



St James Catholic School, Nar Nar Goon

Newsletter
16th October 2020 Issue 17

Principal's Report

Dear Families,

Staff were extremely enthusiastic to begin this week. Everyone was poised at the gates, ready to greet our students. There was a little trepidation with regard to how enthusiastic the students would be about returning to school but all of that was blown out of the water on Monday morning. I saw lots of excited faces - none that matched the excitement on the faces of the parents! It really did feel like the first day of the year.

The teachers at St James were very well prepared for the return. There has been an intentional focus on the topic of Growth Mindset and for very good reason. This first week especially, teachers have been exploring what it means to have a Growth Mindset. Someone with a Growth Mindset, as opposed to a Fixed Mindset, believes that anything is achievable. The reason why this works so effectively, is that a person with a Growth Mindset believes that their brain is malleable (also known as neuro-plasticity) and given the right conditions can overcome difficult problems and can learn content that is perceived to be difficult. Here are a few points to make that teachers have been discussing with the students:

- Someone with a Growth Mindset reframes things, ever so strategically so that what was seemingly impossible is now possible e.g. rather than say, "I can't do fractions", we reframe the statement to, "I can't do fractions...yet".
- Growth Mindset places the emphasis on *effort*, rather than relying solely on *talent* i.e. effort can be something *everyone* can focus on whilst talent can be hit and miss. Teachers are geared toward praising effort and avoid praising talent e.g. "I like the way you persisted with trying different spelling strategies", rather than "You're a great speller".
- Focusing on *effort* as the winning formula to success highlights the ingredients that got you there. Talent tends to hide the ingredients to success and tends to discourage others from trying.

Try using this language at home, and I encourage you to ask your child about what they know about the Growth Mindset. I would like to thank the staff for the preparation that went into this term and the start of this term in particular.

It continues to be a very challenging time, even though we have the students back. The cleaning, extra duties and the whole host of other COVID safety protocols that are in place are all weighing heavily on us, as I'm sure you all aware in your experience too. Let's continue to pray that we have the strength and persistence to stick it out.

Note on Birthday Treats

Due to the current restrictions and protocols on the sharing of food, we cannot allow birthday treats to be shared amongst the children at school. I'm sure everyone can understand the situation and to be fair and safe, no food can be brought to share until further notice.

Andy McDermott

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Book Week Dress up Day

To celebrate Book Week the students are invited to dress up on **Friday 30th October**, this year's theme is **'Curious Creatures, Wild Minds'**



Nar Nar Goon Takeaway Lunch Orders

Lunch orders from the Nar Nar Goon takeaway shop have recommenced this week. Students can have a lunch order on Wednesday and Fridays. The menu is available on our website and App.

Unfortunately, at this stage due to restrictions, we are unable to open up our Monday Canteen Lunches.

Term Four School Closures Dates

Friday 23rd October is a public holiday for Grand Final Eve.

Monday 2nd November will be a school closure day. **Tuesday 3rd November** is a public holiday for Melbourne Cup Day. Children will finish for the year on **Wednesday 16th December** at 3.30pm.

Awards

Monday 12th October

Foundation/OneKH Jasmine – great job contributing to class discussions Harvey – starting his work straight away	Year 2/3JK Rubie – amazing work efforts in class Gracie – awesome partner work in Maths Peyton – superstar working in class
Foundation/OneLK Eve – great start back to school Scarlett – being enthusiastic about her learning	Year 4/5/6 Dino – for positive growth mindset Tom – for positive growth mindset Brianna – for positive growth mindset Phoebe – for positive growth mindset
Year 2/3GB Eddie - showing responsibility by working hard back at school Kaleb - modelling respect in the classroom	

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

Committee Members:

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

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

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Classroom News

Foundation/One

Foundation and Year 1 students have made a great start to Term 4! It was wonderful to see their smiling faces as they entered the classroom Monday.

I have enjoyed...

- Seeing my friends and doing my work at school. -Pippa
- Seeing all my friends and doing some learning. -Lachlan
- Playing stick forts with my friends. -Travis
- Seeing my friends. -Maggie
- Seeing and playing with all of my friends. -Amelia
- Seeing all my friends. -Luca
- Starting our narrative unit. -Georgie
- Playing tiggy with my friends. -Kobie
- Seeing my teachers. -Eve
- Playing with my friends and starting our narrative unit. -Holly
- Watching the counting video. -Jaxon
- Going outside with my friends. -Georgia

Year Two/Three GB

2/3 GB was asked to reflect on their return to school.

