



ST. FRANCIS OF THE FIELDS

Newsletter No. 13 – August 11, 2021
(Term 3 – Week 5)

The Jaara people are the traditional custodians of the land on which we live. They have lived here for thousands of years. We commit to working for Reconciliation and justice for all Aboriginal people and to learning more about the Jaara

“To Live, Learn and Grow in God’s Love”

Reminders

Monday 16 Aug

- Fdn – Yr2 Swimming @ KFlat

Thursday 19 Aug

- Catholic Athletic Sports @ LUBAC

Friday 20 Aug

- Unit 4 Mass @ 11.45am

Monday 23 Aug

- Fdn – Yr2 Swimming @ KFlat

Thursday 26 Aug

- Book Week Dress Up Parade
- P&F Meeting @ 7.30pm

Wednesday 1 Sept

- School Advisory Council @ 6.00pm

Thursday 2 Sept

- Father's Day Stall

Friday 3 Sept

- Division Basketball Comp – Yr6

Sunday 5 Sept

- FATHER'S DAY**

Monday 6 Sept

- Summer uniform may be worn from today
- Hats are required from today**

Thursday 9 Sept

- Year 3 Camp
- Yr 6 Life Relationships @ 7pm

Friday 10 Sept

- Year 3 Camp

Monday 13 Sept

- Division Athletics Carnival @ LUBAC

Tuckshop 2021 – Term 3

(No parents helpers allowed as yet)

Week 4

Friday August 6

Week 5

Thursday August 12

Friday August 13

Week 6

Thursday August 19

Friday August 20

Week 7

Thursday August 26

Friday August 27

Weekend Maintenance

14-15 Aug Fitzpatrick (5K), Hurford (3B), Svensen (Fdn B)

21-22 Aug Harrop (6FM), Higginbottom (2P), Burns (4Z), Waters (1SA)

28-29 Aug Lynch (1SA), Perry (6W), Connolly (3H), Villani (1R)

4-5 Sept **Father's Day Weekend**

Whitford (6W), Johnson (4Z), Lennon (2P)

4-5 Sept Jobling (3H), Neave (6W), Longford (3GE)

“For it is in giving that we receive.” St Francis of Assisi



Dear Families,

The Tokyo Olympics are an incredible opportunity to delight in the skills and talents that abound. It is also a wonderful opportunity to appreciate the resilience of athletes that have not achieved as they had hoped. I share with you Bronte Campbell's philosophical view. “It's not about winning at the Olympic Games, it's about trying to win,” she said. “The motto's ‘faster, higher, stronger’, not ‘fastest, highest, strongest’. Sometimes it's trying that matters.”

I wonder how we respond as parents when disappointments occur for our children. Do we see these disappointments as a chance to develop much needed resilience? Kath Walker suggests that our children need “a disappointment a day” to become resilient enough to handle the really big disappointment that will face us all.

*Almighty God,
You created humanity in your image
And delight in our talent, skill and flair:
Give us grace to celebrate the achievement
of our fellow men and women.
Give determination and equity to competitors,
gratitude and charm to winners,
grace and mercy to those who do not come first,
And thankfulness and admiration to observers;
That in all our best efforts your creation may be
glorified.
Amen*



Covid update

It has been very challenging for our school community to plan for community events due to the changing covid regulations. We have been very hopeful that Book Week events and the Art Show would be able to go ahead as planned. At this point in time, despite the marvellous work of both Carmel Fitzgerald and Marg Hand we will need to make changes to both events. These changes include:

Book Week

- Children and teachers will still be able to dress up for the Book Week parade on Thursday 26 August, though we will need to hold separate parades. Unfortunately, parents will not be able to attend these parades.
- The Blurb's Concert planned for Thursday 26 August has been postponed to Term 4 as schools are not allowed incursions to our school at the moment.
- The Book Fair will be cancelled as parents are not allowed onsite.



Art Show

- We are unable to have parents onsite so we have cancelled the Art Show.
- We will now present the children's wonderful art work in classrooms, corridors, the community centre and the school foyer.
- We will present the art work via Facebook for our community to appreciate.
- We hope that parents may be able to come onsite and walk through the school to enjoy the art work at some time in the future.

Father's Day

- We are unable to hold the Fathers' Day Mass on Friday 3 September at this point in time as we are unable to gather in large groups. This also means that we cannot meet for school assemblies.
- We will work with the Parents & Friends to determine how we can support our children with the Father's Day Stall on Thursday 2 September.



Masses

- We are unable to hold whole school or unit masses at the present moment.

