



ST PETER'S CATHOLIC PARISH PRIMARY SCHOOL

Thursday 16th September 2021, Week 10, Term 3

NEWSLETTER

School Vision

St Peter's is a faith filled and inclusive community that embraces diversity. We aspire to engage and empower all to think critically and act justly, guided by our catholic values, on our journey as lifelong learners.

Good afternoon St Peter's Community,

It is with much pride that we present to our community our new school vision. The vision was a collaborative effort involving staff, students and our school advisory board. This is the vision that will drive our new chapter at St Peter's, Epping.

It has been another challenging term of learning for our community. I am immensely proud of the resilience displayed by our students, staff and families. We have faced a challenging lock down and there continues to be uncertainty as to when school will return on site. Our teachers have planned for remote learning and onsite learning when Term 4 starts.

Many of our families have borrowed devices to assist with remote learning.

We kindly ask that families store these items in a safe place during the two week break. We will wait for direction from the Victorian Government as to how the learning platform will look in Term 4 and the schedule for return to school.

Assessment and Reporting

Naplan results have been sent home this week via Australia Post. Please keep a lookout in your letter box. Revisiting what was explained last week - the NAPLAN results are a snapshot of the students learning. We have introduced a number of new initiatives into our learning spaces this year to improve our student growth.

The school leadership team has started to unpack the data and the teaching team meetings will work through the data next term. Please contact the classroom teacher if you have any questions about the results.

In Term 4 the school reports will be sent home electronically as they were mid term. Please contact the school if you require a paper / hard copy.

School uniform

We are currently exploring options for the school uniform for 2022. I have met with Academy Uniforms and asked for some samples to have more gender friendly options for our students.

1. Remove the woolen jumper and replace with a zip neck long sleeve warm top
2. Introduce a skort / shorts for girls in summer to wear with a polo shirt
3. The sports uniform will remain unchanged as will the pale blue polo shirt
4. The school dress and winter tunic will remain - however students will have the option to wear trousers in winter and shorts in summer

I will share more information next term as options become available for viewing. A google form survey will also be sent home in Term 4 to include community voice in the decision making. Please note there will be a 2-3 year transition period if the changes go ahead.

School fees

I kindly ask that 2021 school fees are finalised asap. If your family is experiencing hardship can you please arrange a meeting and we can discuss payment options.

School office: 9401 1157 or email me atonkin@stprepp.catholic.edu.au

Sacramental arrangements

Unfortunately the Confirmation and Eucharist celebrations have been postponed. The three schools and St Peter's Parish will meet next term when hopefully we have more clarity around the lifting of restrictions for religious celebrations.



Term 4 commences on Monday 4th of October

Students are able to wear their summer uniform. There is a 2 week transition period between summer and winter uniforms in Term 4. With the return of this lovely sunny weather school hats must be worn outside beginning from week one.

2022 Year Level Placements

If your child is not returning to St Peter's, Epping in 2022 please inform me via email atonkin@stprepp.catholic.edu.au as soon as possible. This information will be used to assist in preparation for classes given the demand for places in a number of year levels in 2022.

We are currently taking Prep enrolments for 2022 and 2023.



Kindest Regards, Angela Tonkin

Parent Committee News

On Wednesday 25th August the Advisory Board gathered for their monthly meeting via zoom. Some great discussions were held around all things happening at St Peters. Covid has seen many changes introduced into the school and many new challenges for our kids, these are all being monitored closely to ensure our children are learning as best as possible. These challenges have been met with great excitement and open arms by our kids. We have celebrated Science week and Book week with great enthusiasm. Discussion around class sizes and teacher allocations, as well as a new Cyber Safety policy was tabled. Dates around eucharist and confirmation are still being proposed to enable these sacraments to continue this year.

Regards
Mick Brancatisano

The Week in Review

Book Week

On Wednesday 25th August the children celebrated book week and all things 'Literacy'. The children were invited to dress up as a favourite character from a book. As you can see from the movie clip that has been put together by our literacy leader Mrs Gatt, the children wholeheartedly embraced this opportunity and enjoyed this wonderful celebration. Thank you Melissa for arranging this for our students.

View on our school facebook / instagram page:

[St Peter's Virtual Book Parade 2021](#) don't forget to like us!



