

St Joseph's Primary Schofields Newsletter

Term 2 Week 4 2021

Principal's Message

Dear Parents and Carers,

This week our students in Year 3 and Year 5 participated in the NAPLAN assessment. NAPLAN is a national assessment of literacy and numeracy. All students in Australia in Years 3,5,7 and 9 do the assessment during the same time period, usually in May. This gives some megadata to educational planners and schools that is used when planning state-based funding and teaching programs.

As parents, you may have been wondering what happens in the lead up to NAPLAN and on the day.

On the day of NAPLAN, the children enter the learning space and sit quietly at their allocated desk. They have their iPad and headphones ready. Nearby there is a bank of spare iPads in case of technical difficulties. The system has been designed so that it is easy to swap devices if needed. One of the teachers acts as the technical support.

Online NAPLAN is relatively new, but the children, being digital natives, adapt quickly. Technology allows the assessment to be tailored to the children. If they answer a question successfully the technology moves them on to a harder question. If they don't answer the question successfully, technology moves them on to an easier question. This builds confidence as well as finding the learning level that is correct for the child.

Some children are supported in a smaller group than their class group and we ask parent permission for this. Especially for Year 3, NAPLAN is a big thing. We seek at school to make sure that we manage anxiety and I know you will be doing the same at home.

The writing assessment, which was yesterday, was a pencil and paper response for Year 3. The writing assessments for Year 5, 7 and 9 were digital. The children had practices in class leading up to the assessment with a stimulus picture, time to plan and then writing.

NAPLAN results are returned to the school and sent to parents in a plain envelope. As a team, we analyse our NAPLAN results and see where there are areas for development. The individual results are usually not a surprise and we are already working on extending and supporting the children's learning. NAPLAN may show an area of strength for the school or an area of weakness. This then becomes part of our school plan for improvement.

When a child is enrolling in school and they have done NAPLAN, we ask the parents to supply NAPLAN results. This is so we can have a rough idea of where a child is with their learning and make a good match with their new teacher and class. We don't use NAPLAN as a way of excluding students. In fact, Catholic schools are open to all so NAPLAN results are not a barrier to enrolment in any school.

NAPLAN is a snapshot of how the children's learning is on the days of assessment. It is valuable information but much more up to date information is used every day by the teachers to guide the children's learning.

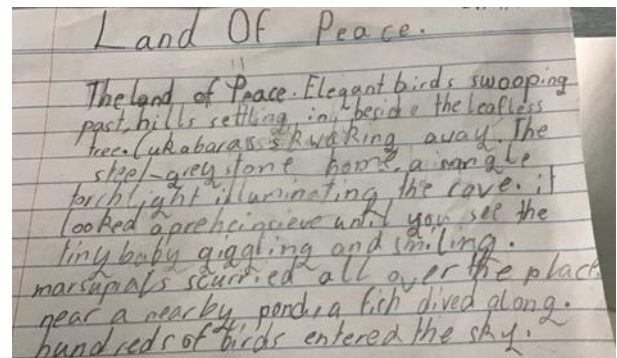
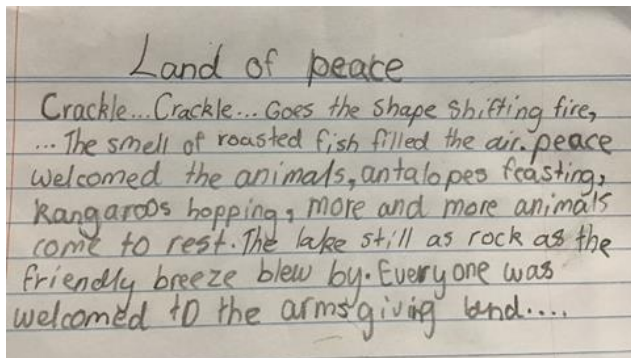
Kind Regards,

