



St James Catholic School, Nar Nar Goon

Newsletter
30th October 2020 Issue 18

Principal's Report

Dear Families,

Adjusting to life back at school

The first week of students returning was full of excitement, novelty and gratitude to be back at school. It continues to be a very welcome experience to have all the students back on site. It is very likely to be accompanied by challenges for some students to adjust to school life again. Disconnection from peers, staff and school routines for such a long time, is going to play a part in feeling up and down in this adjustment phase. We know this is the case in schools right across the state at the moment.

Please communicate with your teacher if you need to clarify something or let them know of an issue. We are here to help if students are finding it difficult to adjust.

Today's Book Week dress up was a great injection of fun. No one was worried about reusing a costume, going off-topic or wearing casual clothes today. It was another example though of being able to get back to some sort of normal and it was much appreciated!

Emergency Management

Every year all schools need to review their Emergency Management Plans. St James has the responsibility of ensuring the safety of everybody within our school grounds in the event of an emergency. One emergency that we are very familiar with in this area is fire threat and the need for timely communication is essential. St James asks that all families have the school app downloaded and primed ready to receive important emergency messages. This means having the notification settings set to 'on' for the app.

Advice from DHHS regarding Halloween

If members of the school community elect to trick or treat this Halloween, they need to stay safe and the following information from DHHS can be distributed to families via the school newsletter.

The following actions are recommended:

- If you have any symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19) get tested and stay at home. By staying at home this Halloween, you help to keep your friends, family and community safe.
- Wear a face mask with your costume, but remember that a costume mask that is part of your Halloween costume is not a substitute for a face mask. Consider making your own mask and decorating it.
- Keep at least 1.5 metres between yourself and people you don't live with. This means no hugging or kissing when greeting people. Don't share food or drinks.

In addition, it is safer not to hand out lollies or treats to trick-or-treaters this Halloween. This is because the virus can spread on surfaces, including food or packaging.

Under current restrictions traditional trick or treating, where you knock on someone's door is not permitted.

Address: 60 Nar Nar Goon Road,
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Principal's Report Continued

If you can't resist handing out lollies this year you can do so by having candy available outside of your home.

- Don't use communal bowls for lollies or treats. Putting lollies in a shared bowl will mean everyone is touching the same food and surfaces which isn't safe.
- Instead, put individually wrapped lollies or treats in bags for non-contact collection.
- Place bags on your fence, at your front gate or outside your home for collection.
- Wash your hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds before preparing the bags or individually wrapped lollies or treats.

Further information on how to stay safe this Halloween is available on the DHHS website.

Andy McDermott

Principal

COVID Health and Safety

DOSCEL has advised temperature tests on the students are no longer required when they enter the school grounds, however, the following still remains in place.

- If your child is experiencing signs or symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19), they must not attend school until their symptoms resolve and appropriate medical advice is obtained.
- This includes even mild symptoms of COVID-19.
- The symptoms to watch out for are:
 - Fever
 - Chills or sweats
 - Cough
 - Sore throat
 - Shortness of breath
 - Runny nose
 - Loss of sense of smell
- Upon arrival at school or during the day, if your child becomes unwell, you will be contacted and required to come and collect your child.
- If student who are being tested for COVID-19 have siblings, who attend a school managed and operated by the Diocese of Sale Catholic Education Limited (DOSCEL), then the siblings should also remain at home until a negative test result is provided for the student awaiting test results.
- Every student must have their own drink bottle as the bubble taps are switched off.
- Birthdays – we are happy to acknowledge and celebrate your child's birthday in the classroom, however as previously stated, due to COVID, children cannot bring chocolate, lollies etc. to share for their birthday.
- Communication with teaching staff is via email or phone as we are unable to have parents on-site.
- Until further notice, we will bring the students to the gate at 3.20pm to allow more time to distribute students to parents in the pickup lane.

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 started learning about Narratives. Students have retold the story of The Three Little Pigs and Goldilocks and the Three Bears. Students have done a fantastic job writing these narratives in their own words. In maths, we have been revising place value using MAB Blocks and number between 1-20.

Students were asked to reflect on what they have enjoyed the most in their learning over the last couple of weeks.

