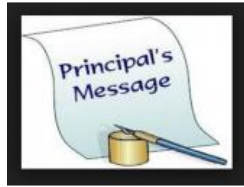


ST. PETER'S NEWSLETTER

2A Killeen Street, Sunshine South West:



February 18th 2022

Dear Families,

Welcome to our 2022 school year. We welcome all new and returning families and staff to our St. Peter's family for another wonderful year of learning.

Once again, the year has not started as we had hoped, but given our current situation with only having 5 COVID cases so far in 2022, I believe we are tracking very well at this stage. As always, the children have been fabulous at wearing their masks and sanitising, while making the most of our outdoor learning spaces which we are so lucky to be able to utilize.

This year we have welcomed four new staff to our team;

Ms. Cheryl Langford (1/2L)
Ms. Elisa Tamburro (3/4T)
Ms. Suliana Ramirez (Spanish)
Ms. Tien Phan (Learning Support Officer)

We have also welcomed 30 new children and their families to our school this year including 22 Prep children. I know you'll make everyone very welcome.

School Fees and Health Care Card

Remember the first instalment of school fees was due last week. Please pay these or apply to go on a payment plan. If you have a health care card you are entitled to a reduction of \$125 from your fees. Please present your card to the office asap.

This year Melbourne Archdiocese Catholic Schools (MACS) has introduced a concessional fee policy. I will be sending out more information re this policy as it comes to hand, but at this stage I am still waiting for clarification from MACS in relation to what this policy actually covers. When I have this information families with a health care card will be entitled to apply for fee concessions if you are unable to meet our current fee structure.

Uniform

Please remember to wear the correct school uniform at all times, including black school shoes (not sneakers). Please note that leggings or stockings are not permitted to be worn under the summer dress. Girls need to wear socks with the summer uniform. Please note from now on all children are asked to wear **navy socks**. White and grey socks are no longer school uniform. We are selling the navy socks at our uniform shop.

I have had a great deal of positive feedback about our new uniform. Our old uniform is still available in limited sizes at a buy one, get one free promotion. Your children will be able to wear the old uniform for 2022 and 2023.

Specialist Days

Tuesday - Year 1/2 and 5/6 children (wear sports uniform)
Wednesday - Year Prep and Year 3/4 children (wear sports uniform)

Please note sneakers and tracksuit pants may only be worn on your child's specialist day.

Contacting Staff

As always you are welcome to contact your child's teacher during business hours. While you are welcome to email staff, please note that emails will be answered within 48 hours as teachers are unable to access emails during learning time. No staff member will return emails or phone calls out of business hours (8.00am - 5.00pm).

Arrival and Pick up Times

Please remember that the school gates open at 8.30am and school finishes at 3.15 each day. If you need to drop your child off earlier or collect them later, please enrol your child in the **Kelly Club Before or After Care program** (located at Glengala Primary). Careers will walk the children to St. Peter's school in the morning and collect them after school in the afternoon. Please contact **Angela at Kelly Club on 0423941496** to enrol your child. Staff have meetings at 3.30pm each day and are unable to supervise children after this time.

Bell times

Please ensure the children have arrived at school by 8.30am each morning. The bell goes at 8.50am and children begin learning immediately. Children need time to unpack their bags and be organised for the day. Arriving after 8.50am is putting your child's learning at risk. The school is going to focus on 100% of children arriving 100% of the time on time this year. Please support your children in this venture.

Parent Handbook

Please take time to read the parent handbook that has come home with your child today. There are many tips and information about the school in this handbook that you will be able to refer to throughout the year.

Parking Road Safety

It is that time of the year when you need to remember to check the parking signs around the school to ensure you are legally parked. **Please do not park in our neighbours' driveways or block these.** Please also model road safety to your children by crossing at the children's crossing to keep them safe. As a driver you need to remember to stop at the crossing if children are waiting to cross or are already on the crossing. Please park and drop off children where it is legal and safe.

Learning Conversations

Learning Conversations will be held via google meets next Monday. Please note children will be at school from 8.30am until 11.30am and must be collected promptly at 11.30 so that teachers are free to meet with families for the rest of the day.

2021 Sacrament Dates at St. Paul's Church

Reconciliation – Monday April 4 at 7.00pm - Year 3 Catholic Children

Confirmation – Thursday April 7 at 7.00pm – Year 5 and 6 Catholic Children

Eucharist - Sunday June 19th at 10.00am - Year 3 Catholic Children

Opening of the Year School Mass

Thank you to our families who were able to join us remotely for our beginning of the year mass last Thursday. Congratulations to those children who were voted SRC members by their classmates for 2022.

