ST JOSEPH'S PRIMARY SCHOOL NORTHCOTE

Newsletter, 26th October 2021

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE...

Hello Everyone,
How wonderful it is to have noise in our corridors and classrooms. Our children are transitioning back to school remarkably well, however we are well aware of the need to be cognisant of their wellbeing during this transition back to school.

Given this, during the next few weeks we will have a continued focus on the wellbeing of our children and families. Belonging, connection and re-engagement will be the priority for us in term four. There will be bumps in the road but that is to be expected as the students have spent more time AWAY from school than at school so far this year. We will encourage and model kindness, patience, and understanding. By being responsive to the individual's needs and working together with our families we will ensure a sense of unity and celebration about our return to school.

Children's feelings about the return to school after lockdown

Children might have mixed feelings about returning to school. For example, they might be excited and eager to get back to face-to-face learning and seeing their teachers and friends. They might also feel uncertain, worried or anxious about catching up on learning, fitting back into friendship groups and coping with a school routine.

If your child has strong emotions about returning to school, give your child plenty of love and support at home. These ideas might also help:

- ★ Be confident and enthusiastic about your child going back to school. This sends your child the positive message that they'll cope and have fun when they get back into the school routine.
- ★ Talk about your child's feelings about returning to school, and let them know that their feelings are OK. For example, 'Yes, it will be great to see Hartley again', 'You can see how much the vegie patch has grown' or 'It's OK that your brother is excited and you're nervous'.
- ★ Let your child know it's OK to feel nervous or uncertain about returning to school, but reassure them that they'll get through it. For example, 'It's OK to feel unsettled – it's another big change', 'A lot of kids will be feeling the same as you' or 'The teachers will tell you what to do'.

- ★ Help your child reconnect with their classmates. For example, you could organise a playdate in the park before the first day back, or practise lunch time conversations.
- ★ Give your child some control. For example, ask what they want for school lunch or what they want to do after school.

raisingchildren.net.au
the australian parenting website

The following are some more resources to support your child with their return to school

Australian Parenting Website:
raisingchildren.net.au

Andrew Fuller Website -
https://theparentswebsite.com.au/andrew-fuller-seven-things-for-a-smooth-transition-back-to-school-based-learning/

RETURN TO SCHOOL - Staggered Starts

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
This week: Monday 25 October	PREP	PREP MIDDLES	PREP MIDDLES	JUNIORS SENIORS	JUNIORS SENIORS
Next week: Monday 1st November	**School Closure**	**Melbourne Cup Public Holiday**	ALL CLASSES PREP - SIX ONSITE. Regular school hours.		

CLASSROOM PRACTICES

- ★ Hand sanitiser will be used every day when the children enter and leave the classrooms. All students will be encouraged to wash their hands frequently as well.
- ★ If your child is sick or unwell then they must remain at home. It is tempting to send them in after such a long time away from onsite learning however we ask you to consider the others in the class
- ★ If you have a positive case of Covid-19 in your household or been exposed to a tier 1 or tier 2 exposure site, then your children are unable to come to school until the mandatory guidelines have been met.
- ★ School uniforms will return to the summer uniform and please remember hats and drink bottles. Hats are available for purchase from the school office.
- ★ Children in Years 3-6 are required to wear a face mask whilst in the classrooms. Children in Prep to Year 2 can wear a face mask if they wish to but it is not mandatory. We ask that parents provide their children with a properly fitted and named mask.
- ★ Classroom windows and doors will remain open to maximise ventilation. The school is waiting for a delivery of air purifiers.

2022 CLASS PREFERENCES

It's amazing that we are once again at the time of the year when we are beginning our discussions for structures for 2022. An important component of this is the regrouping of our classes. When determining new classes we take the following into consideration:

- ❏ a balanced number of students with social, emotional and academic needs
- ❏ an appropriate mix of student role models and class leaders
- ❏ a balanced number of boys and girls
- ❏ student friendship circles.

Please make an appointment with me if you wish to discuss any concerns you may have that may impact on your child/children's class placement for next year. This may include particular social nuances with other students or any other extenuating circumstances. Please be aware that this is not an opportunity for 'teacher shopping', but rather to share genuine concerns about your child's learning environment for 2022.

