

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

29th April, 2020

Captain James Cook

Today marks the 250th anniversary of Captain James Cook's landing at Kurnell in Botany Bay. For many, this will seem to be a day of great celebration whilst for some of our Indigenous brothers and sisters, it's quite possibly a day of sadness.

Many great things have happened in this beautiful country of ours since that day, two and a half centuries ago. There are also many things to feel sad about, not the least of which is the treatment of the Indigenous nation. It has taken a while, but I think we have learnt from our past.

I cannot change the past for Aboriginal people, but I can use my knowledge (our knowledge!) to build a better, more inclusive future. That's what I'd prefer to focus on. The work done by the Diocesan Indigenous Network and the "FIRE Carrier" project is going a long way to educating our young people to recognise the original custodians of the land and give them our love and respect and build mutual respect for what has been achieved since man first walked on Australian soil. This is an opportunity to love others and be non-judgmental. When we do this, we are in effect, walking with God to make our world a better place.

On another issue, we continue to keep the police officers who were killed last week in our thoughts and prayers. I was heartened to hear the attending Doctor (Amanda) speak of the care and dignity afforded to the dying. It was a beautiful thing to hear amidst all the tragedy, that they felt loved and cared for by those around them.

Dear Parents,

I can't wait to have your children back at school. The staff continue to amaze me with their hard work and dedication. That said, I know they, too, are looking forward to getting back to a bit of normality. I take heart in the fact that, as each day passes, then we are one day closer to getting the students back to school. We are still getting mixed messages from the various governments which can be a bit sad really. As soon as I have anything definitive from the Victorian Government, then I will pass that information onto you as quickly as possible. In the meantime, make sure you ask if you have any questions, queries or problems. We are here for you whenever you need us.

Attendance at School - IMPORTANT - Please read

If you have indicated that you are an essential service worker and need to send your child to school, you need to complete a weekly survey **EVERY WEEK**. This is because people's shift work changes and I need to ensure that I have enough staff on site to accommodate the students present.

If you have children in different areas of the school (ie <u>Foundation to Yr2</u>, <u>Yr 3&4</u>, <u>Yr 5&6</u>), then you will need to fill out a form in <u>each</u> relevant area as the program collates the data to the particular year level and I use this as a guide to ensure that I have enough teaching staff at school. I have to work within the government guidelines of keeping teachers working remotely where possible.

Parents who have indicated a need to access school are automatically sent the survey forms (next week's was sent out yesterday) and these need to be completed by no later than Friday. If you haven't received a survey form by now, chances are that we do not have you on our books as an essential service worker so you will need to contact the office. I am currently bound by the government directive that "those who can work from home should stay at home". However, if your circumstances change, and you feel you need to access the school then contact me to discuss the matter. It's our job to help and support families where we can. That will never change (pandemic or no pandemic!).

One last thing, some families are forgetting to write the student's name in the required box. We need this so that we know who to expect at school.

<u>After school care</u> has also been added to the survey as well so that we can cater for families seeking to access this service.

Please ask if you need further information.

Reminder about entering the school

If you are entering the school for any reason, you will need to enter via the Office as, during this time of COVID-19, we are trying to minimalise the number of people entering the school in order to maintain as safe an environment as possible. If your child is a little anxious coming into school (the younger students especially), then you may escort them in but please do not enter the classroom, just drop them off at the door.

Enrolments for 2021

With all this "pandemic business" happening, I have forgotten to put out a reminder about enrolments for next year. If you have a child starting school next year, can you let the office know to make sure we have our existing families covered.

Also, if you are aware of other families considering St Patrick's as an option for their child for next year, then encourage them to contact the school to secure their place.

Easter Egg Raffle

Congratulations to all of the Easter Egg raffle winners. We drew the raffle last Friday in the playground, with the help of the 16 students that we had at school (whilst keeping social distancing of course!). When it comes to chocolate raffles, I'm clearly not lucky!

Headlice

We have had a reported case of headlice at school. If your child has attended school in the last few weeks, can you please check your children just in case. Nits are a fact of life and they can be picked up anywhere.

They are also easily transmitted between students. Once a student has been effectively treated, then they can return to school. If you need any advice, then just ask. That said, the pharmacist is the best expert to speak to.

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

On hold until further notice.



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CHATTER MATTERS

As you read with your child, practice breaking words up into syllables (beats in a word). For example, chick-en (chicken) has two syllables and el-e-phant (elephant) has 3 syllables. Clapping out the word into syllables can help. Talk about how longer words have more syllables.

Ask your child to think of the longest words they know. Demonstrate the length by clapping out the beats or syllables – caterpillar (cat-er-pill-ar has 4 claps), encyclopedia (en-cy-clope-di-a has 6 claps).



