



St Gerard's Primary School

NEWSLETTER



Term 3 Week 4

www.sgdandenongnth.catholic.edu.au

03 97917553

6 August 2021

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Wishing the following students who celebrated their birthday this week a very happy birthday!

- Katalina - 1/2L

POSTPONED

Subway Lunch

New Office Phones

Please don't hang up! The office has recently upgraded the telephone system and it may sound a little different than before. It also allows you to leave a message to advise if your child will be absent.

Stay at home,
be safe,
be healthy.

it's a girl

Congratulations to Mila in 1/2L on the safe arrival of her little sister - Ensie! What a beautiful blessing in these uncertain times.



Our Year 6 students came together last Wednesday for a Reflection Day to reflect, prepare & pray in readiness for their Sacrament of Confirmation today.



We gather to celebrate the Spirit of Jesus within each of us, and to confirm our Candidates in the gifts of the Spirit, drawing them into deeper participation in our community. Congratulations to Abigail Appelman, Isabella D'Costa, Antonette Ivan, Pieta Jada, Beyonca Nisanthan and Arielle Punsalan who will receive the Sacrament of Confirmation.

Prayer to the HOLY SPIRIT



PRAYER TO THE HOLY SPIRIT
COME, HOLY SPIRIT,
FILL THE HEARTS OF YOUR FAITHFUL.,
AND REKINDLE IN THEM THE FIRE OF YOUR LOVE.
SEND FORTH YOUR SPIRIT
AND WE SHALL BE CREATED,
AND YOU SHALL RENEW
THE FACE OF THE EARTH

O GOD, WHO INSTRUCTED THE HEARTS OF THE
FAITHFUL BY THE LIGHT OF YOUR DIVINE SPIRIT,
GRANT US BY THAT SAME HOLY
SPIRIT TO BE TRULY WISE AND TO REJOICE IN
YOUR CONSOLATION THROUGH THE SAME
CHRIST, OUR LORD.
AMEN

MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear families,

I hope that this Newsletter finds you all safe, well and good.

Once again we have returned to Remote Learning due to the Lockdown announced yesterday afternoon. I appreciate and acknowledge that this can be challenging in many ways for families and my thoughts and prayers are with our school community at this time.

While learning modes may be different we continue to provide opportunities for our students to develop. Resources can be collected from the School Office from 8.30am - 5.00pm if you have not already done so. Please **check Seesaw** for assigned work and Google Meetings set by your child's teacher. **As always, I encourage families to contact the school via Seesaw, email or phone if we can help in any way. Please stay connected with us.**

Due to the current circumstances we have had to **postpone** the celebration of the **Sacrament of Confirmation which was due to be celebrated tonight (Friday)**. We do not have a new date at this point in time. Please be assured that as soon as we can reschedule this significant celebration we will communicate it to you.

At this stage there has been **no decision with regard to First Communion**, scheduled for 14 and 15 August.

Yesterday (Thursday) saw our **Preps celebrate their 100th Day of School**. There has been a theme throughout the week on 100 which has seen our Preps focus on this number in Maths, write about **'When I am 100 years old'** and bring 100 of something to show the class among other activities. A big thank you to Mrs Bruno and the Prep families for making this such a special day (week)

This Sunday is the **Feast of St Mary of the Cross (Mary MacKillop)**. Being Australia's first saint obviously makes this feast day significant but also her contribution to education endears her to schools. Together with Fr Julian Tenison Woods, she **founded the Sisters of St Joseph of the Sacred Heart and established a number of schools and welfare institutions throughout Australasia** with an emphasis on education for the poor, particularly in country areas. She is truly a great role model for all Australians.

A message was sent to all families this week via Seesaw about **enrolments for Prep in 2022**. If you have a child who will be starting school next year please contact the School Office. **Existing families are our first category for enrolments**. We are **getting enquiries from new families** so it is important that we enrol our existing families as soon as possible.

I mentioned last week that our **2020 Annual Report to the School Community** has been published on our school website and the School Office can provide you with a hard copy if you would like one.

God bless.

Paul Cowan
Principal

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS

Sacrament Dates, Term 3 2021

Please note that arrangements for Sacraments may change based on Federal and State Government health advice.

