

St James Catholic School, Nar Nar Goon

Newsletter

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Principal's Report

Dear Families,

My thoughts and prayers continue to be with you all during this time. I am very aware that this is not ideal and that it is a difficult time for many.

Seeing the bustling activity in Google Classroom every day instils a lot of confidence in how we are faring. I would like to let you know how proud I am of the many examples of fortitude. Keep up the great work and effort going into it each day.

Low-Key Day

Everyone is managing the current climate as best as they can. We are planning a 'Low-Key' Day on Friday, 8th May to provide a bit of a breather. It also marks the end of our first four weeks (phase 1) of our Remote Learning Plan. Students will have a reduced number of learning tasks on this day, and tasks will be geared toward the theme of Mother's Day. I believe this will appeal to many families and allow them to spend time on low-key activities. Teachers will use this day to plan and gather work samples for the next phase of the Remote Learning Plan.

Bishop Pat News

In case you have missed the news, our Bishop of Sale, Patrick O'Regan, will be moving on to take his new position as Archbishop of Adelaide. He leaves on the 4th May. I have written a bit of a tribute for his departure:

We were blessed to have you visit St James on a couple of special occasions. One was for the Official Blessing and Opening of our new classroom wing and another when you first came to the Sale Diocese and witnessed the creation of our St James school prayer. We have since been inspired to create a wonderful garden that we like to call our Camino Garden. God has called you on a new twist along your Camino. Thank you for your spirit driven oversight of our schools and our diocese. We were especially blessed to have your gifts of music and family centred homilies during your time at Sale. The people of Adelaide are very lucky to have you as the new Archbishop.

Frequently asked question: When do we go back to school?

The timeline for Remote Learning has not changed. The Victorian Education Minister, the Hon. James Merlino MP posted on twitter recently: "...will only transition back to face-to-face teaching for all students when that is the advice of the Victorian Chief Health Officer. Not a moment before." I will inform you all promptly if there is a change in this plan.

1st May 2020

Issue 7

"Building Independent and Responsible Learners"

Principal's Report Continued

Our school fence is finally complete and it frames our school beautifully. When we return to school, we will be directing our morning foot traffic through the gates. The gate closest to the hall entrance operates much like a pool fence and there is a large double gate in front of the Camino Garden. Every morning, the yard duty officer will unlock the gates at 8:10am for the students who catch the bus to school. The protocol will be to lock at 9:00am, directing all visitors and late comers to go to the office. We had this in place before the fence of course, but now there will be no choice! Likewise, we will unlock the gate at 3:30pm for students to head toward the bus line and wait to be picked up as normal. Now is a good time to remind all families that late children are not to come to the office unaccompanied by an adult. They must be signed in.

Check out the school website or Facebook for pictures of the new fence.

Reminder: St James 'Home Learning' website – can be accessed [here](#). Check out the Help page, as this also includes notes on what to bring to school if your child needs supervision at school.

Andy McDermott

Mother's Day

Wishing all our wonderful Mother's and Caregivers a wonderful day. We are sorry that we cannot celebrate with you this year.



2021 Foundation Enrolments

We are now taking enrolments for 2021, officially, this closes at the end of June.

Please do not assume that all is organised for your 'budding foundations' for 2021. Be sure to go through the enrolment process by collecting and returning the necessary forms to the office. Due to current circumstances please email office@stjamesnng.catholic.edu.au to advise forms are required and these will be posted out to you. Families sometimes make the mistake of thinking that if they have the first child begin school that the following siblings are automatically 'in the system'.

Enrolment forms will be posted to you, please contact the office, office@stjamesnng.catholic.edu.au or phone 5942 5404.

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, TBA

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

Next P & F Meeting, TBA

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.

Remote Learning News

Foundation/Year One

Over the last two weeks, we have seen our students produce some great work, especially challenging themselves with their writing and maths.

Foundation and Year 1 students started video conferencing in small groups this week. This provided students with the chance to interact with other classmates and read out loud. Students did a fantastic job being in front of the camera and reading to the students in their group.

We have also seen lots of great learning happening with students' sight words. A reminder to send through evidence that they know their current ones so that we can assess and potentially move them onto the next list.

Mrs Bolton & Miss Hodgens

Year 2/3GB

We are in our third week of remote learning and I want to say how proud I am of the students in 2/3GB. The care and effort they have been putting into their work tasks has been very impressive. Not only that, but the increased levels of responsibility and independence being shown through seeking teacher assistance when they recognise they need help makes me excited for when these students have their opportunity to lead the school in a few years' time. - Mr Balzary

We have been learning Maths and every week we have been learning something new. This week we have been learning how to add using vertical algorithms. – Indigo.

