

20th July, 2020

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Newsletter No. 15

### Special Points of Interest:

- Welcome
- Over The Break
- Year 5 Camp
- Year 6 Graduation
- First Eucharist Sacramental Update for Yar 3 Parents
- Confirmation Sacramental Update for Year 6 Parents
- Mid Year Reports
- Parent/Teacher/Student Interviews
- Emails and Cybersecurity
- CSEF
- Catholic Secondary College Enrolment

### Also included in this Newsletter

- Badges
- Snap
- Out of School Hours Care
- Community News
- Awards



Dear Parents,

Welcome to the first day of Remote Learning once again. I was very much looking forward to a normal term. Generally, Term 3 is a very solid term for the students with limited interruptions allowing them to focus on their learning. Due to COVID-19 restrictions the rug has been pulled out from under us again and we have been forced to return to Remote Learning

As you could imagine we have 1,178 students we are attempting to organise for remote learning. Realistically, there will be hiccups along the line and especially today when everyone is trying to use the technology for the first time, all at once. I apologise for any frustrations you may experience. I am asking for your patience as we once again problem solve as we navigate our way. If your child misses a Google Meet, please do not panic – your classroom teacher will follow it up.

Later in the term we will begin preparing for 2021. Firstly, I will begin meeting individually with each of our staff members to talk about the successes and challenges of this year and explore their thoughts about 2021. Towards the end of this term we begin looking at class lists for the next year as well as finalising the staffing in readiness for the new year.

### OVER THE BREAK

Our maintenance men have been busy over the term break. During this time we had all air conditioning / heater filters cleaned, all storm water and gutters were cleared of debris and the Hall has a new stainless steel kitchen which meets compliance. The Prep building has new carpet throughout the building and some old furniture has been replaced with new.

The synthetic grassed oval received its scheduled maintenance service too (there is always work to be done at a school this size.)



## **YEAR 5 CAMP**

It was with deep regret that I informed our Year 5 parents and students of the cancellation of Year 5 Camp. Unfortunately, it is not possible for us to go ahead given the current circumstances. Year 5 school fees have been rebated \$300. I thank you for your understanding.

## **YEAR 6 GRADUATION – EARLY NOTICE**

Due to current circumstances (COVID-19), we are at a point where I have had to make decisions regarding school fees. As Year 6 parents are aware, part of the Year 6 Levy includes \$200 for our Graduation Ceremony. I have decided to rebate this amount of the Levy back into the accounts of our Year 6 families as we are unsure of whether we will be having our Graduation Ceremony at Casa D'Abruzzo.

If we were to go ahead with the Graduation Ceremony at Casa D'Abruzzo then the school will pay the full amount as a parting gift to our Year 6 families. If we are unable to have a large ceremony I envisage a smaller gathering in our school hall with the Year 6 students only (a catered formal event).

If you have any queries in regard to school fees please contact Anne Coleiro or Mary Milione in our Accounts office.

## **FIRST EUCHARIST - SACRAMENTAL UPDATE FOR YEAR 3 PARENTS**

Unfortunately, due to current government-imposed restrictions and guidelines related to COVID-19 it is highly unlikely that it will be possible to accommodate both First Eucharist and Confirmation celebrations this year.

In response to the current circumstances, all Catholic schools in the Archdiocese have been directed to prioritise the celebration of Confirmation over and above all other sacramental celebrations. Taking into account our larger numbers and relatively small window of opportunity to celebrate both of these ceremonies during Term Four, we regretfully advise families that First Eucharist celebrations will not be able to take place this year.

For next year only, students will receive their First Eucharist in Year Four during Term Two of 2021. It is envisaged that this decision will allow families to celebrate this sacrament with their immediate and extended family members in a more relaxed, meaningful and memorable manner.

The Year Three students will fulfill all preparatory requirements during the 2020 school year and only need to spend a short amount of time preparing for the liturgical celebrations during 2021. In order to maintain our annual sacramental obligations, we also intend to celebrate First Eucharist for the students in Year Three, as usual, towards the end of Term Two 2021.

