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St.Patrick's Primary School - Pyramid Hill

"Never see a need without doing something about it"

Eternal God,
Giver of joy and source of all strength,
we pray for those
who prepare for the Rio Olympic and Paralympic games.
For the competitors training for the Games and their loved ones,
For the many thousands who will support them,
And for the Churches and others who are organising special events and who will welcome many
people from many nations.
In a world where many are rejected and abused,
we pray for a spirit
of tolerance and acceptance, of humility and respect
and for the health and safety of all.
May we at the last be led towards the love of Christ who is more than gold, today and forever.
Amen

Dear Parents,

St Patrick's is an extremely busy place at the moment with our full school review not too far away. I must thank the staff and our wonderful learners who has so willingly helped with many jobs that need doing around the school. This week alone we have finished off the library, cleaned out the storage and garden shed and cleaned out endless cupboards! St Patrick's is such a great team when things need to get done!

Our VRQA inspection of the school will occur on Tuesday 23rd August so if any parents have noticed trades people in and around the school, it is all in preparation for Review. The process of review is a positive for our school and has allowed us to reflect and make changes to ensure that our school environment is as safe as it possibly can be!

As of August 1st, changes to Child Safe practices, policies and procedures in Victorian schools have become law. This week I have included for you a Child Safe information poster that might help our families with an overview of what child safe is and our commitment to it from Catholic Education through to our schools. Discussions, reminders and information will continue to be provided to our families from St Patrick's around Child Safe. Our learners will also take part in explicit curriculum around what child safe means and how they are entitled to feel safe at all times.

In line with our review preparations, St Patrick's has had to review all of its policies and procedures. Many policies have had small changes that the staff are very aware of. The Distribution of Medicine policy needed refining and I thought it important that our parent community be aware of these changes. Accompanying this newsletter is the policy for your viewing. To highlight important information families need to know:

- St Patrick's is not legally allowed to administer any form of medication to students (eg: antiseptic cream, panadol etc)
- St Patrick's is not allowed to administer any form of medication without written permission from the child's parents and a medical practitioner
- St Patrick's staff are not allowed to administer medication without another staff member present.

I just wanted to highlight the main messages that are important for all of us to be clear on. If your child at any stage requires medication, the proforma attached to the policy must be completed and sent into school. We thank you for your support on this.

Father Jun Jun has arrived and is settling in slowly to his new role across the three parishes. Father Jun Jun came and saw me the other day and he is looking forward to meeting the learners of St Patrick's. We have confirmed many dates for the remains of the year and we look forward to continuing our faith journey with Father Jun Jun. Can we continue to pray for Father as he settles into our community.

Thank you to all of the families who completed the Insight SRC survey. I greatly appreciate your opinion and time. The students and staff also took part and I look forward to using the data to set new goals and targets for the next 12 months. All families who completed the survey have gone into the draw as a measure of thanks for the survey. This year's winner is: **The Correa Family!** Your Coles / Myer voucher will come home today. Thank you all once again.

This week the years 3 - 6 had their final visit from the dancers from Arts Alive. All learners participated so well and their singing was beautiful. Miss Wilson will continue to practise with our learners in preparation for their trip to Shepparton on September 1st. You will see an advertisement for 'Sandhurst Arts on Show,' included in this newsletter inviting all families to attend.

Thank you so much to all of the families that have completed their weekend weeding! I love arriving to school each Monday morning to see how beautiful our grounds are looking. We do have such amazing facilities and I thank everyone in the community for helping to maintain this. We will continue to use the weeding roster for the remains of this term.

