

St Patrick's School

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St Patrick's Primary School, Wangaratta, would like to acknowledge the Yorta Yorta Nation, whose clans include Bangerang (Pangerang) Kaitheban, Wollithiga, Moira, Ulupna, Kwat Kwat, Yalaba Yalaba and Ngurai-illiam-wurrung, as the Traditional Custodians of the land on which our school is situated.

This school supports the CHILD Safe Standards (Ministerial Order 870) and actively seeks to ensure that all students are kept safe from all forms of harm at all times.

ST. PATRICK'S SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

18th November, 2020



As I sit here to write this, it's recess and I have what sounds like a few dozen students playing near my window. Boy, it's noisy, but it sounds like they are having great fun. As "warped" as it may sound, I quite like the sound of children playing happily. It's music to my ears because it tells me of friends, enjoying life, sharing, compromising and all those little things that we hope to instill in our children as they grow.

At the risk of sounding a little self-indulgent, it also tells me that I am part of a school community that values people because our students are the product of the family/school community. I see that in the way the teachers, students and parents interact. Of the shared values of respect for self, respect for others and respect for property/environment. These are core Christian values and they are also the core values of most of the great religions of the world.

One day, when I leave this wonderful school, the sound of children playing is one of the things that I'll miss most. I'll miss it because it speaks to me of community and love. "Love one another" being the central message that Jesus taught us which is more urgently needed today than ever!

Dear Parents,

Time is fast closing in on the end of term 4. Only a bit over four weeks to go (but who's counting! LOL). What an absolutely amazing year that it's been so far and mainly for all of the wrong reasons! Still, I'm grateful to live in a country that values human life and the dignity of the individual. Irrespective of which side of politics that you're from, each have acted with the best interests at heart. Yes, mistakes were made but not out of any malicious intent. I must confess to really enjoy watching the largely partisan approach (apart from the odd whinger!).

Let's hope all the hard work sees our country continue to open up and thrive. That said, let's also pray for those who live in other parts of the world whose lives are greatly imperiled by the pandemic.

St Vincent De Paul Fundraiser – Christmas Dress Up Day 2nd December

Usually at this time of the year we collect groceries for making Christmas Hampers for the St Vincent De Paul Society. This year, for a number of reasons, they have asked if we could fundraise cash donations so that they can support the needy with vouchers for Christmas.

To this end, we will hold a <u>Christmas Dress Up day on Wednesday, 2nd December</u>. Children can come to school dressed in a Christmas theme for a GOLD Coin donation. Clearly, if families wish to donate more than this, then it would be gratefully accepted as the money goes to people within Wangaratta who are doing it tough at Christmas.

SOCTOBER - Well Done and Thank you!

Our recent SOCTOBER fundraiser was able to collect \$283.60 for Catholic Missions. They do amazing work across the world. To tell you of all of their great works would go into volumes so I'd just encourage you to "google" them to get the gist of what they do. They're amazing!



Thank you to all who participated. You have made the world a nicer place for those in great need.

Foundation Transition Day - Tomorrow

The next Foundation (Prep) Transition day is set down for TOMORROW (Thursday 19th November). Parents of children beginning in 2021 have already received a letter and an explanation as to how we can do this in a COVID compliant way.

The final Transition day will be held on Tuesday 8th December. We are still unclear at this stage if we will be allowed to host all of next year's students together (due to COVID restrictions). Let's hope we can. Parents will be notified as to the form that this last transition will take in plenty of time.

Foundation (PREP) Parent Meeting - Thursday at 6.00pm

There will also be a Parent meeting tomorrow evening (19th November) commencing at 6.00pm. This will be a ZOOM meeting as we are still unable to host a large enough cohort of parents at the school.

A letter was sent out to parents involved. For those that missed it, here is the link for tomorrow night's meeting:

https://us04web.zoom.us/j/76753004087?pwd=SHgrK29SZIFuOHIJcTNVVDBMdGJvZz09

This meeting will run for approximately 40 minutes. We hope to run a further Parent night in term one 2021 for parents interested in literacy and numeracy elements of their child's educational journey.