Canteen

- Thankfully the canteen can still operate each Thursday and Friday. We are thankful for the work of Fiona Thompson, Donna Stebbins and Deb Schintler in coping with the increased workload.
- Parents are unable to help with the canteen at this point in time as the canteen is not considered an essential service.

Trivia Night

- Unfortunately the Trivia night on Saturday 28 August has been cancelled.



Pupil Free Day

We will hold a Pupil Free Day on the last day of school for Term 3. This means that the school will be closed on **Friday 17 September**, though After School Care may be provided if enough students are registered to attend.

Michael Carr-Gregg Presentation

Unfortunately, due to covid restrictions we have had to cancel Michael Carr-Gregg for 2021. We will try to make another booking for 2022. If any parent would like to be reimbursed for the ticket cost please speak to the office on 5439 3191.



Oval path & trees

The path around the school oval has become very unsafe due to the tree roots lifting many of the pavers. We have consulted with the Council to determine the best course of action.

Unfortunately, we will be cutting down the trees between the parking bays on 28 & 29 August. The stumps will be removed and new trees planted.

The path will hopefully be repaired during the September holidays.



Christ has no hands but yours.

Tim Moloney
Principal



Every minute matters

Start of Day Matters

- aim to be at school by
8.45 am
for a
9.00 am start



Unexplained Absences

If a student is absent without reason, the school will contact the parent

If contact cannot be made with the parent, the emergency contact/s will be contacted to ensure the safety of the student

SPECIAL REPORT: Instilling Hope In Uncertain Times



Although life is always filled with uncertainty, the levels we are currently experiencing are unprecedented and it is becoming evident that this is taking a toll on our young people. The most recent research from Mission Australia makes clear the breadth and depth the pandemic is having on our youth across the nation.

It appears that lockdowns and tighter restrictions will be with us for some time, but it is important in such times of uncertainty to instil hope and remain optimistic. Adult carers can play a vital role in helping young people reframe their worries, encouraging them to see life as it is and getting them to focus more on the things they can control, rather than those they can't.

It's important young people remain connected with their social networks during these times as often their natural response to uncertainty is to exhibit varying degrees of fear and anxiety. With the continued disruptions, mental health concerns are on the rise and it is evident that many students may need some extra support to achieve their goals. Parents can help their kids focus more on the good things in their life, rather than fill in the blanks with catastrophic narratives.

This Special Report outlines how adult carers can help instil hope and offer support in such times of uncertainty. We hope you take time to reflect on the information offered in this Special Report, and as always, we welcome your feedback.

If this Special Report raises any concerns for you, a loved one or the wellbeing of your child, please seek medical or professional help.

Here is the link to your special report

https://sfstrathfieldsaye.catholic.schooltv.me/wellbeing_news/special-report-instilling-hope-uncertain-times

If you do have any concerns about the wellbeing of your child, please contact the school for further information or seek medical or professional help.

Regards,
Grace Scalora
Deputy Principal - Pastoral Wellbeing



RE News....

Feast day of St Clare of Assisi

Yesterday was the Feast of St Clare of Assisi. Clare was born in 1193 in Assisi, a small town in the Umbrian Valley of Italy and died on 11 August 1253. She was born of nobility. Clare, like St Francis of Assisi, was devoted to following the example of Jesus. With Francis' support, she began the Poor Clare's order. This was a community vastly different to those of the time. Clare's humility and ability to let go of suffering to be in the service of God was a shining light to those who followed her. To Clare, service goes beyond merely doing for one another. She saw it as a deep calling to be reflections of God for one another.



Clare was a woman of prayer and contemplation, she lived her life in the trust of God whom she knew loved her. She needed little in the way of material goods because she trusted that God would care for her and provide all she needed. God never let her down. Much like St Mary of the Cross MacKillop's deep faith and trust in God. It takes a deep faith to live so dependently on God, but Clare experienced the true joy of simplicity.

Clare's life and charism live on in the lives of the many Poor Clares living faithfully her spirit in their monasteries today. We were so very fortunate to have the Poor Clares in our Parish for many years. Our school continues to be inspired by St Clare and her faithfulness to living out the Gospel.

God of our journey, we want to stay close to you and do your will. May we be inspired by St Clare who spent her life in constant prayer and good works and listened to what you wanted of her. Help us to have open hearts and minds ready to embrace your Spirit guiding us and directing us.

