



St Joseph's School Uralla Newsletter



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27 MAY 2020
TERM 2 WEEK 5

Dear Parents

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

I would like to welcome all our students back to full time learning. Since returning, our teachers have been assessing our students to see how they progressed through the remote learning period and I'm pleased to say that they have all come through okay. All students have made progress! Thanks again to our teachers for the great job they did in zooming and setting home tasks for our students. Our teachers and students were very unfamiliar with zooming before we started and we have all learnt a lot. Thanks also to our parents in supporting your child with their remote learning. This was a team effort!

Semester 1 Reporting

Due to the huge disruption caused by COVID-19 to the normal ways in which we usually benchmark and assess our students during Terms 1 and 2, our Semester 1 Reports this year will be held as a **Three Way Parent/Teacher/Student Conference and Learning Plan**. We believe this will give you a more meaningful assessment of your child's learning achievements for the semester.

These formal conferences will be scheduled during Weeks 9 and 10. During conferences there will be discussion around student engagement prior, during and post remote learning. Student learning will be discussed, such as achievements or milestones reached in learning, including asking students and parents for their perception of learning growth and milestones. A plan will be developed for students with clearly articulated and agreed upon next steps for their learning in Semester 2. These interviews will be documented and access to these will be available to parents through Compass.

More information will be shared with you on this process over the next few weeks.

Compass Portal for Parents IMPORTANT

By now you should have all received some emails via the new Compass Portal for parents. You should have also received your invitation to access the portal with your personal login and password (please ensure you keep them confidential and secure). **If you have not been able to log into the portal, please contact the school office and we will assist you with it. If you have not yet tried logging in, could we please ask that you do.**

It is very important that each family have one parent accessing and using the Parent Portal. **As from 1st June, this will become the main communication network between parents and school with regard to student attendance and roll marking as well as parent/teacher/student reporting.**

Please read further information included in this newsletter about how to download the Compass App onto your mobile phone as well as how to complete attendance (absence) notes for your child. Please ensure that you notify the school of any changes to your email addresses or phone numbers during the last month.

Hygiene Protocols in Place at School

Thank you for your cooperation in staying outside the school gates for student drop-off and pick-up. The safety of everyone within our school community is paramount. Teachers are ensuring that students sanitize their hands upon arrival at school as well as throughout the day. Congratulations to all our students who have been cooperating with these arrangements and for practicing good hand hygiene and giving each other space where possible.

Please remember that if you need to take your child out of school before the end of the school day, simply phone the school to make arrangements for collection at the school gate.

Welcome

Last week we welcomed a new student, Charlie Jeffers, into the K-2 classroom. We look forward to welcoming the rest of Charlie's family (parents Tiffany & Lachlan and siblings Hamish, Aubrey & Maisey) into the Joey's school community when the restrictions are eased and we can come together as a community again.

Kind regards
Judy Elks

NATIONAL RECONCILIATION WEEK
27 MAY - 3 JUNE

This morning our school marked National Reconciliation Week with a small ceremony acknowledging Country and raising the Aboriginal flag.



“ Today we stand in footsteps millennia old. May we acknowledge the traditional custodians of this land the Anaiwan people, whose cultures and customs have nurtured, and continue to nature, this land, since men and women awoke from the great dream. We honour the presence of these ancestors who reside in the imagination of this land and whose irrepressible spirituality flows through all creation.”



IN AND AROUND THE CLASSROOM

3/4/5/6

In Year 3/4/5/6 we begin our new unit The Age of Exploration. The students are to embark on a journey of the early explorers. The Age of Exploration is a name given to the years from around 1400—1700. It was a time when many explorers, navigators and traders left Europe and Asia in search of new lands. We will be sharing some of these informative texts with you.

Jade and Sienna helping out with composting.

