



ST FRANCIS OF ASSISI NEWSLETTER

Term 3
Week 6
28th August 2020

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Dear Parents and Carers,

Thank you for the way in which you are managing the very different school year that we are all experiencing. We are certainly living in very challenging and changeable times. For our new families to St Francis your experience of our community is one experienced by no other group of new families. You are to be congratulated for your resilience and your ongoing support of the school community. Our families who have been at St Francis for more than one year, no doubt you are missing the home-school connections for which St Francis is well known for. Even the Father's Day Stall organised by the Parent Group is going to be very different this year due to COVID-19.

Each day, in a very unprecedented way, families are being asked to respond to new guidelines. As parents, this can be unsettling as it requires us to let go of our established routines and accustomed freedoms and demands us to dig deep to find a positive attitude for ourselves and most importantly for our children. The staff at St Francis is deeply appreciative to all our families for the positive way in which you have managed the year.

As parents, presenting our thoughts and reactions in a positive manner, is the most effective way to guide our children's mindsets in a positive direction, so that they are able to manage their reactions to changing and unpredictable circumstances. At the moment, it is COVID-19 that is our everyday focus. At other times in our children's lives it will be some other focus that calls on them to be positive thinkers. Try and be aware the attitude you are modelling for your children throughout this time will be something that they can draw on in the future and will help to build their resilience.

Dear God,

I believe in the power of positive thinking but lately I need your help to get there.

Please fill me with faith, hope and optimism. Thank you for helping me to be genuinely positive.

Amen

It is in partnership we can do great things together for the children in our care.

Jenny Bellenger

Principal

YEAR 5 AND 6 BAND

Band for Years 5 and 6 has been temporarily cancelled until further notice from the Catholic Education Office Parramatta.

FATHER'S DAY GIFTS

Purchased gifts will be sent home with students on Thursday 3rd September. Thank you to the Parent Group for organising and purchasing of the gifts.

INCURSIONS AND MUFTI DAYS

These will continue following a COVID Safety Plan.

The Kindy - Year 2 athletics carnival will be going ahead later this term and will be restructured ensuring the safety of all students.

COVID-19 symptoms



Fever



Cough



Sore throat



Shortness of breath



Loss of smell



Loss of taste

Stay Safe



Clean your hands thoroughly for at least 20 seconds with soap and water, or an alcohol-based hand sanitiser



Cover your nose and mouth when coughing and sneezing with a tissue or your elbow. Put the tissue in the bin and wash your hands

UPDATED ADVICE FROM THE NSW GOVERNMENT TO SCHOOLS REGARDING COVID 19

Please be aware that if your children have flu like symptoms, they must have a COVID test and not return to school until they have a negative COVID test result and are symptom free. Please follow the procedure below for informing the school.

If your child is absent as they are unwell you must advise the school via email, skoolbag or phone call. If you are unsure about any of the above information please contact the school office on 8886 9600 and they can assist you.

PARENTS AND SCHOOL GROUNDS

The health and wellbeing of your children and the staff is our priority. Parents are still required not to come into the school grounds. Where possible parents are asked to continue communicating with the school via email or phone call rather than coming into the school office. We will continue to update and inform families of any changes as they come to hand. Thank you for your continued support.

GRIEVANCES AND COMPLAINT HANDLING

At St Francis, we strive to build a learning community in partnership with the home and parish, which models relationships based on:

- Mutual respect
- Affirmation and welcoming of individual differences
- Sharing and forgiveness
- Collaboration and support
- Generosity, gratitude and service.

Our community focuses on:

- Nurturing cooperative relationships between students, staff, parents and parishioners
- Using effective ways to communicate within and across the school community.

At times, issues may arise at school that cause you concern and you would like to speak to someone about these. The following procedures are in place. At all times the dignity, rights and beliefs of all those involved are respected.

- The first point of call is the child's class teacher. Contact the school office via email or written note to the teacher to make an appointment with the teacher concerned.
- If you are not satisfied with the solutions offered or believe that they have not been given a fair hearing you are encouraged to make an appointment with the Assistant Principal or Principal to discuss the issues further.

A comprehensive outline of the St Francis School Complaint Handling Procedures can be found on the school website: <https://www.stfrancisglendenning.catholic.edu.au/-/media/Files/CEDP/Global/Policies/Managing-Complaints-Policy.pdf>

YEAR 1 STUDENT WRITING

At St Francis writing is our school goal. Below is some fantastic writing from a student in Year 1 in response to the author visit of Matt Cosgrove.

Dear Matt Cosgrove

I know you loved to write when you were little. You also kept on trying and trying. I want to thank you for teaching Year One how to draw a fluffy white alpaca. It was so simple. I have to tell you a secret but no one is allowed to hear. My teacher doesn't know, I love reading and writing. Isn't it fantastic. I also LOVE all of your books, especially Macca's Makeover. I have to ask you a question. What is your favourite book that you wrote? Mine is Alpacas with Maracas because you rhymed some words.

ENROLLING NOW FOR 2021

ST FRANCIS OF ASSISI PRIMARY SCHOOL

ENROLLING NOW KINDER TO YEAR 6 FOR 2021

CONTACT THE SCHOOL ON 8886 9600

OR EMAIL stfrancis@parra.catholic.edu.au

St Clare's Catholic High School

We seek to support all families by offering a Catholic education for students from Year 7 to Year 12.

ENROLLING NOW
YEAR 7 TO YEAR 12

SCHOOL TOURS

Daily in Term 3 between 9:00am and 9:30am

Afternoon tours TUESDAY and WEDNESDAY between 3:00pm and 3:30pm

We welcome you to this vibrant school community where we aim for each of our students to be known, understood, valued and learning.

Our mission as a Catholic community is to meet the needs of all our students, no matter what their background, talents, disabilities or economic circumstance.

Make an appointment to tour the school. Speak with our Principal, Kevin Jones, about how we can help you join the St Clare's Catholic High School community.

Contact us on 9830 2400 today!

St Clare's Catholic High School 175 Buckwell Drive Hassall Grove 2761 p: 9830 2400
www.clarehassallgrove.catholic.edu.au