School Council

The next meeting of the School Council will be tomorrow week (Thursday, 26th November) commencing at 5.00pm. At that meeting, our Architect, Mr Bernie Jovaras, will discuss with the Council the current plans as well as gaining ideas and insights from the group. School staff have already met with Bernie to discuss possible modifications to the plan.

This meeting will be in the staffroom commencing at 5.00pm.

Report Writing Day – 30th November – SCHOOL CLOSED

St Patrick's will be closed on Monday, 30th November for a Report Writing Day.

THANK YOU THE BAKER'S WIFE FOR SUPPORTING OUR SCHOOL

EMAILS for Reports

We plan to send out the end of year reports electronically (as we did in mid-year). If your email address has changed since the mid-year reports, could you contact Annette (<u>abeitzel@spwangaratta.catholic.edu.au</u>) or Rosie (<u>rpane@spwangaratta.catholic.edu.au</u>) in the office with your new email address. Hard copies of the report will be available upon request. The reports are due to be sent out on Friday, 4th December.

School Concert/Alternative Plans

Usually at this time of the year, classes begin the preparation for our end of year concert which is usually held in the last few weeks of Term Four. In recent years, we have run this under the Pavilion here at school. As it is highly doubtful that we will be allowed to host our whole school community at school, teachers have begun to plan alternative arrangements. There will be more on that in coming weeks.

Building Plans

The current Building Plans are on display in the School Office. As part of our school community, you are very welcome to discuss them with me and any ideas that you may have that could add to what we are trying to achieve. As far as I'm concerned that's what a community does. It involves everyone where possible.

'About You' Survey! YEAR FIVE students

We have been asked to be involved in a Department of Education survey looking at the pastoral wellbeing of students. The students targeted for this survey is Year 5. It is an online survey that do not take very long to complete, and it is entirely voluntary. If for any reason, you do not want your child involved then they will be excluded. Please read the following covering explanation.

What is 'About You'?

'About You' is a survey of Victoria's young people, conducted by Colmar Brunton on behalf of the Department of Education and Training. The About You survey takes place in Victorian schools and collects essential information on the health, wellbeing, learning and safety of young people aged 10 to 17.

Catholic, Government and Independent schools with students in years 5, 8 and 11 are being invited to participate in the survey in 2020. The information collected will assist in the development of programs, resources and services aimed at meeting the needs of young Victorians.

Who will participate?

Students from selected classes in years 5, 8 and 11 will be invited to participate in the survey from our school. It is up to you and your child as to whether they take part. The school will send an information letter explaining the background and content of the survey, along with a refusal-of-consent form to your email address. If you do not want your child to be included in the study, you should opt out via the email address that will be supplied. All responses are voluntary, and students can opt out at any time.

For further information, please contact Gillian Davenport at the Department of Education and Training via email <u>AboutYou.Survey@edumail.vic.gov.au</u>

Hats and Sunscreen

Just a reminder to parents that, in keeping with our Sun Safe policy, hats are required to be worn at recess and lunchtimes. We have given students a bit of leeway for the past weeks to allow time for them to be found. Students without a school approved hat (broad brimmed – no baseball caps) will be required to play under the pavilion only. Sunscreen (Cancer Council Approved) is also available in all of the classrooms for the students to access. However, if you would prefer your child to use a certain brand, then by all means send it along in your child's school bag.

THANK YOU RODAN & FIELDS SKINCARE BY LAURA FOR SUPPORTING OUR SCHOOL

Closure Days for Term Four

The closure days following days are set down for this term:

30th November- School Closed (Report Writing Day)17th & 18th December- Planning Days

COVID News

The current restrictions include:

- limiting visitors on site all visitors to the school will need to enter via the office and sign in.
- cleaning and personal hygiene
- appropriate mask wearing by staff and visitors
- asking students who are unwell with flu like symptoms to stay at home

Hopefully as restrictions ease, then so, too, will some of these limitations. I look forward to the day when parents can come and go freely as they used to do.

