



ST JOSEPH'S PRIMARY SCHOOL NORTHCOTE

Newsletter, Tuesday Feb 2, 2021

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE...

As we begin a new school year we ask that this year will be full of learning, friendship and growth. We ask for blessings on each member of our school community. May this school be a place of welcome where everyone feels included and valued. May we look after each other this year and may our own worries not blind us to the needs of others.



Welcome back everyone!! Together with the staff I wish you all the very best for the New Year and trust that everyone has had an enjoyable holiday and found time for some quality rest and relaxation with your family. Once again, I look forward to working with our team of dedicated teachers and support staff to provide a learning community that values a culture of excellence, where children laugh, play and learn together. We have certainly seen a very smooth start to the school year, there is a really positive vibe around the classrooms and lots of smiling faces – which is always great to see!! It's wonderful to welcome back our students and to hear their holiday stories.

COVID - Q.R. CODE

It has been wonderful to welcome families back into our school grounds. Parents and families are welcome to enter the school ground before and after school, however we are still faced with certain restrictions due to COVID. **I ask that you sign in using the Q.R. code** that is on the gates before entering the school grounds, and once on the grounds maintain social distancing.

Face masks are optional on school grounds and buildings, but we will be restricting parents and visiting adults congregating around the classroom areas.

SOME CHANGES IN 2021...

Last year Sam Ryder accepted a position of leadership at St Joseph's School in West Brunswick. His decision to leave was by no means taken lightly and we wish him all the best as he begins his new journey in school leadership.

Given Sam's departure, Lauren Greenlaw has moved from the junior level to the seniors to replace Sam, and we are yet to employ a junior teacher. In the interim Fiona and Jenelle are sharing the class - Fiona is teaching on Monday and Tuesdays and Jenelle on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday. We hope to have a permanent teacher commence in the next few weeks. Kate Lynn and Ashlyn Keane will remain in the roles of Learning and Teaching Leaders, working together with Fiona and myself.

This year will also see some changes to our specialist programmes:

Performing Arts

We will be introducing a performing arts programme commencing later this term, or the beginning of term 2. Jenelle Thornton will be facilitating this programme and it will run for grades Prep to Six - children will receive one lesson per week.

STEM

In previous years, children have received a specialist STEM lesson once a fortnight, this year this will increase to once a week. STEM lessons which will be facilitated by Peter Zammit will be held each Thursday and Friday.



Mandarin

We are trialling a new approach to our L.O.T.E. lessons. This year, our grade Preps and Seniors will continue to have Mandarin lessons via Skype using the My Chinese Tutor programme, and the students in Juniors and Middles will have face to face lessons. We have partnered with the Chinese Association of Victoria who are supplying us with a teacher - Jane Mu. Jane has completed a TESOL (Teaching English as a Second Language) course at Monash University and is now completing further Graduate Studies at Melbourne University. The classroom teacher will remain in the classroom during Jane's lessons as a support person. Jane will commence next week and more information about this programme will be provided in our next newsletter.

Music



This year we have also partnered with a company called 'Mad on Music'. Lessons in guitar, keyboard and singing will be offered to students from grades 2 - 6 in terms one and two, and will open up to students in Prep and Grade 1 in term 3. The duration of each lesson is 30 minutes and will take place during the school day - the day and timetable is yet to be confirmed. Ashleigh from 'Mad on Music' will be visiting each classroom tomorrow to introduce himself and talk about the programme.

This is an external programme and available to parents at a reasonable cost. More information about this programme will be sent home later this week.

STAFFING 2021

PRINCIPAL

D. P. / REL/ LEARNING DIVERSITY
LEARNING & TEACHING LEADERS

Mary Kearney
Fiona Ehmer
Ashlyn Keane & Kate Lynn

PREP A

Ashlyn Keane

PREP S

Angela Stamellos

JUNIOR O

Olivia Durnan

JUNIOR FJ

Fiona / Jenelle

MIDDLE K

Kate Lynn

MIDDLE A

Annabelle Robertson

SENIOR S

Sophie Bonello

SENIOR L

Lauren Greenlaw

SPECIALISTS

ART

Jenelle Thornton

PERFORMING ARTS

Jenelle Thornton

P.E.

