



ST FRANCIS OF ASSISI NEWSLETTER

Term 2
Week 8
11th June 2021

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Dear Parents and Carers,

Teachers are currently working on the students Half Yearly Semester Learning Reports, which will be sent home to parents on Monday 21st June 2021. In previous years our Student Progress Reports have been created in a platform known as FACES. In light of system changes at CEDP and the closure of the FACES platform, schools throughout the Diocese of Parramatta are moving to Compass Reporting.

Compass is the new platform system CEDP uses for communication to parents. It is the system we use to send home information and for attendance.

The appearance of the report will look different to previous report formats.

The Year 1-6 report will no longer consist of an A-E scale. This scale has been replaced by words describing the student's level of achievement as follows:

Outstanding Achievement; High Achievement; Sound Achievement; Basic Achievement; Experiencing Difficulty.

It is important to remember that the majority of students are expected to receive Sound Achievement grades which indicate that they are achieving the expected outcomes for their stage of learning.

There will also be an effort grade displayed in each Key Learning Area. A lot of time and consideration is put into allocating the grades for each student. Grades are allocated based on a number of variables such as student work samples, assessment tasks, observations and class work.

Please keep in mind that your child's grades may have varied from previous years, especially if they have moved into a new stage this year (Year 1, Year 3, 5)

Living Life to the Full: our Draft New Curriculum for Religious Education

For several years now, our Catholic community has been working together to update the way we share our faith with children and young people. This draft new curriculum for Religious Education will be known as Living Life to the Full and is now available on the Catholic Education Diocese of Parramatta website together with a guide to help community members learn more.

Faithful to Sacred Scripture and Tradition, Catholic Teaching and Values, *Living Life to the Full* is designed to be age-appropriate for children and young people. When it is launched in late 2021 the Draft New Curriculum will replace 'Sharing Our Story', the current curriculum that has been in place for more than 20 years.

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

Jenny Bellenger

Principal

DATES COMING UP

14/06 - Queen's birthday Public Holiday

21/06 - School Photos

25/06—Last Day of Term 2

TELL THEM FROM ME

In the coming weeks we will be inviting students, teachers and parents to provide feedback on their experience of our school using an online survey. The surveys are an important part of our whole school evaluation and planning process.

We would like to invite you to complete the *Tell Them From Me (TTFM)* Partners in Learning survey. As we value the role of parents and carers within our school community we would greatly appreciate your feedback.

The information you provide will be used to maintain our commitment to working together in partnership to further improve student learning and wellbeing at *St Francis of Assisi Primary School*.

The survey is anonymous and will take approximately 20 minutes to complete. You are able to access the parent survey on your computer or mobile device by using the URL below:

<https://www.tellthemfromme.com/survey/splash/yszbv>

COMPLAINTS AND GRIEVANCES

Parents, please note if you would like to make a complaint/grievance in regards to any school matter, you can pick up a form from the school office. All matters will be attended to under strict confidentiality.

SCHOOL FEES

School Fee Reminder Letters were sent home last week by CEDP. Families who still have outstanding fees will be contacted on Tuesday 15th June in regards to his. If you require an extension or to go on a payment plan please either contact the school 8886 9600 or email fran-gldgfees@parra.catholic.edu.au I know this is a sensitive matter, however, communication is the key. Regards Mrs Falconer.

COMPASS PARENT PORTAL

Thank you to all the families who are now using the Compass Parent Portal.

In preparation for the distribution of reports in Week 10, we kindly ask all parents have access to the Compass Parent Portal App. Reports will now be sent electronically through this App.

When using the Compass Parent Portal to explain a child's absence can you please select the reason that applies but also type a brief description in the details/comments box underneath. This allows us to understand the actual reason of absence for your child.

If you haven't received the login details for the Compass Parent Portal or are experiencing any issues please let the office know.

