



St Gerard's Primary School

NEWSLETTER



Term 1 Week 3

www.sgdandenongnth.catholic.edu.au

03 97917553

18th February 2022



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

- Chudier - Yr 2
- Jsaiah - Yr 6



Congratulations to proud Richard and his family on the safe arrival of baby **Vincent**.



@st.gerards3175



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



Blessing of Leaders wearing their new Leader's Hat.

Gracious God,

look with love and kindness on these young people before us ...

As they begin their role as leaders in this community, fill their minds with wisdom, understanding and right-judgement, and fill their hearts with justice, compassion and peace.

Bless them with good health, energy and vitality.
Bless them with joy and gladness, laughter and fun.

May they be willing to listen to others with openness and respect and be always ready to give of their time and serve others willingly.

May they look first to the abandoned, rejected and lonely in our midst, preserving their dignity and acting with kindness and understanding.

May they always strive to be honest, hardworking and faithful to the values of our school and inspire others to be the best versions of themselves.

As they begin this new journey, may their words and deeds be women with gospel values so that other may always experience your love and care through them.

Amen

Principal - Mr Paul Cowan
principal@sgdandenongnth.catholic.edu.au
71 Gladstone Road, Dandenong North 3175

BLESSING OF THE LEADER'S HAT



MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear families,

We are well and truly into the new school year with our children back into the routines of school.

Last night (Thursday) our Sacramental Program commenced with our **Year 3** children and families participating in our **Reconciliation Family Workshop**. It was wonderful to connect with these families again, albeit online, and work with them to support their children in this important step in their faith journey. Reconciliation is a key pillar of our faith with us recognising we are human and therefore need to ask for forgiveness and forgive others.

A key aspect of children learning is having the right support around them. Earlier this week information was sent out regarding our **3 Way Conversations**. This allows for our students, their families and teachers to come together and share information. These will occur next **Tuesday 22 February from 2.00pm - 6.00pm**. Due to current health advice and operating guidelines, they will be **held online**. Please refer to the information sent out or contact the School Office.

I am pleased to announce that **Mrs Nadia Te** will be joining our staff and will be teaching **Year 4/5T** on Thursdays and Fridays. Nadia is familiar with our school and Year 4/5T having worked with us as a Casual Replacement Teacher over the past few years and in 4/5T this year. I am sure you will welcome her to our school community.

On Friday 4 March we have our school **Athletics Carnival** which will be held at **Knox Athletics Track, Bunjil Way, Knoxfield**. This is a wonderful opportunity for our whole school to come together, have fun and develop/display our sporting skills. Families are more than welcome to come and spectate but need to follow the current health advice and the COVID Safe requirements of the venue. Please ensure that the **Medical Information and Permission Form is returned to school by Tuesday 1 March**. This promises to be a wonderful day.

Yesterday (Thursday) the Victorian Government announced that **existing COVID Safe measures in schools would continue until the end of Term 1**. This means that **Rapid Antigen Tests (RATS) will continue to be provided as they have been so far this year**. One change is that from 6.00pm Friday 18 February (tonight) QR Code check-ins will not be required for schools. As I receive more details I will communicate them to you as soon as possible. Thank you once again for your 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.

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

Finally, as I mentioned last week, 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.

Continue to stay safe and God bless.

Paul Cowan

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

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 Reflection Day:	Tuesday 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

Students who display the expectations present on the school Matrix are rewarded with a raffle ticket from their classroom teacher. Once a month the raffle tickets from each class are collected and drawn during Fridays assembly.

The raffle tickets were drawn on the 18th of February and the lucky winners will be announced in next week's newsletter.



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 right 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



Student Representative Council

SRC

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 Thursday 24th February the SRC reps of St Gerard's will attend their first meeting. The SRC reps will be voted in by their class and announced in next weeks newsletter.

Lunchtime Gardening Club

At St Gerard's students have the opportunity to learn about the garden during our lunch time Gardening Club. This week we collected parsley seeds, collected chicken eggs, harvested zucchinis, weeded and watered the plants.



What is self-regulation?

Self-regulation is learning about your own feelings and emotions, understanding how and why they happen, recognising them (and those of others), and developing effective ways of managing them.

When children and young people learn to self-manage their emotions, they feel more confident, capable and in control. They have stronger relationships, are more able to pay attention, learn new things and can cope better with the normal stresses and disappointments of daily life.

• How can you help?

Children and young people need repeated experiences of having their needs met by a caring adult.

Warm, trusting and responsive care helps children to respond with appropriate emotions, internalise a positive view of themselves and others, and learn appropriate behaviour. Children and young people also develop self-management skills by watching and experiencing how other people manage their emotions. Here are some tips about how you can support the development of self-management in children and young people.

Explicitly teach skills

- ☐ Talk about ways of managing upsetting situations.
- ☐ Help them to develop strategies to use when they're feeling out of control.
- ☐ Help them express their emotions in productive ways (for example, by drawing or acting out their feelings).
- ☐ Practise mindful breathing with older children and young people.
- ☐ Explore the immediate and long-term consequences of actions.
- ☐ Promote empathy by talking about emotions and understanding how people will have different reactions to events depending on their circumstances.
- ☐ Teach problem-solving and decision-making skills.

Talk about emotions

- ☐ Acknowledge and respond to emotional communication.
- ☐ Role-model how you manage your own feelings.
- ☐ Talk about strategies to manage strong or uncomfortable emotions.

Promote a calm environment

Environment contributes to children and young people's self-management. Promote a calm, welcoming and encouraging environment by:

- ☐ providing structure and predictability.
- ☐ establishing age-appropriate routines and limits.
- ☐ avoiding competitive experiences for young children.
- ☐ including relaxation breaks in the day.
- ☐ encouraging ways to release tension they might be holding in their body.
- ☐ demonstrating calmness and staying in control of your own feelings and behaviours - self-awareness allows you to maximise your positive interactions with children and young people and better manage situations where they 'push your buttons'.

UNIFORM SHOP ONLINE ORDERS



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

ADDRESS: 133 BAKERS ROAD
NORTH COBURG
VIC, 3058

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

BOR NO: 2010 / 2532

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

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
- ❖ Noble Park Community Centre Art Show
- ❖ Noble Park Junior Football Club (AFL)
- ❖ Swimland Swim Club



St John's

REGIONAL COLLEGE

A New Future With STEM

School Tours

EVERY Thursday at 9.15am

We invite you to tour our College to discover the opportunities for students from Year 7 to 12 including the **New STEM building (Opening 2022)**

Register today for your guided tour and meet the Principal
www.sjrc.vic.edu
or scan the QR Code



OPEN EVENING

22 MARCH 2022

Session 1

4:00 - 5:30 pm

Session 2

5:30 - 7:00 pm

Session 3

7:00 - 8:30 pm

Explore the difference a Nazareth education provides

The Nazareth College Open Evening is a great opportunity for the whole family to experience all our College has to offer. You will hear from our Principal, Mr Sam Cosentino, view performances and demonstrations from several learning areas as well as have the opportunity to ask questions and discuss important aspects of the College with key members of our staff.

Registrations essential
www.nazareth.vic.edu.au/enrolments/school-tours



ENROL NOW

for 2024 and beyond

Nazareth College is a Catholic Co-educational Secondary School where all students are known and have the opportunity to succeed.



ENROLMENT INFO



BOOK A TOUR

www.nazareth.vic.edu.au/enrolments/enrolment-process