At this point, we intend to celebrate First Eucharist for Year Four students over 2 weekends in May 2021-Saturday, 1st May & Sunday, 2nd May as well as Saturday, 15th May & Sunday, 16th May (due to Mother's Day being celebrated on Sunday, 9th May).

We also intend to celebrate First Eucharist for Year Three students over 2 weekends later in the same term - Saturday, 5th June & Sunday, 6th June as well as Saturday, 19th June & Sunday, 20th June (due to the Queen's Birthday public holiday being celebrated on Monday, 14th June).

As we move into 2022 our intention is to return to our normal practice of celebrating First Eucharist for Year Three students only during Term Two.

Although the postponement of our First Eucharist masses to 2021 is disappointing for us all, I am sure that all families can appreciate that we are totally governed by government directives related to the ongoing COVID-19 situation and that this modification to our rich sacramental program is necessary in order to protect the health and safety of all members of our school community.

I thank you again for your continued support, patience and prayers during this time.

## **CONFIRMATION - SACRAMENTAL UPDATE FOR YEAR 6 PARENTS**

As you can appreciate the planning of important sacramental events involving large numbers is very challenging at present due to the dynamic nature of the COVID-19 situation.

Acknowledging these trying circumstances, Confirmation remains our highest priority for 2020. Provided that we are permitted by government directives and restrictions to do so, we are still working towards celebrating this sacrament in a modified form during November this year.

Due to the likelihood that we will still need to comply with some COVID safe practices and restrictions in November, we envisage celebrations will involve a smaller number of participants and as a consequence, more celebrations will be scheduled to accommodate our large student numbers. Provided it is safe and permissible to do so, we have a model in place for the proposed celebrations in November.

If the current COVID-19 context worsens requiring restrictions to be strengthened, we have also developed a refined liturgical process that can be implemented should this be required.

In response to this unique situation, parish priests have been delegated the responsibility for Confirmation this year in order to accommodate the increased number of masses that are required in such a significantly reduced timeframe.

As advertised in previous communication sent out last term regarding Confirmation, students will again be participating in the Alpha Youth Program during Term 3. However, as we have returned to the remote learning model until at least mid-August, the program will require slight modification.

The Alpha program is primarily based upon an interactive, discussion-based model of learning. As we will be unable to conduct these sessions within the normal classroom environment, we ask students view these weekly clips in the company of a parent or older sibling so that rich discussion can take place at the appropriate times during the clips.

After watching the clip and discussing the topics raised, students will be expected to enter a written response in a journal to express their thoughts on the questions presented.

### **Confirmation Details & Stole Embroidery Forms**

Parents have also been asked to complete and return the Confirmation Details Form (sent home via the Compass App last term) and the Stole Embroidery Form (if they wish to use this service) by **Friday, 31<sup>st</sup> July**. Given our return to remote learning, we ask that the Confirmation Details Form is completed and forwarded via email to your child's teacher.

Being mindful of maintaining important safety protocols at this time, we also invite parents to leave their stole and completed order form in the designated "Drop Off Box" located under the porch just outside the school office over the coming 2 weeks.

As a small gesture of our school's appreciation for the support, patience and understanding shown by all Year Six families during this challenging time, **the school will cover the cost of embroidery on stoles for any families who wish to use this service.**

I again offer my heartfelt thanks to all parents and students for their support during the year.

### **MID-YEAR REPORTS**

Tomorrow, Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> July, you will receive your child's Mid-Year Student Progress Reports via our Compass App. We are very proud of the way all our students have adapted to Remote Learning and reached their personalised achievements. The July Report will be different to last years as we have modified them to reflect Remote Learning.

#### **IMPORTANT:**

Please note that due to current circumstances the Learning Assessment Journals will not be coming home this term.

