



St Elizabeth's School Newsletter

Term 2 - Friday 24th May 2024

Principal News

Faith Hope Love

As Catholic school faith, hope and love is visible in all that we do and say.

As Catholic educators, forming lives of faith, hope and love in the light of Jesus Christ is an important part of who we are.

What we mean by this:

Forming lives – Catholic education seeks to provide the young with the best kind of education possible, one that fosters a formation of the whole person that is deeply and enduringly humanising.

Faith, hope and love – Catholic education forms individuals with more than just skills, but with the virtues to live life as transformative agents in our communities. By cultivating a maturing of faith and the intellectual life through the modelling of good relationships, Catholic students are prepared for living fruitfully in the world.



In the light of Jesus Christ – Christ is our inspiration, the very life of our purpose as Catholic educators. Everything we do is illuminated by this.

As a school community we all come together to make this happen, and that is what is so beautiful about the St Elizabeth's community.



Over the last two weeks we have been meeting with our 2025 Foundation students. I love this time in the school year, as we get to meet our new friends who will be joining us, where their enthusiasm, energy and spunk is contagious!

Next year we will again have 40 Foundation students, which is a great achievement. Slowly our school is growing, where we can maintain healthy numbers, programs and staff.

I thank and each every one of you for the wonderful messaging you all put out in the community about the amazing things we do here at our school, as St Elizabeth's is the place where families in the area want their children to attend and flourish. THANK YOU!

In the next 1-2 weeks all families will be invited to register for our new parent portal.

Our new parent portal is where families will be accessing our school reports at the end of the term. so families will be required to register to access their child's report. We will no longer be printing them.

This parent portal will also slowly throughout the year be where parents will be able to:

- notify of student absences
- submit medication forms
- provide permission to excursions

nforma
parent portal

This new parent portal will be a ONE STOP SHOP for parents instead of having to have multiple apps (e.g. Operoo, Audiri etc).

We will be sending home user guides on how to register, which is extremely simple.

Watch this space!

Important Dates

Term 2

Sunday 26th May - Y3 First Eucharist @ 12pm

Sunday 26th May - National Sorry Day

Friday 31st May - St Elizabeth's Feast Day

Sunday 2nd June - Y1/2 Family Mass @ 9.30am

Friday 7th June - Feast of the Sacred Heart

Monday 10th June - King's Birthday Public Holiday

Tuesday 11th June - Staff TIL Day (school closed for EVERYONE)

Friday 21st June - Foundation and Y5/6 Level Mass @ 9.15am

Friday 21st June - Reports go home

Saturday 22nd June - P&F Bunnings BBQ @ Springvale store

Tuesday 25th June - P/T interviews 3.30-8pm

Wednesday 26th June - P/T interviews 3.30-6pm

Friday 28th June - End of Term 2 @ 2.15pm

Term 3

Monday 15th July - Term 3 starts

Education in Faith News

Reconciliation

On Wednesday evening our Year 3/4 students received the sacrament of Reconciliation. It was a reverent occasion, where our students were well prepared and focussed on the importance of this sacrament.

Thank you to the middle school staff and parents for preparing them for this sacrament. We keep all of these children in our prayers, as they receive the eucharist for the first time on Sunday.



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Learning and Teaching News

Neurodiversity in the our Community

Recently, the term *neurodiversity* has grown in its common use through the advocacy of those in the broader community who have their very own version of awesome. Terms like *neurodivergant* or *neurotypical* are used when this them arise in the media, in social media and other such outlets.

Both terms help to to identify the different ways our brains work, with the intention of celebrating this difference and the unique qualities each of us has. As well as providing an open place to discuss the conditions, supports and adjustments we all need to thrive in our own way.

Rather than 'seeing difference' we are trying to create a place of inclusion for all.