Mrs Lesley Studans
Principal

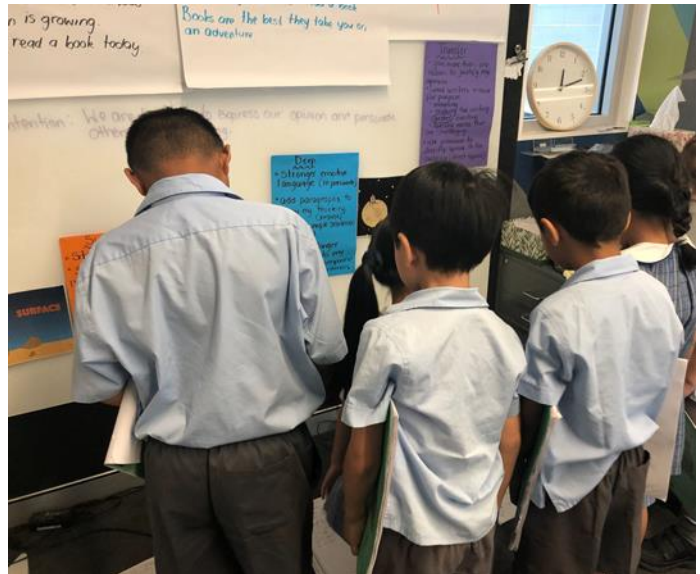
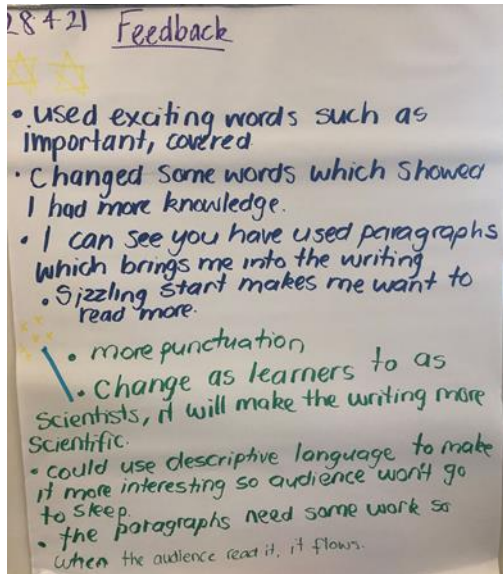
Assistant Principal

Lots of exciting writing is happening around the school! I have been lucky enough to be working in Year 4 and Mrs Murphy has been working in Year 2. 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. Importantly the role that feedback from teachers, peers and ourselves helps to improve our writing.

Here a couple of great examples from Year 4 of their writing



Year 2 using the Success Criteria to give feedback and determine at what level they are working at.



UNSW COMPETITIONS

We will run the UNSW competitions again this year. This is an **optional assessment** that you may like your child from Year 3 – 6 to complete. The dates for the assessment are the following.

Competition Dates

- English Tuesday, 17th August 2021 at **3pm - 3.45pm**
- Mathematics Tuesday, 31st August 2021 at **3pm - 3.45pm**

The tests are done online and the students will require their iPads to complete the tests

Each test costs \$17.05. To purchase a test please go to the following website
<https://shop.icasassessments.com/pages/pps>

And type in the following code: **MXF529**

Please note that there are closing dates to purchase the tests. Tests cannot be purchased after these dates:-

English - Sunday, 1st August 2021

Mathematics - Sunday, 15th August 2021

ATTENDANCE - EVERY DAY COUNTS!

Please ensure that your child not only attends school each day but that they arrive at school on time.

Remember school starts at 8.30. If your child arrives after 8.30 you will need to park the car and walk your child to the office as there will be no teacher to assist at the Kiss and Drop area.



If your child is away, please ensure that you write a letter to the teacher explaining why your child was absent or provide a medical certificate if appropriate. Please keep your child at home if they have flu symptoms and get them COVID tested. Results must be sent to the school before your child can return.

Mrs Joanna Delvecchio
Assistant Principal

Upcoming Important Dates

11 th – 21 st May	NAPLAN
Thurs, 13 th May	Primary Assembly 1.30pm Parents/Carers welcome
Fri, 14 th May	Walk Safely to School Day
Thurs, 20 th May	Infants Assembly 1.30pm Parents/Carers welcome K-Yr 2
Thurs, 27 th May	Primary Assembly 1.30pm Parents/Carers welcome Yr 3 - 6
Mon, 31 st May	School Photos (Winter Uniform for all)

Religious Education Co-ordinator

The Feast of the Ascension of Jesus

The Feast of the Ascension of Jesus is celebrated this Thursday, 13th May. The Feast of the Ascension commemorates Jesus' ascension into heaven 40 days after his resurrection. Ascension Day falls 40 days after Easter, on the 6th Thursday of Easter, but in some parts of the world, the solemnity is celebrated on the Sunday after the



Let us pray,

On this day of Ascension, we watch and wait for Jesus' return.

Father in heaven, our minds were prepared for the coming of your kingdom when you took Christ beyond our sight so that we might seek him in glory.

*May we follow where he has led and find our hope in his glory,
for he is Lord forever.*

All: Amen

Reminders



*First Eucharist Sacramental Program
2021 at Mary Immaculate Parish
Zuakers Hill*

Our parish First Eucharist program, which is for students in Year 4 and above, began their first class this week. Here are important dates to remember:-

Preparation Sessions

There will be three or four preparation sessions for this sacrament which will be done in the church on the dates below.

Monday Classes will begin at 4.00pm or 7pm and run for 1 hour.

Tuesday Classes will begin at 4.00pm or 7pm and run for 1 hour.

