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February 19th 2021

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

NEWSLETTER

Reflection

Ash Wednesday Reflection Prayer

*“Almighty and Loving Father, you do not hate anything you have made
and forgive the sins of all who are repentant.*

*Create and make in us clean and remorseful hearts, so that, we can worthily regret our sins
and acknowledging our wickedness,*

May we obtain from You, the Father of all mercy, perfect absolution and forgiveness.

*Through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and
ever. Amen.”*

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Hello everyone

Well, what a start to the term. Like many of you I did not anticipate that we would be facing another lockdown quite so soon! I was just grateful that it was only three school days that we missed. Hopefully we won't have another one! (I'm choosing to be optimistic in this current climate!)

Unfortunately, we had to cancel several events as a result of lockdown. We will reschedule where we can so please see the information in this newsletter.

Due to the Welcome picnic and Information evening being postponed teachers have created an information sheet for their class that has important information for the year ahead. This will be in your child's bag today.

I would also like to reassure you that even though the doors are temporarily closed we are always here to answer any questions or to speak to you about your child's progress. Just send an email or chat to a staff member on yard duty and we will set up a time that is convenient for you.

Thank you for your continued support in all that is happening.

Robyn

The term ahead: Please note these dates in your own diary:

Wednesday February 24th	Preps start at school full time
Thursday March 4th	Parents and Friends Meeting 2:30pm PLEASE NOTE NEW DATE
Wednesday March 17th	All students will be going to St Augustine's Yarraville CANCELLED DUE TO THE NUMBERS NOT FITTING INTO RESTRICTIONS. TO BE RELOOKED AT LATER IN THE YEAR
Thursday March 25th	Whole school photos
Wednesday March 31st	School Picnic 5:30 - 7pm
Thursday April 1st	School finishes for the term at 1pm

SKOOLBAG is a very important tool to have especially if lockdowns continue. Please ensure you have this APP on your phone. If you can't do it for some reason please speak to Connie or myself so that we know information needs to get to you via other means.



COVID SAFE PRACTICES

According to the Health department we will not see the results of the last outbreak fully until next Friday. Until then we ask parents not to come into the classrooms and to please only come to the office one at a time. I thank you for helping to keep everyone safe.



SCHOOL PICNIC Wednesday March 31st 5:30-7pm

This will be held in the last week of Term and will simply be an opportunity for families to come together and get to know each other. The picnic will be held in the school grounds from 5:30pm to 7pm so please put this in your diary.

PARENTS AND FRIENDS MEETING CANCELLED AND RESCHEDULED

Our first meeting was scheduled for next Thursday February 25th. We will cancel this one due to restrictions but will aim to have a meeting on **Thursday March 4th**. Please put this get together in your diary



ENROLMENTS 2022

I am about to head off to the local kindergartens to promote our school. However, the most powerful way to promote our school is by word of mouth, especially from you, our parents. If you know of anyone with a 4 year old who is looking for a school please send them our way. I will do a tour at a time that is convenient to them. The one on one tours seem to be more effective than

having a specific day.

I will also be asking local families if they can walk down their street and do a leaflet drop in letter boxes. If you live locally, I will reach out to you shortly!

SCHOOL FEES

Hopefully statements for current years fees will be sent home shortly, (still ironing out a few problems) However, if you wish to pay them before receiving your statement you can do so via the school's bank account via internet banking (details available at the office.) Thankyou to the families that have already done this.

If you want to direct debit your fees, please see Connie at the office and she can arrange this for you.

UPDATE INFORMATION

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

THANK YOU

Thank you to three of our Mums who volunteered to put a display together for the foyer. Bethany (Ivy's Mum), Linda (Valerie and Raf's Mum) and Qingyun (Datong's Mum) did an amazing job! Hopefully, you will all be able to walk through very soon to admire it!!



BEFORE AND AFTER SCHOOL CARE

We now have before school care as well as after school care. You must be registered with 'Looked After' before you can use the services offered. This will need to be done on Looked After website. You must also book in the day before if you need to use either service on any day.

CAMPS, SPORTS & EXCURSIONS FUND (CSEF)

A reminder that families who hold a valid Health Care Card for the 2021 year are able to receive a government rebate through the Camp, Sports and Excursion Fund (CSEF.)

CSEF is provided by the Victorian Government to assist eligible families to cover the costs of school trips, camps and sporting activities. If you hold a valid means-tested concession card or are a temporary foster parent, you may be eligible for CSEF.

The allowance is paid to the school to use towards expenses relating to camps, excursions or sporting activities for the benefit of your child. The annual CSEF amount per student is: • \$125 for primary school students For more information about the CSEF visit www.education.vic.gov.au/csef

HOW TO APPLY: New applicants should contact the school office to obtain a CSEF application form or download from www.education.vic.gov.au/csef. If you applied for the CSEF at your child's school in 2020, you do not need to complete an application form in 2021, unless there has been a change in your family circumstances. You only need to complete an application form (AVAILABLE THROUGH THE OFFICE) if any of the following changes have occurred:

new student enrolments;

- ❖ your child has started or changed schools in 2021 or you did not apply in 2020.
- ❖ changed family circumstances; such as a change of custody, change of name, concession card number,
- ❖ or new siblings commencing at the school in 2021.

Check with the school office if you are unsure.

Also families who hold a valid Health Care Card for the 2021 year are eligible for a rebate from the school in addition to the Camp, Excursion and Sports (CSEF) fund provided by the Government.

IF YOU HELD A VALID HEALTH CARE CARD LAST YEAR BUT NO LONGER HAVE A VALID CARD FOR THIS YEAR COULD YOU PLEASE LET THE OFFICE KNOW BY EITHER A PHONE CALL TO CONNIE OR EMAIL: ccornwill@asbrooklyn.catholic.edu.au



During this week's 'hiccup' and unexpected lockdown, the students and staff adapted really quickly and moved from onsite to remote learning with ease. One of the great learnings from last year was the importance of a flexible approach to learning. Congratulations to everyone on this.

Last week, our Year 7 students from St Paul's attended their camp at Portsea. Students overcame challenges and nerves to try new activities and make new friends. It was a wonderfully successful experience for them. The link below will take you to a short video about their experiences.

<https://youtu.be/XPykEoRqoG4>

Our Meet the Principal event is coming up as well; St Paul's - March 4th.

This event commences at 9 am and you can register under the tours and events tab of the College website, www.ecmelb.catholic.edu.au or call 8325 5100

We would love to see you there.

Stay informed with the SkoolBag App



The SkoolBag app is the easiest way to stay up-to-date with school events, last minutes notices, newsletters and all school communications.

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