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23rd February 2018

*Annunciation Catholic Primary School promotes the safety, wellbeing and inclusion of all students.*

## NEWSLETTER

### *A Lenten Prayer*

*Lord, I'm not always eager to do your will. I'd often much rather do my own will. Please be with me on this Lenten journey and help me to remember that your own spirit can guide me in the right direction.*

*I want to "fix" my weaknesses but the task seems overwhelming.*

*But I know that with your help, anything can be done.*

*With a grateful heart, I acknowledge your love and know that without you, I can do nothing.*

## PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Next week marks the halfway point of Term One!!! Time certainly flies especially when you are in a new environment. It was lovely to see so many families at the Welcome BBQ on Wednesday Night. Annunciation Primary School has a wonderful community spirit. We also had our first Parents and Friends meeting. (Please see notes below). If you would like to join this dynamic team please feel free to do so at anytime.

Developments around the School:

I am in the process of creating a strategic plan for developing the school infrastructure over the next few years. I have already put some things in action so you will see a few changes in the next few months. Some of these include:

- Replacing the slats on the outdoor seats and coating them with a high gloss
- The building of a wooden screen to block the view of the bins and to also lessen the wind blowing down the outside foyer
- New signage around the school
- Painting the outside foyer to make it more colourful
- Creating an inviting waiting area for families and visitors outside the office
- A buzzer system at the front door to create more security
- Redesigning the website to further promote the school
- A designated play area for the students which promotes imaginative play

THE FACEBOOK PAGE AND WEB PAGE HAVE BOTH BEEN REVITALISED. PLEASE HAVE A LOOK AND PERHAPS PUT THE FACEBOOK PAGE ON YOUR OWN DEVICE AS THIS WILL KEEP YOU UP TO DATE WITH WHAT IS HAPPENING.

It is essential that we continue to look to the future and plan accordingly so that our students continue to be in a safe, welcoming and stimulating environment.

Finally thank you to everyone for your passion and interest in the school. I have had many people offering assistance and support. It is a fabulous place to be!

Mrs Robyn Kelly

### Dates for your Calendar 2018

#### *Term 1*

<b>Sunday March 4 :</b>	Bake Sale down at the Park
<b>Friday March 9:</b>	Casual Clothes day Bring a Gold coin or an Easter Egg donation
<b>Wednesday March 14:</b>	Staff and students are having a get together with Corpus Christi and St Augustines at St Augustine's. More details to follow
<b>Tuesday March 20th:</b>	School Photos
<b>Saturday March 24:</b>	Working Bee

### **FEES AND LEVIES**

Fees and levies statement for 2018 have now been sent to each family. Thank you to families who have already made payments.

You can pay fees in cash, cheque or via **internet banking** (details can be obtained at the office). You can also set up periodic payments through your bank account, (again details available at the office.)

Also families who hold a valid Health Care Card for the 2018 year are eligible for a rebate from the school in addition to the Camp, Excursion and Sports (CSEF) fund provided by the Government. The current rebate for CSEF is \$125 per child. Applications for CSEF are available from the office. If you feel you are entitled could you please obtain this form as soon as possible, as all forms are due by 28<sup>th</sup> February. If you received CSEF last year you do not need to fill out a new application unless your details have changed.

### **ABSENCES**

We are now mandated to follow up unexplained absences. This means if a child is away and we do not receive a call/note/email etc we then have to call parents to check where the student is. As this could be a very time consuming task we ask that you please let us know if your child is away. This will assist us greatly!

### **LOTE AT OUR SCHOOL**

As mentioned previously we were unable to get Auslan going as there were no available teachers for this curriculum area. We have then researched best practice in teaching a Language other than English. I made contact with several feeder Secondary schools and learnt that most of these schools teach Japanese from Year 7. After looking at our student's needs we are delighted to be introducing the teaching of Japanese into our curriculum. We have employed Mrs Lesley Wheeler who currently teaches Japanese at St John's Footscray. Lesley introduced herself to the students last Friday and they were very excited to meet her. We are sure that this new program will not only promote a love of languages but will also be a great stepping stone for future learning. Japanese will start next Friday in all Grades.

### **GRADE 5/6 CAMP**

We have now confirmed dates. The Grade 5 children will be going on camp Wednesday May 30 until Friday June 1st. We will be going to CYC City camp. The students are very excited and we are looking forward to exploring parts of Melbourne that they have not seen.

