



St Joseph's Primary Schofields Newsletter

Term 4 Week 2 2020

Principal's Message

Dear Parents,

Welcome to the busiest term of the year!

In term 4 we welcome our new Kinders for 2021 and sadly farewell our Year 6 students. We are eagerly awaiting changes in COVID guidelines so that we can open our brand new school further to our very patient parent community but at the very least can go ahead with Kinder 2021 orientation and some Year 6 graduation activities.



Kindergarten playing a reading game
Practising recognising words

We are looking forward to Book Week next week. It's so good to have the library back and the children are enjoying book borrowing. Reading and being read to in Primary school is so important. Besides the mechanics of learning to read, books open up a whole world of imagination and discovery, developing children's thinking, vocabulary and imagination. Children's recreational reading is directly related to educational success. Like learning a sport, musical instrument or language, reading for enjoyment takes some practise and more than anything needs parents' encouragement and participation. Recreational reading is brain training!



Our Parent Group election has been put on hold until Term 1 next year. However, we will be having a cookie dough fundraiser later this term. Stay tuned for more information.

Kind Regards,

Mrs Lesley Studans
Principal

Assistant Principal

Welcome back!

Lots of exciting writing is happening around the school! I have been lucky enough to be working in Year 3 and 4 in writing. We have been enjoying exploring words and phrases that author's use to entertain or persuade their audience and how we can capture these and use them within our own writing. Mentor texts are a powerful strategy that teachers are using to show students good examples of writing and gives them a model to strive to.

Over the next two weeks, the students will be engaging in an online reading assessment called PAT-r from Year 2-6. This test has a similar format as the Reading NAPLAN test, however, the data is only used at a school and diocesan level. Over the coming weeks, the teacher will be using this data as well as NAPLAN data to determine our successes and our next steps for the rest of the year and our focus in literacy for 2021.

ATTENDANCE

Every day counts for our students and every minute missed of learning adds up. Keep up the attendance (if there are no flu-like symptoms) and remember that if you have any concerns to speak to either Mrs Bourke or Mrs Delvecchio.

It is not only important that your child attends school each day but that they arrive at school on time. **Please make allowances for traffic and parking as these often cause delays.**

If your child is away from school, it is important that you provide the classroom teacher with a note outlining the reason that your child was away within 7 days. The teachers are required to mark on the roll the reason for the student's absence. If no note is given, then no explanation can be provided for the absence. If you would like to send an electronic message about absences, we ask that you do not send it through SeeSaw but use the Skoolbag app instead.



Mrs Joanna Delvecchio
Assistant Principal

Upcoming Events

Friday, 23rd October

Wednesday, 28th October

Thursday, 29th October

Crazy Sock Day

Book Parade

Shoe Box Thursday (Year 5 & 6)

Religious Education Co-ordinator

Confirmation at Mary Immaculate Parish Quakers Hill

The following students have or will be making their Confirmation at Mary Immaculate Parish Quakers Hill.

On Your
Confirmation Day



May the Lord always protect you
Now you've Confirmed your faith
May He love, may He guide you
Help you live your life with grace

Blaize Va'a, Olivia Hogbin, Lachlan Vella, Harley Lockeridge, Lexie Beacroft, Mathew Every, Ashlee Gosling, Kassandra Gella, Angelique Goupy, Elena Nguyen, Taylah Lavender, Al Zedric Ocampo, Rhys Macdonald, Isabella Howlett, Zachary Krajancic Alastair Laylo-McCall, Mariam Ajak, Jack Wilkinson, Keylan Smith, Dane Leeson.

A special welcome also to the Catholic family for **Olivia Benson** who is being baptised!

Sacrament of Confirmation

To live a good life we need many gifts. The spiritual gifts that come from God are boosted through the sacrament of confirmation. These help us to understand the world, to have strength, to have faith, to be wise, to think deeply, to respect ourselves and our neighbours.



These children are now ready to face all the world can bring to them as fully initiated Catholics! The gifts of the spirit are received through a ceremony where they are sponsored by an older Catholic. The Bishop, or his representative, anoints the children with a special oil called the oil of Chrism, lays his hands on them and invites the Holy Spirit to bring the gifts.



Catholic Mission and Socktober

October is World Mission Month. This year we are raising funds for the Arrupe Centre in Cambodia. Located in the Prefecture of Battambang in the north-west of the country, Bishop Enrique “Kike” Figaredo Alvargonzalez and his team started the Arrupe Centre to reach out to children with disability, giving them support and opportunities to help shape a brighter future. This **Friday 23rd October (WEEK 2)**, the students will be able to wear crazy socks with their sports uniform and participate in a “Sockball” penalty shots, using a soccerball made by each class out of old t-shirts, socks and plastic bags. To help raise funds for the Arrupe Centre in Cambodia, we are asking all students to **bring in gold and silvers coins to donate.**

Socktober engages students and young people in a holistic experience of mission – activating a learning mind, an open heart and hands for action.



