



## **ST PETER'S CATHOLIC PARISH PRIMARY SCHOOL**

### **Thursday 1st April 2021, Week 10, Term 1**

Good afternoon Parents and Caregivers,

The end of Term 1 is here and as a Catholic Community, we are excited to be in the Easter season. We have the traditions of Palm Sunday, Holy Thursday, Good Friday and of course Easter Sunday to remember the words, actions and sacrifices of Jesus from all those years ago. We know that the Catholic faith experiences a full range of emotions as we commemorate this most special of weeks in our Liturgical year. Palm Sunday emits joy, triumph and homage yet Good Friday is the reminder of total opposite feelings. Easter Sunday brings us back to joy, trust, triumph, amazement and faith. This Lenten season, we are challenged to open our hearts to God's word, seek forgiveness of God and others we have wronged, speak words of comfort, consolation, strength and encouragement and to be hopeful. We are encouraged to follow in the footsteps of Christ by showing love for all. After all, 'love is the highest expression of our faith and hope'. May the blessing of the risen Lord accompany all of us on our journey towards the light of Easter.

#### **Twilight Sports**

It has been a really exciting fortnight of events at St Peter's. Last week our Twilight Sports was a great success. Our senior school students really embraced the opportunity to be in charge of the different activity stations and the rest of the students enjoyed the tabloid sports. It was so wonderful to see so many families in our school supporting the students and re-connecting with families and establishing new connections. The rain did not even spoil our fun! Thanks for your support.

#### **Harmony Day**

**Harmony** Week occurs in March each year and includes 21 March, the United Nations' International **Day** for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination. The ongoing **theme** of **Harmony** Week is 'everyone belongs'. **Harmony Day** is intended to show cohesion and inclusion in Australia and promote a tolerant and culturally diverse society. ... It is about community participation, inclusiveness, celebrating diversity, respect and a sense of belonging for everyone. Orange is the **colour** chosen to represent **Harmony Day**. Traditionally, orange signifies social communication and meaningful conversations. It also relates to the freedom of ideas and encouragement of mutual respect.

St Peter's embraced Harmony Day this year celebrating the many cultures that make our school community unique. There was a beautiful array of colours at school on Friday. I feel so very privileged to be part of such a diverse and welcoming community. I hope you have all had the chance to view our family stories on our community facebook page. We have included photos in our newsletter.



## **Congratulation to our 2021 School Captains**

Last week our School Captains were announced to the school community.

The captains were announced to the senior team of students and then captains had the opportunity to call their parents in person and share the news.

**School Captains:** Angelica and Luke

**School Vice Captains:** Jessica and Nicholas

Samaritan Red House Spirit Captains: Emilia and Blake

McKillop Blue House Spirit Captains: Ninita and Marcus

Mc Carter Green House Spirit Captains: Alexis and Xavier

Goold Gold House Spirit Captains: Savannah and Lachlan

Technology Captains: Peter, Thomas, Neville, Sheridan, Christian, Landon, Frankie

Wellbeing Captains: Beril, Georgia

Learning Captains: Ayesha, Anayah, Kevin

Education and Faith Captains: Evana, Elvis, Joseph, Remi, Lawrence

I was extremely proud of each student that had the courage to put themselves forward for a captains position. There are only so many leader positions each year - we do not have a badge for all of our students.

A badge is not the only possession that makes you a leader - It is how you present yourself each day, display courage to stand up for what is right, demonstrate integrity, humility and gratitude. All of our senior students are the leaders of our future.

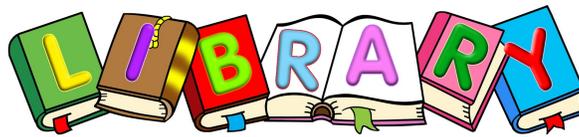


## New Library

Our library space is looking fabulous. We have new furniture and an amazing collection of new books. Massive thanks to our Teaching and Learning Leader, Melissa Gatt who has spent numerous hours after work each night getting the library ready for action next term. Melissa has also sourced donations of books to enhance the reading opportunities for our students. Our Learning Support Officer, Madeleine has spent hours contacting and cataloguing our new books and our Literacy Coach, Jane Plunkett has been a wealth of knowledge getting the library set up. On Monday Melissa met with a group of generous family volunteers who have offered to contact / cover books over the holidays. Please email Melissa if you can volunteer some time.

Melissa Gatt: [mgatt@stprepp.catholic.edu.au](mailto:mgatt@stprepp.catholic.edu.au)

It takes a village to raise a child and a village of volunteers to get our library ready for our students.



