

working for Reconciliation and justice for all Aboriginal people and to learning more about the Jaara people

ST. FRANCIS OF THE FIELDS

Newsletter No. 3 – February 25, 2021

(Term 1 - Week 5)

"To Live, Learn and Grow in God's Love"

Reminders

Friday February 26 Assembly @ 2.45pm Monday March 1 School Nursing Visit Tuesday March 2 School Nursing Visit Wednesday March 3 Foundation Rest Day Π Foundation Numeracy Workshop @ 9am Friday March 5 Division Swimming Carnival 6FM, 6W, Fdn M & Fdn A Buddy Mass @ 11.45am Monday March 8 Labour Day Public Holiday Tuesday March 9 Foundation start attending full time П School Nursing Visit Wednesday March 10 School Photos School Nursing Visit Thursday March 11 School Photos School Nursing Visit P&F Meeting @ 7.30pm Friday March 12 6T, 6D, Fdn B & Fdn WS Buddy Mass @ 11.45am Assembly @ 2.45pm Thursday March 18 Regional Swimming – Swan Hill Friday March 19 CARITAS Ks Wednesday March 24 Reconciliation Yr4-6 @ 2.30pm School Advisory Council Meeting @ 7.30pm Thursday March 25 Year 4 Camp - Sovereign Hill, Ballarat Friday March 26 Year 4 Camp – Sovereign Hill, Ballarat Assembly @ 2.30pm Thursday April 1 END OF TERM 1 - 2.30pm finish

Tuckshop 2021

Week 5 – Thursday February 25 Friday February 26

Week 6 – Thursday March 4 Friday March 5

Week 7 – Thursday March 11 Friday March 12

Week 8 – Thursday March 18 Friday March 19

Weekend Maintenance

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



Dear Families,

When I first came to St. Francis of the Fields I walked around the school during the Christmas break dreaming about the endless possibilities of arriving at a new school. I was drawn to the statue of St. Francis of Assisi at the front of our school. I noticed his broken hands and remembered St. Teresa of Avila's famous words...

Christ has no body now on earth but yours; no hands

but yours; no feet but yours.

Yours are the eyes through which the compassion of

Christ must look out onto the world.

Yours are the feet with which He is to go about doing

good.

Yours are the hands with which He is to bless His

people.

This is why I sign off each newsletter with the words, "Christ has no hands but yours." It helps me to remember that together we can achieve the works of our God.



Parents & Friends and School Advisory Council News

On January 1, 2021 all Victorian Catholic schools changed governance structures in light of the Royal Commission findings. The Sandhurst Diocese, of which our school is part of, has worked tirelessly over the past 18 months to prepare for the new governing body called Catholic Education Sandhurst Limited (CES Ltd).





Whilst Fr. Andrew is no longer our employer; he is still very much an integral part of our school community. Fr. Andrew will continue to celebrate masses with our community, attend Advisory Council and Assisi Kinder meetings and offer wise counsel.

Our students, teachers and parents should not see any difference in the way that the school is run. As a principal, I will be required to oversee a number of changes to ensure that St. Francis of the Fields practices align with the CES Ltd policies.

One of these changes has been that the School Advisory Council (formally known as the School Board) and the Parents & Friends Community no longer needs to hold an AGM. After meeting with the P & F and Advisory Council over the past two weeks it has been decided that we will:

- No longer hold an AGM, but rather hold a joint celebration at the end of the year where the Advisory Council and Parents & Friends community can come together and celebrate the achievements of each group.
- Continue to prepare an Annual Report for our community and include this on our website and in a hard copy at the front office.

This will mean that we can hold normal meetings on the following days:

- Thursday 11 March Parents & Friends Meeting
- Wednesday 24 March School Advisory Council Meeting

I hope to see you there. Your hands, feet, eyes and ideas are needed to help progress our school.

