

ST. PETER'S NEWSLETTER

2A Killeen Street, Sunshine South West:

August 10, 2020

Dear Families,



Sunday's Gospel - Jesus Walks on the Water (Mt 14:22-33)

Immediately he made the disciples get into the boat and go on ahead to the other side, while he dismissed the crowds. And after he had dismissed the crowds, he went up the mountain by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone, but by this time the boat, battered by the waves, was far from the land, for the wind was against them. And early in the morning he came walking toward them on the sea. But when the disciples saw him walking on the sea, they were terrified, saying, "It is a ghost!" And they cried out in fear. But immediately Jesus spoke to them and said, "Take heart, it is I; do not be afraid."

Peter answered him, "Lord, if it is you, command me to come to you on the water." He said, "Come." So Peter got out of the boat, started walking on the water, and came toward Jesus. But when he noticed the strong wind, he became frightened, and beginning to sink, he cried out, "Lord, save me!" Jesus immediately reached out his hand and caught him, saying to him, "You of little faith, why did you doubt?" When they got into the boat, the wind ceased. And those in the boat worshiped him, saying, "Truly you are the Son of God."

As I reflected on Sunday's Gospel I remembered how moved I was nearly 12 months ago when I visited the place of Peter's Primacy in Tabgha, Israel. According to tradition this is the spot where Jesus is said to have laid out a breakfast of bread and fish for the Apostles, and told Peter to "Feed my sheep" (John 21:17) after the miraculous catch, the third time he appeared to them after his resurrection.

With these memories and this week's Gospel in mind, I took time to reflect on The Sea of Galilee and how moved I was to walk in the water where Peter had fished and where Jesus had demanded complete trust from Peter. During these times of Pandemic, I have been called to reach deeply into my faith and trust in God. Like Peter I have not always been as faithful as I could. I too have been frightened and at times, I have felt like sinking. Yet like Peter, I have trusted in God and during my time of 'humanness' I have asked God to protect me and keep me strong. I too pray for you that as these weeks of isolation continue, you too can find strength in Peter's trust and faith in Jesus as you need. I leave you with today's Gospel as a source of strength for you during the coming weeks.

St. Peter...Pray for us



Deputy Principals

Last week we officially welcomed Mrs. Tamara Moravski to St. Peter's as our Deputy Principal of Students and Ms. Grace Frazzica started her new role as Deputy Principal of Staff. Along with myself, they will form the Executive Leadership Team and we will work closely together to ensure St. Peter's continues as the outstanding school that it is and the school of choice in our local community.

I would like to thank Mrs. Monica Miller who was Acting Deputy Principal for the past three weeks.

Welcome back Mrs. Ide Garvey

I would like to take this opportunity to welcome back Mrs. Ide Garvey who is returning from maternity leave, to her role as the Religious Education Leader. Ide will be working two days a week for the remainder of the 2020 school year.

I would like to thank Mrs. Ree Neimann who has supported me in the Religious Leadership of our school during the past six months.

School Closure

Please note that this **Friday, August 14** the school will be closed for a Professional Learning day for staff and there will be no online learning for students. I'm sure you all appreciate the need for staff to continue with their Professional Development even during these times. Please contact me if you require further information about this.

Google Meets and Focus Groups

Congratulations to all of our Prep to Year Six children who are now all accessing our Class Google Meets and Focus Groups each week. This has been an incredible journey especially for our year Prep to Two children. Remember if it doesn't always work on the day your child is trying to access their Google meets, that is ok and their classroom teacher will be in touch with you to try to help you and your child out. I do ask that parents speak respectfully to staff at all times as staff are trying their best like you during these trying times. Please call the school directly if you require any support at all.

Year 3-6 Assembly

Congratulations to all of our Year 3- 6 children and families who joined us for our second virtual assembly last week. I just wanted to reach out and give you all a big virtual hug as I miss you all so very much. A special thanks to our amazing school captains who led this assembly for the first time. We will see you all again in 2 weeks' time on **Wednesday, 19th of August at 11.45am**; please place this date in your diary.

Stage 4 Restrictions

Like you, we too need to be working from home as much as possible and we require a Work Permit to be at school. So, you will see that the school will be closed on some occasions if we do not have to supervise any children. At present there will be 3 adults on site at all times if there are children on site, but we do ask that you keep your children at home if you can, so I can keep staff at home and keep them safe. If you need to come to school for any reason, I ask that you phone ahead on all occasions to ensure someone can help you when you arrive. I continue to thank you all for supporting your children and their teachers in keeping everyone safe.

2021 Prep enrolments

Thank you to the families who have enrolled their children in Prep for 2021. During the next few weeks we will be holding virtual meetings to enrol your children at St. Peter's. If you know of anyone who is looking for a school, please let them know that we currently have space and we are aiming for two classes of Prep children in 2021.

Improved Infrastructure

Prior to Stage 4 restrictions and while the students have been at home, we have installed new televisions in each learning area to ensure when the students return to school they continue to have the best facilities available to them. With these new televisions, both students and teachers will be able to cast their work from their Chromebooks up onto the screen to share and enhance their learning. I think the children will be very excited upon returning to school to see their new and improved classrooms.

100 Days of Prep

Congratulations to our amazing Prep A children who this week will celebrate their first 100 days of Primary Education. What a year it has been for our Prep children. We are so proud of them and of course our Prep parents who have all adapted to a new way of learning we could never have imagined. I hope our Prep children enjoy their celebrations this Thursday.

Mental Wellbeing

During these difficult times you would be aware that the government has put more funding towards mental health. Please utilise these services either for yourself or your child if you require some extra support.

Kids Helpline - 1800 551 800

Parent Line - 13 22 89

Life Line - 13 11 14

Beyond Blue - 1300 22 4636

Victorian Police - 131 444

I wish you all well this fortnight and please continue to contact us if you have any questions or require any support.

God Bless,



Karen Bergin
PRINCIPAL

MAY OUR CHILDREN FLOURISH

We have zero tolerance of child abuse and all allegations and safety concerns will be treated seriously and reported in line with our legal obligations, our moral obligations and our school policies. Creating child-safe environments is a dynamic process that involves active participation and responsibility by parishes, schools, families and communities. It is marked by collaboration, vigilance and proactive approaches across policies, procedures and practices.



As a Catholic Community we respect the Wurrundjeri people, traditional custodians of the land upon which our school resides, and commit ourselves to reconciliation and justice for all in our community and nation.