

St. Mary's School, Altona

Newsletter 2019

95A Railway Street North, Altona 3018

Principal: David Kelly Phone: 9398 4842 www.smaltona.catholic.edu.au

Parish Priest: Archpriest Michael Kalka Phone: 9398 2964 altona@cam.org.au

No. 24 2nd August, 2019

Dear Parents

Please keep the following children and their families in your prayers as they prepare to receive the Sacrament of First Eucharist next Saturday 10th August or Saturday 17th August in a special Eucharistic celebration at 6.00 pm. in our Mary Help of Christians Church.

Ethan Agius, Skye Ahlgren, Xavier Azzopardi, Zara Azzopardi, William Bainger, Sophie Belton, Kayla Bond, Jackson Boyd, Amelia Callejo, Luca Devetak (Friday 9.15 am), Judah Didenkowski, Aaliyah Fallace, Kade Fenton, Lina Heffernan-Morales, Xavier Herd, Segolene Houlihan, Anderson Jack, Lorenzo Jimena, Jacquelyn Le, Isabelle Manguiat, Anika Manton, Tiana Matina, Isabella Meddis, Finian Mercer, Aiden Mitchell, Mark Morda, Zoe Nisbet, Lexi Robertson, Mason Schembri, Elisha Shafik-Eid, William Slattey, Daniel Surbevski, Liam Teh, Cooper Thomas, Oscar Thomson, Ashley Torre, Nathan Torre, Ryan Tucker and Ruby Williams.

UPDATE FROM THE PARISH PRIEST:

Dear Parents, Guardians and Friends,

I would like to comment on three matters which concern the Parish and the School, as these next few weeks will be important for our life together.

First: please pray for the members of our Interview Panel as we read documents, interview applicants, and make recommendations and decisions. Our priority is to find the best available person to be the next Principal of St. Mary's School. You may like to know that I have been involved in this confidential process in four other communities, and I will again follow the Catholic Education Office procedures carefully.

Second: after we know the name of our new Principal, I will then ask the Education Board to assist me in finding two parents to join the parish's Masterplan Committee.

Third: I will discuss the current enrolment policy with our new Principal, and the Education Board, with a view to making some changes in preparation for next year's enrolment interviews.

With my very best wishes,

Archpriest Michael Kalka

Parish Priest

August 1st, 2019

STEM / MAKER SPACE

To enhance our Inquiry topics this term, we have transformed the Computer Lab in the TRI Centre into a Maker Space. Classes will be able to come into the space and engage in hands-on, creative ways to design, experiment, build and invent as they deeply engage in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics. We are excited to see the space used in this way and also what the students create.

We have also purchased some new Sphero Bolt robots (thanks to a very generous grant from Mobil Refinery) that we will be using in the coming weeks during visual and performing arts classes for year 3-6 students. They will be using the robots to paint and create art pieces as well as code them to move to music. Many exciting things happening this term.

Don't forget our Family STEM night on Tuesday 13th August at 7pm. You will be able to see our Maker Space as well as test your skills using the Sphero Bolt robots. There will be many prizes to win on the night including some mini Spheros to use at home. Make sure it is on the calendar! An event not to be missed!

STAFF CONFERENCE:

On the Monday Fr Richard Leonard worked with us on the theme of: "What are we doing on Earth for Christ's sake? Our Religious Education Leader Matt Taylor has included a brief summary in the Education In Faith section of this newsletter.

On the Tuesday Andrea Downie from Project Thrive worked with us on "Evidenced-based application to build relationships, improve communication and foster empathy. We also took a look at Positive Psychology and using our strengths to further build a sense of community and build and sustain wellbeing. Both days were extremely thought provoking, informative, relevant and challenging.

FOOTY TIPPING:

Congratulations to Paul Taranto who correctly tipped all 9 winners last round. Your winnings can be collected from the school office. The Jackpot this week is \$5.00. With 4 rounds to go there are 11 people within 4 of the lead. Good Luck.