Scripture Reflection

Parable of the Good Samaritan (Luke 10:25-37)

The Parable of the Good Samaritan models a real choice we make in deciding how to live and treat those around us. In the parable the first two men, a Priest and Levite, do nothing; but a Samaritan, from a group disliked by the Jews because they didn't observe the one true religion, stopped and showed great compassion. Jesus then tells the disciples to do the same, and that commandment is repeated to each one of us: go and be a neighbour to your brother or sister in difficulty or to the stranger, elderly, migrant or sick. Let us walk the path of the Good Samaritan.



Mrs Anne Watson
Religious Education Co-ordinator

School Bags

Some bags sold this year have a fault in the fabric. These bags will be replaced quickly. Contact Elle from Oz Fashions on 0421 216 414. New bags with improved specifications will be ready by the end of the year. Any bags swapped before then will be replaced again.



Please take the option to replace the school bag as other bags are not part of the uniform.

Operation Christmas Child Shoeboxes

On **Thursday, 29th October** we are having 'Shoe box Thursday' where Stage 3 students will be returning their gift filled shoe boxes back to school as a part of Operation Christmas Child.

Stage 3 have started a new Religion unit called 'What is human dignity?' and this activity fits perfectly with restoring the dignity of poor and disadvantaged children. It is also a brilliant way to share the Gospel with children, who then share it with their parents and the rest of their family.

We are so grateful to all the families who have embraced and supported us with this initiative and we can't wait to see, as a school, how many lives we have been able to impact.



Many thanks

The Stage 3 Teachers

Canteen News

Since July, a change has been made to the ordering app – Cashless. The monthly fees for ordering are no longer being charged. Instead, a 29c surcharge is being added for each order. This will help those with larger families and those who only order occasionally.



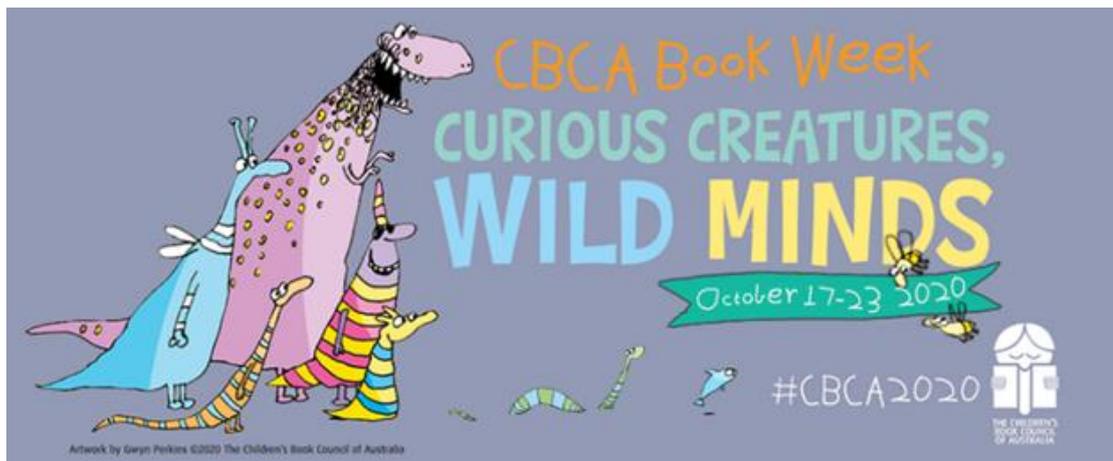
Book Week

St Joseph's will be celebrating Book Week next week! It will be a little different this year due to Covid-19 restrictions, but it will still be a lot of fun.

Throughout the week the children will enjoy

- coming to school dressed as their favourite book character for a classroom Book Character Parade;
- an online book fair at www.redgumbookclub.au/ where you can order books online and they will be delivered to your home
The link is <http://www.redgumbookclub.com.au/bookfair/R10783>
- a virtual visit by Perform Education with a very entertaining presentation showcasing some of 2020's shortlisted books;
- a colouring competition, with one person per class awarded a prize;
- some talented Year 5 students have prepared a play for Kindergarten, Year 1 and Year 2;
- all this and the re-opening of the library!

Book Week 2020 will be a terrific week celebrating the wonder of books and stories.