### **PARENT/TEACHER/STUDENT INTERVIEWS**

Our teachers will be conducting Parent/Teacher Phone Interviews this Thursday, 23<sup>rd</sup> July between the hours of 8:45 am and 5:45 pm.

Bookings can be made online on the School Interviews website: [www.schoolinterviews.com.au](http://www.schoolinterviews.com.au).

These interviews will provide the opportunity for teachers and parents to touch base and discuss the Semester One Summary Reports that will be uploaded to Compass tomorrow, Tuesday, 21<sup>st</sup> July at 5 pm.

The event code for these interviews is **f53nu**. Please note, these interviews will take place via phone call, so please remember to answer No Caller ID calls at your scheduled Parent/Teacher Interview time.

Parents who do not have access to the internet are invited to contact the school office to make a booking. Interviews are strictly 15 minutes and spaces are limited.

Parents can change their interview bookings any time prior to the closing date, by re-visiting the [www.schoolinterviews.com.au](http://www.schoolinterviews.com.au) website using the event code.

## **EMAILS AND CYBERSECURITY**

It is important for parents to always be mindful of the potential pitfalls of email communication and online activity by children.

The School periodically conducts audits of student email activity as part of our of school internet usage policy and as a security measure. The School recommends that parents maintain an awareness of email interaction by their children to ensure that appropriate email communication is encouraged.

This awareness will also enable parents to make proactive decisions whether to restrict email activity in circumstances when parents identify that either the sender or the content is unsuitable. Examples include:

- Unsolicited email requests from unknown senders for personal information such as: bank account details, phone numbers, addresses, details of social media accounts (etc.);
- Contact by private email from unknown users;
- Contact by email from other students including bullying comments, sledging or other inappropriate comments or attitudes.

This activity supports the School policy on internet usage and reinforces the importance of cybersecurity in terms of awareness of student internet usage and communication.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any queries about cyber security.

A wealth of resources are available for parents and children to learn about online safety that compliments the material used in Schools. It is also available through the website of the Office of the Children's eSafety Commissioner – [www.esafety.gov.au](http://www.esafety.gov.au).

This website offers practical resources to all aspects of online activity, including detailed material to help parents understand the digital environment our children are growing up in. It gives tips on managing devices around the home, as well as tools to assist parents to discuss technology-related issues with their children.

The site also enables parents and children to report cyberbullying, illegal or offensive content and access to online and phone counselling.

## **CSEF (CAMPS, SPORTS & EXCURSION FUND)**

If you hold a valid means tested health care card or are a foster parent, you may be eligible for Camps, Sports & Excursion Fund (CSEF). The annual CSEF amount for primary school students is \$125.00. The CSEF is paid directly to your child's school to be used towards camps, sports and excursion expenses for the benefit of eligible students. The card must be valid as at **14th April 2020**. Parents can obtain a form from the school office or download a form from [www.education.vic.gov.au/csef](http://www.education.vic.gov.au/csef). Due to the COVID-19 pandemic and the impact on families the school can now accept applications up to Wednesday, 22<sup>nd</sup> July, 2020. We are unable to accept late applications. The school also requires a copy of your current health care card.

## **CATHOLIC SECONDARY COLLEGE ENROLMENT (STUDENTS STARTING YEAR 7 IN 2022)**

If your child is currently in Year 5 (2020), now is the time to enrol for a place at a CATHOLIC secondary college for the 2022 academic year. Below are some important dates to be aware of:

Due to Covid-19 disruptions The Catholic Education Office in Melbourne has extended the deadlines for our current Year 5 students in 2020 starting Year 7 in 2022

Below are the new Key enrolment dates for our current Year 5 students in 2020 starting Year 7 in 2022

### **Critical Dates**

Due to the extended deadline, the timeline of events has been updated to the following:

- **9 October 2020 – applications close**
- 23 October 2020 – principals exchange full list of applications with neighbouring colleges, including parish of residence
- 6 November 2020 – principals exchange full list of applications with neighbouring colleges, identifying proposed offers and non-offers
- 20 November 2020 – Principals and Registrars Enrolment Briefing will be held to finalise offers for 2022 and exchange names of unsuccessful applicants to ensure all students are offered a place. Session time and place will be advised later in the year
- 1 December 2020 – offers posted to prospective applicants on 15 December 2020 – final date for families to accept offer made by school.