### **BEFORE SCHOOL CARE REQUIRED**

A Grade three student is seeking before school care. If you would be interested in assisting could you please contact the office. The student's mum is wishing to start back at work but would like childcare sorted before committing to a job.

### **UPDATE INFORMATION**

Just a reminder that if you change your home phone number, your mobile number or your address, could you please advise the school so that we can keep our contact details up to date.

We have had occasions where we have had to make contact only to discover details we have on record are incorrect or home or mobile phone numbers which have been disconnected.

## OUR VISIBLE LEARNING JOURNEY

This week we had two experts come to the school and visit the classrooms. Whilst they were in there they asked different students about what makes a good learner? The answers were very interesting! The Staff are now looking at Learning Intentions and Success criteria to ensure students know what they are learning and how we can measure our success as both teachers and students.

**A Learning Intention** is what we are intending to learn about.

**Success Criteria** tells us how we know if we have been successful. Here is an example:

Learning intention: We are learning to write a narrative.

Task: Write a scary story

Success Criteria:

I will be successful if :

- People enjoy reading my story and it frightens them
- Set the scene in the opening paragraph
- Build up tension and suspense
- Use spooky adjectives and powerful verbs
- End the story with a cliffhanger

## WORKING BEE

I would like to hold a working bee here at school on **Saturday March 24** from 9am to 12pm. There are a few jobs that need to be done which will require several hands. The jobs I am looking to do are:

- dismantling the old chook shed and garden beds (I am replacing these with areas for the children to play)
- tidying the area around the car park and generally cleaning the grounds.

I will be ordering a skip so it would be great if as many people as possible could be involved so that we can fill it on the day. If it helps to encourage people I am putting on morning tea!!! A note will be sent home closer to the date to see how many people can make it.

If there is anyone who has a history in painting and would be interested in painting a part of the outside foyer please contact me at school. As it is the main entrance I will need someone who has painted exterior walls before and is an expert at it.

## UNIFORM ORDERS

A winter uniform order has been sent home today for each family. If you require items of winter uniform could you please complete the form and return to school before due date. The school only has limited stock on hand, so to avoid disappointment it is strongly urged you order now.

***PLAYGROUP – HERE AT ANNUNCIATION, EVERY THURSDAY MORNING***

**A Playgroup called ‘Brooklyn Fun for Tots’ is operating in the Community Room each Thursday  
Enquiries - Phone Lauren 0411 895 775 or Michelle 0432 517 222**

***Annunciation After School Care - Daily - 3.30pm. - 6.00pm.  
(not during school holidays)***

## AFTER SCHOOL CARE PROGRAM

If you intend on using the after school care program you must register online first. (Details can be obtained from the office.) If you have already registered and want to put your child in care could you please make sure that you go online and book them in for the day, the night before. If it is an emergency situation and you haven't booked your child in you can ring the office.

**REMEMBER IF YOU WANT TO USE THE PROGRAM WHETHER IT BE AS ONGOING OR CASUAL YOU MUST BE REGISTERED.**

## PARENTS AND FRIENDS NEWS

### BAKE SALE:

The Parents and Friends in conjunction with the Brooklyn Project Group are holding a cake bake sale at Brooklyn Reserve on Sunday March 4, between 10.00am and 12 noon. There will be free coffee provided on the day. They would appreciate donations of any goodies to sell

- All baked items can be left at the school on Friday afternoon (2nd March) , if they are items that do not need refrigeration, if you are unable to drop them off at the Reserve on Sunday.
- No cakes that have a cream filling or custard filling can be taken as there will be no refrigeration at the site.
- **All items donated must include a list of all ingredients used.**
- If you are able to assist on the day, Karen Thistlethwaite will be there from 9.30am and could do with your help.

### EASTER RAFFLE:

The Parents and Friends will also be holding their annual Easter Raffle. As in previous years we are asking all families to donate something towards the raffle.

The Parents and Friends make up a number of 'Easter Baskets' with all the donations of eggs that come in. Raffle tickets will be sent home on Monday.