Our school is no different, with many within happily being a part of either the *neurotypical* or *neurodivergant* groups. Having this place of inclusion allows us all to understand the needs of the many as well as those of those of the few. Our aim is always provide the support for students and staff to learn alongside one another in deeping our knowledge of what inclusion looks like for everyone.

With this, you may see or hear of many, many adjustments that are provided to the students in or school. Whilst not all of these are direct results of neurodiversity, many are. We believe that these strategies can benefit all students, whether they be neurodivergant or neurotypical.

Please know that all students have access to the adjustments and support they need, but at times they a re likely to look different for each individual. Our amazing staff will spend time teaching students about these strategies, from the point of those using them or those observing. As we know full well that some children will find it difficult to understand why another child gets to do something that they may not be able to at that time.

This type of education actually prepares your child for life outside of the school bubble. Where we hope that they can see the valuable difference between equality and equity. With equity demonstrating that some require more support than others to do certain things and this is ok. We don't all require the same (equality), we simply need to be able to access the same things within our school community and broader community.



People don't want to hear about dinosaurs every day. You need to talk about something else.

← Neuro-damaging

Our deep interests are an important part of our ND identity. Value them. And give us opportunities to share our interests with like-minded people.



Guess what, Jack? I found someone who loves dinosaurs as much as you!

↙ Neuro-affirming

NeuroWild


In Neurodiversity - affirming Classrooms...




Difference is CELEBRATED.
Individual Expression
is encouraged.

Dr. Ross Greene


Replace this ↘



...with this ↗



Accommodations +
modified work are
always accessible.



Kids are taught that all
Learning Styles are VALID.

Silence + stillness are not
Essential conditions for LEARNING.



Child Safety News

Road Safety - no U-turn on Bakers Rd

Over the past few weeks we have seen an increasing number of parents and carers making U-turns from either side of Bakers Rd. This has been occurring in the morning and afternoon and is incredibly dangerous for not only our community, but those using Bakers Rd as a path of travel.

We have far too many near misses as those travelling along Bakers Rd are not expecting a U-turn to be made given it is an illegal maneuver. Especially when exiting the 2-minute drop off zone.

The risk of doing saying is far greater than the rewards. With the potential consequences of of this action leading to the possibility of serious harm to students, parents, staff members or other motorists.

This also applies to the nearby driveways as we have also had near misses in these areas as well. **All school driveways are off limits before and after school.** As students, staff and parents/carers are entering or exiting the school during these times. Even those that may be locked, like the **Staff Carpark must no be used to complete a U-turn** as this gate has many families walking past to walk past on their way home.



Digital Technologies News

In Digi Tech News...

How we can be safe online

The eSafety Commissioner website has a lot of great videos of ways that students can be safe online.

Here is the link to some videos about the following topics:

- Wanda the echidna: I am responsible – I protect my personal information.
- River the sugar glider: I show respect – I am kind and caring to others.
- Dusty the frilled neck lizard: I trust my feelings – I ask for help when something doesn't feel right.
- Billie the bilby: I investigate – I question what I see, hear and do online.

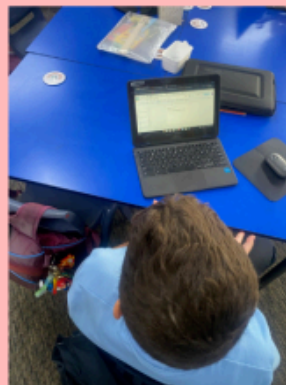
<https://www.esafety.gov.au/parents/resources/mighty-heroes>

National Reconciliation Week

The 3/4s have been researching about National Reconciliation Week that begins on the Monday 27th May.

Students used their skills to find information about what the week is, why it's important and what happens during this week?

Come and have a look in the 3/4 area as well as future newsletters for the finished products!



Foundation News



The foundations have been busy learning about 2D shapes. We used different types of materials to explore and make shapes.