Health Requirements

One of the most important things we can do to slow the spread of coronavirus (COVID-19) in our community is to stay at home when we are unwell, even when we have the mildest of symptoms.

What you need to know:

* If a child becomes unwell during the day, they must be collected from school as soon as possible.

If a child has any of the symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19) outlined below, however mild, they should get tested and they must remain at home until they receive their results:

- fever
- chills or sweats
- cough
- sore throat
- shortness of breath
- runny nose

In certain circumstances headache, muscle soreness, stuffy nose, nausea, vomiting and diarrhoea may also be considered symptoms.

St. Patrick's PS APP REMIND

If you want to keep up with what's happening around the school, you can join REMIND.

It can be downloaded from the app stores to your devices using either of these links:

Apple - https://goo.gl/IHQHGn or Android - https://goo.gl/FJWEv

You will need to join our "Class" after you install and sign up - @spatwang, or St Patrick's Primary School Wangaratta



Newsletter

Our newsletter can be accessed on our website and our Facebook page. Annette (in the Office) also has a mailing list that she is happy to include you on.

Simply email Annette on: <u>abeitzel@spwangaratta.catholic.edu.au</u> or phone the office (0357215795) and Annette will put you on the list. If all else fails, you can request a hard copy from the office.

Mass Times

- * Saturday 5.00pm at Our Lady's
- * Saturday 5.00pm St Patrick's
- * Saturday 6.00pm St Patrick's
- * Sunday 8.00am St Patrick's
- * Sunday 9.00am Our Lady's
- * Sunday 9.30am St Patrick's
- * Sunday 10.30am St Patrick's
- * Sunday 10.00am Moyhu
- * Sunday 10.30am Whitfield (1st Sunday)

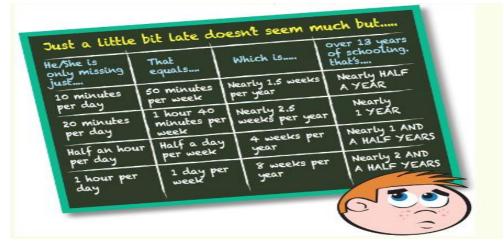
https://catholicwangaratta.wixsite.com/wangaratta



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DATES TO REMEMBER

DECEMBER 2^{nd} -Christmas Casual Clothes Day 4^{th} -Reports Going Home 8^{th} -Whole School Transition Day 16^{th} -Last Day of Term 4 17^{th} -SCHOOL CLOSURE DAY – Planning Day 18^{th} -SCHOOL CLOSURE DAY – Planning Day	NOVEMBER	$\begin{array}{rrrr} 19^{th} & - \\ 19^{th} & - \\ 27^{th} & - \\ 30^{th} & - \end{array}$	Prep Transition Day 6.00pm Foundation Parent Information Evening 9.30am Bluearth Morning SCHOOL CLOSURE – Report Writing Day
	DECEMBER	$\begin{array}{cccc} 4^{ m th} & - \\ 8^{ m th} & - \\ 16^{ m th} & - \\ 17^{ m th} & - \end{array}$	Reports Going Home Whole School Transition Day Last Day of Term 4 SCHOOL CLOSURE DAY – Planning Day



THANK YOU LIGHTING & DECOR FOR SUPPORTING OUR SCHOOL

VISUAL ARTS news

The MacKillop Art Exhibition is now live! To view the amazing collection of artworks created by the students of <u>Sandhurst</u> Schools, head to the Catholic Education <u>Sandhurst</u> Website. There you will also see entries by St Patrick's students! We hope you enjoy the exhibition!

People's Choice Award voting is open until November 29. Please show your support by voting!



