



Holy Spirit Community School

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

No 20

Date 10 December 2020

Message from the Principal

Dear parents, friends and Father Arsenio

What a busy time it has been! The children's learning has continued and will continue to do so right up until the end of the term. All classroom teachers have had the opportunity to have a planning day with Kayla our Learning and Teaching Leader in preparation for 2021. The children have started the transition process as they familiarise themselves with new classrooms and spaces. Next Monday and Tuesday they will visit their new classrooms and spend some time with their 2021 teacher and classmates.

Last Thursday our Year 6 students gathered together to celebrate their graduation with a dinner and disco. It looked a little different this year but they are to be congratulated on the way they all enjoyed the evening together. A special thank you to their teachers who were on hand to supervise and share this time with them and also a very big thankyou to the Graduation Committee who worked tirelessly decorating the hall, cooking, serving and cleaning up. It would not have been possible without you. Thank you!!

We are all enjoying more freedom as restrictions ease around Covid-19. At school, parents are still required to social distance, especially during pick up time in the afternoon. Thank you to the families who are very mindful of this. Many thanks for your understanding as we work to keep everyone safe.

Please remember the Year 6 children in your prayers as they receive the Sacrament of Confirmation. Our first two groups celebrated this special sacrament at Mass last Saturday evening and Sunday morning. The next two group's celebrations will be this weekend at the Saturday and Sunday Mass. We appreciate these are busy times for everyone and we have been thrilled to have been able to celebrate the Sacrament of Confirmation and Graduation in our Church. As a Catholic community we have not had this opportunity for a very long time. I am sure you have all appreciated being able to share this very special time with your child in our Church without having to worry about inclement weather or even having to cancel the event altogether.

Please pray for these children - **Alexandra Bryce, Aria Conway, Emma Craigie, Patrick Faulkner, Luke Mabilia, Lucas Mortensen, Joel Pollard, Zoe Staples, Ella Stone, Taylor-James Wolff, Zac Antonellos, Elizabeth Batten, Cooper, Childs, Shania D'Souza, Athena Huang, Tiana Keane, Stella Rabak, Austin Wallace, Phoebe Brown, Leah Coffey, Campbell Eastwood, Zoe Guerin, Sophie Heazlewood, Eliza Jones, Jim Volombello, Joshua Bettiol, Rafael Daniel, Lily Doherty, Jasmine Fasciani, Ashley Grey, Jasmine Gurgone, Sienna Mariani, Lachlan Motteram, Daniel Nielsen, Nicholas Pereira, Lucy Postill, Adrian Bisignano, Aaron D;Souza, Emily Frohlich, Christian McCartan, Keileigh O'Keefe, Hayley Papadopoulos, Angus Thompson, Macy Vendel.**

Message from the Principal Continued...

As we approach the third week of advent we focus on **joy** as the theme for this week. Advent is the four-**weeks** of spiritual preparation before Christmas. The lighting of the **Advent** candles during the four Sundays before Christmas – candles of hope, peace, joy and love – are celebratory moments where we take the time to reflect before Jesus' birth. Each morning during prayer the children pray and reflect on this special time. They light the appropriate candle in their class advent wreath and discuss ways they can prepare for Jesus' birth and the traditions they have in their own families.

A reminder that the Year 6 children finish school on Monday 14th December, all other children finish for the year on Tuesday 15th December, both at the normal finishing time.

I wanted to thank every family for your generosity with the Christmas Hampers this year for St Vinnies. We have been overwhelmed, there will be many many families who will be so very grateful for the kindness of our Holy Spirit Community.

Given this is the last newsletter for the year I would like to make special mention of our staff. They have been magnificent in what has been a trying year. The attention and care they have paid our students is first rate and constant. I am most fortunate to work amongst such wonderful people.

Wishing you all a peaceful and rest filled holiday period. I will look forward to seeing you all upon school's return next year.

Best wishes

Duncan



The final edition of *Catholic Education Today* for 2020 is now available on the Catholic Education Melbourne website www.cem.edu.au under *News and Events / Catholic Education Today*.



PARISH NEWS

So we come to the end of another school year. What a year it has been. It has certainly been very challenging and difficult for many and one we won't forget in a hurry. Hopefully 2021 will be a better year for us all.