### PARENTS AND FRIENDS MEETING REPORT

We had our first meeting on Tuesday night. It was great to see some new faces but we can always have more. If you would like to be a part of this terrific group our next meeting is March 20. At the meeting the following was discussed/decided:

- There will be an Easter Raffle. On March 9 the students will be able to wear casual clothes. If they wear casual clothes we ask that they then bring a gold coin donation or an Easter egg. The eggs will be used to make hampers for the raffle. The money will purchase Easter eggs for the hampers too.
- There will be a Mothers day stall on May 10 and a Mother's day Luncheon on Friday May 11. Please put the luncheon in your diary as this is a fabulous day for all the Mums/Grandmas etc



Annunciation School is participating in the Coles Sports for Schools program. When you do shopping at Coles you can get vouchers according to the amount you spend. This current program has already started and will run until 11<sup>th</sup> May, so plenty of time to collect. Get family members, friends, neighbours etc. to collect as well. The more vouchers we receive the more sports equipment we can choose. Vouchers can be dropped off at the office.

### SKOOLBAG APP

Just a reminder that our school newsletter is available via the Skoolbag app and also on our school website.

## HELPFUL HINT

Today's helpful hint comes from the Beyond Blue Website. It talks about the importance of building resilience in children. Being able to solve problems independently is an important life skill. Here is a strategy they suggest:

This strategy works best when your child is feeling calm and relaxed. If they're very anxious or angry, help them to calm down first (quiet time, take some deep breaths) or leave problem-solving for another day when they are feeling calmer.

### 1. Identify the problem

Kids don't always have the words to tell you how they feel or know exactly what the problem is. Finding a quiet space where they feel comfortable and relaxed may help them to start talking about it. Remember to step back and not jump in to solve the problem.

### 2. Find solutions and try them out

Brainstorming two or three solutions is a good place to start – any more can be overwhelming. You can encourage their thinking with questions like “what do you think you/we could do?” With practice and support from others, they will gradually be able to come up with more of their own solutions. If they get stuck, you may need to make some suggestions in the beginning.

### 3. Check in: how did it go?

Once you have both identified some options, you can decide together which one to try first. Work out a plan for how they will try out their solution.

Do they need support from you, another child or a teacher? When will they get a chance to try it out – at home or in the playground? Once your child has tried the solution, check in with them as soon as possible. Did it work? If not, why not? What can they try next?

Remember to give them lots of support and encouragement if the solution didn't work out. Sometimes we have the right solution, but need to practise it many times. Other times, we may need to return to step one to see if we correctly identified the issue.



Congratulations to our 2017 VCE High Achievers: Michael Mazzeo 97.6, Bachelor of Law, University of Melbourne; Reece Hodges 95.75, Bachelor of Engineering, Swinburne University; Hung Lam, 94.75, Bachelor of Commerce, University of Melbourne; Suvarna Soni, 93.7, Bachelor of Bio-Medicine, Monash University; Duy Tran, 93.5, Bachelor of Design, University of Melbourne; Madeleine Chetcuti, 93.45, Bachelor of Arts, University of Melbourne; Thien Nguyen, 92.25, Bachelor of Communication Design (Honours), Swinburne University; Chiara Petrelli, 91.2, Bachelor of Arts, University of Melbourne; Marie Grace Mueller, 90.0, Bachelor of Science, University of Melbourne; Liam Murray 90.0 Bachelor of Science, University of Melbourne; Katrina Poloni, 89.90, Bachelor of Arts, University of Melbourne.

A special congratulations from Annunciation goes to Michael Mazzeo, who is a past student. We wish him all the best for the future.



Mount St Joseph Girls' College  
Open Morning  
Thursday 15th March 2018  
9.15am - 10.30am

Limited places available for 2018 and 2019

Year 7, 2020 Applications close on 3 August 2018

Offers are posted to parents on 19 October 2018. Offers are to be accepted by 2 November 2018

The criteria for consideration in determining offers of enrolment include:

- Family connections with Mount St. Joseph Girls' College
- Primary school attended (i.e. local or non-local, Catholic or non-Catholic)
- Religious denomination of applicant and parents
- Location of residence
- Date of application
- Family circumstance

The enrolment process at Mount St. Joseph Girls' College is guided by the enrolment policies available on our website, and procedures of the school and the Catholic Education Office Melbourne.

Further queries should be directed to the College Registrar, Ph: 8398 2007, [registrar@msj.vic.edu.au](mailto:registrar@msj.vic.edu.au); [www.msj.vic.edu.au](http://www.msj.vic.edu.au)