First Communion: (Grade 4 and 5)

First Communion Reflection Day:

First Communion:

Monday, 9th August

Saturday 14th August at 5:30pm &

Sunday 15th August at 10:30am

(Parish Mass Times)

First Communion Assembly:

Friday, 20th August at 2:50 pm, parents invited

Confirmation: (Grade 6)

Confirmation:

Confirmation Assembly & Living Rosary:

Postponed due to COVID lockdown - Date TBA

TBA

Parish Masses

Years Prep, 5/6

Years 4/5:

Thursday, 9th September at 9:15 am

Thursday, 12th August at 9:15 am followed by Reconciliation TBC

Confirmation Postponed

Due to the current COVID-19 outbreak, Confirmation has been postponed. A new date will be announced soon, but till then, stay indoors and stay safe! We are sorry for the disappointment and inconvenience and thank you for your understanding and continued support. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact Mrs Stack.



Whole School Living Rosary

The Living Rosary will be celebrated on to honour Our Lady for the Feast of the Assumption. The senior students will lead the Rosary with student representatives from each class invited to contribute. Families and Parishioners will be invited to attend, COVID restrictions permitting. Date and time to be advised.

St Gerard's Talent Quest Auditions

Early next term, as part of our celebrations for our Feast Day we will be holding our annual Talent Quest. Children will need to audition for this event in the last week of term.

WELLBEING NEWS

STUDENT COUNCIL



The Student Representative Council (SRC) is made up of a group of students who want to help other students by presenting ideas which are of benefit to all students. The SRC also informs its peers of any important information which affects the student body.

On Monday 2nd August the Semester Two SRC reps of St Gerard's attended their first meeting. Thanks to Catherine Vinod from 3/4S for sharing her thoughts on the first meeting.

My SRC Experience. By Catherine Vinod

When I got elected to become an SRC on behalf of my class, I was thrilled. After going to the first meeting, I realised what a great opportunity it was for me. During the meetings, we were to share our ideas and opinions to make St Gerard's an even better school than it already was. My role was to collect the feedback from my classmates about their thoughts on different parts of the school and share it during the meetings. I think it is important to have a student voice impact throughout the school decision making process and I am grateful that our school allows this. Overall, I would say that it was a wonderful experience and I am truly grateful.

Class	Student Rep 1	Student Rep 2
Prep B	Roy	Evelyn
1/2L	Edwin	Mila
1/2FP	Sajin	Chelsea
3/4C	Luke	Ella
3/4S	Aditey	Catherine.V
5/6VT	Eva	Aswin
5/6O	Petro	Ella T

WELLBEING NEWS CONT'D



Look after yourself

Make time to look after yourself so you're in a better position to support those around you. Children and young people's emotions can be affected by how adults are feeling.

Try to maintain your routines, know your limits, debrief with trusted family or friends and try to do things you enjoy to manage your stress levels.

The Be You website provides information on [wellbeing tools](#) and how to practise [mindfulness](#), which can help with stress management. The Beyond Blue website provides more information on how to [look after your mental health during the coronavirus outbreak](#).

The St Gerard's Garden Stall by Alessia T

Hello!

If you don't already know, our school has a garden stall. It sells fresh produce from our garden and eggs from our lovely chickens. But to keep our chickens healthy we run the garden stall to buy supplies for them and the rest of the garden. Here are some of the produce that our stall sells: eggs, rainbow chard, parsley, plants, jams, lemons, oranges and of course there is more!

If you would like to purchase some items our stall is held every fortnight on Mondays at 3:15pm. The stall is run by our S/6 students who put lots of effort into keeping the stall running. If you have any fresh produce growing at your home, we always accept donations. And everything is sold for a.....

FRESH GOOD PRICE!

(By Alessia and the rest of the garden stall)



GIVE ME FIVE WEEK

Next week we will be focusing on 'Being Spirit-Filled at Home and School'. Please take a photo of your family being spirit-filled at home and email your photo to Mrs Fernandez at nfernandez@sgdandenongnth.catholic.edu.au



Kitchen to Garden



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.

BOOK WEEK 2021



This year Book Week is celebrated from 21st – 27th August. The theme for Book Week 2021 is 'Old Worlds, New Worlds, Other Worlds'. We have a very exciting Book Week planned this year! More details will be sent home with students next week. In the meantime, here are some costume suggestions to help with your dress up ideas.



DINOSAURS

GLADIATORS

VICTORIAN



ALIENS

ASTRONAUTS



MERMAIDS

MONSTERS

WIZARDS

FAIRIES

UNICORNS

DRAGONS

OTHER SCHOOL NEWS