Monday 17th May or Tuesday 18th May -

Third Class- In the Church

Monday 24th May or Tuesday 25th May -

Fourth Class- In the Church

You will be expected to come to the same session each week.

In case of an emergency change, please contact Sr Valerie on 0414 638 884.

Masses for the Sacrament of First Eucharist.

Due to COVID-19 restrictions there will be a limit on the number of guests for each family that are able to attend the First Communion ceremony. This will be communicated during the preparation of the sacrament. We appreciate your prayers, support and understanding during this time.

First Eucharist Mass Dates:

Thursday, 3 rd June -	First Eucharist Mass 6pm
Sunday 6 th June -	First Eucharist Mass 2pm
Thursday 10 th June -	First Eucharist Mass 6pm
Sunday 13 th June -	First Eucharist Mass 2pm
Thursday 17 th June -	First Eucharist Mass 6pm
Sunday 20 th June -	First Eucharist Mass 2pm

If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact: Sr Valerie – mobile: 0414 638 884 (no calls after 8pm please) or email sacramental.coordinator@maryimmac.org.au

Mrs Anne Watson
Religious Education Co-ordinator

Correct School Uniform

Uniforms are available through Oz Fashions or the second-hand uniform shop, open on Monday.

There has been some confusion about the correct winter uniform, particularly for boys.

For boys it is the long sleeve shirt with school crest, grey dress trouser, tie and black laceup or velcro shoes not trainers, grey socks. Short pants are not to be worn in winter. See below for sports shorts.



Sports uniform stays the same throughout the year but there is a long sports pant for winter. Sports shorts can be worn in winter.

Girls wear the winter tunic, blue long sleeve blouse, tab tie, navy high socks or navy tights. No white socks for winter uniform.

Joe from OzFashions has created a version of the long pants for boys with an easier fitting waist. Thank you to the parents who have given him feedback

Walk Safely to School Day 2021

On Friday, 14th May 2021, St. Joseph's will be participating in Walk Safely to School Day. We would like to encourage all parents, carers and teachers to promote safe walking to their children.



This national initiative aims to encourage children to lead a healthier, more active lifestyle by simply including a walk at the beginning, at lunchtime and at the end of each day. It also promotes reduced car-dependency, greater use of public transport, cleaner air, improved diets and road safety to primary school children throughout Australia.

Five ways that you and your children can get involved:

1. Walk some or, if you can, walk all the way to school
2. Get off the bus, train, or tram a few stops earlier and walk the rest of the way
3. Leave the car at least 1km away from school and walk the rest of the way
4. Set your alarm 30 minutes earlier to fit in a walk to school
5. If you can't walk in the morning, walk home after school

Remember active kids are healthy kids so start planning your own 'Walk Safely to School Day' journey for Friday 14th May 2021.



Friday 14 May 2021

Until they're ten, children must always hold an adult's hand when crossing the road

Mrs Kimberley Turner
Sports Coordinator

St Joseph's Stitches & Squares Knitting Group

This Term we have started a knitting group at St Joseph's called 'Stitches & Squares'!

The aim is to teach a group of children the lovely, mindful skill of knitting so we can create blankets to donate to people in need in our community.



Last week, a small group of Year 4, 5 and 6 students began to learn the basic knitting stitch. We had lots of children interested in joining the knitting group and we aim to teach more children as the year progresses. It is very heartwarming to see lots of children wanting to learn how to knit but also help others in our community.



If your child or anyone you know would like to knit squares from home, that would be wonderful! The more stitches to squares, the more warm, cosy blankets we can create! We are knitting squares: 20 stitches x 20 stitches, using 6mm needles and 12ply yarn.

Happy knitting!

Mrs Melissa Stevenson

School Crossing

Our new crossing supervisor, Gillian, is looking forward to welcoming you at the crossing to help all cross Alex Avenue safely.

It is very important that you do not stop your car across the school crossing when you are caught up in traffic in the morning and afternoon. Please make sure that you stop before the crossing if the traffic is banked up in front of you. It is very important to keep the crossing clear at all times for the safety of our children.



School Photos

School Photos will be happening on Monday, 31st May (Week 7). The students need to be dressed in **full school winter uniform**. Please ensure that your child has the correct full winter uniform prior to the day.

The school photo envelopes have been sent home. Photos can be ordered & paid for online or alternatively you can place cash in the envelope provided. This envelope is to be handed into the photographer on the day of the photos. Please **do not** return these envelopes to school before photo day.

If you have not given permission for your child's photo to be published (page 2 of the Consent and Data Collection sheet of the Enrolment Form), you will need to complete

a separate consent form. This form was forwarded to relevant families last week. If you did not receive this consent form, please contact the school office. If we do not receive this consent, your child's photo will not be taken on the day.

