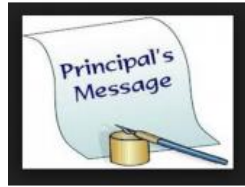


ST. PETER'S NEWSLETTER

2A Killeen Street, Sunshine South West:



March 6th 2023

Dear Families,

Thank you all for the very warm welcome I have received from you all upon my return. I must say I thoroughly enjoyed learning about all aspects of Antarctica and look forward to sharing my new learning with the children next term when they are learning about the environment and our impacts on the environment. I must admit I enjoyed learning about seals, whales, dolphins and penguins. All very inquisitive and incredible animals in our world.

I would like to thank Ms. Grace for her leadership while I was away on Long Service Leave. It is not easy to begin the start of a new school year as there is always so much to do and I'm sure you'll all agree that Grace does this with professionalism and the high expectations that we have set for all in our St. Peter's community.

I can see that all of our children have settled well into the start of the year. Our **Prep children** in particular are going very well and I enjoyed meeting many of our Prep families at the information session last week. Thanks to **Ms. Cabamongan** and all of the team who presented that session for our families. As we always say; You as parents/guardians are the first educators of your children and we are here to work in partnership with you all for the best opportunities for your children's learning and development.

Sacraments

In consultation with Fr. Rene our Parish Priest, we have made the very difficult decision to move our Sacraments to every second year as the number of Catholic children at St. Peter's continues to reduce. So, for the foreseeable future all Grade 3 and 4 Catholic children will receive the sacraments of Reconciliation and Holy Communion in 2024, 2026, 2028 and so on. While all 5/6 children will receive the Sacrament of Confirmation in those years as well (this is no change).

Twilight Sports

We are very excited to have our Twilight Sports happening once again. Families have not been able to attend our sports for a number of years, so we are very excited to have you all back. At this event we invite families and friends to walk around with your children while they compete. We invite you to bring a picnic dinner to share with your family and friends. Eating time will be at 5.15pm. Wear your children's team colours and get into the spirit of our house teams.

1.45pm - Children go home from school for a rest and to dress in their house colours.

3.45 - 4.00pm - Children arrive back at their house team shipping container and set up their spot with their families.

4.00pm - Welcome and Begin

5.15pm - Picnic dinner (BYO)

7.00pm - Presentation, Pack up and go home

PAT ART Project Presentation

I would like to congratulate **Mr. Jock McMillan, Ms. Sasha Sant and Ms. Sharon Campbell** on the work they have completed as part of the MACS Western Region PAT ART project. As many of you are aware this work featured in the 'The Age' on January 8th 2023, highlighting the great work that is happening at St. Peter's in the area of 'abstract reasoning' which supports the unlocking of numeracy and literacy skills. To continue the promotion of this work, Jock was asked to present our learning to all Catholic School leadership teams from the Western Region of Catholic Education last Friday alongside Professor John Munroe from ACU. This work is another example of how we are achieving our strategic plan goal; *'To clarify a shared understanding of evidence-based teaching practices, while embedding these across the school community.'* I recommend you ask Jock about this project if you would like to know more.

Staff Conference

As you have already been informed, this Thursday March 9 and Friday March 10 our staff will be working with Helen Christensen from MACS on improving our understanding of our First Nations people. As part of the AITSL standards (see below), teachers are expected to know strategies for teaching Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students. Hence why we are focusing on this area of learning at our staff conference this year. This is also particularly important in 2023 as our country moves towards voting for a voice to parliament referendum later this year.

Descriptor at career stage			
Graduate	Proficient	Highly Accomplished	Lead
Focus area 1.4 Strategies for teaching Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students			
Demonstrate broad knowledge and understanding of the impact of culture, cultural identity and linguistic background on the education of students from Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander backgrounds.	Design and implement effective teaching strategies that are responsive to the local community and cultural setting, linguistic background and histories of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students.	Provide advice and support colleagues in the implementation of effective teaching strategies for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students using knowledge of and support from community representatives.	Develop teaching programs that support equitable and ongoing participation of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students by engaging in collaborative relationships with community representatives and parents/carers.

Catholic Education Week (Sunday 12 March to Sunday 19 March)

The week is an opportunity for our school to join all 334 Catholic schools in the Archdiocese to celebrate our distinctive Catholic identity, our achievements, and the role our school plays within our parish and local communities.

This year's theme for Catholic education week is ***Forming lives of faith, hope and love in the light of Christ.*** Below is a more detailed description of the theme.

Forming lives – Catholic education seeks to provide the young with the best kind of education possible, one that fosters a formation of the whole person that is deeply and enduringly humanising.

Faith, hope and love – Catholic education forms individuals with more than just skills, but with the virtues to live life as transformative agents in our communities. By cultivating a maturing of faith and the intellectual life through the modelling of good relationships, Catholic students are prepared for living fruitfully in the world.

In the light of Jesus Christ – Christ is our inspiration, the very life of our purpose as Catholic educators. Everything we do is illuminated by this.

<https://catholiceducationweek.com/>

Catholic education seeks to provide students with a high-quality education that is inspired by the example of Jesus Christ and fosters the development of the whole person, forming individuals with more than just skills, but with the virtues to live life as transformative agents in our communities.

Our year 6 leaders will attend Mass of St Patrick for Schools held on Friday 17 March and celebrated by Archbishop Peter, followed by the Concert in the Park. While a number of our students will have their art work displayed in the The Creative Arts Exhibition, which showcases the wonderful artwork of primary and secondary students in the Archdiocese of Melbourne, will run at the Catholic Leadership Center from Tuesday 14 March to Saturday 18 March and is open to the general public.

NAPLAN (Years 3 and 5 children)

Please note that our year 3 and 5 children will be involved in NAPLAN online testing from March 15th to March 20th. Please see Mrs. Garvey our Learning and Teaching Leader if you have any questions.

2024 Prep Enrolments

We already have excellent enrolment numbers for Prep in 2024. If you have a child starting Prep in 2024 you must fill in your application form now. Please also inform your family, friends and kinder families that St. Peter's is now taking enrolments and once places fill up you will be placed on a waiting list. Remind people you do not need to be Catholic to attend St. Peter's.

Levies - March 15

Please remember that all 2025 school levies must be paid by Wednesday March 15th, 2023.

Term 1 Dates:

Thursday March 3 Friday March 10	Staff Conference – School Closure
Monday March 13	Labour Day (Public Holiday) School Closed
Thursday March 30	Twilight Sports – Wear House Colours & Sports Clothes (4.00-7.00)
Thursday April 6 (Holy Thursday)	Easter Liturgy @ 9.30am in the school Gym
Thursday April 6	Term 1 ends @ 1:45pm

Term 2 Dates:

Monday April 24	School Closure - Reinvent the Classroom Project
Tuesday April 25	ANZAC Day (Public Holiday) School Closed
Wednesday April 26	Term 2 commences for children @ 8:50am

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.