Regional Roads Victoria - Strathfieldsaye

Regional Roads Victoria are exploring ways to improve traffic flow, safety and active transport on Strathfieldsaye Road from Strathdale to Strathfieldsaye.

From Monday 15 February Regional Roads Victoria will be

counting the number of pedestrians and cyclists in the Junortoun and Strathfieldsaye areas. The walking and cycling study will assess the typical journeys of pedestrians and cyclists to understand how people are travelling and where they might be going. This will also help us understand where people may choose to go in the future if there were paths, crossings and lanes to provide access. They are using a number of ways to record travel information and have made sure that we won't be able to identify people. If you would like to know more please go to the following link.

https://regionalroads.vic.gov.au/map/loddon-mallee-improvements/strathfieldsaye-road-bendigoredesdale-road-development-project

Swimming Championships

Congratulations to our children for representing our school so well at the recent Catholic School Swimming Championships on Tuesday. Special thanks to Danielle Coates for coordinating these events so professionally!



Mathematics Assessment Interviews

I am very grateful that our parent community was able to support our teachers in bringing each child to their MAI interviews over the past 2 Friday's. The data has been collated by Kate Ellis and Amy Delaney (Learning & Teaching: Numeracy Leaders) in preparation for our staff to review and begin to deliver point of need teaching. Thank you all.





Family Directory Permission forms

Foundation School Nursing forms

• Asthma and Anaphylaxis forms may need to be updated for the new school year. All parents are encouraged to make sure their child has an updated plan uploaded on PAM. If you have any issues uploading documents to PAM, please contact the school office.



- Please enter this URL into your browser <u>https://pam.sfstrathfieldsaye.catholic.edu.au</u>
- Click on the 'Forgot Password?' link and follow the prompts. (Please take note of your username in the email which will be sent to you with the next link) Excursion permission forms can be found under 'School Activities'.

Christ has no hands but yours.

Tim Molonev

Principal





Pastoral Wellbeing A Fine Young Man By Michael Grose



"He's a fine young man, your son." Imagine how you'd feel if you received this compliment. I suspect you'd feel fantastic as acknowledgement that you've raised a fine man is probably the ultimate compliment for any parent of boys.

What traits should a male possess to make this assessment ring true?

My involvement in education and parenting over four decades has brought me close with many males at every stage of development. It appears that some males grow old but never grow up or reach that type of maturity that benefits others and allows them to prosper. Fortunately, many boys do become men who are mature, stable and reliable and it's this model as a society that we need to set our sights on.

There are a number of traits that mature men have in common that are worth noting as we move our boys toward mature manhood. The following traits are the mark of a mature man, but by no means is it a complete list.

Gentleness

The twentieth century saw manhood associated with strength, toughness and hardiness. Two world wars saw the rise of the myth that a male couldn't cut the mustard unless he was strong, tough and hardy. Hollywood and the celebrity culture it birthed helped perpetuate this image starting way back with Marlin Brando in the '50s and Clint Eastwood in the '70s. Gentleness has been seen as a weakness for too long, which is the antithesis of the 19th Century notion that a man should always strive to be a 'gentleman'.

Gentleness comes from confidence and mental assuredness. A gentle man is in control of his emotions and feels comfortable with the full gamut of sadness, anger, love and hope. A gentleman acts kindly and is guided by a mindset of caring, empathy and contribution.

Generosity

A measure of majority is seen by how much a person can give of themselves to others. A generous man will help others, support and guide others without the wish for compensation.

Maturity also is shown when a person gives of themselves fully in a relationship, whether in friendship or an intimate relationship. Sadly, too many men hold back their thoughts and true feelings and look inward rather than outward with both their friends and life partners. Maturity only happens when a man realises that life is not about him, but about something greater.

Discipline

A mark of a mature man is shown through his ability to put up with short-term pain or discomfort for long-term gain. Whether it's an athlete sweating it out on the track, a student giving up a night out with mates to study for an exam or a father forgoing a weekend away, so he can be at his child's birthday, the ability to forgo short-term pleasure takes discipline and self-control.