Should you wish to enrol your child in a government secondary school, this will be facilitated through the transition coordinator in 2021 when your child is in Year 6. For transition enquiries please email (Brooke Brennan, Transition Coordinator) at [bbrennan@sfmillpark.catholic.edu.au](mailto:bbrennan@sfmillpark.catholic.edu.au) and she will assist you.

God bless

*Mark Basile*

**Mark Basile**  
Principal

## BADGES

Special Congratulations go to:

Joel B (4A), Nicholi K (2H), Alec S (3A), Domenic S (3A) and Talia F (3D)  
who have attained a Gold Badge.



Congratulations also to the following children who have recently been awarded Blue Badges:

Andrea P (4S), Roisin J (Prep W), Aiden G (1S), Amarchi E (4A), Emmanuel B (3S),  
Alexandra M (Prep N), David A (Prep C), Mariae R (1S), Jacob P (2V), Abella A (3D),  
Andrew A (2V), Aiden C (4N), Jacob D (3D), Hanna V (2G), Michael M (2B), James M (2B),  
Sienna M (5P), Ava I (Prep T), Dion R (3D), Julian R (5P), Dion C (Prep N), Olivia J (3A),  
Lucas R (3P), Laurence T (5P), Alistair W (1B), Elaine S (Prep W), Chelsea F (5T),  
Juliette M (Prep T), Avisha R (Prep N), Ivana R (Prep N), Thomas M (Prep C),  
Mason M (Prep N), Isabella L (Prep C), Sienna L (Prep T), Ruby E (2I), Isabel N (Prep T),  
Anne C (2G), Sebastian D (3D), Charlotte M (2G), Justino G (3D), Noah M (1S),  
Jamie S (1H), Heydi P (Prep U) and Gabriel D (3D).



## Reflecting on a Time of Change

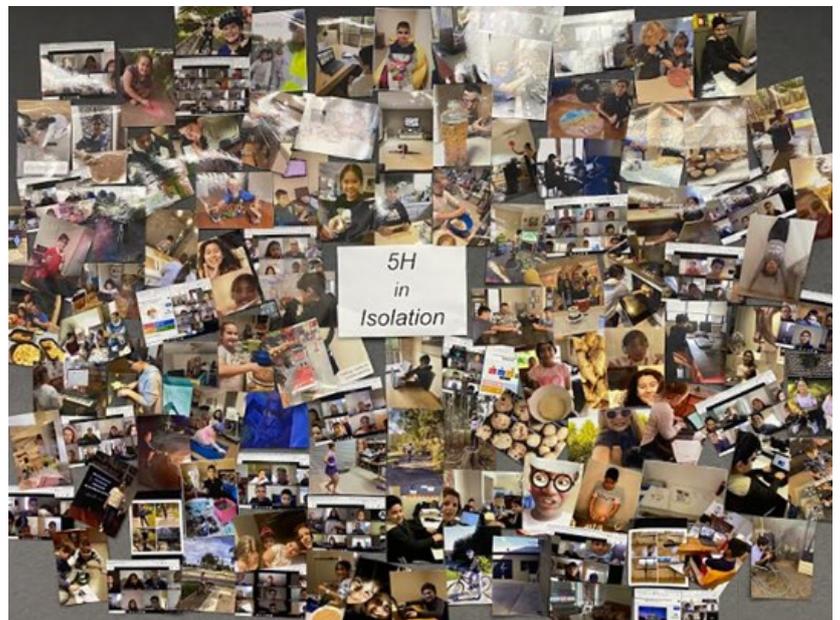
We have officially made it through what has been an incredibly challenging and unfamiliar term. I think it is safe to say that we have all learnt a great deal over the last few months. Whilst this period was an unprecedented one, it is important to stop for a minute to reflect on this time of change.