St Peter's Community - We miss you and *we'll be there for you!* Please click below:

[A special message for our St Peter's Community \(Facebook\)](#)

[A special message for our St Peter's Community \(Instagram\)](#)

Prep News

First of all, we would just like to thank and congratulate all our wonderful prep students for their hard work this term. Despite it being a challenge, we have still had so much fun! Each day you have displayed great resilience, strength and enthusiasm to your learning. We are so proud of how each of you have completed Remote Learning - you have become absolute superstars on the Google Classroom attending your live lessons and turning in your learning tasks. We are so proud of how you have continued to flourish and grow in this time.

We extend an enormous **THANK YOU** to our wonderful prep families and sincerely appreciate the way you have supported our students on this unique adventure.

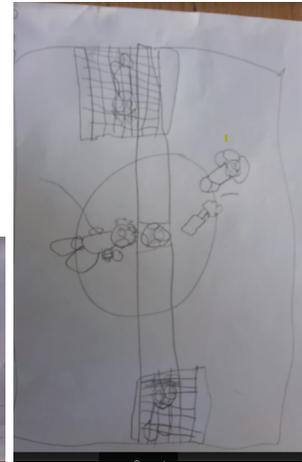
We cannot wait to reunite in the classroom, till then we wish you a wonderful and safe school holiday break! See you in Term 4 superstars!

With Love, Your Prep Teachers xx



In Prep we have been learning about Location in Remote Learning. We have listened to some directional drawing instructions and copied these to make pictures. Some of us have tested out our families and given them instructions to follow to try and create the same drawings we have made.

In writing we have been creating posters and books all about how to keep our bodies healthy. We have been using our Big Book to gather facts. Using this information we are using the features of non-fiction text to create amazing illustrations that are labelled and subheadings to tell our friends and readers about what the information is all about.



Middles News



Last week, Emma Coughlin from 3/4CM received an award for raising over \$500 in the MS Readathon. Emma's love of reading means that she has contributed to the over \$2million that has been raised so far for people living with multiple sclerosis. "The best part of the readathon was that I was able to raise money for people with MS", Emma proudly said.

You're a star!

Great job Emma, St Peters is proud of you!

The Middles have also been sharing their number fluency skills through fun math games with their families. They have loved playing games such as 'paddocks' and 'get out of my house'

Seniors News

Last week the Seniors celebrated R U OK Day exploring the importance of checking in on mates, identifying the trusted people they can turn to in times of need and the role they can play in helping others. Some of their thoughts are captured in the following scenarios.

Emily was told she couldn't be part of a dance group because she came late.



If I saw Emily like that I would approach and ask her if she is ok and why are you crying and if she doesn't respond I would ask the teacher to come and comfort her and I would make sure there is not a huge crowd around her

No one approached Emily to see if she was OK. What could you have done?

LUKE

Jackson is playing soccer with a group of boys who always play together on weekends. One boy keeps pushing him around and telling him not to move and Jackson becomes very upset.



Hey Jackson, I saw what happened and you shouldn't worry about those guys. There are plenty of other people that are playing soccer right now. You should go over and play with those other people playing.



MANUELA

Who are the people you can turn to if you need help or something is

troubling you?

- My best friend Steffi. She will make me happy when things go wrong. - Thimashi
- My brother because I think he would be able to relate more to me than my parents and if it was a school problem then he only finished school 4 years ago so he would understand- Luke
- You can turn to: friends, a coach, family members, therapist, teacher, a trusted adult or parents- Marcus\

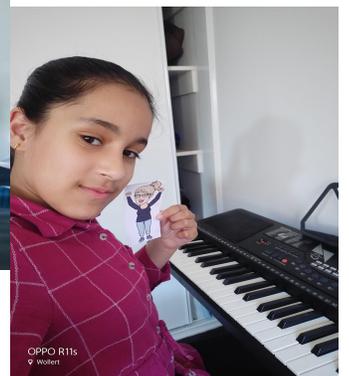
The Senior teachers were missing their students so much that they flattened and mailed themselves to their students. Here are some of the adventures they went on.



Making pancakes with Daniel and Marcus



Watching a movie and getting some exercise



Playing the piano with Rajdeep and meeting her stuffed toy



Where we can go and what we can do during these holidays may be limited, but that does not mean to say it has to be less fun! Whilst we encourage all students to spend lots of time outdoors, there may be times when the weather isn't great. Here are some back up options to see you through!

