



St James Catholic School, Nar Nar Goon

Newsletter

24th July 2020 Issue 12

Principal's Report

Dear Families,

St James Feast Day

I'm sure many of you are experiencing *compromises* during the pandemic. Birthdays, anniversaries and special events have to be celebrated differently during this time. It just isn't the same of course, and we are all waiting for the time when we can get back to doing these things normally.

It's like that with our St James Feast Day. We normally have a whole school Mass and invite our families to come and celebrate with us. This didn't happen this time around but we did have some other things up our sleeve. Many thanks to Julie, our Religious Education Leader, for creating an online experience, like an Escape Room. Hopefully the students were able to enjoy this today. The link remains, so if you didn't get a chance, see if you can do the activity at some stage with your children. Our school prayer was a focus this morning too, and the students got to unpack the various themes that are embedded in our prayer.

There is a culture of enjoying a special hot chocolate in Spain. In fact, if you look into the history of chocolate, the Spanish had a fair bit to do with making it popular across the rest of the world. To further celebrate St James Feast Day, you might like to try making a Spanish hot chocolate at home. An instructional video is posted, along with a recipe sheet. It's a little fancier than your average hot chocolate, so beware.

[Click here](https://youtu.be/p6GC44ceJtA) for YouTube video <https://youtu.be/p6GC44ceJtA>

Insight SRC Survey

Who loves a good survey? Not me usually, but on this occasion, I have a different perspective. In the mail, most families will receive a large envelope with survey materials. It would be a huge favour to the leadership team at St James and in turn the school, if all families were able to find the time to complete the survey. The more senior students at our school will also have the opportunity to do the survey, which we equally value.

It can be done online, which is very convenient at this time. Be on the lookout for the postie in the near future. We have until the 7th August to complete it and all responses are kept confidential.

Pick Up

For the families who have students coming to school for their remote learning, we would like to ask a favour in regards to pick up. We understand that some are able to come earlier than the usual pick up time. This is fine of course, during this period and we know everyone's circumstances are different. To help staff with the process, we ask that you pick them up at 1pm or 3:30pm, as this would make it easier.

A reminder to all parents that if anyone needs to come to the office that we limit the office foyer to one family at a time and that masks must be worn.

Andy McDermott

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Nar Nar Goon VIC 3812

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Classroom News

Foundation/One

The Foundation and Year 1 students have started their second round of Remote Learning. Video conferences have taken place for literacy this week, which is a great opportunity for the students to interact with each other while practising their reading.

We have received some lovely emails with photos of students' work attached, it is great to see the students working hard at home on their learning.

A friendly reminder to please send us some photos of your child's work, as we would LOVE to see the learning that takes place at home.

Year Two/Three

Joel - We have been using our digital notebook to add all our work using Google Classroom and Google Slides. I have liked doing maths because we get to highlight stuff and flip a coin.

Elizabeth - I have had a really good week. We did read to someone with the F/1's today. I've had a good time and it has been challenging my brain to think about different types of proper nouns when I haven't been to them (Murray River).

Jack - In religion, we have been thinking about God's choices and how to be fair. Fair means being responsible, respectful and safe.

Joshua - In the holidays, I fell off my bike and took heaps of skin off my knee. I almost got stuck in a drain riding my bike.

Maddy - In class, we have been writing about safe, respectful and responsible. I have picked safe and I wrote the reasons are to keep safe. Not hurting people, sneeze into your sleeve and social distancing.

Ruby - We have been learning how to do spelling and grammar. I have liked doing the writing about what is the most important expectation at school.

Year Four/Five/Six

We are looking at Identity this term, so our focus to start the unit is self identity. The students were asked to write ten things they loved about themselves.

1. I just like looking at space
2. I want to spread my happiness with everyone
3. I want to find a new life
4. I always have the urge to help
5. I JUST want to be an astronaut
6. I wish I could sleep all day
7. I feel like I'm nice
8. I want to go to Pluto
9. I like school a lot
10. I want to explore Russia.

- That I have a loving family
- That I have a roof over my head
- I like being responsible
- I like when I cricket
- I like when I play football
- I like when I do puzzles (Sudoku)
- The gift to bake
- The gift to be healthy
- The gift to go to school
- The gift to get (try) stuff done

By Jack L

1. I like reading.
2. I am a caring friend.
3. I always help.
4. I always listen.
5. I am kind.
6. I am great at working with others.
7. I play netball I think I am good.
8. I like to help as many people as possible.
9. I am always happy.
10. I have a big heart.

By Brianna

By Cj

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
Justine Langley
Steph Katta

Tory Parker (Secretary)
Liz Cunningham

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 Landlev

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Email: principal@stjamesnng.catholic.edu.au
Website: www.stjamesnng.catholic.edu.au

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Dates to Remember

24.07.2020 St James Feast Day	18.08.2020 Family Conferences	19.08.2020 Family Conferences	18.09.2020 End of Term 3
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Dates are subject to change, for updates please check our school Website or App.

Fees

All families who are experiencing financial pressures as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic have the opportunity to apply for a concession relating to their Term 3 2020 school fees.

Fee payers requesting consideration for fee relief should contact either Andrew McDermott or Michelle Collins to discuss their school fee obligations.

School fees are an essential portion of resources for the operation of our school and assist our leaders and staff to enhance curriculum and teaching programs. We therefore ask that those able to support the school financially continue to do so.

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.

School Counselling Team
Cath Backhouse ~ Emily Maher ~ Paula Pearce



*What to do
when you're
feeling sad or
anxious*

Accomplish something, no matter how small

Move your body; even if it's a slow walk. Regular exercise boosts your mood

Cook yourself a comfort meal or bake some cookies

Get some sunlight

Clean and declutter your room / house

Use mindful awareness to detect when you're falling into a thinking trap or catastrophizing

Take a power nap

Distract yourself with a movie, podcast or tv show

Video call a friend or call a loved one

Ask someone for help

Journal! Write down your thoughts to help you process them

Pamper yourself a little

Do something creative; painting, dance, knitting, arts & crafts, poetry or writing

Do something nice for somebody else

Hug someone, cuddle or pat an animal

adapted from crazyhead comics

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