David Kelly
Principal

SAVE THE DATE: FAMILY BUSH DANCE THURSDAY 5TH SEPTEMBER – DETAILS TO FOLLOW



PARENTS & FRIENDS GENTLE REMINDER:

Don't forget to return your Raffle tickets by Friday August 16th. As per previous years, 75% of all funds raised by St Mary's during the raffle goes directly back to the school community, that's \$1.50 for every \$2.00 ticket sold. There are more than 100 prizes to be won by the lucky ticket winners- with the top ones as follows: 1. Holden Trax 1.4L Turbo Automatic valued at \$30,242.82 (including on-road costs). Gold Coast Family Holiday – 5 nights' accommodation & flight vouchers for four

people valued at \$2,995. 3. Full Day Abseiling for 6 people from Adventure Guides Australia valued at \$1,500. There are additional tickets books at the office if you sell out!!



When it comes to using sun protection, temperature isn't a good guide. You can't see or feel UV but UV is the part of the sun that can damage skin and eyes and lead to skin cancer. SunSmart advises that Victoria's UV levels start to rise from mid-August. Please remind your child to pack their hat and sunscreen so they have them if needed. For SunSmart information visit <https://www.sunsmart.com.au/communities/parents>



ST. MARY'S CHOIR

Firstly, I'd like to thank the Year 2 members of 1/2S and 1/2T who joined the choir for Term 2. You were all wonderful and enthusiastic singers. I look forward to seeing you all next year as permanent members of the St. Mary's School Choir.

As we farewell those students, we now welcome the Year 2 students from 1/2D and 1/2G who have chosen to join for Term 3. The Choir will be leading the singing at the First Eucharist Masses on Saturday 10th August at 6pm and Saturday 17th August at 6pm in the Church. We also have now been invited to lead the singing on Sunday, 1st September for our parish Father's Day Mass at 10.30am.

A NOTE HAS BEEN SENT VIA CAREMONKEY. Thank you to those who have responded already. Let's make these masses truly joyful with as many members as possible attending.

Mrs. Angela Hamilton
Performing Arts Specialist
ahamilton@smaltona.catholic.edu.au

TUCKSHOP HELPERS – Week Beginning 5th August 2019

Friday:

Cath Thorneycroft

Manager: Amy Xu

Tel: 9315 0799

CIRCULAR TO CATHOLIC SCHOOLS:

Updated key enrolment dates for Year 5 Students in 2019 starting Year 7 in 2021.

“Applications for Year 5 students commencing Year 7 on 2021 close on 23rd August 2019”



Feelings and Emotions

Emotional skills include being able to recognise, express, understand and manage a wide range of feelings. These skills are important for a child's ability to learn to interact successfully with others and the world around them.

Children who can understand and manage their feelings, stay calm and enjoy their experiences, are more likely to develop a positive sense of self and be better equipped to learn at school.

Children develop emotional skills through their relationships with the important people in their lives. They learn to manage their emotions and feelings by observing how others respond and how those important people react and respond to them.

Here are some ways to help your child manage his or her emotions:

- Soothe your child when they are upset. Be warm, caring and responsive to your child.
- Model effective ways to manage feelings e.g. "I'm feeling upset, I just need some time to calm down." Show your child that having difficult feelings is part of everyday life
- Encourage your child to talk about their feelings and to help them to explain why they are feeling that way. Problem solve ways to become calm and move on to more pleasant activities.
- Talk about feelings in every day conversations. Name feelings in yourself and others, not just focusing on feelings of sadness and anger, but also happiness, surprise and being excited. Link emotions to behaviours that occur during every day experiences e.g. ask your child how they felt when a particular thing happened.
- Try to understand the meaning of your child's behaviour and respond accordingly
- Teach children to consider the feelings of others e.g. show them how to comfort a child who has fallen over.

Shared book reading is also a great way to teach your child about feelings and emotions. Here are some tips for reading together:

- Encourage your child to think about how a character in the story might be feeling and why.
- Ask your child open ended questions to encourage him or her to connect with the story on a deeper level e.g. "Why does the boy feel sad?"
- Discuss with your child what the character could do calm down or feel better.
- Study the facial expressions of the characters and describe how they might be feeling by the way they look e.g. down turned lips indicate sad or upset; furrowed brow indicates confused or angry. Both you and your child could copy these facial expressions in the mirror.
- Link characters' emotions to your child's previous experiences e.g. "Remember the time when you fell over, you felt sad. What did we do to make you feel better? Do you think that would help the character in the story to feel better too?"
- Re-enact the story! Children gain a more sophisticated understanding of a story by acting it out.

