

ST. PATRICK'S PRIMARY SCHOOL

PYRAMID HILL

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'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 21ST MAY, 2021 ISSUE NO. 39

Dear Parents,

It was a privilege to take your child/ren to Melbourne on Friday as we supported our learning in Australian history as a whole school. Our experiences including boarding the Polly Woodside and visiting 'Cook's cottage' supported our Inquiry learning and were a wonderful opportunity for our Learners to learn more about our current Inquiry unit. Learners are to be commended on their behaviour, attitude and ability to answer and ask questions. While it was a long day for our Learners it was an experience which they will remember fondly. My gratitude is extended to both Samantha and Jean for their willingness to support this learning in a day that was well beyond their classroom hours. Your continued support and nurturing of our Learners is an asset to our school community and the parents. Thank you both.

Unfortunately I do not have any more news on the employment of a Classroom teacher. Avenues continue to be explored and I will continue to keep you updated. I ask for your continued prayers.

Today staff attended a Staff Spirituality day in Koondrook along with our Collaborative partners from St Mary's Cohuna and St Joseph's Kerang which was led by Maria Forde, Education Officer: CES Spirituality and Faith Formation and Vicki Clarke, Aboriginal Perspectives leader. Fr Novie led us in Mass to begin the day on the banks of the Murray river. Maria supported our learning as we identified the vision of our school and what it is that is the heart of who we are and what we do. We were asked to identify the ways we strengthen and bring to the forefront our school's Catholic identity. This vision and identity cannot be realised without relationship with our God and with each other. May we as a Catholic community continue to nurture and build upon this important identity. Vicki spoke passionately about the importance of nurturing the Aboriginal culture within our school communities. Cultural recognition and awareness link strongly with identity and are important elements for all cultures. This was a poignant reminder for all staff, particularly as we lead into National Reconciliation Week on Thursday.

Thank you to those who were able to attend our working bee on Sunday. Despite that there were only a few workers we certainly made an impact in the front garden. Thank you Lisa, Dane & Lily, Herbert, Richard, Tim and Geoff. The trimming of the trees and shrubs has certainly tidied up the front of the school as well as directed more light into the classroom. Thank you all.

On Wednesday our Learners competed in the Cross Country event at Mitchell Park. All Learners competed on the day and persisted to complete the course. Congratulations to all participants. Staff were extremely proud of all Learners and their willingness to have a go and to be their best. Over the past few weeks we have been setting goals to support our stamina as we attempted to run at least one lap of our back oval. Each week every Learner has achieved success. Nothing is achieved unless hard work is put into practice. Well done everyone.

Our school renovations are progressing well which has been very exciting to witness the changes over time. All areas will be completed before the end of the term. We are all looking forward to the full use of each of our beautiful learning areas.

This Sunday we celebrate the feast of Pentecost, a celebration of the day that the Holy Spirit came to the Disciples. We pray that the Holy Spirit continues to live in each of us as we too strengthen each other. Take care.

Colleen Hampson
Principal



TALAARAWAN

May

26th - National Sorry Day Commemoration Ceremony - come dressed in the colours of the Aboriginal flag

27th May - 3rd June - National Reconciliation Week: F.I.R.E. carriers attending Reconciliation Mass in Bendigo

28th - S.A.K.G. program & Lawn bowls

June

9th - Mass in the classroom at 12.45pm

11th - S.A.K.G. program - Cuisine from the Philippines

12th - Philippine Independence Day

14th - Queen's birthday public holiday

18th - Semester One reports sent home

21st & 22nd - Parent/Teacher/Learner interviews

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

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



'Have patience with all things, but, first of all with yourself.'

~Saint Francis de Sales

Every day COUNTS!

School success starts with attendance

The trip to Melbourne

Friday the 14th of May, the day we go on a trip to Melbourne. Sadly 3 learners couldn't come and participate Phoebe Bojo, Nick Van Eyk and Sarah Van Eyk. The train left at 8:00am and we arrived at around 12:00pm. The train picked up Sam at Kangaroo Flat . We were so excited when we arrived.