CHATTER MATTERS

social thinking/pragmatics/communication for life

Being a good sport. How to win gracefully. While playing a simple board game eg; Uno, Guess Who, Monopoly, model the behaviour you expect from all players. Talk about what they should say if they win. It's great to feel good about winning but there's nothing worse than listening to braggers. Encourage and role model phrases such as; "Great game everyone," "Hey you nearly got me, maybe next time," "That was fun, do you want to try again or play something else?" Encourage them not to dwell on the winning but praise all participants for trying their best and learning something along the way (maybe a new strategy so they might win next time).

If you want to know more about the best educational/social games, try this

website;https://www.parenting.com/toys/board-games-boost-brain-power/

YEAR 6 LEADERS – BLUEARTH MORNING

When: Friday 27th November 2020

Time: 9:30am - 11:00am

Who: All classes will be involved in a rotation of Bluearth activities being conducted and co-ordinated by the Year 6 Leaders.

Wear: Come to school dressed in BLUE!!

Donation: Gold coin donation for the Cancer Council



ST PATRICK'S CHURCH MASSES Bookings are essential – 57221970

Saturday 5:00 PM Mass at (St. Patrick's)

Saturday 6:00 PM Mass at (St Patrick's)

Sunday 8:00 AM Mass at (St. Patrick's)

Sunday 9:30 AM Mass at (St. Patrick's)

Sunday 10:30 AM Mass at (St. Patrick's)

THANK YOU GLOSS MAKEUP & BEAUTY STUDIO FOR SUPPORTING OUR SCHOOL

PAT ON THE BACK

Foundation Mrs Levesque	Congratulations to <i>FLYNN CHANDLER</i> for always being enthusiastic to join in and complete actions to Jack Hartman's counting videos.
Foundation Mrs Shaw	Congratulations to <i>LINCOLN HAWKINS</i> for his wonderful writing. He has been really thinking about his spelling of new words when writing and his finished work has been amazing! Well done Lincoln and keep up the good work!
Year 1/2 Bray/Cornish	Congratulations to <i>CAITLYN BARNDEN & BILLY YOUNGER</i> for the wonderful way they take on challenges and always achieve their best. Keep it up superstars!
Year 1/2 Cassidy/Barry	Congratulations to <i>CHARLOTTE SMITH</i> for writing such a humorous limerick during our class poetry writing session. Well done Charlotte, you have demonstrated an ability to write in a range of genres whilst thinking about your audience.
Year 1/2 Ms Rinaldi	A big pat on the back to MAISY PERNA for the consideration she gives to handwriting and punctuation when completing her writing tasks. It is always enjoyable to read your written pieces, Maisy!
Year 1/2 Mr Capper	Congratulations to <i>OLIVER ROBINSON</i> for being a conscientious, hardworking and self-motivated student. He works independently and puts forth his best effort at all times!
Year 3/4 Mrs Nicoll	Congratulations to <i>EVA PARKINSON</i> for the care and concern that she demonstrates towards other children on the playground. Well done for modelling excellent leadership, Eva!
Year 3/4 Miss Sirianni	Congratulations to <i>HUGH SHARP</i> for taking the time and effort to present his work clearly in class. Hugh carefully writes in his books, including titles and neat handwriting, to ensure his work is of high quality. Well done, Hugh!
Year 3/4 Mrs Rizzo	A big pat on the back to <i>JAY GULEY</i> for staying on task with his work and sharing some very interesting and meaningful thoughts about Remembrance Day. Keep it up, Jay!
Year 3/4 Ms Whitehead	A big pat on the back to <i>ANNABELL MARTINO</i> for the wonderful effort she has been putting into her writing. It has been fantastic to see the added detail in her work. Well done, Annabell!
Year 5/6 Mrs O'Connor	Congratulations to <i>PIPPA WARRENDER</i> for her fantastic attitude towards her learning and the way she supports others. She has been an excellent classmate this year!
Year 5/6 Mrs Ackerly	Congratulations to <i>PATRICK REIDY-JESSE</i> for the outstanding focus and improvement he is demonstrating during maths lessons involving decimals, fractions and the four operations. Keep up the great work!
Year 5/6 Mrs Rickard	A big pat on the back to <i>NOAH HANSEN</i> for his leadership and organisation he displayed while working with a partner to create their Maths 4 Operations Kahoot Quiz. Well done Noah, for being a great leader!

