

# ST. PETER'S NEWSLETTER

2A Killeen Street, Sunshine South West:

Thursday October 22, 2020

Dear Families,

To say we are happy to have the children back is the understatement of the year. The joy of seeing all of our children, families and staff once again has reminded me of the importance of connection and of community. It was lovely to have the balloons and welcome sign, as well as our school gathering of donuts on drinks on the oval to celebrate the return of our children.



Now the children are readjusting to life back at school and we are continuing to ensure they are well supported and cared for during this time. Please let us know if at any time your child requires any extra support.

## Program Support Group Meetings (PSGs)

Thank you to the many families who have supported their children's learning via their PSG meetings this week. Not all children have these meetings, but for the children who do I have been hearing some amazing feedback from our staff about how well you all know the needs of your child and are able to advocate for them. Thanks to Mrs. Miller, Mrs. Tamara and the class teachers for organising and attending these meetings.

## School Crossing

Sadly, I have witnessed three very near misses this week on our school crossing. Many cars are driving too fast near the school. I have seen many cars drive directly through the crossing when children are waiting to cross the road. According to the Vicroads website, the law says -

(1) A driver **approaching a children's crossing** must drive at a speed at which the driver can, if necessary, stop safely before the **crossing**. ... (4) If a driver stops at a **children's crossing** for a pedestrian, the driver must not proceed until there is no pedestrian on or entering the **crossing**.

I have also seen many cars drive through the crossing while pedestrians are still on the crossing.



Please remember it is not only illegal but also unsafe to stop at the crossing so passengers can exit the car. Please take the extra time required to find a safe park. I am very worried that a St. Peter's child will be severely injured if not killed if drivers continue to ignore the safety and wellbeing of our children.

Remember that an adult of any child under 10 should hold a child's hand while crossing the road to ensure their safety.

### Parking

Please remember to always park legally and even take the opportunity to park a few hundred metres from the school and allow your child to walk with you to school safely.

### Victoria Police

Victoria Police have contacted all schools this week to remind families of the following fines, which is timely considering the dangerous driving practises I have witnessed this week.

Offence	Penalty	Demerit Points
Speeding	\$207 - \$826	1-3 points & up to 12 months loss of licence
Fail to give way to pedestrian	\$289	3 points
Fail to stop and remain stationary at children's crossing	\$413	3 points
Parking Offences	\$33 - \$165	-
Use mobile phone whilst driving	\$496	4 points
Seat belt offences	\$330 - \$372	3 points

### **Bike Racks**

While the children have been learning from home there have been a number of improvements to the school including the construction of bike racks. If your child rides their bike to school we now have a place for them to secure their bike for the day.



### **School Shoes**

I understand that many children have grown out of their school shoes and as the shops have been closed you have been unable to buy these. Please note that once the shops are open, we will give families one week to purchase new school shoes prior to us reinforcing our normal school uniform standards. Coming up to school photos in November we will be very keen to have all students returning to the correct school uniform as soon as possible.

### **Hair Cuts**

It's wonderful to see that hairdressers have reopened and that many children have come to school with appropriate haircuts. Please remember that no extreme haircuts or colours are permitted at St. Peter's and if your child's hair is below their shoulders we will ask them to use a hair tie to keep it tied up.

### **School Photos**

It's wonderful news that school photos will be once again allowed to take place. Fortunately, during lock down, we took a chance and booked our school photos for **November 18th, 2020**. So thankfully we will be having our photos taken this year and we will be expecting all children in their summer uniform for these photos.

### **School Closure**

The school will be closed for two public holidays and one professional practice day for teachers in the coming weeks.

There will be no school on;

**Friday October 23, 2020**  
**Monday November 2nd, 2020**  
**Tuesday November 3rd, 2020**

**AFL Grand Final Public Holiday**  
**Teacher's Professional Practice Day**  
**Melbourne Cup Public Holiday**

I think that is all for this fortnight. As always I thank you for ongoing support and have a wonderful long weekend.

God Bless,

Karen Bergin  
PRINCIPAL