Year 1 - 6 Cyber Safety and Chromebook Family Night

Thank you also to our families who attended our virtual Cyber Safety Family night for 2022. As always it was very well attended and I hope that you found it worthwhile. Please note that user agreements will be sent home next week. Please take some time to read these with you child/ren and return to school asap.

Remember that Trent mentioned there are heaps of great resources on their website.

<https://cybersafetyproject.com.au/families/>

Condolences

Sadly, during the holidays Ms Grace and Ms Jacinta's fathers both passed away. I ask you to keep them and their families in your prayers at this time.

Playground

I am very excited to inform you that we will begin construction of our new playground on Thursday March 3. We are expecting this project will be completed within a week and the children will be playing on the playground they helped to design by the end of this term.

Conference

Please note that the school will be closed on Thursday 10 and Friday 11 March for staff to work with Paul Spence on our Mentoring Program.

Twilight sports

Due to COVID we have made the decision to move the sports to during the day as we are unable to have families attend this event due to COVID restrictions. We will be holding the Twilight sports on Thursday March 3 from 11.00am to 2.00pm. We ask that your children wear their team colours, sports clothes (they do not have to be in sports uniform on this day) and their sneakers to participate in these activities.

Rapid Antigen Tests

Thanks to all of our families who continue to test their children every Monday and Wednesday. So far, we have only had five cases of COVID in the school and due to early detection, we have been able to contain the spread of COVID at this time. We will continue to encourage all of our children to wear face masks inside as we believe this has been a way that we have been able to reduce the spread of COVID in our school. Thank you all for your support in this matter.

Brain Food and Healthy Lunch

Please remember to supply your child/ren with a healthy snack (fruit or vegetables) for their brain food break at 10.00am each day. Also, a reminder that we encourage healthy food for lunch. Hot chips and take away food will not be passed onto children as this food impacts on their ability to concentrate and learn. All children should bring their lunch with them to school in their school bag.

Box of Tissues

We ask that every child in the school brings one or two boxes of tissues to share with their class throughout the year. If your child's class runs out of tissues your teacher might send a note home requesting another box from every child in your class.

Library book bags

Please remember that your child requires a library bag to be able to borrow books from the school library.

Year 3-6 Mega Beach Day

We are delighted that our Year 3-6 students will be attending their first excursion for 2022. Students will be participating in the Lifesaving Victoria 'Mega Beach Day Program on Thursday, 24th February. A reminder note has gone home with details of this day.

School Assemblies

Our school assemblies will be online for Term One. Please go to the Skoolbag App Friday morning to access your link to the Friday assembly. Assemblies are held at 2:50pm.

TERM ONE – Assemblies

Friday 18 th Feb	3/4D
Friday 25 th Feb	1/2G
Friday 4 th March	5/6S
Friday 11 th March	Staff Conference
Friday 18 th March	3/4C
Friday 25 th March	1/2L
Friday 01 st April	1/2C
Friday 8 th April	3/4T

Term 1 Dates:

15/02/2022	1 st Instalment of school fees due
18/02/2022	Interschool sports 5/6 Round 1
21/02/2022	Online Whole School Parent Learning Conversations - SCHOOL FINISHES 11:30AM
24/02/2022	Year 3-6 Mega Beach Day Program Excursion
02/03/2022	Ash Wednesday Mass @ 2:15pm - Online
03/03/2022	Twilight Sports (Day Incursion) – Wear House Colours & Sports Clothes
10/03-11/03	Staff Conference – School Closure
14/03/2022	Labour Day Holiday – School Closed
28/03-29/03	Year 3/4 Urban Camp
04/04/2022	Sacrament of Penance @ 7:00pm (St. Paul's Church)
07/04/2022	Sacrament of Confirmation @ 7:00pm (St. Paul's Church)
08/04/2022	Holy Week (Easter Liturgy) online @ 12pm
08/04/2022	Term 1 ends @ 1:45pm

If you love reading come and donate or swap a book:

We established a book (novels) swap program for adults, located in our community learning space. If you have a love of reading and would like to borrow a book, please feel free to come and borrow a book. When you've finished that book, please return it to the bookshelf and borrow another. We look forward to hearing which books you are enjoying. Please feel free to visit and borrow a book at any time.

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.