Also, if you are not intending to return to St Joseph's in 2022 please contact the office as soon as possible

STAFFING NEWS

I would like to wish Katie Bussell all the best as she has commenced a period of leave. Katie has been instrumental in working with our prep children throughout remote learning. I thank her for the support she gave to staff and students and for helping to maintain an engaging online learning environment.

ASSEMBLIES

Unfortunately we are unable to gather for school assemblies due to COVID restrictions. We will continue to present our assemblies on a Zoom platform, using the current link.
I look forward to the announcement that we can once again gather as a community to celebrate our student successes and share important events.

SCHOOL CHROMEBOOKS AND CHARGERS

If you have a school chromebook and charger please make sure it is returned to school next Wednesday, Nov 3, when all children resume onsite learning. Chromebooks are to be returned to your classroom teacher.

CLASSROOM CUISINE

Classroom Cuisine will be available from Friday Nov 5. For lunch orders please go to their website:
https://classroomcuisine.com.au/

I WOULD LIKE TO SINCERELY THANK ALL OF OUR STAFF FOR THEIR DEDICATION TO ST JOSEPH'S IN MEETING THE CURRENT GOVERNMENT VACCINATION REQUIREMENTS AND ENSURING THAT WE CAN CONTINUE TO PROVIDE THE VERY EXCELLENT LEARNING AND TEACHING THAT WE ALWAYS HAVE.

CALENDAR 2021

October						
Sun	**Monday**	**Tuesday**	**Wednesday**	**Thursday**	**Friday**	**Sat**
24	Preps Onsite 25	Preps & Middles Onsite 26	Preps & Middles Onsite 27	Juniors & Seniors Onsite 28	Juniors & Seniors Onsite 29	SAT/30 SUN/31

November						
Sun	**Monday**	**Tuesday**	**Wednesday**	**Thursday**	**Friday**	**Sat**
	School Closure 1	Melbourne Cup Holiday 2	ALL CHILDREN RETURN TO ONSITE LEARNING 3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	2022 Prep Parent Information Evening 11	12	Sacrament of Confirmation 3:30pm
14	15	16	School Advisory Council AGM 17	18	19	Sacrament of Eucharist 9:30am & 11:30am 20
21	2022 Prep Orientation 22	2022 Prep Orientation 23	2022 Prep Orientation 24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

December						
Sun	**Monday**	**Tuesday**	**Wednesday**	**Thursday**	**Friday**	**Sat**
			1	MIDDLE'S CAMP 2	MIDDLE'S CAMP 3	4
St Joseph's Day 5	6	7	School Advisory Council 8	END OF YEAR MASS 9	10	11
12	13	'Moving Up' Day GRAD. MASS 6:30pm 14	Student's last day... dismissed at 1:30pm 15	Staff Planning Day 16	End of Term 4 17	

EDUCATION IN FAITH

★★★Celebrating the Sacraments UPDATE★★★

It is with great excitement that we are able to announce that the celebration of our Sacraments at Saint Joseph's has been rescheduled. We are confident, given the positive signs of life returning to somewhat 'normal', that we will be able to go ahead with the amended dates.

As with everything post Melbourne lockdown we have had to be imaginative and flexible in our arrangements.

The Sacrament of Confirmation is to go ahead on the original date of Saturday 13th of November at 3.30pm.

The Sacrament of First Eucharist is scheduled for Saturday 20th of November.

Year 4 at 9.30am
Year 5 at 11.00am

At this stage we are restricted to 50 persons inside the Church and are waiting on final numbers before we can allocate seating. We are hoping with the easing of restrictions that we will be able to increase numbers, but are currently quite limited.

Further communication will be sent home with your child this week seeking confirmation of attendance and detailing other arrangements. If your child is eligible to receive either sacrament and you have not previously contacted the school we ask that you do so ASAP.

As always if you have any questions or would like to discuss anything further please feel free to contact me on fehmer@sjnorthcote.catholic.edu.au

Kind regards,
Fiona

YARNING CONFERENCE

On Tuesday 19th of October, the grade 5's participated in the NAIDOC week Yarning Conference. The NAIDOC week Yarning Conference is held each year for grade five students all around Darebin. This year the conference was once again delivered via Zoom and the children participated in a variety of workshops facilitated by our local Indigenous representatives.

