



St James Catholic School, Nar Nar Goon

Newsletter

5th March 2021 Issue 3

Principal's Report

Dear Families,

At assembly this week we presented our Year 6 students with their leadership badges. I am a firm believer that leadership does not only apply to those wearing a badge or holding a specific role. I see all of our students as capable of leadership and it is a great responsibility for all of our Year 6 students to ensure that they are modelling this to younger students and supporting the 6 students who hold a specific leadership position.

All Year 6 students were invited to write a letter of application for a specific leadership role. The students who applied were then interviewed by myself and Mr Vermeer. They were asked various questions and asked to role play how they would introduce themselves to a VIP visiting our school.

Congratulations to our ...

- **Student Representative Council members** – Dino, Adara, Ashlee and Amy
- **Social Justice Crew**- Mia and Joel

Leadership is also the focus of the Michael Grose article for this week.

Last week a squad our Year 4-6 students represented St James at the District Swimming carnival. We congratulate these 14 students for competing in such a positive manner that was not only supportive of their peers but also of students from other schools. I commend these students to you and pass on the positive feedback received from other schools about their conduct. Congratulations to Chloe and Spencer who move to the next level of competition next week.

Parent-Teacher interviews have now been completed. This is always a wonderful opportunity for staff and parents to continue to strengthen their partnership to support students. If at any time you have questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact your child's teacher throughout the year.

COVID- 19 Restrictions-

Please be assured that we are very mindful of the impact of COVID restrictions on the school community and that we have been continually working towards how COVID 'normal' will look for us here at St James.

Grandparent's Day has been moved to a date yet to be confirmed in Term 4. This decision was made based on the information from the Chief Health Officer regarding the identification of the most vulnerable in our communities. The P&F are also working towards community events and you will be updated about these.

Thank you for your patience and feedback as we gradually review and update the carline and arrangements for parents to be on site in line with COVID-19 considerations. There are many factors needing consideration in this space that are not always apparent to the broader school community.

The practice of the carline will remain. However, we are very pleased that parents can now park in the front paddock and follow the designated pedestrian walkway to the side of the Church closest to the paddock to pick up children. From this point a staff member will call your child/ren over to you for collection. The grassed area at the front of the Church will not be available for parents at this time as it is designated area for students and we must maintain a strict 1.5m social distance. This will commence as of **Tuesday** to ensure we have appropriate pedestrian barriers in place so that there is clear demarcation line for pedestrians and vehicles. Parents waiting to collect children need to adhere to the strict 1.5m social distancing requirements, if social distancing can not be maintained masks need to be worn.

The current practice of the car line moving through the numbered cones will continue and the front of the Church will be a **no parking** area.

I ask that you also be mindful that teachers are on duty at this time and their primary focus and duty of care is to our students. It is not appropriate that check ins with teachers occur at this time, this is to respect your privacy and maintain child safety. If you do need to speak to your child/ren's teacher, you are very welcome to make an appointment at a mutually convenient time.

Walkers and afterschool care pick up points will remain the same at the double gate as per signage.

Enjoy a restful long weekend,

Bec Kollaris

Principal

Address: 60 Nar Nar Goon Road,
Nar Nar Goon VIC 3812

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

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COVID Health and Safety

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
- 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.
 - 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.
 - All extra cleaning and hand hygiene that was in place last year, is still being adhered to.
 - Schools can gather for assemblies but with students and staff only at this stage
 - Parents can come onsite for scheduled meetings with staff. Parents need to sign in.(needs to be booked ahead and be for a significant reason)
 - Parents wishing to come into the grounds to drop off must scan the QR code on the way in. Please do not enter the classrooms. Social distancing will apply.

District Swimming

On the 26th of February 2021, St. James competed in district swimming at Koo Wee Rup Pool. We had 14 students from the Grade 4 to 6 class compete.

On the day, we all gave it our best shot. Chloe and Spencer made it through to division, which is the next level up from district.

Although we didn't win the shield on the day, we tried our very best and we all had fun.

Next year I'm sure we will do just as well or hopefully better.

By Matilda and Blake.

Parenting Ideas

Maggie Dent presents a webinar: Communicating with teenage boys. Our school has a membership with Parenting Ideas. As part of this membership, you can attend the upcoming webinar at no cost.

Click this link www.parentingideas.com.au/parent-resources/parent-webinars/webinar-communicating-with-teenage-boys

Voucher code: COMMUNICATION

See flyer attached.

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

School Advisory Committee

Committee members for 2021 are:

Rebecca Kollaris	Fr Peter Kooloos
Rob Vermeer	Gehan Dedigama
Ryan Lawlor	Tory Parker
Justine Langley	Liz Cunningham
Steph Katta	Alanna Pomeroy

Next Meeting: Tuesday 16th March

Parents and Friends

Committee Members for 2021 are:

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

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School Fees

Fees provide for the daily running costs of the school and the curriculum needs of all our children. It is important that fees be paid throughout the year so we can meet our financial commitments. Please address the issue of any outstanding fee payments. Term four fees are due and payable by Wednesday 10th March, unless you have set up a payment plan. If you are experiencing difficulty, please contact Michelle.

