



WEEK 2 TERM 3 NEWSLETTER Wednesday 21st July 2021

Dear Families,

Thank you for your ongoing support as we have responded to this latest Circuit Breaker Lockdown in Victoria, and now the extension of this lockdown. I hope everyone is well and that the past few days have been productive and as low stress as possible. Our staff have once again worked hard in recent days to put things in place to meet the needs of our children and families at very short notice. As outlined in recent updates, we are very conscious that the current learning expectations need to be realistic and achievable. As always, the wellbeing of all community members remains a high priority. I remain confident that a few more days of learning in this way will not impact on the children's long term learning.

Please continue to keep a close eye on your children over the coming days, as this return to lockdown may cause worry for children, just like it can impact on us as adults. Take the time to listen to your children and assure them that all will be ok. Children often communicate their feelings through their behaviour, so now, more than ever it is important to tune into your children and to be aware of how they are feeling. Please know, that the staff are here to support you and you can contact your child's teacher should you have any concerns.

I'm pleased to advise that Google Meets for students were reintroduced this morning. These Meets enable students to regularly connect with their classmates, their teachers and other staff members. It was lovely to see children reconnecting as I popped into some of the morning check ins and SEL sessions this morning.

Sadly, the celebration of the Sacrament of Confirmation for our Gr6 children planned for last Friday was cancelled. My heart goes out to these children, their families and the staff involved. We hope to have an update on the celebration of Confirmation in the near future. I thank those families concerned for your patience and understanding as we put things in place.

Celebration of Grandparents - Please join us on Friday August 6th for our Celebration of Grandparents. Of course, this event will only be able to go ahead if it is in line with the COVID Safe procedures that will be in place in August. The plan is for the morning to commence with Open Classrooms at 10.00am followed by a special Assembly led by our Year 1/2s. Morning tea will follow at 11.00am in the Family Lounge. All visitors will be required to sign in using our Victorian Government QR Code and to follow all COVID Safe practices while onsite. I will keep staff and the community up to date with developments.

Staff News – This week we welcome Fiona Roberts to the St Mark's community. Fiona will work each Tuesday and Wednesday in the Office as an Admin Finance Officer. We look forward to Fiona sharing her gifts and talents with the St Mark's Community. Please keep LSO Carol Skouris in your prayers as she undergoes surgery this week. We wish Carol a speedy recovery and look forward to welcoming her back soon.

Kids Matter @ St Mark's Action Team Meeting – Unfortunately our meeting last Friday was cancelled due to the snap lockdown. I will advise a new date and time soon.

Intentions for 2022 – It's hard to believe that we are currently in the process of preparing our class structures for 2022. To assist, we need to know if any students (other than Gr 6's) will be leaving St Mark's at the end of 2021. If your child will not be returning to St Mark's in 2022 can you please inform me in writing as soon as possible.

2022 Prep Enrolments – Please tell your friends that there are still places available for Prep 2022 at St Mark's. I am available for School Tours, which can be booked through the Office on 8335 4100.

Catholic Secondary College Enrolments – local Catholic Secondary Colleges take Year 7 enrolments during a student's Grade 5 year. I encourage families of current Grade 4 & 5 students to contact secondary colleges that they are considering for their child, in order to determine enrolment requirements and cut off dates. **Yr 7 2023 enrolments (current Yr 5s) close on Friday August 20th.**

Update on New COVID Restrictions - All staff and visitors to St Mark's are required to wear a face mask while onsite, unless there is an exemption. If for any reason you need to enter a school building while onsite, **you must sign in using our QR Code**, wear your face mask and continue to socially distance. We ask that parents minimise their time onsite at drop off and pick up time, and also continue to sign in and out using our Passtab if there is a need to enter school buildings. When onsite learning returns, Drop Off & Pick Up arrangements will remain unchanged, with all students being dismissed at 3.30pm.

Should you have any concerns relating to school operations, or the health and safety of students, please do not hesitate to contact me. Thank you for your patience, understanding and support.

Face Masks:

As directed by the Victorian Chief Health Officer, from 11.59pm Thursday 15 July:

- School staff and secondary school students aged 12 or older must **always wear a face mask** at school, including when attending an Outside School Hours Care (OSHC) program, unless a lawful exception applies.
- Children under 12 years of age and students at primary school are not required to wear face masks when at school, or when attending an OSHC program.
- For communication purposes, teachers and education support staff are not required to wear face masks while teaching, but those who wish to do so, can.
- Face masks are mandatory for all school staff and school students aged 12 or older when travelling to and from school on public transport and when in taxis or ride share vehicles.

