



Holy Spirit Community School

www.hsringwoodnth.catholic.edu.au

Holy Spirit
Community School
120 Oban Road
North Ringwood 3134
Email—

Administration
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Phone: 98761103

No 19

Date 26 November 2020

Message from the Principal

26-11-20

Dear parents, friends and Father Arsenio

It has been hard to comprehend that my participation in both the P&F and Board AGMs means that we are close to the end of another school year. I am incredibly grateful to both groups for the hard work they offer to improve our school. Please consider assisting them in 2021.

New members have already joined our school board for which I am grateful. Richard French, Emma Boschetti, Leigh Toomey and Rachael Crean have signed up to ensure a full team. They will work with Andrew Conway our board chair and I to be inducted and brought up to speed.

Transitions have begun for our prep 2021 and all other students. This has included lunch dates with the new level, playground walkabouts and toilet visits. I appreciate that may not be appealing however to some of our students they are important concerns that staff have been addressing. Please feel free to talk to your class teacher if there is anything else you think your child may need in the weeks ahead to prepare for next year.

The changes announced by the Premier on Sunday have meant some changes to our planned Confirmation/Graduation ceremonies for our year 6 students. The constant flexibility required this year has been quite a challenge. I would like to acknowledge parents' patience and understanding when these decisions are being made. A letter will be sent to these families explaining what will occur. I for one am looking forward to making plans with certainty again.

Our P&F are seeking further volunteers to assist our 35 new families starting next year. Given the changed transition circumstances for our new preps we are linking an existing family with a new one. If you would like to volunteer to 'buddy up' can you please make contact with Sharon Wolff?

Have a great week.

Duncan



FOR ALL
EVENTS
AND DATES
PLEASE GO
TO THE
SCHOOL
CALENDAR
Under
current
parents tab

PARISH NEWS

Well done Victoria. We are getting on top of this dreaded virus. With more easing of restrictions, we will be able to increase the number of attendees at our masses. However, at the time of writing this, the Parish has not yet decided on numbers given we must still observe social distancing and contact tracing must remain in place. Please check this weekend's The Word via the Parish website to see if Father has decided on how many can attend our weekend masses. Bookings will still need to be made via the Parish mobile. There are still further announcements to be made early December in the lead up to Christmas. We are hopeful of having Christmas masses depending on what numbers are allowed and any restrictions. Stay tuned!

This weekend we celebrate the First Sunday of Advent. Christmas is only 4 weeks away. Jacinta will be leading an Advent discussion group via Zoom on Wednesday mornings from 11am-12 noon. If you can't join the meeting, there are booklets available for private reflection. To register please call Jacinta on 0434 224 483.

I hope the Grade 6's had a wonderful time on school camp by the beach. The weather was very kind and I am sure you all had a great time with your school friends in this last year of primary school.

Thank you everyone and enjoy the weekend ahead.

Ruth Frangeskakis

Parish Secretary

Holy Spirit Parish

120 Oban Road

Ringwood North Vic 3134

Phone: 9876 3717 or 9876 3077

Work days: Tuesday & Wednesday, 9am-4pm



Prayer of the Week

This Sunday, we begin the season of Advent as people of hope, during what has been a difficult and challenging time for all. We light the first purple candle of hope and proclaim that God's light is coming into the world. We recall the hope we have in Christ. The prophets of Israel all spoke of the coming of Christ, of how a saviour would be born, a king in the line of David. They spoke of how he would rule the world wisely and bless all nations.

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark 13: 33-37

Stay awake! You never know when the Lord will come.

Jesus said to his disciples: 'Be on your guard, stay awake, because you never know when the time will come. It is like a man travelling abroad: he has gone from home, and left his servants in charge, each with his own task; and he has told the doorkeeper to stay awake. So stay awake, because you do not know when the master of the house is coming, evening, midnight, cockcrow, dawn; if he comes

unexpectedly, he must not find you asleep.

And what I say to you I say to all: Stay awake!'

Let us pray:

Almighty God, we begin this Advent Season as people of hope. Let your blessing come upon us as we light this Advent wreath. May we turn our hearts to you in the days ahead. Grant us the peace and joy we long for, as we await the coming of your Son with patient hearts. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.



