

St James Catholic School, Nar Nar Goon

Newsletter



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Dates

9.03.2020
Labour Day Public Holiday

11.03.2020
Foundations commence
Wednesdays

13.03.2020
Class Mass for Year F/1EB &
4/5/6 followed by morning tea

17.03.2020
Advisory Committee Meeting

20.03.2020
Grandparents Day
Mass @ 9:30am
Sports Day @ 11:00am

23.03.2020
Easter Raffle Tickets Due back
to school

26.03.2020
Term One finishes for
Students
Easter Raffle Drawn @ 3pm

25.3.2020
Sacrament of Reconciliation
7:00pm @ St James

27.03.2020
School Closure

14.04.2020
Term Two Commences

Dates are subject to change, for
updates please check our school
Website or App.

Principal's Report

Dear Parents,

Lent Message

Back in 2012 I had the privilege of traveling through Israel. I visited the significant places that appear in the Bible, like Jerusalem, Bethlehem and Nazareth. It was an amazing experience. One of my favourite places was the desert. We know traditionally, people including Jesus, would go out into the 'wilderness' to get away from the hustle and bustle of towns and cities to spend some time in solitude and prayer. This is not that dissimilar to the rational for modern-day people to want to go into the bush and go camping. To get into nature, and "get away from it all". My time in the desert left a significant image in my head about the power and importance of mindful meditation. Knowing that Jesus did this same thing two thousand years ago is profound.

I explained to the students at assembly on Monday that when we make quiet time for ourselves and turn off from TV or gaming devices for a bit, we can quieten our minds and hearts. It is the time where we can open ourselves to communication with God. I like to call it the 'thin space' between us and our maker. This is of course, the opposite of the *distant* space that is created when we are busy, or occupied with technology.

Pope Francis has made similar comments about this season of Lent, calling us to "disconnect from TV, smart phones and connect to the Gospel in Lent". If we are going to be real about this, obviously we can't permanently disconnect from these things during Lent. We need to work, earn a living etc. and technology is very much part and parcel. But we can certainly prioritise small amounts of time to switching off from everything and being still.

Baby News

It is with great joy that I let the greater community know of Erin Bolton's pregnancy. We wish Erin and her husband, Cameron, best wishes with the lead up to welcoming a new family member in June.

Andy McDermott

6th March 2020

Issue 4

*"Building Independent and
Responsible Learners"*

Principal's Report Continued

Lockdown

We have received many messages of gratitude from parents over the last 24 hours regarding our lockdown procedure. It was much appreciated. I am also very happy to say that our families were mindful of not phoning in unnecessarily, and this allowed for a smoother flow of communication to the various systems and stakeholders. We managed to get a statement out to the families as soon as was deemed appropriate. In our efforts to remain safe during lockdown situations, it would be important to note that parents should not approach the school, but should remain in cars until students are released. Not every emergency is the same, but this should minimise risk in most cases. Let's remember also, to put this in perspective and know that this is not a regular occurrence (first one for St James in known history) and that school is a safe place. How we talk about this with our children is critical, as they form their view of the world through your words and actions.

Term One Fees

Term One fees are due and payable by the 13th March if you haven't paid please attend to this as soon as possible.

If you are having financial difficulty, please contact Michelle in the office.

Last Day of Term One

Last day for students is **Thursday 26th March 2020**. Students finish at 3.30pm.

Grandparents Day – Friday 20th March 2020

Grandparents' Day at St James has become an annual, traditional event and will be held on **Friday 20th March** this year. It is a day where grandparents (or significant other) and parents are invited to visit St James school. It is a community day that brings together a diversity of people, ages and interests. It is a great opportunity for grandparents to share in the educational life of their grandchildren.

Mark this date in your diaries; an information flyer came home this week with schedule and provision of food request.