As a community we continue to follow all the procedures and protocols of the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) and Melbourne Archdiocese Catholic Schools Ltd (MACS). Advice from the DHHS is that if a student or member of the community is unwell for any reason, **they should get tested and then remain at home until they receive their results. Please do not leave your house for any reason until you receive your results.** Further information on COVID-19 is available on the DHHS Website - www.dhhs.vic.gov.au/coronavirus and the CECV Website - <http://www.cecv.catholic.edu.au/Coronavirus-information-for-parents>
Thank you for your support in keeping our school community safe.

School Assembly in Term 3 – Assemblies in Term 3 will be held at 2.45pm on Fridays. There will be occasions when Assemblies will be held in the morning. One such occasion is the Father's Day Assembly which will be held straight after Father's Day Breakfast on Friday September 3rd.

As was the case earlier in the year, if in line with COVID Safe restrictions, family members will be able to attend Assemblies in Term 3 when they are hosted by the various year levels. Families will be notified in advance of these assemblies.

2021 Sacrament Dates

First Eucharist –Grade 4's - **Wednesday August 11th** at 7.00pm; Gr5's – **Wednesday August 4th** at 7.00pm

"Eid Mubarak" to all of our Islamic families here at St Mark's, and in the broader Fawkner community. We wish all of our Muslim families every blessing as they celebrate Eid al-Adha. We are truly blessed to be part of such a faith filled and diverse community that is able to live and learn in harmony together, embracing all that each of us has to offer.

Birthdays

Happy Birthday to the following people who are celebrating their Birthday.

Date	Name	LA	Date	Name	LA
21 st July	Jaidan	4	23 RD July	Sahaj	4

Learning Area	Name
Prep	Siena S- for showing curiosity when participating in a shape hunt to find different 2D shapes around your house. You put in a great deal of enthusiasm when searching for different objects and drawing detailed pictures of them in your collection chart. Well done Siena!
LA4	Zara - for showing persistence when completing learning tasks and taking on feedback to enhance her learning. Well done Zara! Zaneek- for always being respectful towards her peers and teachers. Well done on always trying your best.
LA5	Amelia - for being resilient when transitioning back into Remote Learning. It is fantastic to see the enthusiasm you have shown in the work you have submitted so far. Keep up the amazing work!
LA7	Makayla- for showing curiosity as a learner during Digital Technology, where you experimented with different ways to begin designing a house using the Sketch Up Program. Keep up the great work!
LA8	Ishaaq for being a resilient learner and continuing to complete all tasks during remote learning. It is fantastic to see you reflecting and answering tasks in an honest and thoughtful manner.
LA9	Diyenka, you've resiliently completed your learning tasks to a very good standard during this challenging time. Your visualisation of the very downcast snowman whose nose was stolen by a rabbit also displayed your strong ability to reflect on your reading. Top learning!
LA10	Prasana – for being reflective during Remote Learning by revising your work and resubmitting it so that it reflects your true abilities. Well done and keep up the great work!
ITALIAN	Titanya, LA 8, for being CURIOUS in Italian. You have used new ways of learning the vocabulary connected to the GORMITI superheroes, by watching a clip and listening to a song. Brava!

God Bless,

Peter Wilson, Principal

‘The St Mark’s Catholic Primary School, Fawkner Community promotes the safety, wellbeing and inclusion of all children.’

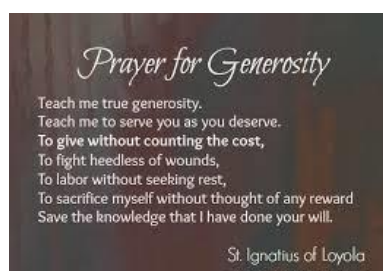
TERM 3, 2021		
JULY		
Tuesday 27 th	6.00pm	School Advisory Council ZOOM Meeting (Formerly School Education Board)
Friday 30 th	2.45pm	Assembly – Hosted by Gr3/4's
AUGUST		
Wednesday 4 th	7.00pm	Gr5 Celebration of 1 st Eucharist
Friday 6 th	10.00am	Celebration of Grandparents - Visits to Classrooms - TBC
Friday 6 th	10.30am	Celebration of Grandparents - Assembly hosted by Gr1/2's - TBC
Friday 6 th	11.00am	Celebration of Grandparents - Morning Tea - TBC
Wednesday 11 th	7.00pm	Gr4 Celebration of 1 st Eucharist
Friday 13 th	Penola Volleyball Competition – Gr6 students	
Friday 13 th	2.45pm	Assembly – General (No Visitors)
Sunday 15 th	Feast of the Assumption	
Tuesday 17 th	6.30pm	5/6 Camp Parent Info Session
Friday 20 th	2.45pm	Assembly – Hosted by Preps
Friday 20 th	Catholic Secondary Colleges Yr7 2023 Enrolments close	
Monday 23 rd	BOOK WEEK COMMENCES - Old Worlds, New Worlds, Other Worlds	
Wednesday 25 th	Book Fair – Wednesday - Friday	
Friday 27 th	Book Week Celebrations	
Friday 27 th	2.45pm	Assembly – Host TBA
Monday 30 th	Melbourne Archdiocese Catholic Schools Ltd School Improvement Surveys Open	
Tuesday 31 st	9am-1pm	St Mark's Athletics Sports @ Parker Reserve
SEPTEMBER		
Friday 3 rd	7.30am	Father's Day Breakfast
Friday 3 rd	9.00am	Father's Day Assembly – Hosted by Gr5/6's
Sunday 5 th	Father's Day	
Thursday 9 th	3.30-6.30pm	St Mark's Art Show
Friday 10 th	2.45pm	Assembly hosted by Drumbeat Program
Wednesday 15 th – Friday 17 th	Gr 5/6 Camp to The Ranch – Cape Schanck	
Friday 17 th	Melbourne Archdiocese Catholic Schools Ltd School Improvement Surveys Open	
Friday 17 th	Final day for students – students dismissed at 3.30pm	
Friday 17 th	2.45pm	Assembly – General (No Visitors)