## A day at St Peter's

Each day we post a number of photos of what is happening at St Peter's. You can view these on facebook or on our school website. We want to ensure our community has the opportunity to see the engaging learning opportunities we deliver to our students everyday. Our teachers and Learning support officers work hard every single day to ensure we nurture and cater for the needs of every child at St Peter's.

## **Do you really know what your child is doing on their computer??**

Many families would be surprised by what their children are accessing on the internet.

Some of our children may be talking to strangers or accessing inappropriate sites.

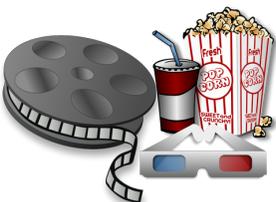
We want to ensure our parents are well informed about the digital platform our students are engaging in.

Wednesday 28th April 6.30pm - at St Peter's. Please see the flyer

**The school has paid for Susan McClean to come and talk exclusively with our families at St Peter's. The night is for adult family members only.**

**We expect that at least one family member from our Year 3, Year 4, Year 5 and Year 6 will attend this evening. Parents from Year Prep, one and two are also warmly invited to attend.**

To coincide with the night we are also running a Year 3/4 and Year 5/6 movie night for all of our students at school. Students are encouraged to wear casual clothes, bring along a pillow or blankets and watch a movie in their learning space while the parents listen to the presentation by Susan. A fun social event for our students.



## **Work over the holidays**

### **Toilets**

Over the school holidays the boys toilets will be getting new vinyl floors and we are installing hand dryers to replace the paper towels in the girls and boys toilets. Hopefully this will also reduce the rubbish and mess each day.

### **Maintenance**

Flexible walls in the 1/2 and Prep space will be installed.

Safety switches will be installed in all the school electrical boxes and all the electrical equipment will be tagged.

All electronic screens will be fixed to a wall mount. We will also have maintenance to ensure OHS concerns are reviewed and fixed.

## **Prep Enrolments 2022**

**We are currently taking Prep enrolments for 2022. Please make sure existing families call into our school office and collect an enrolment pack for 2022.**

Please spread the news of the new chapter and vision at St Peter's. Our nurturing and diverse community that is committed to provide the best education for the students in our care.

**Enrolments close on May 7th.**

Tours can be arranged by contacting the office and arranging a suitable time.

Please check the website for more information.

We are looking for volunteers to do a letterbox drop in our Epping area.

If you enjoy walking and can drop off school flyers while walking in our local neighbourhood - we would love to hear from you. Just call into our office and our friendly office staff will give you a delivery pack. Thanks for your support.



## **Agreed ways: COMPETITION**

Over the school holiday period the students will have the opportunity to design a poster that displays our school **agreed ways**.

4 posters will be chosen to be enlarged and used as display around the school. Each entry must be completed on an A4 Piece of paper and the agreed ways must be clearly displayed. Be creative and unique. Entries due the 1st week of Term 2. Winners announced next term.



AGREED WAYS:

- 1. Follow all directions**
- 2. Treat property and the environment with care**
- 3. Listen and speak respectfully.**
- 4. Keep hands, feet and objects to yourself.**
- 5. Walk safely around the school.**

### **Lunch with the principal**

Next term I will be asking teachers to identify students that are displaying behaviours that show they are respecting the school **Agreed Ways**. Teachers will keep a list of students. At least twice a week I will invite students that are displaying agreed-upon ways behaviour to join me in the staff room for lunch from 1.30pm - 1.45pm.

This will allow me to listen to student voices about discussing what is working well / even better if and celebrate students making good choices.

Children will bring along their own lunch from home and I will start with the senior school and move down. Hopefully I will have lunch with all of our students this year.



### **School uniform**

In Term 2 the students begin to wear their winter uniform. We will allow a two week uniform change over period. On Monday May 3rd, all students will be expected to wear their entire uniform.



***Thanks for your wonderful support and encouragement this term. It has been wonderful to connect with so many families.***

***In a world you can be anything - Be Kind***

Kindest Regards,  
Angela Tonkin

***St Peter's School is committed to the care, well being and protection of children, young people and vulnerable people in our community***

## The Week in Review

Term One has seen the return of St Peters much-loved Lalor District Sports Association inter-school sports competition, coordinated by our invaluable Madeleine Brignell. St Peters competed in Bat Tennis, Softball, Cricket and Rounders. We were proud to hear consistently positive feedback about how our students represented our school. Their conduct with competitors, teachers and support staff should be commended. Congratulations to Tori Sicari, Julian Gangi, Emilia Colossimo, Xavier Eyre, Ruby Nguyen and Angelica Banquil for receiving Sportsmanship Awards. We look forward to beginning the winter season in term 2!