We ask this prayer through Jesus, your Son. Amen

Parish Sacramental Program

The Parish Sacramental Program will commence in Term 4 for students preparing for First Reconciliation. An email invitation from the Parish has been sent to all families of Year 2 children. The email included information regarding the program and the role of the parish, the school and the family, as well as an enrolment form. The program is also open to all children in Year 3-6 who have not completed the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

The Reconciliation Program Parent Information nights will be held on Tuesday 12 October at St Therese's Church and Wednesday 13 October at St Joseph's Church, with the program to begin soon after. The delivery of the program will be dependent on the COVID restrictions at the time. If you have a child in Year 2 and did not receive an email please contact our Parish Sacramental Coordinator Kristy Ryan at stsacraments@gmail.com

If you would like any further information please email Mrs Hitchcock lhitchcock@sfstrathfieldsaye.catholic.edu.au or our Parish Sacramental Coordinator Kristy Ryan at stsacraments@gmail.com



CARITAS: Project Compassion - THANK YOU!

Fr Rom Hayes and Kerry Stone from Caritas Sandhurst have forwarded the final report from Project Compassion 2021. They have expressed their thanks to all Parishes and schools for the Sandhurst Diocese's contribution of \$526,000.

From Fr Rom Hayes - Sandhurst Diocesan Director CARITAS Australia

We are seeing across the globe unprecedented suffering. The dreadful suffering and dying brought by COVID has affected all countries, but of course, the poor are the most seriously affected. Our hearts go out to them. It would seem to me that, although we are far from the scenes depicted on TV news, our hearts are softened and opened.

We sense feelings of compassion and some solidarity with the worst hit.

The results of our Project Compassion in this year of 2021 are truly remarkable. Although workplaces, jobs and incomes of so many Australians are very tenuous, we have proven ourselves to be a people of amazing generosity. Could it be that the unprecedented sufferings in all corners of our world have softened our hearts and brought us closer to the poorest of our sisters and brothers?

...The ultimate explanation for such generosity is God's grace; God's grace at large in the hearts of you all.

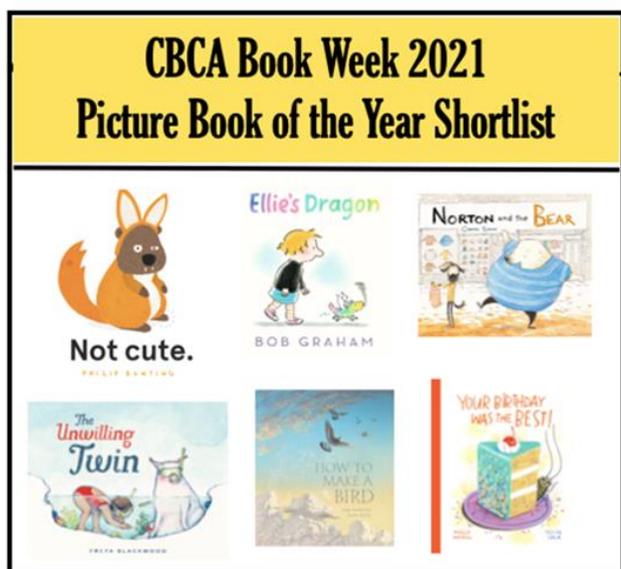
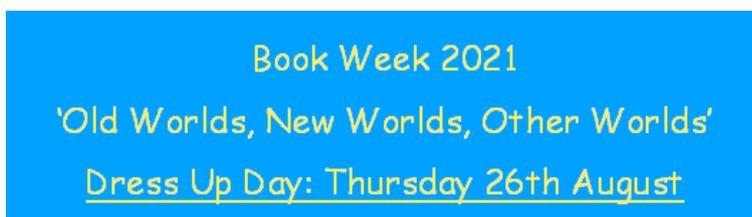
Lisa Hitchcock
Catholic Identity Leader



Book Week

There will be a 'Dress as a Book Character Parade' on Thursday 26 Aug. We will have lots of activities to celebrate book week throughout the day including prizes and awards. Let your imagination go wild.

Margaret Hand, Librarian



Help Required!

Thanks to the P&F committee and our school community, we have recently purchased many new take home readers, as well as 200 guided reading sets that can be used in the classrooms. These resources will be a wonderful asset to our students as they continue on their reading journey.

All of these books require covering to ensure that they are well protected during their use.

If anyone would like to help out with this task, please make contact with the office and we will provide all the required resources.

Thank you!

PE News.....

Fdn – Yr2 Swimming

Swimming **will** go ahead on Monday 2 Aug.

Under current COVID school protocol, **no parents will be able to attend** the lesson in any capacity. If this changes we will notify you.

We are yet to find out if our missed lesson on Monday 26 July & Monday 9 August will be replaced or cancelled.