Update your details Operoo

Welcome to 2021. We all lead very busy lives and can often forget to update details.

If you have moved, changed home or mobile numbers, or have a new email address please update these in Operoo, this will send us a message that your details have changed and we are then able to update our data base.

During the year if permissions are required for excursions or camps, Operoo is where this will be, as parents/guardians you will log in and accept or decline.

Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund

CSEF is provided by the Victorian Government to assist eligible families to cover the costs of school trips, camps and sporting activities. Application forms available at the office.

E-Safety

When it comes to online safety, the [eSafety Commissioner website](#) is here to help support parents and carers and ensure that together, we keep children safer online.

More advice and information is available at [eSafety parents](#).

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

8th March Labour Day Public Holiday	10th March Foundations begin fulltime	16th March Whole School Mass Advisory Committee Meeting	17th March Sacrament of Reconciliation @ St James
24th – 26th March Life Ed	30th March Easter Journey	31st March Students Last day for Term	1st April School Closure

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

2021 Term Dates and School Closure Days

Term Dates: Term 1 27 th January – 1 st April (students start 28 th January) Term 2 19 th April – 25 th June Term 3 12 th July – 17 th September Term 4 4 th October – 17 th December	Closure Days: Thursday 1 st April – Professional Development Day Monday 19 th April – RE professional learning Friday 25 th June – Professional Development Day Friday 17 th September – Professional Development Day Monday 1 st November – Professional Development Day Thursday 16 th December – Professional Development Day Friday 17 th December – Professional Development Day
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February 27th – March 12th



Tyson – 3/4GB

Indigo – 3/4GB

Azaan – 5/6VP

Koby – 5/6EP

Judah – 5/6RV

Luca – F/1/2JV

Aidy – 5/6RV

Jackson – 3/4LB

Adara – 5/6VP

Jack – F/1/2KH

Lachlan – 5/6EP

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Assembly Awards

F/1/2KH

22nd February

Dylan – great listening and contributing to class discussions

Miles – great job giving writing a red hot go

Harper – being a good role model to her classmates

1st March

Sophie – challenging herself in maths to skip count by a variety of 2 digit numbers

Betty – excellent effort with her skip counting

3/4LB

22nd February

Matilda – excellent home reading

Gracie – showing great leadership and mentoring

1st March

Grace – showing great determination with her spelling and learning

Joel – excellent application to Mathletics and homework tasks

5/6RVAP

22nd February

Azaan, Adara, Matilda and Aidy for representing the school well at the Cardinia Leadership Meet

1st March

Owen – for his improved handwriting

Matilda – her great organisational skills

F/1/2JV

22nd February

Isabel – excellent listening in class

Georgia – always carefully following instructions

Max – being a terrific listener

1st March

Eve – excellent effort with her class work

Travis – staying focused and working really hard

3/4GB

22nd February

Tyson – hard work to develop his spelling skills

Scarlett – for a wonderful mini project

1st March

Indigo – a dynamite job completing her revision Mathletics curriculum

Allie – dynamite job with her reading comprehension



REL News



Second Sunday of Lent
28th of February 2021



Margret is a teacher at a vocational school for deaf students in the Solomon Islands that suffered long-term water shortages and damage from Tropical Cyclone Harold. With Caritas Australia's support, Margret's school installed water tanks, repaired cyclone damage and implemented COVID-19 prevention measures, and is now planning to boost food security.

Please donate to Project Compassion 2021 and help people living with disabilities in the Solomon Islands gain access to education and clean water, empowering them with skills to protect our common home.

You can donate through Parish boxes and envelopes, by visiting www.caritas.org.au/projectcompassion or phoning 1800 024 413.

Dates for Sacrament of Reconciliation 2021

11th March

St Johns Koo Wee Rup

17th March

St James Nar Nar Goon

18th March

Columba Bunyip

Please note there will be two session times for Reconciliation at St James a 5.30pm and then a 7.00pm. More information will be sent to families on Tuesday 9th March.