Year 1/2 News

YEAR 1/2

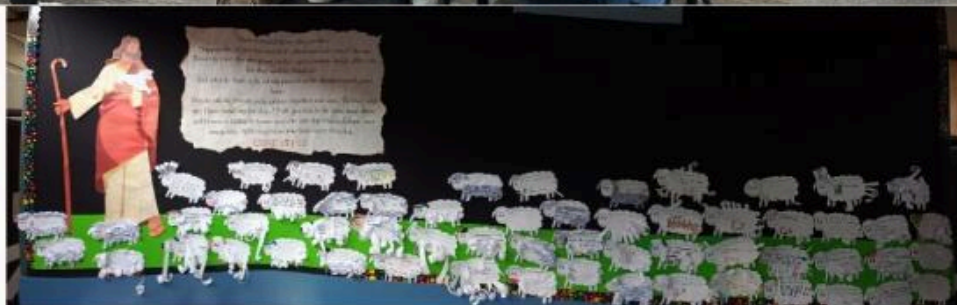
NEWSLETTER



What we're learning in Religion

Good Shepherd

The parable Jesus told about the lost sheep is a story about Jesus' love and care for us all. We have been exploring ways we can follow Jesus and how we can be one of his flock. Our Good Shepherd Evening was a great opportunity for parents and children to work along side each other and share their ideas.



Year 3/4 News

3/4 CLASSROOM NEWS



LENGTH

We have been learning about length and units of measurement. We have explored our school and worked in teams to find the perimeter of certain objects (check out our work on Seesaw). We have also been exploring converting between mm, cm and m.

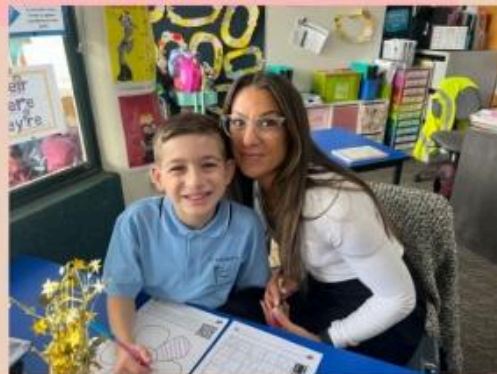


SUSTAINABILITY

We have started our Sustainability this Term and are all engaged in our activities. Every Friday we rotate between the 3 groups: Cooking, Gardening; Stem. We love the hands on approach to learning. Don't forget to ask us all about it each Friday and what we did.



The last few weeks we have had so much to celebrate. Starting with our school Maths night; which was great to see all the parents engaging in mathematical games and challenges. Then we had our Mother's Day morning breakfast. On Friday we were lucky to have a large group of children represent our 3/4 level at District Cross Country. We also had our friends from Nazareth come down and run some activities to help our students prepare for their Reconciliation and Eucharist sacraments, which was lots of fun.



Year 5/6 News

5/6 INTRIGUING ANIMALS

LITERACY:

Over the past few weeks, the 5/6 students took a deep dive into the book 'An Anthology of Intriguing Animals'. They explored the different format of an informative text and how the author engages readers through sentence structure. They then wrote their own pages about an animal of their choice. Check out their amazing work below.



On first look, the snow leopard's soft and warm paws make you feel delighted and satisfied. But these paws and the rest of their body is well adapted to their cold environment. The snow leopard's wide nose warms the cold air of their habitat before it enters their lungs. Did you know that they can't roar due to the physiology of their throat? That's so cool!

Adult snow leopards are solitary but young siblings will cuddle and play. Interestingly, they are more closely related to tigers than leopards. Most of the leopards time they just spend time in trees or bushes.



CANADIAN LYNX

With massive fangs the size of Dracula's, this animals diet consists of Snowshoe Hare and small birds that fly high in the freezing Canadian skies. Once a bird lands calmly on a tree branch, the fierce Canadian Lynx slowly creeps up behind it's prey like a ninja, waiting for the correct given moment to pounce at its delicious afternoon snack.