Sibling envelopes are available at the office.



St Joseph's Primary School

**SCHOOL PHOTOGRAPHS WILL BE TAKEN ON:
Monday 31 May 2021**

**ORDER NOW go to www.advancedlife.com.au and enter the code
8J6 Q5Q 4YN**

Dear Parents,

School photographs are scheduled to be taken by **advancedlife**. Whilst an envelope and flyer will be distributed shortly, if possible it is our preference that ordering be completed online to reduce administration and potential security issues related to the return of cash and envelopes on photo day.

Orders for packages and sibling photographs can be placed securely online at www.advancedlife.com.au using our school's unique **9 digit advancedorder code**. Portrait and group package orders are due by photography day.

Should you wish to purchase a sibling photograph online, the order must be placed no later than the day before photography day. Sibling photographs will only be taken if an order has been placed.

Should you have any queries concerning school photographs or online ordering, please contact us at www.advancedlife.com.au/contact



Parents Representative Council

SUPPORT | CELEBRATE | EDUCATE



Emerging from COVID-19: Implications for Wellbeing HELPING YOUR CHILD MANAGE ANXIETY



Learn effective way to deal with child anxiety.
How to encourage positive behavior practices.
What can you do?

Our guest speaker for the evening is:

Anoushka Houseman

Clinical Psychologist

School Wellbeing councilor - Santa Sophia Catholic College
Catholic Education Diocese of Parramatta (CEDP)



Register FREE now: www.prc.catholic.edu.au

Monday, 24th May 2021

Meeting will be held via Zoom

7 pm start

www.prc.catholic.edu.au



@preparra



@preparra



THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSOR

Floral Expressions

For details on the School fundraising program

Call Charles Lukasik on 02 9683 1116



ST JOSEPH'S TERM 2 2021

WEEK	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SAT/SUN
Week 1 April	19th PUPIL FREE DAY	20th	21st	22nd	23rd Closing date for Sibling Enrolments	24th/25th ANZAC DAY Public Holiday (Sun)
Week 2 April	26th SCHOOL AS USUAL (NO PUBLIC HOLIDAY)	27th	28th	29th Primary Assembly - Yr6 Hosting 1.30pm (Parents/carers welcome)	30th	1st/2nd
Week 3 May	3rd	4th	5th Parents and Friends Meeting 7pm	6th Infants Assembly - 2M & 2G hosting- 1.30pm (Parents/carers welcome)	7th Mother's Day Open Classroom 8.40-9.30am Mother's Day gift collection from the Bus Bay (times to be advised)	8th/9th HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY ☺
Week 4 May	10th	11th NAPLAN Writing (Year 3 and Year 5)	12th NAPLAN Reading (Year 3 and 5)	13th NAPLAN Conventions of Language (Year 3 and 5) Primary Assembly-Year 5 Hosting 1.30pm (Parents/carers welcome)	14th Walk to School Day	15th/16th
Week 5 May	17th NAPLAN Mathematics (Year 3 and 5)	18th NAPLAN Catchup	19th NAPLAN Catchup First Eucharist Online Registration closes	20th NAPLAN Catchup Infants Assembly - 2L & 2V hosting- 1.30pm (Parents/carers welcome)	21st	22nd/23rd
Week 6 May	24th	25th	26th	27th Primary Assembly - Year 4 hosting 1.30pm (Parents/carers welcome)	28th	29th/30th
Week 7 June	31st School Photos	1st	2nd	3rd Infants Assembly- 1L & 1M hosting -1.30pm (Parents/carers welcome) First Eucharist Celebration 6pm	4th	5th/6th First Eucharist Celebration 2pm
Week 8 June	7th	8th	9th	10th Primary Assembly - Year 3 hosting -1.30pm (Parents/carers welcome) First Eucharist Celebration 6pm	11th	12th/13th First Eucharist Celebration 2pm
Week 9 June	14th QUEEN'S BIRTHDAY PUBLIC HOLIDAY	15th	16th Reports go home	17th Infants Assembly- 1G and 1B Hosting- 1.30pm (Parents/carers welcome) First Eucharist Celebration 6pm	18th K-2 Sports Carnival at School	19th/20th First Eucharist Celebration 2pm
Week 10 June	21st Athletics Carnival (Parents/Carers welcome)	22nd	23rd Parent/Teacher Interviews 2.45 -7.30	24th End of Term Assembly 1.30pm (Parents/carers welcome)	25th LAST DAY OF TERM	26th/27th
Term 3 dates	ICAS Assessments - English - 17th August 2021 at 3pm - 3.45pm and Mathematics - Tuesday, 31st August 2021 at 3pm - 3.45pm					