Discipline, conscientiousness and self-control are required to develop the habits and patterns of behaviour that contribute to a man's long-term healthy development. Boys often struggle to see past the immediate moment, whereas a mature man can look ahead and stick a plan, even though the journey may be long and difficult.

In closing

The world wants men to grow up, see maturity as worthwhile and take the necessary steps to achieve it. As you point your son toward manhood, make gentleness, generosity and discipline the guideposts to aim for. These traits won't limit his freedoms but expand his possibilities as he develops into a fine young man.

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.... Project Compassion-First Week of Lent

We begin our annual Lenten Project Compassion journey by learning about the story of Jamila and her

family. Jamila, 22, is a Rohingya woman, living in the world's largest refugee camp in Cox's Bazar, Bangladesh. A single mother, she fled armed conflict in Myanmar to save herself, her elderly mother and eight-month-old baby.

With the support of Caritas Australia, through Caritas Bangladesh, Jamila was able to access emergency food and shelter. She also received counselling, emotional support and learned sewing skills, to help her earn an income. Jamila now feels less alone, with a sense of community around her. She is able to 'Be More' to her little family.

860,494 people remain in the densely populated camps, in desperate need of humanitarian assistance, especially due to COVID-19. (UNHCR)

Watch a short film about Jamila's story here.

"Aspire not to have more, but to be more." Please support Project Compassion: lent.caritas.org.au

CARITAS Ks

Our Caritas Ks fundraiser will take place on Friday, 19 March. Students will walk around the track that day in solidarity with the people and communities in the world who have to walk each day to survive. Every day, thousands of women and children around the world need to cover many kilometres to fetch water, obtain food, get to school or market, or simply to survive.

Caritas Ks is an opportunity to fundraise and educate people at our school and in our community in social justice, with the aim of inspiring them to "be more" for the poorest in our world. Each family will receive their fundraising books next week. #bemore

Why not donate from something you have given up for Lent - ice-cream, coffee, chocolate or cake - to create lasting change.

Please return your donations and Caritas Ks book on the day of the walk - Friday, 19 March.

Sacramental Program - Reconciliation

The 2021 RECONCILIATION PROGRAM commenced this week. The Year 3 students who were unable to make their First Reconciliation at the end of last year are participating in this program. Please keep these children in your prayers as they prepare for their First Reconciliation. Families have been allocated a specific night to attend each week in keeping with government restrictions (Wed or Thurs). Please let Lisa Hitchcock or Joe Van Dillen know if you are unsure which night you are assigned to. Thank you to the teachers who have volunteered to facilitate the program.

CSEF and Conveyance Allowance Applications 2021

Parents who are eligible for either of these payments are asked to please complete an Application and forward to school office without delay.

Please note: Parents who were eligible and received a payment in 2020 are not required to complete a further form in 2021 unless their family circumstances have changed (ie one child left St Francis of the Fields at the end of 2020 or one child commenced in Foundation in 2021).



Forms are available from our school's website – see downloads.

https://www.sfstrathfieldsaye.catholic.edu.au/downloads/forms





PE News.....

Catholic Swimming Sports 2021:

On Tuesday morning myself and the rest of the catholic swimmers had a great time at the Bendigo East Swimming Pool. St Francis students competed in lots of different events including breaststroke, backstroke and freestyle. There were also different types of relays like the mixed relay where there are all the strokes combined together. There were also the open top swimmers where the fastest four swimmers in the swimming sports swim in a relay. Everyone tried their best and we all cheered each other on, we all had an awesome day. There were lots of other schools and lots of competitive children. Some people were able to make it to the next level which is also in Bendigo next Friday. We also thank all the teachers for helping us and looking after us and making our day the best it could be. Rylie Diss 6W

While disappointing we weren't able to have parents in attendance, the day still ran very smoothly. It was colder than we would have liked, but that didn't stop the amazing competition, sportsmanship and attitudes of our beautiful students. Thank you to Mr Taylor and Mrs Exell for your assistance and well done to our children who continually demonstrate exemplary behaviour in and out of school.