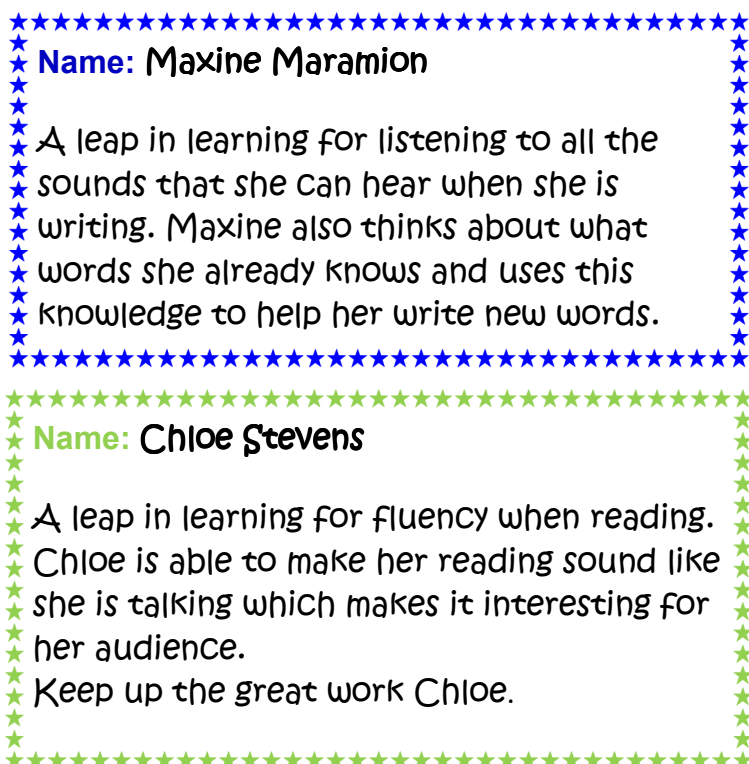
St Patrick's Inquiry unit this term is media arts linked with the content of the Olympic games. Our learners have been investigating the origin of the Olympics, the history, right up to the Olympics and how it operates today. As part of this Inquiry St Patrick's will be preparing a pitch to host the Olympics in 2020 right here in Pyramid Hill! We look forward to their creativity in preparing for these games. This Saturday morning will officially mark the opening the Rio, 2016 Olympic games so we encourage families to watch as much of the opening ceremony and games as possible! We wish our Aussie Olympians all of our prayers and best wishes!

Have a lovely weekend everyone!

May God's Blessings Be With Us...

Jasmine Ryan
Principal





Mathematics

Literacy

Our writing focus this fortnight has been both Procedural texts and Expositions. A procedural text explains how to do something while an exposition's purpose is to persuade the audience. Students have written a procedure about something that they know how to do as well as an exposition as to why they believe students should be involved in Public Speaking opportunities. Enjoy reading these pieces of writing. You may learn some new skills or be persuaded!

Let them hear you speak! By Aleeza Pacala

I strongly believe that Public Speaking is an important life skill, used in our everyday lives. Even though you don't like speaking in public you have to, because nowadays there are many people that have the ability to speak in public and they know that it's an ability everyone needs. So do I.

Most occupations require your voice to speak in front of an audience. Jobs like: a radio host, a news reporter live on air, a teacher speaking to her students, or even the Prime minister requires your voice. Don't even think about looking for a job, that doesn't need your voice to speak in front of them because I have one more reason coming up!

Speaking in public can help you become confident. For example, speaking in front of your class or your classmates will help you prepare for a future responsibility. It can build up your confidence and you'll feel better than ever. In addition, the more you speak in public, the more you become confident.

Now you're one of those people that can speak in front of an audience with confidence. Now get out there and speak in public!



Inquiry Learning - What's your pitch?

This week we have been exploring the history and the traditions of the Olympic Games. We have read about the Olympic torch, the Opening ceremony, The Olympic Creed and oath. Much of our discussion this week has been around the issue of doping which has provided us with great opportunities to share what we have heard and read in news as well as sharing our own personal opinions.

On Tuesday we welcomed Mr Richard Hicks into our classroom as he reminisced on his role when he carried the Olympic torch in the 2000 Olympic torch relay. It was wonderful to see Richard proudly discuss his role and his memorable time on that day. He also let students hold the Olympic torch and showed them how it worked. The students asked some great questions deepening their knowledge and understanding.