The Yarning Conference is a way to help young Australians understand Aboriginal culture and history to make sure it is recognised as it is an important part of our Country's history.

The NAIDOC theme this year is **"Heal Country!"** which calls for all of us to continue to seek greater protections for our lands, our waters, our sacred sites and our cultural heritage from exploitation, desecration, and destruction.

Student Reviews:

This term we got to participate in the Darebin City Council's annual Yarning Conference. During this conference, we got to participate in activities and watch videos to help us learn about Aboriginal history and culture and find out interesting facts about our country. Prior to the Yarning Conference, we got to participate in lots of interesting pre-learning activities such as designing our own clothing and creating posters about Aboriginal injustice. My favourite video was about a company called 'Clothing The Gaps' because I support the message they are fighting for. 'Clothing The Gaps' goal is to abolish the copyright claim on the Aboriginal flag which is owned by a non-aboriginal person.

Written by Willow

"The Yarning Conference made an impact on my thinking because it opened my mind to all the Aboriginal traditions and things like telling the truth about how Australian history should be told. It impacted my view on Australia Day and how the date should be changed because it is a day of invasion and we can't rewrite that history but we change the way it is told".

Written by Nikita

"The Yarning Conference made an impact on my thinking because it changed the way I think about Australian history and that we can't rewrite history but we can change the way we talk about it. It also changed the way I think about Australia Day and the date it is set on

because for Aboriginal people, that is a day of suffering because that's the day their land got taken away from them".

Written by Heidi

"My favourite activity was when we made the posters because it was really fun and the message meant alot to them. The Yarning Conference made an impact on my thinking because I didn't know a lot of these things and then I learnt it. When we go back to school full time I am excited to play the games and learn more about the things aboriginals do".

Written by Massimo

"During the Yarning Conference, we watched videos on Aboriginals doing what's right such as Ziggy Ramo Explaining the truth on Captain James Cook. My favourite video was on 'Clothing the Gap' about the 'Free the Flag' Campaign. The video was amazing but creating our own clothing designs was the best part and they were sent off to the company and are soon to be posted on their Social Media Page".

Written by Kavin

"The Yarning Conference made an impact on my thinking by teaching me about how the history of our country has been changed and manipulated over time. We can't rewrite history but we can change the way it's taught. Not enough schools teach their students about the history of this country and about how much Aboriginal people have had to go through. Not only has the yarning conference made me see this, but it also taught me that on Australia day, Aboriginal people (who are the roots of this country) feel excluded and unwelcome on this day because it celebrates a day where they were stripped of their family, culture and home or otherwise known as the First Fleet on the 26th of January".