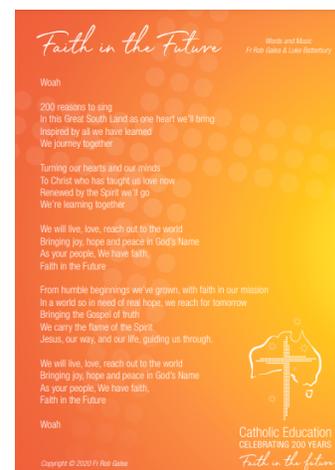
*Regards,*

*Christine Moore*

### **St Peter's Advisory Board**

The Advisory Board met for the second time this year. We discussed the working bee and the idea is to have more like it in the future. The reading workshop was also a huge success with over 40 families attending and we will continue to have more like this. Melissa shared the home learning policy, she explained how home learning should not be seen as work (traditionally referred to as homework) rather an extension of learning that had occurred at school. Our next meeting will be held in May.

The Middle school celebrated **Catholic Education Week**. It has been 200 years of Catholic Education and to celebrate this Fr Rob Galea and Luke Batterbury wrote a national song. As prayer, the students listened and sang along to the lyrics of the song. It is called 'Faith in the Future' you may like to listen to this song at home.



## AWARD WINNERS

Congratulations to the following students who received an award at our whole school assembly last week.

<p><u>School Values</u></p> <p>Show Respect Think Positively Act Responsibly Remember to Persist and Bounceback.</p>	<p>Jayda 1/2 Aprit 1/2 Alina 1/2 Aislinn 1/2 Julian 3/4 Natalia 3/4 Zack 3/4 Ayesha 5/6 Xavier 5/6 Tori 5/6</p>
<p><u>Whole School Agreed Ways</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Follow all staff directions.</li> <li>● Treat property and the environment with care.</li> <li>● Listen and speak respectfully.</li> <li>● Keep hands, feet and objects to yourself. Only touch in kindness.</li> <li>● Walk safely around the school.</li> </ul>	



### National Day Against Violence and Bullying

Friday March 19th was National Day Against Bullying and Violence. Throughout the week leading up to this day the students engaged in learning about building good friendships and being cyber safe. They explored the concept of bullying both online and in person and spoke about how to stand up to bullying and our responsibility to keep ourselves and our parents safe. On the National Day Against Bullying and Violence the students read and signed our School Pledge with their class.

I make a commitment to take a stand against bullying.  
I will treat others with **RESPECT** and kindness.  
I will be a **POSITIVE** role model.  
I will **PERSIST** with displaying our School Values and following our Agreed Ways to create a happy, safe and supportive school environment for all.  
It is my **RESPONSIBILITY** to help others by reporting bullying.



## Harmony Day

On Friday March 26th we celebrated Harmony Day at St Peter's. Students wore cultural dress or orange and were engaged in learning activities that focussed on diversity and inclusion. Thank you to all the families who participated in our Online Harmony Week Collage by sharing photographs and images that shared their family culture and traditions that were shared with our school community on our school Facebook page.



## Project Compassion

Thank you to our school community who have worked together to raise \$337.30 during our Project Compassion Lenten Appeal. This money will be given to Caritas Australia to support their national and international projects to develop communities.



## Holy Week

Over the last few weeks the students have engaged in learning about Holy Week. Students have discussed the significance of the events of Holy Week as well as examining and reflecting on the Scripture passages associated with each of the events.

As a school we have developed a Holy Week Reflection Journey. Each level has taken part in developing a display to be a part of our display which has been set up in the Galilee Space. Each class has had an opportunity to visit this area with their teacher to reflect on Holy Week. This has been one way in which students have engaged in learning about the Passion of Jesus. These displays will remain in the Galilee Space for families and parishioners to view during Holy Week and Easter mass services.



## Reminders



### ADMINISTRATION

**Notices:** The school office will be closed from Thursday 1st April 3.30pm and re-opened Monday 19th April at 8.30am.



### STUDENT MEDICAL INFORMATION - REMINDER

It is important to inform the school if your child has a medical condition (e.g. anaphylaxis asthma, serious allergies etc). Please ensure the office has an **up to date copy** of your child's medical action plan. Copies of action plans will be placed in the first aid room and classroom. ***If your child does not have an up to date medical plan, the school will continue to use the existing plan until a new one is provided.***

## Coming Up at St Peter's School

**St Peter's Primary School, Epping**



### **A Classroom Helper Information Session**

Wednesday, 21st April 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

Are you interested in becoming a parent helper in our learning spaces?  
If so, you are invited to join us as learning partners and attend the Classroom Helpers Information Session which will be held in the first week of Term 2;

**Wednesday 21st April, at 9:30am - 10:30am in the Library**

with tea and coffee to follow.