We had 20 children that made it through the Divisional Swimming event that will be held on Friday 5th of March.

Well done to:

Rylie Diss Ava Hope Amelia Kelly Mack Skinner Willow Dickson Tate Kanzamar Sam Whitford Tully Place Sapphira Lecek Tom Feiss James Neunhoffer William De Jong Ella Tyrrell Lahni Tyrell

Ellie Munro Mia Wardell Aydan Hand Brae Purvis Charlie Harrop Samuel Johnson

A big congratulations to: Rylie Diss and Olivia Fitzpatrick who won our best contributor medals.

Well done to all involved.











District Tennis Trials

Yesterday we had 4 Yr 6 boys compete in the District tennis trial at the Fosterville Gold Tennis Centre. Aydan, Mack, Sam and Maurice were keen and excited with the opportunity ahead. With the Australian Open just finished - who wouldn't be inspired and ready to go!

The boys played very well across the day. Aydan and Mack continued to improve as the day progressed. Sam and Maurice made it to the final 4 which was outstanding! With Maurice advancing to the Divisional event held next Wednesday. Congratulations to the boys involved and all the best to Maurice as he represents the school in next week's competition!

Danielle Coates PE Coordinator dcoates@sfstrathfieldsaye.catholic.edu.au

OASIS News....

Help Needed:

In the next few weeks, our students will learning about 'Change'. We are wondering if anyone in the school community has a working wool spinning wheel who would be willing to come and show some of our students how wool can be spun into yarn.





We are also in need of an Apiarist or Hobby Bee Keeper. If there is anyone who would be willing to come and show our students about Beekeeping, that would be fantastic.

If so, could you please contact Matt Butcher in the OASIS room or email: mbutcher@sfstrathfieldsaye.catholic.edu.au

Tools/equipment Needed:



We are wondering whether there would be a chance that we could borrow wheelbarrows from anyone at home. We understand this may be difficult but if you have a wheelbarrow that you could loan our school until the end of Term 1 that would be great. Please ensure your wheel barrow is clearly named with your family name somewhere for ease of return.

If families have any tools that they no longer need sitting in their shed or are happy to loan out could you please let us know. Some

things that we need more of for the next 2 terms:

- * Shovels
- * Rakes
- * Hoes
- * Anything else that may help in gardening.

We do have a lot of hand-held shovels and rakes, so they aren't necessary. Thank you for your help

Matt Butcher

Environment and Sustainability Teacher/OASIS Coordinator



CHILDREN'S CHATTER MATTERS

In our newsletters this year, our school's Speech Pathologist will provide some "family friendly", fun activities aimed to enhance all students' learning and literacy skills.



Focus: Phonological awareness

Phonological awareness is one of the key building blocks for reading and writing. It is listening to and thinking about the sounds in words. This term we will provide activities targeting phonological awareness:

1. As you read a story with your child, encourage your child to count the number of words in a sentence. Use your fingers to help. For example, 'How many words can you hear in this sentence?' She loves chocolate biscuits (has 4 words).

For older kids, say a sentence out of their reader/book and see if you can reorder the words to make new sentences. For example, the sentence "I can run fast and swim far" can be reordered to make: "I can run far and swim fast" or "can I run fast and swim far?

Here are some sentences to start you off (remember to choose sentences from your child's book/reader):

- a. Mike has a red lolly and Sarah has a blue ball.
- b. She went to the shops after she went to the pool.
- c. Please move quickly to the door.
- d. Lucy painted a picture of Mike while he rode his bike.

2. As you read with your child, practice breaking words up into syllables (beats in a word). For example, chick-en (chicken) has two syllables and el-e-phant (elephant) has 3 syllables. Clapping out the word into syllables can help. Talk about how longer words have more syllables.