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN THE CLASSROOM

FOUNDATION – Caz & Trish

Well here we are in week 7! We hope everyone had a lovely weekend.

REMINDERS: -

We have had head lice present in the Foundation area. Could you please check your child's hair and treat appropriately if necessary!

HATS - All students must bring their hats to school this term. Please ensure they are named.

SPORT DAYS - MONDAY AND THURSDAY

Students are to wear their sports uniform on these days. Runners with colours on them to only be worn on **MONDAYS and THURSDAYS**.

School uniform for non-sport days is fully black shoes please.

Reading Diaries - Monday

<u>Please remember to keep the home reading happening, as more than ever, it is extremely important. Thank you.</u>

Religion

The students continue to explore the Religious Education unit called, 'Our Church'. The students will be meeting with Fr Dean through a zoom meeting hopefully, to see different parts of the church. Altar, Tabernacle, Paschal candle etc.

Literacy

We have been investigating non-fiction books. The students continue to discover many facts about different topics.

We will continue to find rhyme, syllables and synonyms from words in the big book. The students are busy concentrating on using correct punctuation in their writing. They are providing information in their writing about facts they have learnt from listening to the Big Book.

Levesque - Dinosaurs Shaw - Baby Elephants

Maths - Place Value

This week the students will revise 'Measurement', they will use direct and indirect comparisons to decide which is longer, heavier or holds more, and explain reasoning in everyday language. They have been comparing objects directly, by placing one object against another to determine which is longer or by pouring from one container into the other to see which one holds more.

They have been using suitable language associated with measurement attributes, such as 'tall' and 'taller', 'heavy' and 'heavier', 'holds more' and 'holds less'.

THANK YOU MILAWA MUSTARDS FOR SUPPORTING OUR SCHOOL

DATES TO REMEMBER:-

Tuesday December 8th

Thursday November 19th - Transition Day for Kindergarten students.

Monday November 30th - Report Writing Day - Pupil Free day.

- State-wide Transition Day.

THANK YOU everyone, have a wonderful week. Carolyn and Trish.

YEAR ONE/TWO – Janina, Amanda, Elise, David, Karen & Leah

Last week we forgot to acknowledge our three preservice teachers Dana Frizzo, Madeline Norton and Thomas McDonald, from Charles Sturt University. They completed a four-week placement in our unit. Dana, Maddie and Tom were a pleasure to work with and they enjoyed the company of our students as much as the students enjoyed them.

We are currently working on the end of year reports. These will be emailed to you in a few weeks so if your email has changed please let the office know as soon as possible.

Reading:

The teachers are still working their way through the Fountas and Pennell assessments. It is pleasing to see the progress most students have made.

Writing:

This week we are reviewing self-editing. It is important that the children learn to re-read their work and amend any spelling or grammar mistakes.

Spelling:

This week's spelling is

- Group C 'ight' as in sight
- Group B 'th' as in them
- Group A 'st' as in stop

Numeracy:

This week we will continue reviewing the Semester's work, looking at Money, Data Collection and Fractions. The teachers have taken an assessment day to undertake the Mathematics Assessment Interview (MAI) with each student in their class.

Science:

The children continue broadening their understanding of Earth and Space.

Religious Education:

The topic of Advent was put on hold until this week. The children will be reflecting on what Advent means - describing ways to prepare for Christ's coming through prayer and good deeds.

Visual Arts:

The children will listen to the story of 'Robots' before constructing their own.

THANK YOU SPIRITED PARTY SHOP FOR SUPPORTING OUR SCHOOL

YEAR THREE/FOUR – Karen, Nara, Ellie & Jess

Important Dates:

Monday 30th November - Pupil free day (report writing day for teachers)

Literacy:

Reading - students are continuing to explore a range of texts written by Indigenous Australian authors as part of the 'Yarning Strong' Oxford book series. These stories provide opportunities for students to learn more about some of the rich histories and experiences of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people of today. As part of this, students are engaging in discussion and reflection of these texts through a range of activities.