Peter Zammit

STEM.

Peter Zammit

POL Release

Jenelle Thornton

LEARNING SUPPORT OFFICERS

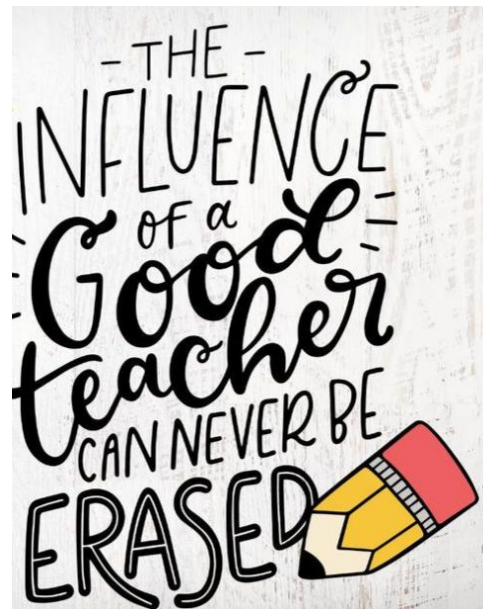
Katie Bussell
Maya Muxlow
Steph Vlahos

OFFICE ADMIN

Carmel Jakowenko

GROUND & MAINTENANCE

Domenic Colosimo



NEWSLETTER AND COMMUNICATION



This year the newsletter day will remain on a Tuesday - and a newsletter will be sent out each fortnight. Please ensure that the office has your email address as we are endeavouring to reduce our carbon footprint and eliminate sending home hard copies of the newsletter. The newsletter can be accessed via email, the school website and is sent out as a push notification on the school app (skoolbag). Please ensure that you have the app downloaded as many 'day to day' messages are communicated as a push notification. Please click [HERE](#) for instructions to download the Skoolbag app.

SCHOOL LUNCH ORDERS

Lunches can be ordered online from 'Classroom Cuisine' and are available on Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday. Orders can be placed via <https://classroomcuisine.com.au>. Lunch orders are delivered to the school in cooler boxes and orders can be placed until 8am each day.



HOURS OF SUPERVISION

The school yard is supervised before school from 8:30am and after school until 3:30pm. If your child is dropped-off outside these times they will be unsupervised until the teacher commences yard duty. EXTEND out of school hours programme is offered to all families outside of these hours. Before school care is available from 7am-8:30am and after school care is available from 3:15pm-6:00pm.

ASSEMBLIES

This year our assemblies will move to Friday morning, commencing this week. Once our senior leadership teams have been finalised the senior assembly team will lead the assembly each week. Each assembly will include upcoming news, a class presentation, birthday celebrations and student awards. The student awards will alternate each week between awards based on the 3Rs (Respectful, Responsible, and Resilient behaviours) and on our Learner Qualities.

An assembly timetable will be shared next week that will detail when each class is sharing their learning presentation.

PARENT INFORMATION EVENING - SAVE THE DATE!

Please note in your diaries our Parent Information Session to be held on **Tuesday February 16 at 7.00pm**. This will be an opportunity for teachers to share information with parents/carers and the Learning and Teaching team will provide valuable information about the St Joseph's Learner Qualities.



CALENDAR 2021

February						
Sun	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Sat
	1	2	Mandarin lessons commence for Juniors and Middles 3	Beginning of school year Mass 9:15am 4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	Parent Information Evening 7pm 16	Ash Wednesday 17	18	19	20
21	22	Swimming Carnival 10:00am-12:30pm 23	After school reading programme begins 24	Senior's Class Mass 9:15am 25	26	27
28						

March						
Sun	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Sat
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	Sacrament of Reconciliation Parent Information Night 7pm 10	11	SCHOOL SPORTS DAY 12	13
14	15	6	17	Sacrament of Reconciliation 6:30pm 18	St Joseph's Feast Day 19	20
Parish Celebration - St Joseph's Feast Day 10:30am 21	22	23	SENIOR'S CAMP 24	SENIOR'S CAMP 25	SENIOR'S CAMP 26	27
28	29	30	31			

**IN THE NEXT NEWSLETTER I WILL INCLUDE THE CALENDAR DATES FOR 2021
(END OF TERM ONE - APRIL 1, Children may wear casual clothes
and will be dismissed at 1:30pm)**

WELLBEING...