Religious Education News:



This fortnight we have looked closely at Luke's Gospel and focussed on stories of healing. Our first Gospel story was from Luke 7: 13-18 'Jesus heals a crippled woman'. Our background reading gave us insight into this story as we learnt that women were not allowed into the temple and that anyone who was disabled was also not permitted. As a consequence, the crippled woman was doubly affected. We will continue to explore Luke's Gospel and learn more about Jesus' willingness to heal and help others. May we too outstretch our hands to help others.

Dates to remember:

Sun 7th Aug - Lions Public Speaking Competition @ Cohuna Consolidated 1.00pm
Mon 8th Aug - Jets Gymnastics in Bendigo
Mon 15th Aug - Feast of the Assumption
Thur 18th Aug - School Board Meeting @ 6:00pm

HOME READING

"Are we there yet?"

Use the time spent in the car or bus for word play. Talk about how 'jam' means something you put on toast as well as cars stuck in traffic. How many other homonyms can your child think of? When kids are highly familiar with the meaning of a word, they have less difficulty reading it.



Educational Quote





Lions Public Speaking Competition

Congratulations to Maria Umali who won the Grades 3 & 4 and Raphael Umali who was successful in the Grades 5 & 6 Lions Public Speaking Competition at the Memorial Hall on Wednesday evening. Both students now progress through to the next level which will be held at Cohuna on Sunday 7th August at 1.00pm. The St. Patrick's School community wishes you well.

Jets Gymnastics

On Monday the students participated in their first Gym sessions at Jets Gymnastics in Bendigo. Most students were very familiar with these surroundings as we have participated in these lessons in previous years. Students enjoyed exploring the different apparatus including the balance beams, climbing ropes, large trampolines and bars. We are all looking forward to our next session on Monday.



Rotary Club Spelling Competition

The Rotary Club of Kerang has invited our students to participate in the 19th Annual Spelling Competition. This competition is open to all students from Grades 4-6 in the local district and provides an opportunity for pupils to showcase their academic talents as well as develop their confidence. This year's competition will be held at Thornley Hall, Kerang Technical High School, Murray Street, Kerang on Monday September 12, starting at 7pm.

Information regarding this competition has been attached to this newsletter for students from Grades 4-6. Please return indicating your child's interest by Friday 19th August.

Bug Blitz

Thursday saw the students of St Pats and the Pyramid Hill college head over to The Hill to participate in Bug Blitz. The day saw the students moving around different locations at the hill to participate in activities looking at bugs and wildlife that surround them. The day was a huge success, where students got to look for, catch, study and learn all about bugs and even have a try at eating them!

Let the World hear your voice!

Public Speaking is a fundamental life skill, especially now in the 21st Century of modern lifestyle, and I unmistakably believe that people just not should, but must learn this often brought up topic.

Firstly, Public Speaking builds up your confidence. Public Speaking is a good way to practise speaking to an audience, so you get an idea of speaking to an audience in your job, like a radio host to the nation, architect to the builders, or a pilot to the passengers.

Secondly, as mentioned before, nowadays, most occupations require interaction with customers or a group of people. Some more examples include: the police force, a waiter/ waitress, bakers, receptionists, military/ naval officers, shop attendants or a teacher.

Finally, speaking in public isn't the only reason why you should use public speaking skills. For example, presenting your knowledge, a portfolio or work, to making new friends, the skills learnt in Public Speaking can be used in a multitude of scenarios.

Now, keeping these useful benefits in mind, I hope you will be able to realise why learning this essential skill will make your life more effortless in a bountiful amount of ways.

Raphael Umali
Grade 6

Jets Gym Bendigo



Lions Public Speaking Competition



Bug Blitz at the Hill



Sandhurst Arts on Show

30 AUGUST – 1 SEPTEMBER 2016

SONG • DANCE • DRAMA



Each day approximately 500 primary and secondary students will come together to share workshops and performances.

You are invited to attend the daily reprise that showcases selected performances at **4pm to 5pm** in the

Mercy Centennial Stadium, Notre Dame College, Shepparton



This is a **FREE** event.

