

ST. PATRICK'S PRIMARY SCHOOL

PYRAMID HILL

5 Victoria Street, Pyramid Hill 3575

Ph: 54 557220 Mob: 0438 359 981

Email: principal@sppyramidhill.catholic.edu.au



'Never see a need without doing something about it' - St. Mary of the Cross MacKillop

St. Patrick's is a welcoming community where all are encouraged to *'Love, Learn and Respect'* in the Josephite Tradition.

FRIDAY 25TH MARCH 2022 ISSUE NO. 4

Dear Families,

As was mentioned in our last Newsletter, we have 2 opportunities for you as parents to come in to the school, one later this term and one early in Term 2.

The first opportunity will be our open house on Monday 4th April. You are all invited into the classroom to have a look at some of the things that the children have been working on and also have a bit of a chat with the educators. This will occur between 5:00 and 6:00 pm followed by a BYO Picnic Tea. Please note that all visitors will still need to be fully vaccinated to attend. Then, in early Term 2, on the 3rd of May from 5:15 - 6:15, you are invited to attend a Parent Engagement Forum. This discussion will focus on how to best include and engage all parents in the life of the school and to discuss and share ideas about how we can continue the strong partnership between the school, the home and the community. It would be awesome to see you all there if you are available.

As you are aware, I've been at a Principal's conference this week. The theme of the conference was "Hope - for now and whatever lies ahead". This is also the Theme for our school this year. As we continue to emerge from the shadow of Covid, as we reflect on the impacts of Climate Change and as we continue to pray for the people of Ukraine, it is time for us to create and develop hope in our students and in our communities. I hope, that together we can increase our expectations of a positive future where we can live in harmony and celebrate all that is good in our world.

This Sunday's reading from Luke's Gospel is the story of the Prodigal Son, one of the most well known parables told by Jesus. In the story, we learn about the relationship between a father and his two sons. The plot centers around the younger son who, impatient and greedy, asks his father for his inheritance. The father agrees, but the son wastes his money, eventually becoming homeless and destitute. In the end, to the son's great surprise, he is welcomed back into the family by his father. In this time of Lent, we also reflect on some of the bad choices we have made knowing that our Father in heaven is ready and willing to always welcome us back into His family.

Have a wonderful week.

John

TALAARAWAN

March

30th: Gymnastics

31st: Disney Movie Day

April

4th: Open House and Picnic 5pm

6th: Collaborative Learning day in Cohuna

7th: Hot Shots Tennis - Yrs 5/6

8th: Last day of Term, 2:30 Finish Fr. Novie farewell at 12:30

25th: ANZAC Day

26th: First Day of Term 2

May

3rd: Parent Engagement Forum

6th: Good Samaritan Cup - Kerang

10th: NAPLAN - Writing

11th: NAPLAN - Reading and Language Conventions

12th: NAPLAN - Numeracy

St. Patrick's Primary School is committed to child safety.

We believe all children have the right to feel safe and to be safe.



HOPE - For now and whatever lies ahead.

Every day
COUNTS!

School success starts
with attendance

Chaplain's Chat

As adults we can often become frustrated by a child's inability to complete a task. We will sometimes choose in frustration to rush in and complete it ourselves. We need to retrain our brains to think: Have we communicated how to do the task clearly? Have we demonstrated the task simply? How we communicate the task we require others to do will impact how it is completed or turns out. I'm sure many of us have made cakes flop only to discover we haven't followed the recipe. Try to build something by making short cuts only to wish we hadn't. When we rush in to complete tasks for our children we rob them of the reward of achieving things for themselves. Next time you become frustrated ask yourself " Have I taken the time to teach them this?"..... The achievements will be easy to see in the smile their success brings them.

Leiza

School Chaplain



Tagalog Links

Magandang araw sa lahat!

The learners are quick in tracing, drawing and identifying shapes in Filipino Language (Tagalog). They are really excited about finding and making list of objects shaped like circle, square, triangle, rectangle and oval in the music video, 'We Don't Talk About Bruno' from the movie Encanto.

They also enjoyed singing "Paa, Tuhod, Balikat at Ulo" with a twist. A game that makes them energetic and paying close attention to instructions.

On the other hand, they are also fast in recalling the commonly used kitchen utensils during SAKG.

Keep up the good work Learners.

Stay safe and God bless!



Mary Anne Domingo

Language Assistant

The Annunciation

Today, the 25th of March, is the Feast of the Annunciation. It may seem strange that such a moment of excitement and celebration occurs in the middle of Lent but today is 9 months until Christmas, so it does make sense.

On the Feast of the Annunciation, we celebrate the day that the Angel Gabriel visited the Virgin Mary announcing that she was going to be the mother of Jesus. Even though Mary did not understand completely, she trusted God's plan for her life, and she said yes to becoming the mother of God and our mother.

We can turn to Mary, our mother, whenever we need help making difficult decisions or if we are scared to say yes to God. She loves us and she is always praying that we will have the courage to listen to and say yes to whatever God asks of us.



Movie and Popcorn Afternoon

Our next fundraiser for Project Compassion, will be a movie and popcorn day. This will be held in our classroom on Thursday 31 March and a gold coin donation will contribute to the money that we have raised. We will show the movie between break 1 and 2.