Saturday Night Magic - Extended lockdown special

Join Tim Ellis, member of the Australian Institute of Magic and Artistic Director and founder of The Melbourne Magic Festival, this **Saturday 18th September** for a fun night of magic for the whole family to enjoy together. Tickets start from free up to \$10 for the family.

Be quick as tickets sell out fast! <https://www.trybooking.com/events/landing?eid=810386&>

Queen Victoria Market

Throughout the September school holidays QVM will be hosting FREE online kid's cooking workshops <https://qvm.com.au/whatson/free-kids-cooking-workshops-with-foost/>

Go Noodle

GoNoodle kids dancing designed to get kids moving and to reinforce awareness of the positive effects of exercise.

<https://www.gonoodle.com/>

Art Play at Home

Explore a range of ArtPlay activities at home ranging from puppetry to creative writing, music to drawing – all developed by artists – for a range of ages and interests. Access videos online or download activity sheets and be prompted by artists to think about your home, surroundings and routines in new creative ways. For ages up to 13 years.

<https://www.melbourne.vic.gov.au/arts-and-culture/artplay/whats-on/artplay-at-home/pages/creative-prompts.aspx>

The Art Gallery

There are great opportunities for students to explore artworks and some fun activities to do.

<https://www.ngv.vic.gov.au/>

Melbourne Zoo

Bring the zoo to life from anywhere around the world with live cams, Keeper Talks and other virtual updates.

<https://www.zoo.org.au/animals-at-home/>



Scienceworks Museum

Take a virtual tour of our exhibitions, hear from a museum expert, dive into learning resources or get inspired by a range of family-friendly activities.

<https://museumsvictoria.com.au/scienceworks/at-home/>

Museum at Home

Lots on offer to keep curious minds busy and creative.

<https://museumsvictoria.com.au/melbournemuseum/at-home/play/>

The Resilience Project GEM TV

Gratitude, Empathy and Mindfulness (GEM)

An engaging and energetic video platform focussed on student wellbeing.

<https://theresilienceproject.com.au/at-home/gem-tv/>

Big Life Journal

Big Life Kids podcast helps children develop a GROWTH MINDSET!

Join Leo and Zara as they explore the world, discover growth mindset strategies, and hear inspiring stories of real-life role-models who've overcome real challenges.

<https://biglifejournal.com/pages/podcast>

Games to Teach Social Skills	
Try This Game...	To Teach...
1 Jenga	Self-Control
2 Team Pictionary	Teamwork
3 Chess	Decision-Making
4 Charades	Social Cues
5 Guess Who?	Conversations
6 Candy Land	Turn Taking
7 Scrabble	Flexibility
8 "Feelings" Uno	Emotions

Board Games and Social Skills

The benefits of board games and jigsaw puzzles:

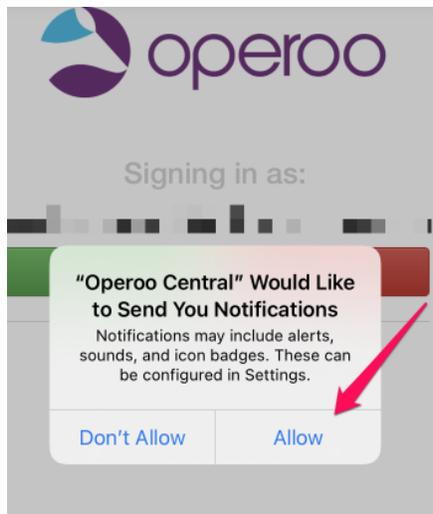
- Board games offer opportunities for early learning
- They get kids' brains buzzing.
- They boost their language skills
- They sharpen your child's focus
- They teach the value of teamwork
- Board games are an alternative to time out
- Board games soothe anxiety
- They show kids how to be a good loser
- Board games are a great way to unplug



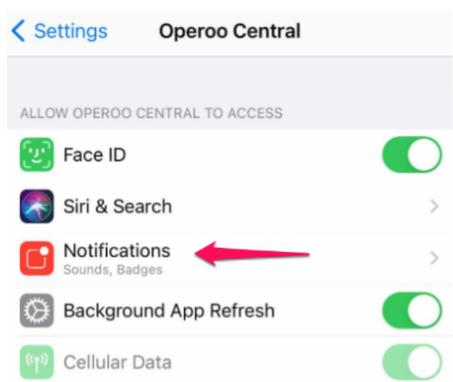
Operoo is an essential form of communication between our school and parents. 'Push notifications' will notify parents when the school has posted parent communication. To receive push notifications you will need to have the latest version of the app installed.