Ask your child to think of the longest words they know. Demonstrate the length by clapping out the beats or syllables – caterpillar (cat-er-pill-ar has 4 claps), encyclopedia (en-cy-clo-pe-di-a has 6 claps).

3. Encourage your child to listen to sounds at the *beginning* of words. Choose two words from their reader/book and ask them to judge if the two words start with the same sound (say some that match and some that do not). Encourage them to say the two words and feel the first sounds with their mouth. Then, point out the two sounds at the start. For example, *"Mouse and Moon start with the same sound.... Mmmmouse, Mmmmoon. They both start with the 'mmmm' sound".*

While on a long car trip ask your children to write down some of the letters of the number plates that they pass on the way. Eg; SWP or NAR Then get them to make up a funny phrase using these letters as the first sound in the word. for example: Sally Wears Pyjamas or Not Always Right. Gives scores for the funniest sentence but they have to explain why it's funny.

Feel free to adjust these activities according to your child's grade level.

If you have any questions you can contact Lauren Naish, Speech Pathologist through the School's Learning Diversity Leader, Linda Cartwright.

School Photos – Wednesday 10 & Thursday 11 March

Annual school photos including sibling photos will be taken at St. Francis of the Fields Primary School by Arthur Reed Photos on Wednesday 10th & Thursday 11th March, 2021.



Wednesday, 10 March – All class photos and individual portraits

Thursday, 11 March – All family photos, Grade 6 graduation and team photos will be taken.

There is no need to return any forms or money to school.

Unique image codes will be issued to all students on/after photo day so families can register online to view images when they become available in the webshop.

Registration is simple, just follow the 3 simple steps child's on your personalised flyer once vou receive it and remember to add the codes for all your children attending this school.

Even if you registered last year, it's important that you do again this year using your child's 2021 image code to link their images for the current year with your contact details.

When images are ready to view and in the webshop, all parents who have registered will be notified by SMS and email.

Once registered, please wait for notification that 2021 images are online to view before making your purchase.



It's important to register each year to link your child's NEW images to your contact details When 2021 images are ready to view in our secure webshop you'll be notified by email and SMS

BEFORE ORDERING for 2021, please wait to receive notification that new images are online

Order on any mobile device • Share the images with family & friends for FREE
Create a photo package with any layout + YOUR choice of images + Digital Downloads

Arthur Reed Photos

Arthur Reed Photos Pty. Ltd. A.B.N 48 528 494 590 (03) 5243 4390 customerservice@arphotos.com.au

Building Numeracy Skills

A workshop for Foundation parents and your child

Three sessions available: Wednesday 24th February, 9am or 2pm

Wednesday 3rd March, 9am



Workshops will be held in the **Community Centre**

and will run for approximately one hour.

These sessions will allow you to work alongside your child. You are welcome to stay for a cuppa afterwards – a good chance to meet and get to know other parents.

Hands-on, practical workshops (where you won't have to answer any maths questions out loud!) We will focus on:

- Developing an understanding of what children do as they develop 'number sense'
- Ways to develop effective counting strategies
- Having fun playing the games with your child
- Nurturing a wonder and enjoyment of maths in our world

Go to schoolinterviews.com to book.

Booking code: 9dj7k

Due to covid restrictions, the maximum number of bookings is 22 per session. For any questions, please email Kate Ellis (Maths Leader) kellis@sfstrathfieldsaye.catholic.edu.au



Tuckshop News.....

Tuckshop will again be available on Thursdays and Fridays in 2021. Ordering will continue via CDF Pay. Please go to <u>https://sfstrathfieldsaye.cdfpay.org.au</u> to set up your child/ren's account. (Please remember to update your child's 2021 class!) For new parents, there is a guide to ordering via CDF Pay on the school website - go to <u>sfstrathfieldsaye.catholic.edu.au</u>>Downloads>Tuckshop>CDF Pay Parent's Guide

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

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

At present we cannot have parent helpers in the tuckshop but we are hoping this might change for Term 2. Please give us a call and we'll put you on the roster.