ST. PATRICK'S DAY



OUR BIRTHDAY CALENDAR -

April:

4th - Tiffany Calamcam

19th - Jace Pacala

1st - Kerri Bowman

10th - Leiza Webb

15th - Kirsty Twigg

21st - Zoe Dennis

Collaborative Day in Cohuna

On Wednesday the 6th of April, in the last week of this term, the whole school will be travelling over to Cohuna for a Collaborative Planning Day. This not only gives the staff an opportunity to plan together and share ideas with other educators, it also provides time for the learners to share and celebrate the work that they have been doing throughout the term.



Numeracy

Foundation: We have been looking at the days of the week – trying to remember the order that they come in. We've played games like Monster Fish to pair up the days and challenged ourselves with putting the days of the week in caterpillar order. It's been very busy.

1/2: What's the time Mr Wolf? Is it o'clock, half past, $\frac{1}{4}$ to or $\frac{1}{4}$ past? Or is it 12:00, 3:15, 7:30 or 4:45? Just ask us in $\frac{1}{2}$ – we know!

3/4/5/6: Fractions and Decimals. We have continued to explore fractions and decimals, including converting decimals to fractions and fractions to decimals. An example of this would be $0.18 = 18/100$.

This is a topic we will continue to look at over the year.

Inquiry Unit

It's been eggs-lent! We created parachutes and capsules to protect our precious eggs – and guess what? They all survived!!

What eggs-lent engineers we are here at St Patrick's. I'm not eggsagerating. It's been eggstrordinary really!

Our next exciting project does not involve eggs but does have us delving into fishing, bells and wire, and a bit of Tetris. We might be sounding a bit cryptic but you'll see more about it all on our Open Night on the 4th April (5-6pm)

R.E.

Lent is a special time in our Catholic faith. It is a time of reflection, consideration and prayer. We have spent time in Religious Education this Lenten period contemplating what we could do to be more mindful of ourselves and others. We have written Lenten promises and Lenten prayers to share. We put these on our Lenten trees which are on display on our new classroom shelf in our reading nook.

As active agents of social justice we have been raising awareness and funds for Project Compassion, Caritas Australia. This week we enjoyed some splashing fun under the sprinklers and yummy ice creams. Next week we will have a movie and popcorn afternoon. All money raised will be donated to Caritas. We are mixing a bit of fun with helping those less fortunate than ourselves.



FUN IN THE SUN (CARITAS FUNDRAISER)



CHILDREN'S CHATTER MATTERS!

Focus: Spelling & Reading opportunities

There are many ways that we can support a child's reading and spelling development. One of these ways is to get in the habit of looking for patterns in words, for example:

- rain, paint, complain
- sign, align, design
- could, should, would

Open House

Meet and Greet and Something to Eat

On Monday 4th April (5-6pm) we would like to invite all families to come along and to visit our learning space. We will have a showcase for you of our learning this term in Literacy, Numeracy, Inquiry and Religious Education. This will be a fantastic opportunity to have a chat to John, Kerri and Zoe, to see into your child's workbooks, check out our learning spaces and to see our Inquiry projects first hand. We are very excited to invite you along.

After this we extend our invitation to a BYO picnic dinner here on our school grounds. All members of your families, young and old are welcome to attend. Tea, coffee and cordial will be provided, but we welcome you to bring along your own family's picnic dinner. It's a great opportunity to enjoy the company of each other and celebrate what has been a terrific term.



Harmony Day

Harmony Day is a community celebration of diversity and acceptance. We read 'The Suitcase of Belonging' in our Literacy groups – a story of students with diverse heritages and skills sharing what makes them special. The main character Hondo came to feel included after being lonely and sad. It was a lovely story and all the learners enjoyed it very much. There were other activities built into our morning's literacy work all arising from the story and connecting closely with the Harmony Day themes of diversity and acceptance.

Literacy

Have you heard of OREOs – not the ones you eat, but the planning technique for persuasive writing.

O- opinion. R – reason. E – example.
O – opinion restated.

It's a sure-fire way to persuade others into seeing your side of the situation. Here's a terrific example written by Sarah Gr 4.

Cats are better than dogs !

Cats are cute, cuddly and warm and mostly appear in the cute animal's folder. However, dogs jump and bark and they are vicious, cruel, disgusting and awful.

Firstly, cats bury their scat (poo) in a clean litter box. While dogs leave it there for you to clean up everywhere, leaving you tired, worn out, grossed out and sore.

Secondly, dogs annoyingly scratch and bite you when they are feeling in great danger. While cats adorably cuddle and snuggle to you and and not viciously bite you.

Thirdly, dogs bark awfully loudly. On the other hand cats have a soft, quiet, whisper like meow. To strangers or close family, cats treat them nicely and make them feel like home.

Dogs bite, scratch and attack along with jumping on them.

So maybe you changed your opinion maybe yes maybe no and...

This is why I like cats better than dogs !

NAPLAN

On Thursday we had our practice NAPLAN session for the Learners in grade 3 and 5. Everything went very smoothly and now we are ready to go for the NAPLAN testing in May. More information will come closer to the time.

EGG PARACHUTE EXPERIMENT



Getting to Know Each Other

Student Profile:

Karl van Eyk (Foundation)

Favourite characters: Mario, Luigi and Peach. **Favourite colour:** Blue

Favourite thing to do: Singing. **Favourite free-time activity:** Legos and building blocks

Best Learning disposition: collaboration