You can learn how to do this here: [How to download the Operoo Central mobile application](#)

Please ensure that you 'allow push notifications'.



Alternatively this can be done manually via your phone settings > open the Operoo Central app >select notifications > allow notifications.



Have your contact details changed?

Please don't forget to inform the school office if your personal contact details need updating, phone numbers, address, email etc. It is important we are able to contact either parent / guardian in the event of an emergency and will ensure communications are directed to the correct contact.

An email can be sent to office@stprepp.catholic.edu.au



Real life

One of the greatest privileges of working at Woman's Day is hearing from you, our readers. As coronavirus continues to cause disruption and heartache across the nation, it's been the stories of mateship that we have found most inspiring. This week, it is my great pleasure to launch our latest campaign - It's time to say thank you. Over the coming weeks we will share with you some of the most heart-warming stories of friendship and selflessness from across the country during the pandemic, giving everyday Aussies the chance to thank the ones who have got them through. We're also asking you to share your own stories of gratitude (see over the page). To everyone who has done their bit, no matter how big or small, to help someone else through this tough time, we say thank you.

ERIN HOLOHAN
EDITOR

Wanda, Digital Assistant



New nurse Elodie is grateful for her colleague's support during the pandemic

When Elodie Bailey began nursing in early 2020 she had no idea she'd soon be working in a pandemic. But for the new graduate, working on Melbourne's COVID-19 wards alongside more experienced colleagues made her challenging new job less daunting.

One co-worker, registered nurse Stephanie Molinaro, became a good friend and Elodie, 23, credits her for helping her through the toughest days. "Seeing Stephanie's warm eyes and hearing a friendly voice made the hard days easier," she says. "She'd regularly check in and ask how I was going. I can't say 'thank you' enough."

Unable to see each other's faces through the layers of personal protective equipment, the nurses formed a strong friendship as they worked across several hospitals on wards treating COVID-19.

Elodie was often bedside as her patients took their last breath. "It was very emotionally draining. On a daily basis, families would have to watch their loved ones take their last breath via video call and I would sit there holding their hands as they passed," she remembers.

But Stephanie, 24, was always there to support and comfort Elodie. "She helped me navigate the physical and emotional burden and she reassured

me that this wasn't what nursing was usually like."

Stephanie also found that their friendship became a much appreciated part of her day. "Having a friend like Elodie is a blessing," she says. "We're able to lean on each other and lift each other up. Having people who you feel supported by in these hard moments is irreplaceable."

As Australia finds itself under lockdown yet again, Elodie - who was working on a post-surgery ward with Stephanie - is back on the frontline. "It's always daunting... my heart went out to all the healthcare workers when case numbers rose - stay strong!"

TURN PAGE FOR MORE

Woman's Day 33

Grade 5/6 teacher Jane Molinaro's daughter - Stephanie featured in this Woman's Day article. Stephanie is a nurse working in the COVID ward at the Royal Melbourne Hospital



Melbourne Archdiocese Catholic Schools - School Improvement Surveys (MACSSIS)

Due to the significant interruptions posed to schools by the current COVID lockdown, and after careful consideration of several factors including extensive feedback from school communities, MACSSIS will be postponed to the period from Thursday 7 October to Thursday 28 October 2021. Further details to follow

Report a School Absence

If you know that your child is going to be away in advance please send an email to their class teacher or visit our school website and click the Quick Links tab to fill out the [Report an Absence form](#).

If it is an unexpected absence please ring the front office on 9401 1157 and let Claire or Deb know.



Feedback

We are always looking for ways to improve our school community - please email our principal Mrs Angela Tonkin if you have suggestions or feedback you would like to share. Thank you atonkin@stprepp.catholic.edu.au
All emails will be acknowledged.



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