The screenshot shows the 'Add Attendance Note' screen in the Compass Parent Portal app. At the top, there are two buttons: 'Cancel' and 'Add Attendance Note'. Below these, there is a 'Reason' dropdown menu currently set to 'None >'. Underneath is a 'Details / Comments' section with a large text input area. Further down, there are fields for 'Start Date' (09/06/2021 - 08:55 AM) and 'End Date' (09/06/2021 - 03:00 PM). Below these are sections for 'Potentially Affected Sessions' and 'Activities', both with expandable options. At the bottom right, there is a blue button labeled 'Add Attendance Note'.

CONDOLENCES



Our prayers and condolences to the de la Cruz family (Camille 4W) and their extended family on the passing of her grandmother. May she rest in peace.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION DRAFT CURRICULUM UPDATE

~ Living Life to the Full ~

"I have come so that they may have life and have it to the full."

John 10:10

Over the last two years, schools in the Catholic Diocese have been trialling the implementation of the new draft curriculum in their schools. We are very pleased to announce that this approach to sharing our Catholic faith with the next generation has been named for the first time. The curriculum will be known as **Living Life to the Full**, a scriptural reference to Jesus' words in John 10:10: "I have come so that they may have life and have it to the full." As Bishop Vincent says, this reflects "the richness of our Catholic Tradition that enables fullness of life through the Gospel".

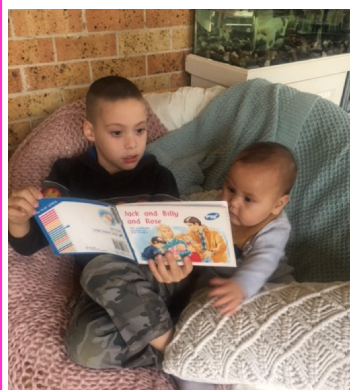
Living Life to the Full will replace 'Sharing Our Story', the Religious Education curriculum that has been in place in the Diocese of Parramatta for 20 years. Faithful to Sacred Scripture and Tradition, Catholic Teaching and Values, *Living Life to the Full* is designed to be age-appropriate for children and young people.

This is a work in progress: as a draft, changes will also continue to be made based on feedback from clergy, parents, teachers, students and friends. As a system, we very much appreciate the interest of our Catholic community in bringing the Gospel to children and young people in Western Sydney and the Blue Mountains.

For more information about the naming of our New Draft, please watch the video attached of Bishop Vincent's announcing the name on the new curriculum Living Life to the Full.

<https://www.parra.catholic.edu.au/Learning/Religious-Education>

READING AT HOME



In Year 1 we take our nightly reading very seriously. Reading the same text several times helps us practise our reading fluency. Baby Soul was definitely a captivated audience for Karson in 1A. This experience also gave him a stimulus for his writing. Well done Karson for finding many opportunities and audiences to read to!

Baby Soul is happy when
I read to him because he
wants to learn to read.

WHY IS MY CHILD'S TEACHER OUT OF CLASS?

Like professionals in other fields, all teachers are required to keep up to date with current thinking on best practices and new developments in areas such as technology. From time to time teachers are required to attend professional development opportunities to learn about changes to curriculum, new methods of teaching and learning, and other ways of integrating technology. These sessions sometimes occur during the day, after school or in the school holidays. Teachers also have entitlements such as long service leave, maternity leave, family leave, sick leave, bereavement leave, jury duty etc. Consequently, there will be times when your child's teacher is absent from the classroom. On these days the teacher's program and day book is followed. Teachers on a grade work closely together allowing the grade partner to liaise with the relief teacher so that good teaching and learning continues, and routines are kept. We thank you for your support in this matter.

PARKING AROUND THE SCHOOL

Please remember the road rules around the school when dropping off and picking up your children.

If you are using the car pick up/drop off area, please remember that is not a parking area. Do not double park next to other cars and do not leave your car. In the morning parents should pull up, drop off their children, and then leave. **Do not get out of the car.** Students will need to walk into school on their own if using this option. If you need to get out of the car, you will need to find parking elsewhere.