Changes to Covid Guidelines

Dear Families,

Today we received the latest update around guidelines from Catholic Education Melbourne. Life is slowly starting to return to 'normal' in our schools.

Important information for families

- Hand hygiene and twice daily cleaning of the school will continue
- Parents are still not permitted to congregate before or after school and should be maintaining social distancing, if you are unable to do this then a mask must be worn
- There are still limits in place in regard to public gatherings both indoors and outdoors in line with government regulations (20 people indoors and 50 people outdoors)
- School taps will now be available for the children to use, we would encourage the continued use of drink bottles where possible
- The staggered finish to the end of the school day will finish and all students will be dismissed at 3:30 and 3:15 on a Monday from the beginning of next week
- If entering the school (administration area only) at any time, face masks must continue to be worn. Teachers are required to continue to wear face masks except when in the act of teaching
- There will no longer be strict guidelines in place for the children to limit mixing between grades when indoors

In line with CEM recommendations the school shall continue to limit parent access to the school as we continue with the established good practices that have been in place for the preceding months.

When we return to school at the end of January 2021 we look forward to welcoming parents and friends back onto the school site. There may still be protocols in place in regard to tracing but we will communicate these at a later time.

Our Year 6 children were lucky enough to attend Camp this week at Merricks Lodge. For the majority of students in Victoria this has not been possible. It is thanks to the determination of our Senior Level Leader Caeleigh that she was able to source a camp able to take the booking, visit the camp prior to the children attending and organise all that attending camp involves to make this happen for the children. By all stories that have come back to school it has been a wonderful experience for all. No doubt there will be some weary children and teachers on their return this afternoon. I am sure you will join with me in thanking the teachers and acknowledging their commitment to the children by being away from their own families and on duty 24 hours a day for four days. Thank you!

We have also been fortunate in being able to organise a combined Confirmation and Graduation Mass for the Year 6 students and their parents while still observing guidelines around gathering. There will be four Masses which will allow for a meaningful and special gathering. An unprecedented year but one where everyone has worked very very hard to ensure some kind of normality for the children.

Duncan

SCHOOL NEWS



Congratulations to our Stars of the Week



Week Six Stars

**Hugh Scott, Eve Toomey, Xavier Arsenis, Charli Rose Stewart,
Deng Giel, Lukasz Ochina, Maeve O'Brien, Aiden Huang,
Keileigh O'Keefe, Taylor-James Wolff, Gabriella DeLulio,
Kayvan Partow, Micah Karamanavis, Michael O'Brien**

Week Seven Stars

**Henry Davis, Leon Chakravarty, Jim Marchesani,
Isaac Kisumbi, Ella Oracz, Gabrielle DeLulio,
Liam O'Callaghan, Penelope Boschetti, Jack Dykes, Oscar
Petruccelli, Wolf O'Brien, Coby Baker, Amelie Porter,
Elsa Bakacs, Amy Williams, Thomas Critchley**



**CAROLS BY
CANDLELIGHT
CANCELLED 2020**



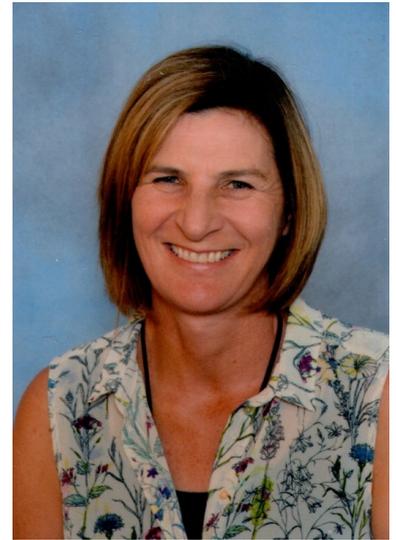
We will be back next year. Expression of interest for new committee members for 2021.
Please contact Cath Stone or Amanda Conway.