They use their athletic hind legs to jump up to 25 feet horizontally and can reach approximately 6 feet in the air. The outstanding Canadian Lynx has a truly amazing super power. They can see a mouse from 250 feet away without a problem. Sadly, there's only 10,000 left alive today. Please help us protect this superb animal and their habitat.



UPCOMING

Thursday 23: Interschool Sports vs Resurrection

Monday 3: Professor Bunsen Incursion

Thursday 6: Interschool Sports vs Keysborough Gardens

Friday 7th: St. Elizabeth's Day



Flower mantis



Did you know that a female flower mantis is capable of laying eggs 3x its size? That's crazy!

You might get confused with this flower... or is it a Mantis? This is called a Flower Mantis, with its green 'stem' legs, and its soft floral colours, people can easily mistake this mantis for a flower.

A Flower Mantises diet contains live ladybugs, live mosquitos, and live flies. You might be wondering why only live food? That's gross! Well it's because they prefer live food, but there is no real reason behind this.

Oh no! This next sentence might scare you! Did you know when a mother mantis gets really hungry they will force themselves to eat their own babies!? Scary right? Thought so.



WHALE SHARK

Watch out!! This slow moving filter feeding fish is the size of a school bus. That's 20m. It's the largest shark in the ocean. They're usually grey and blue. They have tiny white spots on them. That's cool!! They're found on Ningaloo Reef and many more places but AMAZINGLY they have 3000 teeth. They eat squid, krill and small fish. Luckily were not on their menu. PPHHEEW!!!!!!

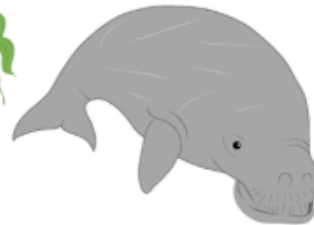
Fun fact

Whale sharks have tiny itty bitty teeth covered around there eyes.



Kiwi Bird

Deep in the green New Zealand rainforests live the amazing miniscule kiwi bird. These birds are very timid, they usually run away from everything. Speaking of running, kiwi birds are faster than the average human, going up to a velocity of 12 miles per hour. Despite the kiwi bird being miniature they're closest relative is the now extinct elephant bird which is larger than the ostrich. You may be asking how they are related due to their size difference, well... the kiwi and the elephant bird both had a common ancestor dating back 50 million years ago.



Dugong

Ever hear Mariah Carey underwater? It might actually be a Dugong. Dugongs have very bad eyesight so they sing to each other to communicate. They are known to be the most gentle giants out there! And can even shed a few tears.

Talking about exercise, these animals eat up to 30kg of sea grass a day! No wonder they weigh up to 400kg to 600kg, or maybe it's because the females get pregnant every 3 to 6 years, in their whole 70 years of life. They are pregnant for a whole year, and keep the baby with them for 2 years. When you say vegetarians, you mean Dugongs, they are never found eating meat. Now it's your turn, these animals are going extinct very quickly and need your help. Step up and stop littering!!