Monday Lunches 2020

Monday 9th March:	Helper
Labour Day Public Holiday – No Lunches	
Monday 16th March:	Helper
Chicken Nuggets and Chips – 5 nuggets with chips	Kayla Jongen
OR	Belinda Rongoni
Steamed Dim Sims – 4 steamed dim sims with soy sauce	

Orders need to be submitted to CDF Pay by 8:55am on Monday or they will not be accepted

St James Prayer

Lord our Guiding Light,
Let us follow in the footsteps of St James with shell in hand
May the Spirit guide us to show love, peace and forgiveness
Come follow me
Help us to strive to do our best in all the learning we do
We pray for wisdom with God's creation to care for all living things
Come follow me
Help us to be a friend, like St James was to Jesus
Bless our families, friends and community
Guide our community to nurture and grow in faith
Come follow me
Amen

Advisory Committee

Committee members for 2020 are:

Executive Officials:

Andrew McDermott and Fr Peter Kooloos

Chairperson: Gehan Dedigama

Board Members:

Ryan Lawlor	Tory Parker (Secretary)
Justine Langley	Liz Cunningham
Steph Katta	

Next Advisory Committee Meeting, 17th March 2020

Parents and Friends

Committee Members for 2020 are:

President	Meagan Rogers
Secretary	Karen Lawlor
Treasurer	Emma Spoard
Monday Lunches	Donna Reilly
Advisory Committee Representative	Justine Langley

Student Absences

To avoid students having UNEXPLAINED ABSENCES, Parents/Guardians are reminded to inform the School by 9.30am via Email –

office@stjamesnng.catholic.edu.au OR Phone – 5942 5404.

Please provide the student's name, date and reason for absence.

Late Arrivals / Early Departures

If you are dropping your child off late (after the bell has gone) or collecting him/her early you must visit the office and fill in the Sign In / Sign Out Register. Office staff will take your child through to their class at an appropriate time to ensure minimal disruption is made to the classrooms.

Assembly Awards

Monday 24th February

Foundation/One KH

Luca – displaying excellent listening skills and asking relevant questions

Betty – displaying excellent listening skills and asking relevant questions

Foundation/One EB

Raiden – challenging yourself to add more detail to your writing

Holly – for displaying excellent listening skills and asking relevant questions

Year Two/Three GB

Allie – for showing wonderful confidence and growth in reading

Hugo – for showing high levels of comprehension in reading

Year Two/Three JK

Joel – his great ideas when working on a persuasive piece of writing about zoos

Ben – giving great reasons and examples in his persuasive writing about zoos

Monday 2nd March

Foundation/One KH

Amelia – great job adding detail to her writing

Felicity – displaying

Foundation/One EB

Eve – working really hard in your writing

Billy – displaying excellent listening skills and asking relevant questions

Year Two/Three GB

Indigo – for being a respectful and encouraging classmate

Chloe L – for incredible dedication to her work in Mathematics

Year Two/Three JK

Jasmine – consistently putting 100% effort into the presentation of her work

Ruby P – fantastic work in planning and organising ideas prior to writing

P & F News

Welcome back to 2020! We hope everyone is settling in well at school. Last year Parents and Friends were well supported by the St James school community in raising funds for our school. The recent purchase of new goal post protectors, some much needed sports equipment and school books have been a welcome addition.

Another purchase has been some outdoor picnic tables that will be placed up near the football oval and playground.

This week Parents and Friends have sent home a note with regards to the Easter Raffle. Please drop your donations into the office. If you require extra tickets, please see the office.

Grandparents Day/Sports Day is fast approaching. We have sent out a note this week with catering requirements. If there are any queries please don't hesitate to contact us, we will be looking for some help on Grandparents Day also.

We have had our first meeting this afternoon, however if you are interested to come along you are more than welcome, kids are welcome too.