Writing - students are undertaking a range of procedural tasks as part of their writing sessions this week. The purpose of this is to analyse these texts and discuss their effectiveness in explaining how to do, play or make something.

Numeracy:

This week students are continuing to develop their understanding of multiplication and division using both concrete materials and written strategies. They will draw on the multiplication tables as they solve a range of problems. Please continue to encourage and support your child's automatic recall of the multiplication tables facts at home.

Religious Education:

Students are currently revising the three Rites of Reconciliation, the prayers and actions. As part of this, they will deconstruct the **Prayer of Sorrow** together and then as a group, recontextualise this prayer using contemporary language. They will also write their own sorry prayers or poems about forgiveness.

Homework:

This week's Seesaw Homework task is related to measuring mass. Students are required to collect 5 different household items that are estimated to be about 1kg in weight. They are asked to weigh and photograph each of the items, using a text box to record each of the different weights. This task is due on Friday. *Please contact your child's teacher if you require a new Seesaw home learning code.*

***Students are also expected to read 15-20 minutes each night and discuss the text they have read with an adult.

Uniform:

• A reminder that all students need to be wearing their **school hat** each day when outside at recess and lunch and also during sports sessions. Please check that your child has their name on their hat.

• Please ensure that your child is wearing the correct uniform to school each day, including Sports uniform on each of their two designated Sports days. As per our uniform policy, coloured sneakers should only be worn on Sports days. If your child is not wearing the correct school uniform for a particular reason, please kindly advise their classroom teacher via email or a note.

Water:

For obvious reasons the children cannot use the school bubblers, so please ensure your child/children have a **bottle of water** with them **each day**, particularly as the weather is getting warmer.

YEAR FIVE/SIX – Andrea, Helen, Sharyn & James

• Remember to go to the Virtual show website and view all of the winning entries - <u>St Patrick's</u> <u>Virtual Show 2020</u>

• The Year 5 students have voted on their T-Shirt colours for next year with sizing being completed at school this week. A note explaining the t-shirt order was sent home to families last week. To ensure the T shirts are here by the end of the year, please have orders back to school by **THE END OF THIS WEEK PLEASE!!!**

• Great news about the year 6 students being able to have a Year 7 transition session at their secondary school. We will wait to hear how this will work and will keep families informed.

Dates for your Calendar:

Friday	27 th November	- BLUEARTH Morning coordinated by our Year 6 Leaders	
Monday	30 th November	- Report Writing Day (NO STUDENTS)	
Wednesday	2 nd December	- St Vincent De Paul Christmas Appeal Casual Clothes Day.	
Tuesday	8 th December	- State-wide Transition Day	
Wednesday	16 th December	- End of Year Mass and Year 6 Graduation Celebration (TBC)	
- Last Day for Students			

Mathematics:

This week we continue reviewing the four operations using the Bar Model; mental and written strategies. Students are also exploring language and concepts relating to angles to assist planning and improving their marble runs. Mrs Patterson's sessions with the Year 6 students have been successful and will continue throughout the Term. Mrs Patterson will also be assisting classroom teachers in assessing Year 5 students on an individual basis.

Literacy:

The focus in Literacy will be Literacy Circles, exploring vocabulary and discovering etymology of known and unknown words. Students will continue to focus on expository texts and will be constructing a variety of non-fiction writing to accompany their STEM and virtual Show tasks. Students have made circuits this week and looked at explanatory scientific texts.

<u>RE</u>:

Discovering our Christian Heritage - Students explore Christianity in the context of its origins in Judaism. Students will also be made aware that there are strong links among the basic beliefs of the world's three monotheistic faiths – Christianity, Judaism and Islam. Students have explored the book of Genesis and have discussed why and when this was written.