Upon returning to school last term our students have excitedly shared stories of some of their isolation experiences. During the home learning period, many of our students had the chance to enjoy some of life's simple pleasures that the busyness of our days sometimes inhibit.

Our students returned to school with stories and even photos of memories they made bike riding, participating in Zoom dance classes, baking, counting teddy bears in windows, playing with their siblings, drawing pictures with chalk in their driveway and planting veggie gardens. Memories that I am sure they will cherish for many years to come.

As a result, our children have had the opportunity to learn a great deal from these real-world examples. They have applied measuring and estimating skills when baking and cooking. Additionally, they have upskilled technologically when engaging in video calls and learnt social norms such as turn taking when playing board games.

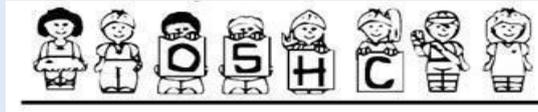
Here is an image of some of the real-life learning that took place in the homes of our Year 5H students. How fantastic!



If you would like any additional information regarding Learning and Teaching at SFOA, please contact me at [christina.rafael@sfmillpark.catholic.edu.au](mailto:christina.rafael@sfmillpark.catholic.edu.au).

**Christina Rafael**  
Leader of Learning and Teaching

# St Francis of Assisi



312 Childs Road, MILL PARK 3082

Phone: (03) 9407 3170

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22<sup>nd</sup> June 2020

To: All Families



To assist you with a smooth transition into Term 3, we wish to provide the following information.....

All CCS related processes resumed on 13<sup>th</sup> July 2020 (the beginning of Term 3).

It is essential that you advise the service if your care requirements have altered from the arrangements prior to COVID-19 (Term 1). If you wish to amend your booking, a Change of Care Form must be completed and returned to the service **prior** to the return to Term 3. Failure to advise Change of Care requirements will result in payment (*in full*) for non-attendance on any or each day your child is absent for a booked attendance.

Please Note : Change of Care notification **cannot** be advised via SmartCentral. A copy of the Change of Care Form can be accessed via the Forms and Documents tab on Childcarers or from the OSHC service.

Please take this opportunity to also ensure your personal information and CWA agreement (*agreement between you and the child care service*) is up-to-date on your myGov account.

If you are experiencing financial hardship, Australian Government (Services Australia) has introduced a range of new measures to support you through this transition (eligibility criteria apply). For further information regarding this matter, visit <https://www.servicesaustralia.gov.au/individuals/services/centrelink/additional-child-care-subsidy>

Australian Government (Services Australia) pay CCS for up to 42 absences for each child, per financial year. Calculation of absences will also resume at the commencement of Term 3. For further information regarding this matter, visit

<https://www.servicesaustralia.gov.au/individuals/services/centrelink/child-care-subsidy/how-manage-your-payment/if-your-child-absent-from-child-care>

If we can be of any assistance with the matters raised, please do not hesitate to contact the service.

# Community News

## PARADE COLLEGE

Educating young men  
for 150 years



Sports Institute & Academy



State-of-the-art facilities



Specialists in boys' education



Exciting pathways await



Scholarships available



A world of opportunities

Two campuses - Preston and Bundoora. For further details call the registrar **9468 3304** or go to **[www.parade.vic.edu.au](http://www.parade.vic.edu.au)**