Meet Our New Deputy Principals

My name is Judy Smith and I am one of the new Deputy Principals commencing at Holy Spirit next year. I am very much looking forward to joining the community and getting to know and work with the students, staff and families alike. I have experience in both Deputy Principal, Literacy Leader and Wellbeing roles, and I enjoy working together with others to achieve success.

In my private life, I am a wife, a mum to two grown-up children and, more recently, a very besotted grandmother of a now one year old, Kai (very happy to share a photo...or two...or seven - just ask!). I also enjoy reading, camping, cooking and catching up with friends, especially when these are all combined. I'd really appreciate it if you have a moment to stop to say 'Hi' and introduce yourself when you see me around the school in 2021.



Hello my name is Rachel Hamilton-Smith and I am really looking forward to becoming part of the Holy Spirit School community next year as Deputy Head and the Learning Diversity Leader.

I am looking forward to getting to know all the families and I am excited to be working in a really dynamic team of teachers and staff at Holy Spirit.

I have been lucky enough to meet with many of the staff already and appreciate their warm and friendly welcome.

I have been in education for over 25 years and began my career in England, which is where I am from originally. I have a strong passion and commitment to learning diversity and supporting the needs of all children so they have a real love of learning.

I have previously taught in various grades and have held positions of leadership as a Deputy Head, Teaching and Learning Leader and Learning Diversity Leader. The schools I have previously worked at include St Michaels in Ashburton and St Peters in East Bentleigh.

I value a strong commitment to teamwork and working together for what is best for the children. I consider myself open, friendly and understanding and hope that in Term 1 there will be many opportunities for me to get to know all the families at Holy Spirit.

I am originally from Cornwall in the UK and have been living in Australia for the past 18 years. I have a loving family and my husband Paul and I have two boys, Charlie and Tom aged 9 and 11. I live locally to Ringwood North and enjoy being part of my own children's school community in the Parish of St John and St James.

Having grown up by the sea, I love going to the beach. I also enjoy walking, getting outdoors and exploring the amazing countryside that we are so lucky to have on our doorstep. I wish I could say I barrack for an AFL team, but I am yet to be converted!

I am very much looking forward to meeting you all in person next year when we begin the new school year.

Metal Straw Sales

Dear families,

It is with great excitement that we announce our Grade 1/2 Metal Straw sale has raised \$323 for the Australian Marine Conservation society.

Over the course of Term Three our students in Grade 1/2 interpreted the human impact of plastic pollution on the environment and evaluated it in the light of the Catholic understanding of stewardship. They then considered the environmental issue stemming from plastic pollution from another point of view, such as a fisherman or a sea animal.

Students then Investigated the key scripture stories of Jesus' forgiveness and compassion and related these our precious ocean. They were assisted to navigate their own understanding of how they were called into a deeper relationship with others, the world and God and this is where the idea of reducing the use of single use plastic straws and replacing them with reusable metal straws was born.

We decided to raise awareness of the impact using plastic straws had on our oceans and marine life by holding a sale of reusable metal straws. The students were able to demonstrate how they were called into commitment and action to help reduce the

plastic pollution in our oceans. They were also able to vote which charity we donated our profits to, too! We are so incredibly proud of our students for their efforts and commitment to this cause.

Kind regards,
Alison



Teacher Presence

If parents and students choose to give a gift to the teacher at the end of the school year, they are encouraged to redeploy the money spent on the present for a donation to a charity supported by Teacher Presence.

www.teacherpresence.org



2020 P&F Report

2020 P&F Report

What a very interesting year it has been for our committee. 2020 will definitely be remembered in many years to come.

Before we begin, I would like to thank everyone who has attended our zoom meetings this year. Thank you Danie McNeil for always providing us with the zoom link. I would also like to acknowledge our departing members Jodie Mazzeo, Karen Assimo, Katrina Houghton and Belinda Svrakov. Their hardwork has been greatly appreciated.

I would like to acknowledge Duncan for all the support he has given us. I couldn't tell you how many times I rang Duncan asking for advice and guidance throughout the year. I would also like to acknowledge Lauren, Melinda and Errin who are sadly leaving our school. A big thank you goes out to them especially to Errin for always supporting and helping P&F with all our needs. She will be missed!! Also big thanks to Melissa and Donna for their assistance during the year.