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

17th Sunday in Ordinary Time

In this Sunday's Gospel, we read a miraculous story of how Jesus fed over five thousand people with two fish and five loaves of barley bread. He asked his disciples to "*Gather up the broken pieces which are left over*"

Jesus and his disciples had been teaching great crowds of people about God's love. In this miracle Jesus didn't just feed the people, he provided bread beyond what was necessary. This was meant as a symbolism of generosity – giving more than is needed. We see God's generosity everywhere in our world. We are asked to continue taking on daily actions of generosity, to show our love towards others.



Gospel Reading Jn 6:1-15

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

Jesus went off to the other side of the Sea of Galilee – or of Tiberias – and a large crowd followed him, impressed by the signs he gave by curing the sick. Jesus climbed the hillside, and sat down there with his disciples. It was shortly before the Jewish feast of Passover.

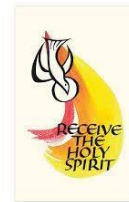
Looking up, Jesus saw the crowds approaching and said to Philip, 'Where can we buy some bread for these people to eat?' He only said this to test Philip; he himself knew exactly what he was going to do. Philip answered, 'Two hundred denarii would only buy enough to give them a small piece each.' One of his disciples, Andrew, Simon Peter's brother, said, 'There is a small boy here with five barley loaves and two fish; but what is that between so many?' Jesus said to them, 'Make the people sit down.' There was plenty of grass there, and as many as five thousand men sat down. Then Jesus took the loaves, gave thanks and gave them out to all who were sitting ready; he then did the same with the fish, giving out as much as was wanted. When they had eaten enough he said to the disciples, 'Pick up the pieces left over, so that nothing gets wasted.' So they picked them up, and filled twelve hampers with scraps left over from the meal of five barley loaves. The people, seeing this sign that he had given, said, 'This really is the prophet who is to come into the world.' Jesus, who could see they were about to come and take him by force and make him king, escaped back to the hills by himself.



The Gospel of the Lord

Sacrament of Confirmation

We continue to keep in our prayers our students who were not able to celebrate the Sacrament of Confirmation last Friday, due to the current lockdown restrictions. We look forward to them celebrating this special time in their faith journey at a later date.



Sacrament of First Eucharist

The Sacrament of First Eucharist will be celebrated this term on the following dates- Wednesday August 4th (Yr 5s) and Wednesday 11th August (Yr 4s). Both Masses will be at 7.00pm in St Mark's Church.



Saints Club News!

Putting our Mercy Values of '*Service and Compassion*' into action!

Our focus this term is to support the needy people in our local community. Once we return to onsite schooling, we look forward to putting our Mercy Values of '*service and compassion*' into action, by working in groups this term to cook some food for the Hope Cafe.



Ms Dot Mash

RE LEADER

OFFICE NEWS

CSEF have extended the deadline.

CSEF (Camp Sport and Excursion Fund)

To support schools during COVID-19 restrictions, the Department of Education and Training (DET) has extended the deadline for schools to submit their Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund (CSEF) applications to Friday 13 August 2021.

The means-tested concession cards must be valid on any of:

- the first day of Term 1 (Wednesday 27 January 2021)
- the first day of Term 2 (Monday 19 April 2021)
- the first day of Term 3 (Monday 12 July 2021).

If you have not already applied for CSEF and have a valid Card, please come to the office to collect a form. Once completed, please return to the office, together with a copy of your card for processing.



A Big thank you

to everyone who collected bread bags and bread tags for our Wonder Bag Recycling Rewards promotion. The promotion has now finished and I will now send these off where they will be recycled into something useful. These bags will be weighed and points will be allocated to our account enabling us to buy sporting equipment for our school. Thanks again for all your endeavours and doing your bit for the environment!

Ms Daniela Lazzaro
Sport Teacher