STUDENTS WITH SPECIAL MEDICAL NEEDS

To ensure the safety of all students we ask families of students with special medical needs i.e., anaphylaxis, asthma, allergies, diabetes etc. to:

- obtain a medical Action Plan from your child's medical practitioner and provide a copy to the school as soon as possible
- immediately inform the school in writing if there is a change in your child's medical condition, and if relevant obtain an updated medical Action Plan to reflect this change
- provide an up to date photo of the student for the Action Plan when that Plan is provided to the school and each time it is reviewed
- provide the school with medicine for example, an adrenaline auto injector or ventolin that is current (i.e. device has not expired) for your child.

R.E. News

This week on Thursday the children in Juniors, Middles and Seniors will attend the beginning of the year school Mass at 9:15am. Due to COVID restrictions families will be unable to attend this Mass as we are limited with the number of people we can have in the Church.



GENERAL NEWS

SUNSMART REMINDER

St Joseph's is a SunSmart school and therefore it is imperative that children wear their school hats. We adhere to a "no hat, no play" policy and children without a hat will have restricted play areas.

WORKING WITH CHILDREN CHECKS

If you anticipate assisting on school excursions, helping out in the classroom or around the school in general please ensure that you have a current Working with Children Check. This can be applied for online, and if you are registering as a volunteer there is no cost involved.

MOBILE PHONES

Just a reminder that if your child brings a mobile phone to school it must be handed in to the office (for safe-keeping) in the morning before children go into class. Phones can be collected again at the end of the day.

SJPS CHESS CLUB 2021



2021 LESSON DATES

Term	First	Last
1	3/2	24/3
2	28/4	16/6
3	21/7	8/9
4	6/10	24/11

VENUE:

ONLINE / Meeting Room depending on pandemic

Think! Concentrate! Gain Confidence! Have FUN!

Coach: Jim Cannon, PhD (*UMelb*), Dip Ed (*UMelb*) Email: jimphd2000@gmail.com

RETURNING STUDENTS: Please do NOT fill in this form unless updating your details

Term 1 fees (\$80 / child) due: WEDNESDAY 3/2/21

**SPECIAL OFFER (TERM 1 ONLY):
PAY FOR THE YEAR AND PAY ONLY \$290 (SAVE \$30!)**

Payment Options: IMPORTANT: Please circle payment method used:

EFT* (preferred) Cash Chq (to "J.F.Cannon")

*EFT (JF Cannon, 037-138 58-4211) with name, school + Term in description eg. "J BROWN SJPS T1234"

Please note: If paying by cash or cheque, please hand your payment to me in a clearly-labelled properly-sealed envelope with your child's name and Term being paid for. Thank you.

Name of Child(ren) 1. _____ in Year P 1 2 3 4 5 6 M / F
2. _____ in Year P 1 2 3 4 5 6 M / F

Names of parents / guardians 1. _____ 2. _____

Phone: Home _____ mob 1 _____ mob 2 _____

Email 1. _____ Email 2. _____

Signature of parent / guardian _____ Date / /

Term enrolling (Please tick ✓)

ROOKIES + ADVANCED

Term	(Tick) ✓
1	
2	
3	
4	

NEW STUDENTS ONLY:
Please state your
Commencement Date:

_____ / _____ / _____

OFFICE USE:

WW

CDE

PA

SJPS

KEEP THIS PART

RETURN THIS PART

KEEP THIS PART

RETURN THIS PART