EDUCATION IN FAITH

Eucharist



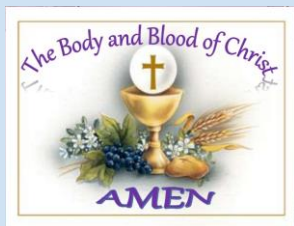
Eucharist: –
Shared meal:
Tuesday 6th August.
School Hall:
6:00 pm – 7:30 pm

Just a reminder that on Tuesday, 6th of August we will celebrate our First Eucharist Shared Meal evening in the school hall, starting at **6pm.**

Each family is asked to bring a **Meal Ready-To-Go** together with any **serving** utensils required. Also, B.Y.O. drinks and cups.

Plates, serviettes and cutlery will be provided.

Eucharist: - Sacrament
Saturday, 10th August, 6 pm
Saturday, 17th August, 6 pm



Seating will be reserved in the church for EACH FAMILY. Your reserved pew will be marked by a "Seat End" that will be made at a workshop following the shared meal.

Special Dates

6 Aug Feast of the Transfiguration of the Lord
6 Aug Hiroshima Day
8 Aug Solemnity of St Mary of the Cross (MacKillop)
9 Aug International Day of the World's Indigenous Peoples
15 Aug Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary (Holy Day of Obligation)

Weekly Class Masses

We look forward to Thursday the 8th of August, when we will celebrate the Feast of Mary MacKillop with a whole school mass in the church at 9:15 am lead by the children of 5/6T.



We then look forward to Friday 9th Aug, when Year 5/6C will lead the celebration of the Mass at 9:15 am. This will also be a celebration of Luca Devetak's First Holy Communion and Year 3/4HT will be in attendance.

We welcome you warmly to these events and would love to see you there.

This weekend's Gospel

Luke 12: 13–21



To whom will all this wealth of yours go?

Staff Professional Learning Day



On Monday 29th July, our St Mary's staff attended a spirituality day presented by Fr. Richard Leonard sj. The theme of the day was, "What are we doing on Earth for Christ's sake?"

Fr. Richard challenged us in our thinking and highlighted the importance of Faith in developing

a sense of belonging and providing a strong base for good mental health.

This is the third time Fr. Richard has worked with our staff and each time his knowledge and understanding, his wisdom and wit, his storytelling and humility have left us all the better for having spent time with him.

PLEASE PRAY FOR:

- * Our students who are beginning their preparations for their First Eucharist.
- * All members of our community who are sick or in need of our prayerful support.



"We must teach more by example than by word." (1867)

WILLIAMSTOWN MUSICAL THEATRE COMPANY

WILLIAMSTOWN MUSICAL THEATRE COMPANY'S
PRODUCTION OF

Disney
Aladdin JR.



2 - 11 AUGUST 2019
CENTENARY THEATRE, WILLIAMSTOWN

TICKET BOOKINGS
WMTC.ORG.AU OR 1300 881 545

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INFORMATION MORNING

NOTRE DAME CAMPUS

Saturday 10 August
9.00am - 10.00am

Pursuing personal best



Emmanuel College
LIFE TO THE FULL

Notre Dame Campus
2-40 Foxwood Drive
Point Cook
Ph: 8325 5100
www.ecmelb.catholic.edu.au

INFORMATION MORNING

ST PAUL'S CAMPUS

Saturday 10 August
10.30am - 11.30am

Pursuing personal best



Emmanuel College
LIFE TO THE FULL

St Paul's Campus
423 Blackshaw Rd
Altona North
Ph: 8325 5100
www.ecmelb.catholic.edu.au

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ALTONA KINDERGARTEN

COMMUNITY FETE



SATURDAY
31ST AUGUST

KIDS
\$12
ENTRY

10 AM
TO
3 PM

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RAFFLE PRIZES ★ CRAFT ACTIVITIES ★ GAMES

GIZMO THE GREAT MAGICIAN

89 BLYTH ST, ALTONA