



St Gerard's Primary School

NEWSLETTER

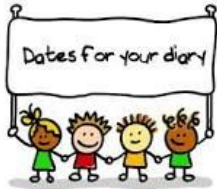


Term 4 Week 3

www.sgdandenongnth.catholic.edu.au

03 97917553

7 August 2020



Link for this week's
assembly: [7 August](#)

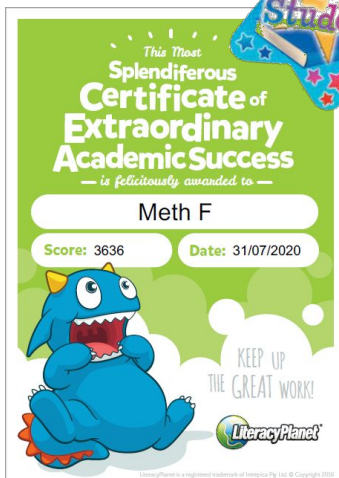
HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Wishing those students
who celebrated
birthdays this week.

- Katarina - Prep C
- Matthew - 5/6O



**CONGRATULATIONS
TREVOR, 2 WEEK IN A
ROW**



St Mary of the Cross Feast Day 8 August

Tomorrow we celebrate the feast of St Mary of the Cross. Mary was a person who showed complete trust and faith in God. She didn't worry about what she had because she wanted to focus on the things that really mattered. She loved the poor deeply and believed God would provide. Even when times were very tough, Mary trusted in God.)



Novena to St Mary of the Cross

Most loving God we thank you for the example of
St. Mary of the Cross MacKillop,
Who in her living of the Gospel witnessed
To the human dignity of each person.
She faced life's challenges with faith and courage.
We pray through her intercession
for the end of this Pandemic
We make this prayer through
Jesus the Lord. Amen

MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Families,

As we come to the end of another week full of learning opportunities, I am continually inspired by the way our children, families and staff are **rising to the challenges of Remote Learning and Stage 4 restrictions**.

Our **Give Me 5 focus** for this week was **'Be Cooperative'**. This could be seen as a timely reminder to our families and the wider community. While our families are spending more time together at home, cooperation not only contributes to harmony but positive experiences. For our community, it means following the current rules and directions for the good of all. Something for all of us to keep in mind.

This **Saturday** is the **Feast of Mary of the Cross MacKillop (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 Father 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.

Our families have **chosen a Catholic education** for their children and in the current economic climate **we all need to support each other**. If your **family is experiencing challenges** with regard to **school fees** please contact the School Office or myself 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**.

Prep enrolments for 2021 are open and places are filling fast. 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**, however we are **getting enquiries from new families** so it is important that we know how many places are required.

A reminder that we have our **Monday morning Meditation and Friday afternoon Assembly online**. The **links for these are sent out via Seesaw**. This is a fantastic way to see the learning that is happening and to stay connected with our school community. I would like to thank all the children, families and staff that support these important school events.

Finally, **if you have any concerns about your child(ren)'s learning, please contact their classroom teacher or myself**. With Remote Learning, the partnership between families and school is vital.

Stay safe and God bless.
Paul Cowan - Principal

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS

An Invitation for families or individuals to Participate in an online Living Rosary:

St Gerard's Primary School will come together to celebrate the Feast of the Assumption of Mary at our assembly on Friday 14th August (the 15th is a Saturday). Replacing the attendance of Mass due to COVID-19, we will be have an online "Living" Rosary. If you would like to participate, all you need to do is video yourself (family or individual) praying the Hail Mary or the Our Father and email it to Mrs Stack. These prayers will then be collated to create a Living Rosary. If you have any questions, please contact Mrs Stack.

Tips for if you would like to to join in:

- Film in landscape
- Pray slowly
- Prepare a prayer space with a statue of Mary or flowers (optional)
- Email your video to Mrs Stack (dstack@sgdandenongnth.catholic.edu.au)

To Know, Worship and Love (KWL) Digital Text

All students have been given access to the digital version of the, To Know, Worship and Love, (KWL) Religious Education textbooks through their School Email Address. **Access is very easy**

Year 3-6 Students:

All you need to do to access the KWL app for the first time is to click on the following website:

1. <https://app.kwl.com.au>.
2. Then click on the "Sign in with Google" button (giving your email address and password)

Year Prep-2 Students:

All you need to do to access the KWL app for the first time is to click on the following website:

1. <https://app.kwl.com.au>.
2. Use the Username and password provided to your through Seesaw

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. This year our Talent Quest may be presented remotely. Children will need to audition for this event in the last week of term, which is likely to be conducted remotely.