Our year started with the successful event. The Twilight Movie Night was our only family social event. Though it rained and we had to move into the hall, it was still a fun night and a great way to get together.

Though we haven't raised a lot of funds as all our planned social and fundraising events were cancelled this year, it was still great to be able to support the school with the care packs given to families during spirit day, make a donation to the Grade 6s graduation, morning tea packs for the teachers to acknowledge them for Teachers' Appreciation Day and providing some icypoles for the Preps.

Last but not the least, I would like to thank our executive members Kathryn Newman, Nikki Giansante and Kellie Dalla Riva for their continued support and dedication. We will not be able to celebrate our hardwork this year, but I can surely only hope that next year is a new beginning and no doubt we will accomplish many more fundraising and social events.

On behalf of the P&F committee, we thank each and everyone of you for your continued support year in and year out. Wishing you all a very Merry Christmas and a prosperous new year! Let's hope for a very positive 2021!!

Sharon Wolff
Parents and Friends



SUN HATS ARCOMPULSORY DURING ALL OUT-SIDE ACTIVITIES. HATS ARE AVAILABLE AT THE SCHOOL OFFICE FOR \$12.



Reminders!

St.Vinnies Christmas Appeal

This year for many families has been extra difficult with many facing hardship for the first time due to the Covid 19 virus. Many families within the local community will be spending this Christmas in poverty. We can help put a bit of Christmas cheer and celebration into their lives by donating to the Christmas Appeal.

Each grade at Holy Spirit has been allocated a family to provide goods for. E.g. A family of 2 adults, 2 girls aged 10 and a boy aged 6. The hampers will be collected on Friday 4 December.

The Holy Spirit Community is always generous in these times of great need.

Thank you for your support.

Marianne Condon
Education in Faith Leader
Holy Spirit School

Library Borrowing

All student borrowing has now ended for 2020 and we require all books to be returned.

Dates are as follows:

20/11 Students borrowing finished for 2020

27/11 All students books due back

Thanks for your support
Trish & Lee

Calendar of Events

Friday, November 27

2:00pm Assembly

Tuesday, December 1

Offers posted to 2022 applicants

Wednesday, December 2

Grade 5/6 Billy Cart Derby

Thursday, December 3

6:00pm Grade 6 Graduation Dinner/Disco

Friday, December 4

2:00pm Assembly

Wednesday, December 9

9:00am Whole School End of Year Mass

Friday, December 11

2:00pm Graduation Mass

2:00pm Assembly

Monday, December 14

Grade 6 Final Day Walk In/Breakfast

Last day for Year 6

Tuesday, December 15

End of Term 4 (Prep-Year 5 students)

Final date for families to accept offer from Secondary school

Wednesday, December 16

Extend Holiday program



**Rubie's Deerfield
For All Your Costume Needs**

Our littlest people have had it tough this year & we hope the Superhero masks provided to your school created SMILES!

At Rubie's, our job is to **inspire your imagination**. Costumes can be found at many Retailers, including Kmart, Big W, Target, Spotlight, Myer, Catch, The Iconic and Toy 'R' Us.

Look out for the yellow and red clown logo!

No Interest Loans for back-to-school costs



Borrow up to \$1500 Pay back \$1500
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Talk to the people you know and trust

Vinnies NILs

03 5229 8829

vinniesnils.org.au

Funded by:



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NILs is for people on low incomes and is not available for cash. See eligibility criteria at nils.com.au



Holy Spirit Netball Club



Holy Spirit Netball Club is seeking expressions of interest from parents of current Grade 1/2 girls and boys interested in playing netball in the Autumn Season 2021, commencing Mid-February. We normally run a 5-week NET SET GO program but due to COVID restrictions we are unable to run it this year. If your child is interested in playing netball you are required to join our zoom meeting on 4 November at 7.30pm.

To register your interest email: hsnetball@gmail.com with the following Information: Child's Name, DOB, Contact details and Class at School. For any further information call - Cath Stone on 0425 850 059.



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