2020 Sacrament Program

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Wednesday 25th March 7:00pm @ St James

Confirmation:

Commitment Mass – Saturday 18th April 6:00pm @ St James

Sacrament Mass – Thursday 14th May 7:00pm @ St Johns

Eucharist:

Commitment Mass – Saturday 18th July 6:00pm @ St James

Sacrament of Eucharist – Sunday 8th August 6:00pm @ St James

Mathletics

Once again in 2020, students at St James have access to Mathletics. Mathletics is an online platform which allows students to complete curriculum linked tasks or play mental computation games against themselves or others from the school or world-wide Mathletics community. The Mathletics platform engaging and educational while providing an aspect of challenge and competitiveness to students.

Last week saw the Year 4/5/6 class finish 1st in Australia, a wonderful achievement. 2/3GB were not far behind, finishing 12th in Australia. Once again this week, students have taken up the challenge. It is important to note that 2/3GB has this week taken their rightful place ahead of the 4/5/6 class. Keep it up 2/3's, show the 4/5/6's what you are made of!

MATHLETICS HALL OF FAME				MATHLETICS HALL OF FAME			
Australia's Top 50 Classes				Australia's Top 50 Classes			
Position	Country	Name	School	Position	Country	Name	School
1	Australia	Dodds : Year 6	Ashmore State School, QLD, Australia	1	Australia	Murray : Year 10	FRANKLIN PRIMARY SCHOOL, VIC, AUSTRALIA
2	Australia	Mallory : Year 6	Christian Brothers' School - Junior Campus, NSW, Aus	11	Australia	Duncombe : Year 2	Cooyar State School, QLD, Australia
3	Australia	Kenny : Year 5	Aspect South East Sydney School- Kirrawee Campus,	12	Australia	Mr Vermeer : Year 4	St James Catholic Primary School, VIC, Australia
4	Australia	Mr Balzary : Year 3	St James Catholic Primary School, VIC, Australia	13	Australia	Becker : Year 10	Bulleen Heights School, VIC, Australia
5	Australia	Mr Stenfors : Year 3	Piara Waters Primary School, WA, Australia	14	Australia	Durante : Year 2	Greythorn Primary School, VIC, Australia
6	Australia	Mrs Westhead : Year 5	Timbarra P-9 School, VIC, Australia	15	Australia	Morrison : Year 4	REDLANDS, NSW, Australia

Foundation/One News

Foundation and Grade 1 students have been working really hard over the last couple of weeks.

- I love doing 5 star writing. -Georgie
- I like learning how to write. -Jackson
- I like completing the Shrove Tuesday word search. -Luca
- I like making new friends. -Harvey
- I like doing 5 star writing. -Felicity
- I like cutting and reading. -Jack
- I have enjoyed learning new sounds. -Harper
- I like completing the Shrove Tuesday. -Amelia
- I have enjoyed doing 5 star writing. -Arthur
- I like doing a word search. -Betty
- I like drawing about my weekend. -Jasmine
- I enjoyed our class mass and morning -Felicity
- I like 5 star writing. -Maggie
- I have enjoyed learning to cut. -Scarlett
- I like doing our 5 star writing. -Travis
- I have enjoyed reading. -Billy
- I have enjoyed learning to read. -Finn
- I have enjoyed using MAB pictures to create numbers. -Bailee
- I like writing about the robot kicking the apple. -Jaxon
- I have enjoyed doing 5 star writing. -Eve
- I have enjoyed doing 5 star writing and word work. -Holly
- I like recount writing and using MAB pictures to create numbers. -Sophie
- I like doing 5 star writing. -Lachlan

Two/Three GB News

In 2/3GB we have been learning about shapes. We are finding out how many faces, edges and vertices there are for each 3D shape. - Imelda

We have been working on learning about Baptism and the symbols of Baptism. We are doing this because it is the sacrament before Reconciliation which the Year 3's will be celebrating soon. - Chloe L

In writing we have been creating persuasive texts. We have to have three reasons to convince the reader of what we are writing about. We had to decide whether all people should learn to cook. - Jack

In reading we have been looking at main idea of the text. We had to find the main idea of the book but we also had to find the main idea of a page or a paragraph. - Tom

In sport we have been practising for athletics. Some year 3's might be chosen to go in the athletics team this year. We have also been working with hula hoops, skipping and mini basketballs. - Hugo