Sacraments, 2020

All Sacraments for 2020 will be rescheduled due to COVID-19 to a date to be advised.

Other important dates:

St Mary of the Cross MacKillop Feast Day	8th August
Whole School Living Rosary	14th August at 2:30, during assembly
Feast of the Assumption	15th August
Level Talent Quest Auditions:	Last week of term

HOW TO HELP YOUR CHILDREN DURING COVID 19

Here are Ms Bagley-Jones' tips for discussing COVID-19 with your children:

- Assess what they know already. Find out what they understand so you know where to start
- Don't dismiss or minimise your child's fear – validate their concerns. It is reasonable to be concerned because they have probably never experienced anything like this before
- Make your explanation age appropriate, provide facts, and keep it positive. Tell them scientists and doctors are working on treatments. Reassure them that most people only get cold-like symptoms
- Give them some control over what is happening. Teach the importance of handwashing and how to do it properly, remind them of their responsibility to protect others from coughs and sneezing. If they are very young, make a game of having good hygiene
- Make it an opportunity to learn. Talk about how our bodies fight viruses. Understanding the science can alleviate fears.
- Remind children that no-one should be ostracised or bullied because they have been associated with the virus
- Do not make it a one-time conversation. Keep checking in to see if they need reassurance or if they have any new questions

The potential spread of the coronavirus in the community is worrying for many parents.

Ms Bagley-Jones said it was important to remember our mental health as well as our physical health.

This information was taken from the following website –

<https://www.msn.com/en-au/health/medical/how-to-talk-to-your-children-about-coronavirus/ar-BB10IGhR?li=AA2FZ8I>



Prep - 2 Family Picnics



This week the whole school focus was 'Be Cooperative'. The Prep to 2 students planned a picnic and focused on being cooperative by taking turns to talk and sharing food with their family. They also enjoyed the beautiful weather over the weekend with their family and toys. Have a look at some of the glorious picnics!

Garden to Kitchen News

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
nfernandez@sgdandenongnth.catholic.edu.au



ART NEWS

Year 5 - 6 tudents were asked to visit the National Gallery of Victoria Kids website where they could explore artists from all over the world and read their stories. Each artist has included an art activity and this week activity was to draw an imaginary Tree House, inspired by Alexandra Kehayoglou. [Art Activity Link](#)



Dear parents, guardians and carers

Re: Nationally Consistent Collection of Data on School Students with Disability (NCCD)

Every year, all schools in Australia participate in the Nationally Consistent Collection of Data on School Students with Disability (NCCD). The NCCD process requires schools to identify information already available in the school about supports provided to students with disability. These relate to legislative requirements under the *Disability Discrimination Act 1992* and the *Disability Standards for Education 2005*, in line with the *NCCD guidelines* (2019).

Information provided about students to the Australian Government for the NCCD includes:

- year of schooling
- category of disability: physical, cognitive, sensory or social/emotional
- level of adjustment provided: support provided within quality differentiated teaching practice, supplementary, substantial or extensive.

This information assists schools to:

- formally recognise the supports and adjustments provided to students with disability in schools
- consider how they can strengthen the support of students with disability in schools
- develop shared practices so that they can review their learning programs in order to improve educational outcomes for students with disability.

The NCCD provides state and federal governments with the information they need to plan more broadly for the support of students with disability.

The NCCD will have no direct impact on your child and your child will not be involved in any testing process. The school will provide data to the Australian Government in such a way that no individual student will be able to be identified – the privacy and confidentiality of all students is ensured. All information is protected by privacy laws that regulate the collection, storage and disclosure of personal information. To find out more about these matters, please refer to the [Australian Government's Privacy Policy](https://www.education.gov.au/privacy-policy) (<https://www.education.gov.au/privacy-policy>).

Further information about the NCCD can be found on the [NCCD Portal](https://www.nccd.edu.au) (<https://www.nccd.edu.au>).

If you have any questions about the NCCD, please contact the school.

Kind regards

Principal