Julie Veldman

Religious Education Leader

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Classroom News

Foundation/One/Two

- Religion - We have been looking at the books of the bible and the New Testament and the OT. We liked learning about Ecclesiastes and how to be a good friend.
- Maths - We have been counting by 2's, 5's and 10's starting from different numbers. I like practising skip counting.
- Writing - We wrote about how to make pancakes during Home Learning for Shrove Tuesday. We have been writing using picture prompts to build our creativity.
- Spelling - We have been writing full sentences in dictation to show our spelling words. I like colour coding to words to see the vowel and consonant sounds. We like spelling points where we have to count points for graphs, di-graphs and trigraphs.
- Reading - I like to read by myself. We like to read to someone because we can learn new books and words and challenge ourselves.
- Integrated - I liked learning and colour about the continents of the world.
- Sport - I like running around and playing tiggy. We like learning new games.
- Art - We like to make different things in art. We like to learn different techniques such as self portraits. We like making a mess and being able to be creative. We have been also sharing about ourselves.
- Music - We like to singing and playing bob bob statues.
- Spanish - We like counting in Spanish. We like playing the number counting games and pacman.

Year Three/Four GB

Over the last two weeks, 2/3 GB have been working extremely hard across all areas of the curriculum. Here are some of the things we have been doing:

We have been working with place value and have been using number lines. We had to try to see where the numbers would go on the number line. Some were tricky because we tried using decimals. - Tyson

In writing we have continued writing our narrative. My narrative is about two best friends whose tree house burns down and they try to rebuild it. - Tom

In Spanish we have been learning about the Spanish alphabet. It has some of the same letters but they can make different sounds. It also has some extra letters. - Peyton

For our Integrated unit we have learnt about the three different levels of government. There is the federal government that looks after the whole country in areas like taxes and healthcare. The state government looks after the state by looking after things like transport and mining. The local government looks after rubbish collection and the registration and control of pets. - Milla

In Art, we have been creating stained glass windows like we have in the church. We had to cut out the circle and then we had to make a triangle and then cut it to make different shapes. When you opened it, it made different shapes. Then we added cellophane. We had to make sure we used different colours. – Liam

Year Three/Four LB

Jasmine, Indi-Rose, Joel - In reading, we have been working on sequence to understand the storyline. We have also been writing a story to practice our writing skills and to help us understand building up a story and in the story we have events and a climax.

Rubie D - I like measuring and doing counting up and down in our math book.

Tate - I really liked measuring and doing perimeter and area work. We used our rulers to measure the perimeter and area of shapes on a worksheet.

Zali- I've enjoyed learning about friendships in Religion. Yesterday, in our class, we watched a video about if you are alone and you fall down you don't have anyone to help you up but if you have friends the other can help.

Xavier- I've enjoyed learning about rules, laws and levels of government because it was interesting to learn about local, state and federal levels of government. The local government takes care of the local roads, garbage, paths, kinder, social housing and trees on council land. State government takes care of local transport, emergency services, schools and railways. Federal government takes care of trade, immigration, quarantine, money and highways.



Classroom News

Year Five/Six EP

As Lent begins we are looking at Project Compassion and the notion of how to BE MORE. Grade 5/6EP looked into the life story of Jamila, a refugee and her struggles but with Caritas she was able to access a support group, get some education and get herself a job to support her family. Here's some reflections from 5/6EP:

ISLAH:

From watching the video from project compassion, Jamila and her eight month old daughter Faridah had to flee from Myanmar because of violence and bombing in 2017. Jamila and Faridah walked six days and ended up in a refugee camp in Bangladesh. Learning about her story makes me feel how we can "Be More". When she got there she was in agony and very overwhelmed but because of Project Compassion they have given Jamila women friendly trauma counselling. Now Jamila feels better and knows other women are going through the same thing.

JOHN:

In 2017 there was bombing, shooting and even fires started in a small village in Myanmar. This is where Jamila and her daughter and mother lived. The three fled the village and walked for 6 days. They walked from Myanmar to Cox's Bazar Refugee camp in Bangladesh. She found a hut for her family where she raised her 8 month-old daughter and caring for her mother alone. Her husband left her when she was three months pregnant with Faridah. Caritas Women's Friendly Space gave her trauma counselling for what she had been through. She went to sewing class while Faridah was at school. She now makes clothes for money and food.

KOBY:

Today I watched an emotional video about Jamila and her having to flee her house because of the dangers. She fled with her daughter (8 months old) and mum (80years old). They lived in the refugee camp which is a bad place with little shelter and little food. That means she could barely survive. At the end she ended up getting a job, sewing. She also made new friends which made her feel included and valued.

Year Five/Six VP

This term we have been making a project on the Thylacine. We have also written two or three sentences that are facts and we have stuck the sentences in the middle of a Thylacine (also known as Tasmanian Tiger) photos. We also painted a backdrop. On the backdrop we added ferns for trees and paper birds. We added tanbark on a massive piece of paper and we also added sticks, logs and our Thylacines.

By Grace

This term we have also done a landscape of what we think it looked like in dinosaur times. We have made it out of plaster. We have made a volcano, several hills, a cave, a dinosaur nest, a river and an ocean. We are half way done painting. We are going to add dinosaurs of all kinds all over.

By Brianna

