



# St Joseph's School Uralla Newsletter



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1 APR 2020  
TERM 1 WEEK 10

## PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Dear Parents

### Online Learning

Congratulations to all our parents and students on the great effort you have all put in with your 'online learning', it's not an easy task, but be rest assured we are only an email or a phone call away. The most important thing to remember about this temporary online learning is that it simply isn't school. Your children will not be as focused as they are at school. Lessons are not expected to be as professional as the ones they're used to getting at school. And as the government is encouraging everyone to self-distance, socialization will be tough. The online learning which we are delivering, is trying to keep some normality in your child's day. Simply to maintain the basics of English, Maths and Religion and allow our students to 'socialise' online with their friends and classmates.

I would like to specifically thank the staff for how they have transitioned from face to face teaching to online learning in such a short period of time. Their key focus has always been "our students", not only the academic aspect of their learning but also their wellbeing. It's very important to us that our students and our families are supported and that they feel part of our community. St Joseph's prides itself on being a community-centred school looking out for all its members. I am amazed at the way our staff have responded to the challenge of delivering their lessons using online learning. The collaboration between staff members and their support for each other has been outstanding.

As we may have to continue with 'online learning' next term I am asking for your feedback to refine what we are currently doing to service the educational needs of you and your child. I am currently putting a survey together for parents, teachers and students so we can reflect on how we are all travelling and set goals on where to next. How can we improve what we are doing in order to further support the education of your child? I will be sending the surveys out through emails on Friday and would ask that you complete them by close of business on Monday 6th April so we have time to review and alter our routines ready for Term 2. Thank you for your support in this matter.

Please take the time to celebrate your child's and your own successes. Take the time to talk and play with your children. Make time for family fun, physical activity, being creative and talking. This time should be viewed as an opportunity for you to strengthen your relationship with your children and the family unit as a whole. Just do the best that you can!

Next Wednesday and Thursday will be streamlined to allow staff to plan the next term's lesson delivery. We will have a Zoom chat with the students at 9:00am on Wednesday and Thursday.

There will be a final Zoom session with the students at 2:30pm on Thursday for a short prayer and farewell for the school holidays.

### Fees Reprieve during COVID-19

Today, all parents should have received an email from the office to let you know that our school and indeed all of the Catholic schools in the Diocese of Armidale wish to alleviate any worries parents may have about paying school fees during this troubled time. We understand the pressure being placed on families, especially those who are still reeling from the effects of the drought and may now be facing the threat of job losses or cuts to income. We can assure you that we are more concerned about the wellbeing of our parents and families than we are about the collection of school fees. Please read the email and its attached letter and if you feel the need to contact me, please feel free to do so.

### Welcome to our New Student

Last week we welcomed a new student, Shakira Cracknell to the Year 6 class. Shakira is yet to meet her schoolmates as her commencement coincided with the COVID-19 precautions. She and her family look forward to meeting everyone in the near future. In the meantime, we welcome Shakira and her family to the "virtual" Joey's community online!

*Kind regards*  
*Judy Elks*

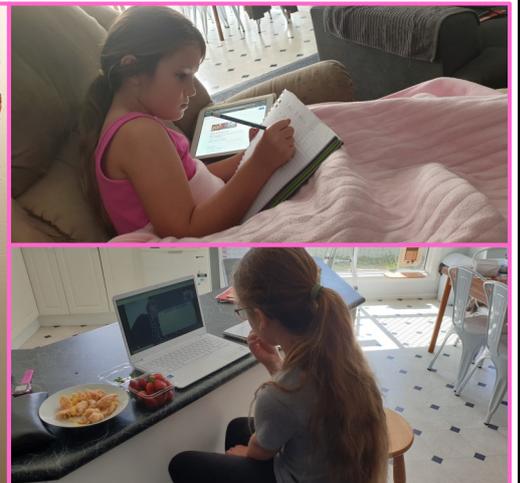
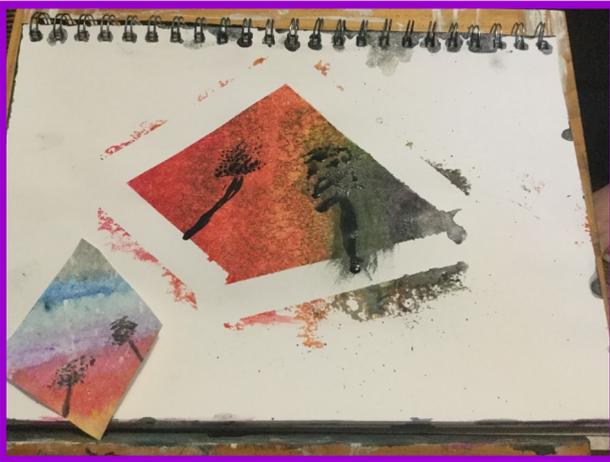
"This is the BIGGEST beetroot I have ever seen! I pulled it from our garden and fed it to the chickens."  
*Harry*



"Harry and I made a model of the solar system and we learnt fun facts about each planet."  
*Maya*



Here is some beautiful artwork by Charlotte.