MAYFAIR SHOWBAGS

WANTED PLEASE -

McDonald's Toys (in the wrappers), COLES Little Treehouse Books SAFEWAY Lion King Ooshies, Keyrings, Lanyards Woolworths Tiles for Mayfair 2021 Showbags



Please deliver to the office, thank you.

WE NEED YOUR HELP!

To raise money for the Albury Wodonga Regional Cancer Centre

Terry's Big Bearded Ball Drop is inspired by Markwood resident Terry Greaves, who in January 2020 was diagnosed with Metastatic Melanoma and without treatment was given six weeks to live.

The father of three commenced treatment immediately and recently received the positive news that he is in remission, and his life expectancy has increased to two to five years.

For Terry and wife Heather, this campaign is about giving back. With the help of 100 Ambassadors, a small fundraising group is aiming to raise \$200,000 for the Albury Wodonga Regional Cencer Centre.



To donate visit www.balldrop.com.au

1-WWWWWWW



Cyber Security

Don't ever think "It won't happen to me". Everyone, on every device that is connected to the internet, is at risk of being hacked, succumbing to a virus, being a victim of a phishing scam, malware, ransomware and other attacks are also rife.

Your personal and financial well-being through to your professional reputation and everything in between can be at risk, so we all need to continue to take Cyber Security seriously.

At Safe on Social, we believe that learning good Cyber Security practices should underpin everything that we do online.

Password management

Use long passwords 20 characters or more are best.

Use a healthy mix of characters, preferably alphanumeric, and never use the same password for multiple sites because if a hacker can access one of your accounts, it will only be a matter of time before they have your whole online life at their fingertips.

Always use a password/passcode or biometric to lock your mobile device that way if it is lost or stolen, people won't be just a pin code away from access your bank account, your social media account and many other personal things like photos.

As hard as it may seem, please don't share your passwords and don't write them down.

Update your passwords periodically, at least once every six months (90 days is better).

If you are an an Apple user, consider using the free Keychain Access to manage passwords. Keychain Access is a macOS app that stores your passwords and accounts information and reduces the number of passwords you have to remember and manage.

When you access a website, email account, network server or another password-protected item, you may be given the option to remember or save the password. If you choose to keep the password, it's saved in your keychain, so you don't have to remember or type your password every time.

To ensure that passwords and other data stored in your keychain are secure, make sure to set up a login password for your computer.

Alternatives to Keychain Access for Windows, Mac, Android, iPhone, Linux and more can be found in this article just released by CNet, The article outlines the best password managers should you want to invest in one. <u>https://www.cnet.com/news/the-best-password-managers-directory/</u>

A password manager can help you to maintain strong, unique passwords for all of your accounts. These programs can generate strong passwords for you, enter credentials automatically, and remind you to update

Keep all device software up to date

Installing software updates for your operating system, apps and programs when prompted is critical and a great habit to get into.

Always install the latest security updates for your devices as soon as possible after you are notified of them. This includes app updates on your mobile devices, Playstations, Xbox. These updates always include "Security patches" where they fix any security vulnerabilities. Particularly important when your credit card details are often stored in your account details.

On your computer always make sure you turn on Automatic Updates for your operating system.

Use web browsers such as Chrome or Firefox that receive frequent, automatic security updates.

Make sure to keep browser plug-ins (Flash, Java, etc.) up to date.

Avoid suspicious emails and phone calls

Phishing scams are a constant threat. Cybercriminals may attempt to trick you into divulging personal information such as your login ID and password, banking or credit card information.

Phishing scams can be carried out by phone, text, or through social networking sites - but most commonly by email.

Be suspicious of any official-looking email message or phone call that asks for personal or financial information. Always hover your mouse over the email address to see if it is actually from the organisation it claims to be from if you are even slightly suspicious.

Common Phishing scams at present include people ringing up claiming to be the support division or your telecommunications provider (they never call you unless you have called them and requested a call back) saying there is a problem with your internet etc.

