

St Gerard's Primary School

NEWSLETTER



Term 1 Week 4

www.sgdandenongnth.catholic.edu.au

03 97917553

25th 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
- Chudier - Yr 2
- Jsaiah - Yr 2
- Catherine V - Yr 5
- Joram - Yr 1

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



*Children
displaying
this week's
Give Me
Five
Principle,
Being
Respectful*

In Sunday's Gospel, Jesus admonishes people who see others' faults and reprimand them for that, whilst ignoring their own faults. He calls them hypocrites. He adds that you can tell a good tree by the fruit it bears. Our Give Me Five principle next week continues to Be Respectful by not putting others down or criticising them.

*Some seed fell on
good soil;
it grew and gave a
great harvest*



Reminder:

Shrove Tuesday 2nd March, 2022



@st.gerards3175



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

MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear families,

It has been another week that has provided numerous learning opportunities for our children both in and out of the classroom.

On Tuesday we had our **3 Way Conversations** which allowed for our students, their families and teachers to come together and share information. A key aspect of children learning effectively is having the right support around them, if you have not met with your child's teacher please contact them to arrange a time.

With the Victorian Government announcing that **existing COVID Safe measures in schools would continue until the end of Term 1, Rapid Antigen Tests (RATS)** for the next 2 weeks (Weeks 5 and 6 of the term) are available for collection from the School Office. While mask restrictions have been eased in many settings, **children in Years 3 - 6 are still required to wear masks when indoors**. Your support in keeping our school community safe is greatly appreciated. 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.

The Church season of **Lent** begins next week. This is a time for **Prayer, Fasting and Almsgiving** which are key aspects of our faith. With regard to **Ash Wednesday**, we have consulted with Fr Shantaiah to keep our school COVID Safe. Therefore, staff representatives will attend the parish Mass where they will be presented with ashes which will be brought back to school and distributed to students and staff. We will have a paraliturgy outside at which time the ashes will be distributed to our students and staff.

Also, a reminder that **next 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.

I have been made aware of **traffic congestion** occurring in the lead up to our end of day dismissal. **I am asking families that arrive before 3.20pm to park in the carpark rather than join the drop off line**. This creates a backlog of cars which causes issues in McNab Court. I thank you for your cooperation in keeping our school community and neighbours safe.

Finally, 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:

The Passion (Time and date TBA)

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

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

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.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS

Project Compassion

As it is Lent, we at St Gerard's are participating in Project Compassion. Project Compassion is organised by Caritas Australia and it is where first-world countries donate money to second and third-world countries to help fund clean water, education, fresh food etc.

Project Compassion Boxes will be distributed to each class on Ash Wednesday. 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. The class who raises the most money will win a casual dress day.

Anatercia's story

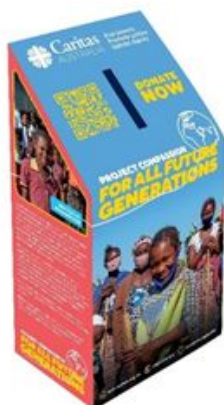
Mozambique

Anatercia, a 12-year-old girl living in southern Mozambique, was struggling to cope with adult responsibilities after her father passed away.

With your support, she participated in training and gained access to psychosocial supports. Now, her quality of life has improved and she can focus on doing well at school.



Project Compassion Sunday 26 & 27 February



Please take home a Project Compassion box and a set of donation envelopes to support Caritas Australia this Lenten season and help support vulnerable people around the world, now and **For All Future Generations**.

With your support, Caritas Australia has been able to support vulnerable communities around the world to tackle poverty, food security, education, water and sanitation and disaster risk reduction. Project Compassion 2022 reminds us that the good that we do today will extend and impact the lives of generations to come to build better future for all.

As St Pope John Paul II said,
"The future starts today, not tomorrow."



Together, we can help vulnerable communities face their challenges today and build a better tomorrow **For All Future Generations**. You can donate through Project Compassion donation boxes and envelopes available from your Parish, by visiting lent.caritas.org.au, or by calling 1800 024 413.



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 attended their first meeting.

The students discussed their role as an SRC member and began discussing ways to make St Gerard's an even better place.

A big congratulations to the following students who were voted in by their class members to be an SRC rep for Semester One 2022.

- ❖ **Prep B- Tianna and Naman**
- ❖ **1/2FW- Thanuja and Nevyn**
- ❖ **1/2L- Evelyn and Azalea**
- ❖ **3S- Jehan and Bethany**
- ❖ **4/5T- Zion and Emmanuel**
- ❖ **5/6O- Mary and Kanwer**





"I would like to thank my class for voting me as their SRC Rep. I will be gathering data from my class to inform my decisions in making our school an even greater place to be!"

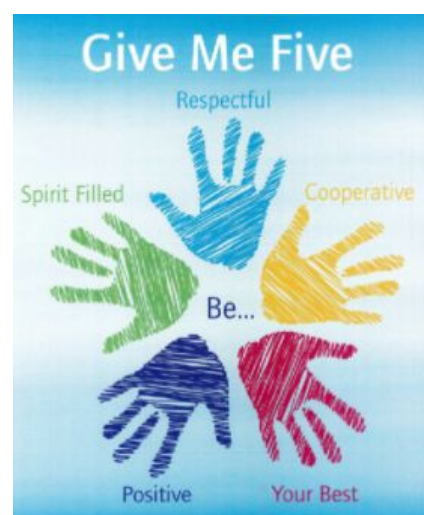
- Zion. L 4/5T

Give Me 5 News

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 the Friday assembly.

The raffle tickets were drawn on the 18th of February and the following lucky winners will had a special treat this week:

1. Jehan
2. Antonia
3. Sandra
4. Oscar
5. Nithin
6. Elaine





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

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



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



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



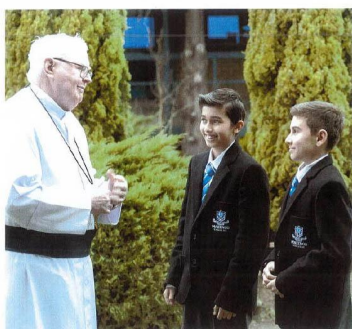
ENROLMENT INFO



BOOK A TOUR

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

MAZENOD COLLEGE OPEN DAY



Tuesday 29th March 2022
4.00pm - 8.00pm (Last tour 7.30pm)
MAZENOD COLLEGE
5 Kernot Avenue, Mulgrave, Victoria

Visit our website to make your reservation:
www.mazenod.vic.edu.au

Year 7/2024 Applications Close
Friday 19th August 2022

t: (03) 9560 0911
e: frontdesk@mazenod.vic.edu.au



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

