



St Gerard's Primary School

NEWSLETTER



Term 1 Week 2

www.sgdandenongnth.catholic.edu.au

03 97917553

4th February 2022

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Happy birthday to those students and staff who have celebrated their birthday this week:!

- Amy - 4/5T
- Jacob - 1/2L



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



@st.gerards3175



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



Pictured above is the Year 5/6O prayer cloth that was presented at our Give Me Five Assembly today. Each class created and presented their prayer cloth which will be used as a focus throughout the year.

In the gospel this Sunday we are going to hear a very important lesson that Jesus was teaching his followers. **What makes us happy?** Many people think that having 'things' is the answer - toys and gadgets, fancy clothes and holidays. Yet Jesus knows that these things do not bring lasting happiness. We are created to be with God; God alone can fill the longing in our hearts and bring us happiness that lasts.

Dear Jesus,

You call us to live humbly and to always trust in you no matter how hard life may seem. Help us to trust in you.

Amen

MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear families,

This week saw the second of our **Give Me 5** weeks.

We have again provided our students with the opportunities to build and strengthen their relationships with their new classmates and teacher(s). They have gained further experience of our **Give Me 5 principles of Be Spirit Filled, Be Respectful, Be Cooperative, Be Positive and Be Your Best** through a variety of activities. This week our students took part in a Bike Education session and engaged with *WildLife Exposure*. We concluded Give Me 5 weeks with an online assembly where classes shared reflections and presented their class prayer cloths. I would like to acknowledge **Ms Nicole Fernandez** for her organisation and coordination of all the events over the past 2 weeks, it has certainly helped us have a very positive start to the year.

The health and safety of our students, staff and families is our first priority at St Gerard's. As communicated previously, we have a range of strategies as part of our **COVID Safe Procedures and Protocols**. Student **Rapid Antigen Tests (RATS)** for the next 2 weeks are available for collection from the school Office. This will enable students to be tested twice each week for the following 2 weeks.

A reminder to our families that if you wish **to enter any of our school buildings**

you are required to:

- be fully vaccinated (show vaccination certificate)
- sign in using our school QR Code
- wear a face mask
- sanitise your hands

QR codes and hand sanitiser are located at the entrances to our buildings. Thank you for your continued support in keeping our school community safe.

If you have any concerns or questions, please feel free to contact me by phone: 9791 7553, email: principal@sgdandenongnth.catholic.edu.au or Seesaw.

As a school we want to be able to communicate as efficiently as possible with our families. Please ensure that the school has **a current email address** and that you are **able to access and use Seesaw**. If at any time your contact information changes please inform the School Office.

Our **uniform supplier has now moved to online orders**. Please see details of how to order online in this newsletter.

Continue to stay safe and God bless.

Paul Cowan

UNIFORM SHOP ONLINE ORDERS



AGS PRINTS Pty Ltd
Wholesalers of Quality Schoolwear & Uniforms
In House Design & Printing
www.aplusschoolwear.com.au

BOR NO: 2010 / 2532

ADDRESS: 133 BAKERS ROAD
NORTH COBURG
VIC, 3058

PHONE: 03 9354 8345
FAX: 03 9354 5777
E-MAIL: info@agsprints.com.au

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

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS

Class Mass

This year we will be introducing Class Masses. Each class will prepare a Mass which is an opportunity to encourage the involvement of all in the co-design and organisation of prayer within our St Gerard's community.

4/5T:	Thursday 10th March
3S:	Thursday 24th March
5/6O:	Thursday 7th April
Prep B:	TBA for Term 2
1/2FW:	TBA for Term 2
1/2L:	TBA for Term 2

Important Dates for Term 1

Friday 11th February: Give Me Five Whole School Assembly, Prayer Mats presented.

Tuesday 1st March: Shrove Tuesday, Subway Lunch for students who pre-order.

Wednesday

2nd March:

Ash Wednesday: Ashes will be distributed in the classrooms.

Wednesday

17th March:

St Patrick's Feast Day, students wear full school uniform with a touch of green.

Week 10:

16th April:

TBA)

The Passion (Time and date TBA)

Bishop Ireland will celebrate Easter Vigil at St Gerard's (Time

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS

Sacrament Dates, 2022

First Reconciliation: (Grade 3)

First Reconciliation Family Workshop:	Thursday 17th February, 7pm
First Reconciliation Reflection Day:	Wednesday 15th March
First Reconciliation:	Thursday 17th March at 7pm (previously 18th March)
First Reconciliation Assembly:	Friday 25th March at 2:50pm

First Communion: (Grade 4)

First Communion:	TBA
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Confirmation: (Grade 6)

Confirmation Information Night:	TBA
Most Rev. Anthony J. Ireland Visit:	Thursday 19th May, 9:15am
Confirmation:	Saturday 21st May, 5:30pm

Seasons - A Program for Grief and Loss

Seasons is a peer support program for children and young people who are experiencing grief and loss in their lives. This loss may be the result of a death, separation or divorce.

This valuable program will become available in Term 2. If you have any questions about the program, please don't hesitate to speak to your classroom teacher or to Mrs. Stack.

Project Compassion

Caritas Australia's annual Lenten fundraising and awareness-raising appeal. Millions of Australians come together in solidarity with the world's poor to help end poverty, promote justice and uphold dignity.

Project Compassion Boxes will be distributed to each class during Ash Wednesday Mass. Each class will have a target amount that they would like to raise during lent. Regular updates, by the Social Justice Leadership Team, with the amount raised so far will be announced at the school assembly.

Meditation

Thank you to everyone that has remembered that we begin each day with meditation. If you arrive late to school and the meditation bell has already gone, you need to wait in the office area until meditation time has finished.

Give Me Five Week

Every year each grade spend the first two weeks of school exploring our Give Me 5 values:

- Be Respectful
- Be Cooperative
- Be your Best
- Be Positive
- Be Spirit Filled

We do this because we think relationships are very important and we know we learn best if we are in a classroom where everyone is being respectful, co-operative, and positive, trying their best and trying to do the things God wants them to do. We know if we make good choices in the classroom and on the playground, we can learn and be happy at school.



Incursions during Give Me 5 Week

This week the students participated in a Bicycle Network Active Maps incursion where the students studied a map of Dandenong to explore a safe route to walk, scoot and ride to School.

On Thursday the students enjoyed a visit from Wild Life Xposure where they had the opportunity to learn about wildlife and meet some furry, feathery and scaly friends.

Have a look at some of the fun we had!

On Friday the students enjoyed eating and dancing at the whole school picnic. A big thank you to our amazing Wellbeing Leaders Hope and Trevor for organizing the event!!





Walk to School Day

A big thank you to all of the families who participated in Walk to School day on Monday 7th February.

Congratulations to 1/2FP who had the most students walking, riding and scooting to school!!

Well done to:

1st place - 1/2FP with 83% walking, scooting and riding.

2nd place - 3S with 75% walking, scooting and riding.

3rd place - 5/6O with 65% walking, scooting and riding.





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.

- From the Be You website

Community Notice Board

Finally, we have requests from a number of community groups to promote their activities and services. Flyers are placed on our **Community Notice Boards** located in the courtyard and a current list is contained in this newsletter.

Lyndale United Football Club (Soccer)

Dandenong Basketball

Soccer 5's

Nobel Park Community Centre Art Show

Nobel Park Junior Football Club (AFL)