PAT ON THE BACK

Foundation Congratulations to *LULU VIHM* for the consistent and creative work she has completed during remote learning. Mrs Levesque Congratulations to SOFIA KONKOLY for the wonderful "length" activities she **Foundation** Mrs Shaw completed. Sofia finger knitted the longest snake in the world. Great thinking outside the square, Sofia! Year 1/2 A big pat on the back to *HUDSON SCULLY*. We would like to give you a warm Bray/Cornish welcome to St Patrick's and we look forward to you settling into our classroom. **Year 1**/2 Congratulations to *CHARLOTTE SMITH* for creating a fantastic slideshow on Cassidy/Barry how to make yummy ANZAC biscuits. Well done, Charlotte, keep up the great learning you are doing both at home and at school. Your teachers are very proud of you! Year 1/2 A big pat on the back to all the *HARRISON O'BRIEN* for showing initiative Ms Rinaldi with his remote learning and incorporating fun activities around his home, in addition to his set activities. You are very creative, Harrison! Year 1/2 Congratulations to the TRISTAN PERUZZO for the enthusiasm and tenacity he is showing with his remote learning. Keep all the posts coming! Mr Capper **Year 3/4** Congratulations to the *RUBY FISCHER* for her work on the "time" problem-solving Mrs Nicoll extension task, "5 on the clock". Ruby clearly demonstrated her thinking, recording and explaining the process she used in attempting to solve the problem. Year 3/4 Congratulations to the FRASER MENNIE for the wonderful care and effort he Miss Sirianni has put into his writing tasks during remote learning. He has made great gains in the length and presentation of his writing while working from home. Year 3/4 A big pat on the back to the **KYLE HENNESSY** for his outstanding work ethic Mrs Rizzo during remote home learning. He has shown maturity and positivity in completing tasks. Well done, Kyle! Year 3/4 A big pat on the back to **JAKE O'CONNOR** for the positive way he has been Ms Whitehead interacting with our class during Google Meet sessions and for the effort he has been putting into remote learning. Well done on submitting lots of fantastic learning task work. Keep up the great work, Jake! **Year 5/6** Congratulations to *THE FAMILIES OF 5/6 O'CONNOR* for making sure the Mrs O'Connor students are ready for learning at 9am every morning. **Year 5/6** Congratulations to *LACHLAN MURTAGH* for the outstanding wreath he made for ANZAC Day. A fantastic effort and tribute to our Anzacs, well done! Mrs Ackerly

Congratulations to *LUCAS BUTLER* for the positivity and commitment he has

keep trying hard. We will be back at school soon, we all hope!

been displaying during our Remote Learning tasks. Keep asking questions Lucas and

Year 5/6

Mrs Rickard

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN THECLASSROOM

FOUNDATION - Caz & Trish

This week in the Foundation area we continue to see the wonderful remote learning work coming through. Well done to everyone, you are all doing an amazing job!

We will continue to send the week's planning to you all on Sunday night or Monday morning. We will always let you know if anything is to be picked up from school through Seesaw.

Literacy - follow the daily plan and the big book should be listened to each day, this will be posted weekly.

Read and reread 3-4 readers each day. This will help your child to recognise high frequency words.

Maths - follow the plan.

Please ensure that your child is counting each day.

This week we are working on measuring weight by 'hefting'. Compare some objects to see which one is heavier or lighter.

Religion - We start each day with a prayer, and we are looking at how we care for God's world. During the week go outside with your child and find some autumn leaves and look closely at them and the beautiful colours. Maybe your child could make a collection of the leaves and take a photo.

Remember to be kind on yourselves, get out and smell the fresh air and enjoy being with your family. Stay well and thank you all for your continued support.

Carolyn and Trish

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

Congratulations to you all on another positive and productive week of remote learning. We hope that by now, you are beginning to develop a routine that works for both you and your child. We are aware that parents have their own work tasks to attend to, as well as the learning of other siblings in the household. We have tried to take this into account and provide a flexible approach to your child's education. We are very aware that your child in Junior School will require your support (more so than middle or senior) - it's what we do everyday in the classroom!! We truly appreciate what you're all doing and we're sure your child does too.

Please continue to read each day and remember that take home readers can be swapped on a Wednesday and Friday.

On Seesaw each day, we continue to post 2-3 activities for your child to attempt. If you require further tasks, that is when we suggest you access the pack. These are very open-ended tasks (on the rubric in particular) that allow your child to challenge themselves as much or as little as possible.

Thanks to those parents that completed the (optional) survey sent in the email last week. We were so pleased with all the positive feedback we received.

Please remember we can be contacted on Seesaw or by email if you have any queries or concerns. We are here for you.

