



St Joseph's School Uralla Newsletter



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10 MAR 2021
TERM 1 WEEK 7

Dear Parents

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

COVID-19 Protocols Update

This week we received an update on the COVID-19 protocols for schools. Catholic Schools NSW, the state government health authorities and the Catholic Schools Office Armidale keep us informed of any changes as they arise. Listed below is a summary:

- ◆ Assemblies are permitted but should be limited to less than an hour where possible. Parent/carers and special guests may be invited however must comply with physical distancing and personal hygiene requirements at all times.
- ◆ Water bubblers are permitted to be used in schools. Students are encouraged to bring water bottles from home that they can refill.
- ◆ Students are permitted to attend aged care facilities following COVID-safe requirements.
- ◆ Meetings: Schools must comply with the general COVID-19 advice for meetings and Professional Learning in addition to the measures listed below: • Non-school based staff and visitors can attend subject to adherence to physical distancing and hygiene requirements.
- ◆ Visitors to school: Diocesan staff are permitted to visit schools and deliver services. Physical distancing and hygiene requirements must be adhered to
- ◆ Visitors including parents/carers are welcome in our schools
- ◆ Visitors must comply with sign-in arrangements
- ◆ Visitors must be excluded if unwell, even with the mildest of COVID-19 symptoms
- ◆ Visitors must maintain 1.5m physical distance from other adults (including staff) and other visitors when on the school site and at school pick-up and drop-off times where practicable.
- ◆ P & C meetings and events are permitted on school sites with COVID-19 Safety Plan in place and taking into the account the following COVID safe requirements: Visitors are to sign in and out on arrival and departure. Visitors must comply with personal hygiene and physical distancing requirements. Meetings should be limited to less than an hour where possible.

SAC Meeting

The School Advisory Council will have its first meeting and AGM next Monday 15 March at 6:40pm. The meeting will run under COVID safe protocols: all participants must comply with physical distancing and hand hygiene requirements at all times.

PT&F Meeting

Next Wednesday 17 March at 5:00pm we will have our first PT&F meeting and AGM for the year. If you would like to nominate yourself or someone else to take on a role, please do so before the night (nomination forms are available from the school office). I would encourage you to attend this meeting as it is an opportunity for you to be a part of what we are doing and also to meet other parents within our school community. The staff will also have a short input session talking about the Big Write.

The meeting will run under COVID safe protocols: all participants must comply with physical distancing and hand hygiene requirements at all times.

The Feast of St Joseph

Friday 19th March is the Feast of St Joseph and as he is the patron saint of our school, we will be celebrating his Feast Day with Mass and some special activities. As this year also marks 200 years of Catholic School education in Australia we will be incorporating that into our celebrations. Our students are invited to come dressed as a school child of the 1800s (see this link for some ideas <https://www.pinterest.com.au/Mifarrington/olden-days-dress-up-ideas/>). We are planning some fun activities and will cater for lunch with a sausage sizzle. More details and a program for the day will be provided in next week's newsletter.

Kind regards
Judy Elks

IN AND AROUND THE CLASSROOM
3/4/5/6 - BIG Write

We are trialling a great new program called "BIG Write" to help improve our students writing. The idea of BIG Write is; *'if the children can't say it, they can't write it'*. We need to encourage the development of oral language and listening skills in order to develop children's writing ability. The students will complete a BIG Write every Thursday.

To prepare our students for the BIG write they will be given 'talk homework' on Wednesday. We ask that the whole family supports this 'talk' by discussing the sent home topic with your child. The idea is to help your child clarify their thoughts and ideas before they write on Thursday. More information on BIG Write will be shared at the PT&F meeting.

BIG WRITE
 Every Thursday is a Big Write session.
 On **Wednesday** please have a chat with your child
 These questions may help with your discussion...

- What is the topic for Big Write?
- What are you going to write about?
- What are your ideas?
- What are you unsure of?
- What type of text are you writing?
- How can I help?

ORIENTEERING



COMMUNITY NEWS

AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT MOBILE SERVICE CENTRE - Serving Regional Australia

Visit the Mobile Service Centre to find out about Australian Government payments and services for rural families, older Australians, students, job seekers, people with disability, carers, farmers and self-employed people.