- I enjoyed writing this week. I enjoyed writing our letters and about Goldilocks - Billy
- I liked learning new words and practising my spelling when writing. -Amelia
- I enjoyed doing maths, using MAB blocks to make up numbers and doing craft activities - Holly
- I have enjoyed retelling the story of Goldilocks and the Three Bears. -Jasmine
- I liked spelling, I can spell car. C-A-R - Aanya
- I have enjoyed using challenging words in my writing. I have liked using adjectives in my story. -Georgie
- I really enjoyed when we did reading. I get to talk to other people about the stories because I really enjoy telling people stories - Raiden
- I liked doing maths because we get to do numbers and I'm good at those - Rydah
- I liked packing up to see how quickly we could do it and to see if we can get a prize for being quick - Kobie

Year Two/Three GB

Every year, the Friends of Doveton Library in conjunction with the Casey Cardinia Library Corporation hold a Short Story and Poetry Competition. This year despite the period of remote learning, we had a number of students take the time to enter their work into this competition.

It was very exciting to receive news that Imelda was awarded 3rd place in the 8-11 year old poetry competition. Not a bad effort for someone who still has another 3 years in the younger age category. Well done Imelda. This is a fantastic effort and we are very proud of your hard work and achievement. You can read Imelda's prize winning poem below:

Ghost of the Forest

By Imelda 2/3GB

I live with my mum and siblings,
She teaches u everything we need to know.
I look cute and cuddly,
Like a ball of fluff.
I don't stay that way for long.
Small head with strong jaws,
Emerald green eyes.
By the age of two
I live on my own.
We love the water,
Hot and humid forests.
We're happy on the ground,
But we eat up high.
It is also where I like to rest.
Hide and seek is my favourite game,
You won't hear me coming
Until it's too late.
I'm always hungry when you're asleep.
I blend in with the shadows,
You won't see me coming.
I'm the ghost of the forest.
My relatives and I are losing our homes.
Man hunts me for my fur.
You are my predator.

Year 2/3JK

- Joshua - I am feeling really great to see all of my friends. We have been learning about living and non living things. I like living things better because they move and don't stink.
- Holly - We have been learning about vertebrate and invertebrate. Invertebrates don't have backbones and vertebrates have backbones. 75% of the world is invertebrates.
- Jackson - I like being able to do all our timetables. I am working on my 3's at the moment.
- Elizabeth - I have liked working on our religion. We have been learning about the beatitudes and the Trinity. TRI means 3, that represents the father, the son and the holy spirit.
- Ruby - I have been practicing my 2, 5, 11 and 12 timetables in Math.
- Antonio - I like playing hit the button to practice my timetables. We have been writing our scores on the window to see if we can beat Mrs. Kennedy.

Term Four School Closures Dates

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 19th October

Foundation/OneKH

Luca – fantastic job working independently to write sentences with adjectives
Jackson – super work identifying the letter 'S' and 'A'

Foundation/OneLK

Miles – trying his best in writing
Billy – trying his best in writing

Year 2/3GB

Tom – being a responsible learner and seeking help when needed
Callum – being a respectful class member
Evie – a dynamite job showing division using arrays

Year 2/3JK

Jackson – showing great improvements in his handwriting
Xavier – being organised and starting our class prayer

Monday 26th October

Foundation/OneKH

Maggie – working really hard to improve her spelling
Georgia – great job starting her work independently

Foundation/OneLK

Holly – trying her best when Narrative writing
Aanya – trying her best when reading

Year 2/3GB

Imelda – being a responsible and respectful class member
Madison – a dynamite job with her weekly spelling

Year 2/3JK

Jasmine – your beautiful joint handwriting in your spelling test
Grace – dynamite job using a white board to help with Mathematics and asking for help

Year 4/5/6

Judah – excellent group work with the research task
Tristan – excellent work with the research task
Blake – excellent work with the research task

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

2.11.2020 School Closure	3.11.2020 Melbourne Cup Public Holiday	8.11.2020-15.11.2020 NAIDOC Week	11.11.2020 Remembrance Day	18.11.2020-25.11.2020 Lamont Virtual Book Fair
24.11.2020 Advisory Committee AGM	1.12.2020 PSG Meetings	2.12.2020 Graduation Mass	16.12.2020 Students Last Day	25.12.2020 Christmas Day

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



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