**Please note** the revised date! Applications for Yr 7 2022 now close on Friday October 9

# AWARDS

Prep C	David A	for being focused and working really hard during writing time. A super effort David!
Prep F	Evie F	for working collaboratively when in groups.
Prep N	Ivana R	for being kind and considerate towards others.
Prep S	Noami H	for trying her best to record sounds she hears in words!
Prep T	Inara Y	for being a fantastic listener and contributor during class discussions. Well done!
Prep U	Oliver T	for working hard on his writing to record the sounds he hears in words. Well done, Oliver!
Prep W	Sienna D	for trying her best in her writing. Well done Sienna!
Year 1A	Charlotte M	for having a positive attitude towards learning. Well done Charlotte!
Year 1B	Alannah N	for always being respectful and kind to all those in 1B.
Year 1F	Joshua N	for being a kind and caring friend to others. Well done!
Year 1H	Paul P	for his fantastic persuasive writing. Well done Paul!
Year 1K	Stella S	for always sharing her enthusiasm and love of learning with others. Well done, Stella!
Year 1S	Evangeline K	for being a good listener and for her valuable contributions to class discussions.
Year 2B	Ray Z	for the awesome effort at writing key information about the Lowland Gorillas. Well Done!
Year 2G	Nicole M	for working hard and always completing her work on time. Well done!
Year 2H	Elena G	for including all of the correct features in an information report.
Year 2I	Emily P	for always trying her best and giving new challenges a go. Well done!
Year 2P	Alex M	for using great locational language during Maths activities. Well done!
Year 2V	Dante D	for displaying a positive attitude towards his learning and being a responsible member of our class. Well done, Dante!
Year 3A	Tanya S	for being an enthusiastic and helpful member of the class!
Year 3D	Justino G	for being such a hardworking, diligent and focused student, particularly during remote learning time. Congratulations Justino!
Year 3N	Evan A	for his eagerness towards learning and extending his learning in Maths. Keep it up!
Year 3P	Alan J	for becoming more conscientious about his learning. Keep up the good work, Alan!
Year 3R	Hannah M	for making great inferences during reading. Well Done!
Year 3S	Gabriel B	for working well during learning time.
Year 4A	Ruby-Rose F	for having a positive attitude to her learning.
Year 4D	Anthony F	for his excellent work ethic across all areas of the curriculum. Keep up the amazing effort!
Year 4K	Jaanna J	for sharing her ideas in class discussions.
Year 4M	Jacob D	for coming to class with a positive attitude and completing all tasks on time this term.
Year 4N	Elissa N	for working hard on the presentation of her work and earning her pen licence.
Year 4S	Jerry G	for his polite manners. Well done and keep it up!
Year 5C	Maryna M	for working hard in all areas of her learning. Keep it up!
Year 5F	Katia V	for exceptional Home Learning work and a constant positive attitude.
Year 5H	Alyssa R	for showing resilience and working well with everyone in 5H. Well done!
Year 5N	Ann Maria J	for writing a fantastic persuasive text about Australia.
Year 5P	Petros C	for showing growth in all learning areas. Well done Petros!
Year 5T	Matthew M	for adapting to changes in school learning. Great work!
Year 6C	Caitlin C	for being an exceptional role model to her classmates and having the courage to speak up for herself.
Year 6F	Collin E	for demonstrating a strong work ethic during class to complete his work to a high standard. Well done Collin!
Year 6H	Toby K	for his fantastic efforts to prepare and revise for the fractions post test. Excellent work!
Year 6J	Jonathan D	for participating more in class discussions.
Year 6M	Angelina B	for always being a role model to her peers and having a smile on her face.
Year 6W	Isaiah B	for being such a hardworking student who has shown great improvement in his reading.

## Pupil of the Week

Prep	Jayden M	(PW)
Year 1	Alessia L	(1S)
Year 2	Jonah L	(2I)
Year 3	Alexander A	(3N)
Year 4	Leon U	(4N)
Year 5	Isabella D	(5T)
Year 6	Jordan T	(6J)

## Keys To Life Award

Prep	Jullio G (PW)	for Persistence
Year 1	Eva C (1S)	for Persistence
Year 2	Chikaima O (2I)	for Getting Along
Year 3	Chiedozie E (3N)	for Persistence
Year 4	Andrea P (4S)	for Organisation
Year 5	Chesna F (5T)	for Organisation
Year 6	Chloe K (6J)	for Organisation