

ST GERARD'S PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

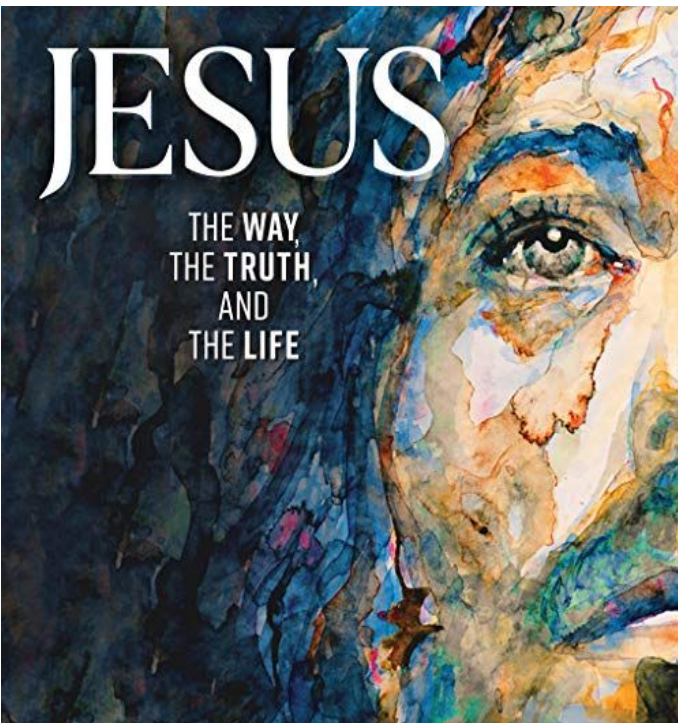


TERM 2 - WEEK 2

5th MAY, 2023



"Get ready to be Spirit-filled, our Give Me Five value next week! 🔥 Let our Confirmation Candidates lead the way 🙏 #SpiritFilled #GiveMeFive"



In this week's Gospel Jesus talks about himself being 'the way, the truth, and the life'.

Dear Lord,

As our Confirmation candidates prepare to take this important step in their faith journey, we ask for your guidance and blessings to be upon them. Help them to truly understand the message that you are the way, the truth, and the life.

May they always seek your path and follow your teachings, knowing that you are the only true way to salvation. Grant them the wisdom to discern the truth in a world full of falsehoods and to always choose the path that leads to righteousness.

As they continue on this journey, may they find comfort in the knowledge that you are with them every step of the way. May they experience your love and grace in their daily lives, and may they share that love with others.

We pray that as they incorporate this message into their lives, they will become shining examples of your love and truth to those around them. May they bring hope, joy, and peace to all they encounter, and may their faith be a beacon of light to a world in need.

We ask all of this in the name of your son, Jesus Christ, who is the way, the truth, and the life.

Amen.



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

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Dear families,

We have come to the end of our first full week of the term and it has been wonderful to see how quickly everyone has settled back into the routines which enhance our children's learning.

On Monday **Bishop Tony Ireland visited our Year 6 Confirmation Candidates** who are in the final stages of their preparation to receive this third Sacrament of Initiation. It was lovely to see our children sharing their faith and understandings with the Bishop. Please keep these children in your thoughts and prayers over the next week as they will be **confirmed on Saturday 13 May at 5.30pm** in St Gerard's church.

Our school was smiling more than usual on Tuesday as we had our **School Photos**. If families still wish to order photos this can be done online with all the details included on the order envelopes.

Our **Wednesday morning 'Before School Reading' in the Library from 8.15am** has returned for Term 2. This allows our students and their families to come and read together and is a positive way to start the day especially as the weather gets colder. There is a standing invitation to all our children and their families to come along.

Information was sent out this week via Seesaw regarding our **Mother's Day celebration**. An invitation is extended to all our Mother's and Mother figures of our children. This will occur **next Friday 12 May starting at 2.30pm in the PAC**. Our guests will be provided with afternoon tea and our school will then gather to recognise, thank and celebrate these very significant people. I look forward to seeing you there.

Enrolments for 2024 are open and new families are invited to come and see all the things we offer here at St Gerard's. Our **Open Days for Term 2 are on Tuesday 16 May, Wednesday 31 May and Thursday 15 June**. If you know families who are looking for a school in 2024 they are more than welcome to come on one of those days from 9.15am - 5.00pm at a time that suits them or they can contact the School Office on 9791 7553 or email: principal@sgdandenongnth.catholic.edu.au to arrange a meeting and school tour with myself.

Lastly, a reminder to those families who have children with a **Medical Management Plan** that if there are changes to any aspect of the plan they need to **contact the School Office**. It is vital that the **information we have here at school is current and accurate**.