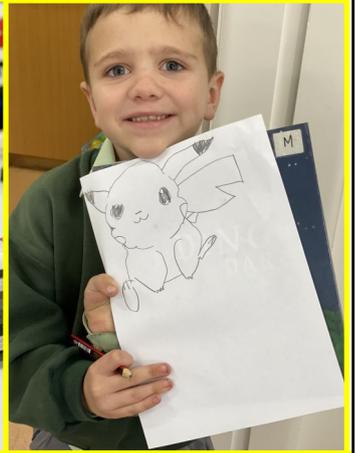
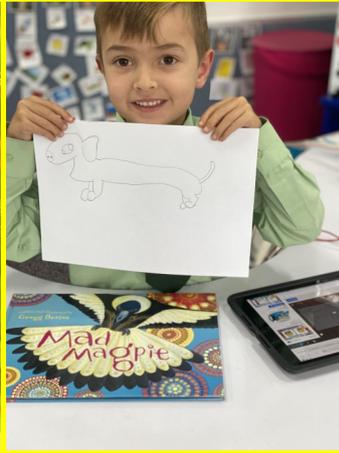
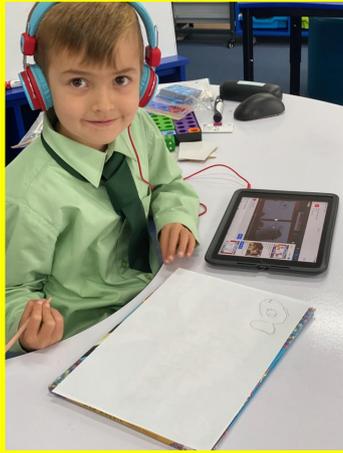
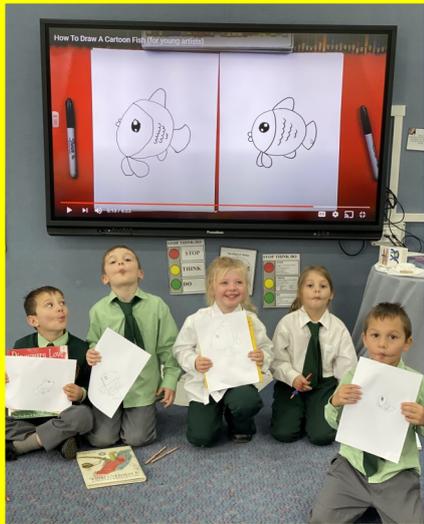


Our little helpers in the garden.



IN AND AROUND THE CLASSROOM - Continued

K/1/2



RE NEWS

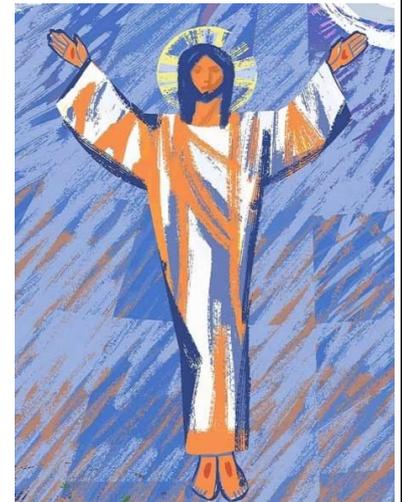
Last Sunday we celebrated the Feast of the Ascension.

Jesus said to the disciples to go and tell everyone about him and baptise them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Jesus assured the disciples before he ascended...

“And I will be with you always, to the end of the age.”
- Mathew 28:18-20

This Sunday we will celebrate Pentecost Sunday!

Mrs Finlayson - (REC)



SPECIAL REPORT: CORONAVIRUS - THE TRANSITION BACK

As lockdown restrictions are slowly being lifted to varying degrees, we enter a time of transition and adjustment. The circumstances of this situation have significantly impacted us all. For some it has been an opportunity to reflect on what is important, whilst others have embraced the opportunity to learn new things.

Many young people may be excited at the prospect of restrictions being lifted; others may feel mixed emotions. Reactions will differ depending on how well they cope with stress and change. Keeping a check on your child's mental health and wellbeing as they adjust to new routines, will be vitally important.

There is still a lot of uncertainty ahead of us, so focusing on the things you can control or enjoy doing or even value, can help establish predictability and familiarity for the whole family. Adult carers need to provide young people with reassurance by acknowledging any concerns and fears they may have at this time. Consider this to be a normal reaction, however it may be best to focus more on their feelings and emotions, rather than the practicalities at this stage.

In this Special Report, we share a few ideas to help ease this time of transition and adjustment. We hope you take time to reflect on the information offered in this Special Report, and as always, we welcome your feedback.

If you do have any concerns about the wellbeing of your child, please contact the school for further information or seek medical or professional help.

Here is the link to your special report:

https://stjosephsuralla.catholic.schooltv.me/wellbeing_news/special-report-coronavirus-transition-back

Dates to Remember

**Wed 27 May till
 Wed 3 June:**

**National
 Reconciliation
 Week**

**Sun 31 May:
 Pentecost Sunday**

**Mon 8 June:
PUBLIC HOLIDAY**

**Wed 22 July:
 Transition Starts**

BIRTHDAYS

**27 May:
 Ethan Wooldridge**