When picking up your children in the afternoon, parents form a queue on Armitage Drive. **Please do not cut in on the queue, as this only upsets parents who have been patiently waiting their turn.** Please go to the end of the line. **Do not get out of the car.** Children using car pick up need to be able to enter the car from the curb side safely and do up their own seatbelt. If they need assistance to get in the car or do up their seat belt you will need to use an alternative method of pick up.

To parents who walk in to collect their children from the Stone Street parent collect, please do not cross the road through the car pick up area. If you need to cross on Armitage Drive please use the pedestrian crossing to the right of the gate.

Also, please do not park in the staff car park near the office under any circumstances. This is strictly for staff only.

LABELLING ITEMS

After the expense of purchasing uniform items, there is nothing worse than the loss or misplacement of them. More often than not, it has just been left in the school playground or been picked up by another child. Avoid undue stress and ensure **ALL BELONGINGS** are clearly labelled with your child's name. If items are labelled they are put into our lost property box, and these items will be returned to the appropriate children.

Did you know

Your child's best learning time is the start of the school day
just a little bit late doesn't seem much but

He/she just
missing,

That equals ..

Which is ...

and over 13 years
of schooling that's ...

10 minutes per day

50 minutes per week

Nearly 1.5 weeks per year

Nearly half a year

20 minutes per day

1 hour 40mins per week

Over 2.5 weeks per year

Nearly 1 year

Half an hour per day

Half a day per week

4 weeks per year

Nearly 1 and a half years

1 hour per day

1 day per week

8 weeks per year

Over 2 and a half years

every learner
every day 


Catholic Education
Diocese of Parramatta

CONGRATULATIONS



Congratulations to Harleerose from Year 1 and her dance troupe from Dance Nation Sydney who performed at their first ever competition Ooh La La Dance Extravaganza in Windsor.

They won first place in Jazz.

Just recently on the weekend Harleerose and her team placed first in another competition the Dance and Dazzle Eisteddfod. Well done!!!

SCHOOL PHOTOS - MONDAY 21ST JUNE 2021

advancedlife
photography & print specialists

St Francis Of Assisi Catholic School

SCHOOL PHOTOGRAPHS WILL BE TAKEN ON:

Monday 21 June 2021

ORDER NOW go to www.advancedlife.com.au and enter the code
YVN ME5 LQ5

Dear Parents,

School photographs are scheduled to be taken by **advancedlife**. Whilst an envelope and flyer will be distributed shortly, if possible it is our preference that ordering be completed online to reduce administration and potential security issues related to the return of cash and envelopes on photo day.

Orders for packages and sibling photographs can be placed securely online at www.advancedlife.com.au using our school's unique **9 digit advancedorder code**. Portrait and group package orders are due by photography day.

Should you wish to purchase a sibling photograph online, the order must be placed no later than the day before photography day. Sibling photographs will only be taken if an order has been placed.

Should you have any queries concerning school photographs or online ordering, please contact us at www.advancedlife.com.au/contact

PLEASE DO NOT HAND YOUR PHOTO ENVELOPES INTO THE SCHOOL OFFICE.

**THESE NEED TO BE HANDED TO THE PHOTOGRAPHER ON THE DAY OF
THE SCHOOL PHOTOS BY YOUR CHILD.**

Don't forget to bring in your sponsorship money



Dear Parents,

Our 'Sport Socks' A-thon was a huge success. The children had a wonderful time and were engaged in games that were fun and physically challenging throughout the day.

To finish off this great fundraiser, we ask that all sponsorship cards and money be returned by

Friday 18th June.

Each day, two students who have returned their sponsorship cards and money raised, will be drawn out to select a prize from a large selection of fun goodies.

Thank you again for your continued support and we look forward to sharing the progress on our raised funds via Elibrary.

The 'Sporty socks' A-thon Committee