In art we have started creating t-shirts that tell people about our favourite colours and places. - Eddie

We have been learning about our school expectations. They are respectful, responsible and safe. We have been learning about what that looks like when you're doing those things. We acted them out. The funniest one was when Indigo said her favourite team was the swans (Mr B made her!) - Chloe K

On Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, the Year 4/5/6 students are on camp. We are the leaders of the school and we have been doing the jobs. - Harry

Two/Three JK News

Zali – Yesterday we split up into groups and we did lots of different things like make bear puppets and go on a bear hunt. We had hot chips for lunch and then we watched “Toy Story” in Miss Hodgens’ room. I had lots of fun!

Gracie – For Teddy Bears picnic yesterday we came to school in our pyjamas and brought our favourite teddy. We did activities about teddy bears, had a big morning tea with our teddies. My favourite thing was wearing my pyjamas to school.

Josh – I loved making teddy bear puppets and doing teddy bear art. My favourite food was the gummy bears. It was fun watching the movie with everyone.

Four/Five/Six News

On 24th of February, Tayla, William and Julie Kennedy went to St Francis Xavier Beaconsfield for a liturgy with Bishop Patrick and students from other schools. At the start of the liturgy Tayla and William brought up the St James banner.

After that, there was a wonderful presentation by St Francis Xavier talking about how we can work together to make a difference. The liturgy was themed around Shrove Tuesday and Caritas Australia’s, Project Compassion. At the end of the liturgy, Tayla and William collected a package of many things for the school such as a Caritas candle and a Caritas notebook. Overall, it was a fascinating experience and one that has taught us a lot about Caritas Australia’s Project Compassion.

Gardening Club

This season we have planted corn, tomatoes, lettuce, rosemary, sage, thyme and zucchini. We have had to water the plants and keep the soil wet so they can grow. We looked after the vegetables really well and now we have been able to pick some of the produce.

We grew lots of corn. We picked it and some of us got to take it home to cook and eat. Some of the corn went to the school canteen and was made into chicken and corn soup for the care group food. When we picked zucchini we gave some to Donna. Donna made it into zucchini slices for Monday lunches. The leftover zucchini slice has also gone to the care group freezer. We have been getting like a hundred tomatoes a week. What have we been doing with it? We have been eating them of course! There are way too many for us to eat ourselves so we gave the tomatoes to Donna. Donna made tomato sauce out of the tomatoes and it became the tomato base for the lasagne and pizza that we have had for our Monday lunches. The tomato base also used some parsley, sage and thyme from the garden. It has been great to be able to pick the food and use it for meals that we are eating here at school.

It is nearly time to pull out the last of the veggies and then we will grow our winter veggies.

By Amayah and Indigo





EASTER 2020

Stations of the Cross & Reconciliation:

St John's, Koo Wee Rup – Friday March 6, 7 to 8pm

St James, Nar Nar Goon – Wednesday March 11, 7 to 8pm

St Joseph's, Iona – Friday March 13, 7 to 8pm

HOLY WEEK:

Tenebrae Services:

St John's, Koo Wee Rup – Tuesday, April 7, 7.30pm

St Joseph's, Iona – Wednesday, April 8, 7.30pm

Maryknoll – Thursday April 2, 7.30pm

Holy Thursday April 9

Mass of the Lord's Supper:

St John's, Koo Wee Rup, 7.30pm

Followed by adoration for an hour and Reconciliation.

Good Friday April 10

Maryknoll - Stations of the Cross, 10.00am

Koo Wee Rup – Stations of the Cross, 11.00am

All are town & community Ecumenical Celebrations

St John's, Koo Wee Rup – Solemn Liturgy of the Passion, 3.00pm

followed by Reconciliation.

Holy Saturday Easter Vigil April 11

St James', Nar Nar Goon, 7.00pm

Easter Sunday April 12

St John's, Koo Wee Rup, 8.30am

St Joseph's, Iona, 10.00am