Information about Department of Veterans' Affairs programs and support services for veterans and their families will also be available.

Staff can provide you with information and support. They can also help you create a myGov account. myGov is a simple and secure way to access government services online.

Where: Uralla, near the Information Centre, Salisbury Street.

When: Monday 15 March 2021 9am to 4pm & Tuesday 16 March 2021 9am to 4pm

For more information, go to servicesaustralia.gov.au/mobileoffice



The National Drought and Flood Agency will be joining the Australian Government Mobile Service Centre on **Tuesday 16 March**. They can provide information and assistance for those living through the immediate and longer-term effects of drought, floods, COVID-19 and other major challenges. MSCs offer face-to-face access to information about government payments and services.

Application forms for Rotary vouchers (to the value of \$500) will be available to primary producers, farmers, farm workers and contractors, as well as information regarding additional payments and sources of funding. For more information contact:

Sandy McNaughton on **0408 499 306** or via email
RRONorthNSW@pmc.gov.au



CENTACARE PARENTING PROGRAMS

Where: Centacare, 150 Rusden Street, Armidale

Contact: (02) 6738 7200 or FREE CALL 1800 372 826



Toolkit for Dads - FREE - One 3 hour session



Thursday 25th March, Thursday 29th April, Thursday 27th May and Thursday 24th June - 9:30am till 12:30pm each day

What gets in the way, what to do if you lose it, what children need, smarter ways to parent, neuroscience and kids, helping children thrive, new ways to discipline, self-care for dads.

Surviving Your Adolescents - FREE - Two 3 hour sessions

Thursday 11th & 18th March and Tuesday 15th & 22nd June - 9:30am till 12:30pm both days



Surviving Your Adolescents will provide parents with some useful skills for dealing with teenage behaviour. Find out what is normal behaviour for a teenager; how to manage risk-taking; tips to maintain and improve your relationship with your teenager; and the Four Cardinal Sins (what not to do) and what to do with your teens.

RELIGION

Our Lenten Journey continues

During Lent, we could put aside a few extra minutes each day to spend in quiet time with God. We know and we believe that God is with us in every moment of our day, as Jesus said, "I will be with you always". Spending some quiet time in prayer with God helps us to grow in our attentiveness and awareness of God's presence with us in our daily lives: when we are enjoying a cup of coffee or tea, alone or with others, God is with us; when we are taking a walk through nature; when we are shopping; when we smile, say hello, make an act of kindness to a stranger, or warmly welcome an act of kindness, God is with us.



WEEKLY AWARDS

Congratulations to last weeks award recipients:



Lillian Lester
and
Joshua Turner

Lolah Ridgewell
and
Georgia Swift



SCHOOL MASS

Our next School Mass will be held **this Friday 12th March at 9:10am**. All welcome.

CANTEEN

Week 8 - \$5: Apricot Chicken with Rice Or Plain cheese sandwich (toasted optional)

ORDERS MUST BE SUBMITTED BY THE FRIDAY BEFORE. Orders can either be sent in to the school office or by messaging Peta on 0417 509 015. Please ensure that all money is in an envelope/bag with the child's name clearly marked. Thank you!



ASSEMBLY

Our next assembly will be held on **Friday 26th March at 2:45pm**. We are happy to announce that Parents, Grandparents and Carers are all welcome to attend.

Dates to Remember

<p>Mon 15 Mar: SAC Meeting 6:40pm</p> <p>Tue 16 Mar: O'Connor STEP Day for Yr6 and Parent Info Night @ 6pm</p> <p>Wed 17 Mar: Bookclub Due & PT&F Meeting 5:00pm</p>	<p>Fri 19 Mar: St Joseph's Day</p> <p>Tue 23 Mar: NAPLAN practice test 23rd-26th</p> <p>Fri 26 Mar: Assembly</p> <p>Thur 1 Apr: Holy Thursday & LAST DAY OF TERM ONE</p>	<p>BIRTHDAYS</p> <p>11 Mar: Ruby Smith</p>
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