We went to the real Polly Woodside first then Captain Cooks Cottage. First mate Ross gave us some activities and jobs. We were steering the wheel, finding the rats, scrubbing the deck, ringing the bell, touching the rope, (it was the thing they used to wipe off the disgusting things from their bottom off) go on a rope and hold on while Ross was shaking the rope to get us off. After we had visited Polly Woodside we thanked Ross for being our guide and left for Cooks Cottage. We did two fun activities: finding out about Cook's Journey to Australia and Hawaii and the other activity was finding objects that the people used because they thought it would help them. We then went back to Southern Cross station, gave back Colleen's phone number and got lollies. We waited for the train and went back home at around 9:00pm and told our siblings or parents what happened.

Written by Jores Correa
Grade 4

Tagalog Links

Magandang araw!

Previously, Learners were able to learn about Verbs or action words in the classroom, genders as well as members of the family. This gave them a chance to categorise information and sort them out accordingly. The related activities enabled them to exchange information and present it in the class.

They had a chance to listen and sing along with the Days of the Week and Months of the Year. Apparently the topics boost their creativity in producing their oral language. Whenever they find any difficulties in the subject content, they are willing to receive any feedback and confidently correct themselves and are happy with the results.

Just a reminder of your homework: your Family Tree. Ask help from your nanay and tatay.

Hanggang sa muli.

Maraming Salamat !

Nizelle Sawit

Language Assistant



Chaplain's Chat

As our mornings get colder, nights shorter and wanting to get outside more difficult, let's remember sunshine. Sunshine is important to our wellbeing. It helps to produce serotonin, which helps to improve our mood, keeps us calm and focused. When it is wet and muddy or cloudy, grab some boots, beanie or umbrella soaking up some Winter wellness. It's amazing how 15 mins outside in the warmth of the sun will brighten your day!

Where there is mess, there is adventure, stomp in a puddle, roll in the leaves, make memories that will outlast any Season.

God bless

Leiza

School Chaplain



Find your courage

During Term 1 we explored the Charism of our school and the courage shown by Mary MacKillop and the Sisters of St Joseph. Our Learners developed the slogan, '**Find your courage**' which has been added to a wristband. A wristband will be presented to Learners to acknowledge the use of courage in their own lives.

Congratulations to Lily Price who was awarded this wristband as she displayed courage to have a go at answering a complex question despite her being unsure about whether or not she could successfully answer the question in its fullness.

Congratulations Lily! Wear your wristband with pride to remind you and others of the courage you display.

POLLY WOODSIDE



OUR BIRTHDAY CALENDAR -

Literacy

Learners have continued to explore poetry this past fortnight with many Learners publishing their poems.

Senior Learners have been exploring their own style of poetry including the pattern of rhythm and rhyme when writing.

Junior Learners have explored both Shape poems and Cinquain poetry as they have learnt to recognise a verb, noun and adjective.

This week we have begun to focus on Information texts. This focus will provide valuable opportunities for our Learners to write about Australia's history using the structure, language and features of Information texts.

Inquiry Unit

Who are the First Australians and how do we know?

Our whole school excursion to Melbourne on Friday complimented our Inquiry unit as we explored ships from the era of those in the First Fleet and learnt about the difficult lives of those on board.

Exploring Cook's Cottage in the Fitzroy gardens gave us an insight into the way of life in those times and the challenges families were faced with.

The day of learning enhanced our unit of work and supported much of what we have already read and discussed.



Music

Australian lyrics and music continues to fill the corridors at school as we explore Australian artists and lyrics. Enjoy some of these tunes at home as a family as you too learn more about our country.

Mathematics

Telling the time is an important life skill as our lives are often dominated by time. Being punctual, on time for an appointment or celebration and to be able to organise your time and completion of tasks within a day.

Our Learners have been learning to tell the time to the hour, half hour and quarter hour. Some Learners are able to tell the time to the minute and can move between analogue and digital time.

It is wonderful to see so many of our Learners wearing a watch which supports this learning throughout the day in practical ways.