God bless.

Paul COWAN
PRINCIPAL

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Sacrament Dates, 2023

First Communion: (Grade 4)

First Communion Reflection Day:	Thursday 8th June (children may wear casual clothes)
First Communion:	Sunday 11th June, 10:30am
First Communion Assembly:	Friday 16th June, 2:50pm

Confirmation: (Grade 6)

Confirmation Reflection Day:	Thursday 9th May (children may wear casual clothes)
Confirmation:	Saturday 13th May, 5:30pm (conferred by Bishop Ireland)
Confirmation Assembly:	Friday 19th May, 2:50pm

Whole School Mass:

Wednesday 24 th May	Our Lady Help of Christians at 9:15 (Parish Mass)
Friday 24 th June	Sacred Heart of Jesus at 9:15 (Parish Mass, Adoration available throughout the day)

Class Mass:

5/6O:	Thursday 18th May, 10:15am
3/4S:	Friday 19th May, 10:15am

St Vincent De Paul Winter Appeal:

Our goal is to fill our food cart to the brim once more for the St Vincent De Paul Winter appeal. Starting from week two, the Social Justice and Spirituality Leaders will gather food items, and the collection will end on the Feast of the Sacred Heart of Jesus. The class that donates the most items will earn a casual dress day.

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

TO ALL THE SPECIAL MOTHERS & MOTHER FIGURES



WELLBEING



Growing a mentally
healthy generation



Facts from the Be You website

What is resilience?

Resilience enables people to shift back along the [mental health continuum](#) towards good mental health. It's not static but is something that can change over time due to experiences and circumstance.

Resilience is particularly important for children and young people

A child or young person's ability to be resilient can depend upon many things, particularly their relative balance of risk and protective factors. Depending upon their situation, a child or young person's resilience may vary. Importantly, specific situations or events that one child or young person may find challenging, another may not.

The transition from being a child to an adolescent to a young adult occurs over a relatively short period of time. Rapid changes in physical, psychological and social development can present numerous challenges. Children and young people who are more resilient are better able to stay on track with the biological, psychological and social demands of growing up and moving through early childhood into adolescence and beyond.

Being resilient is associated with better academic performance and school behaviour and, over the longer term, fewer mental health issues and greater life opportunities (including employment and relationships). Individual resilience (as well as family and community resilience) is something that can be fostered and developed over time.



WELLBEING

Give Me 5 News

This week the Give Me Five focus was 'Be Cooperative'.

Next week our whole school focus will be on 'Spirit Filled in the learning areas.' The students will be participating in a lesson where they will discuss examples and non-examples of how to be 'Spirit Filled' when working in the learning areas.



St. Gerard's Give Me 5 Whole School Matrix



Principle	Learning Areas	Corridors	Toilets	Playground/Sandpit
Be Respectful	Speak appropriately and use manners Care for property Take turns Whole body listening Greet people by name	Speak appropriately and use manners Care for property <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Keep the area neat and tidy 	Speak appropriately and use manners <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Give other users their privacy Care for property <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Keep toilets tidy and flush Wash hands	Speak appropriately and use manners Care for property <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Place rubbish in the bin Keep sand in the sandpit and bark in the garden Include others Respect everyone's views and space
Be Co-operative	Follow Directions Move safely Stay on task Share with others and help each other	Follow Directions Move safely <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Walk on the left hand side of the corridor to exit and the left hand side to enter 	Follow Directions Move safely Wait for your partner	Follow Directions Move safely Play fairly <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Accept rules Take turns Share and use equipment safely
Be Your Best	Keep hands, feet and objects to yourself Ask for help	Keep hands, feet and objects to yourself Only enter the area with permission	Keep hands, feet and objects to yourself Report problems to a teacher	Keep hands, feet and objects to yourself Try to solve your problems
Be Positive	Never give up			Encourage others
Be Spirit filled	Treat others as you would like to be treated. Pray daily and during meditation	Treat others as you would like to be treated.	Treat others as you would like to be treated.	Treat others as you would like to be treated. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Say sorry and forgive others Be kind

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 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

IMPORTANT DATES



Happy
BIRTHDAY



Happy Birthday to all
who had celebrated and
will celebrate their
birthdays this week

- Sherhom Yr 6
- Evolet Yr 2
- Mary Yr 6



Family Literacy
Workshops

Save the Date: 18th May
From: 6.00 pm - 7.00 pm

COMMUNITY NOTICEBOARD

- Springvale Indoor Sports - School Holiday Program
- Syndal Softball Club
- Noble Park Junior football Club (AFL)
- Netball Dandenong
- Ukraine Support Fund
- Swimland Swim Club
- Noble Park Auskick Centre (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 \$6 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.