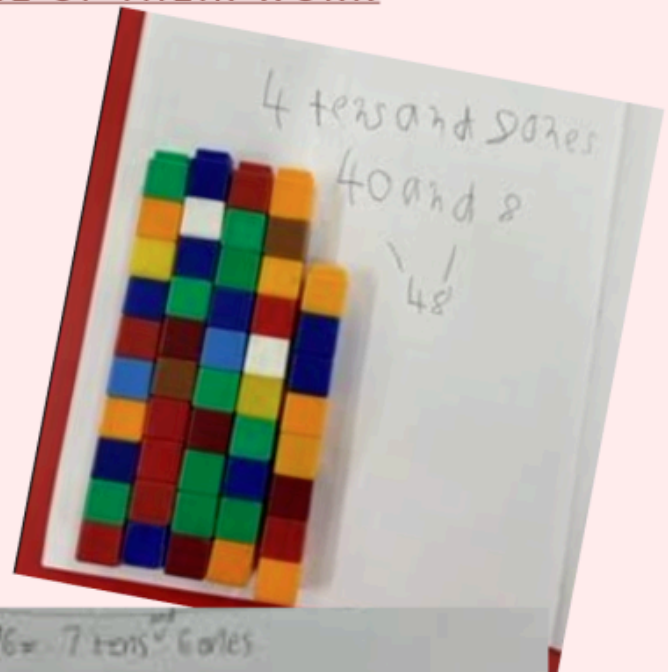
Numeracy Intervention News

AFTER HAVING PARTICIPATED IN THE SIMPLY MATHS PD ON PLACE VALUE IN TERM 1, THE NUMERACY INTERVENTION PROGRAMME NOW FOCUSES ON PLACE VALUE.

THE STUDENTS HAVE BEEN WORKING HARD ON MAKING GROUPS OF TEN USING DIFFERENT MATERIALS, RECOGNISING THAT

10 ONES IS 1 TEN

AND RENAMING GROUPS OF 10
HERE IS SOME OF THEIR WORK



1 ten is the same as
10 ones

76 = 7 tens and 6 ones
76 = 6 tens and 16 ones
76 = 5 tens and 26 ones
76 = 4 tens and 36 ones
76 = 3 tens 46 and 46 ones
76 = 2 tens 56 ones
76 = 1 ten and 66 ones
76 = 0 tens and 76 ones
76 = Seventy-Six ✓✓

Chinese News

Chinese Term 2

Foundation

The students will learn about the Dragon Boat Festival. They will focus on how to say, to sing and to hand gesture the numbers 6 to 10, including practising writing the Chinese characters for the numbers 1 to 10. They will learn how to introduce themselves, say their age and to sing 'Happy Birthday'. The students will be introduced to some colours and how to say the names of various fruits and vegetables in Mandarin.

Year 1/2

The students will learn about the Dragon Boat Festival and Tomb Sweeping Day. They will focus on writing the Chinese characters for the numbers 1 to 10 and how to say the numbers 0 to 20. The students will review all five tones of the language, as well as learning how to introduce themselves and others, and state an individual's age. They will investigate North and South China, including Mo He, Beiji Village, Harbin and the rice paddy fields in Yunnan.

Year 3/4

The students will explore the customs and origins of the ancient traditions of the Dragon Boat Festival and Tomb Sweeping Day. They will focus on initiating and supporting simple conversations about colours, animals, numbers and family members. The students will practise writing Chinese characters and the five tones of the language. They will be examining historical and significant architectural and cultural contributions such as the Great Wall of China, the Terracotta Warriors and the Forbidden City.

Year 5/6

The students will inquire into the beliefs, practices and changes over time to the Dragon Boat Festival and Tomb Sweeping Day. They will focus on furthering their vocabulary, including establishing and sustaining basic conversations about languages, nationalities, countries, clothes and the human body. The students will practise the five tones of the language and the writing of Chinese characters. They will be examining the national and cultural significance of giant pandas in Chengdu, Daocheng Yading Nature Reserve, and the Bund in Shanghai.



SPORTS NEWS



FOUNDATIONS
&
GRADE 1/2

Teamwork and rules

Throwing and Catching

AFL

This past week saw 38 of our students from Grade 3-6 participate in the District Cross Country event at Tattersson Park. As a whole, we as a school, placed 5th out of ten schools with the above children making it to Division Cross Country this Friday. We wish them luck in their races.

This term we have been fortunate in securing a week of AFL coaching where all students were able to learn skills in handballing and kicking. This has continued in our PE classes where we have been able to build on these skills.



GRADE 3/4
&
GRADE 5/6

Fitness

AFL

Game Sense / Tactics



School Community News



Bunnings BBQ

Thank you to all our parents who have volunteered to assist at our Bunnings BBQ on Saturday 22nd June.

Confirmation of shifts will be emailed home shortly.

Google Translator



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