children and young people who can understand and manage their feelings are more likely to develop a positive sense of self and be confident and curious learners.

### Social skills

These skills are about getting along with others. Through their first relationships, children learn they can trust others to care for them and meet their needs. As they grow, children learn to relate to others by watching, imitating and trying out new behaviours. They begin to understand they can have an impact on others and that other children may have different thoughts and feelings from their own. These skills continue to grow, develop and become refined throughout childhood and adolescence.



This week in our SEL lesson we revised the "**Being Cooperative** in the learning areas" expectations from our Give Me 5 matrix.

The Prep to 2's discussed the importance of being Cooperative in the learning areas by following directions, moving safely, staying on task, sharing with others and helping each other.

The students worked collaboratively to determine if a scenario demonstrated students being cooperative or not. The student's role played different scenarios of how they could be cooperative in the learning areas.



A big congratulations 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.

### Prep C

Well done to Matej, Denay, Ruby, Anastasia and Azalea.

### 1/2FP

Well done to Akash, Rachel, Dhanya, Jacob and Alina.

### 1/2B

Well done to Benita, Ariana, Anjanna, Adity and Jeremiah.

Keep up the great work boys and girls!!



# OTHER SCHOOL NEWS

ST GERARD'S SCHOOL  
71 Gladstone Road,  
Dandenong North Vic 3175  
Phone: 9791 7553  
Fax: 9793 7633



3 June, 2020

## **Year 3, 4, 5 and 6 Return to School Procedures and Processes**

Dear Year 3, 4, 5 and 6 Families,  
I hope that this letter finds you and your family safe and healthy. Our staff are very excited and looking forward to seeing our Year 3, 4, 5 and 6 students **next Tuesday 9 June**. The health and safety of our students, staff and families is our first priority at St Gerard's and with this in mind we have implemented a number of procedures and processes to keep us all safe.

These procedures and processes are based upon the Catholic Education Commission Victoria (CECV) '*Return to School – School Operations Guide Term 2, 2020*' and '*Health and Safety Advice for Returning to Onsite Learning in the Context of COVID-19*'.

While the Chief Health Officer has advised that students will not be required to maintain physical distancing at school, there will be a number of important changes to our school operations, consistent with health advice to all schools.

**Please read the information below carefully.**

### **Parent Access to the school**

- Due to physical distancing continuing for adults, parents will be unable to access the school site.
- If parents need to contact a staff member please use Seesaw, email or phone the school (9791 7553). I thank you in advance for your cooperation.
- Families are asked to not congregate in groups near the front of the school, in the carpark or the Office foyer due to physical distancing advice.
- The Office foyer can have a maximum of 3 people at any given time.

### **Start of the day**

- Both the entry gates will be open at 8.30am.
- A staff member will be positioned at the front of the school to assist with car flow/pedestrian traffic and remind adults that they are not to be onsite.
- A staff member will be positioned at the gates to welcome students and remind adults that they are not to be onsite.

### **Recess and Lunch breaks**

- Due to the size of our playground space, staggered recess and lunch breaks will not be required.

### **End of the day**

- Both the entry gates will be open at 3.30pm.
- A staff member will be positioned at the gates to farewell students and remind adults that they are not to be onsite.
- A staff member will be positioned at the front of the school to assist with car flow/pedestrian traffic and remind adults that they are not to be onsite.
- Classes will be brought around to the front of the school by their classroom teacher.
- Prep, Year 1 and Year 2's already have a designated area to be picked up from and these will remain the same.
- Year 3's will wait on the other side of the Office entrance (left hand side as you look at the front of the school).



# OTHER SCHOOL NEWS

- Year 4's will wait near the cross that is in front of the new building (near the pedestrian crossing).
- Year 5 and 6's will wait in the usual pick up place (underneath the St Gerard's Sign).
- Families with children across Year levels will wait in one of two areas.
- Families with a Surname from A- H will wait together as a family in the area between the school and the Church (there will be no access to the Carpark between the Church and the Hall at this time).
- Families with a Surname from I-Z will wait together as a family near the steps of the Church.
- Additional staff will be present to supervise these areas to assist with students getting into cars and walking home.
- For those families walking home or walking to cars that are parked, please use the Pedestrian Crossing and the path along the side of the Church.
- For family using the car pick up lane, please be extra mindful of pedestrians.
- Please make sure that people collecting children are familiar with these procedures.



## School Pick up Arrangements from Tuesday 9 June, 2020



### Other health and safety measures

- Students will be reminded by teachers and staff to wash their hands regularly throughout the day and regular times for handwashing will be organised by the classroom teacher.
- Each class will have designated taps for handwashing with soap.
- Students are to bring their own drink bottle of water as the drinking taps cannot be used.
- Each class will have a designated tap or water dispenser for re-filling their drink bottle if required throughout the day.
- Each student will be provided with their own pack of essential items (pencils, pens, glue stick etc.) which will be individually named. These will be stored in an individually labelled bag.
- Students will have their own designated seat and work space with as much space as possible between students.
- Italian lessons will be conducted in classrooms as will most Arts lessons.
- P.E. lessons will be as 'equipment free' as possible and equipment that has been used will be sanitised.

### Cleaning throughout the School Day

- Significant additional cleaning will be conducted throughout every school day by our cleaning company this will include items such as high touch areas (eg: door handles, entry and exit points, handrails, playground equipment, sports equipment), sinks and taps being used for handwashing and water bottle filling, toilets and emptying bins.



## OTHER SCHOOL NEWS

### Reminders

- Students will need to be in full school uniform.
- Any devices (iPad or Chromebook) borrowed from the school need to be returned.
- Library books, take home readers need to be returned.
- Any items borrowed can be brought into the Office foyer.

As we have had our Prep – Year 2's transition back to school very successfully, I am confident that it will be the same for our Year 3 – 6's. It will be wonderful to have the 'St Gerard's Family' back together!

I understand that some families may feel anxious about this move back to classroom teaching and learning. I can assure you that this decision has been taken on the basis of the best health advice available to our state.

**If you do have any questions or concerns please contact myself via email:**

**[pcowan@squdandenongninth.catholic.edu.au](mailto:pcowan@squdandenongninth.catholic.edu.au) phone 9791 7553 or send me a message via Seesaw.**

Thank you for your continued support.

Paul Cowan  
Principal

## OTHER NEWS



- ✓ Newly Refurbished Centre
- ✓ Fun Filled Outdoor Playground
- ✓ Qualified Professional Educators
- ✓ Nutritious Food served Daily
- ✓ Comprehensive Kindergarten Program
- ✓ Stimulating Child Friendly Environment





**Young Einsteins Early Learning Centre is a socially responsible child care facility that represents quality and 'value for money'.**

We are dedicated to providing parents with a 'best in class' service accompanied by a high quality education program that will enrich your child's development in their formative years.

Young Einsteins is a culturally diverse centre focused on embracing all traditions and cultural values into the care and nurturing of each child. The centre creates a safe and welcoming environment where children feel a sense of homeliness.



3 Florence Court Dandenong North  
Contact Penny ☎ 8759 3703 or 0497 100 162  
✉ [info@youngeinsteins.com.au](mailto:info@youngeinsteins.com.au)  
[youngeinsteins.com.au](http://youngeinsteins.com.au)

**opening hours**  
Monday - Friday  
6.30am - 6.30pm

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**coming soon!**  
Children Pick Up and Drop off Service within 5km radius  
(to and from residence)