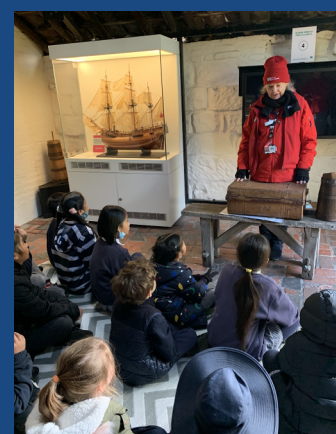


Respectful Relationships

Learners have enjoyed playing games and identifying the strengths we use in those games. This week we introduce a 'Celebration tree' which will hold some of the strengths of every Learner by the end of the Term and be on display at school as a constant reminder of the amazing things we are all capable of.

Learners are also beginning to dive deep into their own self awareness of what they know about themselves and consider strengths they are able to display well (eg. persistence) and which areas they would like to set a goal to get better at (eg. bravery in different situations.)

COOK'S COTTAGE



CHILDREN'S CHATTER MATTERS!

Focus: Swapping sounds!

Swapping sounds or playing a game of spoonerisms is an excellent way to develop your child's sound awareness and pre-spelling skills. Start by having fun with their names for example: Miles Jones – Jiles moans. Paul Jennings has developed a wonderful book with many pictures of the various spoonerisms so the students can see the different meanings each spoonerism conveys. To catch a hat – to hatch a cat or trickier ones – A dragon fly – a flagon dry. These are also a great way to extend your child's vocabulary at the same time. Encourage your child to draw their own spoonerism pictures. Bugs are slurping – slugs are burping!!!

Strategic Plan

Each fortnight we will identify how an aspect of our school life is supporting our Strategic Plan.

Leadership

'Creating a vision for a community in which all may have life in abundance (John 10:10) and where Learner's flourishing is the core purpose'(CoSSi)

Strategic Intentions:

To value learning and those that pursue leadership opportunities

Success criteria:

Learners and teachers support one another when embracing learning opportunities

Our whole of school excursion provided a wonderful opportunity for every Learner to support their learning about Australian history. Our two School Captains, Gillian Pacala and Ivey Rian Pantig embraced their roles as they delivered impromptu speeches to thank each of our guides on Friday. Congratulations Gillian and Rian. You demonstrated leadership, confidence and individual strengths.

Cross Country Run



Wednesday the 19th of May, the Fun Run was being held at the football oval where we would meet Pyramid Hill College. The college had participated in the Fun Run, there were ages 5-14. It took 3 buses to take the whole college. We did the races in age groups and everyone did well.

My favorite part of the day was cheering on the others.

By Lily Price

Grade 4



National Reconciliation Week

On Wednesday 26th May we will gather to celebrate National Sorry Day with staff from the Catholic Education Office. Learners are asked to come dressed in the colours of the Aboriginal flag. (See attached flyer).



To mark the beginning of National Reconciliation Week on Thursday 27th May, our current F.I.R.E. carriers will be representing our school community at the Mass for Healing and Justice at St Kilian's Church in McCrae Street, Bendigo. Learners have responsibilities to process with the Message stick which they will hold during the Gospel reading, along with procession into the Church with the Diocesan map.

St Patrick's is honored to be asked to participate in these specific roles and to acknowledge our commitment to both healing and reconciliation.

In 2021, reconciliation is more than just raising awareness and knowledge. The theme *'More than a word'* urges the reconciliation movement towards braver and more impactful action.

MELBOURNE EXCURSION



AS LEARNERS WE ARE NEVER THE SAME!

Name: Gillian Pacala & Ivey Rian Pantig - *For demonstrating excellent leadership skills on our Melbourne excursion: delivering outstanding thank you speeches and looking out for younger Learners all the while keeping themselves organised. Courage is the key to great leadership!*

Name: Svea Apostol - *For her great use of vocabulary. Svea contributes her fantastic knowledge and use of language in discussions. This provides a terrific role model for others and broadens our language use at the same time. Well done Svea!*