With further easing of restrictions, we will be able to increase numbers attending weekend masses. However, at this moment we are still unsure of numbers as we must observe the 1.2 metre ruling. We anticipate having Christmas masses: Christmas Eve 5pm, 7.30pm and midnight mass. Christmas Day only one mass will be celebrated at 9am. We do not know how many we can accommodate in the Church at the moment and we must still abide with contact tracing. You must book for masses and as such online bookings can now be made via TryBooking (details in The Word). Please keep an eye on The Word via the Parish website for any updates.

Holy Spirit Parish Pastoral Council (PPC) are looking for new members for 2021. If you would like to contribute to the life of the Parish, consider nominating yourself or someone you feel would enjoy being part of the PPC (again details are in The Word)

Finally, farewell to our Grade 6 children. We trust you have enjoyed your years at Holy Spirit Primary School and have many friends, fond memories and experiences that you will treasure. Best wishes to you all for the Christmas Season and we hope that you enjoy your next venture at secondary school in the New Year.

On behalf of Father Arsenio and the Parish House Staff, we wish all school families and staff a very Happy and Holy Christmas and a Happy New Year and we look forward to seeing you all in person next year. Please stay safe during the holidays. Best wishes.

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

A Blessing

HOLY SPIRIT COMMUNITY PRIMARY SCHOOL
CLASS OF 2020

Dear God,

As we gather today, we thank you for bringing these students and their families to Holy Spirit for their primary school journey.

Thank you for the blessings of learning. The Holy Spirit Community has watched these students grow from little 5-year-old Prep students, holding their parent's hands tight, to confident young people who have developed strong friendships and achieved many accomplishments.

The 2020 year has been unprecedented. We thank God for looking over us all, as we have adapted to new ways of learning, maintaining friendships and supporting one another.

Holy Spirit Class of 2020, we thank you for being a vibrant part of the Holy Spirit School community. May you each feel proud of what you have accomplished and celebrate today. And if there are any tears, may they be tears of joy.

May you always feel God's love and know that the Holy Spirit is with you on your next learning journey. May you hold your dreams in your heart, may they always be a bright light in your mind and satisfy your spirit.

The Holy Spirit Parish is your home and a place where you will always be welcome.

Lord, we dedicate this celebration to you and thank you for leading and guiding us.

Amen

Class of
2020

SCHOOL NEWS



Congratulations to our Stars of the Week



Week Nine Stars

Antonio DelGiudice, Eloise Woodhams, Maisie McKenzie, Indie French, Thomas Zielke, Sophie Dornom, Flynn Milton Anabelle Vomerio, Sienna Kovacevic, Lucas Skalzo, Kade French, Michael Jiang, Frankie Watt, Abbey Shine, Izabella Takac, Bailey Faulkner, Adrian Bisognano, Billy Johnstone, Chris McCartan, Molly Sheriff, Abby



UNSW Global



Congratulations to all the students who participated in the *English UNSW ICAS Assessment* held earlier this term.

You should be proud of all your efforts and achievements.

A special mention to the following students for their achievements in the competition:

Credit

Sienna K in 3/4CD

Amelie P in 5/6FB

Abby S in 5/6FB

Distinction

Harrison T in 3/4DF

Zoe S in 5/6AG

Congratulations

Congratulations to our 2020 Graduates!



Calendar of Events

Thursday, December 10

Prep Nativity Play- 9:10am

Friday, December 11

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



There are lots of jumpers a few jackets, a few drink bottles and other bits and pieces in the lost property. It's now located outside the office. Come and have a look and see if anything belongs to you., a

Farewell and Thank You

Had 2020 been a regular year, I would have had an opportunity to say a few words in person at our End of Year Mass, but as this couldn't happen I would like to take this chance to thank the amazing Holy Spirit Community.



After 26 years as a teacher (and a couple more before that as a parent) the time has come for me to say farewell to my formal teaching position at Holy Spirit.

I am retiring from teaching, because next year, I will be undertaking family commitments that will require a great deal of my time and naturally my family is my priority.

Over the years I have taught in most levels at Holy Spirit, with the majority of my years in the junior level and seven special years in Prep. I have been a Classroom Teacher, Level Leader, School Maths Leader, Number Intervention Teacher and finally Deputy Principal. I have loved each and every one of these roles.

When I have been asked why I have chosen to stay and teach at H.S for all this time, the answer is, 'Because I love this community'. The relationships and partnerships I have had with the parents over the years will always be treasured and I am continually proud of the dedication, care and hard work given by our staff, never more so than throughout the challenges this year has brought to their teaching and learning.