Mrs Joanna Neil
Librarian

Socktober

October is World Mission Month, this year we are raising funds for the Arrupe Centre in Cambodia. Located in the Prefecture of Battambang in the north-west of the country, Bishop Enrique "Kike" Figaredo Alvargonzalez and his team started the Arrupe Centre to reach out to children with disability, giving them support and opportunities to help shape a brighter future.



One of those children is Dara. At just eleven years old, Dara lost his right hand and the majority of his sight to an unexploded ordnance. With over three million landmines estimated to still be buried across the country, and 100 incidents estimated each year, it is common for today's children to be greatly affected by the country's past.

This is why partnering with **Catholic Mission** to raise funds for the Arrupe Centre is so important. The Centre, and all of the people that it helps, rely on the generous support that school communities like ours, can provide.

That support helps provide necessities such as rehabilitation, food and education, as well as formation to help the residents become active members of society and community leaders that act for peace and justice.

So on **Friday 23rd October (WEEK 2)**, the students will be able to wear crazy socks with their sports uniform and participate in a "Sockball" penalty shots, using a soccerball made by each class out of old t-shirts, socks and plastic bags.

To help raise funds for the Arrupe Centre in Cambodia, we are asking all students to bring in gold and silver coins to donate.



So what can the students wear? Crazy socks (odd socks, colourful socks, the crazier the better) with their sports uniform.



What do the students need to bring in? Gold and silver coins to help raise money for the Arrupe Centre in Cambodia.



Fundraising is an excellent way for students to reach out and help empower children around the world! Join us this World Mission Month and make a real difference today.



Thank you for continued support of Catholic Missions
Mrs Watson
Religious Education Coordinator

School Travel for 2021



2021 school travel applications are now open

Applications for student travel in 2021 opened from Monday 12 October 2020.

Students who require a School Opal card or travel pass for 2021 can now [apply](#) online. A new application should be submitted if a student is applying for a school travel pass for the first time or requesting an additional pass as a result of a new shared parental responsibility situation (e.g. joint custody).

Students who have changed school/campus, changed address, repeated a year or received an expiry notification from Transport for NSW for their school travel entitlement should [re-apply or update their details](#).

*Applications must be completed by the student's parent or legal guardian if the student is aged under 16 years. Students 16 years and over must complete the application form themselves.

Where there is a change of distance eligibility based on a student's grade, the system will automatically update a student's entitlement if they meet the new criteria. If they do not meet the new [eligibility criteria](#), they will receive an expiry notification via email.

Students who have an entitlement approved under a medical condition which is due to expire will receive a notification advising them to re-apply.

[Term Bus Pass](#) holders will receive a notification to re-apply.

If a student needs to update their information or re-apply, they should go online to <https://apps.transport.nsw.gov.au/ssts/updateDetails>

Applications need to be submitted before **31 December 2020** to ensure that current student entitlements are updated and their current entitlement/card remains valid. If their application is submitted after 31 December 2020, the system will automatically cancel an entitlement/card and a new one will need to be issued.

Students in the Opal network applying for a SSTS or Term Bus Pass entitlement for the first time will receive their card at their nominated postal address. Cards will be mailed out from January 2021.

Students residing in Rural and Regional (R&R) areas should receive their travel pass at the commencement of the new school year from their nominated operator, this may be distributed via the school or sent direct to their address. **Note:** some R&R operators do not issue travel passes. Students/Parents should confirm with their nominated operator if they do not receive a pass.

New Concession Entitlement Cards

Transport for NSW will be replacing the below cards with Transport Concession Entitlement Cards (TCEC) from October 2020:

- Senior Secondary Student Concession Card (16 years and over) – also used by Mature Secondary Students (18 years and over), Distance Education Students and Home School Students
- Proof of Age card (when a student under 16 years of age looks older)
- Boarder Rail Pass.

All previous cards will be valid until they expire. Students who require a Transport Concession Entitlement Card should speak with their school administration staff.

Enquiries regarding school student travel can be submitted to Transport for NSW at:

<https://transportnsw.info/contact-us/feedback/passes-concessions-feedback>

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Cool Kids Music Co.
lessons at school

Keyboard & Guitar Tuition **Enrol now!**

Available for students in years 1-6
 * Perfect for beginners
 * Instrument provided for lesson
 * 30 minute lessons, once a week
 * Maximum 8 students per class
 * \$13.50 (+GST) per lesson pre paid at the beginning of the term
 * \$20.00 once off book fee

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Music Olympics held once a Term!
 * Encouragement, Awesomeness, Completion and Certificate of Participation Awards
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If you wish to enrol please visit
www.coolkidsmusic.com.au

For more information please call or email our friendly staff on:
0457 668 742 or enquiries@coolkidsmusic.com.au

*Priority usage fee may apply at some schools.
Information and website are subject to change.