- I was excited to come back so I could see all of my friends. I get to play with them now and that makes me feel happy. - Imelda
- I wanted to come back to school to see my friends and teachers again and see how they have changed and not just see them through the screen. Nothing much has changed really and I guess that is a good thing. - Indigo
- I'm happy to be back at school to see all my friends and play with them. It is fun seeing all the teachers and learning back at school. It is better getting help at school when you need it instead of getting help through the screen. Chloe K
- I like seeing everyone and actually doing our work next to each other and talking to each other face to face. - Hugo
- I liked coming back to school because it means I can get some help when I need it. - Riley
- I like being back at school because it is a bit easier than doing it at home. - Jack / Tom
- I like being back at school so I can see my friends and teachers and play with them. I like getting help face to face better than through a screen. It is easier at school. It is easier to explain things when we are at school. - Allie / Chloe L
- I like being back at school because it is more organised and I can get my work done quicker. - Eddie
- I like being back at school because the work is a bit easier with my real teacher teaching it. I am also looking forward to tennis. - Maddy
- I wanted to come to school because you can see your friends because sometimes the screen was really glitchy. I missed my friends a lot. - Harry
- I like being back at school and working in the actual classroom. It means I can get help when I really, really need it. It is also nice to get out of the house. - Callum

Year 2/3JK

In 2/3 JK we have been very excited to all be back together again as a class. When asked about what was the thing that they were most happy about and how they were feeling about being back at school, most of the answers involved being back at school and being able to see their friends and their teachers face to face. To be able to play with everyone again and be away from screens.

I myself was very excited to see everyone in person and not looking at screens. We have all settled in well with a few getting used to the noise of our learning and friends again.

Year Four/Five/Six

GROWTH MINDSET IN GRADE 4/5/6

Coming back to school after so long in Remote Learning was going to be interesting. We didn't know how we were going to react to being back or how we would handle the work given to us. At the start of week 1, we came back to learn about the different mindsets that people have. One of the ones was our GROWTH mindset where you have a more enthusiastic mindset and you don't complain you get on with the work and have fun. You also try your best and think in a positive way. We also learnt that the growth mindset is a way to grow as a person and show everyone what you CAN do, not what you CAN'T do. For example- If you don't want to do the work you show everyone that you can still do it no matter the problem you face.

The other fact is that you can also have a FIXED mindset. Fixed mindsets are the opposite of the growth mindset. Having a fixed mindset shows everyone that you just don't want to try, you give up, you think it is unfair and you are very negative. A fixed mindset is something that people have but we learnt that is not a good thing to have. The teachers told us that having a fixed mindset is worse because you don't learn anything but with a growth mindset you're more likely to succeed.

Jaylen and Islah

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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 4 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 9.00am 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.

Important Dates to Remember

18.10.2020 World Mission Day	23.10.2020 Grand Final Public Holiday	27.10.2020 Advisory Committee Meeting	30.10.2020 Book Week Dress Up Day	2.11.2020 School Closure	3.11.2020 Melbourne Cup Public Holiday	4.11.2020 2021 Foundation Orientation 2:15 – 3:15
11.11.2020 Remembrance Day	11.11.2020 2021 Foundation Orientation 9:15 – 10:30	18.11.2020 2021 Foundation Orientation 2:00 – 3:15	24.11.2020 Advisory Committee Meeting	25.11.2020 2021 Foundation Orientation 9:00 – 12:00	2.12.2020 Graduation Mass	16.12.2020 Students Last Day

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



Registrations for junior and senior cricket are now open for the season 20/21 with a covid safe plan in place. Purposed start date if all goes ahead will be November 21st subject to change pending government approval.

For more information call

Geoff Ball 0409482113

[https://www.playcricket.com.au/club-finder/club-details?](https://www.playcricket.com.au/club-finder/club-details?Id=6230&fbclid=IwAR3XIBIh1Y4amVUfmISkxM2hdKgQNj4ZYpzjyYPaWzhic1xt49irUV52Yw)

[Id=6230&fbclid=IwAR3XIBIh1Y4amVUfmISkxM2hdKgQNj4ZYpzjyYPaWzhic1xt49irUV52Yw](https://www.playcricket.com.au/club-finder/club-details?Id=6230&fbclid=IwAR3XIBIh1Y4amVUfmISkxM2hdKgQNj4ZYpzjyYPaWzhic1xt49irUV52Yw)

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