The Holy Spirit students are awesome and whenever I attended any school excursions or events I was so proud of them and I was so often told that our students were outstanding in their behaviour. I have countless special memories of my past students.

At Holy Spirit I began working for Phillip, then Peter and finally over the last four years I have worked with Duncan, the last couple in my role as Deputy Principal.

It has been an absolute pleasure working with him, I have learnt so much about leadership over the past few years and I thank Duncan so much for always giving me opportunities to build and develop my capacity to lead. The Leadership Team has been a delight to work with, we have all shared a passion for making Holy Spirit a wonderful place for all who are part of it.

I am excited for the next part of my life but I am definitely sad to be saying goodbye. I hope to still have some contact with the school and I am still in the parish, so when I see you around locally please come and say hi.

This was definitely not the year or the scenario I envisaged ending my career with. My challenging year actually began on New Year's Eve in Mallacoota where I found myself in the midst of the bushfires and this experience included an evacuation on a navy ship. Then to spend half of the year in lockdown, with only a handful of students at school was not ideal -but at least I will have very clear memories of my last year.

Have a wonderful Christmas and break with your families and hopefully 2021 will be a much easier year for us all. Once again thank you for everything, Holy Spirit is an awesome school and community.

Lauren Witnish

Teachers For 2021

Prep

Michelle Turpin
Katherine D'Aloisio,
Joanna Major.

Year 1/2

Andrea D'Alberto
Alison Laurence
Andrea Frixou
Julie Brown (0.6)/Liz Bell (0.4)
Dianne Lewis (0.5)/Beth Neason (0.5)

Year 3/4

Corrine Davis
Chris Williams (0.8)/Marianne Condon (0.2)
Danni Fidge,
Melissa Manders (0.6)/Kat Jones (0.4)
Micaela O'Brien.

Year 5/6

Andy McKellar (0.6)/Gracie Smith (0.4)
Bec Young (0.8)/Fran Miller (0.2)
Jess O'Reilly
Andrea Jackson,
Antoinette Galioto (0.7)/Ben Lannen (0.3)



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



Survey Results

Dear Parents,

On behalf of the school leadership team, thank you for your time and thoughts, we had over 120 survey responses which was incredible. Below is a summary of trends and themes from the remote learning feedback by staff, parents and students:

	Student	Staff	Parents
What Worked Well..	<p>Loved the independence and being able to manage their time to complete work and then play.</p> <p>Found online platforms very easy to use.</p> <p>Less distractions.</p>	<p>Online Parent Teacher Interviews.</p> <p>PM Readers for junior school.</p> <p>Seeing students be independent and manage their own learning.</p>	<p>Live lessons, in particular the senior school and focus groups in junior school. Theme weeks for the juniors.</p> <p>Teacher video explanations for all lessons.</p> <p>Clear and consistent communication about routine and expectations.</p> <p>Access to borrowing technology.</p> <p>Wellbeing adjustments coming back to school.</p>
Even better if..	<p>More opportunities for group work and socialising with friends.</p> <p>Missed their friends and recess/lunch play.</p>	<p>Less busy curriculum and greater emphasis on Literacy and Numeracy.</p> <p>Balancing planning, teaching and feedback.</p>	<p>More detailed and consistent feedback on learning.</p> <p>Staggered start times was mixed with 53% all for it, 47% against.</p> <p>To have specialists classes each week.</p> <p>Greater opportunities for students to extend themselves.</p> <p>More hands-on activities.</p> <p>Dojo worksheets were tricky to complete, paper copies were preferred.</p>

Benjamin Lannen
Wellbeing and eLearning Leader

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



School Photo Orders

HOLY SPIRIT COMMUNITY SCHOOL



**MISCELLANEOUS GROUP PHOTOS
ARE AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE**



\$26
FOR FIRST
GROUP

\$13
FOR ANY
ADDITIONAL
GROUPS*

To purchase, please visit
www.schoolpix.com.au
and enter the codes on your order slip.

Don't have an order slip? Please visit your school office or
contact our Customer Service team on 1300 766 055.

Order before
Sunday 24th January
for FREE delivery back to your school.

Orders placed after this date will incur a \$7.95 fee and will be
posted to your nominated address.

*Purchase must be made in one transaction and groups ordered must be different to qualify for the discount.
*Offer does not apply to Class Group prints previously purchased.

**Wishing you all a
very Merry Christmas
and a happy and
safe new year!**