In Integrated studies, we have been learning about Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people. We have learnt that indigenous Australians have different creation stories, which are their beliefs about how the Earth was made. – Callum.

In 2/3GB, we have been working on writing a narrative. It has included characters, place and a problem. There also needs to be a solution to the problem. – Maddy.

In Spanish, we have been learning about the days of the week and months of the year. We have written them down. – Hugo.

In Religion, we have been learning about some of the messages Jesus gave to his disciples. One of the messages that Jesus gave his disciples was to spread the word of God to others. – Chloe.

In Spelling, one of the tasks we can do is a word search. We have been finding our words in the word search. – Jack

Year 2/3JK

Xavier - I've enjoyed reading on epic! I have been reading a lot of scary books.

Ruby - In Spelling, I have been doing word searches.

Rubie - In Maths, we've been doing addition and I really like them.

Matilda - I really like doing spelling on spelling city and doing the word searches and my assigned tasks.

Scarlett - I've been liking CARS & STARS.

Joshua - I have been liking writing Narratives, I have been writing about Big Show and JJ.

Year 4/5/6

Online learning

It's the start of the school week, I was getting ready to go to school but there's a twist. It's online because of corona and we're trying to keep safe so we don't get sick. Some people went to school because their parents are essential workers and can't stay home.

We have to do the work on our iPads or we can print them out so it is easier. We bring all our books and our pencil case home. Everyday Mrs Powderham has done a 60 second check in that we watch every day so see if we need improvements in our work.

We have to stay our distance and at school, our desks are separated, but overall I wish everything was back to normal.

By Amy K

Premiers' Reading Challenge 2020

The Victorian Premiers' Reading Challenge is now open and St James is excited to be participating. You should have received their username and password to log from your child's teacher.

The Challenge is open to all Victorian children from birth to Year 10 in recognition of the importance of reading for literacy development.

All children who meet the Challenge will receive a certificate of achievement signed by the Victorian Premier.

To read the Premier's letter to parents, view the booklists and for more information about the Victorian Premiers' Reading Challenge, visit: <https://www.education.vic.gov.au/about/events/prc/Pages/getregistered.aspx>

St James Enters the Great Victorian Hanging Basket Competition

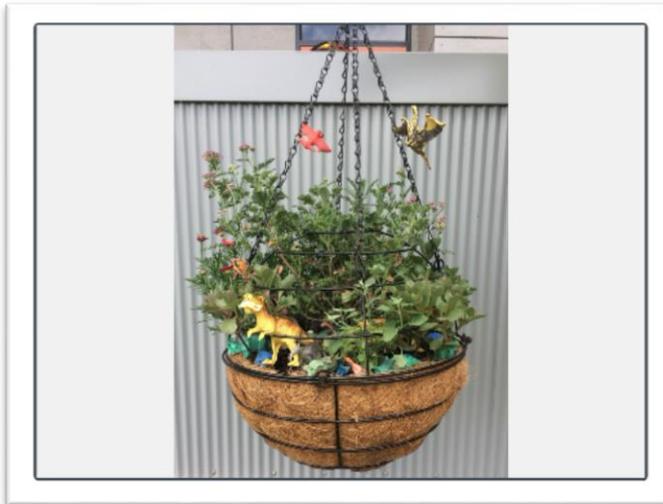
The Great Victorian Hanging Basket Competition has now gone online in a truncated form and it is up to you to choose your favourite baskets from the basket survey.

Follow the link <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/2LFH26M> to get there. Voting closes 17th May at 5pm.

You are now the judge!

Anyone can vote. You do not need to be a member of the RHSV or of an Affiliated Society. We welcome you all to get away from Covid-19 for a short while and become a real Basket Case! Forward it on to your friends so they can participate in the spirit of the competition and "Have A Go".

You can follow the link, press next (you don't have to enter your details) and you can vote in the different categories. Our school baskets are below. You can follow the link and vote as many times as you like.



Scholastic Book Club

Quick reminder that all orders need to be completed through loop by 1pm, Friday 8th May.

Casey Cardinia Libraries

Casey Cardinia Library is excited to launch a FREE home delivery service.

How do I place my order?

1. [Log in to your account](#) on this website and choose your own items or
2. [Log in to your account](#) on this website and ask for a "Binge Bag" and our friendly staff will pick a collection of items on your behalf, based on your interests.

See website for more details.

