

ST. PETER'S NEWSLETTER

2A Killeen Street, Sunshine South West:



February 19 2021

Dear Families,

Chúc Mừng Năm Mới
Happy Lunar New Year

Well, what a week we have had! We can only hope that our five day snap lockdown has worked and that we can all return to school for the rest of the term without further interruptions. As always, I would like to thank all of you for your support in complying with the lockdown and supervising your children at home. Only receiving this news at 2.00pm on Friday afternoon did not allow us much time to prepare. Special thanks to Angela from Kelly Club who was able to supervise the children of essential workers during this time for us. This allowed staff time to work on your children's assessments, analyse data and plan specifically for your children's needs for the coming weeks. In the coming weeks we will be setting up our class online platforms and teaching children how to use these really well in case we need them in the future.

Lent

Sadly, we were unable to celebrate our Ash Wednesday mass during lockdown, but as you may know, Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of the 40 days of preparation for Easter. It mirrors the experience of Jesus' preparation for his ministry. While in the desert, Jesus spent 40 days in prayer and fasting. Catholics are called to experience our own desert, in which we also enter into a period of prayer and fasting while we reflect on how we can be more Christ-like. You might remember Lent being a time when you were encouraged to give something up as a way of fasting and seeking penance. For example, people would give up chocolate. They would spend Lent denying themselves of this joy and when Easter Sunday came they would celebrate and embrace that joy by breaking their chocolate fast. This can be a way to begin to understand what it is like to go without and transform, but it isn't really about challenging or changing the essence of who we are. In 2021, we are encouraged to transform who we are and how we show our love for each other and for ourselves. It is a time to give to others, to pray for others and to focus on becoming a person of Easter. I pray during this time of Lent, we can all see God's Grace in our daily lives.

Reconciliation

A reminder to our Year Three Catholic families that Mrs. Garvey will be holding our annual Family Reconciliation night on Tuesday February 23rd at 7.00pm to support the preparation of your children to receive the Sacrament of Penance. All children receiving this sacrament must attend this night with a parent/guardian. The 3/4 children will all participate in a Reconciliation Reflection Day next Friday, February 26th. All year 3/4 children may wear casual clothes on this day.

Staff Conference

School Closed - Thursday 4th and Friday 5th March - No School

This year the annual staff conference will be held on March 4th and 5th of March, 2021. There will be no school for children on these days.

The staff will be working with Paul Spence on their one faith development, as well as who we are as a Catholic Staff and how this impact on the way we work together as a staff. With many new faces to our team, we will revisit our vision and mission to ensure we are providing the best possible Catholic Education we can for your children. I ask you to pray for our staff while they enter into this space of renewal and reflection. Please see me if you have any questions about this learning the staff will be engaging in.

Staffing

Sadly, today will be Helen's last day in the office. Helen Diomides has worked at St. Peter's for just over 18 months and she has decided to leave the Education industry. We thank Helen for her time at St. Peter's and wish her well for the future. She has left a goodbye card for families to read at the front office, since she has been unable to say goodbye personally.

We have advertised for Helen's replacement and will be interviewing next week. In the interim, Angus Edwards (Ms Jacinta's son) will be helping out in the office for a few weeks, answering the phones and helping Leslee out. I know you will welcome Angus and I will keep you updated as to our new office person when this is finalised.

As always there is a lot going on at St. Peter's. Enjoy your fortnight,

Term 1 Dates:

19/02/2021	Interschool sport 5/6's Round 2
23/02/2021	Reconciliation Family Night @ 7pm
26/02/2021	Interschool sport 5/6's Round 3
04/03/2021	School Closure (Staff Conference)
05/03/2021	School Closure (Staff Conference)
12/03/2021	Interschool sport 5/6's Round 5
19/03/2021	Free Dress Day (Easter Egg donation)
19/03/2021	Interschool sport 5/6's Round 6
01/04/2021	Easter Liturgy @ 9.15am

Enjoy your week,



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.