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



Scholastic Books

Book orders should be coming home soon. If you would like your books to be left at the office for collection, please send an email to <u>office@sfstrathfieldsaye.catholic.edu.au</u> 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



Woodworkers & Needlepointers!!

For those new to the school, we have two social groups for our parents – 'Woodwork' is for the men and 'Needlepoint' is for the ladies.

We get together each term to catch up, meet new parents, unwind and enjoy each other's company. Last year we enjoyed a progressive dinner, winery tour, pub nights and bike ride along the O'Keefe Trail, just to name a few.

You can find out info of our upcoming events in the Newsletter or by joining our Facebook pages. Search up 'Frankie's Woodworkers' and 'Needlepoint Group'. Tag other Parents and join in the fun!

Otherwise, you can contact Leigh Stevens 0407865875 for Woodworking or Bek Stevens 0418103199 for Needlepoint.



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 <u>stfrancis@ymca.org.au</u>.



Student Achievements

Judo – Grace Lunney

Grace Lunney has passed a Judo practical and knowledge test called a grading at the Judo Bendigo Club.

This is no easy task and requires a great deal of practice. The grade is awarded by the presentation of a coloured Judo belt.

Junior Judo belts are in varying colours signifying age and expertise. Grace has been awarded a White-Yellow-Black belt.

Well done Grace!!

Swimming – Past student Jordi Martin

Jordy was a student at St Francis of the Fields who took up swimming as a way to improve his Asthma. He moved to Adelaide four years ago to improve his swimming.

> Recently he competed at the South Australian Country Championships where he won gold in all of his personal events apart from two which he got silver. He broke 10 records and won swimmer of the meet. Jordy also won a trophy for the fastest open age 100 metre butterfly.



silver. He broke 10 records and won swimmer of the meet. Jordy also won a trophy for the fastest open age 100 metre butterfly. In March he will compete in the National Open Water 5km Championship at Lake Kawalla at the Sunshine Coast. Also his times we good enough to qualify for the Australian National Championships in Southport Queensland in April. What a great result Jordy.

> Your St Francis family congratulate you on your great efforts and wish you all the best for your future swimming.

Craig Ryan

Community News....

Hockey Clinic

We are excited to welcome the Hockey Victoria Roadshow to our school!

Students are being given the fantastic opportunity to try out the exciting game of hockey! They will learn the skills of the game through exciting game-based activities suited to every year level and ability.

Hockey Victoria will be sending their amazing Participation Officers to our school in the coming weeks to provide an engaging, fun, and safe hockey experience for everyone.

At Hockey Victoria they pride themselves in providing an enjoyable experience for every student, so keep an eye out and see if you can spot one of their coaches at school soon!

If you enjoy the sessions during school, you can continue with your hockey experience by joining a local Hookin2Hockey program www.hookin2hockey.com.au. With

programs all over the state you can find a local program that will suit your schedule.









Programs designed especially for young learners. Play-based and delivered in an immersion environment. Sessions are messy, loud and full of laughter... Everyone is welcome!

Imagine your child putting on a play of 'The Three Little Pigs' in French, or playing shops & transacting in Mandarin, or walking to the café after-school & ordering in Japanese....

We can help your child become multilingual....

Enquiries to Sally-Anne Symes m: 0418 390 824 e: sally-anne.symes@lcfclubs.com.au



INVITE ALL PARENTS & CARERS TO REGISTER FOR THE 2021 JUNIOR SEASON

REGISTRATION IS ONLINE VIA THE WWW.PLAYFOOTBALL.COM.AU

Search for - Colts United FC



Enquiries: Eddie Castle (Junior co-ordinator) 0402246236 juniors@coltsunitedfc.com.au