Written by Willow

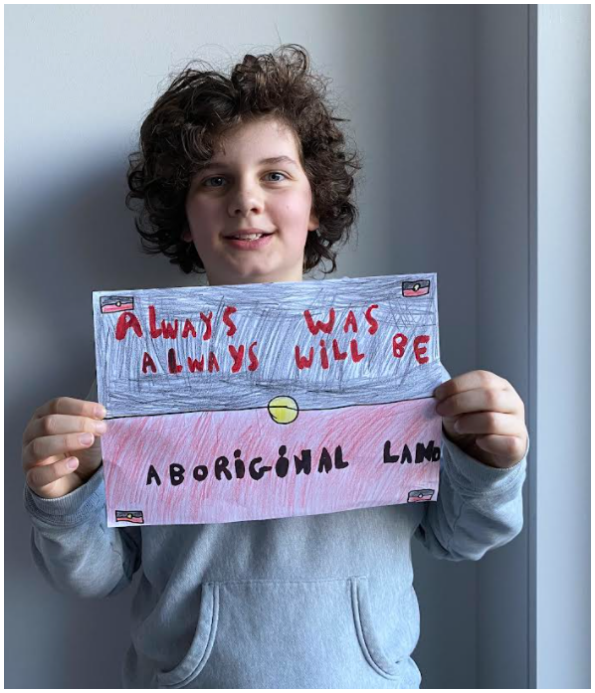
TRUTH TELLING

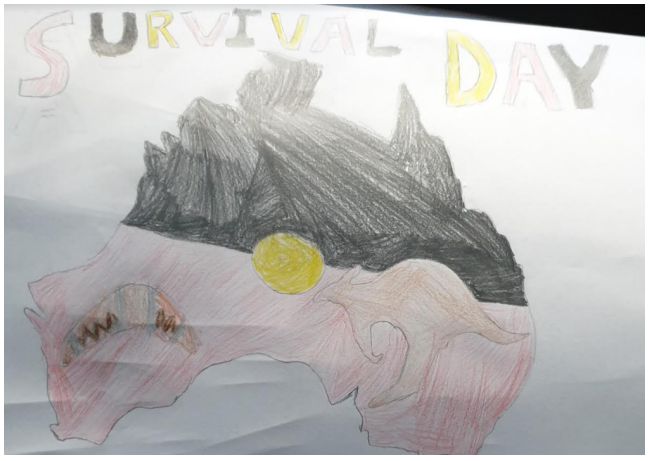
What is truth telling?

Truth telling is when people stand up to false claims about their land, their history, and their lives. Its when people speak up and say that the laws put in place to hurt people are not how a country should act.

How can we heal as a country through truth telling? Can you think of things we could do?
Instead of simply saying that something is wrong and doing nothing about it, you could instead:
Donate to charities like The healing foundation or The northern Australian aboriginal justice agency
You could speak to aboriginal people or elders to find out more about the problems they've faced and how to fight injustice the respectful way

How can we learn by past injustices experienced by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander People?
We can try to treat each other with kindness and see all of us as equals. We can see each other as people with feelings and emotions and not be divided my race.





GENERAL NEWS

WE ARE SO EXCITED TO WELCOME BACK YOUR CHILDREN TO THE SERVICE!

As we begin to open and welcome back children as part of the official Government staged return to onsite learning for schools, we are here to support all families.

Over the course of Term 4 we will continue to deliver safe and hygienic care for your children with a new, fun, Term 4 program.

All families can book in advance for Term 4 and save by booking the Early Bird rate!

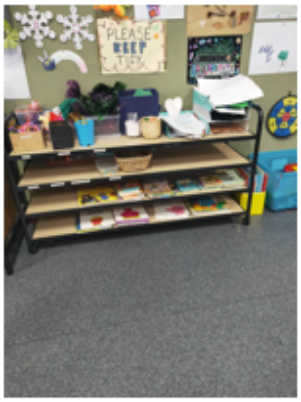
extend BEFORE & AFTER SCHOOL CARE

Enquiries 1300 366 437 Book online today extend.com.au

Extend is the place for your children to thrive, learn and play, so what are you waiting for? Book and enrol at
www.extend.com.au

Hi, my name is Kathy and welcome to Before and After School Care for 2021 at St Joseph's Primary School in Northcote!
For the few weeks we were fortunate to have in term 3, the students enjoyed setting up two new and exciting areas. Students participated in customer and shop owner role plays with their 'Meze Shop', as well as relaxing and reading in their new quiet corner. Additionally, students were involved in arts and craft activities and cool science experiments.
As we approach term 4, the students and I are looking forward to planning fun and engaging activities for our service. Student ideas which have already been planned are: sporting activities, expanding our 'Meze Shop', new recipes, Christmas and New Year art activities and much more!

Kathy Popovski
Service Coordinator



Come along to Before School Care for a healthy breakfast and a great start to the day. Then join us for After School Care and enjoy a range of different activities and be nourished with yummy, healthy food! Make new friends at Extend! Enrol and book now via extend.com.au.

extend.com.au

Woolworths CRICKET BLAST

HAVE A BLAST!

GET INTO WOOLWORTHS CRICKET BLAST. IT'S A FUN AND ACTIVE PROGRAM FOR KIDS OF ALL ABILITIES – WHETHER IT'S YOUR FIRST TIME WITH A BAT OR YOU'RE A BACKYARD CRICKET STAR!

Edinburgh Cricket Club - Do Blast on Brunswick St Oval

Saturdays 9.30-11 (also options on Friday evening & Sunday)

Contact Louise Dichiera 0403 155 082

eccfitzroy@gmail.com

Great coaches provided for all sessions

JOIN A CREW NEAR YOU TODAY **PLAY CRICKET**

OFFICIAL KIDS PROGRAM

CRICKET AUSTRALIA

MELBOURNE RENEGADES