



St Joseph's School Uralla Newsletter



Ph 02 6778 4063 Fax 02 6778 3010
Email: uraadmin@arm.catholic.edu.au
Website: www.stjosephsuralla.catholic.edu.au

19 MAY 2021
TERM 2 WEEK 5

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Dear Parents

Organic Learning

Organic learning is a learning methodology that allows our students to have voice and choice in their learning. This methodology gives the teachers an opportunity to collaborate, share and build on their knowledge of each student. It allows for exploration of the syllabus content enabling a deeper understanding of it followed by an opportunity for students to then apply this new learning to real world situations.

This new approach to learning is conducted across the school K-6 and incorporates History, Geography, Science, PD and Creative Arts. This shared process for learning allows all students the opportunity to work within their own abilities and then move to the next level when they are ready. Our organic learning is a journey that is exciting and self-determined for each student.

The students move through a learning cycle.

Phase 1 Explore: In this phase students explore the selected syllabus content. They engage with information and activities to help them develop an understanding of the topic.

Phase 2 Connect: Students look for connections between the topic and their world to find questions that need an answer. Students create a 'How might we...?' question.

Phase 3 Create: The students use divergent thinking to consider lots of options for a solution to their question.

Phase 4 Innovate: Students then narrow down the options so they can develop a prototype, or possible solution.

Phase 5 Impact: Students examine how effective their solution is. They share their response and get critical feedback on how they could improve what they have created.

Phase 6 Iterate: Students reflect on the solution and think about what they could do to make it even better.

Catholic Schools Week and Excursion to Armidale

Next week we will celebrate Catholic Schools Week. This year's theme is *Faith in the Future*.

As part of these celebrations all our students will travel to Armidale on Monday 24th May to attend the Spirit of Catholic Schools Mass in the Cathedral.

We will make it a whole day trip leaving school at 9am and returning for buses in the afternoon. During the day our students will have a tour of the Cathedral with Monsignor Wilkes as their guide. They will attend Mass in the Cathedral and have a visit to NERAM before returning to school in time for the buses. Any parents who would like to attend the Spirit of Catholic Schools Mass in the Cathedral are most welcome join us in Armidale to celebrate with us at 11:00am. A permission note is included with this newsletter. Please return notes by this Friday.

Open Morning

Our Open Morning will be held on Wednesday 2nd June starting at 9am followed by morning tea. The morning is an opportunity for new parents to speak with the Principal, meet with current parents of the school, have a guided tour of the school and share some morning tea. The Transition students are invited to join in with the current K-2 class for a morning of activities.

If you know of anyone with a child ready to start school next year, or anyone who would like to just have a look at our school and what we have to offer, please invite them along for the morning.

Kind regards
Judy Elks

ORGANIC LEARNING

Nigel

It's fantastic because you can choose what you want to learn. You choose your own way.

Seb

I liked learning about the history of sport, especially basketball.

Montana

Organic Learning is fun because you have to think about what you want to learn and then you get to create something to show what you've learned.

Mackenna

It's a type of learning that helps us to work in teams or independently.

Meredith

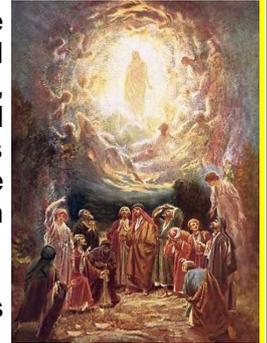
What I like about organic learning is that you get to choose what you learn and how you learn. I also like it when we are in the create phase, because we can choose whatever topic we want, and we can choose how we want to present what we have learnt.



RELIGION NEWS

The Ascension

Last Thursday, in many parts of the world, Christian communities celebrated the feast of the Ascension of Jesus. The opening lines of the Acts of the Apostles recall that the risen Jesus appeared to the disciples for forty days before being “lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight” (Acts 1:3,9). The Ascension is also recorded in the Gospels of Mark and Luke. Many of us will remember from our school days celebrating the Ascension on a Thursday exactly forty days after Easter. In 1992, the Australian Bishops moved the celebration of the Ascension from Thursday to the 7th and final Sunday of the Easter season, which was last weekend.



The Ascension celebrates the leaving of the risen Jesus from us on earth and his return to the Father in Heaven.

In celebrating and remembering the return of the risen Jesus to his Father, we anticipate the promised gift of the Spirit which we will celebrate next week with Pentecost – 50 days since Easter. Whilst Jesus has returned to the Father, the final words of Jesus in the Gospel of Matthew are “**remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age**” (28:20). The risen Jesus is present among us, especially when two or three are gathered in his name, whenever we gather to pray together and celebrate the Eucharist, Baptism or the other sacraments or whenever we reach out to the most marginalised within our communities; these are expressions of our desire to live out Jesus’ invitation to love God and to love our neighbour.

Laudato Si’ Week 2021

This week particularly we remember Pope Francis’ letter reminding us of our role in looking after our ‘common home’ earth. For Laudato Si’ Week 2021, Catholics across the globe will take part in the celebration that will serve as the crowning moment of the Laudato Si’ Special Anniversary Year.

The weeklong event will let the faithful celebrate the great progress the global Church has made in its ecological conversion journey during the past six years and offer a clear road map for the decade ahead.

We know that much remains to be done, but we rejoice and celebrate the steps we have taken thus far, and we look to the future with hope.

Laudato Si’ reminds us to harbor hope at all times, and especially amidst dark times, including the COVID-19 pandemic. The theme for Laudato Si’ Week 2021 is, “for we know that things can change” (Laudato Si’, 13)

The students watched this clip at school <https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=KOgF2Kgel6k> to help them further understand the importance of caring for our environment.

CONGRATULATIONS ETHAN

Last weekend Ethan Wooldridge competed at the PCA NSW State Equitation Show-jumping Championships for his zone and received the champion trophy in the junior novice 45cm class.

His mum Steph said that he rode beautifully all weekend and both he and his horse made a lovely team.



WEEKLY AWARDS

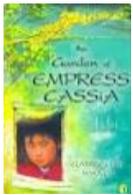
Congratulations to Term 2 Week 4 award recipients:

Charlie Jeffers
and
Clancy Poole-Freeman

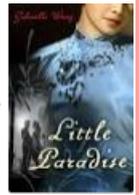
Lolah Ridgewell
and
Riley Lester



AUTHOR VISIT



Next Friday 28 May we will be visited by children's author, Gabrielle Wang. Gabrielle's books include 'Little Paradise' and 'In the Garden of the Empress Cassia'. The Children's Book Council Armidale Branch organizes these 'Booked In' visits each year. Our school will cover the cost of this visit for our students.



SCHOOL MASS

Our next School Mass will be held **this Friday 21st May at 9:10am**. All welcome.

ASSEMBLY

Our next assembly will be held on **Friday 28th May at 2:45pm**. We are happy to announce that Parents, Grandparents and Carers are all welcome to attend.

CANTEEN

Week 6

There will be **NO CANTEEN** on Monday 24th May due to all students and staff attending Mass at the Cathedral and visiting NERAM.

Dates to Remember

Fri 21 May: Lacrosse Sport

Sun 23 May: Pentecost
Sunday

Mon 24 May: MASS in the
Cathedral and NERAM Visit

Fri 28 May: Author Visit,
Lacrosse Sport and Assembly

Fri 4 June: Lacrosse Sport

Wed 9 June: STEP Day Yr5
Fri 11 June: Lacrosse Sport

Mon 14 June: Long
Weekend

Fri 18 June: Athletics
Carnival

BIRTHDAYS

25 May:
Aubrey Jeffers