This is an opportunity to learn more about what is involved in being a helper in our literacy and numeracy sessions.

If you would like to become a Classroom Helper/Learning Partner, then you will need to participate in this session. You may want to use the school term holidays to organise a current *Working With Childrens Check* which you can do at any local post office.

We look forward to seeing you there.

With appreciation,

Melissa Gatt

[mgatt@stprepp.catholic.edu.au](mailto:mgatt@stprepp.catholic.edu.au)

Teaching and Learning Leader

Literacy Leader

Angela Tonkin

[atonkin@stprepp.catholic.edu.au](mailto:atonkin@stprepp.catholic.edu.au)

Principal

# Parent Helpers





# Book Club

To the families of St Peter's Community,

We are very excited to announce that St Peter's will be participating in **Scholastic Book Club** from Term Two onwards!

Up to twice a term, during the school year a Club catalogue will be sent home with your child. This catalogue includes a different selection of books that cater to all ages. You'll find award-winning books and bestsellers, as well as old and new favourites. From the Club catalogue you will have the opportunity to order books and have them delivered right to your child's classroom. Another great bonus with Book Club is that each order helps earn free books and teaching materials to go back into our school.

Ordering is made simple with The **Book Club LOOP**. The **Book Club LOOP** platform for parents allows you to pay by credit card. Your child's order is submitted directly to the school safe and sound and the books will be delivered to class. You can place your child's order at **scholastic.com.au/LOOP** or using the **LOOP** app, which can be downloaded from the App Store or Google Play. Alternatively, orders can be made using the order form at the back of the catalogue and brought into school with cash payment. Additional information about ordering will be provided in Term Two when the Club catalogue is sent out.

Stay tuned for this new and exciting adventure at St Peter's! Thank you for your support.

# **Growing up Online**

## **Cyber Safety Parent Information Night**

When - Wednesday 28th April

Where - St Peter's Primary School

Time - 6.30pm (1 hour and 40 mins)

Host - Susan McClean

(Australia's foremost expert in the area of Cybersafety and young people.)

**\*\* Please note, the presentation is an adult only event**

**However, to coincide with this night for students in Years 3 - 6 this will be a social night**



An educational & entertaining session for Parents and carers, Susan's unparalleled knowledge leaves audiences shocked at the reality of the online world. It is a wake up call to even the most switched on parent and is delivered with Susan's famous 'no nonsense' approach.

The session will cover the positive benefits of technology as well as what parents need to be aware of

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Cyber safety expert Susan McLean was a member of Victoria Police for 27 years. Susan's presentation will help you understand and connect with your child's online world and guide them safely through it. Filled with case studies about what children get up to online and the very latest research, Susan's advice is invaluable. With her clear guidelines, parents can allow their children to embrace and enjoy technology, without the stress or worry.

## Community News

**Early Days is a series of FREE workshops for parents, grandparents, and families of young children (0-7 years) who have an Autism Spectrum Disorder diagnosis or who are going through the assessment and diagnostic process.**

This initiative is funded by the Australian Government Department of Social Services through the Helping Children with Autism package.

The workshops are facilitated by Margaret Clancy who has many years of experience working with young autistic children and their families. Margaret will assist parents to understand the impact of Autism on their child and explore strategies to enable them to understand their child and family.

Please advertise as widely as you see appropriate.

For more information about these workshop and other workshops can be found on our website <https://www.amaze.org.au/support/early-days/>

Below are the direct links to Eventbrite for registration

My Child and Autism

<https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/early-days-my-child-and-autism-workshop-tuesday-27th-april-2021-tickets-148517928121>

Understanding Behaviour

<https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/early-days-understanding-behaviour-workshop-10th-and-17th-may-2021-tickets-126356412431>

Progression to School

<https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/early-days-progression-to-school-workshop-monday-10th-may-2021-tickets-126357612019>

Encouraging Interaction

<https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/early-days-encouraging-interaction-workshop-monday-17th-may-2021-tickets-126361299047>

Please note: These workshops are ***not catered for professionals*** and we only allow professionals to attend if attending with a parent/carer of an autistic child.

Feel free to contact us if you have any queries.

*Kind Regards*

**Anastasia Petropoulos** | Reception/Administration (*she/her*)

*Mon – Thu: 9am – 3pm*

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