Be careful what you are clicking on. Avoid visiting unknown websites or downloading software from untrusted sources. These sites often host malware that will automatically, and often silently, compromise your device. If attachments or links in the email are unexpected or suspicious for any reason, don't click on it.

Never leave devices unattended

The physical security of your device is just as important as its technical security.

If you need to leave your laptop, phone, or tablet for any length of time password lock it so no one else can use it.

If you keep sensitive information on a USB Flash Drive or external hard drive, make sure to keep them password locked as well.

For desktop computers shut-down the system when not in use or lock your screen. If you are using a device in a library or hotel foyer etc. – don't forget to log out!

Protect sensitive data

Be aware of sensitive data that you come into contact with.

Keep sensitive data (e.g student records, health information, etc.) from being saved to your device. Keep it off of your workstation, laptop, or mobile devices.

Securely remove sensitive data files from your system when they are no longer needed.

Always use encryption when storing sensitive data.

Use mobile devices safely

Considering how much we rely on our mobile devices, seriously consider implementing all of the following.

Lock your device with a PIN, password or a biometric (fingerprint or facial recognition).

Only install apps from trusted sources.

Keep your device's operating system updated.

Don't click on links or attachments from unsolicited emails or texts.

Regularly backup your data

Most devices are capable of employing data encryption through two-factor authentication consult your device's documentation for available options.

Use Apple's Find my iPhone https://www.apple.com/icloud/find-my-iphone/

alternatively, the Android Device Manager https://support.google.com/accounts/answer/6160491?hl=en

Back up on a regular basis - if you are a victim of a security breach, the only guaranteed way to repair your computer is to erase and re-install the system.

Install anti-virus protection

Only install an anti-virus program from a known and trusted source. Keep device software up to date to ensure your anti-virus program remains effective.

A list of some of the best Anti-Virus software can be found here:

https://www.top10bestantivirus.com/free-antivirus-software?gclid=EAIaIQobChMIxOX1uJuP4AIVFK6WCh3r Gwp4EAAYASAAEgKY0fD_BwE

Use a VPN (Virtual Private Network)

A VPN creates a virtual encrypted tunnel between you and a remote server operated by a VPN service. All your internet traffic is routed through this tunnel, so your data is secure. Your device will appear to have the IP address of the VPN server, hiding your identity and location.

If you are not using a VPN, it is wise to avoid public Wi-Fi networks, perhaps at a cafe or airport. Typically, you might connect without a second thought. However, do you know who might be watching the traffic on that network? Can you even be sure the Wi-Fi network is legit? It could have easily been set up to steal personal and financial information from people that logon to the "free wi-fi".

Keep in mind that it's tough to tell whether or not a Wi-Fi network is what it appears to be. Just because it's called Sydney Airport WiFi doesn't mean they own it.

If you connect to that same public Wi-Fi network using a VPN you can rest assured that no one on that network will be able to intercept your data not even the operators of the system itself.

One free implementation is SecurityKISS <u>https://www.securitykiss.com which offers ad-free VPN access with</u> <u>data limited to 300MB/day.</u> That's plenty of scope for checking email, looking at maps and other casual Wi-Fi uses.

CyberGhost <u>https://www.cyberghostvpn.com/en_US/</u> is another option that offers a free tier, but also has a paid version that boosts speed.

There are many other VPN services available, including paid and free options (there is a basic version available within ios12). It's worth doing your research to work out which is best for your needs, especially if you are a heavy-duty user.

Disconnect.me <u>https://disconnect.me</u> helps to protect against session hijacking via browser extensions for Chrome and Safari; it also offers a standalone Android VPN app called Secure Wireless that automatically detects unsecured Wi-Fi and activates a VPN where needed.

w: safeonsocial.com e: wecanhelp@safeonsocial.com

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Saturday **5** December 8pm - 10pm

> **DO YOU WANT TO BE PART OF OUR #LightUpWangaratta EVENT?**

We want you to decorate and light up your home for Christmas!

Register online before Tuesday 1 December, 5pm aceradio.com.au for your chance to WIN.