Yr3 – 6 Athletics Sports

Yesterday on the 4th of August 2021, the year 3-6s went to the athletics track in Flora Hill. Everyone was super excited and packed heaps of clothes and snacks. We wore our house colours green, yellow, blue and red. The first event was hurdles, then we all split up into different groups and did all the other events. These were: 100m and 200m sprints, high jump, shot put, discus, triple jump and long jump. Everyone did their best and had a go at all the events they could. And a big thanks to Mrs Coates for setting it all up for us and for tallying up everyone's scores.

It was a fun, but cold day for everyone. Thanks to everyone who did their best and had a go.

House Points:

Green (Francis):	660
Yellow (Clare):	649
Blue (Bacchus):	578
Red (MacKillop):	540

The best contributors were:

12/13 year boys:	Charlie Harrop
12/13 year girls:	Bethany Cole
11 year boys:	Darcy Tyler
11 year girls:	Tully Place
10 year boys:	Tate Kanzamar
10 year girls:	Etta Place
8/9 year boys:	William Shadbolt
8/9 year girls:	Macey Nielson & Willow Wardell



Congratulations to all the children who gave their best efforts and enjoyed the day! Thank you to the teachers for your efforts in supporting the students and of course to Mr Moloney and Mrs Exell for being there early to help me set up!

Well done to all, and all the very best to our strong team of athletes we will be taking to the Catholic Athletic Championships on Thursday 19 August.

Mrs Coates
PE Coordinator

OASIS News....

Frog Bog Inquiry

Prior to lockdown, our Grade 1 students were learning about frogs and the importance of them in our nature. The kids created their own 'Life Cycle' posters and the next stage is to learn about native frogs in the Strathfieldsaye area and the type of plants that these frogs need to survive and thrive. We then plan on building our own Frog Bog in the new Environment Centre.



Tools Needed

We are still in need of lots of tools that can be used in the garden. We have a short supply at the moment and when students are working in the garden, the more tools there are the more jobs get completed. If you have any of the following that you no longer need at home or even need new handles that we can fix here at school, please let us know and we would love to take them off your hands:

- Rakes
- Shovels
- Hoes
- Paper Brick Makers
- Compost Aerators

Some other things that would help in the garden at the moment would be:

- Timber edging for our veggie patch
- Weed mat
- Planter Benches
- Old Sinks



Green Team

Our new Green Team has finally been able to meet. This term, we are organising a School Wide Tree Planting Day at the end of August. The remainder of the term will be about raising money for our Community Garden Project.

Community Garden Project

This term, our Green Team will be asking local businesses in Strathfieldsaye for donations to go towards our Community Garden project. We are also keen to have businesses from our school community to get on board. We are running a 'Purchase a Plot' fundraiser. Businesses are able to 'Purchase a Plot' that will be managed by students at our school and members of our community.

If you are keen to Purchase a Plot, there are several packages available. Please contact Matt Butcher and more information will be shared with you then.

OASIS Website

Be sure to check out our website to catch up on all the news and events that is happening in OASIS at the moment. [OASIS Website](#)

Matt Butcher

Environment and Sustainability Teacher/OASIS Coordinator



2022 Bendigo School Bus Travel – Mandurang Bus travellers only



Applications for country bus travel must be made online and approval granted for travel using the online platform, School Bus Management System (SBMS).

In this information pack you will find SBMS Quick Reference Guides to assist you with making an application for country bus travel, together with general advice relating to public services.

To do a Pre-Application Check, go to: <https://schoolbus.educationapps.vic.gov.au>

NB. This step is not an approval for travel process. Pre-Application Checks provides you with information about the SBP services available to you. It does not assess eligibility.

Applications for 2022 SBP travel open in Term 4, 2021. To avoid disappointment, new and returning families are encouraged to apply/renew travel for 2022 as early as possible in Term 4. Application processing will occur late December.

Congratulations

Congratulations to Andrea and Kade Rowe on the arrival of their beautiful baby Sylvie. A very special little sister for Lottie (Fdn WS) and Lewis.



Wigs For Kids



Hi my name is Emmalene Pollock (3B)

My hair was very, very long. Then Mum had an idea! It all started when I saw a picture of my friend, on my Mum's phone, her cutting her hair and giving it to a charity to make "Wigs For Kids." So Mum said I could do it too. It took me a while to warm up to the idea but then I thought it would be helping people which is kind. My family friend has alopecia and my Mum's friend has cancer. So, about a week later Mum and I went to a hair salon in the middle of town called Hair Folk. I was a bit nervous when we walked in but I kept telling myself that "hair grows back" and "you're doing it for a good cause." The nice hairdressers did eight plaits in my hair that were 20cm's

each. Then they cut them off. One of the hairdresser's washed my hair and styled it and it was done!