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

As the weeks pass by, we are all becoming more accepting of remote home learning and how tech savvy our children have become!!

Although these are trying times, we have tried to keep the students' timetable as normal as possible.

In Literacy this term the children are completing narrative writing tasks that have been broken down into smaller sections – planning, character, setting, problem and solution using pictures and key words as inspiration for their stories. This week we are introducing paragraphs and quotation marks to their writing. In spelling the focus is the digraph 'ea' which makes a short 'e' vowel sound as in bread and head.

In Maths the students continue with solving money problem tasks. Later in the week the children will start activities on 'collecting and recording data'.

This week in Inquiry the children are researching about our national flag, Australia's Coat of Arms and our national colours.

Lastly, we would like to again thank all our parents and students for their effort, time and hard work. We are all doing our best!!

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

Students, teachers and parents seem to be getting into a regular 'groove' with remote learning, thankyou again for the persistence and dedication you are all showing towards making the most out of this challenging situation.

We have tried to implement some of the suggestions from our parent survey like turning off email notifications from Google Classroom when work is posted, adding hyperlinks into the timetable to make work easier to access, modifying work and providing enabling/extension options for students who may require it.

We encourage students to be independent learners and problem solvers (great practise for secondary school) by implementing some of the following daily strategies:

- 1. **Set a Timer:** Set a timer at the beginning of a task to go off when the task time is completed. Do not go over time on tasks if it means impacting on health and wellbeing.
- **2.** <u>Make Independent Choices:</u> Make a choice about your learning, if the task is not working out for you the way it has been suggested by the teacher, change it to suit! As long as you spend the allocated time and are working on learning the same skill, that is the most important thing.
- **3.** Hand in Work The Best Way you Can: Unless specified by your teacher, hand in evidence of your work the way that works best for you, this may be via email, Google Classroom or Seesaw. We are willing to be flexible as long as we can see evidence of learning.
- **4.** Work on Habits of Mind: Whilst we are all trying to do our best it is important that we work on developing our healthy habits of mind.

For example, 'Striving for Accuracy' do less (if you need to) and do it better; 'Managing Impulsivity'- when you feel like you are getting frustrated, take a breath or a break and come back to it later; 'Thinking Flexibly'- if something is not working one way, try it a different way.

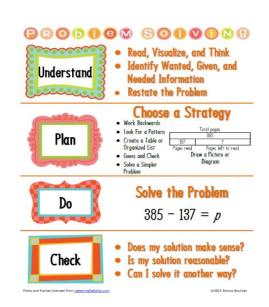
Mathematics -

Students have been provided with links to practise basic skills where needed for example, factors and times tables links that support our Geometry concepts. The emphasis on our Mathematics Geometry tasks however, is on flexible thinking and problem solving. Geometry Learning Task 2 for example, encourages students to find a 'plausible' or 'possible' answer and 'justify' their thinking through detailed workings. At school we often encourage students to 'embrace the struggle' it is ok not to know the answer straight away because mathematics is not about speed and getting 'the' correct answer, rather it is about providing possible/plausible options and thinking critically about each one. When tackling worded problems students are encouraged to use the POLYA Problem Solving model below (Year 6 students should be very familiar with this). We will also continue to offer Google Meet sessions to support learners, so students could write down questions and share them with their teacher during these sessions.

A few more Anzac Day Tributes sent in this week from Charlotte and Ted







If needed, students can move back through the stages so they understand what is being asked of them mathematically.

Finally, please keep up the communication with us. We are here to help as best we can.

Helen, Andrea & Sharyn

MAYFAIR SHOWBAGS



WANTED PLEASE -

McDonald's Toys (in the wrappers), COLES Minis, SAFEWAY Lion King Ooshies, Keyrings, Lanyards Woolworths Tiles (in wrappers) for Mayfair 2021 showbags.

Please deliver to the office, thank you.



From the Science Desk:



The last few weeks in Science the *grade 5 & 6's* have been discovering the Solar System including developing mnemonics to help them remember the order of the planets. Some standouts include:

My Vicious Emu Makes Jaguars Seem Utterly Nice

My Very Energetic Mother Just Sailed Under New Zealand

Mum Vacuums Every Morning Joyfully Singing Unprofessional Noises

My Very Energetic Monkey Just Served Us Nuggets

Men Value Eating Mars-bars Joyfully Sitting Under Newspapers

Well Done!

The *Grade 3 & 4's* have been exploring catapults and are now moving on to the Earth's changing surface. Thank you to all those students who have submitted their Science reports. Keep up the great work and keep sending me your work through your *Science Seesaw* page.

I will keep posting bonus science activities through Seesaw too. Well done to the bridge makers that have sent in their constructions, keep them coming!



Ms Pallot