"Sam at work via zoom and classroom - and a poster she did during art time last week. As you can see she's enjoying home learning (especially all day food access) - she misses school though."  
*Fiona Munzenrieder*

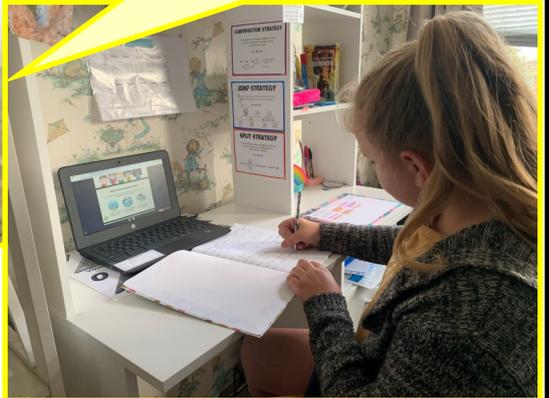


"Sienna busy reading; Riley drawing a picture from a book he read about a little dozer; Charlotte & Riley skip counting in tens."  
*Kylie Garside*





"Hi my name is Shakira. I am new to Joeys. I am enjoying learning from home, I haven't had the chance to meet you all as of yet but I am enjoying seeing all your faces over our zoom meetings. Here is a photo of my learning environment at home. Can't wait to meet you all!"



"He's had a brilliant week, lots to do but it has been lovely seeing him learn first-hand. The teachers have made this process easy for us parents with their organized timetable schedule, zoom calls, Chromebook laptop, online learning applications and the very impressive backpack full of goodies. It is also laying a positive foundation for Harry's little sister Lydia who is observing it all and doing similar projects too."

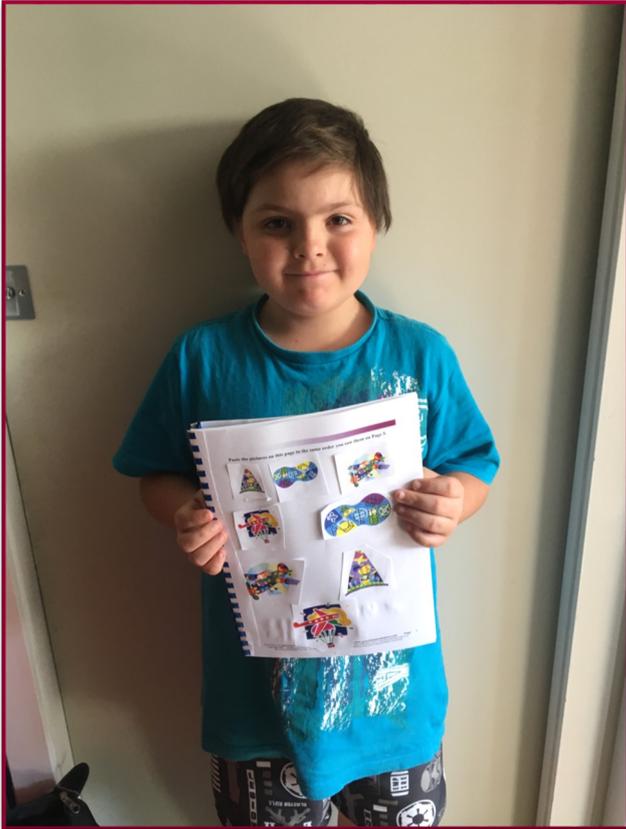
*Jocelyn St Clair*

"Hi Miss Kelly this is my cave. It is made with blankets and pillows. I feel, excited, creative, happy, scared if I really was stuck in a cave by myself, brave. Once upon a time when I was bigger, I was stuck in a cave by myself but I wasn't scared I was feeling brave I was excited to explore my cave and happy I didn't find a monster."

*Mackenna*



"Here is Ethan spending some time riding."  
Steph Wooldridge



Nigel showing his Precision Academic work.

"The Wallace family being constructive and building their own little study cave."  
Michael Wallace



### Just for Today

God grant me patience with  
The changes that take time  
An appreciation for all that  
I have,  
Tolerance of those with  
Different struggles, and the  
Strength to get up and  
Try again,  
One day at a time.  
Amen

### Dates to Remember

#### CANTEEN NEWS

We hope to have the menu plan for next term available in the next newsletter.

#### BIRTHDAYS

3 Apr: Sam Munzenrieder