The hairdresser kept the hair to send off to "Sustainable Salons"

Thanks to Nicole from Hair Folk. Also to Mum, Dad and all my friends and family for supporting me

And to Lara for giving me the idea.



Parent Writing Survey

An email was sent yesterday to all families containing a writing survey for parents. As part of our professional learning as a staff, we are currently looking at the writing process and what our students are currently experiencing in this area. I strongly encourage all families to take part in this survey as the more information we have, the more informed decisions we can make to ensure that our students' needs are being met in the most effective way possible. The survey is quite short and should only take 10 minutes to complete.

[Parent Survey - Writing](#)

Australian Maths Competition 2021

Friday August 13th,

72 of our Year 4, 5 and 6 students will be participating in the

Australian Maths Competition!

This is a record number of entrants for our school and we are very excited!

All the best to...

Chad, Brae, Samuel, Nick, Alyssa, Owen, Olivia, Jordi, Teisha, Mannix, Bailey Tyson, Lexie, Kiara, Alec, Ruby, Daisy, Zara, Duncan, Ziggy Tayte, Tahlia, Mia, Finn, Sean, Eli, Quinlan, Zalie, Samuel, Seth, Luke, Ella, Josh, Sophie, Amelia, Geoffrey, Oscar, Zane, Skyla, Nathan, Lexi, Bella, Milly, Rylee, Darcy, Abby, Andrew, Lachlan, Cooper, Tyson, Lachlan, Harry, Adley, Tara, Amelia, Amelia, Caleb, Alice, Lilly, Lulu, Madison, Indiana, Harper, Jordan, Harry, Emma, Temperance, Will, Hunter, Flynn, Natalie and Sienna.



Tuckshop News.....

Please note: Currently we are unable to have helpers in our tuckshop. We will let parents know when this is possible again.



Menu and roster available here - [Term 3 Tuckshop Menu and Roster](#).

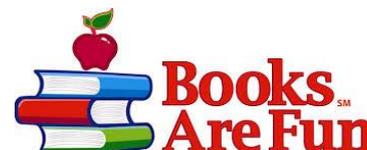
Remember to place individual orders for each child. Do not combine the orders under one child's name.

We are also happy to have a chat with any parents who may have concerns about their child's food related allergies and our current menu options.

Fiona (0400 072 311) & Donna (0408 051 979) Tuckshop Coordinators.

Scholastic Books

If you would like your books to be left at the office for collection, please send an email to office@sfstrathfieldsayecatholic.edu.au and we will let you know when the items are available for collection.



Thank you for your continued support.

Michelle Janssen & Stephanie Wade, Scholastic Books Coordinators

YMCA – After School Care

The YMCA operates an After-School Care Program at St Francis of the Fields Primary School. The program operates every school day for children aged 5-12 years. The YMCA also provides care on days of school closure. Families can contact the service on 0459 988 313 or visit 'My Family Lounge' where you can register your child in advance for any bookings. any questions please contact stfrancis@ymca.org.au.



Community News....

KELLY SPORTS WICKED WINTER SPORTS!
LEARN NEW SPORTS SKILLS IN TERM 3

Have heaps of fun with your friends while playing a range of dynamic and active sports over the term.

BOOK ONLINE NOW AT KELLYSPORTS.COM.AU

COVIDSAFE
FOR THE LOVE OF SPORTS
25 YEARS

INFORMATION FOR PARENTS

MULTI-SPORT PROGRAMME

Programmes run weekly on one day a week for one hour.

This term we will focus on the following sports:

- ✓ Soccer
- ✓ Basketball
- ✓ Touch Rugby
- ✓ A.F.L
- ✓ Hockey
- ✓ Athletics

This weekly programme gives children skills and confidence in a fun and enjoyable environment. It also encourages their enthusiasm for sport and the life skills that such involvement brings – giving them confidence to join sports clubs and teams in the future.

For Prep – Grade 4 students.

\$78 FOR 6 WEEKS!!

School: St Francis of the Fields PS

Day: Friday's

Time: 3:30pm - 4:30pm

Start: Friday 13th of August

End: Friday 17th of September



Website: kellysports.com.au/bendigo

Contact: Beau Cross

Email: Beau@kellysports.com.au

Phone: 0428 326 924

Facebook: #KellySportsBendigo

